Facilities & Services

DISPATCH

2026 • Volume 24 • Special Issue



Honoring All Who Served

Named in recognition of the armistice, or truce, that brought an end to World War I on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day. At first, it was only meant to commemorate the end of the "War to End All Wars" and honor the veterans who had fought in it. By 1954, however, America also had veterans who had honorably served in World War II and the Korean War, so Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day to show appreciation for all American veterans throughout history.

Now in 2026, on this Veterans Day and throughout the year, F&S proudly honors the contributions of our colleagues who have served or are serving in one of the branches of the military at home or abroad. Their names, which represent about 10 percent of F&S team members, are listed here to show our appreciation. Thank you all for your service, your sacrifice, and for all that you do to contribute to our country, our community, and our organization.

Abbott Power Plant

Mike Brewer, Navy
Mike Burns, Navy
Bret Lutz, Navy
Jacob Martin, Army
Victor Melchior, Brazilian Army
Jeff Wells, Navy
Rich Wurmnest, Navy

Brickmasons

Eric Quinley, Army

Building Maintenance

Steve Bainbridge, Air Force
Mark Barcus, Navy
Samantha Branch, Army National Guard
Allen Cravens, Army
Patrick Wood, Navy

BSWs

Stan Adkisson, Navy
Eric Anderson, Navy
Shawn Beyers, Air Force & Army National Guard
Mark Bezdon, Army
Odis Casimiro, Belize Army Infantry
Raymond Cook, Air Force
Chad Franks, Navy
Timothy Garrison, Army
Matt Gebbink, Army Reserves
Alberto Gonzalez, Marine Corps
John Hill, Air Force
Ira Gene Lynch, Air National Guard
Billy Nash, Army
Khamtanh Phanrana, Marine Corps
Bret Pourchot, Army
Timothy Rash, Marine Corps
Mike Saliski, Army
Donald (Don) Tetter, Army
Willis Thomas, Navy
Gary Treatch, National Guard
Chris Wasson, Marine Corps

Carpenters

Rick Flynn, Army
Jean Fontaine, National Guard
Chris Harpst, Army
Mitch Harris, Army
Curtis Wayne, Marine Corps

Car Pool

Bill Mulvaney, Army

Cement Finishers

Craig Harris, Army National Guard

Commissioning & Inspection

Levi Marriott, Army

Construction Laborers

Felipe Carmona, Army
Joseph "Tater" Daly, Army & Army National Guard
Shane English, Army
Mickey Hardin, Army National Guard

Construction Services

Addison Boyd, Marine Corps

Direct Digital Control (DDC): Electricians

Tim Ferpotto, Navy
Rick Mueller, Marine Corps
Brian Pettice, Army National Guard
Ravi Ramrattan, Air Force
Eli Remington, Illinois National Guard
Jeff Revell, Navy Seabees

Electricians

Tim Abrahamson, Marine Corps
Mike Burge, Navy
Will Corum, Marine Corps
Chris Doxtator, Army
Jake Hughes, Navy
Larry Lustfeldt, Army National Guard
Tony Mabrey, Army National Guard

Elevator Mechanics

Matt Arbogast, Air National Guard
Ryan Perry, Navy
Ron Pryor, Army
Dan Sweikar, Army National Guard

Engineering Services

Bruce Keaton, Army Airborne

Garage

Mark Taylor, Army National Guard

Grounds

James Harper, Marine Corps
Darren LaReau, Navy

High Voltage Electricians

Lauro Acevedo, Air Force
Kenneth Hall, Navy
Jon Karlson, Army

Human Resources

Ken McCray, Marine Corps

Information Technology Services

Rick Oldenburger, Navy

Insulators

Woody Bagwell, Army National Guard
Aaron Ketchum, Navy

Laborer–Electricians

Charles Reed, Navy
Thomas Szymanski, Air Force
(David) Paul Weisman, Army

Locksmiths

Cynthia Burnett, Navy

Machinists

Chad Cosat, Marine Corps

Mill Workers

Alex Merkle, Army

Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor

Stephanie Landess, Army

Painters

Chad Priest, Marine Corps
Matt Verplaetse, Army National Guard

Pipefitters

Geoffrey Hayes, Navy

Plumbers

Terry Bagwell, Marine Corps
Nick Carpenter, Army
Josh Hale, Army
Terry Paris, Air Force
Bryan Robinson, National Guard

Project Delivery

Sandra Roesler, Coast Guard
Nick Stanev, Bulgarian Air Force

Refrigeration Mechanics

Lenny Buchholz, Army National Guard
Jared Cothron, Army
Kent Frischkorn, Marine Corps
Michael Gadbury, National Guard

Safety & Compliance

Charles Elam, Marine Corps
David Wilcoxen, Coast Guard

Sheet Metal Workers

Jake Lietz, Army
Caleb Rhinehart, Marine Corps
Zane Richardson, Army
Curt Thode, Army

Steam Distribution Operations

Brandon Gibson, Marine Corps
Jason Gramlich, Marine Corps
Khoi Nguyen, Army
Andy Peacock, Marine Corps
Jeff Thompson, Army
Jim Wells, Army
Al York, Air Force

Stores & Receiving

Kriss Eisenhauer, Navy
Bryan Johnson, Navy
Troy Mitchell, Army
Rodney Tanner, Air Force
Tom Tuttle, Army

Temperature Control

Paul Barton, Army
Andy Brown, Army
Bill Cooke, Navy
Eric Hall, Navy
Chris York, Navy

Tool Room

Andy Harpst, Navy

Transportation

Kenny Blazek, Marine Corps
Gary Cole, Army
Roy Dunaway, Navy
Duane Jackson, Army Reserves

Transportation & Building Services

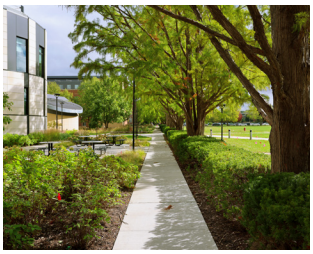
Joshua Murphy, Marine Corps
Rose Paul, Navy
Pete Varney, Army & Army National Guard

Utilities & Energy Services

Jim Cantrell, Illinois National Guard
Anthony Ewing, Air Force
Paul Foote, Air Force

F&S Bits and Pieces

Finding a New Path



Efforts to widen the Lorado Taft Path are underway. The work will improve safety and reduce congestion on this popular shared-use path between Fourth Street and Sixth Street. A new 8-foot-wide extension will connect to the existing route, with the new side designated for pedestrians and the original for bike and e-scooter traffic. This F&S collaboration between Project Delivery and Construction Services is being performed through the Job Order Contracting program. The work is expected to wind down at the end of the semester. Find out more at *https://go.fs.illinois.edu/LoradoTaftWidening*.

Photo Finish!



Fred Zwicky, campus senior photographer, completed a photo shoot for Bike at Illinois. Sarthak Prasad, sustainable transportation assistant, helped coordinate the shoot, and Steve Breitweiser, manager of communications & external relations, took some "behind the photo shoot" pictures. Zwicky's photos will repopulate the Campus Image Database with newer bike images. Both sets of photos will be available to accompany future communications on the Bike at Illinois website (*https://bike.illinois.edu/*), emails, publications, and social media.

Recycling Is Always a Win



Betsy Ruckman, zero waste coordinator, and a team of 25 staff and volunteers ran up the score at the Tailgate Recycling Event held during the Homecoming game against Purdue. Working in shifts between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., they collected 820 pounds of pure recyclables from Lots 31 and E-14, as well as 25,580 pounds of mixed waste, which included the many blue recycling bags handed out to tailgaters. At the Waste Transfer Station, team members gave a second sort to those comingled blue bags to pull even more recyclables. Visit *https://go.fs.illinois.edu/TailgateRecycling* for more information.

Speaking to the Future



F&S brickmasons helped place a new time capsule (to be opened in 2126) in the cornerstone of Huff Hall this fall. It contains 46 items about the university's research, support services, sporting events, the Marching Illini, and more. The painters provided a sign for the site. Read more about this project at *https://go.fs.illinois.edu/TimeCapsule*.

Dyeing for Homecoming



Fall is a joyous time on the Urbana campus. People new to the university have a plethora of firsts to experience, but few are as beloved—by Illini fans old and new—as the orange-ing of the Alice Campbell Alumni Center Fountain in honor of Homecoming. The Water Station has primary responsibility for that, and they have perfected the dye ratio over the years. F&S plumbers assist by keeping the fountain in good shape so people can literally Hail to the Orange. Read the *Insider* Shop Spotlight about it at *https://go.fs.illinois.edu/HomecomingFountain*.

Final Days for CCFD 2026



Next week is the final week for the Campus Charitable Fund Drive (CCFD), which ends November 13. There is still time to enter the drive for one of the five $25 gas gift cards. Learn how at *https://go.fs.illinois.edu/LunchAndLearn*. To make a donation to a worthwhile cause or causes, go to *https://ccfd.illinois.edu/give/*.

Still Time to Support Crisis Nursery

Crisis Nursery

Monday, November 9, is the final day to order your pork lunch in support of the Crisis Nursery (suggested donation $30). To do so, email Jessica Headley, office manager of Utilities & Energy Services, jheadley@illinois.edu. Then, enjoy the deliciousness on Friday, November 13. Eat in or pick up at the North Trailer (1117 S. Oak St., Champaign) between 11 a.m. and 12:45 p.m., or ask for delivery by including your name, address, and room/office number. Please make checks payable to Crisis Nursery (*https://crisisnursery.net/*).

Read All About It! The *Dispatch* Turns 40!


Dispatch

A Team Approach

The Dispatch, November 1998

Happy Birthday to the *Dispatch*! The first issue of the *O & M Dispatch* appeared 40 years ago in October 1986 when F&S was still called Operations & Maintenance (O & M). It offered a 50-percent-off ticket to "O & M Night" at the Ice Capades: only $4.25! It also announced the Tool Room had "acquired 12 Hilti TE12S Rotary Hammer Drills," as well as the receipt of a "new 1250 GPM Pumper Truck" for the fire department, which was then under O & M. Take a trip down memory lane and see what gems you can find in back issues at *https://fs.illinois.edu/Employee/dispatch-archive/*.

Facilities & Services

The *Dispatch* is published by the Customer Relations & Communications division for Facilities & Services' team members. **For internal use only.** Questions, ideas, and comments should be directed to **fscustomerrelations@illinois.edu**. Writer/Editor: Rebecca Bigelow; Graphic Designer: Myisha Howard