Employee of the Month
Kevin J. Maughan
Utilities Tech. III.

Congratulations to Kevin Maughan. He has been chosen as August 2006 Employee of the Month. Kevin has been working in Facilities for five years in the equipment/welding shop. He worked previously and has retired from Nucor Steel.

Kevin was born and raised in Wellsville, Utah. He has moved a total of about six hundred feet since he was born. He has been married for thirty year to Brenda Maughan. They have four children; Stacy, who is deceased, Alesha Kofoed, Amber Ludwig, and Kody Maughan. All of his children live in Cache Valley. Kevin enjoys being a grandpa to Ayden Kofoed, who is nine months old.

Most of Kevin’s free time is spent riding his mules Shorty and Sassy. He enjoys taking pictures, and finding antlers. Kevin’s quote, “Remember the Lord only shares so many sunrise’s, so don’t miss one.”

Congratulations Kevin!!

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Is it just junk or can it be recycled?

After cleaning the garage, redoing the basement, and going through the house reducing clutter, a question arises. How to dispose of the discards?

Actually your options are many. Such as:

Eyeglasses: The Lions Club has been recycling eyeglasses for approximately eighty years.

Clothing: Unwanted apparel can be donated to a charity such as Goodwill or sold to a consignment shop.

Blankets, towels, and bedding: These can be donated to your local animal shelter for use as bedding.

Oil: Quick-lube shops such as Jiffy Lube and auto stores such as Pep-Boys will take used oil.
Cans, glass containers, and plastics: Many areas have recycling centers where such materials can be dropped off. Call for specific information as different areas accept different items.

Household toxins: Almost all areas have toxics drop off or Tox-Away days. Check with your local waste management company.

Antiques, dishes, and other general items: Consider a garage sale. Make some money and find your old favorites a new home.

Computers: Some schools and charities accept computers.


Cars: Various organizations including Goodwill will accept your car. Some raffle them off for charity. Earth Share through Car Program LLC accept cars, trucks, trailers, boats, and RV's.

Books: Your old friends can be donated to a library for their book sale or given to an assisted living facility that might need books for their library.

Aluminum cans and other scrap metals: These are “hot” items and can be sold to scrapyards. A recycle center would be pleased to get them.

Computer printer and copier ink cartridges: Many business supply stores, including Staples, accept them.

Mobile phones, pagers, and PDAs: These can be recycled through Collective Good who will make a donation to your favorite charity. Check at www.collectivegood.com

For more information on recycling of various products look at website www.obviously.com/recycle.

The STOP Program: Talking with Others
by the Safety Committee

Consider you and a colleague walking out of a building. Leaving the building, you observe a piece of 2x4 in the walkway that you are about to walk over. Your colleague is talking and doesn’t notice the tripping hazard. What do you do?

This type of situation is familiar. You or a co-worker sees an immediate hazard and points it out to the other person to prevent injury. Chances are you would make the 2x4 in the walkway known and help them avoid the hazard.

Now suppose you are standing next to a person performing a task not wearing safety glasses in an area that requires them. Do you think you would notice that the safety glasses are missing? And if you did see the need for eye protection, would you something about it?

You might ask, “Did you forget to wear your safety glasses” or “What could happen if you don’t use eye protection?” Some might feel too uneasy to say anything in this situation. There are employees here, even some who might see that the employee wasn’t using eye protection, that would just walk away without comment. They might not perceive the danger, or it could simply make them too uncomfortable to say anything.

Some people are really good at perceiving risks and identifying hazards. Other people just aren’t as “tuned in” to safety and don’t notice unsafe behaviors and conditions. While other people shy away from some expected conflict that may arise from pointing out unsafe behaviors and conditions. Why do you think it’s so much easier to see the hazard presented by a 2x4 than the hazard involved when a person doesn’t use eye protection? Why is it easier to warn someone about the tripping hazard than it is to remind an associate to use PPE?

Most think it is easier to understand an immediate danger and to warn others of it, than to notice and do something about a potential danger. In the case of the 2x4, the danger is immediate and obvious. In the case of the missing eye protection, the danger may not seem as obvious or immediate. Imagine what could happen if a piece of flying metal strikes a person’s eye, the hazard then becomes immediately obvious.

Pointing out a potential danger to a co-worker who already may be aware of the risks involved (as in the case of the missing eye protection) is quite difficult for most of us. Pointing out known risks can easily be perceived as leading
to an uncomfortable situation or conflict. Many people also want to avoid the appearance of “talking down” to a co-worker. As a result of these awkward feelings, many will walk away from the situation, even though we know we should have done something.

Through the STOP Program we have learned that observing safety and positively talking with others about safety is important all the time, in all situations. This is one way STOP helps to create a safer workplace.

Pat on the Back

Tara Johnson, Administrative Assistant, Independent & Distant Education, sent this email about Facilities:

I cannot begin to tell you how wonderful my remodel experience has been with the facilities crew! Dave Peterson came through with a bid to put a new window and door in an office in the ECC that was very competitive and actually is getting it done while the staff person is out to a conference! How great is that?! Phil and his team have been absolutely the best! He came out and moved and took out cabinets so quickly I could hardly believe it! Brad came over and got painters scheduled and had DeVar there to check out what carpet was needed also. With so many projects going on at one time (four for me right now) this could have been such a cause for confusion and frustration but your team has come through time and time again for me. The movers did an excellent job moving Vice Provost Ronda Menlove over to her new office in Old Main and also sent someone over early to her new office to move the old desk out and new one in—I know how busy their schedule was last week so for them to be so helpful and accommodating, it really made us feel like we were treated above average! And of course Jana and Trish were so helpful getting the guys out to talk to me and schedule things; I couldn’t have done it without you!

Thanks—I don’t know what else to say so I don’t sound like I have hero worship or anything, but you’re the best—thanks for helping me out during this crazy transition!!!

Roger Coulombe, Director of Toxicology, wanted to thank Ron Auger for all his help in an installation of an autoclave. He stated that Ron is very efficient and deserves praises. Good job Ron.

Jerry Workman and Eliza Slingerland received this thank you:

I wanted to express my thanks to both of you for helping us have a successful year of reading enrichment programs at Utah State University. I appreciate your willingness to make your facility available to our programs this year. We were able to offer our students a quality teaching environment, where the kids could shine! Due to our collective effort we were able to bring our program to 29 students.

I appreciate all of the time you spent talking with me on the phone, working out the schedule. All of our hard work enriched the lives of the children and adults in your community, which is our top-most priority. I hope we’ll be able to work together again next year. Have an enjoyable summer!

Mary Ann Clark, School of Accountancy in the Business building sent this email to Wayne White:

I just wanted to let you know what a great job our former custodian, Patsy did. Sorry, I don’t know her last name. She was just recently transferred after spending several months in the Business Building. The building has never looked better. She worked hard to make sure things were clean and we our needs were taken care of. I hope the new staff assigned to the building will do as well as Patsy. Please let her know she is appreciated.

Wayne White received this email from Melanie Ivans, Administrative Assistant in the College of Engineering:

I just wanted to express appreciation for the new custodial crew in the ENGR building. We have noticed that they have gone the extra mile in their care of us and the building. Facilities, especially Jana and Linda, are always quick to respond to our needs—and help us out tremendously. Again, please express our thank you to the new crew!
Pat on the Back Continued

Cherilee (Greg) Hunsaker from the HVAC shop sent this note of thanks to Facilities:

I would like to thank you for your thoughtfulness. The cute teddy bear will brighten up Carson’s room and the duck planter is the cutest I’ve ever seen.

Happy Birthday!
to these Facilities employees!

Jerry Petterborg  
Scott Jaggi  
Mel Baldwin  
Andy Miller  
Justus Swensen  
Larry Dunkley  
Pete Elliott  
Todd Hlavaty  
Karen Hoffman  
Troy Johnson  
Mike George  
Jocelyn Casey  
Andrea Payant  
Tracy Nielsen  
Trevor Alvord  
Doug Profaizer  
Randy Bone  
Tom Findlay  

Thank you!
for your service at USU!

Mike Mikkelsen  
Val Olsen  
Nancy Christensen  
Brenda Rust  
Jerry Workman  
Debra Parrish  
Jerry Green  
Jed Waldron  
John Fitch  
Tammi Sagers  
Trish Duffin  
Pat Pyatt  
Sol Nielsen  
Steven Yeates  

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