New I-85/400 Flyover
Ramps offer relief for Buckhead community

Keeping Georgia’s Waterways Clean
Meet GDOT’s District Communications Officers
Stardina Wyche Holds GDOT History in her Hands
the Department celebrated a long-awaited transportation project in May, with the opening of the new flyover ramps connecting Interstate 85 and Georgia 400. The ramps, pictured on the cover and featured in this issue, are expected to relieve congestion and significantly improve travel through and around the Buckhead community. The completed project represents another strong partnership between Georgia DOT’s team of professionals, local governments and our contractors. See the story on page 8.

Additionally, Georgia DOT continues to support local governments through the Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) program, which this fiscal year allocated $120 million. The Department received 585 applications for improvements on roads and bridges in cities and counties across the state. Over the past 10 years, the LMIG program and its predecessors (State Aid and Local Assistance Road Program) have awarded nearly $950 million in grants to locals. Read more about the LMIG program on page 4.

While one of two severe winter storms left us somewhat bruised, the Department and the state recovered well thanks in large part to our statewide staff and the many partners who contributed to clearing interstates and state routes, removing debris and ensuring the safety of citizens and motorists. Governor Nathan Deal appeared before the State Transportation Board to share a “thank you” to GDOT staff on behalf of Georgians. Read the Governor’s comments on page 2.

Finally, Congress continues to discuss the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) that faces a shortfall this summer, as well as long-term reauthorization of the surface transportation bill (MAP-21) that ends on September 30. Until Congress provides some certainty about the future of federal transportation funding, starting July 1, GDOT will authorize few, if any, federal aid projects. Projects already under construction should not be affected. The Department remains focused on our core business; our legislative staff and senior leadership will continue to monitor and report progress on funding legislation as information becomes available. So, stay tuned.

Keith Golden, P.E.

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What is TravelSmart?

Georgia DOT is engaged in all aspects of mobility. In addition to roads and bridges, we’re involved in public transit, general aviation, rail, waterways, and bike and pedestrian programs. To reflect the larger picture, we’ve launched TravelSmart – GDOT’s umbrella of transportation services and programs. TravelSmart embodies GDOT’s approach to applying innovative engineering, customer-friendly design and cost-effective solutions to all facets of our transportation system.

The TravelSmart tag is a reminder that Georgia DOT works to keep Georgia moving – on all modes of transportation and in all parts of Georgia.

On the cover: Representatives of the I-85/GA 400 project management team showcase the just-opened ramps.
Moody, Grantham Re-Elected to STB

Former State Senator Dan Moody of Johns Creek and former Augusta's Richmond County Commissioner Don Grantham were re-elected to five-year terms on the State Transportation Board (STB). Moody, representing the Sixth Congressional District, and Grantham, representing the 12th Congressional District, were each affirmed by a caucus of Georgia General Assembly members from their respective congressional districts.

Moody serves as chair of the STB’s Communications Committee, and is a member of the Legislative, Intermodal and Program Delivery/Consultant Services committees. He served in the State Senate for eight years (2002-2010) before retiring from that body. He was elected to the STB a year ago to fill a vacant seat. Moody is an electrical engineer, businessman and a retired United States Army Reserves officer.

“It is an honor to be chosen to represent the residents of the 6th Congressional District on the Board. A solid transportation system is especially pleased to be representing some areas that approved the Transportation Investment Act referendum.” Grantham said to caucus members. “I am excited to begin my first full-term on the Board, and know the residents of my district would elect him to five more years. He got it.

Grantham represents east central Georgia’s Congressional District 12, including Richmond County and the city of Augusta. The native Augustaan is president and CEO of Forest Sales Corporation. He was an Augusta/Richmond County Commissioner for seven years and served 12 years on the Georgia Ports Authority (GPA). His extensive community and civic activities range from university and museum boards to over 35 years on the Boys Scouts of America Advisory Board of Augusta. Georgia Trend named him one of the most influential Georgians. He has served or known every governor from Jimmy Carter to Nathan Deal.

Despite his resume, Grantham is humble - a man of faith and family. “When I play golf on Sundays, it’s always after church,” he says with a twinkle in his eye. “Being on the engineering services committee as a county commissioner gave me an opportunity to interact with the DOT. This position is elected by delegates from your own congressional district, so you have to do a little politicking. They put their confidence in you and they want someone who can perform.

Role of the STB We are a supporting unit of GDOT staff, the governor and state officials. We are a sounding board, we discuss issues with our constituents. We contact congressional leaders in D.C. to make sure we have the financial support of the federal government.

TIA, ports & storms Grantham’s region includes 13 counties that voted for the TIA program. I call it the People’s Bill. They voted for it, they pay for it and they identified the project. Even in the second year, TIA has had a positive impact. We’re showing we mean business. We do what we say and we spend the people’s money wisely.

Then-Gov. Jimmy Carter originally appointed Grantham to the GPA board in 1972. I was a very young man. The GPA exposed me to things I had never envisioned. I realized that Georgia was a Cinderella state that would be recognized in the future for water transportation and for international growth. Take the dredging of the Port of Savannah channel - Gov. Deal has made a concentrated effort to make it happen, and I am optimistic that it will. Current ships carry 4,500 containers. Soon they will carry double that amount. GDOT and GPA are working to ensure that critical infrastructure is in place to move the additional cargo into and out of the Port.

At the peak of the February winter storms, 85 percent of households in the Augusta area had no power. You can’t imagine the cooperation from the utility companies and the community. People were out with chainsaws removing fallen trees. Our District Engineer Jimmy Smith and GDP did an outstanding job. I appreciate the help from GDP’s Jamp and Fifteen offices. We take so much for granted. When we’re without, we go into a kind of shock. With everyone pulling together, it made things easier.

What he wants us to know When people think of GDOT, they think of big urban projects. But we are just as consistent about the rural areas and small projects. And while each board member represents a district, we don’t concentrate on one area. One focus is statewide. Commissioner Golden and the team under his leadership are one of the very best we’ve ever had. I also want to say that I am always available. I respond as quickly as I can to every call. To employees and to the public.

Life’s joys I enjoy golf! I’m an average golfer… I was good at one time. I also have a little farm in Greensboro. It has a fishing pond. I go to there. It provides me with a different view of life.

I’m married to a fine lady, Carol. We have two wonderful children and four terrific grandchildren. I have good friends; some are lifelong. I’ve been able to live in the city where I was born, to contribute to that city and to see results. My accomplishments are rewarding and the honors are nice. But my faith and family are more rewarding than anything else.
GDOT Realigns Districts for Better Efficiency, Cost Savings

By Carla Murphy

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gerorgia DOT recently announced plans to realign its seven districts into four area offices statewide, creating opportunities for better efficiency. The plan follows an extensive review of district-level operations and resources and was developed using principles typically associated with the private industry.

With the realignment, GDOT is consolidating maintenance and construction offices in all seven of its District’s for better use of equipment and personnel; to operate with fewer managers who have broader responsibility; and to reduce capital, operations and maintenance costs. The new approach comes as the Department has experienced a 37 percent reduction in field construction staffing and a 30 percent reduction in field maintenance staffing. Additionally, GDOT has experienced a 75 percent reduction in annual new hires and fewer dollars for equipment and capital expenses.

Under the plan developed by District 1 Engineer and Director of Field Services Bayne Smith, in collaboration with other district engineers, the seven districts will see a reduction in the number of area offices. Thus far, Districts 1, 2, 3 and 6 have been realigned, resulting in the consolidation of offices. For example, D1 was reduced from six to four area offices in Athens, Carnesville, Cleveland and Gainesville. The reorganization of the three remaining districts is pending.

“I am excited to see that aspects of this realignment plan are already being implemented with positive results,” said STB Chair Jay Shaw. “I know that the Department, and the people of Georgia, will see more value from work being done with better utilization of crews and equipment. We will continue working on this consolidation effort and look forward to seeing full results in the future.”

Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG)

The focus is local

By Liz Rothman

Georgia DOT is committed to assisting cities and counties in upgrading and improving their local roads and bridges.

GDOT’s Local Maintenance Improvement Grant (LMIG) Program allows local governments (LGs) to receive grants for projects that they determine would be the most beneficial to their communities. Funds are for improvements on roads and bridges within county, city or state rights-of-way. Eligible projects primarily relate to safety, economic development and maintenance, with specific activities including preliminary engineering; utility adjustments; patching, leveling and resurfacing; intersection improvements; signage, striping and guardrails; traffic signals; bridge repair; and more.

The LMIG numbers.

For FY 2014, GDOT received 585 applications representing 99 percent of the $120 million allocated for the program. In the past decade, through the LMIG program (and its predecessors - the State Aid and the Local Assistance Road [LARP] programs), Georgia DOT has given cities and counties nearly $950 million to enhance local mobility.

Georgia DOT annually notifies local governments to submit their grant requests. LMIG funding—allocated each fiscal year—is between 10 and 20 percent of the revenue collected from state motor fuel taxes in the preceding year. Project grants are distributed by a formula based on population and local road mileage. LGs must provide a match (50 percent for regions that did not pass the Transportation Investment Act [TIA] referendum; 10 percent for regions that did).

The application deadline for FY 2015 is January 1, 2015. For details on the LMIG Program, visit www.dot.ga.gov/LMIG.

Toward Zero Deaths

GEORGIA HIGHWAYFatalities DOWN FOR 8TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

By Liz Rothman

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atalities on Georgia highways fell in 2013, the eighth straight year traffic crash deaths have declined. Last year 1,186 people were killed as a result of crashes on state roads. That is 13 less than in 2012 and 32 percent less than the 2005 high of 1,748. The state also recorded declines in fatalities among motorcyclists (down 21 to a total of 110) and those on local streets (down 34 to 525). “Though progress is being made, we must remember that these numbers represent real people - people who should be going home to their families at the end of the day,” Georgia DOT Commissioner Keith Golden noted. “One death is one too many.”

GDOT and the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) employ an array of efforts to improve highway safety and reduce fatalities, injuries and crashes. GDOT’s efforts include roundabout intersections, center median cable barriers, rumble strips, reflective signage and striping, traffic signal synchronization and more pedestrian accommodations.

Harris Blackwood, director of the Governor’s Office of Highway Safety, lists other factors contributing to the trend including:

- Increased use of seat belts (per state law). A study conducted by the University of Georgia for GOHS showed 95 percent of motorists on Georgia roads are using seat belts.
- The LMIG numbers.
- The graduated driver’s license that has resulted in fewer 16-year-olds getting their licenses - more are waiting until age 17.
- Of continued concern are fatalities for bicyclists, which increased from 19 to 26 and for pedestrians - up 11 to 178. Georgia DOT’s “Complete Streets” policy, put in place in 2012, is aimed in part to help reduce these incidents.
- “Complete Streets is a long-term, broad initiative to design and build our transportation infrastructure in a way that best serves all users, be they drivers, bicyclists or pedestrians,” GDOT Chief Engineer Russell McMurry said. “Growing segments of the population using our system, especially in metropolitan areas, are cyclists and walkers. The system must accommodate and protect them.”

NO DISTRACTED DRIVING

Whether it’s driving and texting or driving and talking on the phone – they just don’t mix. Every time a driver takes their focus off the road—even for a moment—they put their lives and the lives of others in danger. Each state has different distracted driving laws.

GEORGIA LAWS ARE:

NO texting – all drivers
NO cell phone (hand-held or hands-free) - drivers under age 18 (and bus drivers)

TOWARD ZERO DEATHS - More parents securing their children in child passenger safety seats (per state law). This includes a greater number of 6- and 7-year-olds in booster seats.

- High-visibility traffic enforcement. The GOHS, in partnership with the Georgia State Patrol and local law enforcement agencies, has conducted campaigns in a number of areas across the state.

- The graduated driver’s license that has resulted in fewer 16-year-olds getting their licenses - more are waiting until age 17.

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Marlo Clowers, senior project manager in the Office of Innovative Delivery, was named Transportation Professional of the Year by the Georgia Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). She was recognized for her significant contributions to the transportation field, and to the safe and efficient movement of people and goods in Georgia. Clowers, a licensed professional engineer, received a bachelor of civil engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology in 1996 and began working for GDOT the same year.

Pleasant Hill Rd over I-85 DDI— the first eight-lane diverging diamond interchange (DDI) of its kind in the United States — received the 2014 Engineering Excellence Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Georgia (ACEC Georgia). It was also named winner in the innovative solutions category in preconstruction design by the Georgia Partnership for Transportation Quality.

And the Blinkie goes to… Georgia DOT’s State Traffic Engineer Kathy Zahul and Commissioner Keith Golden accepted a Blinkie Award from the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition (ABC). GDOT was named a Bike-Friendly Agency Staff for building buffered bicycle lanes into the Ponce de Leon safety project. The award also acknowledges Zahul’s approach to targeting state safety funds to benefit all. The annual awards recognize people and projects that contribute to the city’s progress toward becoming a bicycle-friendly community.

Georgia DOT recently hosted transportation officials from China’s Liaoning Province, sharing information ranging from GDOT’s planning process to design policies. Eighteen officials joined Deputy Commissioner Todd Long, State Research Engineer Georgette Geary and other staff. The group, representing academics and government, was escorted by State Representative Gerald Greene. In selecting the state to visit, officials cited Georgia’s quality roads and GDOT’s reputation for innovation.

Reorganize, merge, promote. GDOT has formed a new division. P3/Program Delivery consists of the offices of Program Delivery, Program Control, and Innovative Delivery (which is the merger of offices of P3 and Innovative Program Delivery). Joe Carpenter was named director and Genevah Rice-Singleton was named assistant director of the new division.

Carpenter, GDOT’s former division director of engineering, is in his second year with the Department. He has a lifetime of transportation engineering experience with the Tennessee and Texas DOTs, and in the private sector. Carpenter has a bachelor’s in civil engineering from University of Arkansas and is a licensed professional engineer.

Rice-Singleton, a 27-year GDOT veteran, is former state program delivery engineer. Under her leadership, the Office of Program Delivery was reorganized; the issues management log implemented; and risk management begun. Prior to that, she was administrator of the Office of Program Control. Rice-Singleton has worked on numerous notable projects, including design of the High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lanes for the 1996 Olympic Games. The South Carolina native has a bachelor’s in civil engineering technology from South Carolina State University.

Glenn Bowman replaces Carpenter as director of engineering. Most recently he was administrator of the Office of Environmental Services. Prior to that he was the assistant to the chief engineer and held various positions in the Office of Urban Design up to assistant office head. Bowman has been with GDOT for 25 years. He has a bachelor’s in civil engineering from Georgia Tech and is a licensed professional engineer.

Hiral Patel replaces Bowman as administrator of the Office of Environmental Services. She is a licensed professional engineer with a bachelor’s in civil engineering. Most recently she was an assistant office head in Program Delivery. Prior to that, Patel held various positions in District Construction. She has been with GDOT for 18 years.

Albert Shelby replaces Rice-Singleton as administrator of the Office of Program Delivery. He has a bachelor’s in civil engineering technology from Southern Polytechnic State University. He has been with GDOT for 15 years. Most recently he was an assistant office head in Program Delivery. Prior to that, he held various positions in Roadway Design.

Remembering Herb Emory

Georgia Department of Transportation mourns the passing of Herb Emory. Captain Herb was a trusted and enduring voice for thousands of metro-Atlanta drivers, and was a great friend and advisor to GDOT. He will be missed.
Much-anticipated project expected to reduce traffic on Buckhead streets

Interstate 85, Georgia 400 Northbound Flyover Ramps Open

By Mark McKinnon

The long-anticipated flyover ramps connecting Interstate 85 to Georgia State Route 400 opened in April, providing direct north and southbound access to thousands of motorists who live and work along the two heavily-traveled corridors. The ramps connect I-85 south to GA 400 north and GA 400 south to I-85 north in Buckhead.

The $21.4 million project — funded by bonds backed with former GA 400 toll collections — provides much-needed northbound connectivity from highway to highway. Currently, more than 90,000 vehicles travel southbound on I-85 daily; and more than 60,000 travel on GA 400 southbound. More than 32,000 vehicles are expected to use the new ramps every day, with that number increasing to nearly 40,000 by 2035.

In a ceremony announcing the opening of the ramps, Governor Nathan Deal, State Transportation Board Member Stacey Key, Georgia DOT Commissioner Keith Golden and former Atlanta Mayor and Buckhead Coalition founder and president Sam Massell, lauded the project and emphasized its importance to surrounding Buckhead neighborhoods and businesses.

“Part of our mission at GDOT is to implement transportation solutions that improve the quality of life for all Georgians…”

Stacey Key
5th Congressional District Transportation Board member

“…These new ramps will take pressure off of some of Atlanta’s most congested streets, which should vastly improve the mobility of those who live and work in that area.”

Stacey Key
5th Congressional District Transportation Board member

Cutting the ceremonial ribbon: From left, Fulton County Commissioner Liz Hausmann; State Senator Brandon Beach; Buckhead Coalition President and former Atlanta Mayor Sam Massell; Governor Nathan Deal; State Transportation Board Member Stacey Key; State Representative Edward Lindsey; GDOT Commissioner Keith Golden
“Part of our mission at GDOT is to implement transportation solutions that improve the quality of life for all Georgians,” said 5th Congressional District Transportation Board member Stacey Key. “I am excited about the impact of this project on the citizens who live in the Georgia 400/I-85 corridor. These new ramps will take pressure off of some of Atlanta’s most congested streets, which should vastly improve the mobility of those who live and work in that area. If we can shorten the daily commute for the people we serve, that is always a good thing.”

The flyover ramps were constructed as part of GDOT’s Design/Build program, in which two phases of work are combined into a single contract to expedite completion. Design began in summer 2011 and construction began the following February.

“Transportation projects are the result of ongoing collaboration and coordination among many entities. These include transportation professionals as well as partners and stakeholders like local governments and communities,” noted Commissioner Keith Golden. “The opening of these ramps is indicative of how collaboration and communication can shape a vital project and result in a successful endeavor that benefits everyone.”

Flyover Ramps continued

The opening of these ramps is indicative of how collaboration and communication can shape a vital project and result in a successful endeavor that benefits everyone.”

Keith Golden, GDOT Commissioner

Representatives of the project management team, from left: Loren Bartlett, Innovative Delivery Project Manager, GDOT; Teresa Hartle, Bridge Design Engineer I, GDOT; Valerie Sanders, Inspector II, Moreland Altobelli; Shane Smith, Project Manager, WITT; Jason O’Daniel, Bridge Design Engineer I, GDOT; Albert Shelly, State Program Delivery Engineer, GDOT; Lamanda Hampton, Engineer Tech, GDOT; Xavier James, Program Delivery Project Manager, GDOT; Shun Pringle, District 7 Construction Engineer, GDOT; Herb Forrester, Project Manager, Moreland Altobelli; Johnson Driehusont, Inspector II, Moreland Altobelli; Gov. Nathan Deal; GDOT Commissioner Keith Golden; STB Member Stacey Key.
Bike friendly Georgia communities.

Six Georgia locales were named by the League of American Bicyclists to their 2013 Bicycle Friendly Communities list: Jekyll Island, Savannah, Athens-Clarke County, Decatur, Russell and Tybee Island.

www.gdotland.com

Surplus property for sale.

Sometimes land (and residential or commercial structures) that GDOT purchases for right-of-way goes unused due to changes in project construction plans. For information about buying surplus property, visit www.gdotland.com.

GDOT pays tribute to workers who have died in work zones.

“Work Zone Speeding: A Careless Mistake” was the theme of April’s National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week. The theme focuses on work zone dangers for the traveling public, as well as for workers. At GDOT’s observation, Commissioner Keith Golden was joined by William Furr, FHWA Georgia District deputy administrator; David Moeller, Georgia Highway Contractors Association executive director; Harris Blackwood, Georgia Governor’s Office of Highway Safety director; and Bill Brunsote, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration deputy administrator. GDOT Construction Engineer Mark Mastronardi made the introductions. A HERO unit was also present.

GDOT pays tribute to workers who have died in work zones.

Highway workers put their lives in danger every day. While eliminating distractions is good advice for all driving situations, speakers emphasized that when approaching a work zone motorists must also slow down and comply with the Move Over law.

Since record keeping began in 1973, 57 Georgia DOT employees have died in work zone incidents.

Property damage collections triple the expected amount.

An initiative to recover money for damages to state property resulting from crashes is far exceeding expectations - after six months more than $1 million was recovered. Damages to state property like signs, guardrails, and bridge structures can add up to more than $18 million annually. GDOT Deputy Commissioner Todd Long is pleased with the initial results of collections through a partnership with Claims Management Resources, Inc. The company negotiates with drivers and their insurance companies. Long says the department is on track to recover between $3 and $4 million in the first year of the partnership. The program operates at no cost to Georgia taxpayers.

Spring Street Viaduct replacement.

After faithfully serving as the gateway to downtown Atlanta for 92 years, the structurally deficient Spring Street Viaduct is being replaced. The bridge over the CSX railroad is located on Spring Street between Mitchell and Marietta streets, and includes Martin Luther King Jr. Drive between Forsyth and Spring streets. Extensive utility relocations are underway. Reconstruction will require two City of Atlanta-designated detours. The first detour, located at the southern end of the project, will be announced this summer and put in place in the fall; the second, northern phase detour will follow a year later. Anticipated completion of the new viaduct is November 2016. For details, visit www.dot.ga.gov/springstreetviaducts.

Preventing pollution from stormwater runoff.

While constructing and maintaining Georgia’s highways and bridges are core functions of Georgia DOT, we also protect the integrity of the air, wildlife, flora/fauna, and water environs.

In addition to activities we normally employ as environmental stewards, a federal Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit also guides GDOT’s activities to protect waterways from stormwater pollution.

“Stormwater is the flow of water that enters our streams, lakes and rivers after rain storms,” explains Brad McManus, design group manager in GDOT’s Office of Design Policy and Support. “These waters can easily carry harmful roadway pollutants and debris into our waterways.”

The MS4 permit requires that Georgia DOT prevent excessive stormwater discharges, dumping, spills, erosion and pollutants from contaminating waterways. Prevention efforts include training construction and maintenance crews in pollution detection, removal and mitigation. In addition, efforts have been stepped-up on active construction sites and for post-construction stormwater management. McManus reports that issues have been resolved in at least four areas of the state where illegal discharge and dumping were identified.

Georgia DOT’s MS4 effort includes educating the public about the impacts of stormwater runoff on waterways, and the simple actions individuals can take to prevent pollution. For example - proper disposal of pet waste (bag it and throw in trash) and recycling motor oil.

Find out how you can keep pollutants out of our waterways. For information and to report stormwater pollution on state routes, visit www.dot.ga.gov/stormwater.
GDOT District Communications Officers
By Liz Rothman

Keeping you in the know. And on the go.

I

In addition to Georgia DOT’s general offices in downtown Atlanta, Georgia’s seven transportation districts operate and maintain the state transportation system at a local level. Each has a spokesperson — a district communications officer (DCO) — who provides essential transportation information to the community, the media and local officials. These professionals ensure a timely, clear and accurate message.

Test Page — D1/Northeast

Tori and her high school sweetheart Kenny celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary this year. They are members of Blackshear Place Baptist Church in Floreys Branch where Tori gets great joy in serving in the student ministry. Tori joined GDOT in 1999. “As a native of Caisersville, I enjoy helping people in Northeast Georgia understand transportation planning, construction and maintenance.”

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https://twitter.com/GDOTNE

Cissy McNure — D2/East Central

Transportation is a family affair for Cissy – she’s been with GDOT 19 years and husband Roger is a retired railroad maintenance of way supervisor. They’ve lived in rural Washington County for 20 years (so rural - there’s no cell phone service!). They have four adult children and two grandchildren. She enjoys reading, thrift shopping and traveling. “I like helping to keep our fellow Georgians safe by making them aware of what’s happening on our roadway.”

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Kimberly Larson — D3/West Central

Kimberly lives in the moment. The North Georgia College and Hawaii Pacific University graduate has been with GDOT for seven years. Kimberly and her son live in Thomaston where they love spending time together outdoors - hunting, fishing and gardening. “Every day is different in transportation. From routine maintenance, to new projects, to working with film producers to general public concerns and yes, even weather events; it’s never dull.”

kklason@dot.ga.gov • https://twitter.com/GDOTWest

Nita Birmingham — D4/Southwest

Nita is a “praud Army brat” who loves meeting new people and experiencing different cultures. This veteran newspaper reporter has a bachelor’s in journalism from the University of Georgia. She’s also a dog person (“cats are too aloof”). Nita joined GDOT in December 2013 and lives in Tifton.

“Every day is different in transportation. From routine maintenance, to new projects, to working with film producers to general public concerns and yes, even weather events; it’s never dull.”

nfbirmingham@dot.ga.gov

Mohamed Arafa — D6/Northwest

Mohamed, an “Egyptian by birth, American by choice,” has been with Georgia DOT for 15 years. He has a Ph.D. in cultue and communications from University of Virginia, and an MA and BA in journalism from University of Cairo. Mohamed, his wife and daughters live in Cobb County. “Following several years of teaching communications in college, I enjoy the challenge of practicing what I preach.”

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Mark McKinnon — D7/Metro Atlanta

Mark has a BA in journalism from Georgia State University and has been with GDOT for 14 years. He lives in Bethlehem with his wife, Wendy, and their three sons. Mark sings and plays guitar, and is working toward a black belt in karate. “In every interview my goal is to highlight the great work our employees do for the traveling public.”

mmckinnon@dot.ga.gov

Editor’s note: At press time, Mark announced he is leaving GDOT for a new challenge at Georgia Department of Natural Resources. We wish him well!

Jill Nagel — D5/Southeast

Jill has worked in public relations and communications for over 12 years, including three with Georgia DOT. The Georgia native lives in Waycross with her family, where they love exploring the historical sites and cultural fairs of the Coastal Region. “I enjoy working with the media and communities of Southeast Georgia, keeping them informed of roadway conditions pertaining to travel safety and convenience.”

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https://twitter.com/GeorgiaDOTSE

Good morning…We live in Villa Rica… I am needing to report a rotten dead tree that has fallen onto the I-20 West side fence that borders our property with the DOT right of way. I have removed as much of the dead tree debris as I can on our private property side, but the position of the tree leaning on the state easement fence has created a danger, to our family and animals. The tree is located in the back left portion of our property. If you could please send a crew or someone out to remove the danger from continuing to fall through the fence onto our property even more.

Thank you.

C. Bradford

Editor’s note: GDOT’s Carroll County crew includes Ronald Brown, Robert Smith, Kenneth Casey and Malcom Timms. They were out the following day to remove the tree. The homeowner was pleased. “Thank you very much for the expedited reply and action into this request,” he wrote.

Once again, God has allowed me to meet a couple of real “south Georgia heroes”: This morning, I left our farm to make an early morning trip to Camilla with some pecan samples. Since my mother and I had appointments in Midland at 9 a.m., I asked her to ride with me in hopes that we could make our appointments on time. Right after we passed Pebble City, we had a blowout. There was not much shoulder on the road, but I got off the pavement as much as I could…I knew that I would not be able to change the tire and was about to call… when a couple of heroes, Andrew Pearce and Richard Taylor, arrived on the scene.

They were in a Georgia Department of Transportation truck from Albany DOT, but as far as I’m concerned, they were wearing wings! … Andrew quickly got out my spare and the dinky little jack that came with the car. He got right down on the edge of the pavement and, using those crude tools, got the spare on and everything back in the car. I praise God that mama and I were uninjured in the blowout, and cannot say enough about Andrew and Richard — two wonderful men who went completely out of their way to help Two old women in need. I hope my “heroes” are reading this… and I hope their employers are, too, because they have some real winners working for them!

I hope they’ll search Andrew and Richard out and give them a hearty raise and a much deserved pat on the back! Thank you for your wisdom in hiring such fine men!

B. Green, Doerun

Editor’s note: This is a condensed version of a letter to the editor that appeared in the Albany Herald. Richard Taylor is Assistant Highway Maintenance Foreman and Andrew Pearce is Equipment Operator 1. Both are from District 4.

Mohamed Arafa — D6/Northwest

Mohamed, an “Egyptian by birth, American by choice,” has been with Georgia DOT for 15 years. He has a Ph.D. in culture and communications from University of Virginia, and an MA and BA in journalism from University of Cairo. Mohamed, his wife and daughters live in Cobb County. “Following several years of teaching communications in college, I enjoy the challenge of practicing what I preach.”

marafa@dot.ga.gov • https://www.facebook.com/pages/Georgia-DOT-Northwest • https://twitter.com/GDOTNW

Letters of Praise
This past weekend my 10 year old grand-daughter and I were traveling thru Atlanta and had a blow out on 285 Perimeter 5.9 miles from 85. We were in the left hand lane and thankfully able to cross thru traffic to get to the edge of the road. Both of us were scared to death. I called my cousin…in Buford and he told me about the “Hero” assistance. I called the 511 & 8 and was assisted on the phone very promptly. I expected to be sitting beside the road for several hours, but was back on the road within one hour. The Gentleman that helped us was very respectful and polite. He stated that you do not charge and I wanted to tip him and he said no. I just wanted to let you know. I do not know his name but his badge # 595. THANKS SO MUCH FOR WHAT YALL DID!!!

D. Crabtree

Editor’s note: The HERO referenced is Henry Kimes.

Editor’s note: At press time, Mark announced he is leaving GDOT for a new challenge at Georgia Department of Natural Resources. We wish him well!

Editor’s note: This is a condensed version of a letter to the editor that appeared in the Albany Herald. Richard Taylor is Assistant Highway Maintenance Foreman and Andrew Pearce is Equipment Operator 1. Both are from District 4.

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Hello, I would like to commend one of your GDOT employees, P. Dalenberg #561…

I was on my way home from church when my rear passenger tire went flat. I was in a horrible spot and barely had room to exit the vehicle without stepping into traffic.

I was well dressed and wasn’t up to changing the vehicle on my own. Mike was courteous, respectful and patient - just AMAZING! I thanked him profusely and continued on my journey - but just wanted to give GA DOT HERO units the feedback. The HERO units are definitely a service that is invaluable and Mike Sprayerley…is a great ambassador for your HERO unit. Such a positive experience in the midst of a crisis - THANKS!

K. Moore

Your spokeswoman Natalie who appeared on so many newscasts regarding the winter storm was articulate, compassionate, and informative. It took me 10 hours to get home and I was blaming the GDOT- until I saw her explain what happened and why the trucks couldn’t get through. She also seemed to be an advocate for…travelers when she said there were going to be some open conversations between the different groups to try to mitigate any future problems…Thank you for all you do – and especially thank you to Natalie (I don’t know her last name-sorry!) for being a voice of reason in a sea of finger pointing.

C. Stevens

Editor’s note: Natalie Dale is GDOT’s Media & Government Relations Specialist.

Thank you for being out there doing what you can for us.

S. Nicholson

The Georgia DOT HERO units are amazing!! I was…traveling on I-285 E during rush hour traffic when one of my tires blew out. After managing to make my way over 4 lanes of rush hour traffic and into the median/exit ramp area, my daughters and I pulled out the manual…to try and figure out how to find all “equipment” needed to begin changing my tire (and YES my husband had shown me numerous times but of course I was in his f150 and had no idea how or where to begin). Out of nowhere, a large yellow HERO unit appeared! Being from Savannah, I was not familiar with the HERO units but was so grateful Mike Sprayerley (HERO) appeared out of nowhere. He assisted in locating the jack in the “secret compartment” in cab of truck, unlocking the back unit using my ignition key, and getting spare tire from underneath truck (none of which I would have been able to easily figure out on my own). Mike was courteous, respectful and patient - just AMAZING! I thanked him profusely and continued on my journey - but just wanted to give GA DOT HERO units the feedback. The HERO units are definitely a service that is invaluable and Mike Sprayerley…is a great ambassador for your HERO unit. Such a positive experience in the midst of a crisis - THANKS!

K. Moore

The real hero is the H.E.R.O. Unit.

J. Holmes

Good Morning All,

Just wanted to hand out high fives all around for Nita Birmingham! She did a terrific job during her call-in to GOOD DAY LIVE this morning. Nita provided a much needed update on area road conditions and safe driving tips for early morning commuters. It was a valuable service for our viewers!

Bill Brooks
FOX 31 WFXL-TV, Albany

Editor’s note: Nita Birmingham is District Communications Officer in District 4

Appreciate y’all and all the hard work you are doing today.

R. Turner

I would like to thank the men and women of the Georgia Emergency Management Center, Georgia Department of Transportation, the Georgia National Guard and all other public safety personnel who worked around the clock.

Sen. Steve Gooch

Editor’s note: This is an excerpt from the Feb. 19 Dawson News. Sen. Gooch represents the 51st Congressional District and is Senate Transportation Committee chair.

Thank you for putting your lives on the line to make ours safer.

C. Rincon

More folks need to like and share your [Facebook page] – a great way to get the road conditions to the public…thanks for all you do!

B. Crisman

Please tell your employees they did a GREAT job the first ice/snow event and am sure on this one. It made me angry any criticisms from Monday morning quarter backers on how it should have been done. The men and women who have to leave their homes and family and risk their lives should be told BE SAFE AND THANK YOU ALL. These southern storms are more complicated than northern and part of it is the infrequency of the event. THANK YOU GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

G. Massey

This time around they have done a wonderful job. Thanks to the GDOT our roads are safer for those that must go to work…

K. Lane

Thank you to everyone at GDOT for working so tirelessly through this storm. It had not gone unnoticed.

L. Keelor

…I would like to congratulate your entire department for the admirable work in keeping Atlanta safe and intact during the ice storm. I know that this was a monumental task and you delivered…thank you.

H. Rutenberg

…Much thanks should go to those who worked overtime to keep us all safe, including local law enforcement and fire services officers, emergency management directors, Georgia Department of Transportation crews and officials, and utility workers. While most of us can spend a snow day sitting in front of a fire sipping hot cocoa, for them a major weather event leads to long days and extra work, and we thank them for the effort…

Editor’s note: This is an excerpt from a Feb. 24 Gainesville Times editorial

Thank you for all you are doing! Your efforts are not unnoticed by the grateful.

S. Smith

Clark County DOT did an awesome job keeping main roads passable…thanks.

R. Beasley

Thank you for putting your lives on the line to make ours safer.

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Spring/Summer 2014 Connector
**GDOT employee leads library’s transition from manual to electronic system**

**Stardina Wyche Holds GDOT History in her Hands**

By Carla Murphy

“Stardina Wyche’s office is atypical—not the usual cubicule or standard-sized office meant to accommodate a desk, chair and storage cabinet. Rather, she has a much larger space, flanked by hundreds of thousands, if not millions of pages of documents. She is the keeper of manuals, reports, photographs and reference materials, many of which date back to the early days of the Department.

As the lone librarian for the Roy A. Flynt Memorial Library, Ms. Wyche has what is perhaps one of the most unique positions at GDOT—every day new information about the almost 100-year-old former Highway Department is brought to her attention. ‘There is a ton of information here,’ she says, noting that at least one document dates back to 1919. ‘What makes this job really interesting is that I am surrounded by a lot of historical information and reference materials, so I really can learn something new about the Department every day. And I do.’

In fact, the library is home to American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) manuals and photos. The process has evolved over the 30-plus years of her career as she transformed the library from a manual system to an electronic on-line system by creating a vast documentation database. Over the past decade, this process has required countless hours of data entry and scanning documents to enable worldwide internet access. And with the 100th anniversary of the Department only two years away, Wyche also is working with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to offer discounted yearly parks passes for GDOT employees and their families.

Wyche’s chief responsibility is to archive and catalogue documents. She is the keeper of manuals, reports, photographs and photos. The process has evolved over the 30-plus years of her career as she transformed the library from a manual system to an electronic on-line system by creating a vast documentation database. Over the past decade, this process has required countless hours of data entry and scanning documents to enable worldwide internet access. And with the 100th anniversary of the Department only two years away, Wyche also is working with Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to offer discounted yearly parks passes for GDOT employees and their families.

The Public Outreach Group, directed by Kelly Gwin, handles public relations to get the word out about the Employee Advocacy Team. This article, the Lunch & Learn, and improving the EAT webpage are some of their activities.

The Suggestions Group, headed by Sheila Smith, finds answers and solutions to the concerns, questions and suggestions that come in from employees. Topics run the gamut from compensation to tools to personal purchase of used equipment to training.

To view current and archived questions and answers, visit the mygdot home page and click on EMPLOYEE ADVOCACY.

You may access the Flynt Library online at Users may access the Flynt Library online at [http://o9.63.237.9/OPAC/Index.aspx](http://o9.63.237.9/OPAC/Index.aspx).
Above & Beyond: Commissioner’s Commendation for Excellence

By Juliette Carter

CUSTOMER SERVICE

I-85 Jackson County Crew, District One: Jeremiah Owensby, Steve Hayes, Jr., Erik Lance, Dennis Little, Taylor Coile, James Bailey.

When falling limbs from a black walnut tree hit her windshield as she drove on Highway 53 West in early November, Susan Jones was concerned that the large limbs that remained hanging over the roadway could be a safety hazard. Jones, a citizen of Jackson County, called District One Communications Officer Teri Pope to see what could be done to prevent a mishap for someone else. Pope took the information and called Jones later that morning to tell her that a crew would soon be out to take a look. By the following Monday evening, the limbs over the highway were gone. Needless to say, Jones was surprised to see her windshield scanner requiring no lane closures and no personnel in travel lanes. Second Place: Charles Jay Strange, District 3/Right of Way

To cut completion times for tasks like cleaning bridges, digging ditches and building shoulders, these innovators invented the Guard Rail Cleaner made from recycled parts.

Cynthia Walker, Utilities Contract/Pay Forman, District 7, Area 2
Michael Hancock, Forman, District 6, Area 4
James Hunter, Environmental Compliance Assistant Manager, Engineering Services
Phillip Moorehead, Terry Mahlstadt, Maurice Foster, Marvin Tullis

WINNER: Area-wide Guard Rail Cleaner Crew
District 4, Area 1/Valdosta
Martin Melton, Kenneth Brown, Willie Frank Griffin, James Hunter, Phillip Moorehead, Terry Mahlstadt, Maurice Foster, Marvin Tullis

To cut completion times for tasks like cleaning bridges, digging ditches and building shoulders, these innovators invented the Guard Rail Cleaner - made from recycled parts.

SECOND PLACE: Jeffery G. Fletcher, Office of Design Policy & Support
Federal improves surveying practices using technology and new procedures. He championed GDOT’s purchase of a high definition laser scanner requiring no lane closures and no personnel in travel lanes.

Jay Strange (l) and D3 DE Thomas Howell

WINNER: Area-wide Guard Rail Cleaner Crew
District 4, Area 1/Valdosta
Martin Melton, Kenneth Brown, Willie Frank Griffin, James Hunter, Phillip Moorehead, Terry Mahlstadt, Maurice Foster, Marvin Tullis

To cut completion times for tasks like cleaning bridges, digging ditches and building shoulders, these innovators invented the Guard Rail Cleaner - made from recycled parts.

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Federal improves surveying practices using technology and new procedures. He championed GDOT’s purchase of a high definition laser scanner requiring no lane closures and no personnel in travel lanes.

Professional of the Year

WINNER: Charles Jay Strange, District 3/Right of Way
Strange negotiated a complex acquisition that avoided relocating an Interstate truck stop - saving jobs, $500,000 in GDOT project costs, and a significant portion of the county’s tax base.

SECOND PLACE: Michael A. Lewis, District 3/Right-of-Way
Lewis helps property owners understand plans and the closing process for right of way acquisitions. By catching errors early, he helps GDOT avoid problems later.

As 2013 came to a close, Georgia DOT announced the winners of the Our GDOT Challenge.

OUR GDOT Challenge Winners

By Liz Rothman

Innovator

WINNER: Area-wide Guard Rail Cleaner Crew
District 4, Area 1/Valdosta
Martin Melton, Kenneth Brown, Willie Frank Griffin, James Hunter, Phillip Moorehead, Terry Mahlstadt, Maurice Foster, Marvin Tullis

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Lewis helps property owners understand plans and the closing process for right of way acquisitions. By catching errors early, he helps GDOT avoid problems later.

Shape-Up

WINNER: Bridge to Health Highway Team
(Office of Bridge Design)
- Alicia Rainwater, Joe King, Cindy Pollard, Susan Beck, Eric Huilebregte, Teresa Hartle, Jenny Harris-Dunham, Thomas Lipton, Kaitlyn Rhodes, Tan Nguyen, No Nguyen, Doug Frank, Steve Gaston, Hooman Dorsoudi

Since the Shape-Up Challenge began in January 2013, the team improved their health by walking and completing other exercise activities that convert to 33 million steps!

SECOND PLACE: Ellen G. Wright, District 2 - Training

When 8-year-old daughter Logan beat her in a fun run/walk in 2011, Wright decided it was time to act. In two years, she ran over twenty races, some of which included swimming ponds, climbing walls and jumping over fire.

Volunteerism

WINNER: Jared Hill, Office of General Support/Procurement

Hill is dedicated to children and service. Not only has he fostered parented seven children, he also volunteers as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) representing abused or neglected children in juvenile court proceedings and serves on the nonprofit Friends of CASA Board.

SECOND PLACE: Jim Pumfret, Office of Environmental Services

When daughter Maya was diagnosed with Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) in 2003, Pumfret and his wife Jen became involved with the national non-profit CdLS Foundation, which serves people with CdLS and their families. The One Love, One Heart 5K Walk/Run, which they established in 2004, has raised over $100,000 for the foundation. CdLS is a genetic disorder that affects all genders, races and ethnicities.
In the last CONNECTOR, we introduced Honku - the transportation Haiku.* Here are a few submitted by readers.

Buying right of way
With good plans I am driven
Serving the people
J. Heath Brodnax, GDOT D3 Right of Way

Tires cost money
There are pot holes on the bridge
Please fix I-20
Tameka Z.

*17 syllables in three lines written in a 5-7-5 format

Succession Planning: Round 3

Succession Planning allows GDOT to identify highly competent, motivated employees, and prepare them for an internal applicant pool from which key management level position openings may be filled. As current leaders retire, Succession Planning helps plan for their exit by transferring critical knowledge and decision-making competence to potential new leaders.

Congratulations to the new Succession Planning class: Patrick Allen, Larry Barnes, Chandria Brown, Paul Denard, Eric Duff, Jason Dykes, Nicolas Fields, Kelly Gwin, Krysal Harris, David Jared, Matt Needham, Robby Oliver, Melany Reynolds, Brian Robinson, Merisha Robinson, Chris Rudd, Annette Simelaro, Rebecca Thigpen, Glenn Warlick, Cher Welch

Thanks for taking part in the 2014 Employee Survey!

The Commissioner and the Employee Survey Team thank all who got involved. Your feedback will help guide the initiatives and steps the Department will take to make GDOT a better place to work. In the upcoming months, the results of the survey will be shared with the divisions and offices. If you have suggestions or comments on how to improve future employee surveys, please send them to employeesurvey2014@dot.ga.gov.

Preparing for GDOT’s 100th birthday.

"Georgia is definitely out of the mud."
Those were the final words from a 1939 departmental history (back when Georgia Department of Transportation was called the State Highway Board of Georgia). Now, as Georgia DOT’s 2016 centennial approaches, the Centennial Planning Committee asks employees to share (donate or loan) historical documents, old photographs, publications, physical objects and GDOT artifacts to help provide a complete narrative showcasing the evolution from our humble beginnings to the modern transportation system we have today.

Your assistance will enable the Committee to update GDOT’s history and plan centennial-related events across the state.
If you or someone you know have artifacts, please contact your respective Centennial Coordinator.

Centennial Collections Coordinators (CCCs)

Metro Atlanta offices, OMR, District 7:
Stardina Wyche
swyche@dot.ga.gov
404.608.4800

District 1: Kim Coley
kcoley@dot.ga.gov
770.532.5530

District 2: Zina Stephens
stemphens@dot.ga.gov
478.357.1511

District 3: Teresa Booker
thooker@dot.ga.gov
706.646.7517

District 4: Stephanie Griner
sgriner@dot.ga.gov
229.391.5515

District 5:
Ginger Collins
gcollins@dot.ga.gov
912.427.5713

Teresa Tootle
tootle@dot.ga.gov
912.550.4383

Margie Sloan
msloan@dot.ga.gov
912.427.5711

District 6:
Kerry Bonner
kbanner@dot.ga.gov
678.721.5321

The Centennial project is sponsored by the offices of Communications, Research, and Environmental Services. Watch for FGDOT’s Centennial web page currently in development.

SHORTS
Working to protect the millions of motorists who use our roadways every year.

Go for a drive, and you’ll see how we work to keep you safe. With cable median barriers that can reduce fatal crossover crashes by 90 percent. And a Safety Edge on outer travel lanes that’s angled to keep drivers from overcorrecting if they drift off the side. Learn more about how we protect the public at www.dot.ga.gov.

Georgia DOT. Working to keep Georgia moving.

TravelSmart Georgia.
With solutions that make travel safer for you

and your precious cargo.

Retirees
November 1, 2013 – April 1, 2014

Curtis J. Adams
David C. Adams
Deloris D. Anderson
Clarence Arwater
Callem Baldwin
Rebecca Ann Barrett
Norris Cecil Baxter
Anthony C. Belcher
Donald J. Bitter
Carl S. Boordam
Warrnell C. Brantley
Donna D. Brett
Devon S. Brooke
Denise Y. Brown
Robert Milton Browning
Berty Adams Carter
Cynthia D. Christian
Michael G. Cooper
Jerry Mack Cravey
Robin Laine Dallas
Robert W. Dickens
Thomas C. Duntere
Michael L. Ellington
Mark Christopher Eubanks
Tyrone Ferrell
Lois Leon Franklin
William T. Gibb
Charles M. Gordon
James F. Gordon
Willie Frank Griffin
Donaus Hall
Dale R. Hambly
Osia L. Hicks
Joseph P. Higfield
Johnny Hollis
Christopher E. Holmes
Robert Lee Jenkins
Donald J. Johnson
James Johnson Jr.
Emanuel Jones
J. Scott Keedys
Rickey Edward Lott
Harry A. Maddox
Cynthia M. Marshall
Johnny Steve Matthews
Barry David McAvoy
Keith H. McLeod
Dorothy M. Miles
Mary A. Mitchell
Robert L. Moon
Mary Delaine Morgan
Abdulrahim Mohammed
Mudhiyur Munshi
John Thomas Napier Jr.
Thomas Clinton Parker Jr.
Eric Carl Pitts
Benjamin Eugene Poppell
Timothy Scott Rader
Cedric W. Randolph
Jan Denise Ray
Richard B. Reed
Donald Hicks
Rosa Mae Roberts
W. J. Rountree
Belinda W. Rowan
Randall Hayes Rosier II
KENT LLOYD SAGER
Linda G. Shivers
Shannon Foley Slaughter
Jeremiah Smith
Rick Alan Smith
George Anthony Solomon
John Stephen Solomon
Tommy A. Spikes
Angela Y. Taylor
Olivette Tismer
Jack Gregory Walker
Janis Lorraine Walker
Timmie Walker
Tommy E. Ward
William R. Whitelotson
Deois Celina Williams
Thelmon Wright
Stephen W. Wyche

Service Anniversaries
Through June 31, 2014

30 YEARS
Kenneth Lewis Cheek
George L. Dickens
Donna K. Garrison
Ricky L. Goober

Howard Gray
Karon Lamar Ivery
Harry A. Maddox
Johnny Ell McCord
Carl Wesley Minrell
Norman A. Mock
Willie C. Redding
Ronnie Sanders
William R. Singleton
Angie P. Thornton

25 YEARS
Jerry Brawuell
Michael Carmichael
Carolyn Faye Carroll
Joseph F. Carter
Curtis L. Grovner
Toby N. Hammonds
George Anthony Kirkland
William B. McKinney
Donald Hicks
Kenneth E. Robinson Jr.
Steve A. Shugart
Linda Jane Smith
Hugh B. Tinesley Jr.
David Ross Wegner
Linda M. Westcott

20 YEARS
Charlie James Armstrong
Sharmelda J. Barrow
Coby B. Carter
John Wayne Casewell
Funke Abby Ebedaghe
Clinton B. Ford
James Lester Gilsson III
Lonnie Andrews Oquinn
Marie S. Shaw
Everette Wadley Jr.
Terri Lynn Wesley
Amita Wiley
William Douglas Wood

15 YEARS
Margaret Victoria Batts
Danielle Jayne Bentley
Andrew Brooks
Dennis L. Carter
Selena Helms
Franklin J. Lamb
Danny A. Lewis
Andrew Jackson Reed III
Corbett S. Reynolds
Rickey Clark Richardson
Rotemia Tillman
Donna B. Watson
Margaret Ann Weaver
Gundifius D. Wright

10 YEARS
Dennis Ray Barron
James Allen Barry
Phoebe Petri Beckham
James Sinclair Belcher Jr.
Lashond Brooks
Melvin S. Camerson
Ramson Cantres
Cactress M. Carter
Larry M. Chambers
Roy D. Chester Jr.
Percy K. Comboy
Gene M. Cranford III
Orene E. Davis
Sue Anne Harris Decker
Anthony Jermaine Hilson
Daniel Dwayne Holland
William D. Horton
Victor James Johnson
Bert T. Jones
Donald W. Jordan
Alexander Joseph Lafey IV
Dennis Milton Lintle
Garylynne J. Marshall
Darius H. Norris Jr.
Charleston Parker Jr.
Wiley Jimmy Phillips
James Oscar Rawls
Dale Richard Rhodes Sr.
Raymond M. Sapp
Alan A. Sayler
Andrea Quinn Stamiello
William David Taylor
Brook M. Tyson
Neil J. Tyson
Joe H. Walker Jr.
Floyd Jammal Williams

Too many to list.

Congrats To All!