

From: [Mary Barry](#)
To: nkunews@listserv.nku.edu
Subject: A&F Newsletter - December 2020
Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:14:59 AM
Attachments: [image004.png](#)



HOT OFF THE PRESS - December

Message from Mike Hales, Interim Vice President-Administration & Finance/Chief Financial Officer (VPAF/CFO)

Although COVID-19 prohibited us from gathering in person, we were able to carry on the 16-year tradition of the Administration & Finance Outstanding Service Award. It is my honor to highlight the nominees and winners!

2020 A&F Outstanding Service Award Nominees:

Nominee from Building Services:	Nominees from IT:
Teresa Walker	Bryan Workman
	Dave Foppe
Nominee from Comptroller's Office:	Ethan Perry
Barbara Smith	Jack Cooper
	Jim Raleigh
Nominee from Human Resources:	Nicholas Mester
Suzanne Kirst	Ross Brown
	Steven Jones
Nominees from Mail/Distribution Services:	Tracy Insko
Kevin Rossell	
Steve Slone	
	2020 A&F Outstanding Service Award Recipients:
Nominee from Safety & Emergency Management:	Tracy Insko
Audra Points	Suzanne Kirst

Please join me in congratulating all of these individuals for their outstanding contributions to the university community.

Thanks to all of you for everything you do throughout the year to promote student success and make NKU a better place. I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

Mike

FUEL NKU

Because of COVID-19, FUEL NKU is unable to accept non-perishable donations this year. However, if you wish to make a monetary donation, visit the [FUEL NKU website](#).

BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION COOKBOOK!

The Benevolent Association is excited to share some [delicious recipes](#) for you to try over the holidays. More information about the Benevolent Association can be found on its website: <https://inside.nku.edu/hr/benefits/types/benevolent-association.html>.

DESIGNING SUCCESS

Acknowledgements & Accomplishments

Congratulations to IT and Steely Library staff for their great work on the audio/visual and networking equipment upgrades in Steely Library!

Other accomplishments and improvements include the following:

- IT and Marketing & Communications would like to give a big thank you to the web editors who spent time maintaining their website folders in Adobe Experience Manager (AEM) last month. They deleted unnecessary PDFs from NKU web pages during "The Great PDF Purge", which focused on compliance and digital accessibility.
- Kudos to IT, Admissions, Financial Aid, Norse Tech Bar, One Stop, Registrar and Student Account Services for implementing Microsoft Bookings this semester for appointment scheduling to enable social distancing.
- IT, Graduate Education, Enrollment Management, Registrar, Admissions, Financial Assistance, Student Account Services, and the Comptroller's Office worked together to launch the following accelerated online (AOL) programs for Fall 2020, making a total of 46 AOL programs with more planned for Spring 2021!
 - Graduate Certification in Special Education – Learning & Behavior Disorders
 - Graduate Certification in Special Education – Moderate & Severe Disabilities
 - Graduate Certificate in Health Care Commercialization
 - Master of Social Work – Standard Concentration
 - Bachelor of Science in Respiratory Care Degree Completion

US 27 Ground Lease Progress

We are pleased to announce exciting news about the US 27 project! At the November 11, 2020, Board of Regents meeting, the Board provided approval to enter into a ground lease with Fairmount Properties for the US 27 Mixed Use Phase 2 project. Phase 2 will include retail dining venues, a hotel, and market rate apartments, which will enable the university to spatially blend with the city of Highland Heights, creating a much-awaited gateway to NKU and energizing the campus entrance.

This planning effort has been characterized by a commitment to true collaboration among all parties, with the goal of achieving the best possible project for this unique site. Beginning with the RFP selection process and extending through many months of negotiation and program development, many campus stakeholders have been pivotal to achieving this project milestone. Kudos to project leadership team representatives from Administration & Finance, with tremendous support from the offices of Legal Counsel, Housing, Enrollment Management, Marketing & Communications, Government & Community Relations, NKU Foundation, Student Affairs, and University Police. The support and leadership of our partners in the municipal and civic community have also been key to reaching this milestone. The ground lease is expected to be signed within the next 60 days.

Debt Service Payment Reduction and A1 Stable Rating!

The Office of the Comptroller coordinated the issuance of refunding bonds in November that reduced the debt service payments on NKU's housing facilities by over \$595,000 over the next 8 years. In addition, bonds were issued to provide \$3.6 million in funding for housing renovations at a very favorable 1.28% interest rate. Moody's reaffirmed NKU's A1 stable rating, noting NKU's strong financial position and sound operating performance.

GOLDEN NUGGETS

Hot tips to help you!

Keyboard Shortcut Tips from IT

- Alt S – is a quick way to **S**end an email directly from the keyboard.
- Ctrl P – brings up your default **P**rinter for quick access.

Facial Coverings

Remember that wearing a mask or other facial covering not only protects the community but also provides protection against COVID-19 to those who wear one. Please be especially careful in familiar environments; family gatherings and breakrooms are places where one needs to be particularly cautious if people not in one's household are present – just because you are related to someone or know them well should never be taken to mean that you do not need to wear a facial covering.

Use Your All-Card on Campus to Save Sales Tax!

Faculty/Staff, did you know that you can load "Declining Balance Dollars" onto your All-Card for use throughout campus? You can! Historically, most patrons use them in food and beverage services or the bookstore. Although there are a couple of advantages, the biggest one is the saving of the 6% sales tax. All transactions with the university using "Declining Balance Dollars" are tax exempt. For more information, see <https://inside.nku.edu/allcard/general-policies.html>.

Budget Office Tip

As we begin planning for the FY22 Budget, let's start proactively reviewing our Schedule of Fees/Service Charges to ensure our fee schedule is accurate, complete, and put together with affordability in mind. Please review the Board Approved Fees for FY21 in the [NKU May 13, 2020, Board of Regents Materials](#), on pp. 238-288, separated by division. We will use this as our starting point for FY22. If we begin reviewing these fees now, compiling this data for Board of Regents approval will be much easier because we will have done the research and asked any follow-up questions in advance.

LIGHTING THE WAY

Employee Spotlight

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Ken Wolterman
Sr. Budget Analyst
Budget Office

Ken has been at NKU since December 2018. He started as the Business Manager in Facilities Management and has since transitioned to the Budget Office. Being new to NKU, Ken wasn't sure what to expect. He found the people in Facilities and the Budget Office to be welcoming, fun, professional, and extremely dedicated to the success of the university.

Ken's primary role is to provide analysis and support for the university's budgeting process. His 27+ years' experience in higher education offers a unique perspective and opportunity to improve how things are done. He has developed databases that help reduce redundant tasks and help connect SAP data to non-SAP data to allow key performance indicators to be more consistently calculated and reported.

In his spare time, Ken likes to bike and hike. He also enjoys taking trips to Las Vegas and Best Friends Animal Sanctuary in Kanab, Utah, which sits in the middle of a few National Parks (Zion, Bryce, Grand Canyon).

Ken comes from a large family (6 sisters and 3 brothers) and has a pair of rescued brother/sister bull terrier/coonhound mixed-breed dogs who are excellent hunters.

Ken's top VIA strengths are Creativity, Humor, Bravery, Fairness, and Honesty.



Becca Wallace
Custodian
Operations & Maintenance

Becca has been at NKU for two years. She works in Griffin Hall cleaning classrooms and restrooms to prepare them for the day. She is a real team player and is always happy to help out in other buildings around campus where she is needed.

Becca is excited about the tuition waiver program and enjoys the free credit hours to attend classes, as her schedule allows.

Becca enjoys reading, going to parks, and serving others in her community. She loves going to the beach and seeing sea turtles. She spends her free time with her German shepherd named Jax.

Becca's top strengths are Kindness, Gratitude, Fairness, Forgiveness, and Honesty.



Kevin Rossell
Manager, Mail and Distribution
Services/Central Receiving/Copy
Center

Kevin will celebrate twenty-two years of service at NKU in January 2021. A Campbell County native, Kevin graduated from Campbell County High School as well as Northern Kentucky University. Starting out as a student employee in the mailroom, Kevin has developed the skills, as well as management knowledge, to now lead this all-important three-function area.

A fun fact about Kevin is that he was a proud member of the Campbell County Band of Pride and has passed his love of music - especially marching band - to his daughter, who is now a member of that same band.

Drop over and see Kevin and the crew at the mailroom. Usually you will find them sorting and delivering mail or accepting one of the hundreds of packages delivered to NKU daily!