

"A Special Thank You to Earlene Gordon"

In my column last month I discussed the retirement of Gloria Boudreaux. The old saying "When it rains it pours" is certainly true here at Goodwill Industries of Tulsa when it comes to the retirement of long tenured employees. This month I want to highlight and say a special thank you to another Goodwill stalwart, Earlene Gordon, who has been a major contributor to Goodwill's mission and our donated goods program in her role as Donated Goods Processing Coordinator.

What many of you may not know is that Earlene started working here at Goodwill on July 25, 1988 as Goodwill Tulsa's receptionist. The President of Goodwill Tulsa at that time was Kathyne Beach and Kathyne identified Earlene's talent and work ethic early on and began promoting her to more and more responsibility very quickly. When I began working for Goodwill in 1991 Earlene was the Donated Goods Processing Coordinator and was responsible for overseeing all donated goods production, shipping and auction.

To give you some idea of the growth that has occurred during her tenure I wanted to share a couple of facts with you. When Earlene became Goodwill Tulsa's Processing Coordinator the total pounds of donations we processed annually was less than 5,000,000 pounds and now that has now grown to over 21,000,000 pounds. Our store sales were less than \$1,000,000 annually and this year they will be over \$16,000,000. Earlene has worked here long enough that she can remember when there was no air conditioning in the processing area at 2800, only large ceiling mounted industrial fans!

Earlene is very modest and shies away from recognition, but I would be remiss if I did not highlight her 33 years of outstanding service here at Goodwill. Earlene has always embraced our mission and worked closely with thousands of different individuals with barriers to employment during her career. The growth in our Donated Goods Program would not have been possible without her dedication and hard work.

Personally I would like to thank Earlene for all that she has done to support the mission of Goodwill Industries of Tulsa over the last 33 years. It has been a pleasure for me to work with you and I want to wish you a happy retirement and success in whatever your future holds.

In addition to Earlene, our Hard Goods Supervisor in Donated Goods, Jeanette Coughlin, will be retiring in early August after seven years with Goodwill and I also want to thank her for all of her efforts and wish her the best in the future.

On a different note, I am very pleased to say that Loretta Block has been promoted to our Director of Vocational Services, in order to fill the vacancy left when Gloria Boudreaux retired. I want to congratulate Loretta and look forward to working with her in this new capacity.



Goodwill Pay Periods

Friday, July 9, 2021

Friday, July 23, 2021

The Goodwill Grapevine is published
internally monthly for:
Goodwill Industries of Tulsa, Inc.
2800 Southwest Blvd.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74107

Editor: Nancy Webster, Community Relations Director

Retail Update

VANESSA PELTON
Retail Coordinator

It was another sweep of a month in June with all 11 stores making their sales goals! That puts us at 5 out of 6 months where all store teams hit their goal. I want to thank everyone who helped make that happen this month—All the retail staff and processing staff. We could not have done it without everyone working together. THANK YOU for your dedication and hard work!!!

Open Management Positions:

Bartlesville Store:

2nd Assistant Manager

Bartlesville Store:

Customer Service Manager

B.A. Store:

Customer Service Manager

June 2021 Goal:

+8.8%

June 2021 vs June 2019:

+8.7%

Customer Count vs 2019

-9.4%

Average Sale vs June 2019

\$19.77 vs \$16.48

+20%

% Above Goal—

Broken Arrow +19.5%
Glenpool +18.4%
Bartlesville +11.7%
Stone Creek +11.4%
Carthage +9.5%
Claremore +9.2%
Joplin +4.1%
SW Blvd +3.6%
Garnett +2.3%
McAlester +1.8%






NOTE: July 17th Back To School Sale

All Stores will open at 8:00 am!!!

(Shoes & Purses are NOT included in this sale)



Our mission is to provide work opportunities, job training and support services for people with disabilities or other employment barriers.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 	5	6 	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 
18	19	20 	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 	31

2021 JULY



Independence Day
25% off total purchase
Stores close @ 5 p.m.



Senior Day
55+ receive 25% off total purchase



Back to School Half- Price Sale
50% off all clothing



Customer Appreciation Day
25% off total purchase

Goodwill donation centers and retail stores exist to support our mission services. Your support is what allowed us to serve more than 5,000 people last year!

Thank you for donating and shopping with us!



Let's get social!

Stay connected on sales and more at goodwilltulsa.org

Swimming Safety Tips

Swimming is a great recreational sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. But it's important to know how to be safe while you're in the water.

- Swim in designated areas supervised by lifeguards.
- Always swim with a buddy, do not allow anyone to swim alone.
- Never leave a young child unattended near water and do not trust a child's lie to another child; teach children always ask permission to go near water.
- Have young children or inexperienced swimmers wear approved life jackets around water, but do not rely on life jackets alone.
- Make sure everyone in your family learn to swim well.
- If you have a pool, secure it with appropriate barriers. Many children who drown in home pools were out of sight for less than five minutes and in the care of one or both parents at the time.
- Avoid distractions when supervising children around water.
- If a child is missing, check the water first. Seconds count in preventing death or disability.
- Have appropriate equipment such as reaching or throwing equipment, a cell phone, life jackets and a first aid kit.
- Know how and when to call 911 or the local emergency number.
- Protect your skin. Limit the amount of direct sunlight you receive between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. and wear sunscreen with a protection factor of at least 15.
- Drink plenty of water regularly, even if you're not thirsty. Avoid drinks with alcohol or caffeine in them.

If you have any questions, please contact your local

Fire Department
or American Red Cross
for more information.



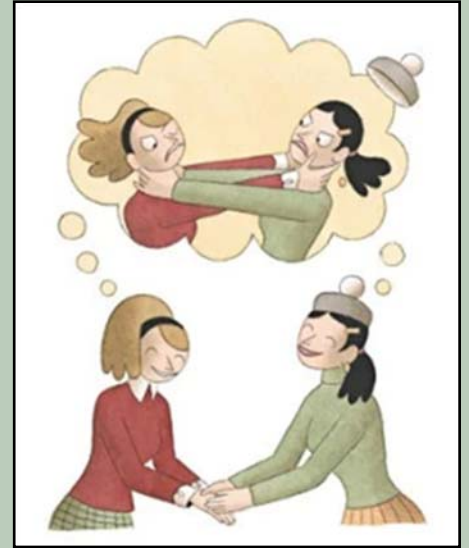
How to Get Along with Difficult Co-Workers

The average full-time employee spends more time with their co-workers each week than with their own family. While most are able to get along and work together to successfully meet their team or company goals, it's inevitable that you'll likely encounter someone that you just don't get along with. That's where the challenge lies – when you must interact with a co-worker whose behaviors or personality annoy you, your workday can quickly become very frustrating and stressful.

Psychologists suggest that you shouldn't immediately place all of the blame on your co-worker, but rather look inward first. Instead of automatically reacting, take a step back and try to figure out if your co-worker's actions or behaviors are "hot buttons" for you. In other words, did what they say or do trigger something within you, and if so, why does it bother you? This allows you to calm yourself and think rationally before you say or do something that you may later regret.

Once you've determined why you're upset or annoyed by your co-worker's actions or behaviors, don't let the situation fester and resentment build. Instead, extend an olive branch and ask them to join you for a short discussion to clear the air. When you do sit down to talk, it's important that you not start the conversation in an accusatory or confrontational manner as this will just feed the negativity. Instead, keep it respectful and explain how you perceived the situation and how it made you feel. People tend to be less defensive if you make it about you and not about their actions and behaviors. You should then be able to discuss the situation and come to mutual agreement on how to best work with each other moving forward.

Of course, this won't work in all situations. For example, if you and your co-worker strongly disagree about how to tackle a particular project, consider beginning your conversation with something you can both get behind. By finding common ground, it will be easier to make compromises and put your differences aside to effectively work together to get the work done.



United Way Update

To date we have raised \$3,334.12 so far for our United Way campaign! Thank you everyone for assisting in these efforts! However, we are definitely not slowing down any time soon so watch for more fundraising and exciting events to happen in the next few months. One of those events will be the United Way Day of Caring (Oct. 1st) That is the day volunteers from all over Tulsa share their time and talents assisting United Way Agencies with a variety of projects at their respective agencies. Goodwill has submitted about a dozen different projects and will soon find out the companies we have been matched with for that day! It is always a fun day and a great opportunity for Goodwill employees to share what Goodwill is all about here in the Tulsa area. Thank you all for your continued support!!!



At the Tulsa FEC

We passed the century mark for clients in June, and we currently sit at 107. Sessions for the month kept pace at 57 in June. Our counselors are working to improve our sessions and outcomes numbers while adjusting to shifts in the program and personnel changes.

As we mentioned before, the Financial Navigator program has been folded into the FEC. Financial Navigator Lian Cing was promoted to the role of Financial Counselor. She is now training and expects to begin serving clients in August.

Did Tax Season Really End?

We are joining a handful of VITA sites in other cities to host Advance Child Tax Credit tax prep days in July. Ours will be Friday, July 9, 1 pm -8 pm at VITA Central / TFEC (1667 S Yale Avenue). During that time, we will prepare returns onsite, answer questions or provide information about the Child Tax Credit, and assist taxpayers with using the Child Tax Credit Portal. Sessions will be by appointment. Representatives with the Tax Advocate Office and Legal Aid of Oklahoma Low-Income Tax Clinic will be at the event to help troubleshoot and resolve taxpayers' tax issues. Appointments are not necessary to meet with a representative.

On Saturday, July 10, Goodwill employees can come have their income tax returns prepared from 1 pm to 6 pm at 2800 Southwest Blvd. We plan to start taking appointments July 7.

We open for our VITA summer hours on July 6. Volunteers will prepare returns onsite by appointment on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9 am - 1 pm at VITA Central / TFEC.

Appointments will be made online at www.goodwilltulsa.org/freetaxprep or by calling the TFEC, 918-802-7279.

STAY ALERT!

Tax scams are always evolving. Thieves use buzz words like Coronavirus, stimulus and Child Tax Credit to get people to click on phishing emails and steal personal information. Get "A Closer Look" at how to identify tax scams. <https://go.usa.gov/x6QF2>



*Be well,
Modi Kwanza
Ext. 249*

Meet Your Co-Workers



Meet
Ambrose Boerstler

Ambrose or 'BROSKI' as she likes to be called has worked at Goodwill since May 2021. She is a Textile Sorter in the Processing Department. She says the best part of her job is the people and the interesting items. She says her ideal vacation would be to see a volcano! And her favorite thing to do when she has time off is martial arts.



Meet
Dawn Williams

Dawn has worked for Goodwill since 2017 as a Hanger in the Processing Dept. She says the best part of her job is the people she works with—she loves them all! Dawn has two children. She is an avid OU football fan and she also loves to shop when she has free time. Her idea of a great vacation would be a trip to Las Vegas!



Meet
Avery Atnip

Avery's hometown is Jasper, Missouri. She has worked at the Carthage, Missouri Goodwill Store since June 2021. She says she has shopped at the store all her life and that is what brought her to wanting to work there. Avery is an avid sports fan who enjoys cheering for the K.C. Chiefs football team and the St. Louis Cardinals baseball team. When she has time off Avery says she enjoys shopping and dining with friends. A trip north to a cooler place would be her idea of a nice vacation!

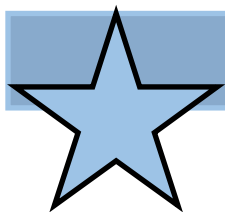


Meet
Craig Hayes

Craig works for Goodwill as a Processing Hanger and has been with Goodwill since January 2012. He found Goodwill through a relative and loves the people, working and making money. He is an avid Dallas Cowboys football fan and an OKC Thunder basketball fan. In his spare time Craig likes to ride his motorcycle and watch TV. Someday Craig would like to go to Florida and Las Vegas!



Take a moment next time you see one of these new employees & welcome them to Goodwill!!!



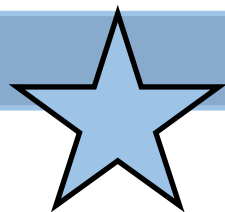
June New Hires

*Please extend a warm welcome
to our new employees.*

Processing: Brittany Ackley, Israel Betello, Nathan Raney, Darryl Sallee, Sonja Sims, Chandra Thomas, Chelsie Widner, Diana Pointer, Lorey Edmondson

Retail: Alleana Brenton, Tamra Smith, Emily Jacob, Trenda Rains, Avery Atnip, Jameson Coleman, Cindy Simmons **Donations:** Makai Blades, Mason Watts, Russell Wayne, Scott Yarnell, Michael Palmer, Evelyn Shoals

Maintenance: Joe Canaan



August Birthdays



July Correction: Kim Down's Birthday was July 5 !!!

(She was listed as Kim Dodge in the last issue.) Sorry if this caused any problems!

Nicole Nuttall—8/1
Kelsey Mayfield—8/2
Shakela Latonia Lewis—8/3
Danny Elliott—8/4
Jay Boykins—8/5
Liz Kallin—8/5
Malita Thomas—8/5
Nicole Griner—8/6
Jacqueline Williams—8/6
Loretta Block—8/7
Carla Schanks—8/7
Patricia Blakely—8/8
Kim Cox—8/8
Roberta Fuller—8/8
Ebony Goss—8/8
Janet Harbert—8/8
Priscilla Teekell—8/8
Indira Artigas—8/9
Kendall Vealy—8/11
Carol Keith—8/12
John Clowers—8/13
Kathryn Walker—8/13
Jana Barham—8/14
Randy Hudelson—8/14
Paul Hughey—8/14
Kima Kame—8/14
William Brechka—8/15
Trenace Doyle—8/15
Feron Duncan—8/15
Amanda Pigeon—8/15
Dawn Sparks—8/15
Jennifer Keys—8/16
Penny Nickels—8/18
Amber Weeks—8/18
Arthur Boyd Sr.—8/19
Christie Farmer—8/19
Cathy Rosenbrough—8/19
Dee Allen—8/20
Evelyn Hall—8/21
Rodney Campbell—8/22
Beverly Mann—8/22
Ricky Whisnant—8/22
Ricky Berry—8/23
Patricia Hudson—8/23
Cheryl Mullins—8/23
Randy Sumter—8/23
Scott Staedeli—8/24
Kenyan Wilson—8/24
Andres Perez—8/27
Amanda Bass—8/28
Matthew Baird—8/29
Danielle Peck—8/29
Tyler Louderback—8/30
Pandora Barcus—8/31

July Anniversaries

Congratulations!!! Your commitment and dedication to Goodwill Industries of Tulsa is very much appreciated!!

33 Years: Earlene Gordon

30 Years: David Oliver

19 Years: Randy Sumter

16 Years: Frankie Harley

15 Years: Clayton Milliman, Wesley Burchett

14 Years: Mike Carroll

13 Years: Jacqueline Williams

10 Years: Everett Bullock

9 Years: Samuel Patterson, Kelsey O'Halloran, Art Matzkvech, Kristi Huffman, Stephanie Bodmann

7 Years: Brent Mitchell, Scott Lynch

6 Years: Michael Nees, Sarah Dudley

4 Years: David Jerome

3 Years: Larry Slate, Kelly Perez, Jennifer Love, Kelsey Davis, Amy Cates, Chester Burtlow

2 Years: Rochelle Cowan, Teresa Harmon, Miyecjehoshebaviadyrri Robinson

1 Year: Shannon Choate, Gabriel Dubbs, Winona Jackson, Ifeanyi Nwuchu, Amanda Pigeon, Rita Roland, Gary Sivadon, Thomas Weber, Marissa Willey

Job Openings

If you know someone who is looking for a job, Goodwill's Human Resources Department would like for you to refer that person to us. **Openings are subject to change:**

2800 & Warehouse: Utility & Stock Processors, Sorters, Forklift Driver, CDL Truck Driver, Material Handlers, Processing Coordinator, Hard Goods Supervisor

Retail: Assistant Manager I, Assistant Manager II, Customer Service Manager,

Sales Associates, Donated Goods Retail Assistant

Donations: Donation Attendants

Offsite: Janitor Floor Specialist, Janitor

TulsaWORKS: Digital Skills Instructor, Career Navigator

Workforce Development: Job Coach/Donations, Job Coach/Hospitals

Administrative: Marketing & Communications Director, Systems Administrator, Financial Counselor