SCAN ME

September 2026

MEARS IN MOTION

oneblood

Blood Drive Saves Lives

On August 4, Mears hosted OneBlood's Big Red Bus at our Gore Street Bus Ops location, recognizing National Minority Donor Awareness Month. Donors received a $25 eGift Card, a Big Red Bus T-shirt and a Wellness Check-Up, which included blood pressure, pulse and temperature checks, plus iron count and cholesterol screenings.



OneBlood set a goal of 10 donations, with the power to save as many as 30 local lives. Team Mears exceeded the challenge and showed up BIG, with 23 donors giving 27 pints of blood and benefitting 80 lives!

Congratulations and thank you!



On the Move: *Austin C.*

Rebecca K. H., President, writes:



I am excited to announce the promotion of **Austin C.** from Director of Maintenance (Epic) to **Vice President of Bus Maintenance**.

Austin joined Mears at an important time and was instrumental in the continued development of our Epic maintenance facility upon opening. He brought extensive maintenance knowledge and real-world experience that has made an immediate impact on our operation.

It has been great to watch Austin grow as a leader at our Epic Depot. He has strengthened shop processes, developed team members, and created a solid workflow focused on safety, reliability and keeping our buses operational day in and day out.

In his new role, Austin will expand his leadership across both of our bus maintenance operations, continuing to strengthen people, processes and overall fleet performance. I'm eager to see his continued leadership impact on our business and growth.

Please join me in congratulating Austin on this well-deserved promotion.

Takeisha has demonstrated exceptional leadership and dedication to the Mears Connect operation. When an unexpected airport disruption required the Superstar Shuttle operation to be rerouted, Takeisha stayed beyond her shift to help ensure a smooth resolution. This commitment to safety and teamwork earned kudos from our Universal partners. Additionally, she worked at the Connect call center downtown recently to learn more about that part of our operation, which already has helped improve communication and foster better relationships between teams. Furthermore, Takeisha's support for her co-workers was underscored when she planned a hugely successful three-day Driver Appreciation Event last month. Her initiative, positive attitude, and genuine care for our internal and external customers earned her this well-deserved recognition. Congratulations, Takeisha.



Employee of the Month: **Takeisha A.**

MEARS CONNECT AIRPORT OPERATIONS DUTY MANAGER

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW FIELD TRAINERS



This dedicated group of newly-certified Motor Coach Field Trainers recently completed our in-house Train-the-Trainer program:

Back Row (L-R): Nate S. Jr., Jessica L., James D., Gaston G., Andres B.

Front Row (L-R): McKinley R., Holito M., Christopher G.

As role models and peer coaches for new drivers, our Motor Coach Field Trainers are selected for their exemplary customer service skills, safe driving record, encouraging spirit, integrity and enthusiasm.

DRIVER APPRECIATION EVENT @ OIA



Recently our airport team hosted a luau-themed Driver Appreciation event, complete with refreshing Dole Whip and raffle giveaways.







Thank you to ALL of our fantastic airport drivers, and congrats to these lucky prize winners:
Wilfred Texidor,
$50 Darden gift card
Henry J.,
Hamilton Beach Steamer
Joachim J.,
$50 Amazon gift card





MAINTENANCE MATTERS:

Epic Shop Team



Benny V.
1st Shift Lead



Nelson O.
3rd Shift Lead

Benny's passion for cars, engines, and all things mechanical began when he first saw a 1967 Toyota 2000GT. Later in life, at Mech-Tech Institute in Orlando, he combined classroom learning with hands-on training in electrical diagnostics, engine design, fuel systems, and other fundamentals. He began his career by applying that training, and his interest in light-duty trucks and cars, to heavy-duty diesel systems. As transit technology became more sustainable, Benny was eager to grow along with the industry. Looking for a company that encouraged both personal and professional development, he found that opportunity at Mears. Benny says, " I appreciate co-workers who listen, share a laugh, and help solve difficult problems, making each day better." He also values leaders who offer clear direction, support his success, and provide useful feedback, which helps make work something he looks forward to. As a lead, he enjoys mentoring technicians and bus drivers. Away from the Mears shop, Benny stays busy with his own car projects, working around the house, and playing basketball.

Nelson's interest in diesel mechanics began in the Dominican Republic, where his father owned a construction company for more than 40 years. Growing up around heavy machinery on construction projects sparked his fascination with engines and equipment. After he completed his studies and moved to the United States, his passion for diesel mechanics remained strong. Nelson studied and worked in other fields before receiving his initial diesel mechanic training and certifications from SCA–Sweeping Corporation of America. He also continued building his skills with workshops and additional certifications offered through his workplace. Driven by a desire for personal and professional growth, Nelson kept researching, training, and learning. Joining Mears as a Motor Coach Mechanic was an important professional milestone for him. He says, "I owe all my knowledge as a battery electric bus mechanic to Mears, and I am very grateful for the opportunity." When he's not at work, Nelson enjoys spending time with his family, playing sports, reading, cooking, traveling, and discovering new places.

Read on to meet all of our Epic Shop Leads...



Calvin J.- 3rd Shift Lead

Calvin's interest in engines began when his stepfather introduced him to hands-on mechanical work. Inspired by those early experiences, he attended Universal Technical Institute in Orlando. After graduating, he worked as a maintenance mechanic at Universal Studios while expanding his knowledge of diesel and battery electric buses. A friend who drove for Mears encouraged him to explore opportunities with the company, leading him to join the Epic Bus Shop. There, he continues to develop his skills and embrace new challenges. Calvin says, "Working at Mears has been incredibly rewarding because of its supportive, team-focused environment, where experienced mechanics readily share their knowledge. I especially value the opportunity to strengthen my understanding of diesel and battery electric buses while growing alongside such a dedicated team." Away from work, Calvin enjoys working out, repairing his own vehicles, visiting billiard lounges, and singing.



Manuel F.- 2nd Shift Lead

From a young age, Manuel loved working on cars. By working side-by-side with his father and brother, he built the knowledge and skills that inspired him to attend the National Institute for Vocational Training (INFOP) and UNITEC in Honduras. After moving to the U.S., a family member recommended Mears as an opportunity to use his skills and continue learning about diesel and battery electric buses. At Mears, Manuel had the opportunity to train with and be mentored by Austin Campbell, who later recommended him for the Epic Bus Shop Maintenance Team. That trust continues to motivate Manuel to learn, grow, and mentor others. He says, "I'm grateful for the opportunity that Mears has given me to grow within the company. Mears makes me feel like family, like my voice matters." Outside of work, Manuel enjoys traveling with his wife and daughter, as well as spending time with his parents when they visit from Honduras.



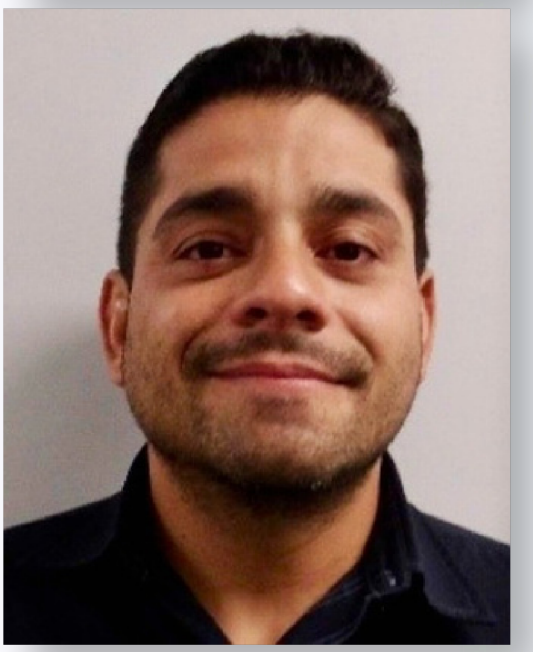
Noel J.- 1st Shift Lead

Growing up in Jamaica, Noel developed an early appreciation for engines through hands-on experience. Surrounded by mechanics and inspired by watching his grandfather work in a friend's shop, he found guidance that led him to pursue a career as a mechanic. After moving to Florida, he discovered new opportunities, though long-term growth was limited. Eager to challenge himself, Noel transitioned from traditional engines to diesel and battery electric buses. At Mears, he continues to grow as both a mechanic and a leader. He says, "I am grateful to Mears for the opportunity to work with other technicians and drivers. I enjoy sharing my knowledge and experience. We learn from each other and help each other, which makes for a smooth operation and a happy place to work." His passion for engines extends beyond the Mears shop; he enjoys working on his own cars and bike, racing at the track, traveling, and spending time with friends and family, especially his daughter.



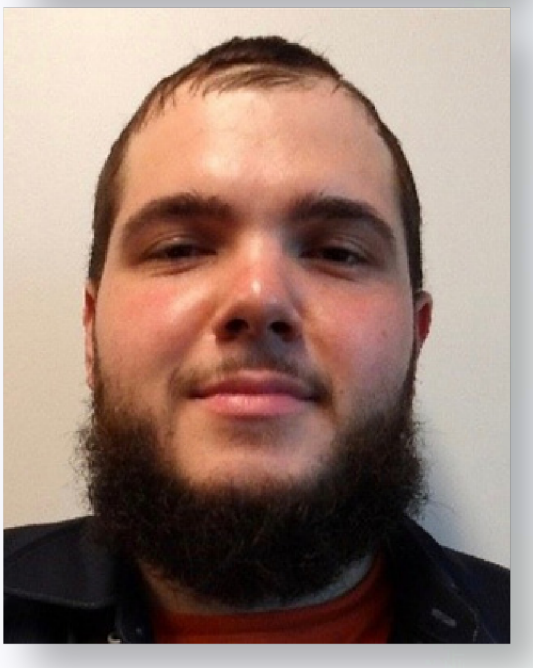
Roger E.- 1st Shift Lead

Roger's interest in vehicles began by watching his grandfather and uncles work on cars and buses, inspiring him to follow a similar path. He started at Dynamic as a bus washer and worked his way up to mechanic, building his diesel experience through hands-on learning with his uncle, as well as additional workshops and training classes. In 2015, Roger joined Mears at our Gore Street location for new opportunities. His diesel background later helped him transition to battery electric buses as part of the Universal Epic Shop team. Roger believes, "Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people." Outside of his role at Mears, he enjoys working on his own cars, going to the beach, watching movies, playing basketball, and spending time with family.



Sammy V.- 3rd Shift Lead

Sammy has always been passionate about vehicles, including cars, trucks, and motorcycles. After moving to Orlando, he began training in bus maintenance through an opportunity with the owner of Buses and Trucks Services. That hands-on experience deepened his interest in the bus maintenance industry. A professional recommendation from a colleague later led him to Mears, where he found a strong fit. At Mears, Sammy continued building his diagnostic skills while learning about engine rebuilding and gaining experience with diesel engines and battery electric propulsion technology. He says, "I am grateful for the leadership at Mears Transportation. Good leadership makes a real difference on a night crew. It shows how problems are communicated, how the team is supported when things get tough, and how much trust is placed in technicians to do the job right. That kind of environment is not something every shop has, and it has made Mears a place where I can grow, rather than just show up and clock in and out." In his free time, Sammy enjoys going to the beach, playing games with his wife and children, attending church, and helping others in need. He values teaching his family the importance of giving back and learning something new every day.



William G.- 3rd Shift Lead

William's passion for engines began at age 12 while working on muscle cars, exotic vehicles, and classic models in his uncle's shop in Brooklyn, NY. He loved the sound, look, and experience of driving cars, which inspired him to expand his skills at Lincoln Technical Institute for Automotive in NJ. After completing his training, William worked at dealerships and for a school district, where he was introduced to diesel mechanics. He joined Mears to keep learning, sharpen his skills, and become a stronger technician. Working on diesel and battery electric buses continues to challenge and motivate him, and he values learning from his fellow technicians. William says, "I am grateful to Mears for the opportunities to grow and the amazing people I get to work alongside every day. What I value most is the teamwork and support, knowing we can rely on one another while working toward a common goal." Outside of work, William enjoys attending festivals, trying new foods, going to the movies as an avid film fan, spending time with family and friends, and working on and modifying his own cars.

PAWS FOR A CAUSE:
PET SUPPLY & FOOD DRIVE



















Heartfelt appreciation to everyone who generously donated pet supplies to support Orange County Animal Services and the Pet Alliance of Greater Orlando. Every bag of food, toy, blanket, treat and other donated items made a difference for Central Florida's furry friends. Thank you for being a PAW-sitive presence in our community!



HERE'S TO YOUR HEALTH!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Mears Vaccine Clinic on September 9 in the Human Resources Building (M8).







Through our partnership with P-3 Medical Inc., all Mears employees were offered an opportunity to receive free vaccinations (with insurance). 15 employees attended, and a total of 33 vaccines were administered.











We appreciate each person who came by, even those who dropped in only for refreshments and conversation. We hope the raffle winners enjoyed their prizes as well.

BEST SHOT

Mario C.,
Motor Coach Operator
Trolley Stop G1



BEST SHOT

Isaiah M.,
Motor Coach Operator



Isaiah captured this colorful sunset after a smooth close at Volcano Bay.

MONTHLY AWARDS

KUDOS TO THESE OUTSTANDING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

EXTRA MILE AWARDS

ALEXIS F., MEARS CONNECT
ANDRES M., MEARS CONNECT
DAYAMI R., MEARS CONNECT
DELAIN O., MEARS CONNECT
DEMETRA D., BUS OPERATIONS
FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT
GANSHAM P., MEARS CONNECT
GIOVANNY G., MEARS CONNECT
HUNT L., MEARS CONNECT
JAROL P., BUS OPERATIONS
JOSEPH D., MEARS CONNECT
KIMBERLEE W., MEARS CONNECT
MARISOL B., MEARS CONNECT
MILTON F., MEARS CONNECT
NEYCI G., MEARS CONNECT
ONEIL M., MEARS CONNECT
RICHARD P., MEARS CONNECT
TAKEISHA A., MEARS CONNECT
TANESHA B., S/V OPERATIONS
WAYNE R., S/V OPERATIONS

BIG BRAIN AWARD

DAYAMI R., MEARS CONNECT

BIG HEART AWARD

JACQUELINE W., ACCOUNTING

MONTHLY AWARDS

KUDOS TO THESE OUTSTANDING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

TEAM PLAYERS/BRIDGE BUILDERS

AHMED I., M/C OPERATIONS
ALICIA P., MEARS CONNECT
ANDRES M., MEARS CONNECT
ANTHONY S., S/V OPERATIONS
CHRISTOPHER L., M/C OPERATIONS
DAVID S., M/C OPERATIONS
DONALD M., MEARS CONNECT
ERIC M., M/C OPERATIONS
FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT
JAMES L., M/C OPERATIONS
JIMMIE W., M/C OPERATIONS
JOSEPH B., M/C OPERATIONS
LUCY G., MEARS CONNECT
MARCELA D., M/C OPERATIONS
MAX R., M/C OPERATIONS
MILTON F., MEARS CONNECT
NELSON M., BUS OPERATIONS
NEYCI G., MEARS CONNECT
ONEIL M., MEARS CONNECT
OSMAN I., S/V OPERATIONS
QUINILIO P., S/V OPERATIONS
RANDY P., M/C OPERATIONS
REGUY D., M/C OPERATIONS
RUEBEN S., M/C OPERATIONS
SOCRATES C., M/C OPERATIONS
STANLEY N., M/C OPERATIONS

MONTHLY AWARDS

KUDOS TO THESE OUTSTANDING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

TEAM PLAYERS/BRIDGE BUILDERS

VIRGINIA V., M/C OPERATIONS
VIVIANNE C., M/C OPERATIONS
YARIEL B., MEARS CONNECT
YOUNESS H., MEARS CONNECT

HAPPY CUSTOMER AWARDS

ERICKA M., SPECIAL ACCOUNTS
ERIN L., SALES
FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT
KIMBERLEE W., MEARS CONNECT
PEGGY N., SALES
TERI D., MEARS SELECT

SERVICE HEROES

ALEXIS F., MEARS CONNECT
ANDRES M., MEARS CONNECT
DELAIN O., MEARS CONNECT
DOUG H., MEARS CONNECT
FRANK B., MEARS CONNECT
HUNT L., MEARS CONNECT
KEISHA A., MEARS CONNECT
KIARA R., MEARS CONNECT
MILTON F., MEARS CONNECT
NATASHA L., MEARS CONNECT
RATNA F., MEARS CONNECT
RENEE L., MEARS CONNECT

MONTHLY AWARDS

KUDOS TO THESE OUTSTANDING TEAM MEMBERS FOR THEIR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS!

SERVICE HEROES

RICHARD P., MEARS CONNECT

YARIEL B., MEARS CONNECT

PILLAR AWARD

ANTHONY C., MEARS SELECT

SUNSHINE AWARDS

ERIC M., BUS OPERATIONS

TAKEISHA A., MEARS CONNECT