



Rick Finch
*Recipient of President's Employee
Excellence Award*

Rick Finch will be one of the honorees at the March 31, 2023 Celebrating Excellence Banquet honoring the achievements of WSU faculty and staff. Rick was recently chosen for the award by a committee of faculty and staff. Following are excerpts from Rick's nomination:

"Rick is a proven leader, while he may have started out in 1994 working in the fledgling compost yard, his dedication to a greener environment and more sustainable processes was quickly recognized as he assumed more and more responsibility. He always looked for ways to improve and expand the units that he managed. While the compost field was his passion, he also oversaw several other areas of the Materials and Resource Management Department operation. He streamlined several processes in the area of Surplus, which requires WSU departments to transfer/recycle unwanted items through the correct legal means, and those items are then processed for resale to other WSU entities or the general public. The end result is diversion of these items away from landfills and a reuse of them, extending their useful life. In addition, Rick, along with the WSU Sustainability Committee, instituted extensive recycling efforts throughout the Pullman campus, including paper, cardboard, aluminum, other metals, and even some specialty items like surgical gloves and confidential shred. Through his work expanding composting, WSU has been effective in diverting hazardous waste and animal waste away from the WSU incinerator operation, which allowed significant reductions in air emissions and operational/maintenance costs for the incinerator. In 2020, Rick assumed management of the entire Plant Services division of Facilities Services, including Heavy Equipment, Grounds and Motor Pool."

"Rick has always been focused on supporting the mission of the University, both research and academics. He collaborates constantly with researchers, always willing to allow access to his operations to further research opportunities, especially in the compost area, but also in civil engineering research associated

Employee Excellence cont.....on page 2

Inside this Issue:

Employee Excellence Award	1-2
Thanks for Working Safely Award	2
Jess Ford Hardhat Classic	2
Extreme Cold & Transitioning to Spring	3
Service Awards	4-5
Honor Coins	5
Promotions	6
KUDOS	7
In Memoriam	7
Mini Truck	7
New Employees	8
Daylight Savings Time	8
WSU Holiday Schedule	8
New Employees	9
APP Safety Question Contest	10

Enter the Safety
Question
Contest on the last page
of this
Newsletter and you
could win a
PRIZE!

Employee Excellence continued from page 1 with the application of snow melt chemicals and their effectiveness on permeable concrete. His compost operation is one of the largest in the area and supplies compost to countless WSU departments for bedding and also to several nurseries in the surrounding towns for purchase by the general public. The WSU compost has become the staple for many avid gardeners.”

“Rick is a team builder; he is constantly working with WSU Environmental Health and Safety to research and implement many ergonomic safety enhancements for his employees. These improvements not only increase the safety to the employees, they have also increased the efficiency of the work, reducing the stress and fatigue for his staff. He has done this by empowering his employees to bring up good ideas and work with experts to find mechanical and procedural adjustments to make the work smoother, more efficient, and more rewarding to all. Through his collaboration with other areas of Facilities Services, we have increased communication between trades, resulting in a more productive environment that breaks down silos and brings more people together as a team. “ Congratulations Rick! We are proud to have you as part of the Facilities Services Team!

THANKS FOR WORKING SAFELY WINNERS!

**Cody Kritzeck and Dan Brood were chosen for the Working Safely Award
CONGRATULATIONS!**



(Pictured left to right) Cody Kritzeck and Dan Brood Nomination: “They were delivering a 20 yard roll off to Webster south side. It is a very tight location with a curves and had to back up a long ways. The location also had many pedestrians. Dan got out and guided Cody back to the location helping with obstructions and pedestrians. This a great example of using the two person system for backing up in congested areas. Good Job Dan and Cody.”



[Registration is now open!](#) Golfers have an opportunity to win a 2023 Ford F150 4x4 and \$10,000 among other awards!

**Jess Ford Hardhat Classic
Golf Tournament
Scholarship Fundraiser!
July 29, 2023**

hardhatclassic.wsu.edu

Extreme Cold and Transitioning to Spring.....by Rex Riggs

Facilities Services had a hard time entering the new year with a series of extreme cold that brought along with it broken pipes and flooding on campus. Shops have been involved with critical responses, clean up and repairs of damaged floors, walls, ceiling tiles, equipment and furniture. In these times of crisis and emergency, this really shows the level of commitment employees at Facilities Services have for keeping campus running no matter what issues arise.

As part of the new energy initiatives set by the State, a lot of work is being done to upgrade building BAS systems as well as the installation of new meters on campus. Chilled water meters, steam condensate meters and electric meters will help WSU track energy usage so new innovations can be implemented for saving energy across campus.



Continuing into future projects at WSU, more and more Smart Building technology will begin to be utilized. Smart Building technology consists of LED Lighting, Occupancy Sensors for lighting and BAS Controls resulting in lower usage of utilities and going as green as possible combating Climate Change and carbon emissions. Advanced technology of this nature will also bring higher levels of advanced training to keep personnel trained to operate, maintain and repair systems as required.

Transitioning to spring means building chilled water coils will be filled and transitioning outside temperatures will bring many Hot/Cold calls. The current status of campus chilled water, it is low on the amount of BTU's it can provide to campus sometimes resulting in chilled water load sheds. Load sheds will shut down the amount of chilled water to buildings academic in nature and keep cooling going to priority spaces.

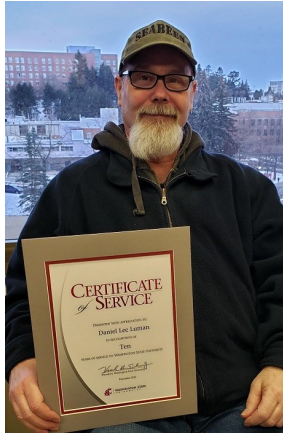


Facilities Services primary goal is keeping Animals, Plants, Research and IT infrastructure working at all times. Any losses to these can have catastrophic failure to researchers, faculty and employees if WSU loses IT infrastructure, campus will shut down. So be prepared this summer for warmer rooms and classrooms.



Cooling Towers

Length of Service Awards



Daniel Luman
10 Years



Sharifah Nicholson
10 Years



Adam Ferry
15 Years



Duane Dammel
20 Years



Bob Stilson
25 Years



Stacey Fertakis
25 Years

Length of Service Awards



Perry Berger
40 Years



**Service Award Recipient
not pictured:
Nathan Kite 5 Years**

Honor Coin Awards



Maja Huff—Nomination: Maja was nominated for her exceptional work co-authoring the BEDBI report. The Capital Projects Advisory Review Board Business Equity/Diverse Business Inclusion Committee (CPARB BEDBI) report was sent to the Legislature June 2022 to meet the requirements of Section 20 of the 2021 SB 5032 reauthorizing alternative public works. This is one of many instances of the close collaboration that Maja and Facilities Services have with OMWBE and Active engagement in statewide discussions around the support of diverse businesses in procurement and public works.

Kellie Jones—Nomination: For her above and beyond efforts in getting office supplies moved and organized (with our office moves) and for volunteering to help keep us from hoarding so much in the future by being the coordinator of office supplies. It would have been easy for her to just move the Maintenance/Construction supplies and shift the Admin supplies to boxes, but Kellie actually took the time to neatly put all items away. She even took care to check in with Annie about what other items might need to move from her office to the supply closet in order to leave shelf space for those things. Kellie demonstrated exceptional teamwork in thinking about and working on behalf the whole team – not just her



D. Thomas— Nomination: D. was assigned the task of getting folks current with trainings for Hazing and Cyber Security. She had an enormous list to work with and a very short deadline. D. not only took on the challenge, she worked with individuals to be sure they understand which training to take, how to access it, how to provide the completion info and gave tips on how to be successful. She was very proactive and persuasive in the friendliest D. way. The only folks still showing as past due are those out on long term leave. Stacey likes to joke that when she asks D. to help with these special projects, she always sighs and says “one more thing”, but then she tears right in and gets it done. D. exemplifies service by always jumping in with both feet. She is also that team player you can rely on when the pressure is on.



Promotions! Congratulations!

(December 2022, January & February 2023)



Pictured Left to right: Chris Nilson, Dean Standon, Joe Kline announced the promotions and congratulated the employees at the Service Award Presentation. Continuing to the right of Joe is Signe Stolz, Jason Brausen, Bob Stilson, Dean Neppel, Kevin Poxleitner, David Stodick and Rick Fox. Below is a full list of promotions.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Name	Promoted to:	Division
Kevin Poxleitner	Electrician	Trades and Shops
Kaylee Tate	Custodian 3	Custodial
Brent Harris	Custodian 3	Custodial
Chris Hughes	Custodian 3	Custodial
Robert Stilson	Electrician Lead	Trades and Shops
Jason Brausen	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
David Stodick	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Kelly Kirpes	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Lance Mitchell	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Signe Stolz	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Rick Fox	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Dean Standon	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Chris Nilson	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Dean Neppel	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Ramsey Stamper	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops
Scotty Nelson	Maintenance Mechanic 2	Trades and Shops

KUDOS



The floor crew (**Kaylee Tate, Jacob Mutchler, Chance Pollard**) did a great job on the floor in office 159 (McCluskey) . Please pass along my appreciation.

T. Leachman

I wanted to reach out and thank you (**Donavon Novotny, Tyler Schaaf, Gerald Osgood, Chance Pollard**) for getting the floors done at the incinerator. They look great.

R. Redman

IN MEMORIAM

Ken Moore had a long 16 year career within Facilities Services and WSU. He played a key role for Operations and Maintenance when it came to building systems, and brought a high level of service to all his campus customers. With his experience and knowledge he helped mentor and teach others. He will be missed by the Facilities Services staff and WSU community.



Mini Truck.....by Derrick Reynolds

WSU Motorpool recently purchased a Daihatsu hijet mini truck for the grounds department to use as an area vehicle. This mini truck for the grounds department may be a way for our department to save money by reducing costs of fuel with less consumption than our full-size trucks. This truck with its size is going to allow us to have easier access to narrow sidewalks and tight areas across campus. Along with its many safety features and options, it came with a snowplow that will allow us to use as a plow vehicle in the winter. We are going to set it up with de-icing capabilities as well. We at the grounds shop are excited to add this mini truck to our fleet and hopefully be adding more. It has a dump bed and folding siderails that will give us more versatility out on campus.



Welcome New Employees! (December 2022, January & February 2023) (A complete list of new employees is on page 9)



Pictured to the left: New Custodian 1 Employees (left to right) Daniel Bravo, Diego Boass, Peggy Sharp, and Nathaniel Niemirow

Pictured below: New Employees (left to right) Beau Tippet, Chris Crook, Kirk Hume, Damian Sheetz, Raissa Rocha, Matthew Miles, Lori Brockman, Austin Gunnels, Steve Larson, Michel Mell, Nolan Beal, Emily Barilla, Neil Burton and Kate Kamerrer who introduced them at the Services Awards Presentation in the Carpenter's Shop on February 22, 2023.



**Daylight Saving Time Begins
March 12, 2023
Remember to set your clocks
forward one hour.**

WSU Holiday Schedule

Memorial Day	May 29, 2023
Juneteenth	June 19, 2023
Independence Day	July 4, 2023
Labor Day	September 4, 2023
Veterans Day	November 10, 2023

Thanksgiving	November 23 & 24, 2023
Christmas	December 25 & 26 2023
New Years Day	January 1, 2024
Martin Luther King Day	January 15, 2024

NEW EMPLOYEES - December 2022, January & February 2023

Name	Position	Division
Chance Polland	Custodian 1	Custodial
Nolan Beal	Project Manager 1	Capital
Alden Wegner	Custodian 1	Custodial
Beau Tippet	Refrigeration Mechanic	Trades and Shops
Austin Gunnels	Custodian 1	Custodial
Brady Miller	GNSS2	Grounds
Kirk Hume	Electrician	Trades and Shops
Margot Buckley	Custodian 1	Custodial
Molly Trindle	Custodian 1	Custodial
Neil Burton	Project Manager 1	Capital
Christopher Crook	MM1	Trades and Shops
Hansel May	Custodian 1	Custodial
Damian Sheetz	GNSS2	Grounds
Matthew Miles	Custodian 1	Custodial
Lori Brockman	Custodian 3	Custodial
Michel Mell	MM1	Trades and Shops
Steven Larson	MM1	Trades and Shops
Levy Lawrence	GNSS3 - Irrigation	Grounds
Leo Roche	Custodian 1	Custodial
Ian Smart	Surplus Inventory Specialist 2	Surplus
Rassia Rocha	Custodian 1	Custodial
Peggy Sharp	Custodian 1	Custodial
Daniel Bravo	Custodian 1	Custodial
Diego Boas	Custodian 1	Custodial
Nathaniel Nemiroff	Custodian 1	Custodial
Emily Barilla	GNSS2	Grounds

Facilities Services Safety Promotion Committee

Safety Question Contest for the Month of March 2023

Directions: The answer to the question below can be found in one of the chapters of the Accident Prevention Program (APP). Read the question carefully. When you think you have found the answer, you may email your answer to Jann Dahmen-Morbeck jann.dahmen@wsu.edu or print off this page and cut out the form on the dotted lines. You may give the form to your supervisor to send in intercampus mail to Jann or drop it off in the APP Question box by the McCluskey Key Shop. The names of all employees who submit the correct answer will go into a hat for a drawing. Whoever's name is drawn will be able to pick out one of the safety awards. **This contest will be open only until 5 p.m. on April 30, 2023** so get started finding the answer now and win a nice prize! Link to APP Chapters is on the Safety Sharepoint Site. <https://sharepoint.wsu.edu/FacilitiesServices/Operations/Safety/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Reference APP Chapter 33 Question: When window washers are using portable ladders, they must adhere to WAC _____ requirements. When window washers are using belts and anchors they shall adhere to WAC _____ requirements.

Answer:

Employee submitting the above answer:

Name: _____ Division: _____

**Joe Schumacher is
the Winner!**

**December's APP
Question Contest!**

Joe's entry for the December Safety Question was randomly selected from the total entries with correctly answered questions. Those correct entries not chosen will be placed in the bucket for the annual Safety Award Drawing.

*Thank you to all that entered
the contest!*



December's QUESTION Chapter 6 – Safety and Health Training. Name two things new employees should receive instruction on and four topics covered in the safety orientation. Answer: F. New employees shall also receive the following instruction:

1. They are to report any unsafe conditions or practices immediately to their Supervisor/Lead for remediation;
2. They have authority to stop work if any unsafe conditions or practices are present until such time as they are corrected; and,
3. Nothing we do is so important as to necessitate the violation of safety policies; and,
4. Failure to comply with safety policies and procedures shall be considered serious and result in timely corrective or disciplinary action judged appropriate for the specific circumstances at hand.

Topics covered in the safety orientation should include an overview of the following:

- ☐ Accident Prevention Program ☐ Accident Reporting; ☐ Emergency Action Plan ☐ Potential Job Hazards; ☐ Hazard Notification Procedures ☐ Equipment Specific Safety Training; ☐ Back Injury Prevention ☐ Lockout/Tag Out - if applicable ☐ Chemical Hazard Communication Program - if applicable ☐ Personal Protective Equipment - if applicable ☐ Laboratory Safety Manual - if applicable
- ☐ Respiratory Protection Program- if applicable. Facilities Services Safety and Health Training Chapter 6.3 Publication Date: June 24, 2021 ☐ Hearing Conservation Program - if applicable ☐ Blood borne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan - if applicable.