



WASHINGTON STATE
UNIVERSITY



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MESSAGE from Olivia

As is customary at the end of the year, we take time to recall the year we had, and it's been a year!

We welcome Mailing Services and long-time partners at EHS to be part of Facilities Services. The 2025 biennium state capital project had surprises, but we are grateful for the continued support of our MCR projects.

We had our picnic in a new location, and it was a hit. Thank you to the Picnic Committee for their creative shopping and hard work to make the picnic a success. Special thanks to the Stores for offering up the location. It meant extra work for them.

As you know we are working with colleagues in Spokane about their facilities practices.

All these changes bring new opportunities to continue to be the best stewards of the University's physical assets.

Throughout the year I see and hear of your steadfast and diligent work, collaboration, and problem solving. I am proud to be part of this team and grateful for what each of you do every day.

Please take the time this holiday season to take a break and be with family and friends. Happy holidays!

Safety Question Contest is on page 13!
Enter for a chance to win!

AWARDS



This year's Quarter Century Club inductees from Facilities Services were: Kellie Breeze, Todd Andrews, Kate Kamerrer, Chris Ayling, Jeff Lannigan, Michael Pope, & Mike Watson. Congratulations on 25 years at WSU!

Safety Slogan Contest Winner!

Congratulations to **Monika Jones** from FS Accounting (recently resigned) for creating the winning slogan:

**"Smart Cougs Stay Alert -
Make Safety a Habit."**

This slogan will be printed on the new safety representatives' sweatshirts.



Brian Swan was given the Presidential Award for Security due to his exceptional work in making the campus safer and more secure. He oversees the master keying system for over 20,000 locks, helping departments control access and protect sensitive areas. He's led efforts to upgrade to more reliable ADA door openers, reducing maintenance issues and improving accessibility. From installing alarmed exit devices, to working closely with the Fire and Safety Compliance Officer, Brian stays ahead of safety concerns and ensures the campus meets all codes and standards. His dedication has helped prevent multiple security issues and we are proud of his devotion to this effort.



Lyle Columbia, Facilities Operations Maintenance for Rick Hull, Sr., Facilities Services Utilities Maintenance/FOMS along with Alex Bromling, Facilities Operations Maintenance have been nominated and selected as the winners for the month of September by the Safety Promotion Subcommittee. Both were using proper PPE and teamwork to do lift work for Athletics at Gesa Stadium.

Mike Rima, Maintenance Mechanic 2, for supervisor, Thomas Moore, Facilities Services Building Maintenance has been nominated and selected by the Safety Promotion Subcommittee for Working Safely, Mike was observed using caution and proper PPE while working on a battery for the generator.

Facilities Services

“Thanks for Working Safely” Award Nomination Form

Your Name:	
Nominated Worker’s Name:	

Detailed description of the event you observed for which you want to nominate the above named person(s) for a “Thanks for Working Safely” award. Include the exact location, time, date, and circumstance of the safe action.	
Location:	
Date & Time:	
Circumstance or Situation:	

KUDOS



I would like to take this opportunity to say what a great job **Jenn (Knudtson)** has been doing for us. She has a very positive attitude and attention to detail. We are all grateful for the work she does.
Steven Holbrook

WSU Custodians:

Thank you for all the well wishes on my retirement. It meant the world to me. I think I'm ready for my next chapter in life.
Thank you again!
Sharon Stout

I would like to give a shout out to **Sonia Lopez, Sharifa Nicholson, Ivan Martinez Garica, Devin McGuire, Josh Woodland, Angel Hawkins, Jennifer Shaul, and Angie Scott** for helping out and cleaning buildings while we are short staff. You all are amazing and I am thankful to be able to work beside you all in the McCluskey group.
Keep up the good work. -S. Jacobs

Chris (Hughes), we would like to express our thanks for the lovely job on our floors in the Museum of Anthropology.
They are nothing short of stunning.
We have received many compliments stating just that.

In addition to the quality of the work done, we also very much appreciate the quick turnaround and job site consideration.

It's been a pleasure to work with you this past year or so.

From the folks in College Hall & Jo Bonner

Ivan (Martinez Garcia) is our custodian in the information Technology Building. He is an exceptional custodian who keeps the building in it's best shape. Ivan is very professional, quiet and pleasant. He is the best custodian I have worked around at WSU. The front doors of the Information Technology Building always shine. The welcome mats look freshly cleaned, even in fall leaf season! Thank you! -Sue Gilchrist

Please extend gratitude to the **key shop employees, and those who support them.** The team's customer service, responsiveness, and positive attitudes are always fantastic. The work they provide is of high quality, and they have wonderful communication skills. **Brian Swan** is one member of the team that deserves our particular thanks and gratitude. Just prior to our accreditation team's visit VCEA realized we did not have enough keys for the number of visitors we were hosting. Brian called to see how he could help, expedited our several orders, and followed up to let us know when they were ready. It is just one example of many, many, wonderful experiences he has created that helped to reduce the stress for his clients, and I cannot say thank you enough.

Kudos to **Robbie Dudley and Colleen Naylor** who are exceptional at what they do, and are a joy to work with. They are quick to smile, and to help us facilitate solutions to whatever challenges we throw at them. Despite the often-difficult circumstances of getting whatever it is fixed or transitioning requests onto the next step in the process, they are resourceful and expedient in helping us get to a resolution quickly. They are fabulous at keeping workflow moving, and we are so appreciative.

There are also a great many other persons at Facilities Services that deserve thanks. So much goes on that we don't see, but that impacts us every day. We take for granted all the complexities that go into making our environments functional. Please share our thanks and and gratitude Facilities Services teams: all we do every day would not be possible without you. A special thanks goes out to **Ryan Ghering, Randy Cavanaugh, Tom Moore, Jeff Lannigan, and Phil Johnson** for keeping it all moving , their optimism, leadership, and creativity in finding solutions to challenging issues.

Thank you all so very much!
Dar

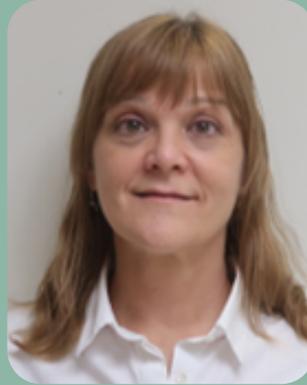
Welcome **New** Employees!



Braydon Maier –
Maintenance Mechanic 1



Madison Overby –
Custodian 1



Roxy Taylor – Plant
Communication
Coordinator



Craig Meyer –
Maintenance Mechanic 1



Josh Meyerhofer –
Truck Driver 2



Lucas Crawford –
Maintenance Mechanic 2



Kaylie Abner –
Occupational Safety &
Health Specialist 1



Nicos Thompson –
Fiscal Specialist 1



Bell Gardner –
Custodian 1



Mark Stanton –
Maintenance Mechanic 1



Travis Poole –
Occupational Safety &
Health Specialist 1



Shirley Foley –
Custodian 1

Welcome **New** Employees!



Jed DelNero – Grounds & Nursery Services Specialist 2



Merrie Lewis – Custodian 5



Ryan Ham – Plumber/ Pipefitter/Steamfitter



Shaydon Myers – Maintenance Mechanic 1



Laura Hymas – Custodian 1



Damon Valencia – Custodian 1



WSU Holiday Schedule for 2026-2027

Christmas Holiday	12/24/25	Independence Day	7/3/26
Christmas Day	12/25/25	Labor Day	9/7/26
New Year's Day	1/1/26	Veterans Day	11/11/26
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	1/19/26	Thanksgiving Day	11/26/26
Memorial Day	5/25/26	Native American Heritage Day	11/27/26
Juneteenth	6/19/26		

WSU Facilities Scholarship Deadline is Near!

Do you have a student (child or grandchild) that will be attending WSU the Fall of 2026? Now is the time for them to start working on the Scholarship Applications online at:

<https://financialaid.wsu.edu/scholarships/>

To be considered for any of WSU's scholarships, including the Facilities Services Scholarship for the 2026-2027 academic year, the application must be completed by the deadline date of January 31, 2026. If you have questions on scholarships, financial aid, and options for funding your students education at WSU, you may call the Student Financial Services office at 509-335-9711.

Don't let your student miss the Scholarship Application deadline!

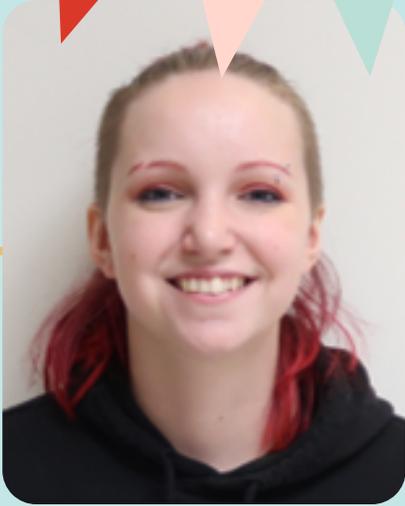
KUDOS

Customer: Our maintenance guy is pretty amazing, and we appreciate him very much!!!

Employees: **Mike Rima/ Braydon Maier**

I would like to give a shout out to **Jennifer Knudtson, Andrew Roehl, Jim Phillips, and Duane King** for helping the McCluskey group as we are short on people and helping us clean our buildings. Thank you all for the help and the support you have given us. You are all amazing. Oh, Ya and thank you **Vic** for lending us your crew.
S. Jacobs

PROMOTIONS



**Harmony Bauer –
Custodian 3**



**Levy Lawrence –
Grounds & Nursery Specialist 4**



**Angela O'Connor –
Custodian 3**



**Benjamin Howisey –
Truck Driver 2**



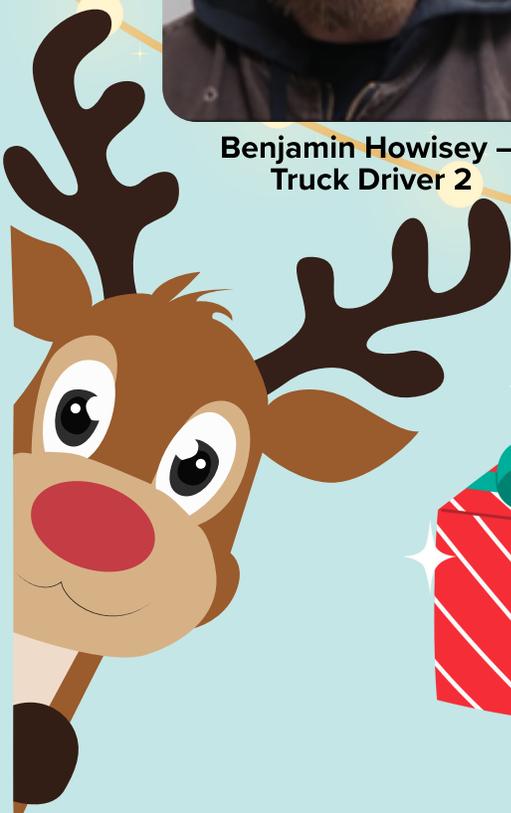
**Wyatt Clark –
Custodian 3**



**Teresa Cole – Fiscal
Specialist Supervisor**



**Austin Marotto –
Custodian 3**



Length of Service



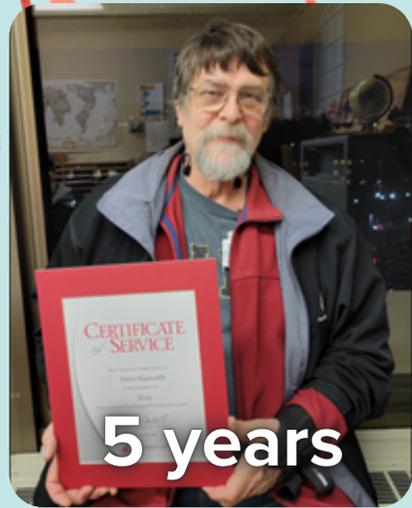
5 years

**Doug Holverson –
Custodian 1**



5 years

**Lori Luna –
Custodian 1**



5 years

**Peter Haworth –
Custodian 3**



5 years

**Lori Almazan –
Custodian 3**



10 years

**Phil Johnson –
Facilities Project Manager**



10 years

**Taylor Bartlett –
Custodian 1**



10 years

**Brittney Cox –
Custodian 3**



10 years

**Logan Larson –
Maintenance Mechanic 2**



10 years

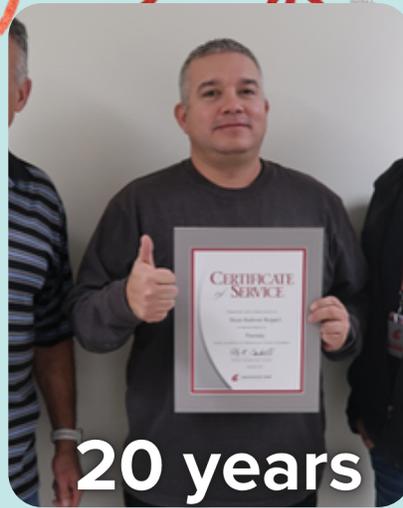
**Steve Cottrill –
Assistant Manager**

Length of Service



15 years

**Brett Rode –
Equipment Operator 2**



20 years

**Dean Neppel –
Maintenance Mechanic 3**



30 years

**Duane King –
Custodian 3**

RETIREMENTS!

Sharon Stout retired from Washington State University in September after an awe-inspiring career expanding across four decades.

She began her journey with WSU in November 1984 as a Custodian 1 on swing shift, later transitioning to day shift. Her dedication quickly led to a promotion to lead in September 1986, where she managed the team at the French/Lighty building. In October 2000, she elected to return to the Custodian 1 role, bringing her wealth of knowledge on cleaning procedures and commitment to quality work to several different buildings across the campus.

Sharon's friendly demeanor and exceptional work ethic earned her the appreciation of all building clients and colleagues. She will be truly missed as a valuable part of the custodial team.



RETIREMENTS!



Tom Armstrong officially retired in September, marking the conclusion of a remarkable career committed to maintaining and improving campus environments.

He joined WSU with over 30 years of valuable experience already under his belt, having previously served at Skagit Valley College and Everett Community College. He began his dedicated service with us as a Maintenance Mechanic 1 and quickly advanced to a Maintenance Mechanic 2, a testament to his expertise and strong work ethic.

During his time at WSU, Tom's extensive maintenance knowledge and experience were put to great use, contributing significantly to our operations and ensuring our facilities ran smoothly.

We are incredibly grateful for his many contributions to WSU and wish him many happy years of retirement, enjoying well-deserved time with his family.



It has been our pleasure to have Lynn Hopkins as a valuable member of the Washington State University Custodial team, and we wish her all the best in her retirement.

Lynn began her dedicated career at WSU in December 2017 as a temporary employee, assisting with the initial cleaning of the Spark building. Her strong work ethic and commitment to quality quickly became apparent. Recognizing her potential, Facilities Services hired her as a full-time custodian in November 2018.

As a full-time employee, Lynn joined the Fine Arts group, where she took meticulous care of the Goertzen, Murrow, and Jackson halls. Throughout her time here, Lynn consistently demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and maintained the highest quality in her assigned buildings.

Her contributions were significant and highly valued not only by her colleagues but also by the faculty and staff in the buildings she served, who greatly appreciated her commitment and the pristine environment she fostered.

Lynn will be truly missed by everyone. We thank her for her years of service and wish her a fulfilling and enjoyable retirement.

After a dedicated career spanning nearly three decades, Brady Allen retired on September 30, 2025, leaving a legacy defined by his commitment to service and his positive impact on the campus community.

Starting as Truck Driver 1 in 1995 with Central Receiving and Delivery, Brady's hard work and expertise led to a series of promotions, including his role as a Transportation Supervisor and, finally, Assistant Manager of Supply Management Services. In these leadership roles, Brady oversaw critical receiving and delivery operations and coordinated with staff to ensure the seamless function of logistics for the university.

Known for his well-liked nature and deep understanding of customer service, Brady's legacy extends beyond his official duties to his many positive relationships with his colleagues and the campus community. Brady will be missed by many, and we wish him a happy and healthy retirement.



KUDOS



Lighty- PLEASE CHECK/REPAIR MOUNTED WALL CLOCK IN LIGHTY 380F. CLOCK HAS STOPPED WORKING AS 11/4/25. NOT URGENT SO AS YOUR TIME ALLOWS. THANKS

Customer: Excellent and fast as always. Thanks all Employees: **Lane Kenworthy & Lucas Crawford**



This morning just after 7:30 I received an email from **Scott** stating that he had just received 2 pieces of equipment for us. With the help of **Kellie Jones**, I was able to have them inventoried and put together before 8:30 giving me the opportunity to get them out to our employees in a very timely manner. The great service is awesome! Thank You, Vic Linderman

EXPERIMENTAL ANIMAL LAB- MOVE ~30 RACKS AND OR PALLETS FROM BUSTAD VIVARIUM TO EALB 160 OR 170. Customer: Galen Gorence- Excellent job. Fast, efficient and quick turn around to schedule the work. HE also worked with us on the schedule to meet our needs. Give those guys a raise, Thank you! Employee: **Wade Johnson**

A quick shout out to **Rex (Riggs)**!

Thank you for the quick response to alleviate the crazy heat (109 degrees in the a.m.) for our first college event with our new Dean. It is not a space that is designed for the type of use CAHNRS had yesterday (especially now that the old Johnson Hall side is closed off), so we realize it made it even more difficult to manage temperature. Rex is now known as the HVAC hero according to the staff that were setting up the event. You probably do not realize how much you saved their day and lowered their stress – they were responsible for the event, and it was extremely important to them to have it go off well. Which it did. We appreciate your willingness to come to the rescue on such short notice and make a such a positive difference. - Kimi Lucas

VTH- **URGENT REQUEST--PATIENT HOLDING ROOM** **ISOLATION ROOM--DO NOT ENTER WITHOUT ASSISTANCE**
ROOM IS TOO HOT FOR PATIENT IN ISOLATION. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE ARE NO THERMOMETERS INSIDE. PATIENT IS VISIBLY UNCOMFORTABLE AND STAFF ARE REPORTING IT'S VERY WARM. DUE TO THE NATURE OF THE ROOM WE CANNOT USE A FAN TO COOL THE PATIENT DOWN TEMPORARILY. Customer: Stephen Short- Everyone responded quickly and followed up via phone to ensure patient safety. Wonderful work, greatly appreciated! Employee: **Norman Nelson**



Safety Question Contest

For the months of December 2025, January 2026, & February 2026

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 have found the answer, you may email your answer to Teresa Cole teresa.cole@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 Teresa 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 February 21, 2026. A winner will be drawn for each of the months listed above. Link to APP Chapters is on the [Safety Sharepoint Site](#).



Reference APP Chapter 20 Ergonomics/Back Safety : List one of the nine ergonomic principles listed but are not limited to, that should be incorporated into employee training at the time of their initial Safety Orientation.

Answer: _____

Employee submitting the above answer:

Name: _____ Division: _____

Brett Stapleton is the winner

of the September Newsletter APP Question Contest!
The winner's entries for the APP Safety Question were 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.

Check out all the Safety Awards you could win if your correct answer to the APP Question is drawn. The awards are displayed in the glass cabinet outside the Key Shop in McCluskey Shop Bldg.

Thank you to all
who entered
the contest!



IN MEMORIAM - for 2025



Dennis Van Allen

Dennis was a valued friend and retired colleague who will be deeply missed. He was hired as a Control Technician on June 1, 2003, then promoted to Control Technician Lead on March 1, 2007. Dennis retired from Facilities Services after 21 years of service on August 16, 2024. Dennis is remembered as a valued member of the team, known for his collaborative spirit and positive attitude who always had a smile on his face.



Tom Christian



Tom is remembered for his impactful, though brief, time at Washington State University. He started in April 2023 as a Truck Driver 2 with Supply Management Services. Tom was widely known for his friendly and optimistic demeanor, always greeting colleagues with a cheerful "good morning" or "have a great day," and quickly forging connections across the university. His kindness and presence will be greatly missed by all his friends, the entire Facilities Services team, and the broader WSU community.



KUDOS

A collaborative effort by Washington State University's skilled trade shops recently resulted in the successful and safe removal of a broken exhaust fan from the roof of the Thermal Fluids building. The project, which required precision and careful coordination, highlights the expertise and teamwork of WSU's employees. The complex job involved a multi-faceted team from several campus departments, including the **Electrical, Maintenance Mechanics, Sheet Metal, and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) shops**. Their task was to remove a large, non-operational exhaust fan from the roof, a delicate process that required the use of both a crane and snorkel lifts.

Each team member had a critical role to play in the well-organized operation. The Electrical team worked to safely disconnect the fan's power supply. Maintenance Mechanics and Sheet Metal personnel coordinated the physical removal, disassembly, and eventual repair of the unit. Meanwhile, the EHS team was on-site to ensure all safety protocols were followed, mitigating risks associated with working at heights with heavy equipment and removal of environmental waste hazards.

The project's success was a testament to the seamless cooperation and clear communication among the different shops. By working together, the team was able to safely remove the broken fan, complete the necessary repairs, and prepare for its eventual reinstallation, all while prioritizing the safety of every individual on the job. This is a great example of how Facilities Services dedicated staff can achieve complex tasks efficiently and safely through effective teamwork.

Special Thanks to: **Steve Westbrook, Byant Wenecke, Wally Lusby, Steve Gates, Ben Erickson, Todd Heath, Ryan Buford, and Stacey Tervino.**

NEILL HALL- SORRY TO BOTHER YOU AGAIN. THE INNERMOST FAUCET IS STILL LEAKING. I REQUESTED BEFORE, BUT THEY REPLACED THE OUTERMOST ONE INSTEAD OF THE INNERMOST ONE.

Customer: Danhong Zhang- Thank you so much for replacing all faucets! Very helpful! Employees: **Dylan Long, Braydon Maier, Bryant Werneke**

WEGNER HALL- MOVE A LARGE METAL AND GLASS CABINET FROM WEGNER 170 (STUDENT SPACE) TO BUSTAD 210 (TEACHING LAB). PLEASE CONTACT AUDREY HOFFMAN FOR A WALKTHROUGH. AUDREY.HOFFMAN@WSU.EDU OR CELL (971) 303-2333.

Customer: Audrey Hoffman- Ian and the HE team are always an absolute pleasure to work with. Employees: **Bill Ettenhofer, Jake Wytcherley, Chad Palmer**

MCCOY HALL- THE TOILET IN THE MENS BATHROOM SOMETIMES DOES NOT STOP FLUSHING, OR FLUSHES CONTINUOUSLY FOR A LONG TIME **REPLACED FLUSHOMETER TO A LOWER GPF - IF THIS ENDS UP NOT BEING ENOUGH GPF LET US KNOW AND WE CAN BUMP IT UP**

Customer: John Hinz- Spencer did the work, and even left a note to let us know if we needed further help or adjustments on the toilet that we could contact him to make those changes. Employee: **Spencer Pope**

AVERY HALL- THE MAIL CABINET LOCK IS STUCK. KEY NO 4573P0 IS NOT WORKING.

Customer: Nazua Idris- The facility person was very helpful! Thanks a lot. Employee: **Lance Mitchell**

COOPER PUB- WE HAVE A BUNCH OF BULBS BURNT OUT ALL OF A SUDDEN. :(

Customer: Ken Sundvik- Wally is awesome! Employee: **Wally Lusby**

Sept, Oct, Nov HONOR COINS

I received an email (below), and a follow up phone call from Jeremy Movius about the about the outstanding support that he gets from Wayne Lechtenberg. I also received a Teams message from James Storey stating the appreciation for him as well on a number of occasions. This is not a isolated incident but rather great support over a number of years. Based on this I would like to award the “service” coin to Wayne. Let me know what the executive team thinks and I can arrange the hand out.

Thanks, Ryan G.

Hello Ryan,

I wanted to take a moment to recognize and commend Wayne Lechtenberg for the exceptional support and timely communication he consistently provides to ITS. Wayne has been a tremendous help over the years, and his responsiveness and deep technical knowledge make a noticeable difference any time he responds to one of our calls. Whether it's resolving issues quickly or providing clear and consistent communication, Wayne's dedication and reliability stand out. Please extend our sincere appreciation to Wayne for his outstanding support. It's a pleasure working with him. Sincerely, Jeremy Movius



Steve Cottrill consistently goes above and beyond to enhance processes and inventory management within Facilities Services/SMS. He demonstrates exceptional collaboration, working with a wide range of people across departments to address supply and demand challenges efficiently. Steve recently contacted me about the amount LED lamps used by the maintenance group, an action that will result in an estimated \$30,000 rebate from Avista. Capturing this savings would not have been possible without his detailed knowledge of lamp usage. Steve constantly looks for opportunities for improvement, shares his knowledge and ensures that resources are optimized for the benefit for the University. His dedication to teamwork, problem solving, and continuous improvement making him highly deserving of recognition with the “Collaboration Coin”. - Ryan Gehring



2025 HONOR COINS

The Facilities Services staff are essential to the mission at the core of our department and to the goals we have established.

Coins of Honor are awarded to those who, individually or in groups, live our values of teamwork, collaboration, service and innovation. Several people have been nominated, and some have been awarded a coin for their representation of Facilities Services. Following is a list of the people presented with a coin in 2025:



Doug Halverson - Service Honor Coin

Chris Nilson - Service Honor Coin

Maja Huff - Collaboration Honor Coin

Heather Munro - Collaboration Honor Coin

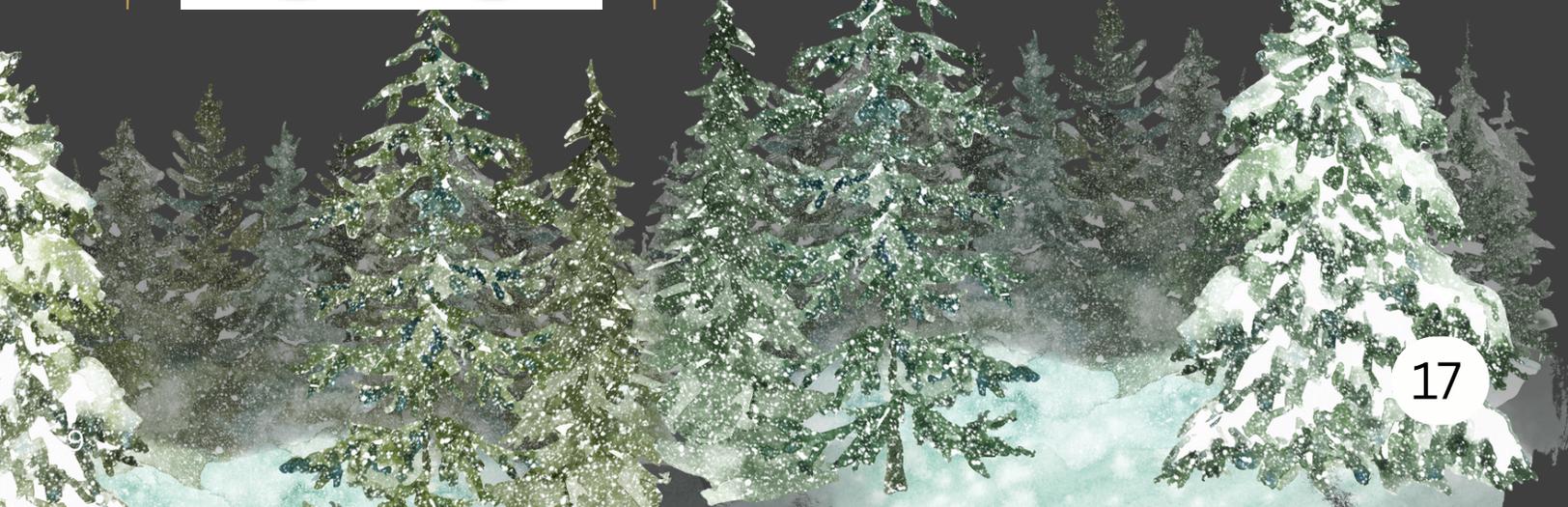
Katie Finch-Skelton - Collaboration Honor Coin

Dale Clark - Collaboration Honor Coin

Vanessa Syms - Service Honor Coin

Wayne Lechtenberg - Service Honor Coin

Steve Cottrill - Collaboration Honor Coin



Holiday Door Decorating Contest

- Who Can Participate: Everyone is welcome! If you have an office door, decorate it. If you don't, feel free to "adopt" a door (e.g., janitor's closet, break-out room, conference room, partition wall, etc.). Just send Stacey a note with your name and your adopted door.
- Cost: Participants will be responsible for providing their own decorating supplies (we will have a few supplies available)



- When to Decorate: The week of December 1st – 5th.
- Deadline: All doors must be completely decorated by 4:00 PM on Friday, December 5th.
- Judging: Judging will take place during the week of December 8th – 12th.
- Winner: The winning participant (or team) will receive a festive prize!



Thank you!

2025 has been amazing
because of you all!
Happy Holidays & best wishes
for a wonderful new year!

