

FACILITIES CONNECTION

ISSUE: 3
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NEWSLETTER



Custodial
employee starts
giving tree

Landscape
snow removal
highlights

CUSTODIAL EMPLOYEE STARTS GIVING TREE

What started as a gesture of kindness during the winter holiday season has developed into a building wide initiative to give back to it's occupants.

Located in Floyd Hall, the Giving Tree sits in one of the open study areas and offers free food and hygiene items for anyone who needs them. Nicole Slater, a custodian in the building, decided to start the Giving Tree after overhearing students needs while in the hallways working. She noticed students were struggling over the holidays and wanted to do what she could to help out. She brought in a tree from home and started to put hats, gloves, chapstick and other self care gift packages on and under the tree.



A suggestion box was also left below, offering an opportunity for people to leave feedback anonymously. After a while, someone left a note asking for food to be left under the tree. It was at this point that Nicole and the other building occupants who began to contribute shifted gears from providing hygiene items to providing snacks and other grab and go food options. "It takes a lot of worry

away so our students can focus on what kind of human they will be," says Nicole when talking about fulfilling basic human needs for these students. The suggestion box soon became filled with thank you letters, demonstrating the true impact and need to keep the tree going.

While Nicole started the ripple by bringing in the tree, she shared it has grown immensely and now other custodians, building professionals, teaching assistants and even students themselves have begun to leave items under the tree. A huge thanks was shared regarding her supervisor, Art Williams, as Nicole shared "she trusts me to be able to not just do my job, but to impact the people in my building." When asked what really inspired her to start the tree, Nicole shared her family motto: "if we can, we do." This motto has impacted the building occupants at Floyd Hall immensely, and hopefully will continue to have ripple effects throughout our campus community.





LANDSCAPE SNOW REMOVAL HIGHLIGHTS!



All of us want to send a big thank you to Landscape Services for their work this winter to keep us safe on campus while it's snowing. They take care of clearing and salting 53 acres of sidewalk each day it snows. We appreciate them always taking on the cold temperatures to make sidewalks easy to access.



While this year has had a lower than average snowfall, the freeze and thaw cycles due to fluctuating temperatures always creates more of a challenge. Landscape employees have faced those challenges head on throughout the year. One of the biggest challenges they faced was removing snow from Waldo Stadium prior to the last football game of the year. During the frigid temperature, everyone came together to make that goal happen.



EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Thank you to everyone who attended our employee appreciation brunch! It was so nice to see all of our team members come together and connect over food. We hope you enjoyed yourself and can't wait to do more events like this in the future!



SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO WMU!

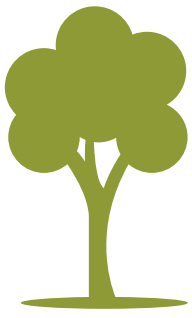
Mark Heineman, 25 years

NEW EMPLOYEES

No new employees

RETIREMENTS

Terri Simmons, AVP Office (March 30)



WMU EARNED

2022 TREE CAMPUS HIGHER EDUCATION

RECOGNITION



Western Michigan University has officially earned the 2022 Tree Campus Higher Education recognition! Tree Campus Higher Education is an Arbor Day Foundation program that honors colleges and universities for promoting healthy trees and engaging their campus community in conservation efforts.

A campus must meet five core standards in order to gain this recognition:

1. Establishment of a tree advisory committee
2. Evidence of a campus tree care plan
3. Dedicated annual expenditures for your campus tree program
4. An Arbor Day observance
5. The sponsorship of student service learning projects



Congratulations and thank you to all our staff who made this recognition possible. We look forward to celebrating with you in person at our Arbor Day celebration, which will be on Friday, April 28, 2023.



EMPLOYEE THANK YOU'S

Thank you, Dennis (Moore)! Pleasure to meet you.

Appreciate your approachability, professionalism, candor and willingness to assist with what was available.

- Adam Wall, Institutional Equity

John (Rook) was very nice. Asked for details about the situation, as the light was not working. I explained the timeline and he said "thank you-that helped" and went and fixed it.

- Brenda Misak, Logistical Services

Thank you (Bryan Sutton) for the very fast response and repair to the damaged fume hood. I am very appreciative this life safety issue was resolved in such a short manner.

- Jake Woods, Environmental Health and Safety

Thank you, Jason (Monck)! The hydration station is working perfect again; we appreciate the speedy response!

- Laura Kirkendall, Facilities Management

Nothing wrong, it's beautiful the way it is. Tell the [custodians] to keep it up! (in reference to Richmond Center restroom)

- Anonymous

Excellent Job (Brian Cichy and Mike Howard) not just fixing the problem I reported but also fixing another faucet that sprang a leak!

- Pete Stuurwold, Chemistry

I just wanted to give kudos to Tom Sauber for helping out one of our donors! Tom is going way above and beyond his duties to help a WMU Alum and his family out. I really appreciate his helpfulness and I know the donor is very grateful as well.

- Sarah Curry, WMU Foundation

SUSTAINABILITY TIP

Did you know you can recycle plastic bags, but not in your single-stream recycling bin? You need to take these bags to a local grocery store or other specially designated collection spots. Do you know why? Scan the code to watch a video and learn more!



DOES YOUR WORK VEHICLE NEED A CAR WASH?

The wash bay at the Physical Plant garage is open 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., M-F. There is a shop vacuum, power washer, garden hose, soap, buckets and brushes all available to use.

Please just clean up when you're done!

If you have questions, call (269) 387-8511.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 29 - Commencement

May 8 - Summer I classes begin

May 11-13 - Medieval Conference

May 29 - Memorial Day

LINKS OF INTEREST

wmich.edu/wmutoday

wmich.edu/wellness



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If you are interested in submitting information for the next Facilities Connection newsletter, please contact Laura Kirkendall at laura.l.kirkendall@wmich.edu.