

# STAFF stuff

Volume 8 Issue 2  
September 2021

## Revitalizing Winthrop



In April, the Campus Beautification team began its first Placemaking Project: restoring the Artesian Well and bringing life back to the area around the main administration building. Interested in getting involved? Learn more about upcoming projects or make a pledge of your time to the [Winthrop Year of Service](#).

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# New Hires

Welcome to the newest members of our Winthrop family:

John Blomberg, *area manager, Small Business Development Center*

Michelle Brodict, *registered nurse, Health Services*

Indigo Burroughs, *procurement officer, Purchasing*

Sean Coughlin, *set-up specialist, Facilities Management*

James Covington, *HVAC-R worker, Facilities Management*

Akira Ford, *academic coach, University College*

Lauren Gamble, *family nurse practitioner, Health Services*

James Kinney, *lead boiler operator, Facilities Management*

David Martenot, *plumber, Facilities Management*

Joseph Miller, *vice president, Enrollment Management & Marketing*

Richard Robbins, *custodial worker, Facilities Management*

Tourgee Simpson, *assistant dean of academic success, University College*

Bobby Teal, *network engineer, Computing & Information Technology*

Lauren Yoder, *admissions counselor/community outreach coordinator, Admissions*

# SMOTM June Nominees

April Ables, *admissions operations coordinator, Admissions*; Pete Airheart, *senior designer, University Communications & Marketing*; Whitney Campbell, *campus visits & event coordinator, Admissions*; Katie Dykhuis, *director of graduate enrollment, Graduate School*; Noreen Gaubatz, *director of assessment, Accreditation, Accountability, & Academic Services*; Amanda James, *assistant to the vice president, Access & Enrollment Management*; Linda McKeown, *lab manager, Biology*; Sherri Steedley, *communicator, Campus Police*; Kara Traverse, *assistant registrar, Records & Registration*

# STAFF MEMBER

## of the month

# June



Josh Sides  
*head coach, eSports  
Athletics*

**How many years have you been at Winthrop?**

This month will start my third season with Winthrop.

**What makes Winthrop special to you?**

There are a lot of things that make Winthrop special. From the community that makes you feel like you're part of the family to the beautiful campus, it is truly a special place.

**What drives you to make such a difference?**

Winthrop took a chance in having the vision to start an eSports program, and I am driven to see it succeed in all measurable ways. I am driven to make eSports something of which Winthrop is proud. A National Championship is just the start!

**What is your favorite part of Winthrop?**

For me, it's the people. Winthrop seems to have a culture built around a foundation of bringing in good people.

**What do you do in your spare time? Hobbies?**

Spare time? In all honesty though, I do like to get out into nature if I can. There are some beautiful trails around here.

**If you had to tell an incoming student one thing about Winthrop, what would it be?**

I would tell them the experience they're looking for is here, but it is what they make of it. This campus has great resources, activities, clubs, etc., but if you spend all your time in your dorm room and never explore, you're gonna miss it. Make the most of these years that you're here!



# Milestones



**Ty Robbins**, *admissions counselor, Admissions*, has been commissioned as an officer in the National Guard. His parents, both Winthrop alums, celebrated with him at his pinning ceremony.



**Carol Adams**, *administrative specialist, Student Academic Services*, purchased a home this summer in Newport Lakes. She's excited to celebrate this big step with her family, both two- and four-legged.



On May 15, **Pam Garrison**, *library specialist, Dacus Library*, gained a new daughter when her son, Zachary, married Ashley Attaway at Duncan Estate in Spartanburg, South Carolina.



This August, **Kara Cauthen**, *administrative specialist, English*, graduated with her MBA. She celebrated with her husband, Russ Cauthen, *supply specialist, Central Receiving*, and her pup, Marcie.

Share your milestones with us!

Whether you've purchased a new home, earned a degree, welcomed a baby (or grandbaby!), adopted a pet, reached a milestone birthday, run a marathon, or just have exciting news you'd like to share - we're excited and want to celebrate with you! Send an e-mail to [cauthenk@winthrop.edu](mailto:cauthenk@winthrop.edu) to be included in the next newsletter!

# Dig in with Dining Services

Dining Services has been hard at work this summer renovating various locations around campus and making updates to their dining options. Here are some exciting changes:

- New MyZone Gluten Free station contains a mini-fridge with items such as oat milk and a separate toaster.
- A new blender was installed at Simple Servings station for special treats like smoothies.
- Last semester, Chef Kim Hollis of Simple Servings [won a national Allertrain award](#) for innovation.
- Reusable to-go boxes are still available for \$5 Café Cash or cash.
- Download the Bite U app to see the menu in advance for the week, filter by dietary restrictions, and rate meals.



- Get your coffee fix at the Starbucks kiosk in Markley's while the original location is undergoing renovations.
- Text WinthropFeedback to 82257 to send feedback straight to our chefs.

# Summer Vacation



**April Hershey**, *assistant to the dean, Graduate School*, took a long-awaited vacation to Colorado this summer with her boyfriend. They saw a Colorado Rockies baseball game, flew over the Rockies in a Cessna, and did their fair share of hiking in the Flatirons, Lumpy Ridge, and Copeland Falls in Rocky Mountain National Park.



# Spotlight on Staff Assembly

My name is Amanda Cavin, and I am the director of the Eagle STEM Scholars Program here at Winthrop. I have been in this position for two years. In this position, I recruit and then support students who are underrepresented, first gen, or have unmet financial need as they work through their undergrad degree towards the goal of earning a master's or Ph.D. in a STEM field. I graduated from Winthrop with a B.S. in early childhood education in 2015 and then earned two M.Ed.s in 2017. I taught briefly in the public school system before returning to Winthrop to work in Eagle STEM. Outside of work I enjoy a part-time job as a server, playing Dungeons & Dragons



Amanda Cavin  
director, Eagle STEM Scholars Program

and World of Warcraft. I am married with four grown children and three dogs who are probably more spoiled than the kids.

## Finding Big Stuff



Can you find Big Stuff? Each issue of Staff Stuff has the illustration to the left of our beloved mascot, Big Stuff, hidden somewhere throughout the pages. If you find Big Stuff, send an e-mail to [staffstuff@winthrop.edu](mailto:staffstuff@winthrop.edu) and tell us where he is. Those who find Big Stuff will be entered into a drawing to win a prize. Congratulations to last month's winner:

Deborah Broome, fiscal analyst, Finance & Business Affairs.

## Find us on Facebook!



Have a favorite lunch spot on or around campus? We want to know! Send your suggestions to [cauthenk@winthrop.edu](mailto:cauthenk@winthrop.edu) or post to the [Staff Conference Facebook Page](#) to be shared in the next newsletter!

Story or content ideas? Contact a member of the Media & Communications Committee:

Kara Cauthen, Jayme Charles, Maria D'Agostino, Kaye Hayes, Shea Maple, Kat Wilson

# Staff Conference Highlights

- Staff questions covered topics such as remote work, employee morale, and parking on campus.
- Board of Trustee member, Dr. Julie Fowler, provided an update on the presidential search process.
- **Zan Jones**, associate vice president, Human Resources, presented certificates to staff members who completed various levels of the Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion program.

To view the complete PowerPoint or review the minutes, visit the [Staff Conference SharePoint Site!](#)

## Congratulations

## to our eSports team!

In May 2020, our eSports team won TWO national championships: the League of Legends College Championship (which is the highest level of competition for the game) and the Rocket League Collegiate Esports National Championship. For the League of Legends Championship, they beat defending and two-time champs Maryville University. These are the first national championships in Winthrop history. The Rocket League team also won the Big South eSports tournament back in February.

Coached by Josh Sides, our eSports program has been in existence for only two years, and this is their first year competing in Rocket League. Winthrop was one of the first NCAA Division 1 schools in the nation to have a varsity eSports program housed in the athletic department.

[Watch the team](#) win the final match of the League of Legends Championship and keep an eye out for more information about upcoming tournaments.

