

spicybits

BY MATT SORRELL

WIL FERNANDEZ-CRUZ has been tapped as the new executive chef at **Winslow's Home**. He replaces chef **CARY MCDOWELL**, who left to take a position with the Euclid Hospitality Group.



Fernandez-Cruz came to St. Louis last year from NYC to be the executive chef at **The Restaurant at the Cheshire Inn**.

Congrats are in order for chef **CHRISTOPHER LEE** of **River City Casino**. He won his second consecutive title as champion of last month's **Chef Battle Royale** at **Taste of St. Louis**. Lee bested chef **ERIC BRENNER** of **Alumni St. Louis** in the final round to take the title.

The **Whiskey In The Winter** festival is returning for its second year on Saturday, Nov. 23, at the



Hyatt Regency St. Louis At The Arch. The celebration features a grand tasting of some 200-plus whiskies, including single malt and blended Scotches, bourbon, Irish, Tennessee, Canadian, Japanese and other local and international varieties. The evening also will have educational seminars, whiskey-inspired food stations, whiskey cocktails, and a Golden Ticket selection of rare whiskies. For tickets and info, visit whiskeyinthewinter.com