

T.E.A.M. Huddle

THE UWSP FACILITY SERVICES NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2017



RIDING THE STORM OUT



As Hurricane Irma approached the gated retirement community of The Villages, Florida on the evening of September 10th, 2017, Work Control Center Coordinator Cindy Buttke and her father prepared to ride out the devastating

storm. Cindy and her father stayed in his stick-built, block home, not evacuating to a shelter because The Villages was not in a mandatory evacuation zone.

According to Cindy, by 10pm on the evening of the 10th, the storm began to really pick up in intensity. The highest sustained winds finally subsided around 5am on the morning of September 11th. Citizens throughout the area were advised to stay indoors and off of local roads until late in the afternoon, allowing crews to access damage and remove debris and electrical wires.

Over 356 mobile homes were evacuated to local emergency shelters from The Villages historic section. 89,000 homes were without power and remained so until Cindy's last check on September 22nd. Over 4,000 people and 487 pets had to be evacuated to 14 emergency shelters within 3 surrounding counties.

The duo experienced 10 inches of rain, sustained winds of 70 - 80 miles per hour with gusts over 100 miles per hour. Luckily, Irma had been downgraded to a category 1 hurricane by the time it hit The Villages. Fortunately, Cindy's father's house had no major damage, although downed trees, flooded roads and golf courses, overflowing ponds and electrical outages were very widespread in the area.

★ **T.E.A.M.** ★
TOGETHER EVERYONE ACHIEVES MORE

TEAM MEMBERS:

PAM BOTWINSKI • KEVIN LEICK
DARCY LOOMIS • VICKI MERONK
MARY MUELLER • DOREEN PELTIER
JASON WELLER • MARC WOLFRAM



FACILITY SERVICES ANNIVERSARIES

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES
WHO ARE CELEBRATING AN
ANNIVERSARY AT UWSP IN
OCTOBER

CHERYL MUELLER

Custodial Supervisor
10 years of service

MARI YENTER

Surplus Property Manager
10 years of service

TODD WIPERFURTH

Carpenter
15 years of service

Did you know that October is...

Adopt A Shelter Dog Month
American Cheese Month
American Pharmacist Month
Apple Month
Arts & Humanities Month
National Applejack Month
Breast Cancer Awareness Month
Caramel Month
Celiac Disease Awareness Month
Clergy Appreciation Month
Cookbook Month
Cookie Month
Cyber Security Awareness Month
Dessert Month
Domestic Violence Awareness Month
Dwarfism/Little People Awareness Month
Eczema Awareness Month
Filipino-American History Month
German-American Heritage Month
Hispanic Heritage Month
Italian-American Heritage Month
Lupus Awareness Month
National Arts & Humanities Month
National Down Syndrome Awareness Month
National Roller Skating Month
Pasta Month
Pickled Peppers Month
Pizza Month
Polish-American Heritage Month
Popcorn Popping Month
Pork Month
Positive Awareness Month
Pretzel Month
National Month of Sarcasm
Seafood Month
Squirrel Awareness & Appreciation Month
Vegetarian Month

A couple of unexpected things Cindy encountered were that before Irma hit, a staging area for some of the trucks was in The Villages. Over 7,000 electrical line workers, damage assessment teams and tree professionals were brought into the state from across the United States to assist with the cleanup from Irma.



Gas stations ran out of gas on September 8th. Any tankers that entered town got a police escort to avoid angry people that were attempting to fill up.

Though this was Cindy's first hurricane, she stated that Irma would probably not be her last due to the fact that Florida is at the top of her list of places to retire to.

The teamwork towards one common cause was really amazing. Neighbors helping other neighbors and helping complete strangers was awesome to see.

Thank you sharing your experience with all of us Cindy!

