

# Crosscurrent

Serving the St. Paul District since 1977  
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## Park ranger rapidly responds to storm



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District



Robert Burns, a summer park ranger at Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area, near Brainerd, Minn., cleans up storm debris following a storm that downed hundreds of trees at the campsite.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



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Views and opinions expressed in **Crosscurrents** are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Articles and photography submissions are welcome and must arrive by the 15th day of the publishing month for consideration. Submissions can be mailed or emailed.

Submissions should be in Microsoft Word format for all written copy and photos should be no smaller than a 5 x 7 at 300 dpi. All photographs appearing herein are by the St. Paul District Public Affairs Office unless otherwise accredited.

The mission of **Crosscurrents** is to support the commander's internal information program for the St. Paul District and its stakeholders.

**Crosscurrents** also serves as the commander's primary communication tool for accurately transmitting policies and command philosophy to the St. Paul District community and its customers.

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## Comments from the top

### Team,

As we near the end of the summer and the end of another fiscal year, I want to pause for a second and thank you for your commitment to excellence.

The St. Paul District has accomplished a great deal in the last year, and last week was a great example. Notably, we recently celebrated the completion of the Roseau, Minnesota, diversion channel, and an improved visitor's center at Big Sandy Lake, near McGregor, Minnesota. The Roseau project helps reduce the risk of flooding and provides numerous opportunities for recreation. The visitor's center will

help the public better understand the archaeology of the region and the history and role the Corps has in shaping the future.

These projects are impressive, but it's all of you who have made them a reality. From the engineers, planners, biologists and project managers that designed the diversion project to the archaeologists, graphic artists, park rangers and volunteers that helped create the visitor's center, the common thread in these projects is the team of great professionals that call the St. Paul District their home.

I am continually reminded by others that our team is among the best. That said, I fully recognize there is always

room for improvement. Recently, I sent a request to the entire district encouraging everyone to participate in the upcoming command climate survey. This is your opportunity to let me know where we can improve, what we can do better and, most importantly, it affords you the opportunity to share what is important to you as an employee.

I hope all of you provide your honest, candid responses to the survey questions. I can only work on solving the problems that I'm aware of, and this is an excellent opportunity for you to provide those observations in a completely anonymous forum.

Finally, as we close in on the end of



**Col. Daniel C. Koprowski**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District Commander

another summer, I encourage you all to take a few moments to enjoy all that the Upper Midwest has to offer. Whether it's golfing, reading, fishing or hiking, get out with your friends and family before we start seeing the blinking lights of the school buses and the initial signs of fall. Be safe out there!



Robert Burns, Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area summer ranger, removes storm debris near the park office July 21.

Photo by Patrick Moes



Storm debris covers the Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area sign July 21.

Photo by Patrick Moes

## Fierce storm destroys vehicles, trees

Story by Patrick Moes

A Sunday evening storm caused severe damage to the Gull Lake Recreation Area July 12.

Downing around 800 – 1,000 trees at the park, campers at the 26 campsites were fortunate that nothing severed happened to them, said Robert Burns, a student ranger and junior at the University of Minnesota, Crookston.

Burns said he had been watching the radar on his phone, because he knew all of the ingredients for a strong storm were present that afternoon. Initially, he said, it looked like the storm was going to go north of

the park. Then, shortly before 7 p.m., Burns said everything became calm. The sirens began going off, and he went from campsite to campsite to let people know that there was potential for

**“The campsite went from calm to trees snapping.”**

**-Robert Burns, summer park ranger**

storms in the area and reminded everyone of the location for the shelters. “If things get bumpy,” he said, “the storm shelter is the comfort station.”

Burns said the campers were appreciative of the information, and he repeatedly heard “thanks for keeping us posted” from them. As the storm approached, he said he looked to the west and saw that the storm was



A fallen tree lies on a vehicle and a building following the July 12 storm.

Photo by Patrick Moes

getting closer. “It had a pretty good tail echo to it, so I knew it could get bad,” said the Inver Grove Heights, Minnesota, native.

Then the winds arrived. Burns said “the campsite went from calm to trees snapping.” He said he saw a tree come down near one of the campsites. It landed within a few feet of a tent that a man was still inside of. Burns said he grabbed the man and took him to the shelter where they rode out the storm. It lasted for another 45 minutes before finally leaving the area.

Understandably shaken, Burns said the campers were “all looking to me to see what to do.” After a few phone calls to his supervisors, he said he and Corrine Hodapp, Gull and Cross Lake Recreation supervisory park manager, went from site to site later in the

evening to reassure all of the campers that everyone was going to be OK. Staff from Gull and Cross arrived the following morning and began the process of clearing a path for all of the campers. It would take until 4 p.m. before the last camper had a path to leave the camp.

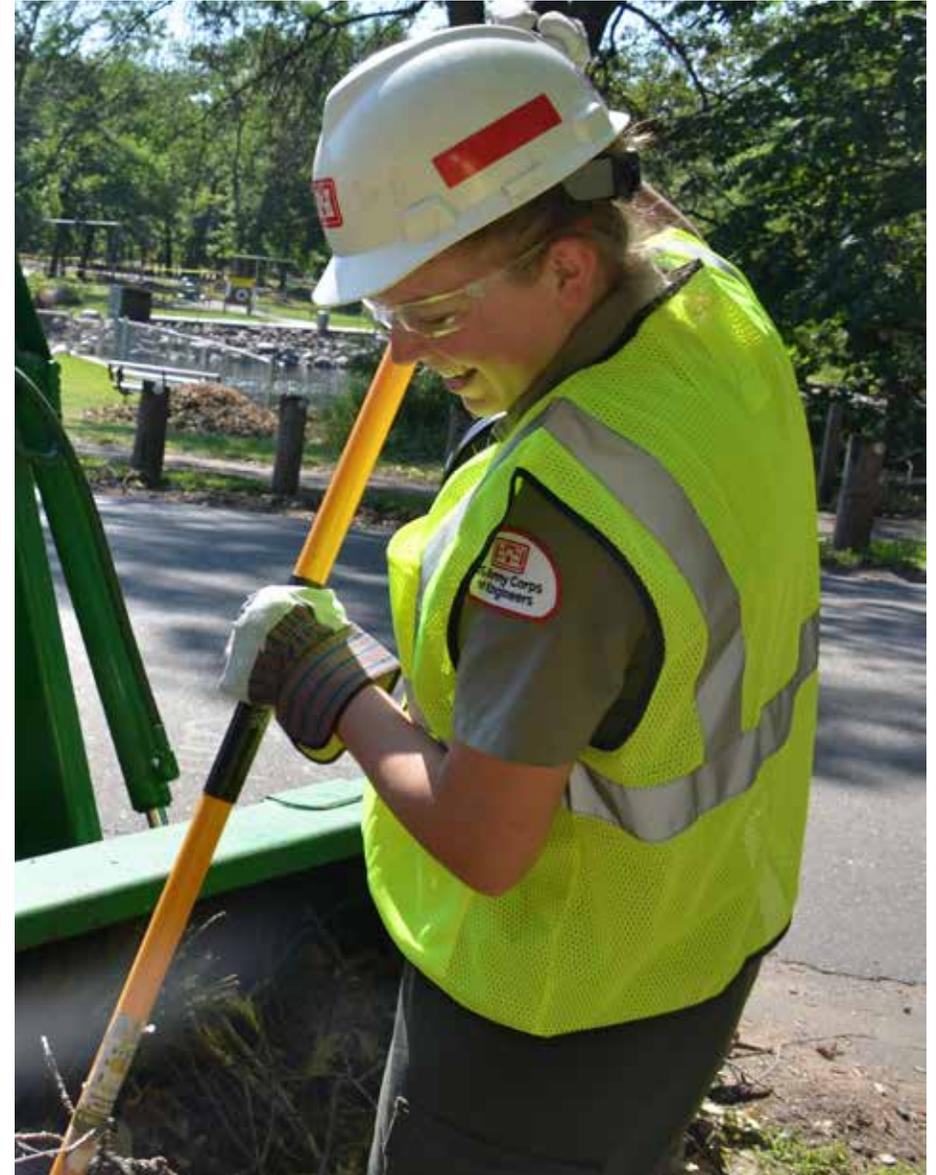
While a few trees landed on some of the vehicles and buildings, Burns said he was amazed that nobody was injured. Mary Kay Larson, Gull Lake park manager, echoed that statement. She said Burns did an amazing job getting all of the campers to safety. “I’ve been through a lot of storms at the campsite,” she said, “but I’ve never had anything like this happen.”

“We’ve only lost a couple of trees in the 27 years that I’ve been here,” she added, “and to lose half of our trees, it’s just unreal.”



A campsite picnic table was destroyed by a falling tree during the July 12 storm.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Desiree Hesse, Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area summer ranger, removes storm debris near the park office July 21.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*

## Upper St. Anthony Falls staff make final lockage

Story by George Stringham

The end of an era was witnessed when the last boat, a recreation boater, locked through Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam in Minneapolis June 9 at 11:17 p.m.

The final commercial tow to lock through the facility was Upper River Services' Motor Vessel Becky Sue, locking through at 2:45 p.m., June 9. She was pushing two partially loaded barges of scrap metal loaded at Northern Metals Recycling.

The Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, signed

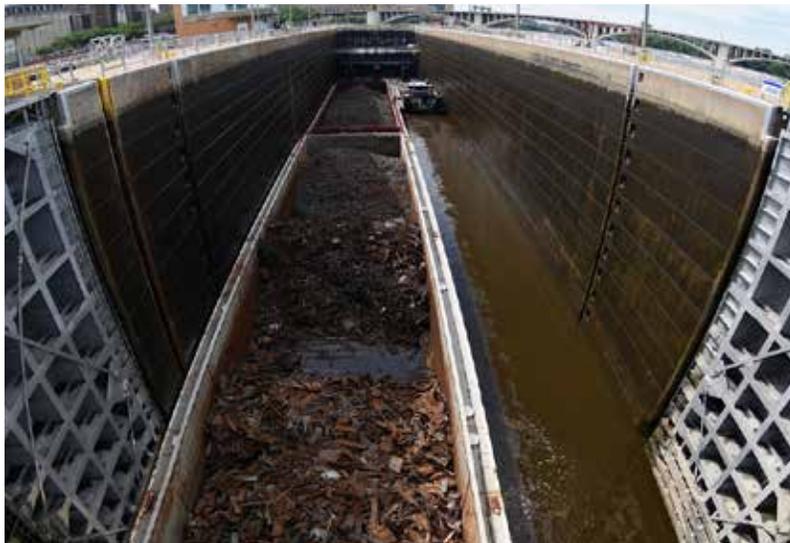
June 10, 2014, directed the Corps of Engineers to close Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock to navigation within one year of the act being signed into law. The action ended use of the lock by commercial, recreation and other navigational uses. This ended the ability to ship cargo, such as gravel and scrap metal to and from barge terminals above Upper St. Anthony Falls Dam. Cargo that would otherwise be moved by barge during the normal shipping season now will be moved by truck or other transportation means.

While the lock remains closed to commercial navigation and recreation boaters, the visitor center remains open, Wednesday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The center provides visitors with views of the falls, the Stone Arch Bridge and a historical perspective of the St. Anthony Falls. The district is exploring ways the visitor center can continue to serve the region.

"We are too valuable of a location, it's too much of a resource for people who live in this community to just let it sit here and do nothing," said Col. Dan

Koprowski, St. Paul District commander. "Whatever it is, I hope we can work with other stakeholders and concerned parties to find a way to make use of this facility."

In 1937, Congress authorized the Minneapolis Upper Harbor Project which extended the Upper Mississippi River 9-Foot Navigation Project an additional 4.6 miles by constructing two locks to lift vessels over St. Anthony Falls. The Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam was completed in 1956 and the upper lock in 1963.



The Motor Vessel Becky Sue is locked through Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock July 9.  
*Photo by George Stringham*



The last boat to lock through Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock heads north following the lockage June 9 at 11:17 p.m.  
*Photo by George Stringham*



Brian Turner, Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area park ranger and Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan project manager, discusses property maps with Dave Fisher, the former president of the Whitefish Area Property Owners Association, and Angela Deen, planning, during the open house at Cross Lake Dam and Recreation Area July 21.  
*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Brian Turner, Gull Lake Dam and Recreation Area park ranger and Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan project manager, provides an overview of the master plan during the open house at Cross Lake Dam and Recreation Area July 21.  
*Photo by Patrick Moes*

## District solicits comments on master plan

Story by Patrick Moes

District staff hosted an agency meeting and open house for the public at Cross Lake Dam and Recreation Area July 21 to hear the public and stakeholders' vision for the six sites in northern Minnesota.

During the open house, the public was able to view and discuss maps of

federal lands and flowage easements around the six Corps sites. The two meetings are just the start of the stakeholder and public involvement process as the district's recreation branch is currently developing the draft update to the Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan. "The master plan will cover all six

headwaters recreation sites," said Brian Turner, Gull Lake Recreation Area park ranger and Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan project manager. "While conceptual in nature, it will serve as the vision for both environmental stewardship and recreation as the Corps continues to serve the public in the 21st century."

Turner said the master plan focuses specifically on establishing an overall land use management plan, identifying resource objectives and identifying associated design and management concepts. Last updated in 1977, Turner said he hopes to finalize the plan around the end of the year.



Vanessa Hamer, planning, sifts through soil at Cross Lake Dam and Recreation Area July 21. Hamer was doing research for the historical properties management plan.

Photo by Patrick Moes

## Archaeologists dig for treasures at Cross Lake

Story by Patrick Moes

A patch of holes dotted the landscape at Cross Lake Recreation Area July 21 as a pair of archaeologists searched for artifacts lying just below the surface.

Vanessa Hamer, planning, said they were digging holes and exploring the area to support the Mississippi River Headwaters Master Plan. More specifically, she said the work helped them complete the historic properties management plan, or HPMP, which is an appendix of the master plan.

“We’re obligated to protect these

areas,” she said. “People have been living here for thousands of years, and it’s our job to preserve these places and to tell their story.”

**“We’re obligated to protect these areas. People have been living here for thousands of years, and it’s our job to preserve these places and to tell their story.”**

**-Vanessa Hamer, archaeologist**

Using a shovel, screen, tape measure and the Munsell Soil Color Chart to determine the types of soils they found, Hamer and Brad Perkl, planning, went from hole to hole looking for treasures of the past, occasionally pausing to talk to people that were curious about what a

pair of archaeologists were doing.

Perkl said with a grin that the pair was digging for treasure before explaining



A topographic survey map of Cross Lake from 1884.



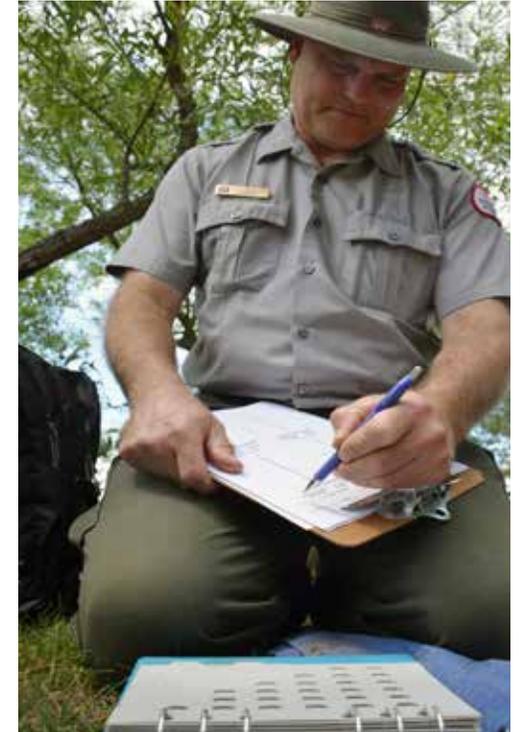
Vanessa Hamer, planning, left, and Brad Perkl, planning, document their findings during an archaeology dig July 21. They were doing research for the historical properties management plan.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Vanessa Hamer, planning, places soil from a hole on a screen to sift through it during an archaeology dig July 21. Hamer was doing research for the historical properties management plan.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Brad Perkl planning, uses a soil book to document the research findings during an archaeology dig July 21.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*

the purpose of the dig. Hamer said the work is important because we need to know what historical sites are present and where they are located. She said the National Historic Preservation Act mandates government agencies such as the Corps of Engineers document and preserve these sites for future generations.

She said that future development plans

within the park are often determined based on the findings from these types of digs. That is why the HPMP is so important when you are looking at completing a master plan, she added.

What appeared to be random hole locations from a casual observer, were actually calculated locations based on the likelihood of where they might find something, said Hamer. "We

usually look at places near water, near resources," she said. "These locations were primarily where people would have lived back then."

The couple of holes they dug next to the dam at Cross Lake were determined to have low probability for an undisturbed historical site. Hamer said it could be that the land was disturbed during the construction of

the dam or for other reasons. While there wasn't a great likelihood of finding historic artifacts near the dam, the pair did discover what they believe is a part of an arrowhead base from around 500-600 years ago in a different section of the recreation area. Many areas within the Cross Lake Recreation Area are on a significant historical site, added Hamer.

## Sowing the seeds of tomorrow

Story by Patrick Moes

A hobby forester, a pack of Girl Scouts and Corps staff recently combined resources, knowledge and skills to improve a forest near Maiden Rock, Wisconsin.

Staff from the district's environmental section in La Crescent, Minnesota, helped four Girl Scouts from Apple Valley, Minnesota, plant more than 80 trees earlier this year. The Girl Scouts, led by Zoe Garrison, engineering and construction, were volunteering in an effort to earn their tree badge while also learning more about trees.

One by one, the girls planted the trees on Corps of Engineers forest land located along the Rush River in western Wisconsin. The "Eat, Sleep, Scout, Girl Scouts" also placed weed barrier mats and tree shelters around the trees to protect them from the elements. The mats provide weed control for up to three years and the shelters protect the seedlings from potential animal damage, said Garrison.

The American elm trees planted by the girls are a special variety that is disease-tolerant to diseases such as Dutch elm disease. The environmental staff have worked with the U.S. Forest Service for more than 10 years to plant these disease-tolerant American elm seedlings into a wildland setting.

The USFS provided the seeds from

tree cultivars in their nursery in Ohio and sent them to John Sullivan, a retired Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources water quality specialist and self-proclaimed hobby forester. Sullivan said he used the elm seeds to produce transplant seedlings for the Corps staff and the Girl Scouts.

These seedlings will enhance the species diversity and wildlife habitat quality of the forest, said Garrison. Once they mature, the trees should produce seeds that will spread to adjacent areas; germinate, grow and expand the habitat benefits within the landscape.

The site where the trees were planted is a mitigation property that was acquired in 2008 as a part of the Lock and Dam 3 navigation improvement project. Part of the mitigation agreement with Wisconsin DNR included enhancement of existing riparian forest areas on the property.

Garrison said the girls learned a lot about the forest and themselves while planting the trees. "It can be a simple thing to make a change - like planting a tree or making a sandwich for the homeless," she said. "You may think it's no big deal, to take a few moments out of your day, to do something so simple. But, it can mean a lot more than you realize to the person or place that is impacted by that change."



Ryan Strand, operations, places a cover over a newly planted tree earlier this year.

*Courtesy photo*



Girl Scouts from Apple Valley, Minnesota, helped Corps staff plant more than 80 trees near Maiden Rock, Wisconsin, earlier this year.

*Courtesy photo*



## Recreation staff movements cause changes

Story by George Stringham

The combination of district employees with a lot of experience moving on, younger employees building careers through movement and the lure of the Upper Midwest has resulted in considerable activity in the workforce at the district's reservoir sites and Mississippi River public use sites. Below is a summary of staff changes since May 2014.

•Mark Wilmes was hired in June 2015 as the recreation and natural

resources supervisor to fill the position vacated upon Tim Bertschi's retirement.

•Pokegama Dam and Recreation Area: Jeff Cook was hired in June 2014 to fill the position vacated by Jeff Kleinert when he retired in May 2014.

•Sandy Lake Recreation Area: Courtney Kinnett was hired in May 2015 to fill the park ranger position vacated by Renee Hanson, when she accepted a program manager position

in Fargo, North Dakota.

•Cross Lake Recreation Area: Miranda Peters was selected in September 2014, to fill the vacant ranger position; Jason Hauser transfered to Cross Lake from Leech Lake to fill the position vacated by Deb Griffith upon her retirement in March 2015.

•Leech Lake Recreation Area: Gus Garbe was hired to fill the ranger position vacated by Jason Hauser in

January 2015.

•Lac qui Parle Lake: Maintenance worker Steve Sulflow hired to fill the position vacated by Rod Pederson when he retired January 2014.

•Eau Galle Recreation Area: Brad Labadie is acting site leader since November 2014, to fill Kelli Phillips' position as she completes a temporary position in project management at the district office.



## Cross Lake staff set plans for new educational park

Story by Ben Watson

The Cross Lake Recreation Dam and Recreation Area is nestled along the Pine River, in Crosslake, Minnesota.

With its natural scenery and recreation opportunities, Cross Lake will soon add a new educational park to attract out of town visitors and local residents alike. Thanks to the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association and other

local groups, the park and garden will provide visitors a nature pathway that leads through natural wonders such as a butterfly, animal and agricultural garden.

The garden gives the community and visitors an opportunity to learn about the Corps of Engineers' mission to be good stewards toward the environment and safety on the water. The gardens

will be a communal space that takes visitors to a new entryway into an educational center that will show Paul Bunyan lore, memorabilia, wildlife and the history behind Cross Lake Dam and Recreation site, said Corrine Hodapp, operations.

This educational garden is the result of a partnership agreement earlier this year between the Cross Lake Recreation

Area and the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association. Local partners have agreed to provide more than \$60,000 in labor, equipment and monies for the development of these gardens. Hodapp said the gardens are a great way to educate the public about the Corps mission and at the same time provide a fun learning atmosphere for kids to learn about nature and the environment.



Col. Dan Koprowski, commander, left, signs a partnership agreement with the Paul Bunyan Scenic Byway Association with Corrine Hodapp, supervisory park ranger for Cross Lake and Gull Lake.

Photo by Emily Chavolla





## District picnic offers employee recognitions, fun



Gary Wolf, engineering and construction, right, and his team pull their way to victory in the annual tug-of-war competition.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



Russel Snyder, project management, takes advantage of the day to go for an afternoon bike ride.

*Photo by Shannon Bauer*

Miray M. Welle, engineering and construction  
Daryl Wierzbinski, operations  
Byron Williams, engineering and construction  
Eric A. Wittine, engineering and construction

### 10 Year Award

Angelique Binner, operations  
Matthew Breza, operations  
Robert Brockway, operations  
Michael Farone, operations  
Jason Hager, operations  
Thomas Lytle, engineering and construction  
Bill Odell, engineering and construction  
Jesse Onkka, contracting  
Kurt Schroeder, operations  
Chad Stellpflug, operations  
Jerome Stussy, operations

### 15 Year Award

Brenda Aleshire, office of counsel  
Shannon Bauer, public affairs  
David Bilderback, operations  
Aaron Brown, operations  
Thomas Fetting, operations  
Todd Martenson, operations  
Sam Mathiowetz, operations  
James Noren, engineering and construction  
Kelli Phillips, project management  
Bobbie Roundy, operations  
Brian Turner, operations  
Angela Wall, operations

### 20 Year Award

Jamie Borowiak, operations  
Chad Caya, operations  
Judith Denzer, operations  
Brian Johnson, planning  
Ray Marinan, operations  
William Meier, operations  
Allan Nelson, operations  
Warren O'Bar, personnel  
David Studenski, operations  
Tammy Wick, project management  
Kurt Zacharias, operations

## 25 Year Award

Kimberly Bahls, resource management  
 Doug Crum, engineering and construction  
 Sheldon Edd, engineering and construction  
 Toni Huber, operations  
 Monique Johs, engineering and construction  
 Tammy Kime, operations  
 DeLisa Kviz, resource management  
 Paul Machajewski, operations  
 Aaron Mikonowicz, operations  
 Susan Nissalke, operations  
 Brian Sipos, operations

## 30 Year Award

Jodie Bagniewski, operations  
 Michael Bart, engineering and construction  
 Kevin Baumgard, operations  
 Cynthia Calhoun-Kosiec, operations  
 Richard Femrite, engineering and construction  
 Connie Gholson, personnel  
 David Hill, operations  
 Kent Hokens, engineering and construction  
 Roberta Just, operations  
 Michael Knoff, engineering and construction  
 Rojean Laseure, operations  
 Timm Rennecke, operations  
 Patrick Trudel, engineering and construction

## 35 Year Award

Ralph Augustin, operations  
 Kevin Berg, operations  
 Tom Crump, planning  
 Bill Csajko, project management  
 Terrance Jorgenson, engineering and construction  
 Darrel Oldenburg, operations  
 Angeline Peterson, executive office  
 Randall Piel, operations  
 Natalie Siok, engineering and construction



**Bryan Sprang, engineering and construction, finishes the inaugural 5K walk/run at the summer picnic July 9.**  
*Photo by Emily Chavolla*

## 40 Year Award

Bruce Boldon, operations  
 James Collins, operations  
 John McQuiston, operations



**Ben Watson, public affairs, right, demonstrates a proper military warm up technique before the 5K walk/run with Capt. Chris Raisl, operations, left, and Jennifer Hitchcock, resource management.**  
*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



**District staff enjoy sun, food and fun at the district picnic July 9 at Minnehaha Falls in Minneapolis.**  
*Photo by Emily Chavolla*

## Congratulations

- Congratulations **Mark Brandt**, resource management, on his promotion as a financial systems analyst.
- Congratulations **Quianna Dolney**, engineering and construction, on the birth of **Harvey Allan** July 7.
- Congratulations **Kelly Obermiller**, resource management, on her promotion as a manpower analyst.
- Congratulations **Chad Stellpflug**, operations, on the birth of his son.
- Congratulations **Sam Mathiowetz**, operations, on his selection as the Lock and Dam 10 lockmaster.
- Congratulations **Sheldon Edd**, engineering and construction, on receiving a warrant as an administrative contracting officer.
- Congratulations **Jack Westman**, planning, on receiving his professional certification as a Certified Geographic Information Systems Professional.
- Congratulations to **Nate Wallerstedt**, project management, on his promotion.
- Congratulations **Charles Boyd**, engineering and construction, on passing his professional engineering exam.
- Congratulations **Jake Bernhardt** on his selection as physical support branch chief.
- Congratulations to **Jim Peak**, retired construction branch chief, on his selection as the Double Springs, Ala., Outstanding Alumnus Award recipient.
- Congratulations project management employees **Brett Coleman** and **Nate Wallerstedt** on receiving their Project Management Professional certification.

## 2016 leadership development program class selected

- Tosin Agboola**, project management
- Doug Bruner**, regulatory
- Gwen Davis**, small business
- Bob Edstrom**, project management
- Randall Eigenberger**, operations
- Vanessa Hamer**, planning
- Kurt Heckendorf**, engineering and construction
- Anthony Horacek**, engineering and construction
- Renee McGarvey**, engineering and construction
- Chanel Mueller**, engineering and construction
- Andrew Sander**, engineering and construction
- Terri Stamm**, safety

## Editor's Note

Do you have news you want to share with the district? Send your announcements of births, weddings, graduations, etc., to *Crosscurrents*.  
cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil.

## Warriors conquer Afton Alps



More than 20 district employees, friends and family members participated in the Warrior Dash at Afton Alps, near Hastings, Minn., July 12.

## Seasonal/New hires

- Kimberly Barron**, library technician, public affairs, district office.
- Samuel Barry**, biologist, operations, district office.
- Kipp Baures**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.
- Jeanette Blare**, student trainee, operations, Federal Dam, Minn.
- Luke Bowe**, student trainee, operations, De Soto, Wis.
- Robert Burns**, park ranger, operations, Brainerd, Minn.
- Thomas Burrow**, survey technician, operations, Fountain City, Wis.
- Matthew Cihaski**, student trainee, operations, Spring Valley, Wis.
- Ryan Danielson**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.
- Brady Dehnke**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.
- Scott Eddy**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 4, Alma, Wis.
- Nicholas Gilbertson**, student trainee, operations, Grand Rapids, Minn.
- Ashlee Glem**, student trainee, operations, Spring Valley, Wis.
- Billie Gossett**, community planner, planning, Rock Island, Ill.
- Channing Helgeson**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

## Hundreds attend 25th Leech Lake fishing derby



More than 200 participants attended the 25th annual Leech Lake Fishing Derby July 18, at the Leech Lake Dam and Recreation Area, near Federal Dam, Minn.

## Seasonal/New hires (cont.)

**Heather Henneman**, civil engineer, engineering and construction, district office.  
**Kathryn Herzog**, biologist, planning, Rock Island, Ill.  
**Desiree Hesse**, student trainee, operations, Brainerd, Minn.  
**Ronald Howland, Jr.**, cook steward, operations, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Ryan Huber**, biologist, operations, Green Bay, Wis.  
**Peter Idzikowski**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 8, Genoa, Wis.  
**Andrew Johnson**, student trainee, operations, Minneapolis.  
**Tammy Kime**, administrative support assistant, operations, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Steven Kocher**, laborer, operations, Fergus Falls, Minn.  
**Kiel Lavigne**, laborer, operations, Crosslake, Minn.  
**Jennifer Leal**, auditor, district office.  
**Max Madoll**, student trainee, operations, Crosslake, Minn.  
**Ryan Markey**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 5A, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Raelene Marquez**, environmental protection assistant, operations, La Crescent, Minn.  
**Shelby McClintock**, park ranger, operations, Crosslake, Minn.  
**Andrew Meier**, forester, operations, La Crescent, Minn.  
**Connor Mickley**, student trainee, operations, De Soto, Wis.  
**Bethany Nickison**, student trainee, operations, Crosslake, Minn.  
**Colin Nicklay**, student trainee, operations, Grand Rapids, Minn.  
**Kacie Opat**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office.  
**Cynthia Peterson**, archeologist, planning, Rock Island, Ill.

**Ethen Preston**, student trainee, operations, Valley City, N.D.  
**Robert Scott**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Alan Shirey**, park ranger, operations, Crosslake, Minn.  
**Logan Skoug**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Dillon Thomas**, student trainee, operations, Valley City, N.D.  
**John Vinje**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office.  
**Caroline Weston**, civil engineer, engineering and construction, district office.  
**Mark Wilmes**, recreation and natural resources chief, operations, Fargo, N.D.

## Taps

**Merrill Cotter**, former logistics employee, passed away July 6.  
**Karen Cassidy**, former engineering and construction employee, passed away July 11.  
**Bob Larsen**, former lock operator at Lock and Dam 3, passed away June 8.

## Retirees

**Marv Althoff**, Lock and Dam 10 lockmaster, Guttenberg, Iowa.  
**Michael Bean**, lock operator, Minneapolis.  
**Tim Bertschi**, recreation and natural resources chief, Fargo, N.D.  
**John Boller**, lock operator, Minneapolis.  
**Jeff Hansen**, civil engineer, district office.  
**Lemoyne Hartness**, environmental protection assistant, Brainerd, Minn.  
**Joe Kupietz**, marine equipment specialist, Fountain City, Wis.  
**William Mccauley**, civil engineer, Fargo, N.D.

## Reaching for the stars



**Ray Marinan**, operations, third from left, completed the 50th edition of the Bob Cook Memorial Mount Evans Hill Climb July 25. This cycling event starts at an elevation of about 7,500 feet and ends above 14,000 feet. It takes place on the highest paved road in North America located about 45 minutes west of Denver.