



## JMU Facilities News March 2015



### *Nola Smith*

JMU Facilities recently lost a special member of its family. Nola Smith passed away on February 18. She had been a Housekeeping Worker with JMU since July 2001, with the majority of that time spent cleaning in the University Services Building.

Nola was a quiet woman, dedicated to her job. Although her tasks were often physically demanding, she complained little about it, focusing on her work and getting the job done. She spent her lifetime caring for others and called everyone "my friend". Nola was a pleasure to work with and a fixture in the USB. She will be greatly missed!

### *Ricardo Valencia*

Ricardo Valencia was born in Mexico and came to the United States at 18 years of age in search of greater opportunity. Since then, he has been fortunate to find many work opportunities and, approximately 26 years later, Ricardo is employed at James Madison University as a Housekeeping Worker in Godwin Hall.

American citizenship has been a dream of Ricardo's since he first came to this country. Pursuit of this goal has been a lengthy and challenging process. Ricardo first had to obtain a green card, then become a permanent resident. He was fortunate to have his American wife help him complete the numerous forms. In addition to the paperwork, Ricardo has had to learn English and continuously prove himself. The government checks in regularly to verify your identity and confirm that you are staying out of trouble. Ricardo eventually received a letter notifying him that he was qualified to be a citizen and all that was left to do was to pass the citizenship exam. After much studying, Ricardo passed the exam on February 25, 2015!

The road to Ricardo's American dream has not been without challenges, particularly coming to a county where he could not speak English and all the obstacles that creates. Even so, the journey has been well worth it. Ricardo feels extremely blessed and proud to be in the U.S. He has a wonderful family and enjoys his job and the people with whom he works. Ricardo is looking forward to the future. He wants to continue to prove himself and states, "It is never too late to achieve your dreams!"





New hires/rehires (L-R): Quentin Madden, (Recycling), Hunter Taylor (Recycling), Thomas Stevens (Recycling), Catherine Mendez (Hskp), Raymond Carrier (Transportation), Chad Ellinger (Warehouse), Karl Hart (Hskp), Steve Breeden (Power Plant)



Snow removal at the Port Road Recreational Facilities

### Announcements

- Choices: April 10, April 13
- Student Spring Break: March 9 - 13
- University holiday: Friday, March 13
- Madison Week: March 16 - 20
- Benefits Open Enrollment: 5/1 - 5/27
- Orientation and camps will be using the Warsaw Parking Deck 6/1 - 7/17
- Title IX Training for JMU Facilities staff: Tuesday March 10 at 6:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. in the Anthony Seeger Auditorium
- WellGOnomics (ergonomic) Training: Tuesday, March 24 at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in USB 102



Effective February 25, 2015, Rodney Lam is the new Facilities Management Assistant Director - Operations

### *JMU Facilities Birthdays for March*

Daryl Ours 3/2	Wes Elyard 3/4	Gloria Reedy 3/4	Kay Ridenour 3/4	Daniel King 3/5
Andrew Abercrombie 3/6	Seth Arnold 3/6	James Bales 3/6	Paul Sullivan 3/6	Wayne Barnard 3/7
Karl Hart 3/7	Angela Marston 3/7	Juanita Mongold 3/7	Brittany Rexrode 3/7	Donna Smith 3/7
Chloe Emerson 3/8	Mike Hensley 3/8	Doug Judy 3/8	Dave Butler 3/9	Buck Waters 3/9
Gregg Chevalier 3/10	Connie Knicely 3/10	Brooklyn Airey 3/11	Donna Kennedy 3/11	Brandon Martin 3/11
Bonnie Comer 3/12	Kelly Metheny 3/12	Susan Tilley 3/12	Michael Burke 3/14	Raven Hammer 3/14
Glenn Wayland 3/14	Peter Duhaime 3/15	Richard Muldoon 3/15	Jimmie Wisman 3/16	Nathan Conley 3/17
Dale Back 3/19	David Meyer 3/21	Robert Monk 3/21	Shannon Cash 3/22	Veronica Losh 3/22
Terry Watson 3/22	Keith Wellard 3/22	Roger Stover 3/23	Duane Swanson 3/24	Debra Turner 3/24
Dave Wilson 3/24	Teresa Cash 3/26	Jackie Henderson 3/26	Brenda Snyder 3/26	Angel Falls 3/28
Audrey Grim 3/28	Kathy Fadely 3/29	Ken Fox 3/29	Chris Miller 3/29	