

January 2018

Robert Trivette

Maintenance Worker
Department of Natural Resources



Robert Trivette is a Missouri State Parks Maintenance Worker who volunteered to go to Florida to help with the cleanup efforts following Hurricane Irma. Robert's skill as a bobcat operator was surpassed only by his commitment to help Floridians in need. He did three times the work of a regular bobcat operator in all kinds of weather and harsh working conditions. His meticulous preparation before the trip and careful maintenance of his and others bobcats during his stay in Florida ensured the very best use of the equipment transported to Florida. Robert was characterized as a shining star for Roaring River, the State Park he worked for at the time. Robert's efforts in Florida reflects his day-to-day performance, where he is characterized as a team player who works hard and puts 100% into every task and takes on new changes with enthusiasm.

February 2018

Meredith Conklin

Probation and Parole Officer
Department of Corrections



Meredith Conklin works for the Missouri Department of Corrections as a Probation and Parole Officer supervising offenders in Jackson County who have been identified by federal, state and local law enforcement as having a high probability for violence either as a victim or perpetrator. They are also at a high risk to reoffend or become the victim of a homicide due to an association with social networks.

According to her supervisors, Meredith holds the offenders accountable, while at the same time showing compassion for them by addressing their needs, goals and "effectively partnering them with the right community resources."

An offender discharged from her supervision wrote, "In the two years she had my case, she has helped me so much and always gave me a positive outlook on my life and how to fix my problems. Being a probation and parole officer is more than a job to her as she is always showing care and concern for my well-being."

She is also liaison to local and regional community resources and has developed the Aim 4 Peach Gun Violence Class, which offers gun impact training for offenders. Many of her efforts have been recognized in statewide and national publications. She says "Being a probation and parole officer has always been my dream job."

March 2018

Nola Dodge

Adult Protective and Community Worker
Department of Health & Senior Services



Nola Dodge was chosen due to her professionalism and the extraordinary commitment she's exhibited the last seven years to serving her senior and disabled clients.

Her skill at recognizing risks to Missouri's most vulnerable populations and her ability to implement a variety of complex protective service interventions has greatly benefitted those she is responsible for serving.

Her excellent people skills and ability to build rapport and develop trust with her clients enables her to help them in ways she could otherwise not. The extraordinary way she works with clients enhances her capacity to have a positive impact on their lives. Her efforts are considered extraordinary because the results she achieves are highly effective on such a consistent basis.

Nola is also a leader. Her willingness to take on difficult cases, volunteer to help out during times of short staffing, go to any location, and her skill at dealing with hotline reports serves as an inspiration for others and is an excellent model to emulate.

Nola lives in Columbia with her 8-year-old son and enjoys coaching his YMCA basketball team. She is from Callaway County.

April 2018

Rick Gann

Environmental Supervisor
Department of Natural Resources



Rick Gann works at the Division of Environmental Quality's Northeast Regional Office in Macon, where he serves as a State On-Scene Coordinator for 24 counties. In February 2018, Rick came upon a serious accident that had just occurred involving a vehicle and a tractor-trailer. He stopped to render assistance and found an out-of-state

Good Samaritan attempting to call the accident into 911. Rick calmly took the good Samaritan's telephone and quickly helped the 911 dispatcher identify the correct location of the accident.

Rick then directed the Good Samaritan to keep the vehicle driver safe, who appeared to be impaired, disoriented, and wandering on the highway. Rick repositioned his vehicle to alert, slow, and restrict oncoming traffic to one lane, thereby protecting the Good Samaritans who were busy assisting at the scene. Rick provided tools and an extra hi-visibility safety vest to the individuals attempting to clear debris from the highway.

Since Rick was driving his DNR emergency environmental response truck, he proceeded to obtain supplies from his vehicle to stem the flow of diesel fuel from the saddle tank on the tractor-trailer and laid down petroleum absorbent materials to reduce the slick conditions on the highway and protect the environment. Rick stayed on-scene directing the efforts and ensuring the safety of the Good Samaritans, met emergency responders, and safeguarded the environment until the scene was stabilized. Rick's quick action showed his dedication and service to the citizens of Missouri.