

Celebrating Our Staff and Years of Service

KPUD is proud of our employees and their work to better our community

By **Andrea Lucatero**

The heart and soul of every successful organization lie within its people. As we reflect on our journey at KPUD, it is increasingly clear that the dedication and hard work of our employees are the cornerstones of our achievements. We are grateful for the years of service our employees have contributed, shaping our company and our community.

Years of service are not just numbers. They represent commitment, loyalty and growth. From the very first day, every individual brings their unique talents and perspectives, contributing to a rich tapestry of collaboration and innovation. As we celebrate these milestones, we acknowledge the countless hours, challenges and victories that have defined our collective experience. Our employees are more than just team members; they are the backbone of our organization.

“If you think about it, there is not an inhuman ‘company,’” KPUD General Manager Jim Smith says. “There is only the people and the team that they form as they work and grow together.”

Over the years, the dedication of

KPUD employees has cultivated a culture of support and mutual respect. As we honor these years of service, we recognize the relationships built along the way—friendships that have blossomed, mentorships that have inspired and a sense of belonging that has been fostered.

In October, KPUD celebrated employees who have reached significant work anniversaries. Whether it’s five, 10 or 30 years, each tenure signifies a journey of growth, adaptation and unwavering commitment. KPUD is thankful for the creativity that has fueled our projects and the collaboration that has driven our success.

We want to reiterate how thankful we are at KPUD for our employees and their years of service. Their hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. As we move forward together, we remain excited about the future and are grateful to have such a committed team by our side. Thank you to all KPUD employees for being an integral part of our journey. Your contributions make all the difference.

“We are incredibly lucky to have the talented, dedicated team we have to serve our customers,” Jim says. ■

Employees Celebrating Five Years at KPUD

- ▶ Craig Osborne
- ▶ Hart Shelden
- ▶ Phillip McMillen



Phillip McMillen, right, receives a certificate honoring his years of service from KPUD General Manager Jim Smith.

“Phil has been with us for 5 years as a GIS Specialist and is a tremendous asset to KPUD,” says KPUD Engineering Manager Brandon Johnson. “During this time, he has not only made significant advancements in our mapping systems but has also taken charge of KPUD’s drone operations. Phil’s proactive approach in identifying potential issues on power lines allows us to address problems early, helping to minimize unplanned outages for our customers.”

Employees Celebrating 15 Years at KPUD

- ▶ Cynthia Bruce, right
- ▶ Jim Brokaw, below



"I appreciate Jim's willingness and ability to teach others," says KPUD Assistant General Manager, Gwyn Miller. "He is able to convey complex technical concepts and tailor them to every level of knowledge. Jim has a heart for ensuring safety through education and procedure."

Employees Celebrating 30 Years at KPUD

- ▶ Randy Knowles, right



"Cynthia is a testament to the positive impact of recruiting and seasoning summer interns," says Brandy Myers, KPUD customer and accounting services manager. "She started with KPUD while in high school and returned to KPUD after finishing her education."

KPUD is grateful for Cynthia's years of experience and valuable insight.

"In her various roles at the utility, Cynthia gained utility understanding and perspective that brought her full circle, from a purchasing intern to the interim purchasing manager," Brandy says.



SAFETY TIPS Holiday Edition

- 1 Keep decorations at least 3 feet away from heat sources, especially those with an open flame.
- 2 Avoid running cords under rugs or furniture.
- 3 Turn off decoration lighting when you are sleeping or leave your home.
- 4 Consider having a qualified electrician add more outlets to your home if you are using extension cords/adapters to add receptacles.
- 5 Be sure every room in your home has a working smoke alarm, including basements.
- 6 Switch off space heaters before leaving the room.
- 7 Consider switching to Arc-Fault Circuit Interrupter breakers or outlets. Many electrical fires could be prevented by AFCIs.

HAVE A HAPPY & SAFE
HOLIDAY SEASON!

