

## **ELIZABETH BARTOS**

Elizabeth began her employ at UW-Whitewater in 2005 when she was hired as a custodian for Knilans Hall. In 2008 she became the Custodial Lead for the East Central Complex (including Fischer, Goodhue, Knilans, Tutt, and Wells). She currently has an office in the lower level of Wells West but she doesn't often spend a great deal of time there as her job keeps her on the move.

Prior to working at UW-Whitewater, Elizabeth worked at Borg Industries in Delavan for a year, doing piece work on electronic boards. She is originally from Indiana and worked at a hotel in that state for five and a half years before heading for Wisconsin.

Elizabeth has four children, two of whom live in Delavan with her. Her husband passed away in 2009. Her two oldest children live in Indiana. Her daughter, Heather, is the oldest of the children. She is 26, married, and expecting her first child in a couple of weeks. Although currently on maternity leave, Heather works in the hotel industry while her husband, Mike, is employed at an automobile manufacturing plant. Douglas, 23, is the next oldest of the children and he works at a factory in Indiana. At home in Delavan, Marcus (19) and Connor (16) round out Elizabeth's household.

Elizabeth's supervisor is Jerry Beschta and when he is absent she fills in for him – collecting paperwork from other employees (supply lists, work orders, leave requests) and she gets supplies that are needed. When Jerry is there, her job is to fill in for anyone who is absent in different buildings within the east central complex. This entails cleaning whichever building she is in for that day and assisting other custodians with the vacuuming, mopping, sweeping, etc. In summers, she has a window crew that cleans all of the windows and screens for Residence Life. So, she is kept hopping and she is never usually in the same place for very long.

When she's not working on campus, Elizabeth enjoys reading a good book. Mysteries are her favorite. She also likes to go on long walks and she is very interested in photography. She takes lots of pictures of many different subjects, but her she especially likes to photograph scenery.

What does she like about her job? She says that a big plus is not being tied to the office very much. She is able to get out and about on campus and connect with other custodians and get to know them. She likes helping someone out with work or with a problem.

What Elizabeth likes about UW-Whitewater is pretty encompassing – she thinks just about everything is pretty nice – the students, the employees. “The buildings are being upgraded to make them more accessible and to give them a fresh look,” she notes, indicating that it's a good step in the right direction for the university. As for recent changes on campus, she is all for anything that helps accommodate more students on campus.

Asked if she would change anything on campus, given the opportunity, and Elizabeth is hard put to come up with something. She smiles and suggests that perhaps it would be nice to have a few more vending machines in the residence halls with a wider variety of items from which to choose – nothing major, but something that would make life just a little bit nicer for those who work there. On the whole, we came away with the feeling the Elizabeth was pretty satisfied with her contribution to the campus community.