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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Carter Strickland, Commissioner

WEEKLY

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EXTRA

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DEP Employees of the Month for June 2013

The Employee of the Month program recognizes DEP staff members that have exhibited outstanding personal effort, and have gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve the people of New York City.

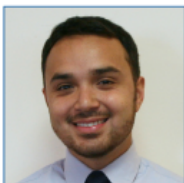
DEP is a great agency that delivers services that millions of New Yorkers depend on daily. Making good on that promise requires the dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees at DEP. To nominate someone who has demonstrated uncommon dedication and excellence, fill out the nomination form with some basic information, such as the nominee's responsibilities, examples of extraordinary performance, and ways candidates set an example for others. The form is available on Pipeline, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day of each month. For more information, email Herb Roth at hroth@dep.nyc.gov.

The Employees of the Month for June, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on July 31 with Commissioner Strickland, during which they received a certificate, and had their names added to the Employee of the Month Board on the 3rd and 19th floors at Lefrak and at the Kingston Office. These men and women set a standard for all of us to emulate and appreciate.



Public Affairs - Eva Lynch

Eva began her career at DEP in June 2001 and serves as a Community Associate for the bureau. In this role she attends numerous community outreach events where she ensures that DEP's message is disseminated to the public in a congenial and professional manner. As a public face for the agency, Eva has become "a goodwill ambassador" for special projects such as the successful Water-On-the-Go campaign where she supervises the summer interns. Eva also coordinates the bureau's appearance at national trade shows where she exhibits great energy while engaging hundreds of attendees who are interested in learning more about DEP's mission. Eva demonstrates great patience and always has an upbeat attitude, traits appreciated by both her colleagues and DEP's customers.



Wastewater Treatment - Pablo Romero

Pablo began his career with DEP in February 2010 and serves as a Third Assistant Marine Engineer. In the three years that Pablo has been with the bureau, he has proven himself to be a valuable asset to the Marine Section. He has a strong technical background and is always willing to take on challenging assignments.

The Marine Section provides transportation services including the removal of liquid sludge from wastewater treatment plants using motorized sludge vessels. This past June, Pablo worked diligently to troubleshoot and assist in the repair of the "Torque Trak" system—a vital navigation system on the sludge vessel MV Red Hook. Pablo's efforts enabled the Marine Section to quickly repair the complex system in-house and continue operating the sludge vessel, minimizing downtime and the need for a costly technical support field service call.



Water Supply - **Brian O'Malley**

Brian began his career with DEP in August 2007 and serves as a Computer Specialist in the bureau's Watershed Water Quality Laboratory. Brian works with the Laboratory Information Management System, or LIMS, a web-based system that assists water quality personnel in planning for sample collection, tracking all information related to samples and test results, interfacing with instrumentation, and producing reports. It is an essential tool for maintaining compliance with State laboratory requirements.

Brian also leads the Compliance Data Management team, which is responsible for the development and support of LIMS. On March 1, 2013, LIMS "rolled-out" its final two programs, thereby completing the implementation phase of the project. This milestone was achieved thanks to the hard work of all the laboratory and field personnel. Brian's steadfast dedication to the development process and excellent computing skills were critical to the project's success. Additionally, he and his team have been able to expand LIMS applications to capture new Watershed Water Quality Operations robotic monitoring data. Displaying this information on a custom web page allows water quality managers to see data in nearly real time, providing rapid support for water supply operations.



Water & Sewer Operations - **Brett Elk**

Brett began his DEP career in September 1995 and serves as a Supervisor of Watershed Maintainers in the bureau's Croton operations. Brett is certified by the New York State Department of Health as a Grade IB/IIA Water System Operator and as a High Tech Operator by the American Water Works Association. In 2009, he was awarded the "Commissioner's Outstanding Work Performance Recognition" for his role in developing and implementing a comprehensive Risk Management Program for the bureau's Reservoir Operations. Currently, Brett supervises Watershed Maintainers in the operation of the Croton Water Filtration Plant. While the plant will not be filtering water until later this year, Brett has been on site since April 2010 and knows every inch and detail of the facility. When Brett first reported to duty at the plant, it was an active construction site with many of the treatment systems yet to be built. In order to gain familiarity with the facility he studied engineering drawings, piping and instrumentation diagrams, and floor plans to understand the layout and various processes. He also played a lead role in the development of a unique operator training program that will be used for future Water Plant Operators.

Brett is clearly focused on the DEP mission of providing safe potable drinking water. He's a team player who leads by example and is always willing to share his knowledge and experience with his colleagues.



Environmental Planning and Analysis - **Mikelle Adgate**

Mikelle began her DEP career in January 2011 and serves as a Project Analyst for the Green Infrastructure Grant Program (GIGP) and the Office of Green Infrastructure's (OGI) outreach and engagement initiatives. Over the last two years, she has proven to be a quick learner, a team player, and a conscientious project analyst. Mikelle is one of the original OGI team members and has provided leadership to new members of the team and is proficient at administering grants and navigating the legal hurdles that are involved. Specifically, under the GIGP, Mikelle administers \$11.2 million; coordinates creation of annual grant applications; creates review materials and establishes Review Committees with representatives from various city agencies; facilitates workshops; and coordinates design review.

Mikelle has now seen three grant projects through completion. Additionally, she leads the Bioswale Care program which is a highly successful outreach program. When performing her outreach and engagement tasks, Mikelle regularly gives presentations to Community Boards, local organizations, schools, environmental groups, as well as international delegations. Her ongoing work on developing outreach programs for Green Infrastructure contracts will provide her with additional challenges going forward.



Employee Experience Site Tour Drawing

This month DEP is instituting a new and exciting enhancement to our EOM Program! Three lucky awardees and their nominators were awarded passes which they will use to participate in one of our upcoming DEP Employee Experience Site Tours. These tours will be scheduled quarterly beginning this September and the awardee and their nominator will receive one pass each to be used within the next year.

These tours are an additional bonus to EOM recipients in recognition of their outstanding achievements. Winners and their nominators will venture out and experience one of the many other vital workplaces in our vast network of operations. On our tour list might be a visit to the Gilboa Dam, to Newtown Creek's digester eggs, to the new \$1.6 billion UV plant or to one of our exciting green infrastructure projects. This month's winners are:

Mikelle Adgate, Magdi Farag, Eva Lynch, Charles Sturcken, Pablo Romero and Scott Belfield.

Commissioner's Award:



Engineering Audits - Hurricane Sandy Response

This month we recognize the Office of Engineering Audits (OEA), which is required by the City Charter to review payments and change orders before they are processed. The Sandy Rapid Repair Project (RRP) is an emergency project that required OEA to work long hours and weekends reviewing and processing contractor and consultant invoices in a timely manner. They also met with various NYC entities to review and resolve contract payment issues, interpret contract documents, and provide guidance as it related to method of payment issues.

The RRP assisted residential property owners affected by Hurricane Sandy with the restoration of heat, power and hot water. OEA met with Rapid Repair teams and assisted in preparing guidance documents and payment packages to avoid delay of payment to contractors and provided the necessary funding needed in order for the contractor to perform additional home repairs.

In addition, OEA staff visited each and every field office, provided documents and samples on how to review and process payments, and assisted in streamlining the payment process. Although the RRP has ended, the OEA staff is still extremely busy processing payments currently exceeding \$600 million.

The Director of OEA, Aris Georgelis, P.E. is proud to say that the OEA staff were able to successfully meet the demands of this extraordinary program, processing payments in a timely and efficient manner while maintaining internal controls on audit processes. Therefore, we recognize the following OEA employees for their extraordinary service:

Aris Georgelis, Ioannis Iliopoulos, Andrew Moss, Edward Ayzvazyan, Janet Singh, Paul Marks and Rowena Garcia.