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WEEKLY PIPELINE

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EXTRA

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DEP Employees of the Month for April 2011

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 daily promise requires dedication and hard work of the nearly 6,000 employees of 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 that they have set an example for others. The form is available on Pipeline, and you'll need to submit it by the tenth day following the end of the month. For more information, email Herb Roth at hroth@dep.nyc.gov.

The Employees of the Month for April, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on May 24 with Commissioner Holloway, 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.



Water Supply - Patricia Girard

Patricia began her career with DEP in September 1992 and currently serves as the supervisor of the publications and reporting unit within BWSO's division of watershed water quality science and research. Patricia is responsible for scheduling, formatting, and producing divisional, directorate, and bureau Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD) reports, including the previous two FAD Watershed Summary and Assessment reports. More than 400 pages each and written once every five years, these documents are the basis of DEP's negotiations with DEP's regulators to continue our unfiltered water supply. Patricia's diligent work and ability to work under pressure make her a valuable asset to the agency and a role model for her colleagues.



Water & Sewer Operations - Virginia Kachurovsky

Virginia began her career with DEP in September 1995 as a high school cooperative education student and currently leads the analysis team that creates water statistical charts and portfolios in BWSO's technical analysis unit. Specifically, Virginia works with the Hansen system, which identifies chronic sewer backups reported through 311, and can quickly extract and integrate data to produce reports, graphs, charts, and maps that BWSO uses on a daily basis to help guide operations. Virginia also draws from outside sources and provides valuable insight that supports these analytical reports. She also recently gathered precipitation data from the National Weather Service to investigate the incidence of sewer complaints in wet and dry weather.

Virginia performs well under tight deadlines and supports multiple sections within BWSO, including personnel and budget. Always willing to go the extra mile, she exemplifies teamwork and is a valued asset to her



Engineering, Design and Construction - Royce Brown

Royce began his career with DEP in July 2007 after receiving his A.S. in Mechanical Engineering Technology from NYC Technical College and currently serves as a CAD technician on BEDC's in-house design team. As a result of his outstanding performance on other projects, Royce will lead BEDC's initiative to create "as-built" drawings for BWSO shafts throughout the five boroughs that document the existing conditions of sites rather than the original design or proposed project. And since this is the first time in more than a decade that DEP is creating a comprehensive set of drawings, Royce's work will be an important part of an operating manual for BWSO, especially as BWSO develops standard operating procedures and plans shaft repairs and maintenance. Royce's strong work ethic and professionalism make him an excellent choice for this task and will ensure continued success at DEP.



Wastewater Treatment - William Dalton

William began his career with DEP in March 1990 and currently serves as a sewage treatment worker at the Oakwood Beach Wastewater Treatment Plant. William recently took a lead role in keeping the plant safe for all staff by making sure that everyone followed EHS policies after the promotion of the person previously assigned this important task. During this period, an EHS Facility Audit determined that the number of negative findings declined by 28% compared to an earlier audit. The success of the audit and ongoing safety improvements at the plant is due in large part to William's extraordinary and exemplary efforts and guidance.



Customer Services - Sheena Palmer

Sheena began her career with DEP in April 2007 and currently serves as a clerical associate. Sheena is a key "behind the scenes" member of the BCS team and has played a large role training other BCS staff to manage data from AMR handheld devices. She is also in constant communication with BCS field staff, AMR installers, and OIT to resolve data problems and software glitches. Her dedication and communication skills are invaluable and have helped DEP achieve an 80% completion rate by installing 665,000 AMR units.

Commissioner's Award:



Budget Office - Joseph Murin

Joe Murin began his career with DEP in March 2000 and currently serves as Assistant Commissioner for the Budget Office. Joe has managed the budget process over the last two years in a way that enabled DEP to achieve lower-than-planned rate increases, while resolving DEP's longest-outstanding labor issues. Joe accomplished this through a combination of focusing on the major goal; collaborating with DEP senior management, the Office of Management and Budget, the Water Finance Authority, the Comptroller and the rate consultant; and using his knowledge of arcane accounting principles to our advantage.

Last year's settlement of contracts with Local 1320 and Local 3 eliminated the single biggest source of financial uncertainty for the water system. Joe's identification of additional savings allowed the rate increase for FY 2011 to be reduced from 14.3% to 12.9%.

Joe's efforts this year were instrumental in DEP being able to propose, and have the Water Board adopt, a 7.5% rate increase, which is the first single-digit rate increase in five years and the smallest increase in six years.