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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Carter Strickland, Commissioner

WEEKLY PIPELINE EXTRA

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DEP Employees of the Month for November 2012

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 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 November, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on December 20 with Commissioner Strickland, 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 and Sewer Operations - **Claudia Tobon**

Claudia began her career with DEP in November 1994 and currently works as a Clerical Associate in the bureau's Technological Services Unit. Using GIS software Claudia produces maps and researches tap cards, and has become an integral part of the Records Central Section. Further, she has established excellent relationships with our clients by providing quick responses to information requests and overall has contributed to the successful performance of the section.

Claudia proved to be especially valuable during Hurricane Sandy when she was the only member of the Section who was able to make it to the office and her experience and knowledge allowed operations to continue uninterrupted during the severe weather and the immediate aftermath.



Customer Services - **David Acosta**

David began his career with DEP in July 1985 as a Meter Reader in Staten Island and currently serves as an Associate Water Use Inspector in the Technical Services Division. One of the critical areas he has overseen for the past six years is the pilot and implementation of the Automated Meter Reading program. Not only has David trained DEP staff on this new technology, he has also assisted with training the contractors during the rollout and installation phase. David is always willing to assist a coworker when an issue develops during an installation or repair by providing the necessary guidance to resolve an issue over the phone or in the field so a fellow inspector can best troubleshoot the problem.

The AMR project is only one of David's areas of expertise. He also has extensive knowledge on the variety of piping in buildings throughout the city and he applies this expertise everyday while performing his job. If there is a new method or better equipment that can be applied in the field, David welcomes the opportunity to test it out and improve efficiencies in the way we work.



Water Supply - **Richard Corradi**

Richard began his career with DEP in November 1985 and currently serves as an Associate Project Manager in the East-of-Hudson Engineering and Technical Support Division. Richard oversees contractors in the Job Order Contracting Program and recently finished an emergency contract for the reconstruction of the traveling screens at Shaft 18. During Hurricane Sandy, tree leaves and other debris from the Kensico Reservoir entered the intakes at Shaft 18 and damaged the frames and mesh screenings of the five traveling screens. These screens are a vital part of the Delaware Distribution System and this emergency project was critical in ensuring that the water distribution system remained fully operational. Due to Richard's dedication, the agency continued to deliver high quality drinking water to the residents of NYC during and after the storm.



Wastewater Treatment - **Davendra Persaud**

Davendra began his career with DEP in January 1985 as an Instrumentation Specialist and currently serves as a Supervisor of Electricians. Davendra played a key role in restoring operations at the North River plant after the 2011 fire and the flooding that occurred during Hurricane Sandy. After the fire, he formulated a method to rehabilitate the control panel for Main Sewage Pump Engine #2, which some had deemed beyond repair. This effort resulted in a savings of \$700,000. When Sandy's storm surge inundated the actuators for the main sewage pumps, he stepped in to lead the effort to quickly make the necessary electrical repairs, minimizing down time. When that work was complete, Davendra was redeployed to the Rockaway plant and assisted in the storm recovery there.



Environmental Compliance - **Ramasubba Rammohan**

Ramasubba began his career with DEP in March 1993 and serves as an Emergency Response Supervisor in the Asbestos Enforcement Unit. He oversees field inspections of asbestos projects to ensure they comply with applicable fire codes and ensures public health and safety by identifying and evaluating potential asbestos hazards. Recently, during the major asbestos cleanup of NYC public schools, Ramasubba assisted in the management of the Operation Clean House Program, which ensured that schools reopened on time.

After 9/11, Ramasubba supervised the FEMA cleanup of more than 200 building roofs and facades in lower Manhattan. He also played a key role in refining computer software which ensured a user friendly product for the enforcement inspection staff.

Currently, Ramasubba is involved with the emergency notification and inspection of asbestos cleanup and abatement work on properties damaged by Hurricane Sandy, including through the NYC Rapid Repair Program.

Commissioner's Award:



Water Supply - Operation Godwin & Task Force Chipper

Hurricane Sandy and its record storm surge devastated portions of the NYC region and many volunteers went above and beyond to help those in need.

Immediately after the storm, two teams of upstate workers were deployed to New York City to assist in areas that were most affected by the storm. The first team—known as Task Force Godwin for the industrial sized pumps they operated—arrived in New York City on October 30 and worked continuously to remove flood water from several critical locations over the span of seven days. They helped to pump out Manhattan's Battery Underpass, a sewage pump station in Brooklyn, and a City Department of Education facility.

The second team—known as Task Force Chipper—worked with the New York City Parks Department to remove trees and limbs that had fallen on power lines, homes, and across streets in some of the hardest hit neighborhoods in Queens. Its members arrived in New York City on November 1 and worked continuously for more than two weeks, returning home on November 16. In response, many Queens residents wrote letters to thank the task force for its quick and professional work.

Operation Godwin and Task Force Chipper team members were selfless in volunteering to assist in the repair of infrastructure and debris removal in lower Manhattan and Queens. This dedication to duty reflects greatly on the Bureau of Water Supply's upstate personnel.

Operations Godwin Team

Daniel Baumgardner, Joseph Berghammer, Michael Brennan and Kenneth Taylor.

Task Force Chipper Team

Noel Amundsen, Aaron Wade Baker, Thomas Brown, Karl Bruckner, Nicholas Burton, Dennis Carpenter, Mark Davis, Robert Diaz, John Garraffa, Michael Giuliano, Patrick Goodall, Daniel Grommeck, Eric Kight, Thomas Lamport, Richard Masula, Kevin O'Brien, John Parks, Michael Parks, Robert Pesout, William Quinlan, David Rosa, Carl Steen and Boyd Vaughn.