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Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Carter Strickland, Commissioner

WEEKLY PIPELINE EXTRA

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DEP Employees of the Month for March 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 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 of each month. For more information, email Herb Roth at hroth@dep.nyc.gov.

The Employees of the Month for March, featured in this Weekly Pipeline Extra edition, were honored at a breakfast on April 25 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 Supply - Keith White

Keith began his career with DEP in January 2009 and currently serves as an Associate Project Manager working in the Bureau's Planning Division in Kingston. He has been called upon to develop a wide variety of projects for upstate operations. His years of experience as a cost estimator have allowed him to assist in creating and/or comparing Class 5 estimates - the initial cost estimate for projects that is a critical piece of the planning stage. Keith's in-depth knowledge in determining project constructability was instrumental in inspecting the Butterfly valve in the Delaware Aqueduct Shaft 5A water treatment facility in the town of Marlboro, NY that was slated to be replaced for \$1.5M. He recommended that the valve operator be removed and rebuilt. Western Operations staff removed and successfully rebuilt the valve operator thus saving the City \$1.5M. Keith's knowledge and willingness to go above and beyond is extremely evident and greatly appreciated.



Water and Sewer Operations - Peter Fahey

Peter began his career with DEP in August 1985 and currently serves as the bureau's Citywide Night Manager. He represents the bureau's management team during the overnight hours and is responsible for the overall administration of equipment and personnel who are engaged in the maintenance and repair of the water distribution and waste water collection systems.

On March 9, 2012, at approximately 12:11 am, the agency's Emergency Call Center (ECC) received a complaint of a possible water main break at 36th Street and 2nd Avenue in Manhattan. Crews were immediately dispatched to investigate. Once crews arrived on location, it became apparent due to the volume of water in the street that there had been a significant failure of a water main and crews needed to act quickly to shut the water off to minimize damage to the roadway and surrounding area. Peter arrived on location within minutes and, under his direct supervision, field crews began to perform a systematic investigation to determine which of the five water mains in that intersection had failed. After the initial test shutdown of a smaller diameter water main proved not to be the source of the break, Peter had the water restored and began to focus on the larger diameter water main. He remained focused and was successful in completing the shutdown. His actions enabled field personnel to stop the flow of water, make temporary restoration to the roadway surface and open the road to traffic, lessening the impact on the evening rush hour commute.



Wastewater Treatment - **Glen Ranno**

Glen began his career with DEP in February 2012 and serves as a Crane Operator. The Wards Island plant's two grit chambers are undergoing major capital improvements, which currently limit the removal efficiencies of these upstream facilities. This has resulted in a significant build-up of grit and floatable materials in the distribution channels and the settling tanks at the Wards Island plant. As summer approaches, this accumulated material can become very odorous under a hot sun. Glen was assigned to operate the bureau's large hydraulic-boom bucket machine to remove this material. He has worked diligently during the past several weeks, removing 444 cubic yards – about 370 tons – of material. This will greatly help to reduce the potential for off-site odors.



Human Resources and Administration - Payroll - **Bob McHale**

Bob began his career with DEP in August 1985 and serves as the Director of Payroll. Over the past several years he has been carrying a very heavy work load leading the Payroll Office through many challenges. One of his recent noteworthy accomplishments was the agency's move to CityTime, the city's timekeeping system. He was instrumental in leading the agency through the growing pains associated with transitioning to a computerized payroll system and streamlining overall operations. As a result, DEP's transition was much smoother than it might have been. In addition, Bob's day to day functions include ensuring that all DEP employees receive their paychecks; overseeing the implementation of mandated salary payments and adjustments; conducting desk and field payroll audits; and serving as the agency's subject matter expert in all payroll related matters.

Bob works closely with many employees within the agency. On his nomination form, he is described as "one of the most reliable, pleasant, and professional people in the agency. Regardless of his schedule, he always makes the time to walk people through questions about how payroll works, and he is extremely fast in correcting any error." This statement accurately sums up the type of manager and person that Bob McHale truly is.



Environmental Planning and Analysis - **Erin Morey**

Erin began her career at DEP in June 2009 and currently serves as a City Planner. She has been invaluable in the implementation of DEP's sustainability projects and programs. In addition to her contributions on the Mid-Island Bluebelt project, Erin has served as project manager for the implementation of various green infrastructure strategies including the development of a stormwater charge for parking lots and the design and construction of various blue roof technologies including the roof of DEP's General Storehouse at 1201 Metropolitan Avenue in Brooklyn. These pilot programs are currently producing a wealth of information about the costs and performance of green infrastructure and the data collected is being evaluated as part of the bureau's comprehensive pilot monitoring program. She facilitated pilot design processes with the consultant team and appropriate operating bureaus, and oversaw the construction of the blue roof pilot from start to finish. She continues to provide tours and educational information related to this pilot and pilots at other locations including Bronx River Houses and PS 118 in Queens.

Erin is the project manager for the development of the Mid-Island Drainage Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement, which will support the expansion of DEP's Bluebelt program to a significant area of Staten Island's South Shore. As part of the project team for this project, she has been instrumental in facilitating interagency coordination to identify protocols and permit conditions for project design and construction within the 5,000-acre drainage area over the course of this multi-decade capital project. Erin is currently utilizing her experience on the Mid-Island project to help the agency assess the feasibility of Bluebelt-like projects in other boroughs and secure funding for similar innovative and sustainable projects.

Commissioner's Award:



The Rondout-West Branch (RWBT) Tunnel connects the Rondout Reservoir to the West Branch Reservoir and supplies the city with approximately 50% of its water demand. It has been determined that the tunnel lining has developed cracks and is leaking. As a result, a 2.4 mile long tunnel bypass will be built around the leaking portion of the tunnel so that repairs can be made. The construction of the bypass tunnel provides a solution to the water losses incurred by the leaking and is critical to the dependability of the water supply to the eight million residents of New York City.

The Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction's tunnel design team is responsible for preparing contract drawings and specifications for the 2.4 mile tunnel bypass. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2.1 billion and is expected to be completed in 2020. The bypass tunnel portion costs about \$1.0 billion and finding other water sources costs an additional \$1.0 billion. The project schedule required that contract specifications be completed and submitted by December 21, 2011. Some of the key goals that were accomplished before the deadline include:

- The design of two shafts of 700 foot and 972 foot depths.
- The design of complicated ground water pumping and water treatment systems.
- The performance of electrical substation work to support construction activities.
- The development of project specifications and procedures including:
 - A listing of named manufacturers.
 - Pre-determined escrow bid documents language.
 - Contractor incentives for cost savings and improvements in design elements.
 - Geotechnical Basis Report (GBR) Specification - which provides parameters for the proper payment to the Contractor for subterranean work.
 - Partnering Specification – encouraging increased and ongoing communication, planning, and problem solving among all stakeholders in the project (DEP, design consultants, and contractors, etc.).
- The coordination with consultants in preparation of a complex plan for site work.
- A permit coordination process insuring compliance.
- The incorporation of environmental, health and safety standards and requirements.

The following RWBT team members are recognized for their tremendous efforts, commitment and hard work: **Ted Dowe**y, **Narendra Khatri**, **Matt Sorrell**, **Paolo Brion**, **Dean Graf**, **Carlos Cassius-Linval**, **Soumendra Sen**, **Ivan Zgaljic**, **Burjor Kharivala**, **Miguel Ramirez**, **Floren Ansley**, **Neal Bierman**, **Mohanlal Patel**, **Baher Riad**, **Akimu Garuba**, **Bobby Kuriakose**, **Wilkens Santana**, **Winston Wills**, **Eugene Irving**, **Curtis Cumberbatch**, **Tarindra Narine**, **George Mihailoff**, and **Raghu Raghavan**.