Saying Goodbye to Long-Time Friends and Hello to New Ones

n 2017, the department said goodbye Operations, Ms. Payne served as the to some long-time friends and senior staff members who retired after decades of loval service to both the department and the County.

Asok Ganguli, Assistant Director, Technical Services and Environmental Affairs, oversaw a number of important projects during his tenure, including the closures and openings of cells at the South Dade Landfill and the Resources Recovery Facility, and the department's response to the Zika outbreak last year.

Pamela Payne, Assistant Director, goodbye to Aneisha Daniel, but rather, the FY 2017-18 budget hearings. Collections Operations, was responsible for the department's massive waste collection service. This included twiceweekly curbside collection for more than 300,000 households in our service area, bulky waste pickup service, and the 13 Neighborhood Trash and Recv- our department County residents intercling Centers. Prior to her position with act with most frequently.





Smart Carts, Anyone?

mart Carts are no longer a novelty of the future. In fact, the depart-

ment utilizes bar code/serial num-

ber labels and RFID technology for new

"The bar code and RFID technology

allow for inventory asset management

that integrates with the operating soft-

ware to track, distribute, and assign

carts," said Mark Brown of Waste Opera-

tions. "That's significant due to the fact

that Solid Waste manages the collection

of garbage and recyclable materials for

over 700,000 carts while servicing more

The embedded bar code and RFID

hardware are placed inside the body of

the cart, avoiding exposure to outside

than 350,000 households," said Brown.

and current waste and recycling carts.

in 10 Years Human Resources Division Director for

Technical Services and Environmental

Affairs, was responsible for a variety of

successful projects. He was very hands

on during our Zika response last year,

leading to the success of Mosquito Con-

Lastly, we (thankfully) don't say

trol in breaking the cycle of Zika trans-

welcome her to her new position. You

probably knew Mrs. Daniel as the As-

sistant Director, Administration, for

the department. She is now Assistant

she leads what is arguably the area of

elements. Employees can easily scan

each cart's bar code with a tablet device.

This makes it easy for onsite assessment

and repairs. Once scanned, information

about the cart is updated in the operat-

ing software. Retrofit or existing carts

assigned to service area properties will

have a RFID/serial number label affixed

after the cart has been repaired or as-

sessed by Cart Crew staff. It will take

some time before all carts are integrated

with the bar code and RFID technology

but launching this new system is an

important first step in the department's

efforts to modernize the way it collects

waste, trash and recyclable materials.

Director, Collections Operations, where

mission in Miami-Dade County.

the past decade, the department sought out new, more efficient ways Lee Casey, Senior Division Director, of doing business to keep costs down. In the face of rising service delivery costs, the department requested its first residential service rate increase—a modest \$25 per year for most of the department's 340,000plus customers—for this fiscal year.

> The increase was approved by the Board of County Commissioners during the September commission meeting, just prior to

For most customers, the rate increase amounts to about \$2.08 per month—about what a cup of coffee costs at some places.

The increase will allow the department to maintain and even enhance the current level of service provided to residents, which includes twice-weekly curbside waste collection, two bulky waste pickups per year and unlimited use of the department's 13 Neighborhood Trash and Recycling Centers (TRCs). Had the increase not passed, the department was looking at service reductions which would have included closing some TRCs and reducing hours and days at the remaining TRCs.

Enhancement to service, thanks to the rate increase, will come in the form of four additional crews to improve response time for the collection of illegally-dumped trash.

Did You Know?

Ouring the last fiscal year (October 2016 through September 2017), our sidents recycled:

6,420 tons of cardboard/paper 16,343 tons of newspaper 5,837 tons of mixed paper 583 tons of tin cans 4,670 tons of plastics 583 tons of aluminum 5,253 tons of glass

Approved: First Rate Increase

s operational costs increased over NACo, again!

or the seventh year in a row, we proudly announce the department has won an Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo)! This time, it was for the department's

News Briefs

world-renowned Mosquito Control Zika Response from last year. During the 2016 Zika outbreak, we were the first place in the world that successfully halted active transmission of the Zika virus via mosquitoes. And we did it four times: in Wynwood, South Miami Beach, Little River and North Miami Beach.

DSWM Employee Puts Idea **Machine to Work**

n her daily duties in the department's Customer Service Section, Waste Service Clerk Sandra Michaud encounters numerous customer complaints and questions regarding the status of requests. This inspired her to recommend, via the County's Idea Machine, that a feature enabling text alerts be added to the 311 system.

Sandra's suggested feature would allow the 311 system to send a text alert automatically to a resident any time an update is made to his or her service request in the department's Waste Collection System

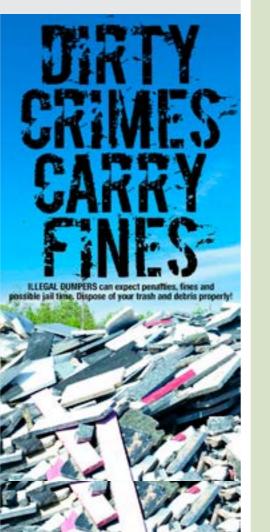
"Sandra's idea of utilizing text message alerts to provide service updates to customers could really transform how we interact with residents on a daily basis," said Robert Vargas, DSWM Customer Service Section Manager.

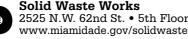
If you've got a great idea to make your workplace better and would like to be considered for a possible reward i your idea is implemented, visit https://secure.miamidade.gov/enet/wps/ myportal/ideamachine.

'Dirty Crimes Carry Fines'

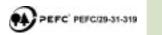
department's "Dirty Crimes Carry Fines" illegal dumping campaign

Past illegal dumping ad campaigns focused on educating residents on how they can report the problem. This time, the theme of the campaign is to let illegal dumpers know they'll face penalties if they're caught dumping illegally. The campaign also reminds residents that they can report illegal dumping by calling 311 or visiting the website www.miamidade. gov/311Direct.





2525 N.W. 62nd St. • 5th Floor • Miami. FL 33147









Carlos A. Gimenez

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

SPECIAL EDITION 2018

Dear DSWM Staff.

ust when we thought we had a busy year with Zika during 2016. 2017 came along. And what a busy year it was.

Our mosquito control operations grew considerably—thanks in large part to the dangers of Zika and other mosquito-borne diseases. We named a new director for the division. Dr. William Petrie (see related article).

Importantly, the Board of County Commissioners approved our first waste service fee adjustment in more than a decade. The increase of \$25 annually—which, per resident, amounts to just \$2.08 per month—will help us maintain operations and even add four additional crews to help out with illegal dumping.

But easily the most significant event of 2017 was Hurricane Irma. Thankfully, we were spared what initially the experts thought would be a direct hit by a Category 4 or 5 hurricane.

But Irma's two days of high winds and wet weather created an unprecedented amount of debris—an estimated 4 million cubic vards—which many of you, along with our contractors, worked hard for weeks to clear from our roads and public places.

Thanks to your extraordinary efforts, and the efforts of our contractors, we were able to remove most of the storm debris within the first 60 days after Irma passed, as promised to our residents.

As we return to our normal operations post-Irma, I want to thank you for your incredible effort and response this past year serving our community and its residents. I am very proud of you and the work you do every day to make Miami-Dade County the best place to live, work and play. I wish you and your family a very happy and healthy New Year.



Christopher Cummings, **Waste Truck Driver—and** so much more

ith the bulk of their workdays spent driving the streets of Miami-Dade County, the department's Waste Truck Drivers no doubt have some stories to tell.

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 began like any other day for Mr. Cummings. Until the accident.

Mr. Cummings was driving his route when a Miami-Dade Police Department cruiser and another car collided in front of him.

"It sounded like a bomb," he told a local news station. The police officer trapped inside the wrecked car pleaded for help.

"He said, 'Pull me out,' so I did what I had to do," Mr. Cummings told news media, adding, "I reached in, put my arm and my hand around the bulletproof vest and pulled him up out of there."

The officer would be taken to the hospital later—after Mr. Cummings had saved his life.

For his actions on that fateful day-which, coincidentally, was also Mr. Cummings's birthday—he was recognized by Mayor Gimenez and the Board of County

continued on page 2



The "drill" was not a drill this past September, it was the real deal as Hur-

entire state of Florida.

But few have a story quite like Christopher Cum-

"Your heroic efforts in pulling an injured police officer out of his vehicle after a horrific car accident not only saved a life but also served as an example for others to follow," Mayor Gimenez told Mr. Cummings at a special presentation of the Board, as those in attendance honored him with a standing ovation.



ricane Irma blasted pretty much the

As the storm threatened—initially as a powerful Category 4 or 5—bulky waste pickup crews pulled overtime shifts to clear the County's streets of

the state were harder hit than Miami-Dade, the County wound up with an unprecedented amount of debris scattered all over due to hurricane Irma. Initial estimates were anywhere from three to five million cubic yards; as work progressed it became clear that the actual amount would be fairly close to the middle of that estimate, or four million cubic yards. To put that massive number into perspective, it's equal to about 160,000 bulky waste pickups of 25 cubic yards each.

Although the Keys and other parts of

The department's bulky waste crews were out until Friday, September 8-the day before Irma hit the Florida Keys and its effects were felt

employees nose for a photo with the proclamation declaring "Solid Naste Management Hurricane Irma Debris Management Dav.

came around. The incredible work of so many employees and contractors has not gone unnoticed or unrecognized: the Board of County Commissioners recognized the department by declaring December 5 "Solid Waste Management Hurricane Irma Debris Management Day."

nology Department).

Miami-Dade Police Director Juan Perez County's streets. By the time waste hauling contractors joined in the effort to remove hurricane debris, the **DSWM Going** department's bulky waste crews had already picked up 4,000 piles of debris.

At press time, most of the debris (more than 3.9 million cubic yards) had been picked up from the streets and public rights of way of Miami-Dade. Debris shredding and haul out to a landfill north of the county was ongo-

ing from various debris staging sites throughout Miami-Dade. and manages carts. Removing the debris from the community took a herculean effort

Online Payment

Residential and commercial collection contractors, and even other County customers will be able to pay certain departments. This would include items online. These items include waste some obvious (Trash Division, Encollection service fees, bulky waste overforcement Division, Department of age fees and additional waste cart service Transportation and Public Works, the



Department Director Alina Hudak added, "You inspire me, you truly do, and I'm so honored to be your director. You're what we all aspire to be in public service."

Surrounded by friends, family and co-workers, a visibly emotional Mr. Cummings related how he had gone from living on the streets 20 years before to presentday 17-year veteran county employee.

"Twenty years ago, God gave me a second chance," he told the crowd, to a round

told Mr. Cummings, "God gave you a second chance, and you have chosen to make a difference, and you gave somebody a second chance."

High Tech

Technology is constantly changing the way everyone functions. The department

A handful of major technological changes are coming soon that will change the way the department collects payments

from various divisions and sections throughout the department, various

various waste hauling contractors and



ith Miami-Dade County the focus of international interest due to the 2016 Zika outbreak, Mosquito Control got a lot of attention. Now, it's getting more than attention. Mosquito Control is now a full-blown division, and as part of this change, it has been renamed the Mosquito Control and Habitat Management Division.

The newly-formed entity now has 59 positions, a significant increase from the previous year's 17. including full-time inspectors, support staff, two dedicated public information officers and a new Division Director, Dr. William Petrie, who ioined the County late last summer. Dr. Bill, as he's known around the office, brings more than three decades of experience in mosquito control, most recently as the director of the Mosquito Research and Control Unit in the Cayman Islands (see related article for more details).



The new operations section focuses on conducting mosquito control inspections, and the surveillance section monitors mosquito populations by number and species. The division has rolled out several new vehicles including, for the first time, trucks outfitted for mosquito larvicide spraying. Previously, Mosquito larviciding schedule throughout areas

Control relied solely on contractors to spray a special pesticide by truck which specifically targets mosquito larvae. The division now has the capability to conduct its own larvicide truck spraying



Another notable accomplishment for the division is the creation of new social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter - both located @305Mosquito. Since launching in the early part of the summer, the feeds have been a steady stream of information focusing on helping residents to "Fight the Bite," promote outreach activities and events, as well as highlighting some of the content put forth by partners such as the Florida Department of Health, the CDC and other official Miami-Dade County accounts.

cantly less communicable disease activity, with no zones of active transmission being declared, and the CDC removing its official travel advisory from Miami-Dade County



in June. This can be attributed in part to the hard

control mosquitoes. For example, as of press time the division and its partners were set to release Wolbachia-infected Aedes aegypti male mosquitoes in the City of South Miami. This new technology, developed by MosquitoMate, Inc., is EPA approved and has already been used in New York, California and the Florida Kevs. Infected males—which cannot bite humans or animals—mate with females and the resulting eggs are unable to hatch, which is expected to reduce the population of Aedes aegypti mosquitoes in the test area.

For more information about the mosquito control program, visit www.Miami-

Use insect repellent to spray skin nd clothing to keep mosquitoes away. DRAIN COVER

Thankfully, 2017 was a year of signifi-



Johana Medina, Riologist, examines

work of the Mosquito Control Division and its partners, executing an aggressive

that were known hotspots in 2016.

The division continues to keep up the momentum by looking at new tools to

Dade.gov/Mosquito.





New Division Director for Mosquito Control

e're proud to announce that Dr. William "Bill" Petrie, a 30-plusyear mosquito control veteran has been named the first Division Director of the newly created Mosquito Control and Habitat Management. Dr. Petrie brings more than three decades of experience in mosquito research and vector control to the

"Dr. Petrie is a leading expert on mosquito control and is highly regarded and respected throughout the world for his research and work in the field, said Department Director Alina Hudak "With more than three decades of experience understanding mosquitoes and the diseases they can transmit, Dr. Petrie is poised to provide the strategic, administrative and operational leadership that will help to position the county's Mosquito Control program as a leader in the mosquito control arena."

As the Mosquito Control director, Dr. Petrie will lead the county's mosquito control program, with a staff of more than 50 employees and an annual budget of \$16.7 million. Dr. Petrie officially began his new role in August.

"I am very excited to have been selected to lead Miami-Dade's Mosquito Control and Habitat Management Division," stated Dr. Petrie. "I look forward to this new challenge and to the opportunity to further enhance the County's

program that has successfully responded to mosquito-borne illnesses." he added.

Prior to joining us, Dr. Petrie served as the director of the Mosquito Research and Control Unit (MRCU) in the Cayman Islands, where he was instrumental in identifying alternatives to the pesticides used to combat the invasive, diseasespreading Aedes aegypti mosquito.

Dr. Petrie has worked at MRCU since 1984, when he joined as a research assistant after graduating from the University of Dundee in Scotland with a biology-zoology degree. He obtained his PhD through his research into the reproductive biology of the Cayman Islands' swamp mosquito. Upon completion of his research work, he became the deputy director of MRCU and was promoted to the chief position in 1998.

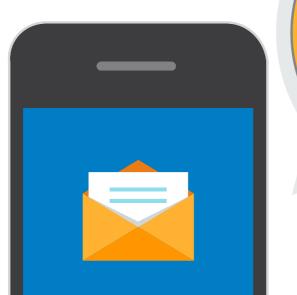
His published works include articles featured in Nature Biotechnology Jour nal on engineered male mosquitoes and the successful suppression of the field mosquito population. He is a member

of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Mosquito Control Association, and the Society of Vector



Dr. William Petrie, Director, Mosquito Control and Habitat Management Division.

Text Alerts



Soon—thanks to an idea by Sandra Michaud of the PIO Division (see the item "DSWM Employee Puts Idea Machine to Work" in the News Briefs article)—residents will be able to receive text alerts to update them on the status of service requests.

The new text alerts will come through 311 for service requests aced via the department's Waste Collection System.

Miami-Dade's recycling efforts helpe

- 78.33 million kilowatt hours of electricity
- 152.174 cubic vards of landfill airspace
- Additionally, the county helped avoid the release of 54,281 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions and the county's waste-to-energy facility generated 49.02 million kilowatt hours of electricity from waste

New Look Control's Website

If you've visited the Mosquito Control the site's new design. The userthe existing web address of www.minavigate on mobile devices.

all of the important information you've come to expect. Everything from the Drain and Cover campaign, to information on site inspections, to spray schedules and more can be found in a matter of a click (or tap) or two.

Be sure to visit the site at www.miamidade.gov/mosquito today and learn more about this important function.

Follow us on social media

- Solid Waste @MiamiDadeSWM
- ♠ @MiamiDadeSolidWaste
- ② @305Mosquito

Recycling Savings

save the following during the last fiscal year (October 2016 through September

- 409.739 mature trees

for Mosquito

website lately, you've surely noticed friendly design-accessible by visiting amidade.gov/mosquito-is part of the County's overall plan to redesign the County website and make it easier to

The Mosquito Control website includes

for the latest!

- **Mosquito Control**
- @305Mosquito

Mosquito Control Inspector (FT) rewarded for their hard Ramiro Areas

Congratulations

Adrian Gilbert Carlos Lanzas

Barrington Sanders Mosquito Control

Supervisor Sharon Feldman-Nagel Lawrence Smart

Purchasing Specialist

Special Projects Administrator 2 Lourdes Antelo

Technical Equipment Instructor

Cy Salmon **Training Specialist 2**

Shikia Stokes **Transfer Station** Superintendent

Jarvis Jeantv Trash Crane Operator

Jose Delgado Bobby Floyd

David Harper Vajiy Major

Derek Williams Trash Truck Driver

Oladipo Adeshina Angelo Byrd, Jr. Emanuel Gibson II

Dequan Kinsey Waste Attendant 1 Salgado Placide

Quinton Brown

Ashley English

Danyo Gabriel

Dontray Goolsby

Remond Wright

Jarrod Young

Al Carter

Michelle Chong Stuart C. Pomare Taylor Manager, Training and **Waste Collector** Labor Relations

Trinese Lamb **Mosquito Control** Research Manager Chalmers Vasquez

A total of 70 DSWM

work with a promotion

recently. The following

employees and their new

Administrative Officer

Procurement Manager

DSWM Enforcement

Collections Clerk

DSWM Landfill

Superintenden

Environmental

Resources Project

Environmental Tech 2

Executive Secretary

Human Resources

Ruelynn Lafortune

Noriece Price-Rose

Manager Financial

Joel Hernandez

Dwayne A. Reed

Jermiah Reed

Supervisor

Mario C. Porcelli

James E. Cooper

Marta Alvarez

Manager

Jesmar Olivo

employees were

is a listing of the

Trudy-Ann McFarlane

positions:

Accountant 3

James Richards

Contracts and

Karina Careaga

Elisa Barriga

Mosquito Control Senior Supervisor

Yanet Chiong

Veedra Thomas Waste Equipment

Waste Enforcement

Joseph Cail Wendell Edwards Julio Espinal

Bob Floyd Tasman Gordon

Officer 1

Operator

Lorna Santiago

Herbert King Frank Ladson

Jessie Ponders Hureal Ranger, Jr.

Waste Plant Mechanic Puran Bhikhari

Waste Supervisor Lawanda Marshall

Eric Mavo Howard Smith

Waste Truck Driver Paul Beckford

> Justin Hill Tramaine Johnson Darran Kinsev. Jr. Kelly Luces

Charlie Mobley De Angelo Weaver John Webb

> Welcome to the DSWM team:

Accountant 3 Yeliel Hernandez

> Accountant 4 Xavier Peresrego Account Clerk

Mavelin Acosta Patreice Forbes **Administrative Officer 1**

Elizabeth Washington **Administrative Officer 2** Maria Clavijo-Bastian

Administrative Officer 3 Monique Spence

Secretary

Nathalie Perez

Assistant Director Fiscal and Internal Services Michael Ruiz

Automotive Equipment Operator 1 Javarius Hendrix

Chief, DSWM Mosquito Control William Petrie

Clerk 3 Sandra Giraldo Nubia Gracia

Personnel Technician Renee Thomas

Engineer 2 Felix Cepero

Environmental Safety Officer **Resources Project** Tamara Hamilton Supervisor Paul Borroto-Garcia

Kwame Johnson **Executive Secretary** Ayling Gonzalez

Information Officer Dominique Moody Michael Mut

Laboratory Technician Terrance T. Ferguson

Maday Moreno Casey Adams Landfills System Manuel Guerrero

Kenny Carpenter **Light Equipment Tech** Renier Machado Gregorio Vargas Arroyo

Mosquito Control Inspector Derrick Ash

Yadira Diaz

Mechanic

Brenton Betts

Lazaro Hernandez

Laurin Gibson

Administrative Shelley Pamphile

Margie Robinson

Personnel Specialist 2 Emerson Brown, Jr. Yamila Sanchez

Michelle Jackson

Purchasing Specialist Frances Perez

Ansler Campfort

Wesley Dorneval

Olamide Farotade

Pedro Errasti

Andres Garcia

John Iyaogeh

Mario Moran

Edwin Mozo

Supervisor

David Frutos

Specialist 2

Shikia Stokes

Tranisha Dixon

Humberto Rodriguez

Mosquito Control

Personnel Specialist

Samantha Santelis

Office Support

Kamaura Hamilton

Esther Jean-Baptiste

Ormel Chavez Polo

Waste Equipment Operator Anthony Passmore

Semi-Skilled Laborer **Waste Operations Clerk** Keith Lynn

Dwayne Morley Travis Napo Donnay Whearry

Semi-Skilled Laborer

Technical Equipment Instructor

Trash Truck Driver 2

Dwayne Flowers Zebbie Hale Fabian Otero Dandre Watson Kevin Wright

> **Waste Attendant** Andrew D. Bloodsaw

Dedrick Browder

Krishelda Brown Latonya Byars Kelvin Evans

Seth Gordon

Janell May

Carol Pavne

Henry Riley

Myniesha Howell

Anthony Parrish

Jacqueline Philon

Troy L. Scutchings

Kendrick Williams

Willie C. Williams

Kendrea Woods

Rubin J. Young

Ben Dupree, Jr.

Trenton Kelly

Hubert Fonte

Yanael Rodriguez

Crystal C. Reed

Lucy Portillo

Jonathan Estrada

Sandra Michaud

Andrea Ocampo

Octavis Nixon

Roberto R. Alvarez

Waste Service Clerk

Waste Service Clerk

Waste Supervisor 1

Congratulations, best

wishes and a heartfel

thank you for a job

3B Trash Collection

Trash Crane Operator

recently retired:

Ernest Denson

29 Years

well done to DSWM

employees who have

Demetrice Folman

Waste Enforcement

Waste Collector

Diamond J. Sweeting

Howard Livingston

April D. Lopez-Johnson

Edward Delancy Waste Collector 29 Years Dontray Goolsby Eddie Horne Waste Truck Driver

58th Street Garbage

Collection

29 Years

Kenneth Major

Charles Miller

Pamela Pavne

Enforcement

Jackie Carter

Oper Daniels

35 Years

22 Years

36 Years

21 Years

Assistant Director

Trash Truck Driver 2

Executive Secretary

35 Years

31 Years

Walter Kee III Waste Truck Driver 28 Years

Alvin Mc Crav Operations Managemen & Route Performance Coordinator 31 Years

Gerard Metellus 58th Street Trash Collection Dexter Barthell

Trash Truck Driver 1 30 Years Carolyn Ogletree Office Support Specialist 2

Central Transfer Alphonso Lampkin

Trash Truck Driver 2 Waste Equipment Operator 16 Years Tyrone Siggers Trash Truck Driver 2

32 Years

Collections Operations Larry Adams Gwendolyn Bradshaw

31 Years Nelson Bravo Waste Equipment Operator

Waste Collector

Waste Enforcement Officer Technical Services and **Environmental Affairs**

Armando Cabrera Waste Enforcement Officer Project Supervisor 24 Years

Human Resources James Griffin Training Specialist 3 27 Years

Assistant Director Mosquito Control Giraldo Carratala

Mosquito Control Inspector 11 Years Nelson Tejeda Mosquito Control Inspector

Nelson Adams Lake

Waste Attendant 1 4 Years Horace Creary Waste Plant Mechanic

North Dade Landfill

35 Years Procurement

Sharon Eubank Purchasing Specialist 4 Years

Public Information and Outreach

Special Projects Administrator 34 Years

Eduardo Rubio-Garcia Administrative Officer 3 33 Years

Resources Recovery

South Dade Landfill

Landfill Superintendent

31 Years James Haggins

27 Years

Environmental Resources

Lee Casev Division Director 25 Years Asok Ganguli

36 Years

Neil Quinn

Waste Equipment Operator

23 Years West Transfer