

# County News

## County workers are honored for service

BY MARIAN MCMAHON  
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LAKE COUNTY — The Lake County commissioners, Ray Sines, Bob Afuldish and Dan Troy recognized a number of county workers for their years of service at the Nov. 29 Commissioners' meeting.

Telecommunications Department Director Paul Stefanko was the first to be acknowledged and presented with a resolution and watch.

"You joined our family on July 21, 1986 and you served with integrity during your 27-year tenure and we extend our genuine gratitude for the diligence and dedication you've demonstrated on behalf of Lake County," Troy read from the resolution.

Tom Hilscher, also of the Telecommunications Department, was honored for serving the county for 26 years.

Sines said Hilscher was the one who had to deal with

the calls about problems with the phone service.

Karen Orris, who has resigned her position, was acknowledged for her 14 years with the Telecommunications Department.

"I wasn't expecting this; I just wanted to hear you say I got to leave," she said, instigating much laughter from the crowd.

Betty Stone, who is leaving, had served in the Department of Job and Family Services for 31 years.

She was presented with a resolution and gift by LCDJFS Director Matt Battiato. She began as a case worker and in recent years has been a supervisor.

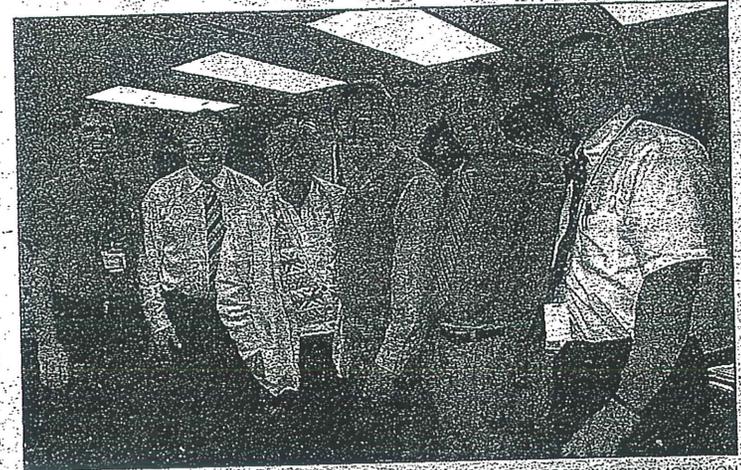
"She is awesome with customer assistance and, as you might imagine, sometimes we have difficult situations with people who come to our agency," Battiato said.

Department of Utilities Director Rick Martin made presentations to two workers in his department for 25

years of service. One was John "Jay" Spetrino, superintendent of the Aquarius Water Treatment Plant and the other was Mike Melnyk, assistant superintendent at the Gary L. Kron Reclamation Wastewater Treatment Plant. They were presented with plaques and watches.

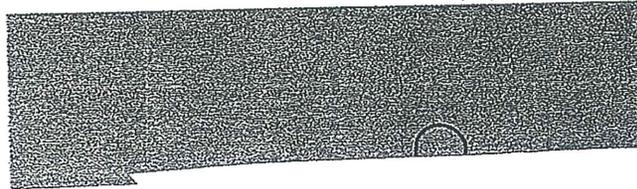
"Both started a number of years ago as operators and worked their way up in the system," Martin said. "Jay started with Buildings and Grounds actually and then transferred in to our department."

Unable to attend for his award for 25 years was Mike Sullivan, supervisor at the Gary L. Kron Plant.



PHOTOS BY MARIAN MCMAHON

Workers from the Lake County Telecommunications Department recognized for their years of service are Tom Hilscher, left, Karen Orris, center, and Paul Stefanko, the director, far right. They received resolutions and watches from commissioners Dan Troy, Ray Sines and Bob Afuldish at their Nov. 29 meeting.



Lake County Department of Utilities Director Rick Martin, left, and commissioners Dan Troy, Ray Sines and Bob Afuldish present 25-year service awards to Mike Melnyk, assistant superintendent of the Gary L. Kron Reclamation Wastewater Treatment Plant and John "Jay" Spetrino, superintendent of the Aquarius Water Treatment Plant.

Lake County Job and Family Services Director Matt Battiato presents a resolution and gift to Betty Stone for 31 years of service with the department.