sanitation news online

April 2015

Commissioner's Column

Our City – and our Department – have come so far since we celebrated the first Earth Day 45 years ago. Back in 1970, few people imagined the coming importance of climate change – or the critical role our Agency would play. Instead, Earth Day had been a battle cry that triggered action to clean our air and water. Today, our duty is be leaders in this effort and Sanitation is on the front lines of protecting our long-term health. Our success in reducing garbage and increasing recycling today will mean better health, safety and quality of life for decades to come.

On Earth Day last week, Mayor Bill de Blasio released **One New York: The Plan for a Strong and Just City**. Our Department's support is critical to meet many of OneNYC's crucial goals, including:

- Contributing zero waste in landfills by 2030;
- Expanding the organics program to all New Yorkers by the end of 2018;
- Enhancing our textile and electronic waste initiatives;
- Offering single-stream recycling by 2020;
- Reducing the use of plastic bags;
- Cutting commercial waste disposal 90 percent by 2030; and
- Giving every New Yorker the opportunity to be a part of the solution – including NYCHA residents.

Certainly, these goals are lofty – and achievable. And the next generation of New Yorkers will thank us.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our City great.

Kathryn Garcia

Women's History Month Ceremony

DSNY honored more than 150 uniformed and civilian women for their city service and community service work at its Women's History Month Recognition Ceremony. At the event, more than 25 uniformed members were honored for at least 20 years of service. In addition, civilian employees were recognized for their service, including six who have served for more than 40 years! DSNY women were also recognized for their work in professional and trade positions, and for their community service work. **Gloria Pabon**, one of the first women to become a Sanitation Worker, also spoke at the event.

A Special "Thank You" in Times Square

Last month, Commissioner Garcia stopped by Times Square to see Clear Channel's "Thank You" to DSNY.

April is Autism Awareness Month

In honor of April's Autism Awareness month, DSNY and Autism Speaks have again partnered to bring attention to the condition. This month, all collection trucks and brooms will feature "Light It Up Blue" posters. Suzanne and Bob Wright, Co-founders of Autism Speaks, attended the poster unveiling this month. Click here to watch the video.

Many DSNY offices will once again fundraise for the group, with pin and bracelet sales, lunch and bake sales, and a silent auction. Thanks to all for working to make this a successful campaign.

Association de Latinos Host Meet & Greet

Sanitation Association de Latinos hosted a Meet and Greet recently. Commissioner Garcia was a guest speaker. Topics included Women's History Month, Nutrition & Women's Health, and Preventing Inflammation. In addition, the attendees were treated to a healthy, colorful lunch.

Promotions

Congratulations to Chief **Edward Grayson** who was recently promoted to become the three-star Chief of Bureau Operations. **Salvatore Ceraulo**, **Francis Esposito**, **Jack Ryan**, **Jarrit Scotti**, **Michael Carolan**, **Paul Hansen**, and **Keith Maisel** also earned recent promotions. In addition, the Department welcomed a number of new Supervisors who were promoted from Sanitation Worker. Congratulations to all!

Collector's Items

- The **Asian Jade Society** will host a Dinner Banquet on May 1 at New Spring Garden in Bay Ridge. The group, celebrating its 15th Anniversary, will honor Joseph Mannion, president of Local 444, as "Man of the Year." Contact Jason Chen at 646-885-4513 or Peter Chau at 347 -766-4459 for more information.
- The **Holy Name Society** will host its 23rd Annual Golf Outing on May 5 benefiting the Gerald A. Whelan Scholarship Fund. Contact Steven Sokolowski at 718-746-2401 for more information.
- The **Columbia Association** will host its 20th Annual Golf Outing on June 9, in memory of Richard J. Oliviero, benefiting the Cooley's Anemia Foundation. Contact Sal Messina at 646-885-4602 for more information.

Wedding Bells for "Broom"

District Superintendent Troy Tamburo used a new Vision Zero mechanical broom to help propose to his wife-to-be. She nicknamed him "Broom," because he "swept her off his feet" so it was only natural for the vehicle to make an appearance at the surprise engagement. She said Yes! We wish them many happy years together!

Have news to share for an upcoming issue? Contact Belinda Mager at bmager@dsny.nyc.gov or 646-885-5020.