



# sanitation news online

May 2015

## Commissioner's Column

May marks a historic month for the Department of Sanitation. First – with our team still recovering from one of the City’s most unforgiving winters on record – Mayor Bill de Blasio commended our extraordinary service this past snow season while announcing our tentative contract with Local 831. This agreement represents how good-faith negotiations between labor and management can bring great success.

Second, this year’s budget process is monumental for our productivity and growth: With additional funding – new support not seen in 10 years – we are now better positioned to grow, perform and serve as a world-class health and safety organization.

With our future secure, we are embarking on a new orientation to waste: shifting an agency historically and singularly focused on collection and snow removal to a premiere organization that will bring New York City to new level of environmentalism. Earlier this month, I convened our

executive staff to imagine the potential of our Department in 2050 – and identify steps to bring us there. Together, our senior managers strategized:

- Vital services;
- Safety;
- Fleet and facilities;
- Workforce development; and
- Customer service.

With these critical components in mind, we’re further developing our tactical approach to move our Agency – and City – closer to contributing zero waste to landfills within the next 15 years. Of course, skeptics may question whether achieving this goal is possible. We believe that it is – and falling a bit short will be an enormous leap forward for our environment, our children and our future.

Thank you for all that you do to keep New York City healthy, safe and clean.

*Kathryn Garcia*



## Welcome and Congratulations



Congratulations to the more than 300 employees recently honored at the latest graduation and promotion ceremony at Brooklyn Aviator event center.

The **October 2014 class of Sanitation Workers** received their long overdue oath of office, along with **Sanitation Supervisors, Sanitation Superintendents, Sanitation Police Officers** and **Sanitation Enforcement Agents**.

Deputy Commissioner for Solid Waste Management, **Jose Atkinson** and Assistant Commissioner for Facility Planning and Engineering, **Marie Jean-Louis** received their oath of office along with the recently promoted Director of Solid Waste Management, **Thomas Killeen** and Chief of Bureau Operations, **Edward Grayson**.

Photographs from the ceremony are available on the Department’s [flickr site](#).

## Reporter Rides-Along with Sanitation Police



WCBS-TV reporter Weijia Jiang recently took a ride-along with **Sanitation Police** on patrol for people stealing recyclable items from the City, noting the value of these items can add up to a lot of money at scrap yards. She added that the city loses money

when thieves steal metal and cardboard left for curbside collection.

Thanks to the Sanitation Police for accommodating Ms. Jiang, and helping her spread the word. Take a look at her story by [clicking here](#).

## Celebrating DSNY Service at Queens Flag Day



Congratulations to Chief **Kevin Duffy**, who was honored with a public service award from the Queens Flag Day Committee. The award was presented to him by Chief **Steven Sokolowski**. The group works to raise awareness of sacrifices made by public service workers and military personnel.

## “Trash Museum” Coordinator & Sanitation Worker Retires



Congratulations to Sanitation Worker, and unofficial M11 “Trash Museum” coordinator **Nelson Molina**, who recently retired from the job after more than 30 years. Through the years, S/W Molina was featured in a number of news stories about the items he came across while working on a collection truck in the City. He was also the subject of a documentary by a NYU student. All the best to Sanitation Worker Molina for a happy retirement! Photo courtesy of [@rznagle](#).

## Uniformed Sanitation Chiefs Dinner



The Uniformed Sanitation Chiefs Association recently held their annual dinner and recognized a number of Chiefs who have served the Department, and City, for many years. years and has recently retired. Joining him, both in recognition for service, and in retirement, are **William Vadola** (33 years of service), **Douglas Marsiglia** (32 years of service), **Joseph Andrews** (30 years of service), and **Michael Fasano** (27 years of service). Thank you all.

Chief **Wallace Williams**, pictured above, has served the Department for 44

## Collector’s Items / News & Notes

The **Columbia Association** will meet Thursday, May 28 at 6 p.m. at Kowalinski Post #4 in Maspeth. The guest speaker is FDC **Dennis Diggins**.

The **Sanitation Association de Latinos** is looking for a Recording Secretary and a Correspondence Secretary. Those interested should contact [associationdelatinos@gmail.com](mailto:associationdelatinos@gmail.com) by June 1.

The **African American Benevolent Society** will host their next meeting on Wednesday, June 3 at 7 p.m. at the Club House at 220-13 Merrick Blvd. in Laurelton. **Commissioner Garcia** will speak.

Support **DSNY Strongest Football** as they take on the Atlanta Defenders at Aviator Sports Copmplex on Sat., June 6 at 5:30 p.m. Email [presidentdsnyfootball@yahoo.com](mailto:presidentdsnyfootball@yahoo.com) for more info.

Join the **Emerald Society** at a Day at the Races/the Monmouth Irish Festival on Sunday, June, 7. Gates open at 10 a.m.

The **Steven Frosch Memorial Foundation** will hold a 4K Run/Walk and Family Event on Saturday, June 20. The run/walk starts at 10 a.m. followed by the Family Fest at noon in Franklin Square. Visit [thefroschfoundation.org](http://thefroschfoundation.org) for more information.

**Chief Thomas Albano** is retiring after 30 years of dedicated service. His retirement party will be held June 30 at 6 p.m. at Russo’s on the Bay. Contact Steven Cimino 718-334-9555.

The **Holy Name Society’s** recent golf outing was a huge success with a near record number of golfers! The outing supports the Gerard A Whelan Scholarship Fund, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation in memory of Donnamarie Sabinsky-Murphy, The Food Pantry at Holy Cross Church and Autism Speaks.

The **DSNY Ceremonial Unit** is looking for new members. The Unit is a recognized ambassador for the DSNY and the City, and is responsible for handling a variety of events including ceremonies, parades, and funerals. The Unit is also looking for civilian/uniform buglers or singers. Those interested should review DM2015-3110 and call A/C **Keith Mellis** at 646-885-5020.

The **Sanitation Employees Community Fund** works to promote social & recreational activities and preserve the general welfare interests of uniformed and civilian DSNY employees by donating funds to award ceremonies, DSNY sporting teams, and other events. On June 18, SECF will raffle off nine 46” TVs to eligible ticketholders at each of the seven Borough Commands as well as BME/BBM. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$20.

The names of 15 DSNY employees were recently added to the wall at **9/11 Responders Remembered Park** in Smithtown, Long Island. These responders died because of illness due to their 9/11 work. Both the Department, and City, are grateful for their sacrifices.