



sanitation news

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Spring 2008

COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE



After a relatively mild winter, nature is once again dressing up the Big Apple in its most brilliant colors. In an annual rite of rebirth and renewal, spring is covering city trees, parks and backyards with new leaves, tender shoots of grass and delicate buds. Birds are also joining in the celebration, their song mixing with the sounds of a hectic city.

It's quite fitting that just as nature dons its most dazzling attire, we celebrate Earth Day. New Yorkers have good reasons to celebrate; the city is the cleanest it's been in over three decades — a tribute to the tireless hard work of the dedicated men and women of Sanitation.

But we all know that keeping a city this size clean is everyone's responsibility. In fact, our partners in this effort are everyday New Yorkers, who comply with Sanitation laws and also volunteer by the thousand in community cleanups throughout the five boroughs, using cleaning tools loaned by the Department. From clearing vacant lots to removing graffiti and illegally posted signs on public utility posts, concerned residents are working hard to clean up and beautify their communities.

So, as we celebrate the arrival of spring and a cleaner and greener city, I commend the efforts of Sanitation's outstanding workforce and thank our countless partners throughout the city.

Let's keep working together to keep New York City clean and beautiful!



Female Sanitation Workers receive their certificates from Commissioner Doherty.



Civilian Women also honored for their contributions to the DSNY.

SANITATION HONORS UNIFORMED AND CIVILIAN WOMEN WITH UP TO 45 YEARS OR MORE OF SERVICE

On March 28th, to mark Women's History Month, Commissioner Doherty honored 85 uniformed and civilian women who have provided dedicated service to the Department and City for between 20 and 45 years or more. The honorees were from almost all of the Department's various bureaus and divisions and reminded all of just how integral women have been to the growth of Sanitation, as well as its commitment to its mission of cleaning, collection and disposal. Each honoree received a certificate of recognition, lapel pin, rose corsage, and partook in a post-ceremony luncheon.

Commissioner Doherty said: "Their dedication helps this Department complete its daily task of maintaining clean streets and a safe and healthy City. The women of this Department are truly part of the larger Sanitation family whose tradition of excellence is fundamental to this essential agency."

The woman with the longest service to the Department is Carol Daleo, Administrative Manager, Bureau of Operations, who has been with the DSNY for 47 years. The Commissioner said that "If I'm the senior man in this Department, you're the senior woman."

IN MEMORIAM



Pictured from left to right are: entertainer Tony Danza, Mayor Bloomberg, S/W Gagliotto, and Commissioner Doherty at the Department's 75th Anniversary celebration at Gracie Mansion

THE PASSING OF A LEGEND: S/W LOUIS GAGLIOTTO, 1928-2008

Sanitation Worker Louis "Gags" Gagliotto, an icon in the Department who worked on collection trucks since his appointment in 1957 and never took a sick day, passed away this past February at age 80. S/W Gagliotto was assigned to Brooklyn South 11 Garage and retired in May, 2007 -- his 50th year of service. Although he was the city's oldest active Sanitation Worker at the time of his retirement, "Gags," as he was known to his colleagues, always came in early for his shift and made coffee or brought in cake for his DSNY "family."

Before joining the Department more than half a century ago, S/W Gagliotto served as a private in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and received the Korean Service Medal and United Nations Service Medal. He was honored by Mayor Bloomberg last year in recognition of 50 years of service.

In a recent interview with *The Chief-Leader* newspaper, Commissioner Doherty said that "Saint Peter transferred Louie from the route he was on (down) here to the route up there where he needed help."

HARRY SZARPANSKI IS NEW DEPUTY COMMISSIONER FOR BUREAU OF LONG TERM EXPORT



Harry Szarpanski has been promoted to Deputy Commissioner for the Bureau of Long Term Export in recognition of his outstanding work in recent years in managing the approval and implementation of the City's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP). Harry has been with the Department for 38 years and his professionalism, skill and patience have served the Department well in fully implementing three of the major components of the Long Term Plan.



SANITATION CLEANS UP GIANTS' SUPER BOWL VICTORY PARADE

After the New York Giants received a "tickertape" parade and ceremony fit for hometown heroes honoring their monumental Super Bowl XLII victory, a small yet highly efficient army of Sanitation Workers and supervisory personnel descended upon the 'Canyon of Heroes' to clean up 36.5 tons of confetti, shredded paper and other debris.

Mayor Bloomberg thanked Sanitation for its 'super' efforts saying, "Within minutes of the parade's conclusion, more than 300 Sanitation Workers armed with hand brooms, leaf blowers, and mechanical street sweepers charged up Broadway, clearing away debris. The streets were reopened by the evening rush hour. And by Wednesday morning, you could walk down Broadway and almost imagine that nothing out of the ordinary had happened the previous day."

Super job, DSNY!



2008 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE UP FIFTH AVENUE

Everyone was "Irish for a day" at last month's St. Patrick's Day Parade, and as always, the Department was well represented by the Department's Emerald Society award-winning Pipes and Drums, and many uniformed and civilian personnel who proudly marched up Fifth Ave. Assistant Chief John Francis, Lot Cleaning Division, was the honorary Grand Marshall for DSNY, with Sanitation Worker Joe Gough, EPU, and Staten Island Superintendent Matt Molloy, Bureau of Operations, as his Aides. The Emerald Society is also celebrating its 70th anniversary as a fraternal organization. Congratulations, president Tom Doyle!



USA LOCAL 831 PRESIDENT HARRY NESPOLI HONORS DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

The Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association (USA) held a memorial on January 17 to honor the memory of the late civil rights activist, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who was assassinated 40 years ago on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tenn. Dr. King was in Memphis at that time to protest the wages and working conditions of Memphis' black Sanitation Workers, who went on strike for 64 days. The memorial included USA president Harry Nespoli, Mayor Bloomberg, former Mayor David Dinkins, City Comptroller William C. Thompson Jr., and Memphis sanitation union organizer Jesse Epps. The USA recently became the City's first uniformed force to have Dr. King's birthday as a paid holiday.

FREE ACCESS TO WTC TRIBUTE CENTER FOR ALL DSNY EMPLOYEES

All DSNY employees are invited to attend the Tribute World Trade Center 9/11 Visitor Center, free of charge, now through June 9th. The center, located at 120 Liberty Street on the south side of the WTC site, is a tribute to 9/11 and its impact on the city. Its newest exhibition, 'Inside the Fence,' takes a look at the immensely important contributions of DSNY, New York City Transit, and the construction trades in the aftermath of the attack.

The exhibit features accounts of Sanitation Workers who cleared the streets of Lower Manhattan after the terrorist attack, enabling law enforcement and emergency vehicles access, as well as bringing lights, fuel, and heavy equipment to the site. Just show your Department ID to gain access. For more information regarding viewing hours and walking tours, call the center at (212) 393-9160, ext. 138 or log onto www.tributewtc.org.



FORMER BCC DIRECTOR ANTHONY “E.T.” ETERGINEOSO HONORED AT RETIREMENT PARTY

Recently retired four-star Chief Anthony “E.T.” Etergineoso, former director of the Bureau of Cleaning and Collection, was honored at Leonard’s of Great Neck on April 3rd, after 37 years with the Department. Happy retirement, Chief! Photo left, First Deputy Commissioner Michael Bimonte presents Chief ET with Commemorative Badge plaque; photo right, the Commissioner and the DSNY executive team salute Chief ET. (Photos by Gerard Morency.)

DSNY SOFTBALL TEAMS WARM UP FOR ANOTHER SEASON

The Department’s softball league has been around for more than 20 years, and what was once a small handful of teams eager to ‘play ball,’ now boasts 20 citywide teams. The league has grown so fast that it now has four directors who handle the scheduling of umpires, game schedules, and the annual awards ceremony that honors that year’s championship team and league all-stars.

Sanitation Worker Andrew Schoenfeld, Collection Office, loves the softball league “because it builds brotherhood and pride inside the Department. I know that if more people in the Department actually saw the fun we’re having that they couldn’t help but to get involved.” While every district in the Department does not have a softball team, Schoenfeld hopes that one day, every district will have its own.



Brooklyn South 11 District, last year’s DSNY Softball League Champions.

Collector’s Items...

Congrats . . . To retired Sanitation Worker John Buonviaggio, formerly of Staten Island 3, who appeared on the hit NBC show “Deal or No Deal” in January and won \$94,000.

Can you say shutout? . . . The DSNY Football Team, New York’s Strongest, defeated the New York Wolfpack in an impressive 28-0 victory on March 22nd.

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