

Pumprotters Up to the Challenge



Last month, DEP's Harlem Pumprotters won first place in the New York State Operations Challenge held in Syracuse and will represent the Department at the international competition, which will be held in Chicago this October. Hailing from the North River Wastewater Treatment Plant, the team competed in collections, maintenance, worker

safety, and water quality events that showcased their skills and expertise. Congratulations to the team and good luck in Chicago! Pictured are: **Dave Taylor, William Grandner, Howard Robinson, Michael Leone, Lawrence Brincat** (retired), **Joseph Riccardi, Joseph DiGiovanni, Justin Manfredi**, and North River Plant Chief **Steve Askew**. Not pictured is team member **William Sedutto**.

Spotlight on Safety

Stay Safe in the Heat and Reduce Energy Use

With temperatures soaring this week, it's a good time to remember that overexposure to heat can cause illness and even death. High temperatures and humidity, direct exposure to the sun, intense physical labor, and lack of hydration are all contributing factors. Heat illness can include a rash, cramps, exhaustion, and even stroke. Heat-related illness can be prevented and below are some tips for staying cool in the heat:

- Drink water every 15 minutes
- Rest in the shade to cool down
- Wear a hat and light-colored clothing

Keep an eye on coworkers and if someone feels ill call a supervisor. If a coworker is not alert or seems

confused, this may be a sign of heat stroke—call 911 and apply ice immediately. For more information read the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's [Quick Card on Protecting Workers from Heat Stress](#).

Our energy infrastructure will also be stressed this week. Do your part to avoid voltage reductions or blackout events by following these simple tips:

- Shut off unnecessary lights
- Lower window shades to block the heat of the sun
- Turn off computer monitors and other office equipment when not in use

Contact the [DEP Energy Office](#) for more information.

At DEP, everyone is responsible for safety. If you or anyone on your team is concerned about your working conditions, it's okay to ask your supervisor or your bureau's EHS liaison how they can help. If you've still got questions, you can call the EHS Employee Concerns Hotline. It's DEP's responsibility to acknowledge and fix unsafe situations, procedures, and practices. With your help, we'll not only get the job done, we'll make it safer for ourselves, our coworkers, our families, and our city.

CALL (800) 897-9677 OR SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH PIPELINE. HELP IS ON THE WAY. 🐱

Commissioner's Corner

This year we will celebrate the completion of a number of historic investments in New York City's water supply system including the activation of City Water Tunnel No. 3 in Manhattan and the completion of the Croton Filtration Plant. Last Thursday Deputy Commissioner **Paul Rush** and I had an opportunity to lead Deputy Mayor **Cas Holloway** on a tour of another recently completed mega-project, the Catskill/Delaware Ultra Violet Disinfection Facility. The Cat/Del U.V. facility is the largest of its kind anywhere in the world. With nearly 12,000 U.V. lamps, the 270,000 square foot plant has been in operation since last fall and provides us with an added layer of protection against one of the most frequent causes of waterborne disease in the United States, *Cryptosporidium*—or crypto.

Crypto is a microscopic parasite that causes the disease *Cryptosporidiosis* which can cause illness or even result in death. In addition to being incredibly small, the parasite is protected by an outer shell that allows it to survive outside the body for long periods of time and makes it very tolerant to traditional chlorine disinfection. The water industry first learned about the danger of crypto in the 1980s, and in 1993 an outbreak in Milwaukee claimed more than 100 lives.

The industry responded by financing research into alternatives to traditional filtering and treatment techniques. In 1998, research published by the American Water Works Association found that ultra violet light successfully inactivated crypto's ability to reproduce, eliminating the threat to humans. After further research the EPA recognized U.V. disinfection as a treatment option in 2003.

Although crypto is found at very low levels in New York City's reservoirs, in order to meet new standards for drinking water quality and maintain our filtration avoidance determination, DEP began construction of the Cat/Del U.V. facility in 2006.

Workers completed construction on the plant in 2012 and since then all of the water from both the Catskill and Delaware watersheds have been treated with U.V. light, which is also effective at killing *Giardia*.

Completion of the Cat/Del U.V. Facility is an important milestone for New York City and one we can all be proud of. A ribbon cutting ceremony at the U.V. facility is in the works and I am excited that it is just one of a number of large projects we will complete by the end of this year.

Also, go to [Portal](#) where we have posted some additional photos taken during the Friends and Family night at Citi Field.

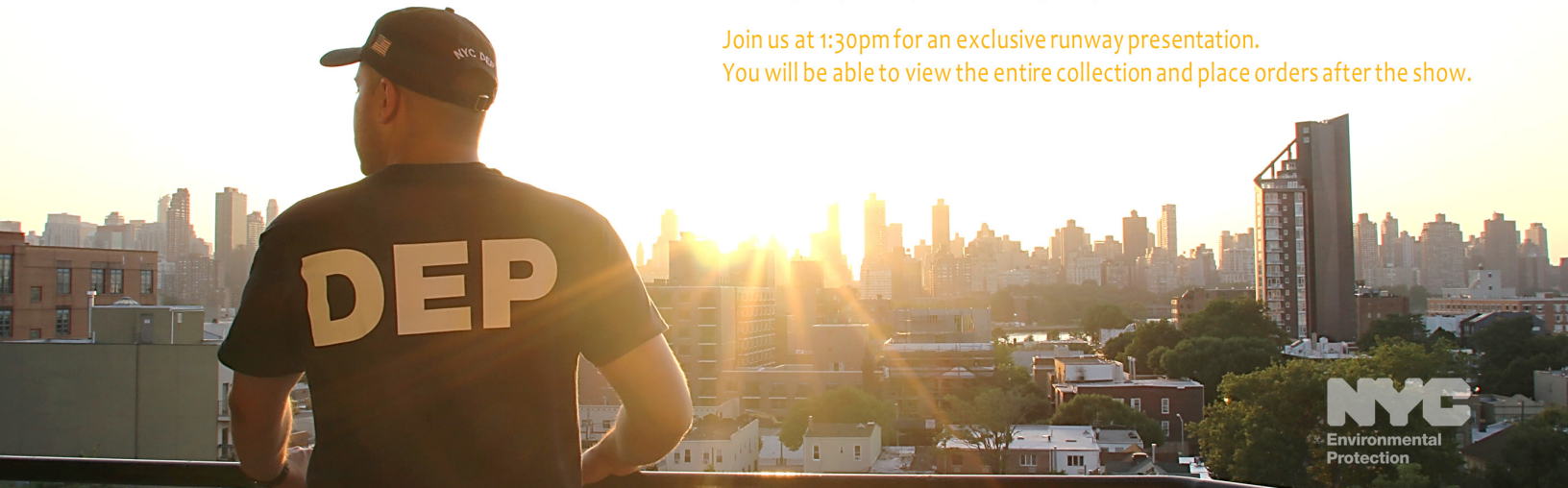


THE DEP EMPLOYEE STORE OPENING IS ON THE HORIZON

Tuesday, July 23rd | 1:30 – 3:00pm | Lefrak Cafeteria

Join us at 1:30pm for an exclusive runway presentation.

You will be able to view the entire collection and place orders after the show.



Focus on the Field



Anyone who knows **Frank Camardella**, DEP's Director for Executive Administration, is also familiar with his passion for music and his well-earned reputation as the guy who gets things done. Born into a large Sicilian family in the Bronx, Camardella's first musical instrument was an accordion and as he grew up he was heavily influenced by music acts such as the Ramones, the New York Dolls, and John Lennon. He attended Evander Childs High School in the Williamsbridge section of the Bronx and always aspired to be a rock star. Later on, he attended Mercy College and played guitar and sang in several bands during the 1970s and 1980s that performed in the Bronx and Westchester.

Although his passion for music remained, in 1981 he was working as an Assistant Branch Manager at Ninth Federal Savings and Loan when he was offered a position with DEP. He began as an Auditor in DEP's fiscal Office at 346 Broadway and three years later was promoted to be the

Department's Travel Coordinator. In January of 1991 Camardella moved, along with much of DEP, to Lefrak Headquarters and within a year he had returned to his roots in the Accounting Office as the Deputy Director. "During this time I had the opportunity to work with both Deputy Commissioner **Iris Weinshall** and Agency Fiscal Officer **John Dunne** and they both served as tremendous mentors and role models for me," said Camardella.

Not long after, Camardella became Executive's Bureau Administrator where he was responsible for procurement and budget, as well as maintaining his Travel Coordinator duties. And, about six months ago, he became the Director for Executive Administration where he works with **Grace White**, **Kerryann Russell**, **Madelene Ramos**, **Sandrine Moore-Straw**, **Vasyl Vechorek**, and **Marie Schneider** to coordinate the nearly \$40 million budget. "Our team works with City Hall, the Comptroller's Office, and other city agencies to ensure that the senior staff has the resources to do their jobs," said Camardella. "And the recent consolidation has helped us get the job done faster, smoother, and more cost effectively than before."

Having served under four separate mayors and 11 different commissioners, Camardella feels strongly that DEP is a special place to work. "From scientists to laborers and clerks to engineers, everyone has different backgrounds and experience, and that's what

(Focus on the Field... continued)

makes DEP, hands down, the best city agency."

"Frank plays a critical role in ensuring that DEP fulfills our commitment to the people of New York," said Chief Financial Officer **Steve Lawitts**. "From crises like the fire at the North River plant and Hurricane Sandy to ensuring the bureau budget is balanced, he is our go-to guy and a true DEP rock star."

Camardella has travelled extensively including the Ukraine, Moldova, and South America. He also keeps in touch with his family and visits them in New Jersey, Texas, and Hawaii. But, music is still his passion. He recently purchased a Farfisa electric organ and when he's not making music himself or writing lyrics, he listens to the Beatles, Led Zeppelin, Queen, and The Who.

Waterfront Cleanup



Last week, DEP launched the Summer 2013 Waterfront Clean-Up program to help remove litter and debris from properties affected by Hurricane Sandy. Partnering with the Department of Youth and Community Development's Summer Youth Employment Program, DEP has hired more than 70 young New Yorkers who will spend approximately 25 hours a week removing litter and debris from waterfront properties. During the first week of the program, the workers collected more than 160 bags of trash and recyclables from Sea Gate Beach and Paerdegat Basin in Brooklyn, Broad Channel in Queens, and Great Kills on Staten Island.

We welcome your feedback! To submit an announcement or suggestion, please email us at: newsletter@dep.nyc.gov.