



# sanitation news

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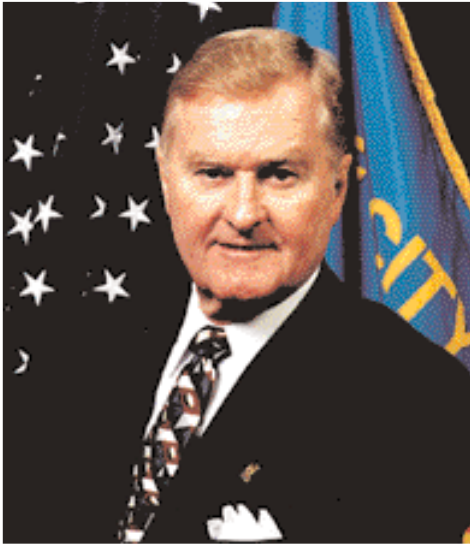
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## COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE

As I write this message to you, the City's troubled fiscal future continues to present the Mayor and our Depart-



**JOHN J. DOHERTY**

ment with an enormous and daunting challenge. As yet, we do not know exactly what the impact on the Department will be as we help to balance the city's budget. But we know that we will do what it takes. For instance, in July we reduced our recycling program in order to save an estimated \$40 million a year. In that reduction, we stopped collecting all plastic and glass materials because they were not being recycled in the conventional sense.

What really was happening with plastics and glass was that because there were no local markets for either material, our recycling vendors were sending shredded plastic and crushed mixed glass to landfills where it was being used as daily cover material.

What was so disappointing was that they were doing so at nearly twice the cost of simply sending the tonnage directly to the same landfills as trash. Consequently, we suspended plastic recycling for one year and glass for two years.

The Department now sits on a task force that is helping to strengthen our recycling program.

In addition to the recycling cutbacks, we had to scale back supplemental litter basket collections and some other services. This is very serious business and now is the time for all of us to pull together in an unprecedented way to work more efficiently and more effectively. It might ultimately mean some very painful choices, but we will continue to support the Mayor and our city. That is what Sanitation has always done, and we will not disappoint New York.

On a brighter note, I am pleased to announce that this second edition of **sanitation news** contains highlights of some recent events that celebrated the Department for its dedication and professionalism in response to the World Trade Center attacks a year ago. We were saluted at a number of events including a barbeque with Mayor Bloomberg at Gracie Mansion, a luncheon hosted by Mission New York City, a tribute by the New York Stock Exchange and a family night at Shea Stadium with the New York Mets.

This is a tradition-proud agency that performs some of the most difficult assignments with which this City can challenge us day in and day out. It is rewarding to see how many new 'fans' we have.



**Mayoral barbecue:** More than 600 members of the Department were treated to a gala outdoor barbecue on the grounds of the landmark Gracie Mansion, thanks to Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg. There was great food, live entertainment, and plenty of liquid refreshment to go around. The Mayor took individual photographs with every guest, many of who remarked about the speed with which he went through the receiving line. (37 minutes for more than 600 photos!) Commissioner Doherty later presented the Mayor with his official D.S.N.Y. jacket. (Photo courtesy of Cindy Rivera.)

KEEP NYC CLEAN



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

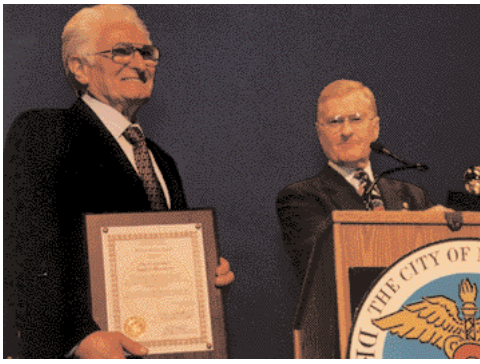


DON'T LITTER



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**ANGELO CIPOLLARO**

## **D.S.N.Y. HONORS ITS STRONGEST, AND BEST**

At a recent awards ceremony held at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, Commissioner Doherty honored special Departmental units associated with the World Trade Center cleanup, announced the 2001 Employees of the Year Annual Winners, and cited an employee who served with the Department for 50 years.

Thirty employees from the Emergency Response Division and from the Fresh Kills Landfill Unit were awarded Unit Citations for their involvement in the nation's largest cleanup and recovery effort in the wake of the World Trade Center tragedy. In addition, Commissioner Doherty named the winners of the 2001 Employees of the Year competition. They were General Superintendent David Callery, Brooklyn North Borough Operations; Supervisor Thomas Fitzgerald, Bureau of Cleaning and Collection; Sanitation Workers Nick Comisa and Lawrence Reilly, Queens East 8; Thomas Dimino, Supervisor of Electricians, Bureau of Support Operations; and Elissa Werbin, Central Correspondence Unit, Bureau of Public Information and Community Affairs. Each winner received two commemorative plaques and a \$500 check.

Also, at the ceremony, Angelo Cipollaro, a mechanic in the Bureau of Support Operations who actually started his career as a Sanitation Worker in the 1950's, received a special 50-year service plaque and a Golden Apple Award for his half-century of outstanding service to the Department. Mr. Cipollaro recently retired.



**EMERGENCY RESPONSE DIVISION UNIT CITATION**



**CREW OF THE YEAR**



**FRESH KILLS UNIT CITATION**



# D.S.N.Y. MEETS THE METS...

For those of you who could not attend the Mets/Atlanta Braves game on Saturday night, September 28th, the Department was honored by the Mets at the pre-game ceremony.

The ceremony opened with an on-field presentation by the Department's Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band and our Honor Guard while the scoreboard flashed the message: "The Mets welcome the New York City Sanitation Department." Mets player John Franco – whose father was a Sanitation Worker – then presented us with the Mets' "Spirit Award."

As the award was presented, photographs of the Department at work appeared on the jumbotron as the following announcement was read: "Tonight the Mets honor the New York City Sanitation Department and all its members for their hard work and contribution to the recovery and clean-up efforts immediately following the events of September 11th. Although not recognized on a daily basis, the Department played a vital role each and every day at Ground Zero. They also worked around the clock to gather information which helped identify victims, providing some sense of closure for family and friends. The recovery and clean-up of Ground Zero could not have been completed without the involvement of this Department and the Mets applaud your efforts and dedication."

Thank you, Mets, for this wonderful tribute.

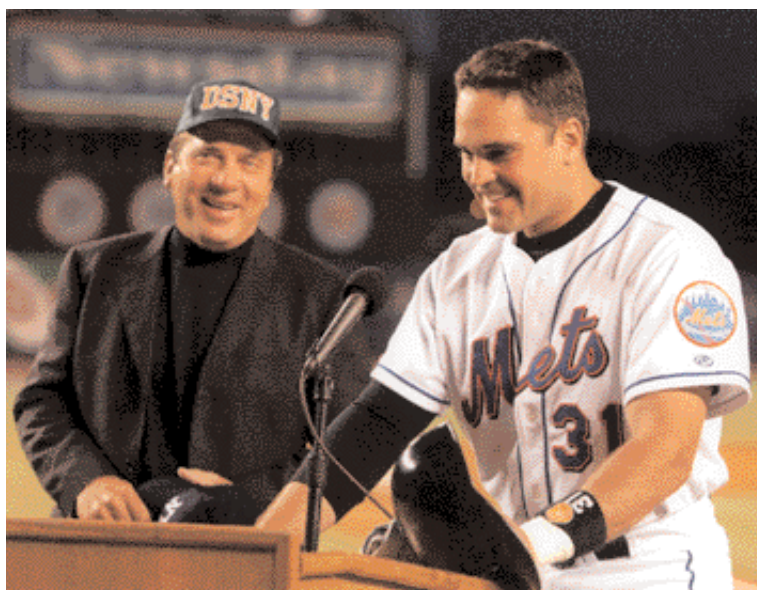
*(All photos courtesy of Spencer A. Burnett)*



D.S.N.Y. Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band joins with Honor Guard in center field while jumbotron captures action.



Mets Captain John Franco salutes Sanitation Department. Accepting, left to right, are Deputy Commissioner Vito A. Turso; Harry Nespoli, President-elect of Local 831, Uniformed Sanitationmen's Association; Franco (whose dad was on the job) and Joseph Mannion, President, Local 444, Sanitation Officers Association



Hall of famer Johnnie Bench shows off his favorite team cap (D.S.N.Y.) while greeting future hall of famer Mike Piazza before the game.



## Collector's Items

**Congratulations** to First Deputy Commissioner **Peter Montalbano** who received a Special Merit Award from the American Public Works Association, for his extraordinary efforts in managing both the Department's clean up of lower Manhattan and the Fresh Kills Landfill operation immediately following the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. The awards banquet was in Kansas City, Kansas. "I accepted this award not just on my behalf, but on behalf of the entire New York City Sanitation Department. It was the efforts of the whole Department that made the recovery operation a success," said Montalbano. **Great job . . .** Congratulations to five Sanitation Workers from Staten Island 2 who were honored for their act of heroism in which they safely removed a trapped motorist from his burning automobile. The brave Sanitation Workers were **Arvid Hannula, Robert Zimmer, Ralph Palomba, Thomas O'Gara** and **Pasquale Pucci**. **Golf Tourney . . .** Kudos to Manhattan 8 on their Annual Golf Outing success. Through their hard work, \$9,100 was raised for the Ronald McDonald House of New York, Inc. which will use the funds to help finance various programs and activities for the families residing at Ronald McDonald House. These activities encourage families and children to unite and interact amongst one another. Every day patients form friendships with other patients and, through these bonds, regain a sense of control and experience the fun of childhood. Their parents also gain strength and new understanding through the friendships they form with other parents who understand exactly how they feel. **Pittsburgh Calling . . .** **LaMar Barnes**, the Sanitation Commissioner for Pittsburgh, PA wrote to say that he was "impressed with the accomplishments your department has provided New York City in the wake of the terrible tragedy that occurred on September 11th. It was a momentous task to complete. Congratulations on a job well done." Thank you, Pittsburgh, for the kind words.



**A Day to Remember:** September 11, 2002 marked the first anniversary of the 21<sup>st</sup> century's 'date that will live in infamy'. The Department participated in a number of solemn events memorializing the thousands of innocent lives lost in the attacks on the World Trade Center a year earlier. The Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band staged a 14-mile, pre-dawn processional across Staten Island and were joined by hundreds of flag waving supporters en route to the Ground Zero commemoration. Later in the day, Sanitation Worker Miguel Casiano joined Governor Pataki, Mayor Bloomberg and former Mayor Giuliani in ringing the opening bell of the New York Stock Exchange along with representatives of other uniformed services.



**Good Day, Jim Ryan:** Members of the D.S.N.Y. Emerald Society Pipe and Drum Band welcome back Fox TV "Good Day, New York" anchor Jim Ryan to the program after a long illness. Band, led by Lt. Patrick Flynn of Environmental Police Unit, performed several numbers to the delight of the "Good Day" crew.

### sanitation news

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**Vito A. Turso**  
Deputy Commissioner

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### FITS LIKE A GLOVE

A group of 300 students in a small elementary school in Manteo, North Carolina, a secluded island off the coast recently, showed their appreciation for all the hard work that the Department of Sanitation performed during the World Trade Center recovery operation. The students, ages 5 to 8, decorated 250 pairs of work gloves by hand and shipped them to the Department where they are being displayed at headquarters and in garages.

