



Published weekly for Port Authority and PATH employees

February 28, 2008/Volume 7/Number 9

Retirement News

You can wish Deputy Director of Engineering/Construction **Tom Groark** a happy retirement on Monday, March 17, 1 p.m., at John Street Bar & Grill in Lower Manhattan. The cost is \$45.



And you can do the same for Engineer of Construction **Peter Schidrich** at Roma View in Howard Beach on Friday, April 4, at 1 p.m. The cost is \$60.



RSVPs are due tomorrow for **Thomas Smith's** retirement bash on March 13, and on March 21 for **Al Graser's** farewell celebration on April 2. See Employee Bulletins for details.

Calendar

Lunar New Year

The Port Authority's Asian American Association will celebrate the Year of the Rat at Oriental Food Restaurant in Chinatown on Friday, March 7, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$38.

All PA friends and family are invited. See Employee Bulletins for details.

NBE Scholarship Dinner

The Port Authority Network of Black Employees will hold its 2nd Annual Darius M. Slater Scholarship Awards Dinner and Dance on Saturday, April 12, at the Robert Treat Hotel, 50 Park Place, Newark, beginning at 7 p.m.

Darius, the son of **Sharon Slater** of PATH and **Darryl Slater** of Aviation, died of congenital heart disease at age 16.

The cost is \$85. If you are unable to attend but would like to donate to the scholarship fund, contact **Rochelle Joyner** at 04-4756.

One Hundred Years of Service

Executive Director **Anthony E. Shorris** and First Deputy Executive Director **Susan Bass Levin** greeted PATH commuters on Monday, helping the rapid-transit system in its effort to distribute vouchers for free SmartLink cards at all 13 stations. More than 30,000 customers have taken advantage so far. The card allows customers to access PATH by tapping it on a reader, and can be continuously replenished based on customers' needs.



Mike Dombrowski

Executive Director Shorris greets PATH riders Monday at the World Trade Center station.



John Denise

Ms. Levin explains the advantages of SmartLink to a customer at the Journal Square station.

The event was held to promote mass transit use, as the Port Authority celebrated the 100th anniversary of the PATH trip by offering free rides systemwide between 6 a.m. and 11 p.m. The Hudson & Manhattan Railroad first opened the mass transit system now known as PATH in February 1908. The Port Authority took it over in 1962.

"PATH and its predecessor railroad have played a critical role in our region's transportation system for the last 100 years," Chairman **Anthony R.**

Coscia said. "We are investing \$3.3 billion in PATH to encourage more commuters to use mass transit, and to meet the region's demand for safe and efficient travel over the next 100."

Mr. Shorris said, "Today, when the environment is on all of our minds, this still-growing mass transit system will help make the region green for the next 100 years."

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PATH Prepared for March 2

Technology Services' Nuri Hamidi (left) and PATH's Ralph Davila make changes to the passenger screen displays on one of the rapid-transit system's vending machines this month. PATH and TSD have tested and verified the new fare tables and software for the fare increase on Sunday, when riders will gain the ability to buy unlimited-ride 1-, 7- and 30-day passes. While PATH's one-way fare is increasing 25 cents, the discount for the purchase of as few as 10 trips creates a fare that is only 10 cents higher than the old fare.



Russell Jordan

Achievements

Black Achiever Award

WTC Construction Program Manager **Clarelle DeGraffe** has been awarded the 2008 National Salute to Black Achievers in Industry Award. The award was created in 1971 to recognize African Americans who have made outstanding contributions in business and their communities. It will be presented to Ms. DeGraffe at the 38th annual BAI Awards Dinner, hosted each year by the Harlem YMCA.



Mike Dombrowski

Woman of the Year

Aviation Strategic Planning & Policy General Manager **Maria Bordas** was named Woman of the Year by the Alliance for a Better Union County.



Mike Dombrowski

Ms. Bordas was recognized for her work with the Union County, NJ, YWCA in securing federal funding to establish a Transitional Housing Program for the YWCA that will serve victims of domestic abuse.

She was also cited for her work with the Elizabeth Lions Club to secure computer equipment for visually impaired individuals, and for her leadership in a program that awarded 140 scholarships at Kean University in 2007 to financially disadvantaged students.

Trading Post

In the market for a Wii system? Visit Trading Post on EmployeeNet.

PAPD Fraternal Organization Marks Black History Month with Honors

The Port Authority Police Bistate Coalition, a fraternal organization of African-American officers, marked Black History Month by presenting awards to several of the PAPD's notable achievers.

Deputy Chief **Anthony Whitaker** and Assistant Chief **Ben Smith Jr.** received the organization's Dedication to Public Safety Award; Captain **Lisha Harper** received the Lifetime Achievement Award; Sergeant **Michael Thomas** received the Bistate Coalition Merit Award for his support of the organization; and Police Officer **Scarlet Cooper**, the first African-American woman in the Special Operations Division's K-9 unit, received the coalition's Lifetime Achievement Award.



Deputy Chief Whitaker receives his award from Coalition President Lance Harrison (left) and Trustee Vladimir Simeon.

LGA Highlights Black History Month

LaGuardia Airport Operations Supervisor **Greg Darden** checks out "Emancipation," an exhibit created by local schoolchildren highlighting the achievements of African Americans in the fields of aviation, business, education, science, politics, and more. The exhibit comprises posters, drawings, and writings, and will be on display at the Central Terminal Building through February 29.



Michael Chisolm

One Hundred Years of Service

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Ms. Levin said, "At 100 years young, PATH continues to provide New Jerseyans and New Yorkers with a safe and efficient ride to work, school, and leisure activities."

The 10-year, \$3.3 billion investment plan will increase capacity by 25 percent. It includes replacing the existing fleet, adding cars, replacing the signals system, upgrading all stations, and lengthening trains on the Newark-to-World Trade Center line.

PA Career Fairs Draw a Crowd

About 2,700 job seekers turned up at the Port Authority's career fairs in Manhattan and Jersey City last week, where the agency recruited for maintenance and operations positions, including various skilled building trades, security guards, toll collectors, passenger information agents, and others.

"The response was excellent in both states," Human Resources Director **Mary Lee Hannell** said. "We anticipate this pool will be valuable to us in filling critical operations and maintenance positions across PATH and the PA."

The events took place February 12 at the PA Bus Terminal, and February 13 at Loew's Theatre in Journal Square.



Myron Johnson

On hand to answer questions about the PA and its facilities are (from left), Ranie Rampersaud, Steve Napolitano, Evelyn Crespo, Mark Schaff, and Wilma Baker.