Port Authority Braves the Storm

The bistate region had an unwanted guest this past weekend, Winter Storm Jonas, who brought upwards of two and a half feet of snow, 55 mile-per-hour wind gusts, and dangerously high tides. Due to the unsafe conditions, Governors Andrew Cuomo and Chris Christie declared a traffic ban into New York City from Saturday afternoon to Sunday morning.

Jonas made his presence known, but so did the Port Authority, which was ready to accommodate his arrival, and just as ready to promptly see him off.

The Office of Emergency Management led a coordination effort with all agency executives and facility managers, the PA Police, and dozens of employees from line and staff departments to manage the impact of the blizzard. Together they ensured that PA crossings, the PA Bus Terminal, and PATH would be ready when the ban was lifted, and the airports would be cleared for carriers to resume operations.

For the duration of the storm, the Ernesto L. Butcher Emergency Operations Center was fully staffed to monitor and direct PA responses to weather conditions. And facility crews took to the front lines, working tirelessly all day Saturday and Sunday to remove snow and ice from roadways, runways, and tunnels, and assist customers in need.

Various departments supported the massive snow removal effort, including Operations Services, which deployed and repaired snow equipment and vehicles, and Procurement, which provided vital supplies and materials.

Media Relations was also on point to disseminate the latest on facility conditions to the traveling public.

Through these collective, committed efforts, the PA moved enough of the fluffy stuff to get back to moving the region. By 7 a.m. Sunday, PA crossings, PA airports, PATH, and the PABT were all open for business.

Visit the PA’s Instagram page for more pictures of the agency’s winter storm warriors.
Continued on page 3

A Big Year for PA’s Little Railroad

New York New Jersey Rail, the short-line railroad running the port’s only cross-harbor car float operation, ended 2015 with a net profit – the first year it has done so since the Port Authority acquired it in 2008. This success is attributed to NYNJR’s efforts to steadily increase its traffic since the acquisition.

NYNJR moved 8,069 revenue cars in 2015, up from 4,839 in 2014 – a 67 percent increase. This resulted in a net profit of $580,601. By contrast, underground passageways. Additionally, the complex contains state-of-the-art escalators, elevators, and climate-control technology to ensure convenient movement to and from the street level.

Chairman John Degnan said, “More than a decade ago, planners envisioned a rebuilt transportation complex on the World Trade Center site that would provide critical links between various modes of transit for the first time. By later this year, this

Wanted: Your Achievements

If you’ve received an award, a degree, professional distinction, or other recognition, we want to tell your fellow employees about it. E-mail your information to panews@panynj.gov.

Oculus, Passage to 4 WTC To Open in March

There’s great news for those who travel to and from the World Trade Center via PATH, including Port Authority staffers commuting to headquarters. Mark your calendars. The World Trade Center Transportation Hub’s Oculus will open during the first week of March, greatly enhancing the commute for 100,000 weekday PATH riders.

When the Oculus opens, travelers can access One WTC, 4 WTC, the corner of Liberty and Church streets, and Vesey Street via new underground passageways. Additionally, the complex contains state-of-the-art escalators, elevators, and climate-control technology to ensure convenient movement to and from the street level.

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Continued on page 3

The World Trade Center Transportation Hub’s Oculus opens in the first week of March.

Continued on page 4

PA News / January 25, 2016 2
Oculus, Passage to 4 WTC to Open in March

Continued from page 2

vision will become reality. When the Oculus opens, commuters, visitors, and residents of Lower Manhattan will have a greatly enhanced commute to and from the site for the first time.”

Vice Chairman Scott Rechler said, “The Port Authority has a rich tradition in pushing the envelope and being the premier master builder in the region. The rebirth of the World Trade Center and the construction of the Transportation Hub touched not only Lower Manhattan, but the rest of the country and the world as well. We can all stand in awe with what has been accomplished here.”

Executive Director Pat Foye said, “The Hub will be a vibrant transit center and tourist destination with an extensive transportation network in the revitalized Lower Manhattan. This year, tenants, commuters, and visitors will enjoy easy access to the World Trade Center Transportation Hub’s first-class shopping, dining, and amenities, and also provide them with a first-class, convenient transit trip to and from the site.”

When completed, the hub will be the third largest transportation center in New York City, offering seamless connections for more than 250,000 daily commuters to 11 subway lines, PATH, Battery Park City Ferry Terminal, Brookfield Place, and the WTC site. Read the press release to learn more.

Know Your PA Phone Numbers

Meet Human Resources’ Andy Goldin. Andy is in a bit of a pickle, as he wants to call the Port Authority’s Employee Hotline, a phone number all staffers should know, and he just can’t seem to remember it. Oh, Andy...

The Employee Hotline is one of several important numbers staffers should save to their work and personal phone directories. For your convenience, and Andy’s, here are all those numbers again:

**Employee Hotline:** 888 472-6965 (4PANYNJ)
For confirming office closures and updates to operations during inclement weather and special circumstances

**Help Desk:** 212 435-7469
For assistance with computing and office technology issues

**HR Service Delivery:** 212 435-2870
For inquiries and assistance regarding benefits (e.g., changing dependents), and other HR-related matters

**OIG Hotline:** 973 565-4340
For reporting wrongdoing and criminal conduct directly to the Office of Inspector General

**OMS Absence Reporting:** 844 667-2255 (OMS-CALL)
For reporting your first day of absence

**PAPD Counterterrorism Hotline:** 800 828-7273 (PAPD)
For reporting any suspicious activity at PA/PATH transportation facilities

**Voice of the Employee (VOICE) Helpline:** 866 279-6844
For confidential and anonymous reporting of misconduct, discrimination, lack of compliance, or wrongdoing of any kind that conflicts with agency standards

Retirement News

**John Lew** of Comptroller’s is clocking out after 36 years of dedicated service. You can wish him well on January 28, 5 to 8 p.m., at Iberia Peninsula Restaurant in Newark. See the employee bulletin for more information.

Technology’s Richard Knauer is about to reply to his last Port Authority email. Be sure to wish him well before he hits “send.” His celebration is at noon on January 29 at Liberty Prime Steakhouse, a few blocks from 2 Montgomery Street. View the bulletin for details.

TB&T’s Laurie Price is preparing to exit the tunnel. Wish her well at a celebration luncheon at noon on January 29 in the Holland Tunnel Maintenance Bay. View the bulletin for details.

Engineering’s Saroj Bhol is ready to pop the champagne. You can wish him well on January 29 at noon, 2 Montgomery Street, fourth floor, northeast corner (Quality Assurance Division). View the employee bulletin for the details.

Aviation’s Maryann DeCaterina is set to retire on January 30, closing out a 36-year career that began at a very young age and saw her play roles in various departments, including Law, Government & Community Affairs, the Chairman’s Office, and Port Commerce. You can wish her well before her last day on January 29 and keep in touch with her at mdecaterina@hotmail.com. Also check out the bulletin.

Engineering’s Andy Saracena is trading in his hard hat for a straw one. Come join in his retirement celebration on February 11, noon to 3 p.m., at Libson Restaurant in Jersey City. See the bulletin for more details.

PATH’s Lucille Haley is looking forward to a good night’s sleep without any calls waking her up. Be sure to wish her well on February 19, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., at Salumeria Ercolano in Jersey City. See the bulletin for more details.

Get PA News

If you’d like PA News sent to your personal e-mail address, send a note to panews@panynj.gov.
PA News / January 25, 2016

**Internship Deadline Approaching**

The deadline to apply for the Port Authority’s 2016 Summer Internship Program is February 15. Human Resources welcomes applications from current graduate and undergraduate students in a variety of degree disciplines. To learn about eligibility requirements and how to apply, interested individuals should visit www.jointheportauthority.com. For additional information and guidance, contact Kate Baust at kbaust@panynj.gov.

**WTCC Is Working On Air**

Or at least that’s what it looks like in this photo of workers installing a gasket in the skylight of the World Trade Center Transportation Hub’s Oculus.

Two hundred and twenty-four pieces of glass comprise the world-class pavilion’s retractable skylight, which fills the hall with an abundance of natural light, and will serve as a window through which commuters can gaze at the crown of One WTC.

If you would like to see more pictures like this one, subscribe to the WTCC Weekly Progress Report. Email panews@panynj.gov if you would like to subscribe.

**NYCT Tours PATH**

PATH’s Transportation Division on January 11 hosted a walk-through of the PATH Train Control Center (PTCC) for representatives of New York City Transit’s Transportation, Rail Operations Support, and Capital Projects and Advanced Service Initiatives divisions.

PATH is the first stop on NYCT’s regional tour to learn how its various transit partners manage and staff their control centers and handle incidents.

PATH enjoyed a productive dialogue with NYCT members, having shared valuable perspectives, ideas, and information. This included the groups discussing their respective winter storm and hurricane plans. NYCT members also learned about PATH’s integrated situational awareness approach and Security Operations Center in the PTCC.

To continue the conversation and exchange of knowledge between the two transit authorities, NYCT has invited PATH to tour its control center sometime in the months ahead.

**A Big Year for PA’s Little Railroad**

Continued from page 2

NYNJR saw a net operating loss of $241,599 in 2014.

“New York New Jersey Rail plays a unique role in moving freight into and through our region,” said Port Commerce Director Molly Campbell. “It offers shippers a second rail gateway to areas east of the Hudson River, and an environmentally friendly alternative to moving freight across the harbor by truck. Our rail lines and our waterways are wonderful assets, and by using them more effectively, we can help to reduce traffic congestion, fossil fuel consumption, and diesel air emissions. We see NYNJR’s operations as fitting right in with this objective.”

NYNJR started as a small operation but has seen its traffic grow each year, thanks to new customers and the PA’s investments into the operation’s infrastructure.

PCD forecasts that NYNJR traffic will grow by 10 percent in 2016. To ensure this increase, the agency completed capital improvements to 65th Street Yard, NYNJR’s Brooklyn terminal, which is rapidly becoming a destination for new transloading business, and will subsequently grow and diversify marine traffic.

**Calendar**

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**at Home**

All employees who have Port Authority Outlook accounts can access EmployeeNet from home or any other outside location with Internet access. Just type paenet.panynj.gov and enter your Windows ID and password.

The site is for use only by authorized individuals and will not work from your office computer.
CSO, CTO Present: Cybersecurity Tips

To raise cybersecurity awareness at the Port Authority, the Offices of the Chief Security Officer and Chief Technology Officer will begin providing monthly tips in PA News that explain how you can protect against a variety of security risks to your work and personal computers.

January Cybersecurity Tip: Spam Defense

To protect your computers against spam — unsolicited email messages sent to a large number of recipients — follow these guidelines:

1. Don’t rely on your email provider’s spam filter, as no anti-spam system is 100 percent effective.
2. Exercise caution when opening all emails, especially those from unknown senders or those including anomalies in the email address, name of sender, or wording of the message.
3. Don’t click links or open attachments from unknown sources, as this may download malware (malicious software) onto your computer.

Port Welcomes World’s Largest RORO Container Ship

The Atlantic Star, considered the world’s largest roll-on-roll-off container ship (ConRORO), made its inaugural call on the Port of New York and New Jersey on January 16. The vessel, crewed under the British flag, docked at APM Terminals at the Elizabeth-Port Authority Marine Terminal, the first stop on its maiden transatlantic voyage.

The Atlantic Star is the first of five new vessels in Atlantic Container Line’s (ACL) G4 fleet, which are bigger, greener, and more efficient than their predecessors. These new vessels can hold 3,800 containers (twenty-foot equivalent units or “TEUs”) and more than 1,300 vehicles, and have 28,000 square feet of roll-on/roll-off space.

Diversify Your Portfolio

Portfolio is the Port Authority’s first official blog, launched by Media Relations last May to spotlight the lesser-known stories about the agency. In less than a year, the blog has had more than 68,000 views. Have you joined this growing following?

Keep an eye out for Public Affairs Broadcast announcing new posts. You also can receive email notifications by subscribing to the blog. Just visit the blog, click the “follow” button at the bottom of the page, and follow the instructions.

Check out some of the latest posts below. If you want to become a contributor, email Portfolio editor Roz Hamlett at rhamlett@panynj.gov.

“The Goethals Bridge: What’s the Number 2,450 Got to Do With It?”
by Rudy King

“Port Authority Celebrates the Life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)”
by Gregory Quinn

“Port Authority Daredevils”
by Lenis Rodrigues