

PA Kids Learn How We Keep the Region Moving

On Thursday, April 27, facilities and departments throughout the agency took part in *Take Our Children to Work Day*, giving these promising young kids (and future PA staffers!) a chance to see all the work that the Port Authority does to keep the region moving.

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George Washington Bridge



Midtown Bus Terminal



Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



Newark Liberty International Airport

PAPD Officers Talk Safety With AAPI Community

On Friday, April 28, members of the Port Authority Police Department met with the Asian American community in Brooklyn for an informational seminar and outreach event.

Sgt. **Sammy Chang**, Sgt. **Jeremy Lau**, and Officer **Ka Sing Lo** spoke with more than 300 local residents, many of whom are seniors, to discuss the work of the PAPD, common safety concerns — including how to spot and respond to scams, and other matters affecting the Asian American community.

“Our community is lacking this knowledge, and this was a great opportunity for us to raise awareness,” said Lina Chen of the Health Essential Association. “Thank you for providing such valuable and helpful information to the community.”



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Employee Experience Team Hosts Facility Meet-and-Greets

Over the past several months, the Employee Experience team has been making the rounds at agency facilities and offices, meeting face to face with employees, answering questions, and even handing out swag bags with PA-branded merch.

Representatives and leaders from Human Resources, the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Employee Communications, Ethics and Compliance, TEC, and other departments have been on hand at these ‘roadshow’ visits, most recently at the Midtown Bus Terminal and Lincoln Tunnel. Stay tuned to the *Broadcast Express* for more on upcoming events!



PA Delivers the Future With Cargo Drone Test

The agency's commitment to innovation was on full display on May 3 when it previewed the future of sustainable transport with a historic, first-of-its-kind drone cargo delivery test across the Hudson River.

The three-mile drone flight, which was broadcast via livestream to agency employees, followed a route between Jersey City and Brooklyn, and could potentially cut a 25-mile, one-hour cargo delivery down to under 15 minutes. This groundbreaking demonstration was part of the agency's commitment to seek new, innovative, and greener alternatives to deliver on its 102-year-old mission to keep the region moving.

For more details on this first-of-its-kind test, see [Now Arriving](#).



GOT NEWS FOR NEXT TIME?

Do you have news from your team, department or employee group to share in the next PA News? Send it to panews@panynj.gov by May 19 to be included in the May 26 issue.



Celebrating Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Embracing Opportunity and Fortifying Resilience

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, and May 20 is Asian Gold Ribbon Day.

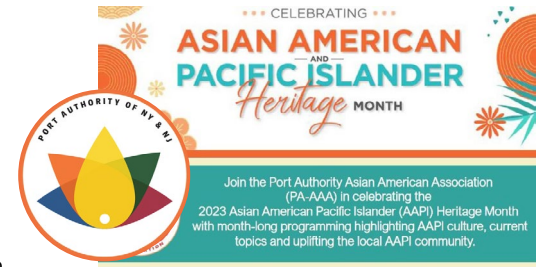
[AAPI Heritage Month](#) celebrates and recognizes the contributions made by the AAPI community to culture, art, science, medicine, and much more. The Port Authority Asian American Association (PA-AAA) works to foster equity and inclusion of the diverse AAPI community within the agency and throughout the communities we serve. Read on to learn how you can get involved with PA-AAA this month.

Port Authority Asian American Association

[PA-AAA](#) works to further professional opportunities for AAPI employees and their allies through hosting cultural celebrations, career development workshops, community outreach opportunities, and much more. In honor of AAPI Heritage Month, we invite you to [register to attend a PA-AAA event](#), the highlights of which are below and on the flyer.

- **2023 PA-AAA AAPI Heritage Month Celebration: Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity.** *Tuesday, May 16, from 9 to 11 a.m., Studio at 7 WTC.*
- **AAPI Mental Health Care.** Featuring **Dr. Howard Fisher**, Chief Medical Officer and Megan Yee from CCA. *Wednesday, May 17 at 3 p.m., and Tuesday, May 25 at 11 a.m., virtual.*
- **Family Arts and Crafts Night.** Featuring TEC's **Sophia Hsu.** *Thursday, May 18, from 5 to 6 p.m., virtual.*
- **Asian Gold Ribbon Day.** PA-AAA will send you a [gold ribbon](#) to wear in solidarity. *Saturday, May 20, all day.*
- **Stop AAPI Hate.** Featuring PA-AAA, PAPD Jade Society, and PAPD Agency Affairs. *Wednesday, May 24, from noon to 1 p.m., virtual.*
- **Bollywood Dance Class with Shehnaaz Dance Academy.** Join [Shehnaaz Jagasia](#) for a cultural dance class at our own PATH JSTC Plaza. *Thursday, May 25, from 1 to 2 p.m., JSTC Plaza, Jersey City.*

You can [learn more about the events and register to attend here](#).



- **Heart of Dinner - Decorate Notes & Bags for Delivering Love (Food) for Asian Elders**
May 11th, Thursday from 12pm - 2pm at 4WTC
- **AAPIHM 2023: Advancing Leaders Through Opportunity - AAPI Trailblazers of the PA**
May 16th, Tuesday from 9am - 11am at the Studio at 7WTC & Virtual
RSVP by May 12th
- **AAPI Mental Health Session**
May 17th, Wednesday from 3pm - 4pm, Virtual
May 25th, Thursday from 11am - 12pm, Virtual
- **Family Arts and Craft Night**
May 18th, Thursday from 5pm - 6pm, Virtual
- **Asian Gold Ribbon Day**
May 20th, Saturday, All-Day
- **Stop AAPI Hate - A Discussion with PA-AAA, PAPD Jade and PAPD Agency Affairs**
May 24th, Wednesday from 12pm - 1pm, Virtual
- **Bollywood Dance Class with Shehnaaz Dance Academy**
May 25th, Thursday from 1pm - 2pm at JSTC Plaza, Jersey City

WTC Liberty Park Landscaper Garners National Acclaim

It's no simple task to keep Liberty Park on the World Trade Center campus looking picturesque each and every day, all year long. And yet, John Mini Distinctive Landscapes, a certified woman-owned business enterprise (WBE), does just that.

The firm was recently recognized by the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP), receiving the prestigious Gold award for Commercial Landscape Management for its work in maintaining Liberty Park.

The award submission highlighted the challenges involved in navigating both the security logistics of the park and performing maintenance in a safe manner given the high frequency of visitors that visit the park and the WTC campus on a daily basis.



STAFF NEWS

Michael Farbiarz Confirmed as Federal Judge; Amy Fisher Named Acting General Counsel

General Counsel **Michael Farbiarz**, who was nominated by President Biden as U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey, was confirmed to the federal bench on May 2 by the U.S. Senate. Michael departed from the agency last week.

As the leader of the Port Authority's Law Department, Michael helped to oversee thousands of litigations and to guide the negotiation and documentation of numerous highly significant commercial transactions, including several multi-billion-dollar airport redevelopment agreements. A graduate of Harvard University and Yale Law School, before coming to the Port Authority Michael served for nearly a decade as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, where he led multiple counter-terrorism prosecutions.

As we say farewell to Michael, we are proud to announce the appointment of **Amy Fisher** as Acting General Counsel. A graduate of Columbia Law School and Wesleyan University, Amy joined the Port Authority in 2017, and has served as the Agency's First Deputy General Counsel and Director of Legal Affairs.

Since joining the Port Authority, Amy has been the Agency's lead on in-house legal support for airport development activities; for the lease negotiations in support of the Ronald O. Perelman Performing Arts Center; for the extension of the air and marine terminal leases with New York City and the City of Newark; for construction closeout for the Goethals Bridge, the George Washington Bridge Bus Station, LaGuardia Terminal B, and other projects.

In light of the key role the General Counsel plays at the Port Authority, the agency will be conducting a national search for candidates to step into the General Counsel role. Amy is a strong candidate for the permanent position. She and potentially other internal candidates will be a key part of our search process.



Michael Farbiarz



Amy Fisher

Jim Heitmann Named New COO

James Heitmann, a 37-year veteran of the agency, has taken over the role of Chief Operating Officer (COO). Jim has served as the Director, Aviation Redevelopment since May 2022, as the key leader and driving force for our multi-billion-dollar redevelopment programs. Under his leadership, the full transformation of LaGuardia Airport has been realized, a new Terminal A at Newark Liberty has opened, and efforts are well underway to transform JFK into a modern, 21st-century airport.

Jim began his Port Authority career in 1986 as an Engineering Trainee, the predecessor of today's Engineering Associates program. He advanced through the ranks within Engineering, and from there, transitioned to facility operations and maintenance. Jim spent over ten years at Newark Liberty in increasingly responsible positions culminating as the Deputy General Manager in 2011. For the past nine years as General Manager and later Deputy Director of Aviation Development, Jim focused exclusively on Aviation Redevelopment programs.

In his role as Chief Operating Officer, Jim will oversee the agency's five lines of business — Aviation, Port, PATH, Tunnels, Bridges & Terminals, and the World Trade Center — as well as the Operations Services Department. His experience in both facility operations and redevelopment will be invaluable as we continue to enhance operational excellence across all of our facilities and advance transformative redevelopment projects.



Jim Heitmann

Staffers Clean Up the Ports for Earth Month

Port Department staff in coordination with employees from New Jersey Marine Terminal, New York Marine Terminal, and 4 World Trade Center joined together in recognition of Earth Month — rolling up their sleeves for the annual Port Cleanup Day on Friday, April 21. Taking place at the ports in Brooklyn, Newark, and Elizabeth, volunteers filled up countless bags of trash in an effort to clean up and beautify the facilities.

In addition, the Port Department also got several tenants on board — with six conducting their own cleanup events in their respective leaseholds in the week leading up to Earth Day. Participants included AAK, DiPinto, Harbor Freight, Seamen's Church Institute, Red Hook Container Terminal, and Toyota.



TRADING POST

Did you know that you can use the [Trading Post](#) to request an item you're looking for? Work with your fellow PA employees to get any supplies you may need. Get started [here](#).



CALENDAR

PAHS: Earth Keepers in Jersey City

Saturday, May 20 at 9 a.m. The Port Authority Hispanic Society (PAHS) is hosting a community service event at Liberty State Park in Jersey City. Volunteer to maintain this beautiful park while enjoying wonderful views of the harbor, Lady Liberty, and Ellis Island. Volunteers are needed to support various gardening projects including weeding, mulching, clean-up, removing invasive botanical species and planting. RSVP by May 12 to **Eduardo José** at PAHS_CommunityService@panynj.gov.

PAVA: Wear Jeans to Support Veterans

Wednesday, May 24. Join the Port Authority Veterans Association (PAVA) and take part in the GI Go Fund's [Red, White, and Jeans](#) program (formerly Jeans for Troops) to show your support for our military veterans in their greatest time of need. To participate, you can [donate to the GI Go Fund](#) as part of the PAVA/Port Authority team and then wear jeans to work on May 24. You can [donate and participate](#) directly through the event website. PAVA **will not** be collecting funds. Employees must obtain permission from their supervisor to dress down prior to signing up. **Please send photos of you wearing jeans to work on May 24 to PAVA@panynj.gov.**

Twilight Golf League

Every Wednesday through August 23. The three-decade-year-old league plays 9 holes of match play every Wednesday starting at 4 p.m. League is handicap based; players of all skills levels compete equally. Alternates between South Shore Country Club on Staten Island and Skyway Country Club in Jersey City. Participation is not a weekly commitment. **Active and retired employees are welcome.** The \$145 annual dues cover a BBQ after the last week of play, and a golf outing held at Farmstead Golf Course in September. To register or learn more, contact **Erik Lombardo** (elombar@panynj.gov or 212-502-2470). [See the flyer](#) for more information.

PA Kids Learn How We Keep the Region Moving

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Departments came up with all sorts of fun and engaging activities to show these PA children all about what we do each and every day. From scavenger hunts, arts and crafts, budgeting games, meet and greets with PAPD officers and K-9s, live demonstrations, and guided tours, there was plenty of fun and interactive learning to be had by all.



George Washington Bridge



JFK International Airport



LaGuardia Airport



JFK International Airport



Engineering Department



Major Capital Projects



LaGuardia Airport



Newark Liberty International Airport



Midtown Bus Terminal



Engineering Department