



THE DGS DIGEST

CONGRATULATIONS ROGER ISHMAEL! DGS SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Roger Ishmael, the DGS September 2018 Employee of the Month! Roger is an Electrical Inspector II in our Major Projects Division and has been with the City for 25 years. He is known for his consistent performance, hard work, and ability to handle demanding projects.

Roger is the type of inspector we want on the DGS team. His knowledge and understanding of projects allows him to give detailed solutions when issues arise. He is a master electrician by trade and as a result, has been able to catch things when reviewing pre-construction drawings that would have led to increased project costs by the time of construction. Recently Roger received an OSHA certification and continues to increase his construction knowledge by taking outside trainings. His expertise has resulted in cost savings to the city.

In his free time he enjoys fishing on the Chesapeake Bay going for the big catch (as pictured to the right).



REMEMBERING MICHAEL (MIKE) JONES DGS CELEBRATES HIS SERVICE AND LIFE

On Friday, August 24th, DGS lost an integral member of our team, Michael (Mike) Jones. Mike was a Building Superintendent in our Facilities Maintenance Division. He served the City for nearly 31 years. Mike started as a painter in the Building Maintenance Shop within DPW, then became a building repairer, ultimately working his way up to Superintendent for DGS Facilities Maintenance. Mike was great at many things, but his specialty was carpentry. A plethora of his woodworking projects can be found throughout the city.

Steve Stricklin, the Facilities Maintenance Division Chief, remembers Mike fondly. He recalled when he first became chief of the division, it was extremely short staffed. Stricklin said, "Mike Jones was a reliable force in those early years. He was always responsive and always able to get the work done. Mike was a constant support for his team in the shop. Mike was always looking to make work better for his team and ensure they had a safe working environment. And he loved hosting the holiday party each year."

A co-worker and friend, Carole Young, worked closely with Mike on many projects. "He took me under his wing when I first arrived 14 years ago. I enjoyed working with him because he always made the hard projects easy. He helped bring my designs to life. His cool personality was just another accessory like his many ensembles of hats and matching shoes."

Although he loved working for DGS, he loved spending time with his family more. Mike was an all-around great guy. He was always working on a "project". He enjoyed music, movies and sports. Mike will be greatly missed.



Mike with Mr. Ben at his 90th birthday party.

LEAD TO SUCCEED

FINAL PRESENTATIONS FOR THE CLASS OF 2018



The 2018 DGS Lead to Succeed class presented their final capstone project this month. This year's project was an alternative solution to our Fleet Division's inventory process. Fleet's store rooms have valuable inventory sitting on the shelves and it is costing the Department money. To solve this problem the group created a standard operating procedure to help inventory managers decide what inventory is profitable or useful and which stock should be removed. 2018 class member Fred Ramirez, who works in Facilities Maintenance, said he hopes the solution, "...will help DGS operate in a more efficient manner with parts inventory and also save our great city money over time that had previously been overlooked."

Great work and congratulations to this year's participants: Robert Cole, Shaun Griffin, Donna Jones, Holly Jones (not pictured), Derrick McCorvey, and Fred Ramirez

DGS AND HEALTH

HOST NALOXONE TRAINING



This month, Director Steve Sharkey was joined by Health Commissioner Dr. Leana Wen to host a naloxone training for over 100 Baltimore City employees at the War Memorial Building. DGS and the Health Department are partnering to provide naloxone kits in four piloted buildings in the downtown campus. Director Sharkey said, "After hearing Dr. Wen speak about the impact of opioids on our community, I knew DGS had to be a part of the solution and tasked my staff to find ways that we could help." The increased availability of naloxone will provide an opportunity for DGS and the City to make a proactive stance in fighting the opioid epidemic and increase the availability of the life-saving drug in the downtown area.

PARTY IN THE PARK

INTER-AGENCY CELEBRATION AT DRUID HILL PARK



On Saturday, September 22nd, DGS staff came together for a day of relaxation and fun at Druid Hill Park. The staff appreciation event was hosted by DOT, DPW, Rec and Parks, BCIT, MOED, and DGS. There was delicious food, a rock climbing wall, Zumba classes, and a live DJ! The inter-agency softball tournament was a close call. It was two tough games, and while our team pushed themselves to work their hardest, sadly we were unable to bring home the championship. Great work everyone and we hope you will join us again next year!

GAINSHARING PILOT

MAYOR PUGH JOINS DGS AT FALLSWAY SUBSTATION



This month, Mayor Catherine Pugh joined our Fleet Management Division at the Fallsway Substation to celebrate the first round of payouts earned from our pilot Gainsharing Program. The program is a cost avoidance measure in collaboration with the Department of Finance, Fleet employees and their respective labor organizations (AFSCME Local 44, CUB and MAPS). The aim is to improve the operations of the Fleet Management Division while simultaneously reducing costs and servicing our City agencies.

The pilot program ran from January to June of this year and saved the city over \$300,000. The Fleet employees involved in the program were able to see direct returns from the cost avoidance that accrued because of their high quality work and quick turn over of vehicles in our shops. Now that the pilot is complete we await what the next six months will have to offer!

CHINESE DELEGATION VISIT

AT FLEET CENTRAL GARAGE



Earlier this month, DGS had the opportunity to host a Chinese delegation from Shanghai. During the exchange, the group discussed the use of technology and innovation in municipal fleets. When the delegation arrived at the Central Garage, they received a tour of our operational facilities. The group had incredible feedback about the shop which made a great first impression. After the tour there was a presentation on how Fleet has become more data-driven and focused on cost saving innovations. DGS staff showcased solutions that we use at DGS which may be adapted and utilized by other municipalities all over the world. Thank you to all the DGS staff that helped to plan and prepare for the delegation's visit.

HR ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!

CORY HUNT ELECTRICAL MECHANIC II

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

YVONNE RICE 24 YEARS OF SERVICE

CHARLES JEFFRIES 29 YEARS OF SERVICE

CHARLES BRANDY 31 YEARS OF SERVICE

SUPERVISOR SUMMIT

DGS MANAGEMENT COMES TOGETHER

On Wednesday, September 19th, DGS supervisors gathered for the annual Supervisor Summit. This daylong training allows management to learn from one another, plan for the upcoming year, and gain refreshers on technical skills related to human resources. The annual summit is a great way for DGS Supervisors across all four divisions to come together, learn new skills, and grow as leaders.



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