



**P1 / POWMS SCHOLARSHIP**

The Port of Wilmington Maritime Society Scholarship is available online. Details and deadlines inside.



**P2 / COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Your Port of Personal Service renders personal service throughout the community.



**P3 / TECH CORNER**

Check out the latest advances in technology at work and at home.



**P6 / FLU PREVENTION TIPS**

The flu in this country has reached higher than normal proportions. Learn the difference between the cold & flu and prevention tips.

# Port O'Call

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE PORT OF WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

VOL X, ISSUE II

SPRING EDITION



m/v Green Italia discharge operations at the Port of Wilmington, Delaware

## Chilean Fruit Arrives

On the 18th of December, the Port of Wilmington welcomed the first US shipment of breakbulk Chilean winter fruit with the arrival of the specialized reefer m/v *Green Italia*. Her cargo consisted of 335,000 boxes of fresh Chilean table grapes, cherries, blueberries, apricots, peaches, and nectarines. 2017-2018 marks the 8th consecutive season that Wilmington, the nation's foremost marine terminal for perishable cargo, has had the honor of welcoming the inaugural breakbulk shipment

into the US, thus allowing the Port's customers to essentially be "first to market." The cargo is stored in the Port's 800,000 sf of on-dock refrigerated warehouse complex, before distribution throughout Canada and the eastern region

of the US. The Port handled over 14,100,000 boxes of Chilean fruit in the 2016-17 season. This important trade supports over 857 family sustaining jobs annually generates \$48m in personal income and \$5m in tax rev for the State.

**“We are privileged, to once again serve our customers and trade partners in support of the timely distribution of the freshest available fruit to North American Consumers,”** said Gene Bailey the Port's Executive Director.

# PORT Scholarship

The Port of Wilmington Maritime Society is pleased to announce that the Dennis Latina Scholarship for the 2018 - 2019 school year is currently available online, for your use. If interested, please visit: [www.thecenterforscholarshipadministration.com](http://www.thecenterforscholarshipadministration.com)

Each year, the Port of Wilmington Maritime Society offers a scholarship to a deserving high school senior or college student whose parent, grandparent or legal guardian is employed by a company at the Port of Wilmington. The scholarship is in the amount of \$2,500, and recipients may reapply annually.

Many children and grandchildren of your coworkers have benefitted from this generous scholarship fund.

One of the most recent recipients is Ethen Brown, son of Pamela Brown, the Port's Accounts Payable Specialist. Ethen graduated from Middletown High School in 2017 and currently attends Delaware Technical Community College.



Port of Wilmington Maritime Society's

**Dennis Latina Scholarship  
2018 - 2019 Academic Year**

**Award:** \$2,500 for one year  
**Application Deadline:**  
April 1, 2018 (4:30 p.m.)

**Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) must be filed prior applying. FAFSA applications are accepted for this school year beginning October, 2017.**



When asked to make a comment about the Port's Scholarship Fund, Ethen remarked, *"Paying for college is one of the toughest parts of earning a degree, however, the Maritime Society Scholarship Fund afforded me the opportunity to purchase my books and other necessities that were required for me to start my college career. I view a college degree as an investment in my future and essential in today's job market. The Port of Wilmington Maritime Society Scholarship Fund was helpful in getting me started and I am very thankful."*

# Cold or Flu?

## Know the difference

The flu and the common cold are both respiratory illnesses but they are caused by different viruses. Because these two types of illnesses have similar symptoms, it can be difficult to tell the difference between them based on symptoms alone. In general, the flu is worse than the common cold, and symptoms are more intense. Colds are usually milder than the flu. People with colds are more likely to have a runny or stuffy nose. Colds generally do not result in serious health problems, such as pneumonia, bacterial infections, or hospitalizations.

Cold	Symptom	Flu (Influenza)
Rare, Mild (less than 100°)	Fever	Almost Always High (Greater than 100°)
Rare	Headache	Common
Slight	General Aches & Pains	Usual/Often Severe
Gradual over a Few Days	Onset	Rapid Onset
Common	Stuffy Nose	Rare
Common	Runny Nose	Common
Common	Sore Throat	Sometimes
Mild to Moderate	Cough	Common - Can be Severe (Dry)

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# Smooth Operator

Frank Vignuli, the Port's Operations Director was recently asked to share his thoughts and to comment about how this season, the Port's busiest season, is shaping up so far.

Frank had this to say,

*"As is usual at this time of year, we are running on all cylinders. Our winter Swedish steel, Chilean fruit and Moroccan clementine programs are all working at the Port on a regular basis. This year we have the additional challenge of being FSMA compliant."*

*"FSMA (Food Safety Modernization Act) is a new program run by the FDA that ensures that all the products we consume are handled safely from their source to their final destination. We have trained our employees as well as the employees of all our customers to make them aware of the new rules that are in place. We started enforcing these new rules in August and I am very proud to say that we have had steady improvement week by week and month by month. Operations are running very smoothly!"*

*"We would not be where we are today without the buy-in of all of our employees."*



*Forklift Operator working Chilean Fruit.*

## In Memoriam

Sorrowfully, we have lost several of our precious co-workers / friends / and members of the Port family since the publication of the last employee newsletter. The following poem is in tribute to them all.

### Don't Cry For Me

Don't cry for me, now I have died,  
for I'm still here, I'm by your side.  
My body is gone, but my soul is here,  
please don't shed another tear.  
I am still here, I'm all around,  
only my body lies in the ground.  
I am the snowflake that kisses your nose,  
I am the frost, that nips your toes.  
I am the sun, bringing you light,  
I am the star, shining so bright.  
I am the rain, refreshing the earth,  
I am the laughter, I am the mirth.  
I am the bird, up in the sky,  
I am the cloud, that's drifting by.  
I am the thoughts, inside your head,  
While I'm still there, I can't be dead.





# Community Outreach

## Operation: Puerto Rico

**Logisticus Project Group** - The Port has successfully concluded an important export shipment with new customer and 3PL (3rd Party Logistics) company, Logisticus Project Group in support of a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Hurricane Maria Relief project to Puerto Rico.

Exelon subsidiary utility companies, including PECO and Delmarva Power, provided bucket and pole digger trucks that were loaded February 8th onto a 263 foot long deck barge at the Port's Auto Berth. The 85 trucks and support vehicles weighed as much as 30 tons and were delivered to the Port from as far away as Chicago.

Linemen from the associated utilities will be flown to San Juan to meet their vehicles which will then be used to, not just reconstruct the existing electric grid, but to actually expand it and make it more resilient. This truck and worker deployment is scheduled to last 60 days.

The Port Team received high praise from Logisticus for its performance in getting this project expeditiously underway to its very disadvantaged destination.



*Electric utility bucket vehicles headed to Puerto Rico.*

**According to news articles**, it's been 5 months since Puerto Rico began its plunge into the longest blackout in U.S. history.

After much struggle and a botched contract to restore power, the embattled island was showing some progress in its recovery when on Sunday 2/11/18, the lights went out again: An explosion and fire at two power plants shrouded much of the Northern part of the island in darkness. A breaker exploded at a power station leaving more than 175,000 households and businesses in northern PR without electricity overnight after Hurricane Maria nearly wiped out the public power company's dilapidated system. The outage highlighted the strains that are being placed on the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority that has been struggling to turn the lights on and keep them on since the September, 2017 catastrophe.

As of February 12th, 84% of the island had power back on; however five months later, more than 400,000 customers still don't have electricity.

Excerpts from: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/explosion-in-puerto-rico-knocks-out-power/>; and, <https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/power-outage-in-puerto-rico-latest-snap>



*Utility vehicles were fastened to the barge using "D" rings and lashings to keep them from shifting during the voyage.*

Each holiday dinner box included a 12-15 lb turkey, 5 lb. bag of potatoes, mac & cheese, rice, stuffing, canned vegetables, gravy, cranberry sauce, brownie mix, evaporated milk, bread, butter, and fruit cocktail. The boxes also contained fresh fruit: pineapples and bananas donated by Dole and crates of clementines donated by Jac Vandenberg.



## Community Outreach Holiday Dinner Boxes



**“The Port of Personal Service.”** Mark Smith & Gene Pennewell, Port employees and ILA Local #1694-1 members, shown above rendering personal service.

What do the Emanuel Dining Room, the Latin American Community Center and the Wilmington Senior Center all have in common? Each of these organizations work to service the community by providing sustenance to the less fortunate. Whether counseling, assisting with job placement, providing clothing, locating shelter, or donating meals, they work diligently on behalf of those who cannot help themselves. Thanks to a collaborative effort between the Port of Wilmington and the International Longshoremen’s Local #1694-1, and, in the spirit of the holiday season, 60 hungry families were

provided with complimentary holiday dinner boxes. Thanks to Dole and Jac Vandenberg for providing fruit donations. Cindy Gamble, Ministry of Caring program director is quoted as saying, *“The dinner boxes for the needy were received with open arms. By the time the men came back with the 2nd delivery, 5 boxes had already been loaded into cars of hungry families. The generous gift of food from the Port of Wilmington, the ILA, Dole and Jac Vandenberg brings the spirit of Christmas to our local community.”*

## TECH CORNER

### WORK

#### WEBSITE

The Port of Wilmington’s website has been given a fresh new look. Please check it out at [www.portofwilmington.com](http://www.portofwilmington.com)

#### WAREHOUSES AND SCANNERS

The Technology Solutions Department is in the process of testing a prototype that will replace the scanners currently in use in the warehouses. The project, in its infancy, is intended to replace the scanners with smartphones that are considered to be more intuitive and user friendly. This new phone scanning bundle system, when launched, will enable the users a more comfortable scanning experience with increased speeds and better scanning capabilities. Fernando Duarte, Systems Architech said that, “In TS, we always strive to accommodate changing requirements as technology and customer demands change rapidly.”



### PLAY

EVERYTHING YOU CAN DO WITH AMAZON ALEXA  
As we all know, the world is evolving. Many of our children and grandchildren have no clue what a turntable or a DVD player is, how a cassette player or a rotary phone works, or have ever watched a black & white television. Yet can tell us everything we need to know about smartphones, tablets, and Apps. The world has evolved into smart phones, smart TVs, and the latest personal voice assistants.

#### AMAZON’S VOICE ASSISTANT - ALEXA

can make it so that you never have to lift a finger to perform certain actions. Not only can Alexa tell you simple things such as the time, set up an alarm and play music, but it can also be programmed to do things such as request an Uber pickup and order a pizza.



# Steel Strong

## SSAB Swedish Steel Returns

The first SSAB / Swedish Steel vessel - m/v *Arubaborg* commenced discharge operations on January 2, 2018. This is the 12th consecutive year that Wilmington will be handling their winter program of steel coils and plate that comes into play once the Great Lakes close. Cargo is loaded at SSAB's own mill-based pier in Sweden.



The *Arubaborg* carried the second largest volume ever of SSAB steel, consisting primarily of heavy steel coils. Additionally, and as a "first," this inaugural SSAB/Swedish Steel import vessel for the winter season also carried steel for another customer. This cargo consisted of 2,370 tons of steel round bars for Chicago based Magellan Corp. that was loaded in Poland and discharged here.

Significantly, Magellan Corp. is a new customer of the Port. The round bars are being loaded onto trucks for transport to the Midwest. A follow-on shipment of roundbars, also piggy-backing with SSAB, is expected later in the season.

## Breaking News? Story Idea? Contact Us!

The Port o' Call is a news publication for the employees of the Port of Wilmington. Story ideas, comments, and questions are always welcome and should be submitted to: Debra J. Thompson  
Tel: (302) 472-7802;  
Fax: (e302) 472-7840; or,  
Email: [dthomp@port.state.de.us](mailto:dthomp@port.state.de.us)



1 Hausel Road, Wilmington, Delaware 19801  
(302) 472-PORT (7279)  
[www.portofwilmington.com](http://www.portofwilmington.com)



# Cold or Flu? Know the difference

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Risk factors include the following: Contact with a person who has either a cold or the flu - especially contact with mucus membranes, saliva, and/or items that an infected person has touched (for example, towels, toothbrushes, and cups); contact with other objects that may be touched by an infected person such as handrails, doorknobs, and other high-use items, risk increase individuals with compromised immune systems; in general, the young and the old are usually more susceptible to these viruses; stress, smoking, and lack of sleep can increase your risk for getting these viral infections. Individuals who do not receive an annual flu vaccine are more likely to risk getting infected with a flu virus; unfortunately, because of the high number of viruses that may cause a cold, there is no vaccine available commercially against the cold viruses. Flu can have very serious associated complications. When in doubt, see your doctor!

## FLU PREVENTION TIPS

