



Wheelabrator BALTIMORE News

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Fish tales

Wheelabrator's environmental commitment includes Aquaculture

By DAVID LISCIO

Wearing chest waders and brandishing a long-handled net, Joe Stankiewicz quickly captures a dozen shiny bass that wiggle wildly when brought to the surface of the swimming-pool-sized fish tank.

The tank is one of two adjacent to the Wheelabrator Technologies waste-to-energy plant in Baltimore. Protected by a roof and screening,

the tanks are home to thousands of tiny Largemouth Bass delivered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

The Aquaculture Center is a sign of the company's environmental commitment. Each year, usually in early spring, the DNR provides fish that are barely an inch long. By fall, the fish are six to eight inches long and ready for release into Maryland rivers.

See FISH Page 6

Wheelabrator's Joe Stankiewicz, left, and Linwood Wade capture inch-long bass at the Aquaculture Center.

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Host with the most



Demely has been giving tours at Wheelabrator for 25 years

By DAVID LISCIO

Back in 1984, Lou Demely got wind of an opportunity that would change his life.

George Hudnet was plant manager at the new Wheelabrator waste-to-energy facility in Baltimore's Westport neighborhood, its stack clearly visible from Demely's house a few blocks away.

"The plant manager told me they were going to hire some tour guides, and I figured with winter coming on, it would help get me through," Demely, 82, explained while giving a tour to Calverton Middle School students during Garbageman Appreciation Day on October 27. "I was already interested in the plant construction and what they were planning to do with

See DEMELY Page 7

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Wheelabrator Baltimore, L.P.

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Looking forward to working with you



David Jones

Welcome to the fall edition of *Wheelabrator Baltimore News*. I am thrilled to be back home in Baltimore as plant manager, and I look forward to working with you in the months and years ahead.

When former plant manager Chris Leyen was promoted, he left me with big shoes to fill. However, I am fully confident in our

operations and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Baltimore is a vibrant community, and I am proud to be a part of some of the initiatives that are making this city stronger. In October, we presented our second check in support of a "Cleaner Greener Baltimore." We also hosted our 17th annual Garbageman Appreciation Day, welcoming all of the men and women who enter our plant on a regular

basis. It was a pleasure to spend some time with them and make some new friends in the process.

I look forward to the work we will be doing in Baltimore's schools, especially in support of Federal Hill Prep and Calverton students taking part in the Wheelabrator Symposium for Environment and Education. I was not able to see the most recent presentations last spring, but I commend the students for tackling important issues in their neighborhoods, such as lead poisoning and wetland restoration. It's inspiring to see young people with such passion for making this world a better place. I can only imagine what they will be able to accomplish at the 2010 event.

Thank you all for your continued support and I hope to have the opportunity to meet many of you. Remember, our doors are always open and we encourage you to arrange for a tour of our waste-to-energy plant.

Best wishes for a happy and safe holiday season.

David Jones is plant manager of Wheelabrator Baltimore.

Open-door policy

Have you ever wondered what happens to your trash after it is collected from the curb?

We invite you to tour our plant and witness firsthand the journey waste takes as it is converted into electricity.

To set up a tour, please contact:

Wheelabrator Baltimore
1801 Annapolis Rd
Baltimore, MD 21230
410-234-0808

Plant manager's position brings Jones home

BY DAVID LISCIO

Wheelabrator Baltimore Plant Manager David Jones has come full circle.

The Elkton, Md., resident, who grew up in Baltimore, joined the company 13 years ago. A 1989 graduate of Chesapeake High School, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and spent five years in the submarine service before entering the private sector.

"I was aboard a boomer," said Jones, 37, referring to the ballistic submarine USS Henry M. Jackson, the only vessel of its class not named for a state. As an E-5, he was stationed on the West Coast. Aboard the submarine he was a machinist mate.

When Jones began his career with Wheelabrator, he worked at a pelletizer plant, one of three then in operation that were designed to create fertilizer for agriculture. He was later transferred to the Wheelabrator Falls plant in Morrisville, Pa., assigned as assistant plant operator and eventually as plant operator.

A new assignment followed in the mid-1990s at the Wheelabrator Gloucester facility in Westville, N.J.,



David Jones joined the Wheelabrator family 13 years ago.

where Jones was shift supervisor. He was promoted to operations manager while in New Jersey, a post he held from 2003-06. Then it was back to the Wheelabrator Falls plant for three more years, from 2006-09 as

operations manager.

"I did a big circle to get back to Baltimore," he said, chuckling. "It's good to be back."

Jones replaces Chris Leyen, who has been promoted to manager of maintenance systems for the entire Wheelabrator system of waste-to-energy facilities. Leyen will remain based in Baltimore.

When he's not working, Jones relaxes by target shooting, mostly using his shotguns to hit "sporting clays". He and his wife, Hope, who runs a small home daycare business, also spend many weekends attending martial arts competitions. They have three children: Braxton, 16, Alexandria, 11, and Isabella, 8.

"Both my girls are state of Maryland champions," said Jones, explaining that the girls are experts at Tae Kwan Do, competing in three categories – weapons, forms and sparring.

Being a parent has overtaken other kinds of fun that he once enjoyed, such as BMX bicycle racing on a dirt track.

"We go to the girls' competitions, which takes up a lot of time, driving here and there. But I love it," he said.

Wheelabrator Baltimore Quick Facts

The Baltimore facility processes up to 2,250 tons per day of municipal solid waste. At full capacity, the plant can generate more than 60,000 kilowatt-hours of electrical energy per hour, which is the equivalent of supplying all of the electrical needs of 68,000 Maryland homes.

At home at work

Keener feels like family at Wheelabrator

BY DAVID LISCIO

Shirley Keener is the first person a visitor to the Wheelabrator Baltimore waste-to-energy plant is likely to encounter.

Although she serves as the de-facto plant receptionist, Keener, an operations specialist, is good at multi-tasking, sifting through reports as she answers the phones. A resident of Whitmarsh in Baltimore County, Keener is in her 16th year at Wheelabrator Baltimore.

"I really love it here. It's like family," she said, recalling how she happily worked at Armco Steel Co. until another company bought it out and laid off most of the workforce.

"Lucky for me, the controller at Armco was friendly with the controller at Wheelabrator, so shortly after I was let go I came to work here," she said. "I started in the accounts-payable department and then moved on to

administrative assistant."

Keener is a self-described Army brat, having grown up at Fort Howard, a former military installation in Baltimore County near the present-day settlement of Fort Howard. She's somewhat amazed by people who don't know about Fort Howard's significance in the War of 1812. After all, it was the site of the largest invasion of the United States in history.

On the morning of Sept. 12, 1814, the Battle of North Point began as the British landed about 7,000 troops in a campaign to capture and burn Baltimore. The Red Coats — discouraged when American sharpshooters Daniel Well and Henry McComas killed their popular commanding general — fled back to the boats.

"I thought just about everybody knew that," Keener said, smiling. One of four children, Keener

graduated from Sparrow Point High School in 1972 and began working soon after.

"I'm forever talking to people. That's one of the things I love about this job," she said. "I get to talk to all of the drivers, the scale house, the bosses from the corporate office. It's friendly. It's like family and it makes me feel appreciated."

Keener and her husband, Michael, who is retired, spend plenty of free time with their three-year-old grandson, Drew. Keener's son, Michael Jr., and daughter-in-law, Tiffany, live close by. Her daughter, Carolynn, is an EMT in Baltimore.

"When my husband and I were younger we used to go camping, mostly near the Pennsylvania line. But today we mainly play with our grandson. We do lots of babysitting. We have fun playing with Drew. He's really something," she said, proudly.

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**I really love
it here. It's
like family.**

**Shirley Keener
Operations Specialist**





Baltimore City and County trash collectors enjoy the goodies from the event.



Students from Calverton Elementary/Middle School arrive at the BBQ after a plant tour.



Plant Manager David Jones, left, speaks with Wheelabrator's Manager of Maintenance Systems Chris Leyen.



Baltimore City and County trash collectors listen as politicians and Wheelabrator officials offer them their thanks.

In appreciation

Wheelabrator says thanks to local trash collectors

By DAVID LISCIO

It's not a job many people covet, but hundreds of men and women do it every day in Baltimore, and Wheelabrator Technologies annually extends them heartfelt appreciation by hosting Garbageman Appreciation Day.

On October 27, despite a persistent rain, trash-collection crews enjoyed barbecued pulled-pork or turkey sandwiches, corn bread and chocolate chip cookies as they exited the waste-to-energy plant. The crews also received stainless-steel thermoses as thank-you gifts.

Mayor Sheila Dixon, key members of her staff and Baltimore City Council members were on hand to greet the trash crews, shake hands and serve dinners. They were joined by Mark P. Schwartz, Wheelabrator's senior manager of business development from company headquarters in Hampton, N.H., new plant manager David Jones,

and his predecessor Chris Leyen.

"As an environmental company and responsible corporate citizen, Wheelabrator believes in giving back to our communities by supporting programs where the environment benefits from progressive community support and involvement," said Schwartz. "Wheelabrator recognizes the passion and innovation behind Mayor Dixon's Cleaner-Greener Initiative and we are proud to partner with the mayor and the city to create a greener Baltimore."

As part of Garbageman Appreciation Day, Wheelabrator gave the city a second installment of \$100,000 to help promote its Cleaner-Greener Initiative.

"The Cleaner-Greener program is an excellent example of how everyone – residents, business, commuters, students – can help drive positive changes in their community," said Schwartz, noting

that Wheelabrator has been disposing of Baltimore's municipal solid waste, while generating renewable energy, for more than two decades.

Wheelabrator serves 850,000 Baltimore residents by processing up to 2,250 tons per day of municipal solid waste, and on average produces enough electricity per hour to power more than 68,000 homes.

Dixon was accompanied by M. Celeste Amato, director of single-stream recycling and head of the Cleaner-Greener Initiative; Valentina Ukwuoma, head of Baltimore's Bureau of Solid Waste; and David Scott, the city's director of public works. Together they sent a message that Baltimore, in collaboration with Wheelabrator, is embracing an environmentally sustainable future through sound recycling practices and municipal energy use reduction.

According to Scott, the city is training its solid-

waste crews in the proper handling of trash to reduce resident complaints, increasing the efficiency of its Sanitation Code enforcement, removing graffiti, extending public drop-off hours for certain trash items, adding trash cans along city gateways and bus stops, regularly cleaning neighborhood parks during summer months, and educating residents about the cost of litter cleanup.

Last year, Baltimore spent \$2.3 million on litter removal.

Although the rain slowed to a drizzle, a handful of city councilors including Bernie "Jack" Young and Nick D'Adamo Jr. remained steadfast, extending their gratitude to the municipal workers while handing out meals.

"These guys do a great job day after day," said Young. "It's important we let them know it."

Andy Nelson's Southern Pit Barbecue catered the event.



Head of Baltimore Bureau of Solid Waste Valentina Ukwuoma, left, and Wheelabrator's Susan Martel.



Councilor Bernie Young, caterer Andy Nelson Jr., and Councilor Nick D'Adamo.



Community women, from left, Linda Towle, Sonia Socha, Mickey Roca and Wheelabrator's Linda Sapienza.

Anderson takes the LEED

Wheelabrator Director of Engineering earns national recognition

By MEAGHAN CASEY

When it comes to sustainable design and energy practices, Wheelabrator is taking the LEED.

Roger Anderson, director of engineering for Wheelabrator Technologies, has earned Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) accreditation from the U.S. Green Building Council. The accreditation is presented to professionals who have demonstrated a thorough understanding of green building practices, and who have passed the national exam. Anderson is one of approximately 75,000 nationwide and the first at Wheelabrator to earn the prestigious credential.

"Today's society is demanding more and more in terms of green-building design and technology that preserve and protect our natural resources," said Anderson. "That's what sustainability is all about. People want to recycle; they want to purchase organic foods; they want to invest in fuel-efficient cars; and they want to be able to purchase green, renewable power."

As a certified LEED professional, Anderson hopes to be able to better meet those demands.

"Wheelabrator needs to position itself to be able to respond," he said. "We need to have green-building design in our arsenal of offerings to the communities we serve."

As an internationally recognized green-building certification system, LEED provides verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving energy savings, water efficiency, emissions reduction, improved indoor air



Wheelabrator Director of Engineering Roger Anderson earned a national green building certification.

quality and stewardship of resources.

Anderson, who grew up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin, has more than 30 years' experience in engineering, project management, field construction, permitting and contract administration. He earned his degree in civil and environmental engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and began his career as a structural design engineer with UOP, Inc. in Des Plaines, Ill. He

then progressed to project engineer, field engineer and home office construction coordinator, working on various petrochemical, refinery, pharmaceutical plants, trash-to-energy facilities and air pollution control projects.

Before joining Wheelabrator, he also spent time in the oil industry in Saudi Arabia, and as a construction monitor at an ethanol plant in Tennessee. There, he reported to the World Bank and the U.S. Dept. of Energy, which provided loan guarantees on this experimental, yet successful, technology.

Anderson was hired by Wheelabrator in 1985, serving as project engineer on the original development and construction of the Claremont, N.H., Bridgeport, Conn., Lisbon, Conn., and Falls Township, Penn., facilities.

As project manager of Wheelabrator's ash management research and development program, Anderson managed various research projects. In 1995, he was appointed general manager of Wheelabrator's IPS division, a biosolids management company. Subsequently, he was appointed director of engineering of Wheelabrator's former BioGro division in Annapolis, Md., and then project manager on the initial phase of Wheelabrator's Putnam, Conn., ash landfill project.

Appointed manager of projects in 1998 and director of engineering in 2009, Anderson had managed the design and construction of the air-pollution-control retrofit projects, including some major plant rebuilds, that Wheelabrator conducted pursuant to the revisions in the Clean Air Act. Since 2005, he has witnessed a resurgence of interest in the waste-to-energy industry and has dedicated much of his time to those pursuits.

Aquaculture is part of environmental committment

FISH: from Page 1

"We don't hatch the fish, we just raise them here," said Stankiewicz, who joined the company three years ago and lives in Pasadena with his wife, Brandi, and three sons – Seth, 9, Aden, 7 and Ethan, 4. "This year, the DNR delivered 4,000 and we didn't lose a single one due to conditions in the tanks. The only ones missing are those that were eaten, the smaller

ones by the larger ones, which is why we try to separate them."

Stankiewicz, a mechanic 2nd class, went straight to work after high school, first at the Sherman Williams Paint Co. and then at Wheelabrator as part of its maintenance division.

In addition to his daily duties that include monitoring the facility's boilers and wastewater, he manages the Aquaculture Center along with Linwood Wade of Baltimore, a

utility operator who also operates the crane and the front-end loader on the plant's tipping floor. Together they feed and make certain the water temperature and overall conditions in the fish tanks are healthy for the fish.

Stankiewicz, a gun hobbyist who prefers target shooting to hunting, is well suited to aquaculture. He has a saltwater reef tank at home along with a backyard coi pond covered by a pergola.

Wade, who was born in Baltimore but grew

up in North Carolina, checks the plant's boilers for temperature and chemistry and monitors the lime slurry as part of his daily duties, so helping manage the Aquaculture Center was no stretch.

A graduate of Lexington High School in Lexington, N.C., he attended Colorado Technical University where he studied accounting. He also served for eight years as a combat medic in the Army Reserves, during which time he participated in a humanitarian mission to El Salvador. Word of mouth brought him to Wheelabrator four years ago. He and his wife, Nina, a student at Morgan State University, had already resettled in Baltimore's Cherry Hill.

The Wades have four children — daughters Natalia, 11, Tamia, 10, Maiana, 3, and one-year-old son, Julien. To relax after work, Wade plays video games and spends time on his computer.

"It's a lot of fun feeding the fish and taking care of them," he said while inspecting the filtration pumps. "We watch them get bigger and bigger, and then the DNC comes back with a truck, takes them to a river and releases them."



Wheelabrator Baltimore's Joe Stankiewicz, left, and Linwood Wade capture bass at the Aquaculture Center at the plant.

Santa Claus is coming to town



Wheelabrator's Allen Cunningham, as Santa Claus, and Susan Martel, as a North Pole elf, brought gifts to students at Federal Hill Preparatory and Westport Elementary schools along with community volunteer Elby Proffit, as Rudolph.



Wheelabrator spreads holiday cheer in schools

By DAVID LISCIO

When Santa needs a ride to visit Baltimore schools during the Christmas season, Wheelabrator Technologies is ready and waiting.

Wheelabrator's Santa Run, which took place Dec. 17, has been a tradition for the last 16 years. Emergency response vehicles with sirens and flashing lights, like those from the state's top environmental protection agency, have accompanied the sleigh — usually a pickup truck loaned by a Wheelabrator employee.

Since the beginning of the Santa Run, Allen Cunningham, a load operator on the tipping floor at Wheelabrator Baltimore, has posed as the man in red. The convoy visits Westport Elementary School, bringing gifts for the students. The VIP passengers are, as always, Santa Claus and his favorite reindeer, Rudolph. This year, one of Santa's elves was able to take time out of her busy schedule in the North Pole to accompany Santa and Rudolph to the schools.

At Westport, the students eagerly awaited their arrival and could be seen peering out the school windows as Santa and his crew made their way up the street to the school.

"This is an old gig. We have a lot of fun," said Cunningham.

The students are given stockings filled with candy and toys, or coupons to local fast-food restaurants.

At Federal Hill Preparatory School, holiday music filled the school's lobby as Santa, Rudolph and the Elf were greeted by more than 300 cheering students and teachers.

"We do this every year," said Jim Robertson, Wheelabrator Baltimore operations manager. "It's fun for us and it's great to see the smiles on the children's faces."

Demley has been giving tours at Wheelabrator for 25 years

DEMELEY: from Page 1

all the trash. Well, they ended up hiring me and paying me to do what I would have done for free. It doesn't get any better than getting paid for something you love to do."

Demely's passion stems from teaching visitors how the technology works and the value in combusting trash to convert it to steam-generated electricity. "Over the years I've learned all kinds of things from the people I meet. And I've given tours to all of them — primary school kids, the older ones in high school, politicians and people

from other countries," he said.

Demely's inaugural tour was in January 1985. "So far, I've taken just over 28,800 people through the plant," he said. "Here I am, 25 years later."

His favorite part of the tour: "I like taking people down and having them look into the furnace. It's really impressive. Hard to imagine just how hot it gets until you see it. That's the best part of the job."

Demely lives on Annapolis Road about a half-mile from the Wheelabrator plant, the same neighborhood where he was born.

"I went to Westport Elementary and Boys' Latin

School. I graduated in 1946," he said.

Demely later became a draftsman at the Maryland Glass Co. where he worked for 24 years. "In those days, we made blue glass bottles for products like Phillips' Milk of Magnesia. It was all custom design. We made our own molds and I was part of the engineering department. Of course all of that business ended when plastic took over."

When Demely isn't at the plant giving tours, he's often home, reading. "I don't have a television, but I like to read," he said. "I do whatever I feel like doing."

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It doesn't get any better than getting paid for something you love to do.

Lou Demely
Wheelabrator Tour Guide



The Calverton School Symposium team: front row from left, Dazhane Merritt, Diamond Sykes, Tykerra Lipscomb, Miya Thomas, and Kelisha Perry; back row, teacher Denisha Logan, Jim Robertson of Wheelabrator, Ketia Stokes, Mohamed Sow, Chris Leyen of Wheelabrator, Chardonae Ames, James Diggs, Shaneia Jackson, Malik Taylor and Assistant Principal Justin Chambliss.

Learning environment

Baltimore students go to Florida to present green projects

BY MEAGHAN CASEY

Fifteen years ago, Wheelabrator Technologies' senior management team envisioned a program that would help foster environmental and social awareness in the youth of its host communities. Today, the Wheelabrator Symposium for Environment and Education has become the centerpiece of the company's community relations program and the highlight of many students' academic years.

Through the Symposium, middle-school students representing New England, the mid-Atlantic and Florida commit to a six-month learning project, identifying an environmental challenge in their community and developing a long-term solution. Baltimore students from Federal Hill Preparatory School and Calverton Middle School joined the ranks of nearly a dozen other teams participating in the 2009 event, held May 4-6 in Sunrise, Fla.

"Together, we can all work to create a better environment for everyone, and that's brought to life through this event," said Justin Chambliss, assistant principal at Calverton. "It shows our students that as adults, we too give back. They see that someone else is invested in their education and their success, and they're

exposed to a variety of different ways to take more responsibility in

their community."

The Calverton team, new to the Symposium, worked in conjunction with its school-based community partners, the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning and the Coppin Heights Community Development Corporation, to address lead prevention in the Rosemont community. Team members worked with fellow students, teachers and community members to test toys and other household objects for lead and report their findings at community-wide forums. They also developed lead prevention lessons for elementary school students and partnered with parent liaisons to host workshops for families on how to protect their homes.

"It was a great experience for 13-year-olds to get out in their community and see the positive things they can do," said Calverton teacher Denisha Logan. "I'm so proud of them for their dedication. They really devoted a lot of time to this."

The veteran Federal Hill Prep team has, in the past, focused on the run-off from its local city streets to the Inner Harbor. This year's project reinforced that commitment to the harbor and wetland areas. The students set out to restore a 60-ft area of rocky unmanaged waterfront, on the site of the Baltimore Museum of Industry, into a true wetlands site. The team surveyed and

tested the site, redesigned it and prepared it for replanting.

In Florida, the students presented their projects and solutions to a panel of educators, government officials and local community volunteers. The Federal Hill team was presented with the award for Best Clean Waterway Information Project and the Calverton team was awarded Best Neighborhood Environmental Awareness Project.

"Both schools did a tremendous job," said Wheelabrator Baltimore's Operations Manager Jim Robertson. "Calverton focused on solving a very important issue in their area, and it was neat to see the Federal Hill team following up on their commitment to the Inner Harbor and carrying that on for a few more years."

The Symposium wrapped up with an activities day, which included an airboat ride and Florida Marlins baseball game. The featured speakers over the course of the three-day program included Kent Wallace, director of the physics laboratories at Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn., and Disney Imagineer Eric Goodman, who designs and builds attractions at Disney's theme parks.

Participating schools each receive \$500 in startup funds and a \$1,000 donation from Wheelabrator at the conclusion of the event. In addition, students can later qualify to earn a four-year scholarship through Wheelabrator's partnership with Fisk University.



The Federal Hill Prep Symposium team, from left: Jim Robertson of Wheelabrator, Shawna Stevenson, Malik Scott, teacher Jeff Byerley, Malani Burke, Chelsea Bushman, Deandre Sleet, Micah Amos, Jordan Rich, Sabrina Stevenson, Chris Leyen of Wheelabrator, Antonia Miles, Shabree Chance, and teacher Sheryl Barr.