

# Ward II Council Member Carletta Lundy's March 2019 Report

**Week of March 1<sup>st</sup> - March 9th**

## *Celebration of Life Service*



On March 1st, I attended the celebration of life Home Going services of Mrs. Lavette Giovanni Phillips. Mrs. Phillips was a long standing, devoted member of GATCCS, beloved sister and friend. It was very uplifting, spiritual and well attended. She will be missed. Rev Dr. Juanita Brower presided. The Repast was held at Colmar Manor Community Center in Bladensburg, Maryland at 3701 Lawrence Street Colmar Manor, MD 20722.

## *Meet & Greets with Council Member Lundy*



On March 1<sup>st</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup>, I hosted a Meet & Greet at the Bladensburg Community Center (6-7 p.m.). Residents shared their concerns and hopes concerning the following topics: Youth activities for the Summer; Jobs: Summer Youth Program; parking issues of renters at Gateway Garden apartments; drivers speeding in front of the Emerson House; Feeding youth/students through the summer; Town activities and events for youth through-out the year and during the Summer; relationship building opportunities for police; increase policing patrol around Gateway Gardens apartments; drainage issues/football field at Bladensburg High School; Senior activities, programs and living condition of seniors; 5G Towers; and the new Bladensburg Library. I want to express a special thank you to all the Town residents from the community, community leaders, Town Officials and staff who attend and participated to ensure we had a good meeting. Also, I want to say thank you to Ms. Cheryl, a member of the staff at the Bladensburg Community Center who assisted me.

## *Parkview at Bladensburg Resident Council Meeting*

On March 5th, I attended the Parkview at Bladensburg Resident Council meeting. At the meeting, I shared information about the following: the Wireless 5G "Small Cells" and How Maryland Rolls Them Out, Fireworks 2019 will be at the Bladensburg Waterfront on July 6<sup>th</sup>, Port Towns Day is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>, Census 2020, Ms. Clara Lindsey from Emerson House joined me and was given time to speak to the residents about joining the "GEMS" a new group that has as its objective seniors who work together for a good community for our citizens and children to encourage the young generation of future

progress from past experience seniors have endured. If you are interested in joining the Circle of Community Seniors, please contact Ms. Clara Lindsey on 301.732.1345.

### *"Please Don't Pass Me By"*

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, I attended an original play at the Emerson House. The play highlighted the issue of mental illness. The play was written and directed by Ms. Catherine Blount, resident at Emerson House. The play was well received and everyone enjoyed a wonderful sit down dinner. I was honored to be a part of it and help bring awareness to the issue of mental illness. Seniors from the Emerson House and friends and family of Ms. Blount were cast in this wonderful original play. I want to give a special thank you to Ms. Pat, and to all of those who prepared the dinner and assisted with serving.

### **Week of March 10<sup>th</sup> – March 17<sup>th</sup>**

#### *Professional Development*

<https://www.nlc.org/about-nlc>

#### *National League of Cities*

On March 10<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>, I attend the National League of Cities Annual Legislative Congressional City Conference. This year's conference was held in Washington, D.C. As you can imagine there was a wealth of information shared at this conference, My introduction to the conference was to witness the meeting of the National Black Caucus of Elected Leaders (NBO-LEO) Policy Committee. The 2019 Committee's Focus was: (1) Address inequalities in education, (2) Criminal Justice Reform, (3) Health inequalities, (4) Economic Development; and (5) Human Development. Attending the Municipal Women's in Government (MWIG) Meeting and Reception was very impactful as I had the awesome opportunity of networking with women mayors and council members from around the country. It was a working lunch where women around the table were given a table topic and we were given the assignment of how we are addressing or would address these issues in our municipalities. Examples of Topics included: Civic Engagement, Gender, Sexual Harassment and its Impacts Across All Genders and Ages, Strengthening Youth's Minds, Bullying, Housing, Immigration / DREAM Act, Race and Equality Issues, and Building Community Through All Generations, to name a few. Another highlight for me was joining a roundtable discussion and being chosen to represent the group and give a report based on our group discussion on the topic, of Community Redevelopment that is occurring around the country in towns and villages. Another highlight was observing members of the Federal Advocacy Committee, comprised of local elected and appointed city and town officials from the NLC member cities prepare for the 2019 Capitol Hill Advocacy Day where they will be called upon to advocate for NLC's legislative priorities on Capitol Hill, as well as develop the committee's agenda and work plan for the year.

The 2019 conference drew more than 2,500 city leaders to represent and advocate for the interests of cities in the Nation's Capital. The 2019 conference focused on rebuilding America's infrastructure from bridges to broadband — offering local leaders a chance to meet with Congress and Administration officials, share best practices in city governance and develop the National Municipal Policy — representing the federal policy positions of cities nationwide.

#### *Town Meeting with Prince George's County Councilmember Jolene Ivy*

On March 13<sup>th</sup> I attended Town Hall meeting held by District 5 Councilmember Ivey, along with Mayor James, Town Administrator Sandlin, Chief of Police Stone, Deputy Chief Collington and Code

Enforcement. The meeting was hosted by the B5 (Better Bladensburg, Block by Block, Business by Business). The meeting was held at the Bladensburg Community Center. It was a very informative meeting.

### *Dedication of Mahler Center for the Performing Arts at Elizabeth Seton High School*



On March 14<sup>th</sup>, I attended the program and official dedication of the Mahler Center to see Elizabeth Seton's newly renovated Mahler Center for Performing Arts. It was a moving ceremony/dedication. Guests enjoyed performances by the scholars and a delicious reception following the program and dedication ceremony.

### **Week of the March 18<sup>th</sup> – March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

#### *Annual District 47 Reception in Annapolis Maryland*

On March 18<sup>th</sup>, along with Mayor James, and Town staff, I attended the Annual District 47 Reception in Annapolis Maryland. It was a great night of celebration, and of honoring community advocates and leaders who live, work and who have served over many years from Prince George's County. It was great to see and greet residents from around Town. Our very own Three Brothers Restaurant in Bladensburg catered our delicious meal. County Executive Angela Alsobrooks greeted all those present. Also, newly elected Council Members from Prince George's County gave remarks.

#### *Conference Call with Town resident about Parking Issues at Gateway Gardens Apartments*

On March 19<sup>th</sup>, I had a phone conversation with a senior resident who is disabled to listen to her concerns about residential parking at her apartment. I had an initial meeting with Gateway Gardens who is aware of the issue because this has been a long-standing issue. Gateway has since put out a notice on its residents' community page alerting residents of the parking policy and the consequences of violating the policy. Specifically, vehicles are subject towing. Still, it is my desire to schedule a follow up meeting with Gateway to see if they would be open to Code Enforcement surveying the property to make suggestions for additional parking spaces (if any). As a resident myself, I have also experienced parking issues and know of other residents who also have had their property damaged due to parking issues. This resident, because she is a senior and disabled, needs to have better parking options for herself and son who has had to park at other locations and has had his car stolen and broken into. She reluctantly may have to find other living arrangements if the situation does not improve.

*Big Brothers and Big Sisters Mentoring Program sponsored by the Bladensburg Police Department*



On March 20<sup>th</sup>, I attended the mentoring meeting with students from Bladensburg High School. The Theme for the night was on Self-Esteem and Peer Pressure. The students were given peer pressure situations of which they had to select and then role-play. The students learned how to positively respond given difference peer pressure scenarios. Students were instructed on how to build their self-esteem.

*Prince George's County Women's History Month Luncheon*

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/147529418@N07/albums/72157679489680988/page2>

*Check out the photo gallery!*

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, I attended along with Mayor James, and Town Officials and Staff, the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Prince George's County Women's History Month Luncheon. Theme: Visionary Women: Champions of Peace & Nonviolence. The luncheon was hosted by Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks. The Keynote Speaker was April Ryan, veteran White House Correspondent. PGCPs college bound seniors planning to major in areas of political science, public administration/government, public safety or health were honored as recipients of the Gladys Noon Spellman Scholarship.

*Prince George's County Municipal Association*

On March 21<sup>st</sup>, I attended along with Mayor James, the General Body Meeting held at Hyattsville Town Hall. A highlight from the meeting: Mr. Stan Earley, Director of Management and Budget gave a presentation of the Prince George's County 2020 Proposed Budget. There was also a discussion and resolution #PGCMA 2018-01 to Acknowledge PGCMA's Support for Economic Equality and Opportunities for Small and Minority Owned Businesses.

*International High School at Langley Park in Bladensburg Maryland*



On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, I attended, along with the Mayor, and Cortney Brooks with the Cops Unit, the Senior ELA Portfolio. I was honored to be invited and serve as one of the panelists as each of the seniors presented their final portfolios. Congratulations to the inaugural class, their parents, and families, their teacher Ms. Keisha Thorpe for the excellent work accomplished over the years. By 12<sup>th</sup> grade these students are able to read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems. I observed their capacity to present their English Portfolio's independently and proficiently. I look forward and hope to attend their graduation in May 2019 at Northwestern High School.

**BLADENSBURG, Md.** — *Seventy-one students are on track to graduate from the International High School at Langley Park in May as the school's inaugural class. Prince George's County received a \$3 million grant in 2015 to open two international schools after reporting a 46 percent graduation rate of its English Language Learners. Resource: Excerpt from article written by Jess Arnold, Journalist with WUSA 9*

### **Week of March 25th - March 29th**



**CASA / Prince George's County & Prince George's County Department of Social Services**

<https://pgcasa.org/>

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, I attend a workshop on how to become a CASA (an organization providing a voice for abused and neglected children) volunteer. There was also a discussion and video presentation by the Child Protective Services trainer, Child Protective Services.

#### **1. Community Food Bank at Port Towns Elementary School**

On March 27 (*last Wednesday of the month*) along with others, I helped to distribute food and other items. Food donations received from the Capital Area Food Bank Network.

#### **1. Collaboration Meeting for an All Port Towns Event**

Conversations, planning, discussions, brainstorming sessions with principals, community leaders and partners, colleagues, Town officials/staff, community stakeholders, churches, businesses, and others to have an all Port Towns Community Event tentatively for this Summer is underway. You can imagine that there are many moving parts and still necessary work to for this to be accomplished.

### **Upcoming Events**

**April 8<sup>th</sup> @ 12 noon at Bladensburg Community Center** GATCCS members Ms. Neta Harris and Ms. Brenda Carrington will discuss the Momentum Conference held on March 23<sup>rd</sup> – Men learning excellent relationships techniques.

*April 13<sup>th</sup> Earth Day Clean-Up (57<sup>th</sup> & 58<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 9:30 am – 12 noon)* Meet up in front of Bladensburg High School. If you are interested in participating, contact Council Member Lundy at Town Hall or [clundy@bladensburgmd.gov](mailto:clundy@bladensburgmd.gov). Send me a quick note if you saw our Earth Day Clean-up announced on any social media or community platform.