

# Allegheny West

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER

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Volume #6, Issue #2

September 2018

## City Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. Has His Eye On Revitalization



*City Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr.*

4th District City Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. is strategizing with community leaders to revamp portions of W. Lehigh Avenue and around that area

Recently, the Office of Councilman Curtis Jones and members from Ridge Allegheny Hunting Park Civic Association (RAH), Abbottsford, and Community Action Group (CAG) attended an all-day retreat at Jefferson University also known as Philadelphia University. Involved was the City of Philadelphia's Department of City Planning and the Philadelphia Police Department. We discussed topics ranging from crime prevention, police deployment, analysis of our recreation facilities, schools and the Lehigh Avenue Business Corridor.

This focused planning session is the beginning of an effort to comprehensively deal with Allegheny West, Paradise, Ridge Allegheny Hunting Park Civic Association (RAH), Community Acton Group (CAG), as well as Abbottsford, located in the 38th & 28th Wards.

This effort is like the New Market West Plan

that has resulted in \$50 million dollars' worth of new development. Working together with our federal and state counterparts, the ingredients for a prosperous community exists here.

Some goals established are major investments in Chalmers Park and Schuler Playground to create a regional destination economic attraction at Lehigh Avenue, to assist existing businesses and attract new ones.

We will be meeting with the Regional Superintendent of the School District to discuss feeder schools in the 4th Councilmanic District, which already have some bright spots like Randolph A. Phillip Skill Center and Mercy Vocational.

Jones Is Also Fighting For More Gun Control In Philadelphia

On another note, back in May of this year, City Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr., (4th District), along with Councilman Kenyatta Johnson (2nd District) introduced legislation to reduce gun violence. Gun violence is a major concern in our city, whether you live in West Philadelphia, South Philadelphia, North Philadelphia, Frankford, Germantown or other areas of the city. So it is noteworthy to remind readers of the Allegheny West Neighborhood Newspaper, that Councilman Jones, continues to fight to make our streets, neighborhoods and communities safer.

"If a person publicly threatens to be violent we should believe them," Councilman Jones

said.

This legislation establishes a new section of the Philadelphia Code, to create a Philadelphia Gun Violence Protection Procedure. This procedure would be a prominent direction in which someone with knowledge and facts that an individual is exhibiting signs showing that they pose an imminent risk of harm to themselves or others, and are in possession of a firearm, can file an emergency petition for the temporary removal of those firearms.

With alarming rates of gun violence, elected officials, the Philadelphia Police Department, Law Department, and new District Attorney Lawrence Krasner have been working collaboratively to protect all citizens from the senseless acts of gun violence we continue to see every day in the City of Philadelphia.

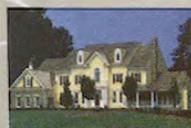
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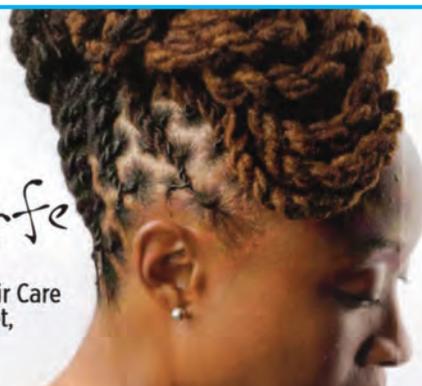
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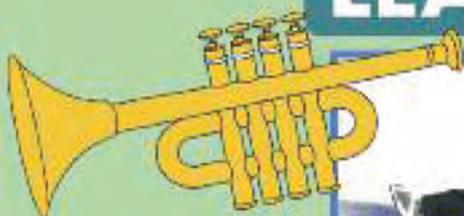
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# Dobbins High School Features Smooth Working After School Program For Teens At Dobbins High With Allegheny West Foundation

By Dr. Toni Damon, Principal of Murrell Dobbins High School and Thera Martin

This year, there was a different start to the year, for Philadelphia Public School District students. School started on August 27th for all students K-12. and Murrell Dobbins CTE High School, at 22nd and Lehigh welcomed our youth, and the community, back for a new school year.

Dobbins is now known as a "Career and Technical Education School", (CTE).

The principal of Murrell Dobbins High School is Dr. Toni Damon, who many community observers describe as a "No nonsense educator, who knows how to get positive things accomplished, be a strong leader, and show love and concern for each and every student enrolled at Dobbins."

Community leaders, small business owners, alumni and area residents and our youth, were invited to come out to Dobbins on August 27th, and came they did. The gathering was all about



*Dobbins High School Staff*

welcoming the high school students enrolled, for a new school year.

Key members of the Murrell Dobbins leadership have been working with students and Allegheny West Foundation staff, including Assistant Director of Education Programs for AWF, throughout the summer of 2018, to

strengthen its partnership with Allegheny West Foundation, (AWF). This year, to further support student success, Dobbins High, thanks to Allegheny West Foundation, will provide the following after school programs: Drum Line, Coded by Kids, Art Club, Robotics, Tutoring and Credit Recovery.

The partnership that Allegheny West Foundation and Dobbins High School", said Dr. Toni Damon, "Is a professional relationship that goes back for quite a few years now. Ron Hinton,

the president of the Allegheny West Foundation, is a proud alumni of Dobbins. From the time he graduated from Dobbins, until this day, he's always been committed to uplifting this community and supporting students of Dobbins High school, whenever and wherever he can.

Dr. Damon went on to say, "If you are not familiar with Dobbins, a community school, it is a college prep technical high school preparing students for college and career! Successful students graduate with an industry certification from one of the following programs: Barbering, BioMedical Technology, Building Property Maintenance, Business Technology, Cosmetology, Culinary, Digital Media Productions, Fashion Design, Graphics, Networking Technology, and Sports Marketing and Management. Every month the school welcomes presentations from professionals in the industry as well as college representatives. They also attend a different college tour every month. To better prepare students, they offer a full service restaurant, print shop, beauty and barber salon; please stop in for service!

If you are looking for a school for a 9th or 10th grade student, they are still accepting applications. Please call the school for more information about student enrollment and other school/community related activities.

Look for future columns in the Allegheny West Newspaper by Dr. Toni Damon and Youth from Dobbins High School.

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# “Report to the People from Elected Officials”

*Congressman Dwight Evans*

*Dear Constituents,*

My office seeks to provide top notch constituent services. My team's efforts on behalf of constituents is a top priority. We do so, by helping people navigate thorny problems that involve federal agencies. My office provides assistance to those experiencing issues with social security benefits, Federal disability filings, federal tax returns, Veterans benefits, housing demands, and immigration requests.

During the months of September and October, our office will be hosting two signature events, and would love to have you join us. They are:

The Congressional App Challenge - which is a nation-wide competition hosted by members of congress to encourage high school students to engage in STEM Programs and learn how to code. Participating students develop original applications either individually or in teams of up to 4 students.

The National Service Opportunity Fair - The goal of NSOF is to expose high school students to opportunities for national service such as the Corporation for National and Community Service, Reserve Officer Training Corps and Military Active Duty & Reserve opportunities. Internship opportunities with other Federal Agencies will also be highlighted during this annual event.

For more information on these events or for constituent service help - Please reach out to my office at (215) 276-0340.

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*Councilwoman Bass*

Through her 8th District Trash Task Force, 8th District Action Team, 2018 Summer Events Series and “Days in the District” initiative, Councilwoman Cindy Bass and her team spent the summer working on engaging the community.

“It's so important that 8th District residents are informed on everything their government is doing and resources we can offer,” said Councilwoman Bass. “Information is power, and my office is working with neighborhood leaders and residents to make sure our communities are powerful when it comes to important issues.”

Councilwoman Bass continued to hammer away at quality of life and consumer protection issues, two of her most prominent policy pillars.

The 8th District Trash Task Force is headed up by a constituent service representative in Bass' office named George Stevenson. Aimed at addressing chronic litter issues in the District, the task force aims to eradicate issues of trash and dumping using practical legislation and procedures. Some victories of the trash task force include jumpstarting the long-overdue clean-up of the Logan Triangle and helping to secure increased dumping fine amount signage. The task force is made up of members of community and faith groups, and held the first Logan Community Clean-Up Day in late July.

“I think the trash task force is designed to eliminate the misunderstanding of how trash is handled, processed and removed,” Stevenson said. “As of today, I think the trash task force has helped people to think of trash removal, disposal and collection in a different way. By removing trash properly, it's beautifying the community.”

Additional Bass staffers comprise the 8th District Action Team, an extension of Bass' District Office tasked with addressing constituent complaints in real time.

“I know that when a constituent calls in with a complaint or an issue, they've likely already tried several solutions,” Councilwoman Bass said. “They may be frustrated and what many people want is to know they have been heard, and to be sure their problem will be addressed, or, if it

cannot be immediately addressed, people want to feel comfortable that they can reach out to a real person and get real answers. That is what the Action Team helps my office provide.”

Action team members make regular house calls, working on issues ranging from illegal construction, trash and dumping and nuisance businesses, to helping seniors who feel trapped in their homes for various reasons.

Reaching constituents directly is a priority to Councilwoman Bass. The Councilwoman took advantage of the summer months to reach constituents more directly with “Days in the District.” Bass and staff take to the streets every Friday to provide residents with information and resources ward-by-ward, division-by-division. Bass and staff also make a

point to arrange and meet with area businesses, community groups and neighbors who invite the “Days in the District” team. Originally planned as a temporary summer initiative, “Days in the District” proved such a success that the Councilwoman plans to extend the Friday on-the-ground initiative for as long as the weather allows.

Much of Councilwoman Bass' best summer work happened this year outdoors. This includes her annual Summer Events Series consisting of Monday's Showtime at the Apollo in Stenton Park, Tuesday's Jazz in the Park at Morris Estate, Wednesday's Oldies in the Park in Vernon Park and family movie nights in various locations on Friday and Saturday

Bass continues on pg. 12

## SENATE BILL 942 ‘REDEMPTION TOUR’



PA State Senator Sharif Street, Harambee Festival, The Women's Law Project, Office of PA State Representative Ed Gainey and fellow community advocates hosted an Educational Forum for Senate Bill 942, 'Ending Life Without Parole' recently, in Pittsburgh

It was Saturday, August 4th, that Street held the Forum with PA Representative Ed Gainey, as a part of Senator Street's ‘Redemption Tour’ to raise awareness of Senate Bill 942, ending life without parole in Pennsylvania.

Senator Street said, “I was honored to join Harambee Ujima Black Art & Culture Association, advocates and The Women's Law Project to host an Educational Forum on the need to reform life without parole in PA. Various groups have been affected by this, including juvenile lifers, battered women and more than 600 lifers who have not killed anybody. It is prudent that we move to empower the Parole Board to review these cases and adopt policies and practices that are morally sound and fiscally responsible.”

Sue Frietsche, Esq., Senior Staff Attorney, Women's Law Project said, “The Women's Law Project is grateful to Senator Street and Reps. Gainey and Wheatley for convening this discussion, and we look forward to working together to achieve a more just and merciful criminal

justice system.”

Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Leader Jay Costa supported Street's work saying, “I would like to thank Senator Sharif Street for bringing this issue to the forefront of our conversation on criminal justice reform. It's the right time to discuss this and the Redemption Tour has been a great success already in getting folks to talk and learn about life without parole.”

Senate Bill 942 would permit an individual sentenced to life imprisonment under the laws of this Commonwealth to be considered for parole after serving a period of time. It also extends parole eligibility retroactively to those sentenced prior to the effective date of the legislation. The bill creates no right to parole, so it will not allow our most dangerous inmates to go free. The Commonwealth's Board of Probation and Parole will continue to responsibly reject requests for parole from those who do not deserve it, or who present too great a safety risk to the public.

Report continues on pg. 14

# Allegheny West Foundation S



(Pictured left to right) Aaliyah Singleton, Diyannah Smalls and Omarion Wells  
 Photo by: Thera Martin

Omarion Wells

This summer I worked at the Allegheny West Foundation Thrift Store at 2236 W. Hunting Park Avenue and it was a great experience. My assignments were to help stock shelves, do inventory of products in the store and welcome customers so they feel good about the store. Omarion is a student at the Eastern Academy, in East Falls

Diyannah Smalls

I attend Vaux High School in North Philly and I also worked this summer at the Allegheny West Foundation Thrift Store on Hunting park Avenue and I really enjoyed it. It was a nice experience. Aside from the things that Omarion described, that we were assigned to do, the other thing we did was to bag up emergency food for low-income residents from the area in need.



Janet Dillard

Janet Dillard is a proud graduate of Murrell Dobbins High School, the class of 2017. This Fall she'll be attending Penn State University, Berks County campus and she's no newcomer to the AWF Summer Jobs Program. This was her 4th year working via the summer youth jobs program. Janet says she has great appreciation for what Ron Hinton, President of Allegheny West Foundation has done for her. "Mr. Ron is a big part of Allegheny West. He's the CE, and none of this would have happened without him. I've known Mr. Ron since my first year of high school, and I actually look up to him as a mentor and role model. This young lady had her summer work experience at a place called SPARCS, at 22nd and Westmoreland Street, a non-profit organization that works with handicapable people. She says she enjoyed her summer work experience 100%. She shared, "We did arts and crafts with the people who are clients at SPARCS. We assisted them in learning about watering plants, helping with a vegetable garden at an area farm, and feeding horses. It was really fun helping the people we worked with to learn skills they can use to become employable one day.

Nashaun David is another of the wonderful

youth who was hired for a summer job through AWF. He's 17 and attends Charter Archectual and Design at 8th and Market Street. He stated, "This was my first job ever and I was assigned to work at the 20th Street Playground, named after famous Philadelphia Eagles football player Jerome Brown. I was an assistant camp counselor that helped to supervise little children enrolled in the summer day camp program there. We read to the children. We listened while some of them read to us. We assisted in handing out their lunches and snacks and we did clean up, to make sure the rooms used for the camp were clean. We played with the children and monitored them when they would play outside in the playground. It was fun and I got paid!"



Nashaun David

Fushia Kilson is a student at Eastern Academy Charter School and in September she starts 10th grade. She commented, "I worked at the Georgia E. Gregory Interdenominational School of Music and I loved it. I am very much into music and want to be a professional musician one day, so I was at the right job location over the summer. Ms. Joyce Drayton, the founder, was so nice. They had a summer music camp for children and I was a camp counselor. I assisted the children in a number of ways. I helped pass out their lunches and interacted with the children in a lot of ways. I assisted in the dance classes and music classes, so this experience was right on time for me. I used to play the bass guitar and if I had the chance, next I'd like to learn how to play piano."



Fushia Kilson

This summer I worked at the Panati Recreation Center. My experience there was nice and different. The work I did was with a group of 4-8 teens. We surveyed business owners along N. 22nd Street and in that general area and where there were concerns or issues, we wrote them up and turned



Kenna

those concerns over to the proper city officials. We also did surveys with customers and shoppers along the N. 22nd Street business corridor. The experience was definitely different from what I've done in a couple past summer jobs I've had. I thought I'd be working with little children this summer, but that was not the case. I felt like a "junior super hero", reporting on issues and concerns for adults and stuff. Helping to make the community better made me feel happy. I also feel the person who supervised us as we walked, Miss "Lucky", (Michaela Balknight), was very encouraging. I really appreciated her and the other staff from Allegheny West Foundation, including Ms. Briana Jackson, Mr. Malik Wright, Ms. Gillete, Ms. Isis, and Mrs. Kendra Harris. I attend Franklin Learning Center and I'm 16 years old.

Hello, my name is Maliyah Gregg, I am 16-years-old and I attended Mercy Career and Technical High School. For the first time, I worked at Panati Recreation Center for the summer. During my time at the Recreation Center, I saw familiar faces and met most of my fellow co-workers. However, we was placed into different groups. In the morning, we would write into our journal, talked about what we will do for the summer and how we felt about various subjects. Sometimes,

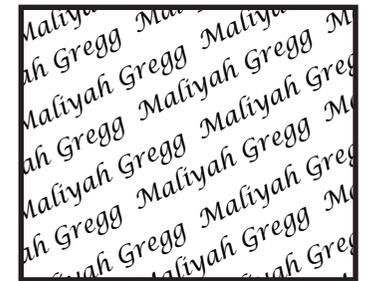
our supervisors entrust my co-workers and I with simple tasks. In the afternoon, we do work activities and discuss different situations that commonly happens in the workforce.

In the Panati Group, we was assigned to come up with ideas for a elementary school named T.M Peirce School. The school didn't have a play area or sitting spots for kids. On every Thursday, the Panati Group created models and learned some architect lingo with professional architects that worked at a company called Kieran Timberlake. The professionals shared their experiences, why they chose this career path and gave feedback about our designs. My model is designed for children to not get hurt, have a sitting area and it will be a good learning place for little kids.

I named it Chill Mat or Chill Zone. It's cozy, fun and teachable/learnable.

In the end, the program made me think about the future and what career path that I want to take up. I am grateful to my supervisors, Ms. Kendra Harrison, the professional architects and most of all my parents, for letting me have this opportunity. Hopefully, I can get this type of chance next summer. Thank you.

Hello. My name is Qaamir. I'm 15 and I attend Murrell Dobbins High School. This summer I worked



Maliyah Gregg

# Summer Youth Job Participants

## AWF Summer Youth Workers Sharing What They Did On The Job

Teens between the ages of 14 and 18 enjoyed working over the summer of 2018 through the Allegheny West Foundation Summer Youth Jobs program. While we had over 200 youth signed up and working over the summer, we couldn't fit all their stories in this edition of our paper. However, here's a sampling of what our young people had to say about their summer work experience:

*Qamir Johnson*

with the Allegheny West Foundation at Panati Recreation Center, My position including walking around the community nearest to Panati and surveying business owners and residents in the area. The purpose was to see how things can be improved in this community Business owners shared that they wanted more assistance from the government with such things as business loans for small businesses that didn't ask you to give up an arm and a leg to get a loan. Business owners also said they need help with more clean-up services along the N. 22nd Street Business Corridor and they want to see even more of a police presence than already exists. Some of the area residents that we surveyed want real estate taxes and personal taxes to go down and they want their incomes to go up. They want to see the minimum wage go up and a number of people said they can't wait to see Donald Trump out of office. I enjoyed my summer job.

Hello. My Name is **Genesis Jimenez** and I'm 16 years old, attending Mercy Career and Technical High School. I study cosmetology there. This summer I also worked at the Panati

*Genesis Jimenez*

Recreation Center. This was my first time having a real job and it taught me responsibility, communication skills and most of all, how to have patience with coworkers. Some of the things I did at my job were cleaning around the playground and basketball courts at Panati. We surveyed the neighborhood and learned a lot about Allegheny West Foundation and all the work this nonprofit organizations does in the community. About two weeks into my 6 week summer job experience, I got to see what a property manager does and so I shadowed Michaela Balknight around to rental properties owned by Allegheny West Foundation where I got insight into what her job entails. Out of that assignment, I feel like I learned some basic real estate rental skills which I am thankful for. We also had to keep a daily journal of all that we were doing and learning and that took up some time every day. I greatly appreciate AWF and the time our supervisors took with us to help educate us further about workplace protocols and things of that nature. What I learned this summer will help develop me as I grow into adulthood and have to deal with some of the things we learned through Allegheny West Foundation and my summer job.

Hello. My name is **Paige Thomas** and I worked at the Georgia E. Gregory Interdenominational School of Music over the summer. I helped the music teachers with

*Paige Thomas*

the children and their tasks. I also was assigned to assist the children at lunchtime, handing out their lunches, juice and snacks. I was also responsible for helping to escort the children to the bathroom, when needed. . If any of the children were not getting along, I was one of the youth workers who was assigned to sit with the children and discuss what their issue was and try and help them resolve it. I enjoyed making up special activities for the children in the afternoon hours that could be fun for them and keep them busy. I'm 16 years old and I attend A. Phillip Randolph Career Academy.

The Allegheny West Foundation thanks all the job site Supervisors or owners of businesses, who said "yes" when we asked if our Teens ,(200 all total), could have a 6 week summer job experience at their various locations. Some of those work sites included, The Philadelphia Branch NAACP Office, PA State Senator Sharif Street's District Office, The Philadelphia Sunday Sun Newspaper, Jerome Brown Playground, (3) PHA locations, James Parker Memoria Centerl, Nicetown CDC, Yorktown CDC, Eric Holt Optical, Loraine's Beauty Salon, Jazzy Shears, Allegheny West Foundation Thrift Store, Panati Recreation Center, SPARC, Independent Mission Schools, Venango House, Tioga United, Councilman Bill Greenlee's Office, Georgia E. Gregory Music Schools and the United Block Captains Association

## REGISTER

The deadline date to register to vote if you want to vote in the Nov. 6th General election is October 9, 2018. After you register, make sure you vote on Tues. Nov. 6th. Everything is at stake. Takeno election for granted!

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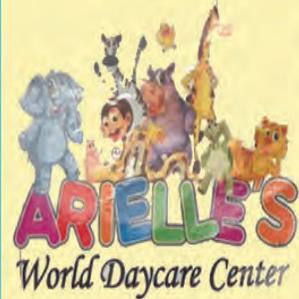
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# City of Philadelphia Commerce Department There To Help Small Business Owners

Business owners can get help from a Business Service Manager to navigate city resources and departments. Each Business Service Manager is dedicated to a geographic region of the City and has expertise about a variety of industry sectors such as food-service businesses, retail, manufacturing, and professional services. Additionally, bilingual Service Managers work with various multi-lingual and multi-cultural communities throughout the City.



*Curtis Gregory*

Meet Curtis Gregory Senior Director, Office of Business Services. His number is 215-683-2100



*NazAarah Sabree*

Meet NazAarah Sabree Director of Field Operations. She can be reached at 215-683-2100

They or other senior business services managers business managers on staff will assist you if you are a

small business owner, or an up and coming small business owner. Start by making the phone call to 215-683-2100. Also review the city of Philadelphia Commerce Department web site extensively. You'll find a lot of answers to some of the questions you may have, about being in business in Philadelphia.

#### Multi-Lingual Services

Philadelphia is increasingly diverse and we are committed to offering assistance in many languages. The Commerce Department has Business Services Managers that can assist businesses in Mandarin, Cambodian, Korean, and Spanish. Additionally, the City offers free interpretation services in 160 languages. Call 215.683.2100 for bilingual assistance.

Starting a business can require many steps, licenses and permits. The City's Office of Business Services (OBS) provides one-on-one support to businesses and entrepreneurs starting a business in Philadelphia.

#### Office of Business Services

Businesses have one place for answers:

Starting a business, acquiring permits and/or licenses, connecting to business support resources and finding the right lender, you need to call Philadelphia's Office of Business Services.

Hotline for Small Businesses

Office of Business Services

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Got Housing Concerns? Call Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community Development Agency Function

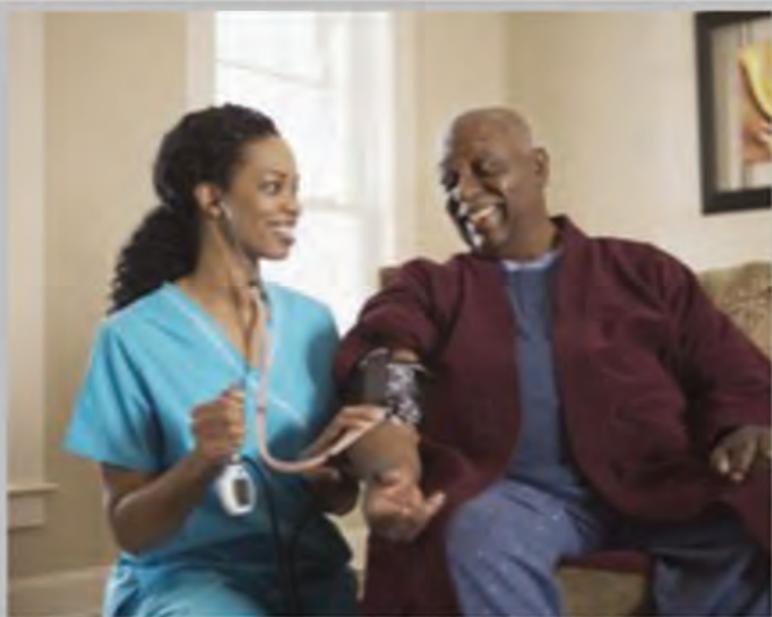
The Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD)'s duties include: Being responsible for the administration of contracts with public agencies, such as the Redevelopment Authority, Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation and subrecipient non-profit organizations; and, Preparing various government reports, such as the Grantee Performance Report and the annual Final Statement and Plan Report which represents the OHCD's plan and corresponding budget for community development activities.

OHCD is the place to go for a list of impressive city services ranging from housing, to housing counseling, to 1st time home buyer programs, to neighborhood resources, to residential mortgage foreclosure diversion program, to community legal services. Under housing, to be even more specific, OHCD operates a homelessness prevention program, they offer emergency housing guidance and referrals, they're connected to the Philadelphia Housing Authority, (PHA), they have a utilities assistance program and more. OHCD is located at 1234 Market Street on the 17th floor in Center City Philadelphia. The main phone number there is 215-686-9749

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## Community Action Group

On Saturday, June 23rd, Community Action Group held its first Health and Wellness Fair at Chalmers Park. The day started out cloudy and then we were blessed with liquid sunshine. Even though it was raining, we had devoted health vendors who still showed up and set up information tables. In attendance was Temple Dental School, Office of Emergency Management, Philadelphia Police Department. Leza from State Representative Pam DeLissio's office read to children in our book corner. Councilman Curtis Jones, Jr. showed up and promised the Friends of Chalmers Park group a digital bulletin board to be able to announce events going on at Chalmers Park. The Home Assist organization offered information at their table as well as Citizens Bank and Temple's Block by Block, who gave out \$5.00 Dunkin Donuts gift cards for completing a survey. Also in attendance were quite a few entrepreneurs who displayed their wares. Free books were distributed to all children. Attendance was pretty good considering the continuous rain. Our partners at ShopRite donated a beautiful healthy snack basket which was auctioned off. Our guests went home with lots of free

items given away at each table. Neighbors Market donated cases of water for distribution to everyone.

Darece Williford, President of CAG stated, "We'd like to say a big Thank You to everyone who participated in any way to help us have a successful event"

Community Action Group's Meeting Dates:

September 11, 2018  
 October 9, 2018  
 November 13, 2018  
 December 11, 2018

All meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Devereaux United Methodist Church, 26th & Allegheny Avenue. All are welcome!

Upcoming CAG Events:

Jazz at Chalmers Park, Thursday, September 13, 2018 Beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 29, 2018, CAG is sponsoring a bus trip to Sight & Sound Theater to see the play "Jesus". Flyer is attached.

# HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

By Quibila A. Divine, M. Ed.; EE, ECE

Soon, parents and caregivers will buy school supplies and uniforms for the start of their children's 2018-19 school year. Regardless of the age of the child, it is important that they attend school regularly and on time.

According to the Center for Disease Control, asthma is one of the leading causes of school absenteeism. For students suffering from asthma or any other illness, inconsistent school attendance can interfere with a child's academic performance. When students arrive to school late or are regularly taken out of school early (even when excused), they run the risk of falling behind their classmates who attend school all day, every day. Students who miss just two days per month are more at risk of falling behind academically and possibly, dropping out of school when they get older.

Parents and family members play a critical role



Quibila A. Divine

in giving their school-aged children equal opportunities to succeed in school and in life. Beginning in kindergarten and continuing through college, make sure that your children arrive to school on time and prepared to learn. To be successful, children need positive encouragement from adults who reinforce learning at home. Talk to your child's teachers and principal to hear what you can do to improve your child's performance. Make sure that all children are reading at least 20 minutes EACH day. Between kindergarten and 3rd grade, children learn to read. If children have not learned to read by 3rd grade, they will not be able to read to learn about other subjects (e.g., science, history, etc.). As a result, the likelihood of your child being put on a school to prison track increases. Some have advised that prisons are built based on the 3rd grade reading scores of students (primarily from low-income communities).

Having a consistent bedtime and wake-up time is helpful to keep children on a successful track. Sometimes, parents do not feel comfortable helping with homework. There are plenty of after-school programs, parent workshops and family fun nights that can help you help your child. If you want to learn more, stop by the Family Engagement Center at

T.M. Peirce Elementary School at 23rd and Cambria Streets. There, you will find all kinds of games, puzzles and other resources for you and your children. You can even get information about free diapers, clothing and household goods for your family. Stop by the office for the dates and times when representatives from PARENT POWER and The PLAN will be there. We look forward to seeing you and working with you to help you help your child.

Quibila A. Divine, M. Ed.; EE, ECE, is Founding Executive Director of The Educational Advocates Reaching Today's Hardworking Students, Inc. (EARTHS) and also serves as an advisor to PARENT POWER (What Will You Do With Yours?). Born and raised in North Philadelphia, Quibila is an education advocate who has worked tirelessly to ensure that all children are provided with equitable access to high-quality education. She serves on the steering committee of the city's Read by 4th Campaign and has over 20 years of experience working in education administration at the state and local levels. She holds a bachelor's degree from Drexel University and two master's degrees from Lincoln University, the country's first, historically Black, degree-granting university.

## 39th Police District Community Connection



Community relations Officer Joseph Lukaitis, another member of the 39th police District and a volunteer at the food give-away done in June of 2018 at 39th police district headquarters.



Thera Martin and Bishop R.T. Jones



39th Police District Volunteers and members of the Police Clergy Group, photos by Thera Martin

**2201 W HUNTING PARK AVE.**  
**(215) 686-3390 / (215) 686-3391**

The 39th Police District continues to strive to connect in many positive ways with the residents who live within the district.

Police Officers don't just have to be the people who "lock someone up."

At the 39th Police District there's a Police Explorer Cadet Program for young people who may desire to become a police officer one day. This same program is

operated at other police districts as well. To learn more, log on at [www.ppdexplorers.org](http://www.ppdexplorers.org).

Monthly, there's a public community meeting held at the 39th Police District, every 4th Monday of the month at 6pm. Residents are welcome to attend this meeting and share nay concerns or questions you may have, as it relates to public safety and community safety.

The 39th Police District is located at 2201 W. Hunting Park Avenue. The Community Relations Officer is Officer

Joseph Lukaitis.

Save The Date: The 39th Police District PDAC and the 39th Police District Clergy group are partnering to host another upcoming Free Food Give-Away. This event will take place Saturday, October 20, 2018 from 12 noon until all supplies are distributed to those that need them.

On Safety Times: Always be mindful of your surroundings and who might be hovering nearby that looks out of place.

If you see something wrong, say something.



The Allegheny West Foundation ("AWF") a Pennsylvania nonprofit Community Development Corporation ("CDC") which was founded in 1968, and incorporated in 1974, as part of a community improvement initiative. The mission of AWF is to: improve the quality of life in the Allegheny West community through action on the following primary strategic goals: 1) Increase the supply of affordable housing through acquisition and development of sale housing and develop services that encourage home maintenance, 2) Nurture economic growth in the Allegheny West area by encouraging business development and revitalization of industrial areas, 3) Increase employment opportunities for adults to secure a stable, living wage, 4) Strengthen the social fabric of the community by addressing problems identified by local residents including healthcare, education and other services, 5) Promote civic engagement of area residents through local leadership development, and 6) Improve the quality of education available to youth by providing work-based learning opportunities, reading enrichment programs, and basic computer instruction.



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## 22nd & Lehigh Welcomes New Health Center



*New Dedicated Senior Medical Center Has Opened at 22nd and W. Lehigh Avenue Photo by: Thera Martin*

We are pleased to share with our Allegheny West Community that a brand new Dedicated Senior Medical Center has opened at the Hope Plaza, located at 22nd and W. Lehigh Avenue, right next door to the Save-A-Lot Super Market. The Dedicated Senior Medical Center provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with staff there, such as: Qualified sign language interpreters, Witten information in other formats, (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats and other formats) They also provide free language services to people whose primary language is not English such as Qualified interpreters and information written in other languages. At Dedicated Senior Medical Center, they are committed to providing compassionate quality patient care and to caring for all patients, including those with limited financial services. To learn more about the Dedicated Senior Medical Center at 22nd and W. Lehigh Avenue, call their office today, at 267-866-7211. Allegheny West Foundation and the North 22nd Street Business Association welcomes this new business to our 22nd Street Business.

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### Bass continued from pg. 5

"I'm excited because this year we had our biggest openings and the most overall attendance ever," Bass exclaimed. "I have been hosting and organizing my summer events series for six years now, and each year we just get bigger and better."

Highlights from the 2018 Summer Events Series included three free crab feasts throughout Showtime at the Apollo, free performances by Breakwater and Urban Guerilla Orchestra (UGO) at Jazz in the Park, and Dell ticket giveaways for shows like Charlie Wilson, Tamela Mann and Kool & the Gang with En Vogue.

"Of course, I'm sad to see the summer go," Bass said, "but we have some exciting things planned for this next legislative session. My office had an amazing 2017 and first half of 2018. We passed the Restaurant Licensing Bill to help combat nuisance stop-n-go businesses. My 'Better Budget' proposal helped fund the School District of Philadelphia budget and deficit without raising taxes, and worked to help keep constituents like new residents and senior homeowners in their homes," Bass said. "I look forward to finishing this year stronger than ever."

### Update From Tioga United By Verna Tyner, President

Hello Tioga United Friends and Supporters. We all love our neighborhood, but it has been getting dumped on, and looking filthy lately, more so than ever.

We MUST try our best to keep our Tioga community clean. Tioga United has started a campaign for just that and a way to hire our youth in the community. Please donate \$10 a month to our Tioga Clean Up Fund and submit a young persons' name you know, who will work to earn money to help keep Tioga clean.

Let's get started - stop by Tioga United's office with a check or money order at 1539 W. Venango Street and let's get busy. Please share this message. It starts with us.

Also, our annual "Senior Citizens Prom" is coming up again this Fall. For details on that, check in with our office at 1539 W. Venango Street Mondays-Fridays between 11am-2pm.

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# “Report to the People from Elected Officials”

Report continued from pg. 5



PA State Rep. Rosita C. Youngblood Still Focused on Uplifting her District and Working Smart In State Capitol For Her Constituents

By Thera Martin

On Friday, August 10th, Allegheny West Foundation invited PA State Representative Rosita C. Youngblood to be their special guest at a luncheon they hosted at the Plymouth Building owned by the Philadelphia Housing Authority at 22nd and W. Venango Avenue. The Co-Host for the event was Philadelphia Democratic City Committee Person, Vernon Reynolds. The idea was to bring one of our leading elected officials together with seniors from the immediate community to chat and talk about any concerns they might have and to get to know Rep. Youngblood a little better. Remember it was just two years ago when reapportionment gave Rep. Youngblood some additional areas to cover, including this Allegheny West neighborhood of

North Philadelphia.

This was also an opportunity for a handful of the youth workers from the Allegheny West Foundation summer jobs program to serve our seniors their meals and treat them special with some pampering. Some of the teens were assigned to take food orders and bring the seniors their lunch. Others were assigned to offer free manicures for the ladies who wanted them.

Rep. Youngblood encouraged the seniors to eat healthy, see their doctors regularly and if they had any state-related concerns she could help with, to let her know. She talked about the importance of voter registration and participation, and spoke about how important the upcoming November 6, 2018 general election is. She emphatically expressed that her commitment to the people has not waived in all the years she’s been an elected official and welcomed all to come to her district constituent services office which has now reopened after a full asbestos cleaning at 310 W. Cheltenham Avenue.

What else has she done for her district and for the state lately? On April 16th, State Rep. Youngblood, announced the approval of up to \$1.16 million in tax credits to build 35 new low-

income housing units and a community center.

"I'm pleased the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Authority has approved these tax credits for the Nicole Hines Townhomes development on Wister and Rufe streets, including a community center. This is good news for meeting the housing needs in our communities," Youngblood said.

Also, it should be known that Rep. Youngblood has been advocating since 1994 to bring an end to so-called “stop-and-go” nuisance establishments that are plaguing my district and our great city. The day finally arrived when Gov. Tom Wolf signed the bill into law that will crack down on these businesses. I had an integral role in helping to draft H.B. 674, now Act 44 of 2017. This law will give the Liquor Control Board the power to immediately shut down a stop-and-go if it does not meet the Liquor Code’s seating, square footage, food or health requirements. It also allows local government entities, such as Philadelphia License and Inspections, to make recommendations to the Liquor Control Board on which establishments are believed to be violating these requirements.

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Beginning tomorrow, our office will provide a new service! We will help all qualified individuals apply for a medical marijuana card. Experts from PhillyNORML will be on hand every Thursday from 10am to 3pm in our Jefferson Street office to help answer your questions and guide you through the application process to get a medical marijuana card. For more information, check out this link: <http://www.senatorsharifstreet.com/get-the-card>



**Spend \$20 Get \$3**

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*Free Drying (when washing)*

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**Fox St. & Roberts Ave. across from Shop Rite**



# Allegheny West Foundation Community Store

2236 W. Hunting Park Avenue  
(Next to Septa Depot)  
8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.  
(215) 223-3714  
Credit Cards Accepted



**Tastykake  
Chocolate Juniors  
Yellow Layer Cake  
Chocolate Iced  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Kandy  
Kakes Peanut Butter  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Krimpets  
Butterscotch Iced  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Cupcakes  
Chocolate Cream  
Filled Buttercream  
Iced  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Koffee  
Kake Juniors  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Donuts  
Mini Rich Frosted  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Krimpets  
Jelly  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Cupcakes  
Chocolate Iced  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Coconut  
Juniors Yellow  
Layer Cake  
Coconut Topped  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Pie \$1.00**



**Tastykake Soft  
Cookie Bars Oatmeal  
Raisin  
2/boxes for \$5.00**



**Tastykake Koffee  
Kakes Cream Filled  
Family Pack  
2/boxes for \$5.00**