



# THE DGS DIGEST

## CONGRATULATIONS DENI VIDOVIC

*DGS's Employee of the Month Recipient for January 2018*



Deni accepting his certificate alongside Bob Gibson, Fleet Management Division Chief, Director Sharkey, and Chichi Nyagah-Nash Deputy Division Chief

Congratulations to Deni Vidovic, DGS's February 2018 Employee of the Month! Deni Vidovic has been with the City of Baltimore for 3 years. He began working for DGS's Fleet Management Division as an Auto Maintenance Worker in the Fire Shop and was moved up to the Hydraulics Shop as an Automotive Mechanic within months.

According to one nominator, Deni is "an ideal employee." He completes his work on time, works well with others, has a great personality, and is a bit of a joker. Deni is also very polite and helpful when working with customers, coworkers, and operators. He listens to the complaints of customers and looks to assist however he can. All three of Deni's Employee of the Month nominators mentioned his

ability to finish work promptly and correctly, the first time. He is a fast learner with a willingness to take on new challenges.

Outside of work, Deni likes to play soccer and work out. He is a fan of Arsenal Football Club, a professional football club based in Highbury, London, England, that plays in the Premier League. He lives in Dundalk with his wife.

Keep up the great work Deni!

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### *LEAD TO SUCCEED PROGRAM: THE CLASS OF 2014*



The Class of 2014

Director Sharkey encourages learning and growth for all DGS employees. Under his leadership a program known as Future Leaders Development (later renamed Lead to Succeed) was created. Individuals across divisions are selected to participate in a 6-week course that enhances their understanding of leadership, peer interaction, lean government processes, and policy implementation. DGS has completed three classes with a total of 37 graduates. Future issues of the Digest will feature subsequent classes.

#### Class of 2014

Three graduates are currently full-time civil servants within the Department. Babila Lima runs the Business Process Improvement Office, examining and improving work flow through lean processes. Babila has also risen to be an

instructor on the Lean Government model in the Lead to Succeed program, sharing his knowledge with new program participants.

Jackson Gilman-Forlini is the Historic Properties Program Coordinator. Through his leadership DGS has transformed the use of historic properties into a contemporary arts and community focused environment while optimizing public access.

Sagirah Palmer dedicates herself to the Archibus program, tracking data regarding what, when, and who is making repairs in DGS managed buildings. According to Sagirah, "Completing the future leaders program gave me knowledge about each of the [four] divisions, a better understanding of how we perform collectively, and how my duties contribute to the team. This program gave me the drive I needed to help me find innovative ways to help DGS operations run efficiently."

Gia Montgomery has continued to work for Baltimore City in DOT as a Permits and Records Supervisor, while Nagaina (Nikki) Thomas now works as an HR Assistant at DPW.

Several programs participants have left DGS for opportunities in other City agencies or employment outside of City government. Adam Jackson is the CEO of Leaders of a Beautiful Struggle. Sean Burnett is a graduate student at the University Of Michigan Gerald R. Ford School Of Policy; Martin Courtney is a stay-at-home dad, caring for his two kids; and Jason Mathias is a Sustainability Coordinator at Johns Hopkins University.

Michelle Rau is an Associate at Anchorage Capital Group, a financial consulting group in New York City; Sam Savin consults for a firm in Philadelphia; and Alena Toropova-Henry is a Financial Controls Analyst at Exelon. Ahlora Lawson works at the FDA as a Regulatory Counsel for the Center for Tobacco Products, she has also started a plant-based cupcake business called SugarLove Desserts. She says her time in the program was "...a good way to get younger employees involved in the other aspects of DGS.... the best part was it was a way for us to network and create friendships."



# DGS SPOTLIGHT

## FACILITIES MAINTENANCE WORKING ALONGSIDE MAYOR PUGH BRING HEAT BACK TO BCPS



Record low temperatures caused aging heating systems to fail this month. School system administrators said they received complaints about lack of heat at 60 school buildings. Due to the move to close schools because of student population declines, officials had been reluctant to use limited funds to pay for expensive repairs at buildings slated to close. In response, the Mayor ordered City engineers, in coordination with the Department of Public Works, to assist the School system and expedite repairs. DGS's Facilities Maintenance HVAC team, as well as the on-call contractors assisted with the efforts. DGS staff and contractors provided input to the school system, performed minor repairs, documented needs for larger repairs, and regularly checked the temperatures in the school buildings.

## DGS ALL STARS: JANUARY 2018



Congratulations to Nick Fontanez for receiving the DGS All Star Award for his superb work! Nick helps HR run like a well oiled machine.



Congratulations to the Facilities HVAC team: John Habicht, Tonya Smith, Reginald Fredrick, Antwarren Snell, Micheal Lawrence, Jonae Barnes, Wycliffe Eccles, and Olivia Baker for receiving the DGS All Star Award for going above and beyond to assist Mayor Pugh and our contractors to bring heat back to Baltimore City Public Schools.



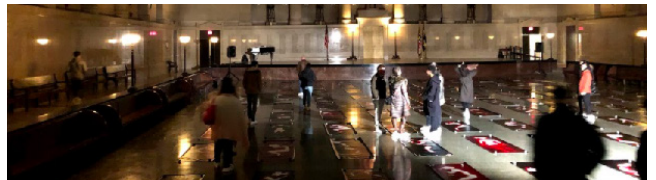
## MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

January 15th, a day of service and remembrance



Director Sharkey, other Directors and City Staff prepare to march in the parade alongside Mayor Pugh.

## EVENTS AT THE WAR MEMORIAL



Its not too late to see the beautifully immersive work Afterimage Requiem an installation by Baltimore artists Kei Ito and Andrew Paul Keiper. The show was featured on the cover of the Baltimore Sun this month and it runs through February 1st in the Memorial Hall.

## HR ANNOUNCEMENTS



Director Sharkey assisted with school beautification projects at Commodore John Rogers Elementary & Middle School



Volunteers offered face painting to the kids at Higher Achievement Baltimore.



Some painted posters by volunteers for the parade.

New Hires	
James Swann	Auto Maintenance Worker
Samantha McKenny	Utility Aide
William Horne	Building Repairer
Anthony VanDetti	Auto Maintenance Worker
Rosa Gold	Accounting Assistant II
Gregory Byrd	Building Repairer
Retirees	
Thank you for your years service.	
Charles Martz	9 years of service
Kenneth Sachs	23 years of service
Richard Scales	34 years of service
Eileen Kent	23 years of service

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO SHOULD BE THE NEXT EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH? **NOMINATE THEM TODAY!**

There are 2 ways you can nominate your co-worker, staff or team member...

1. Hand Ballots located throughout General Services
2. Email DGS\_HR@Baltimorecity.gov

Direct questions regarding the Employee of the Month process to Catherine Burns in the Human Resources Office (410) 396-3627

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