

Beat: Politics

MEETING THE PEOPLE

Laura Neuman: one-on-one with residents

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USPA NEWS - With the warm smile and humbleness that seems to define County Executive Laura Neuman, she met with residents of Anne Arundel County last night, at the 6th Annual Community Connections Day and Constituent Open House in Pasadena.

Thursdays event was an opportunity for county residents to meet with Directors and Department Heads within Anne Arundel County government, and learn about county resources and services directly from the experts. It was also a time for county residents to share their ideas and suggestions with county officials in hopes of helping them to improve county services.

The event is sponsored annually by the County Executive's Office of Community and Constituent Services, and is always well attended. This year's event, although customary in form, had a uniqueness about it; a chance for many residents to meet their new County Executive, Laura Neuman, for the very first time.

The sign-up sheet was full and county residents started lining up just before 6:00 p.m. to meet one-on-one with the County Executive. As the first in line was approaching, the County Executive said earnestly, "OK, Let's get started".

The feedback from residents meeting their new County Executive for the first time was consistent, and summarized in the words of Janice from Glen Burnie, who said "What a change, I love her enthusiasm, she is the breath of fresh air we needed after Leopold... She is going to change things for us all in this County." No complaints here, she said as she walked away.

County Council Chair Jerry Walker (R-7), Councilman John Grasso (R-2), and Delegate Don. Dwyer (R-31) also took the opportunity to mingle and talk with constituents at Thursdays event.

As he entered, Councilman John Grasso (R-2) spoke with a couple who were about to leave, and expressed how much he appreciated them attending. "It gives us a chance to hear from the people, and that is never a bad thing.", Grasso said. The 2nd District Republican went on to say that this was an excellent opportunity for the people to really get to know their new County Executive. "It's one thing to see her picture in the paper, it's another to meet her face to face."

If you were unable to make the event but would like to get more information on, or share your thoughts on County Services you can contact the County Executive's Office of Community and Constituent Services at 410-222-1785 or by e-mail at CCServices@aacounty.org.

For information on how to reach your County Councilmember, call 410-222-1401 or the County Council's webpage at <http://www.aacounty.org/CountyCouncil/>

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