Lawmakers honored at Constant Care reception

Constant Care Community Health Center presented awards to four state legislators for their contributions to quality health care for the citizens of the State of Maryland on March 8, 1982.

The legislators were Sen. Rosalie Abrams, Senate Majority Leader; Sen. Clarence Blount, Assistant Majority Leader; Del. Dr. Torrey Brown, a practicing physician; and Del. Larry Young, founder and chairperson of the Maryland Health Roundtable.

The awards were presented at a reception hosted by Constant Care in the Calvert Room of the State House in Annapolis.

Dr. Harvey Webb Jr., Constant Care's executive director, lauded the honorees for their humanitarian advocacy of accessible health care in his presentation speech.

"Sen. Blount is a politician's politican, a human psychologist, and educator and a soldier," Dr. Webb said.

He referred to Blount's World War II experience, when Blount received a battlefield promotion for bravery and leadership in combat. Webb also spoke of Blount's chairmanship of the Urban Services Commission and his participation on the board of trustees of Kennedy Institute, Western Maryland College, the League for the Handicapped, Provident Hospital and Sinai Hospital.

Dr. Webb described Brown as "a quiet and methodical power-broker."

"Despite his modest, unassuming manner, Del. Brown is a prolific author and a legislative genius, who understands the human psyche as well as the human body," Webb said.

As a legislator, Brown has sponsored innovative health legislation that has helped to change the health care industry for the improvement of patient care, Webb said.

Del. Brown is chief of University Health Services at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The youngest honoree, Del. Larry Young, is considered the "Mr. Healthcare" of the House of Delegates, according to Webb.

He characterized Young as "a sincere, dedicated, deeply religious public servant, who came up through the political ranks of West Baltimore - a student, a teacher, an organizer, and a champion of human rights for the oppressed and the affluent."

Young is active in Operation PUSH, the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Governor's Commission on Youth and the Maryland Commission on Children and Youth.

When Webb reviewed Sen. Rosalie Abrams' accomplishments, he said she once served as a U.S. Navy nurse and still has a membership in the Maryland Nurses' Association.

A dedicated advocate of equal rights for women, Abrams has membership in the state and national associations of Women Legislators, the Maryland Commission for Women, and the Commission to Study the Implementation of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Abrams is the president of the Democratic Party of Maryland and a member of the National Legislative Conference.

Webb described Abrams as "a leader, a humanitarian and a health advocate."

Constant Care Board members in attendance at the reception were Mrs. Mary B. Adams, Donald Debnam, Marshall Jones, Mrs. Priscilla Lansey, and Steven Wainwright.

Other dignitaries in attendance included: Dr Mack Bonner, of Provident Hospital; Edward Chance, of the Maryland Association of Black Social Workers; Del. Walter Dean; Dr. and Mrs. John DeHoff; John Green, Deputy Secretary, State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Mrs. Janet Hoffman, chairman of Baltimore City's Task Force for Liaison with the General Assembly; Mrs. Bonnie Katz, of Blue Cross, Blue Shield; John Kent, Assistant Secretary for Administration, State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; Dr. Betty Moss; Paul Moss; Del. Pete Rawlings.

Dr. Oakley Saunders, of Provident Hospital; Marshall Spurlock, Executive Director, Central Maryland Health Systems Agency; Dr. Eliza Taylor, Constant Care's Medical Director; Otis Warren; and Adele Wilzack, Assistant Secretary for Medical Care Programs, State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

HONORED GUESTS — Constant Care Community Health Center Inc. of Baltimore, recently hosted a reception in Annapolis to salute lawmakers for their contribution to perpetuating health care in the state. The honorees are from left, Sen. Rosalie Abrams, represented by her aide, Darlene Walters, Del. Torrey Brown, Sen. Clarence Blount, Dr. Harvey Webb, and Del. Larry Young.

NAACP seeks 15,000 new memberships

The 1982 Spring Membership Drive Campaign for the Baltimore Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is underway, Sheila Tucker, community service coordinator said.

Increasing the membership by 15,000 and recruiting life members are the goals of this year's campaign, Tucker said.

Membership can range from $10 for adults to $500 for life members with $50 payments annually. All members receive the monthly issue of the "Crisis" magazine.

Tucker said this '82 campaign is critical. "The urgency is upon us because this is an election year (and) we have to develop uniformity in the black community."

The NAACP also is interested in recruiting volunteers.

"The survival of the black community is under a life threatening siege. The Baltimore branch is committed to preserving the rights gained over the years, (but) all elements of the black community must work uniformly," Tucker said.

Another service project underway at the Baltimore branch office is the voter registration drive. The project follows the block model theory where block captains are responsible for voter participation and registration.

Barbara Cooper, NAACP program director, said the project has three phases: "To register, educate and mobilize."

In a general membership meeting earlier this month at Israel Baptist Church, Chester Street, the Economic Development Committee addressed important issues for this election year, Tucker said.

The committee proposed to encourage support of black businesses and support legislation dealing with economic development. Tucker said the NAACP plans to support fair housing legislation, preserve equal employment opportunities, push for public legal aid assistance, and demand no further reductions in medicaid and aid to the elderly.

Tucker said also the winners for the NAACP Afro-American History contest for Baltimore City Public Schools were announced. Latanya Ragland won first place and Kawand Tyler won honorable mention for the elementary schools.

On the junior high and middle school level, Tracey Ross won first place and Donna Freeman was honorable mention.

For more information on the membership campaign or voter registration drive contact Sheila Tucker at 366-3300.

Gray endorsed

A 16-year-old West Baltimore civic and neighborhood improvement association has become the first neighborhood group in Maryland's 7th Congressional District to endorse the candidacy of Elizabeth C. Gray for the U. S. House of Representatives.

She is a moderate Democrat.

Mrs. Gray, 49, an associate professor at Baltimore's Coppin State College, recently announced her candidacy which ends four years of research, planning and preparation.

The endorsement by the Community Neighborhood Association, which comprises eight westside blocks, came at its monthly meeting Saturday March 13, at the New Union Baptist Church, Franklin and Monroe Streets.

The group's founder and president, Mrs. Grace C. Adams, a former elections judge, said, "The endorsing was made because the people want a change and we think that Mrs. Gray will be the best person to represent ALL the people of the district, whether rich or poor, black or white."

Elizabeth C. Gray

Mrs. Adams said she thought once Mrs. Gray is elected to Congress she would begin to address such issues as helping the slum areas of the district become more livable, crime in the district and housing.

Mrs. Gray also will make a guest appearance and co-narrate an annual fashion show, arranged by Mrs. Adams, Saturday, April 3, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the A. J. Payne Christian Center, Enon Baptist Church, Schroeder Street and Edmondson Avenue.

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Rev. Marcus Wood new Advance Federal director

The Rev. Marcus G. Wood assumed duties, this week, as a director of Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association.

He succeeds the late Rev. Arthur J. Payne, veteran director, who died last month.

At his first meeting held at the Cold Spring Lane home office on March 17, Rev. Wood observed, "I began my ministry here in Baltimore under the late Dr. Payne. I am proud to finish out his term on the board."

Rev. Wood revealed his own long association with Advance Federal, recalling that Providence Baptist Church, which he pastors, was the first church in the city to get a $1,000 loan from Advance 25 years ago.

He explained, "Ever since we got that first loan, I've been investing in Advance Federal. I'm glad I did, because when we got ready to build our new church, we could go to Advance for the loan."

Providence Baptist, the only solar-heated church in Baltimore, occupied its modern facility at Pennsylvania and Lafayette Avenue in February 1981.

Advance Federal granted Providence a $652,000 mortgage, largest loan in the association's history, Advance President, Dr. W. O. Bryson Jr., said. Sharing the financial package was American Baptist Extension Corporation.

Rev. Wood revealed that many Providence members save at Advance, and predicted more will since Advance now has checking accounts with interest. "I hope other churches will avail themselves of high interest rates offered on checking, savings and certificate accounts at our bank."

The only black-owned federally insured thrift institution in the state of Maryland, Advance reported assets at $28 ¼ million at year-end, Dec. 31, 1981, an all time record.

It also posted record increases in savings accounts and mortgage loans outstanding.

In addition to the northeast Baltimore home office, Advance has two branches, one at 1611 N. North Ave. and a new drive in facility at 3411 Clifton Ave., in the Walbrook Plaza Shopping Center, which opened in September.

Other Advance Federal directors, in addition to Dr. Bryson, chairman, and Rev Wood, are Joseph A. Bush, Dr. Theodore D. Phifer, Ms. Zelma A. Brown, W. Emerson Brown Jr., Dr. Robert M. Phillips, Theodore E. Brown Sr., Elroy O. Wilson and Dr. Beryl W. Williams.

NEW DIRECTOR — The Rev. Marcus G. Wood, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, (C), shown at first meeting of Board of Directors of Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association on March 17. He is being welcomed to board by Dr. W. O. Bryson Jr., (L), chairman and Elroy O. Wilson, treasurer.

Community Calendar

The Baltimore City Commission on Aging and Retirement Education is recruiting volunteers of all ages to staff "OPTIONS" a new telephone information service for older Baltimoreans.

"OPTIONS" scheduled to open in May, will provide information about travel, sports, physical fitness, arts, educational and social happenings at a central advertised telephone number for individuals looking for various leisure options.

Volunteers are needed to answer phones and assist with updating information. Training will begin during April.

For more information call: Catharine Crutendem at 396-1762.

Meals on Wheels of Central Maryland also needs volunteers.

Meals on Wheels provides home-delivered meal service to 1,400 elderly, handicapped and convalescent persons unable to purchase or prepare meals for themselves. The service is available in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Anne Arundel County, Harford County and Howard County.

Volunteers are asked to help one day per week for approximately three hours to either pack, act as a visitor, be a driver or provide clerical assistance in the administrative offices of Meals on Wheels.

For information on volunteering: call Eleanore Booker or Bronwyn Thompson at 561-1104.

A free music appreciation course for adults 55 years of age and older is being offered by the College of Notre Dame this spring.

The course, "Fairy Tales and a Fable," is devoted to the "magical" works of American and European composers.

The course will meet Friday mornings from 11 am to noon, March 26 through May 21.

For more information: Continuing Education Office, 435-0100, ext. 321.

The Innovative Learning Center will be opening in September, 1982 to serve slow learners and children with learning problems.

The private school is holding an open house for interested parents at the school on Thurs., March 18 at 7:30 pm at 1461 Old Annapolis Road (just behind Beth Shalom Temple) in Arnold, Md. off Ritchie Highway.

For more information call: Dr. Linda Jacobs at 922-2945.

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