

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY

SPEAK UP!

DECEMBER 2003

This community newsletter is a Black publication. Subscription is free. Articles and remarks are welcomed. Contact: Brothers United Who Dare to Care, Inc. 131 W. North Avenue, Martin Luther King Community Center 2nd Floor, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740. Phone 301-393-9290. Pager: 301-745-2000. Website: www.blackmenwhocare.org.

WORD ON THE STREET



Local ministers appointed pastors to United Methodist Church.

JT and Alicia Blake have both been assigned to pastor churches in the United Methodist Church Baltimore-Washington Conference. JT is now the pastor of Hagerstown's Asbury United Methodist Church in the Hagerstown-Cumberland District and Alicia has been serving as pastor of the John Wesley United Methodist Church in Front Royal, Virginia.

The two are not new to God's service and have previously served as ministers in the King's Apostle World Ministry Incorporated here in Hagerstown. JT is the grandson of the late Bishop Walter Campher, the first Bishop of the King's Apostles Holiness Church of God, for whom the Greater Campher Temple church is named in tribute to Campher. JT is the son of Elder Maxine Blake, a minister at Greater Campher Temple. The couple has a son, Durrell, a history student at Hagerstown Community College and upon graduating HCC will return to the University of Maryland to complete his studies. Durrell has been serving in the

music ministry since he was old enough to wave a set of drumsticks. The Blakes bring a host of musical talent to the service of God including percussion, string and keyboard as well as gifted singing and zealous but passionate preaching. Alicia and JT are both working on their Masters of Divinity at Howard University's School of Divinity with an expected graduation in May 2005. JT works in Cardiovascular Research for Johns Hopkins University in Hagerstown and Baltimore. Alicia is a Fraud Investigator for First Data. Jay says that their future is in ministry and wherever the Lord leads. Alicia has a vision to start a Christian Coffee House that will be family oriented and built around the ministry of music. JT's leadership is not confrontational or a challenge. JT helps opens the door a little further that God has already opened. Congratulations, please support this family with your prayers, love and sharing in the ministry they offer.

List of Churches in Hagerstown's Black Community

Asbury United Methodist Church
Pastor JT Blake
155 N. Jonathan Street
301 791-0498

Calvary Temple Apostolic Church
Pastor Fred McCoy
340 N. Jonathan Street
301-790-2904

Jonathan Street House of Prayer
Pastor Yvonne Parson
341 N. Jonathan Street
301-733-0942

Ebenezer AME
Pastor Leroy Jackson
26 West Bethel Street
301-797-6123
(Continued)

Greater Campher Temple
Pastor Bishop Derrick Kee
125 W. Bethel Street
301-797-5355

Second Christian Church
Pastor Rose Ann Duckett
65 W. North Avenue
301-797-0407

Calvary Church Of God In Christ
Pastor Gary Mebane
645 Pennsylvania Avenue
301-733-7870

Ekklesia Ministries
Pastor Darin Mency
131 W. North Avenue
North St. School/ MLK Comm. Ctr.

Zion Baptist Church
Pastor Haru Carter
61 W. Bethel Street
301-739-8984

Blacks In Business

Edwards Industries International Incorporated is a business excellence in our community.

Edwards FURNITURE
& BEDDING



Located throughout the W. Franklin Street area on three storefronts. The Edwards Family came to this community from Chicago when stationed in the military. Tremell Edwards (pictured) is the President of Edwards Industries International, Inc. Grown out of a business started by his father, Tom Edwards, on the streets of Chicago. The business has branched into the Edwards Wings & Things restaurant and the Rhema Wear clothing store. The family is rooted in the Christian faith and serves their customers as such. When you don't see the Edwards family in their retail and restaurant establishments you may find them singing in the choir at the Greater Campher Temple where the family was led to join, worship and serve. Tremell said they are in business to serve everyone and are really pleased to be near enough to serve the black community and would look for ways to increase black patronage. Speak Up would like to salute them for community service provided by Edwards, less than

a year doing business in the community, Edwards read about the Jamaican Festival in the Speak Up newsletter and called around to find out how they may help the event. Edwards donated furniture for the event's raffle to raise money for the Memorial Recreation Center youth program. God bless Edwards and every black business that serves their community!

Black Business Owners Listing

(call to be included)

1st Cousins Salon & Barbershop
Owner: Dwight Glen
149 W. Franklin Street
301-665-1132

Citywide Communications
Owner: Vincent Kenny
61½ E. Franklin Streets
301-766-4100

Rent-A-Painter
Owner: Ron Lytle
4 W. Franklin Street (office)
301-491-0745

Black Manna Café
Owner: Erien Frazier
801 Pennsylvania Avenue
301-393-4303

Contemporary Photo Art Gallery
Owner: Ron Lytle
4 W. Franklin Street
301-7910-6191

Rhema Wear
Owner: Renee Edwards
112 W. Franklin Street
301-393-0899

C&M Convenience Store
Owner: Michael & Carol Keates
249 N. Jonathan Street
301-393-9449

Edwards Furniture & Bedding
Owner: Tremell Edwards
47 W. Franklin Street
301-393-5900

Sisters With Style Beauty Salon
Owner: Josephine & Sophia Bangura
7 W. Franklin Street
301-301-745-5559

Charm City Sports
Owner: Tony Wells
137 W. Franklin Street
301-791-2055

Edwards Wing & Things
Owner: Judith Edwards
116 W. Franklin Street
301-393-9293

Steve Swayne, State Farm Insurance
Owner: Steve Swayne
63 W. Franklin Street
301-791-3384

City Stylez & The Toy Box
Owner: Jaquan Dickens
61 & 63 E. Franklin Street
301-991-6151

JRJ Liquors
Owner: Dana and Ronnie Johnson
926 Pennsylvania Avenue
301-739-8189

New Visions Sports Bar
Owner: Eric Campbell
331 N. Jonathan Street
240-420-0234

Thelma's Grocery
Owner: Austin & Thelma Burnett
400 N. Jonathan Street
301-790-2229

Kuumba Enterprises
Owner: Mwamba, Ajamu, and Basil
Jonathan & Bethel Street Corner
301-739-2651

Just Us barber shop Hagerstown
Co-Owner: Leonard Cooper
206 N. Jonathan Street
301-790-3070

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

MOTA Mini-Grants awarded to three Washington County organizations.

Grants for projects that promote Cancer Prevent/ Tobacco Use Prevention and outreach to minority populations in Washington County were awarded to: The Memorial Recreation Center, The Hispanic Ministry of Gateway Ministries and Club Jesus Street of Gateway Ministries. The organizations receiving the funding are also members of the MOTA of Washington County and part of their responsibilities will include: to participate in existing Tobacco-Cancer Coalitions in Washington County; to help insure that health services are appropriate for minority communities; to produce and participate in activities that are likely have an ultimate impact towards Blacks, Asians, Native Americans, Hispanic/Latino and women. Thanks to a news release in the "Around Jonathan Street" column in the Hagerstown Herald Mail, an Asian participant has come forth to join the MOTA coalition to ensure outreach and inclusion of the County's Asian population.

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Early Intervention Projects, \$3765 total funding available from March 1 to June 30, 2004. Pre-Proposal Conference December 17th. Proposals due January 28, 2004. Contact the WCCP at 240-313-2095.

Grants to promote Sports and Recreation, grants up to \$10,000 offered by the Balance Bar Company to help amateur athletes and teams. Past grant have supported equipment cost, training and other activities at www.balance.com/grants

Tri-State Civitans awarded Brothers United Who Dare To Care funding for Web Site development.

The civic organization has provided funding to help BUWDTC with furthering the success of the website www.blackmenwhocare.org. The website is in the development phase and is used to post information about the organization and the community it serves as well as activities the group's high profile state health project for MOTA. Visit the site for more information. Thanks to the Tri-State Civitans the website's visual impact will grow.

Youth News



Contest organizers and the winner of the 3-Point Basketball Contest Lee Green (pictured right with trophy)

Mary Washington Midnight Basketball hosted the first 3-Point Contest at North Street School.

The program that was started years ago by Pete Barnett and Eddie Brooks of Brothers United Who Dare To Care was kept alive by Ruth Monroe of the Memorial Recreation Center and handed over to Gary Washington who had worked the program for Monroe. Washington has since grown the project into an independent program that he named after his mother, distinguishing it from any "come lately" imitators. The program had provided Limousine rides this year for the entire MRC Summer League Basketball program and continues Limo rides for Midnight Basketball participants who do well in the program. Washington says the project is a "lifetime deal and year 2004 will bring lots of events". Look for more of activity with the Mary Washington Midnight Basketball program on weekends from 7pm- Midnight at the North Street School / Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center at 131 W. North Avenue Hagerstown. All are invited to participate in this community legacy. Contest winner Lee Green is a Graduate of North Texas University. Gary Washington is picture on the far right of the first photo.

Neighborhood youth does well academically.

RayLonda R. Nobles is 17 years old and a senior at North Hagerstown High School. She recently was honored at a ceremony on November 17, 2003 where she received the Senior Academic Excellence Award. She is in the top 200 seniors in the class of 2004, of all Washington County schools. RayLonda will be attending Hagerstown Community College in January 2004 on an Educational release. She will be graduating from North High in June 2004 and will transfer to a University to major in Psychology with a minor in Sociology. Congratulations and best wishes RayLonda.

The "50 Things you should know about Tobacco (a series)" will return next year.

Build a computer for your family as a gift and just in time for the holiday season. Supplies and training are limited. The computers are free. Call the BUWDTC office today! 301-393-9290.

BACK TO BLACK History & Culture

This month's MOTA Literacy Contest Question:

(3) \$100 Prizes: Write an essay on who should get cancer screening, if minorities have a higher risk for cancer and if Washington County has the highest percentage of cancer cases state wide. You should include in your essay whether you would or why you would not participate in a cancer screening or a stop smoking class. List places where you can get a cancer screening or participate in a stop smoking program. Extra consideration will be given for essays that include a break down of cancer and tobacco habits of minorities by racial category. Look for information to help your essay at the MOTA of Washington County table at community events. Cancer Prevention and Stop Smoking resource materials are available by contacting MOTA of Washington County, your local Health Department or your Health Care provider.

Responses to this question must be submitted in writing and be at least 50 words or more and turned in at the Brothers United Who Dare To Care office no phoned responses will be accepted. Thank you.

Due to limited space the magazine, book and video listing will return next year. You may still donate materials.

DELIVERY of Speak Up will be LIMITED for December, January and February because of weather risk.

The newsletter will be available at our main Winter Distribution points, churches and community centers in the black community neighborhood and black owned businesses. See the listings in this month's newsletter or call our office for distribution points. Distribution points are not limited to black establishments call if you desire to be a distribution site.

SPEAK UP!

That's what happened.

I could have written this last editorial of the year with 'Year In Review, but I didn't, you should have been paying attention. I attended my first Baltimore Orioles game and I learned when your sitting in the eighth row on the third base line, PAY ATTENTION or you could get hit by a foul ball. For the record I didn't get hit, I did witness Chicago (where I grew up) take a hit on the head that night from the Baltimore Orioles. The newsletter has been growing so much that I only wrote eight editorials this year, counting this one. You will be pleased to know that I plan to release the entire collection of the Speak Up editorials (from the start

of the newsletter in May of 2001), BUWDTC press releases and official correspondences with commentaries in my first book "*Speak Up! The Editorial Collection*" by Andy Smith. The editorial collection will let readers go deep inside the meaning of the *Speak Up* writings. The inspiration to write the book came after a meeting at the BUWDTC office with Universal Negro Improvement Association – African Communities League (NIA – ACL) President Ahmed Assalam, who is also founder of the SCC in Washington DC. Minister Assalam asked me, "Have you written a book yet?" The minister's question stirred a

conviction in me for not having written a book and the conviction was galvanized when he handed me a copy of a book he had written "Human Rights In America – A 21st Century Tragedy" (available in our Culture & Resource Center). Maybe some readers thought I was slacking off, going soft on the issues or changing strategies because they didn't find the *Speak Up* editorials in some of this year's issues. Look for the release of the entire editorial collection and for everyone that wondered what happened to this year's editorials. That's what happened.

Andy Smith, Editor

Below, community leaders receive MOTA mini-grant from Washington County MOTA director Andy Smith. Pictured with Smith are Ruth Monroe (Memorial Recreation Center), Jose Rosario (Hispanic Ministry – Gateway Ministries) and Pastor Victor Fowlkes (Club Jesus Street – Gateway Ministries). All organizations are members of MOTA of Washington County.



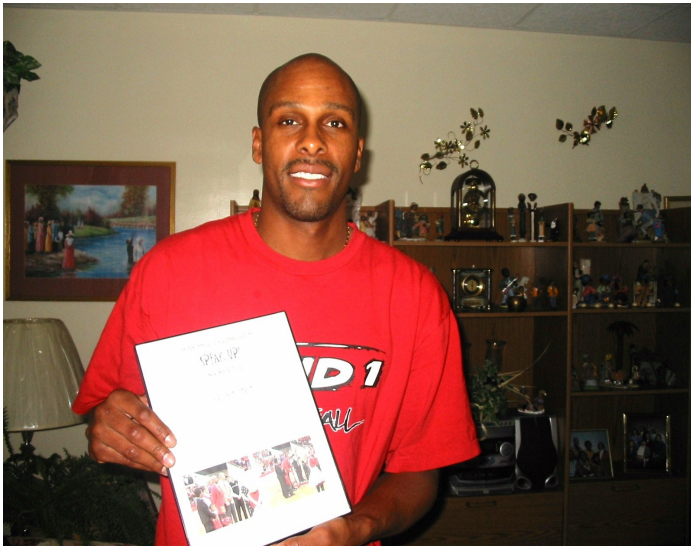
Arlee Gist (State MOTA Program Administrator) speaks at health training while Lawrence Carter Jr. (State Tobacco Control Division Chief) and others look on. (Below) Dr. Carlessia A. Hussein (State CRFP/MOTA Director), Andy Smith (Washington County MOTA Director), Arlee Gist and Andy with Lawrence at State Council on Cancer Control Conference.



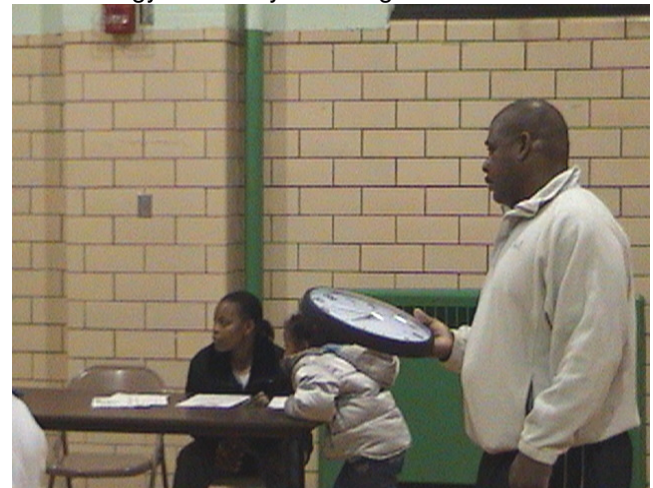
Dancer at Asbury UMC 2003 Women's Day event. Choir sings praise at Ekklesia Ministries 1st Annual Choir Anniversary.



Below left, Rodney Monroe is starting a magazine called "The Athletic Testament". Brothers United Who Dare To Care supporter Tri State Civitans has dinner meetings at Ledo's Pizza (Hagerstown) each month on the second Monday.



Basketball 3-Point Contest participant hustles in the North Street School gym as Gary Washington watches the shot clock.



THANKS EVERYONE FOR MAKING THIS A GREAT YEAR FOR OUR ORGANIZATION AND COMMUNITY. YOUR TIME, YOUR DONATIONS AND YOUR FAITH HAS AND IS OUR BLESSING. GOD BLESS EVERYONE OF YOU!