First Miniature Miss Pageant held

AFRO Photos by Mark Gail

FLOWERS FOR A LITTLE LADY — Tennille Dingle, runner-up in the 4-6 age group at the First Miniature Miss Pageant in Baltimore, receives bouquet from a young tuxedoed gentleman. The pageant was sponsored and directed by Ms. Diana Kane, on Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Coldstream Elementary School, Exeter Hall Rd.

ALL SMILES — Little Rhonda Thurmond (second from R) beams radiantly as she is crowned 'Miniature Miss' by Ms. Libre Jasiri. Rhonda competed in the pageant in the 7-9 age group. Left is Dejah Henry, winner in the 4-6 age group.

YOUTHFUL CONTESTANTS who debuted in the first Annual Miniature Miss Pageant, sponsored and directed by Ms. Diana Kane at the Coldstream Elementary School on Sunday, Nov. 2 are: (Front row, L to R): Shannon Dowell, Stayce Reid and Monaye Easley; (2nd row, L to R): Kotoshia Berry, Tennille Dingle, Dejah Henry and Garnette Matthews; (3rd row, L to R): Tonya Palmer, Terrah Paige, Lisa Jarrett, Channel Brown and Carole Contes.

The first Annual Miniature Miss Pageant to be held in Baltimore took place on Sunday, Nov. 2 at the Coldstream Elementary School, Exeter Hall Rd.

This pageant, produced and directed by Diana Kane had 12 young misses, ages 4 to 9 vying for the title of "Miniature Miss."

They competed in the areas of talent, a swimsuit competition and even an evening gown segment.

Master of ceremonies was David Wiedmann, with junior co-host Kenneth Kane Alden.

The contestants did a production number 'Doin' the Best I Can,'' choreographed by Vanessa Jackson Johnson.

Following the contestants in their talent segment the Dance Factory Dancers, also choreographed by Ms. Johnson did a nifty dance routine to "Fame."

After the cute misses aired their charms in swimsuits, a dance to "Sending Out the Clouds" was done by the All Saints Modern Dance Group, choreographed by Clotilda Williams Brown.

Looking very lovely and winsome, the 12 little ladies strolled on in their gowns very elegant. "Sing a Song" was done by all of the contestants prior to the special awards.

Contestants were Kotoshia Berry, Channell Brown, Carole Contes, Terrah Paige and Tennille Dingle, who competed with singing talent; Shannon Dowell, aerobics; Tonya Palmer, gymnastics; Garnetta Matthews, the dance.

Monaye Easley, Dejah Henry and Stayce Reid, drama; Lisa Jarrett and Rhonda Thurmond, violin.

The girls, as cute as "buttons, were sponsored by their families, friends of their families and local businesses, schools and clubs.

Winner in the 4-6 age group was Dejah Henry, sponsored by her family. Runner-up in this age category was Tennille Dingle, sponsored by Dun-Rite Cleaners;

Winner in the 7-9 year-old category was Rhonda Thurmond, sponsored by the Coldstream Park Elementary School No. 31, that school's P.T.A. and her parents.

Judges for the occasion were Gail Hemphill, management coordinator for Free Spirit Theatre; Libre Jasiri, features editor, Metropolitan Magazine; Junetta Jones, center director - instructor, Cultural Arts Projects; Elizabeth M. Oliver, city editor, Baltimore AFRO - AMERICAN; Nina C. Rawlings, M.D., pediatrician and Sam Wilson, president and founder, Arena Players.

Ms. Jasiri crowned winner Rhonda Thurmond. Winners received flowers and money, in addition to their crowns.

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Woodlawn Highlights

42 at SSA receive Commissioner Awards

By Marjorie R. Green

Commissioner William J. Driver recently presented Commissioner Citations, the highest award presented by the Social Security Administration, to 42 Baltimore area residents.

The recipients were among 150 employees chosen to receive awards from approximately 65,000 SSA employees nationwide.

In a prepared statement, Commissioner Driver stated that "The American public recognizes SSA's excellent job.

"A country-wide opinion poll sponsored by the National Commission on Social Security, and several regional polls show that the great majority of Americans who have had some contact with our agency are satisfied that Social Security employees give sound information and courteous treatment."

residents who received the Commissioner's Citation in recognition of their outstanding contributions to SSA are:

Dorothy Algoe, Beverly Bagwell, Fannie Byrd, Gerard Cash, Virginia Dodson, Gilbert Fisher, Frederick Gray, Alonzo Jones, Kenneth Katz, William Sapp, Thomas Boyer, David Dillman;

Also Helen Clem, Patricia Grach, Mae Kleiner, Joseph Marsina, Brenda Oliver, Anna Pourquoi, Peter Reiter, Richard Robinson, Rowena Sailor, Matthew Schuchinski, Barbara Smith, Lawrence Thompson, Karen Voyles, Allen Wallace, Phyllis Wharton;

Also William Jarrell, Jr., Joyce Lechner, William McNamey, Shawn Nemeth, Naomi Parsons, Nelle Phillips, Margaret Rhodes, Theresa Rodgers, Sylvester Schuyler, Margaret Stach, Victor Tacchelli, Gerry Truman, Rodney Wallenhorst, Charlotte Wayne and Allan Willard.

Following the awards program, the recipients and their families were guests at a luncheon reception held in the Woodlawn Cafeteria.

Andrew J. Young, associate commissioner, Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) was one of several members of the senior executive staff to receive an award.

His award was presented in recognition of outstanding leadership, which has contributed to a revitalized direction for the Office of Hearings and Appeals and increased its ability to meet the needs of the public.

A native of Como, Mississippi and a lawyer with impressive credentials, Mr. Young is married to the former Miss Geri Draper. They are the parents of two children.

CONGRATULATIONS — SSA executives congratulate associate commissioner, Andrew J. Young, 3rd from left, as they admire his commissioner's citation. Standing to the left of Mr. Young are: Sandy Crank, assoc. commissioner for Operational Policy & Procedures, and Ms. Janice Warden, acting assoc. commissioner, Office of Governmental Affairs. Standing to the extreme right: Deputy Commissioner Herbert Doggette.

The Free Spirit Theatre Workshop entitled Natural Dance movement will begin Nov. 15th & run every Sat. through Dec. 20th. Workshop taught by "Marie Brown" at Cont. Cell. of Balto. For more infor. call 225-4180, 466-5000 or 669-1369.

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