# Our World

## The Carters mark 40th wedding anniversary

Irene and James I. Carter Sr.

Irene and James Carter, Sr. observed their 40th wedding anniversary on Dec. 20.

After attending services at Metropolitan United Methodist Church where recognition was given, the Carters joined other Sequoia Avenue neighbors at a reception for Mayor Kurt Schmoke hosted by his next door neighbors, the Arthur Roseboroughs.

Following the reception the Carters were treated to dinner by their children, Jimmy and Janet Carter, at the Country Fare Inn in Owings mills.

Unknown to the parents, during the weekend the children had contacted about a dozen close friends of the parents and invited them to come to the house while the Carters were out to dinner.

The friends came, brought gifts, prepared refreshments and stood by ready to greet the celebrants upon their return.

The friends arranged themselves so that they would not be immediately visible when the Carters re-entered the house. One cannot imagine the shock and the surprised look on the faces of the Carters when the friends greeted them with "Surprise!" and "Happy Anniversary" as they entered the house.

It was a pleasant and heart-warming experience.

The Carters are retirees from the Baltimore City Public Schools—she as a Business Education Department head and he as a Mathematics Department head.

Daughter, Janet is a technical sales representative for Electro-Nucleonics, Inc. with headquarters in Columbia. She is presently based in Chicago, where she is responsible for serving 11 mid-western states. Son Jimmy is a former health specialist with the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

In attendance at the surprise celebration were Troy and Estelle Crosby, George and Charlotte Martin, Marie Bessicks, Patricia Tunstall, Gregory Booker, Pamela Smith, and nephew, Dr. Calvin Woodland.

Invited, but unable to attend, were John and Camay Murphy and Paul and Muriel Johnson.

Congratulatory messages were received from friends and relatives located in and out of the city.

## Jack and Jill celebrating 50th year

By Eric Addison
Special to the AFRO

The Baltimore chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc. has "grown to be a second family" for Monica Wood, who is president of the organization's 15 and over age group.

"The Baltimore chapter is known to be the 'big brother/sister' chapter because of the way we're always there for each other," Wood says. "Being in Jack and Jill helps us to learn more about our heritage and about how to help each other out."

Wood is one of many children and teens who have been molded by the mothers of Jack and Jill. On January 9 the Baltimore chapter will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the national organization with a formal dinner dance at the B&O Museum.

Founded in 1938 by Marion Stubbs Thomas in Philadelphia, Jack and Jill was established next in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pittsburgh before being adopted in Baltimore by a local mothers' club named the Cornelias in 1946. The Baltimore chapter grew quickly from the charter group of 25 mothers to 50 mothers the next year.

Today 55 mothers coordinate the monthly community service, recreational, social and educational activities of the Baltimore chapter. The activities are designed to help create a medium of contact which will aid the growth and development of the children and teens and help the mothers learn more about their children.

The younger children look forward to trips to the zoo. Halloween parties and kite flying, while the teens help the mothers plan activities such as pool parties, roller skating, and the ultimate trip to the Copacabana in New York City for the annual party sponsored by the New York chapter.

The teens participate in the United Negro College Fund Telethon as escorts and attend various college fairs. Regional teen conferences are held annually. Visits to the children's ward of the former Provident Hospital at Christmas time were part of the community service work the teens have done in the past.

The betterment of the lives of all children is the broader objective of Jack and Jill. Its mothers support national legislation which they judge to be beneficial to children.

Jack & Jill is open to mothers with children age 2 and over through either "automatic" or "sponsored" membership.

Mothers who have been graduated from the Jack & Jill program as children are accepted automatically into Jack & Jill as mothers when their children become eligible. Current Jack & Jil members also may sponsor mothers for membership.

Graduation from high school marks the end of the Jack & Jill years for the children.

Carol Sherrington-Wright, who is chairperson of the 50th anniversary celebration in Baltimore, sees the "networking" function of Jack and Jill as

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## Pinnie Ross

### COLUMBIA CAPERS

The Pierians, Columbia chapter, sponsored a "Holiday Concert" at the Glenelg Manor House on Folly Quarter Road.

The Manor House was a thing of beauty.

Built in the late 1700's and added to in 1845, the sprawling structure includes massive granite blocks quarried near Ellicott City, imported English fireplaces and formal gardens of boxwood and other shrubbery and wild flowers.

Wooded bridle paths, a tennis court, golf course and swimming pool complete this historic setting.

The artists for the evening's entertainment included Lynne Barnes, a harpist, and Kathy Zindars, a guitarist.

This duet has performed on numerous occasions in Baltimore, Washington and the Northern Virginia Area. Lisa Corbett, a vocalist, who loves the "Art of the Song" recitals and Pierian Rayna Woolfors, a pianist, performed the second portion of the program. Lisa has been featured in the Baltimore Washington area and Spain and Italy.

Guests included director Charles Miller of the Glenelg Country School, Pierian national president, Dr. Pearl Brackett, past national president Lydia W. Mussenden and Dr. Jessie Colson, national first vice president Donna L. Rice, past national treasurer and Baltimore chapter president Agnes A. Reaves, Pierian Alma Felder of Washington, husband of Pierian founder, Ernest Johnson and Howard County Community College Trustee, Celonia B. Walden.

Columbia Chapter members were especially pleased to welcome Pierians Janice L. Coyle and Irene Closson, Both recovering from recent illnesses.

A beautiful catered reception followed the program where members and guests enjoyed wine, holiday punch, dainty sandwiches, delightful cookies, etc. Billy Woolford, Stevie and Billy Rice served as ushers for the occasion.

Concert committee members were Carole L. Ball, Roberta Briscoe, Donna Rice, Harriett Tootle and Rayna Woolford, Chairperson.

After the enjoyable concert and reception, Columbia chapter vice president entertained the visiting dignitaries at her beautiful Hobbits Glen home.

## Pierians celebrate holidays with gala concert

Col. Thomas H. Briscoe receives the Maryland Distinguished Service Cross from Maj. Gen. James F. Fretterd, the Adjutant General for Maryland.

The award was presented at a recent Columbia Rotary Club meeting. Colonel Briscoe is a past president of the club. General Fretterd, the guest speaker, presented the DSC after reading the citation.

The DSC is the highest military decoration awarded by the State of Maryland. It is awarded to those who perform beyond the normal call of duty. Colonel Briscoe was a member of the Maryland National Guard for 24 years, serving at various levels of responsibility.

Col. Thomas Briscoe, left, receives Distinguished Service Cross from Maj. Gen. James F. Fretterd.

## Daughters of Isis spread Yule cheer

Jerusalem Court No. 1, Daughters of Isis, and Jerusalem Temple No. 4, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, played Santa recently when they visited the Pimlico Manor Nursing Home on Belvedere Ave. to spread some good cheer.

Newly elected Illustrious Commandress Mary D. Gabbin of Jerusalem Court and the Daughters of Isis had prepared kits with many personal items and reading material to be presented to the patients. Lap robes and slippers were also part of their gifts.

Newly-elected Potentate Leroy "Pat" Matthews of Jerusalem Temple No. 4 and the nobles brought fresh fruit which they gave to each patient.

Illustrious Potentate Leroy Pat Matthews, left, and Illustrious Commandress Mary D. Gabbin.

From left: Geraldine Watty, Janie R. R. Wright, Alice Catlin, Mary D. Gabbin, Celia McLeod, Kathleen Hinton, Edith A. Mosby, and seated Cora F. Wilson.



# The Living Church

## St. James' memorializes Dr. Williams

A capacity crowd filled the historic St. James' Episcopal Church, 1005 W. Lafayette Ave. when a stained glass window was recently dedicated to the memory of Dr. Roland Barksdale Williams.

Among those present were Dr. Cheek of Howard University, Dr. Richardson of Morgan State University, Congressman Kweisi Mfume and a host of other distinguished dignitaries and community leaders.

Bishop Barry Valentine, assistant bishop for the state of Maryland conducted the special service. Roland and Anethia Williams beamed with pride as the black drape fell and the opulent, stained glass window was dedicated in memory of their son.

Many successes and achievements may be attributed to Williams, who was fondly called "Ronnie."

He is an alumni of Howard University, Johns Hopkins University, New York University and the Diplomate of Medicine from the School of Public Health at Zagreb University in Zagreb, Yugoslavia.

Although he maintained a private practice, he shared his time, talents and services with the Baltimore City Health Department, the Baltimore City public schools and the Atheltic Department of Morgan State University.

He served as consultant with the National Home Survey and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, under Secretary Casper Wineberger.

Barksdale was Director of the Sickle Cell Anemia Program at Provident Hospital in Baltimore. He was also former member of the Vestry of St. James' Church, President of the Me-De-So Club, former Vice President of the United Way of Central Maryland, former chairman of the Public Information Committee of the Baltimore City Medical Society, former National Scientific Chairman of Community Medicine for the National Medical Association, Past President of the Howard University Alumni Association and President-elect of the Chi Delta Mu National Fraternity.

He was a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi National Fraternity and a member of Alpha Phi Omega National Fraternity. He had served as a Grand Physician of the Masons, A.F. and A.M. Hiram Grand Lodge.

Dr. Roland Barksdale Williams travelled throughout the world and enriched the lives of others with the knowledge he amassed. He was Radio Commentator at WWIN Radio in Baltimore, and Contributing Writer and Medical Editor for Metropolitan Magazine. He authored Facts About Health the Public Should Know, and was the recipient of numerous awards for his national and local contributions to society.

The scene for the window depicts St. Luke walking with a small child. The artists and Dr. Williams' parents felt this scene was a most appropriate commemoration. The window was designed and fabricated by Artisan Glass Works, Inc. of Baltimore, in the style and manner of nearby Tiffany windows with mottled opalescent and drapery glass.

St. Luke, author of both a gospel and "The Acts of the Apostles," was himself a physician and accompanied St. Paul on his missions to Greece and Rome. He may have been crucified with St. Andrew, who is featured in the stained glass windows that are adjacent to this one.

The scene chosen for this window is a pastoral one, Luke walks through a sylvan glade, lovingly leading a small child by the hand and holding the book of his Gospel. He gazes with inspiration to the land beyond which is watered by the lake behind him.

Stained glass has always been meant to teach as well as to adorn.

The dedication is to Dr. Williams and there is a caduceus for him and one for Luke, another "beloved physician." The verse is chosen because it was a precept of Roland's life to honor his parents. But verse 6:2 of Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians speaks of a promise, which follows in the next verse, 6:3, "That it may be well with you and that you may live long on the earth."

What is the truth in this Scripture when God saw fit to take Roland while he was so young? It is that paradox which the scene in the window seeks to resolve through symbolism.

The forest where the saint walks with the child is not a forest, and the child is not a child. Luke is not a doctor of bodies and his book is not a book. The lake is not water.

The forest is the forest eternal in the world which God will give to us, to which and through which we must be guided by His Word. That Word, that Gospel,

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The newest stained glass window in St. James' Church is dedicated in loving memory of Dr. Roland Barksdale Williams, MD., and depicts St. Luke walking with a small child.

## A WORD OF HOPE

Maxine L. Wallace
Church News Editor

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phillipians 4:13

Beloved, God wants you to know that your capabilities . . . that your possibilities . . . that your abilities are limitless in Him. In other words, there is no limit to the height you may reach in Him. There is no limit on the achievements you make in Him.

Therefore, do not allow the phrase, "I can't" to remain in your vocabulary. But instead, declare with the Word of God, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

When God saved you, Jesus actually came to live within you. For He said in His Word . . . Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to sup with Him. The day you opened the door of your heart and invited Jesus to come in, He came in to live . . . he came in to stay. And your body became the temple of the Holy Ghost. Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you . . .

Yes, God Himself lives inside of you. For the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one.

He who is the Almighty God lives in you . . . He who is the Great I am lives in you . . . He who is all knowing . . . all He who is the everlasting Father . . . He who is all powerful lives in you.

And so it is that because Jesus lives in us we are able to rise up and walk. We are able to be victorious.

Friend you are not defeated . . . for in Christ Jesus, we are more than a conqueror. Therefore, you do not have to be enslaved to drugs . . . you do not have to be enslaved to alcohol . . . you do not have to be enslaved to sexual immorality . . . you do not have to be enslaved to depression, fear, anxiety, bitterness, and hopelessness . . . for you have been set free by the sacrificial blood of the lamb. And because Jesus lives in you, you are free to walk in your freedom . . . You are free to be free. Oh, how God loves you. . . .

Yes . . . God wills that your life be filled with His love . . . with His joy . . . with His peace . . . with His power. He wills that you know Him in the fullness of His power and love.

Living a Christian life is not living a life of regrets and doom . . . it is not living a life of doubt and gloom. But living a Christian life is living a fulfilled life . . . It is walking and living, living like you are royal . . . and in fact, you are. For the Bible says we are a royal priesthood . . . a peculiar people.

And you can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth you. Beloved, know that it is not by your strength or power that you are able to believe and achieve, but it is by the strength of He who lives in you.

Did you know that God is your strength. A song writer said, "God is the strength and the joy of my life." El Shadai, the Almight God is my strong tower. Therefore, I put my trust in Him. While I am often prone to wander . . . there is a power within me that enables me to standfast in the liberty where with Christ has set me free . . . that causes me to not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

Christ gives me the strength to live holy . . . He gives me the strength to love my enemies . . . He gives me the strength to forgive those who have despitefully used me . . . He gives me the strength to tell others of His goodness and infinite mercies. God is so good.

The strength that God gives us through Christ Jesus is supernatural. The Bible says He giveth power to the faint and to them that have no might. He increaseth strength. When I feel like giving up, I can call on the Jesus within me. When I feel like I can't make it, I can call on the strength which lies within. When all around my soul gives way, it's a blessing to know that through Christ, I can make it.

I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Because the all wise God lives in me, I can learn how to solve algebraic equations . . . I can memorize elements on the periodic table . . . I can comprehend ionization. I can read beyond seventh grade level . . . I can write multi-paragraphed compositions . . . I can learn how to cook . . . I can learn how to mow the lawn . . . I can learn how to roller skate . . . I can learn to ride a bike . . . I can be a leader in my church . . . I can get along with my co-workers . . . I can be a loving wife . . . I can say no to drugs . . . I can rise above oppression and depression. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me!

## AFRO charities bless the needy

By Maxine L. Wallace
AFRO Staff Writer

More than 2,000 persons were assisted through AFRO Charities as the oldest and largest black newspaper in Baltimore sought to bless families in need during the Christmas holidays.

Under the auspicious of Ms. Elyn Garrett, director of AFRO Charities, to date $29,399.06 has been received and utilized to help the needy.

According to Garrett, 400 food baskets, consisting of ham, canned goods, potatoes, vegetables, bread, were distributed to needy families throughout the city.

The Maryland National Guard delivered the baskets to the predetermined households on Saturday, Dec. 19 and Sunday, Dec. 20.

They have volunteered their services for Mrs. Santa for more than ten years.

Additionally, 1,000 $15.00 food coupons were purchased and given to needy families, and 800 toy coupons worth $5.00 were given to each child in predetermined needy families.

According to Garrett, another success of the AFRO Charities program was the adoption program.

To benefit from the program, needy families were asked fo fill out a form provided in the newspaper indicating the circumstances of their financial need as well as the number of children in their household.

Upon receipt of that form, their case number, was printed in the papers so that individuals, families or organizations could adopt a family. More than 200 families were adopted.

Garrett said many civic organizations, public services and organizations contributed food baskets, toys, monetary donations, and or adopted a family.

Also, several departments at the AFRO adopted families. Contributions were made by individuals and organizations throughout the country.

Outstanding donations were given by the General Electric Employees Community Fund, $2,000; NAACP, $1,500; the AME Ministerial Alliance, $1,000; March Funeral Home, $1,000; the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, $500; and the C&P Telephone Company.

Garrett said though the Christmas holiday is over, AFRO Charities is still accepting donations.

"Any monies will be acknowledged and the funds will go towards next year's campaign," she said.

All checks are tax deductible and should be made payable to AFRO Charities—Mrs. Santa.

Garrett said she is particularly pleased with the success of the campaign's efforts this past holiday season.

"The campaign's success brings me a lot of satisfaction for many reasons; primarily because we were able to help hundreds of families who would have otherwise had a gloomy Christmas," she said. "Secondly, this being my first year running the program, I am proud it reached the magnitude it did."

The director said her office started receiving requests for help in October.

"Letters ranged from people who did not have food to people who were about to be evicted."

Because some requests for the Mrs. Santa program were received at an early date, some families were also adopted for Thanksgiving or provided with food baskets. Many of the adoptees were helped by the same family or individuals for Christmas.

According to Garrett, the program guaranteed that everyone who met the guidelines would be helped. All applicants were to fill out the request form made available in the AFRO American Newspapers and mail it to the AFRO with a postmark of December 15 or later.

Garrett said the theme throughout the campaign year was "please care and share with someone less fortunate."

Garrett started working with AFRO Charities in 1985, which was then headed by Mrs. Ida Peters. She (Garrett) was then the assistant to Bonnie Butler.

When Mrs. Peters, after many years of service, retired at the end of '85, Butler assumed her position. In 1987, Garrett became director.

Presently, serving as her assistant is Angela Alexander.

"Together, we handled hundreds of phone calls during the Christmas holiday relative to the campaign," said Garrett.

Garrett said she looks forward to continuing the AFRO's Clean Block program which is geared towards teaching neighborhood pride and cleanliness to inner city residents.

This program, which will in February celebrate 55 years, awards cash prizes to participants for their hard work and achievements in keeping their neighborhoods clean.

## Metro Church Briefs

### Calvary Baptist to sponsor Song Feast

The Richard T. Reed Male Chorus of Calvary Baptist Church will sponsor a Song Feast at the church, 3911 Garrison Blvd. on Saturday, Jan. 9 at 7 pm. The chorus, along with guest choirs, will be rendering the music. All are invited.

### Registration open for Interfaith Choir

If you are interested in learning vocal techniques, choir decorum, the history of gospel music and other pertinent topics, now is the time to join Jacki Ruffin and the Metropolitan Interfaith Choir.

Registration is open through Jan. 26. Call 202-581-8381.

### Israel Baptist celebrates King's birthday

The Black Awareness Committee of the Israel Baptist Church, Preston and Chester Streets, invites you to its fourth annual commemorative service for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Sunday, Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m. The guest speaker is State Attorney Stuart Simms. A film on the life of Martin Luther King will be shown at 6 p.m. in the James H. Williams Memorial Chapel and an exhibit of black inventors will be displayed. A reception will follow the service in the Edmond P. Meade Memorial Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited.

### BACM plans general meeting

On Tuesday, Jan. 19, The Baltimore Association of Catechetical Ministers, (BACM) will hold their first general meeting with the installation of the newly formed leadership council. The meeting will be held at the Marriott Hunt Valley Inn from 10 a.m. to noon. All catechetical ministers are invited. Call 727-3103 or 242-8500.

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## Rev. Ray says farewell

By Maxine L. Wallace
AFRO Staff Writer

A farewell reception will be held in honor of Rev. Willie Ray, founder of the Save Another Youth and the Stop the Killing Coalition at Union Baptist Church, 1219 Druid Hill Ave., Thursday, Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. The public is invited.

Rev. Ray, who is also the founder and pastor of New Promised Land Christian Community Church, 328 N. Paca St., will be leaving Baltimore on Jan. 17 to pursue a Masters Degree in Theology at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary in Boston, Mass.

He will be involved in a two and a half year program.

Ray said some concern was raised over his leaving the city and the work of the vital youth ministry that he has worked with for more than ten years.

"I'm not abandoning the youth or Baltimore City, but going to further prepare myself to be a more effective public servant," he said.

Ray said in his absence he is confident of the leadership of the board to carry on the youth ministry.

Rev. Willie Ray

Regarding his church, he said, some of the members will carry on conducting business as well as insuring the continued worship experience.

"I will still be the pastor," he said.

Ray is a graduate of Young Life Institute Seminary in New York, and has been actively involved in the Social Gospel Ministry since 1968.

"I hope to represent Baltimore well in Boston," he said.

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