

THE MEDIUM

a message from the people...to the people

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29 UNSUNG HEROES GET COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AT AWARDS BANQUET



By: Kora Vann

Representatives from every major organization in the central area joined with the community Friday to honor 29 persons whose contributions had previously gone without public notice.

Speakers from organizations as conservative as the NAACP to the militant Black Panther party and BSU praised the "unsung heroes" for their work in the black community.

Receiving the highest honor of all was Flo Ware. Mrs. Ware was selected as the person most Deserving of the Martin Luther King Humanitarian award by six judges.

Mrs. Ware has been ac-

tive in community activities for over 30 years. She has actively supported education and is presently a member of the Central Area School Council. She has been a mother for 20 foster children and is on several Model Cities Task forces.

Mrs. Ware's nomination for the award was supported by 53 people.

When she was named the winner of the award at the Heritage House, the building exploded in screams and thunderous applause. Mrs. Ware burst into tears and a hundred people rushed up to kiss and congratulate her.

The award was presented

to Mrs. Ware by Priscilla Hailey and Walter Hubbard.

In presenting the award, Mrs. Hailey compared her to the Medium.

"You and the Medium parallel each other", she said. "The Medium gives a message to the people from the people. You give a message to us all".

Hubbard quoted Dr. King, the man the award is in memory of. He said Mrs. Ware "had exemplified his profile in courage to our community."

The other award was given to Harriet Greenwood and Mary Lou Williams. They were presented the Mahalia Jackson Spiritual Award by Rev. Leroy I.

Brown and Larry Williams, Medium's General Manager. They will receive duplicate plaques.

Mrs. Williams was recognized for her work with poor people. She has been involved with Model cities and welfare rights. It was she who brought the Welfare Rights Organization to Seattle.

Mrs. Greenwood, president of T. T. Minor P.T.A. helped form one of the first human relations programs. She helped organize the Handi-grasp project which deals with the problems of disabled persons.

Former Superior Court Judge Charles Smith emceed the program. He cal-

led for unity in the black community as he introduced each speaker.

The speakers included Dr. Richard Hunter, Central School Region Administrator; Wade Hill, former BSU president; Larry Gossett, UW office of minority affairs; Charles Mitchell, Director of Minority Affairs at SU; Sarah Dean, UW student; Tom Dixon, Tacoma Urban League Director; Lacy Steele, president of NAACP; Elmer Dixon, Black Panther Party; and Alfred Cowles, School Board president.

The other 27 unsung heroes drew applause when their achievements were (continued on page 9)