



OPERATIONS SING-ALONG—This may appear to be one of the newest and most spirited acts to spread the Christmas message, but in fact, they are taking a break from work to

Paul Robeson Medical Center In Harlem To Help Rebuild Community

NEW YORK, N.Y.—“Affordable, quality health care,” said Ms. Matilda R. Cuomo, is the best place to start in “serving the families of Harlem.”

Ms. Cuomo, wife of Mario Cuomo, governor of New York state, addressed some 300 guests and staff members at the recent dedication of Central Harlem’s Paul Robeson Family Medical Center, 140 W. 125th St., Manhattan.

The center is administered by Harlem’s North General Hospital, a minority-led, 200-bed, voluntary facility that recently received a \$150 million New York State guaranteed loan to rebuild its deteriorating buildings.

Ms. Cuomo told the audience, “North General Hospital and the Paul Robeson Family Medical Center are the first and second steps in the rebuilding and revitalization of the Harlem community. Believe it or not, these two institutions will be models for other hospitals and family health centers nationwide.”

Ms. Cuomo urged Harlem residents to “make use” of these facilities. “Make them work for you,” she said.

A former school teacher who graduated with honors from St. John’s University, Ms. Cuomo concentrated at one point in her talk on 25 fifth-graders from Public School 101 in East Harlem.

“This dedication amounts to a first-rate civics lesson for you,” she said. Indicating the scores of political, civic and community workers at the dedication, Ms. Cuomo noted, “These are the people who put this health center together. These people were working for us for a long time. All their efforts over many years went into making this health care center happen.”

Among those identified by Ms. Cuomo were Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.), David Dinkins, Manhattan Borough president; Assemblywoman Geraldine Daniels; Lewis Rudin, chairman, the Association for a Better New York; Randolph Guggenheim, chairman of the board of North General Hospital; Eugene Mc-

Cabe, president, North General Hospital; and Theron Cook, executive director of the Paul Robeson Family Medical Center.

Denise Richardson, reporter for WOR-TV, was the mistress of ceremonies for the dedication.

Located in one of America’s most medically underserved communities, the Paul Robeson Family Medical Center concentrates on preventive medicine for the entire family. The center treats both walk-in patients and those with appointments and it

accepts many insurance plans including Medicaid and Medicare. All fees are based on family income.

A supervised playroom, named for Matilda Cuomo, is available for children.

* * *

The porcupine has more than 30,000 quills. They are excellent swimmers because their quills are hollow and keep them afloat.

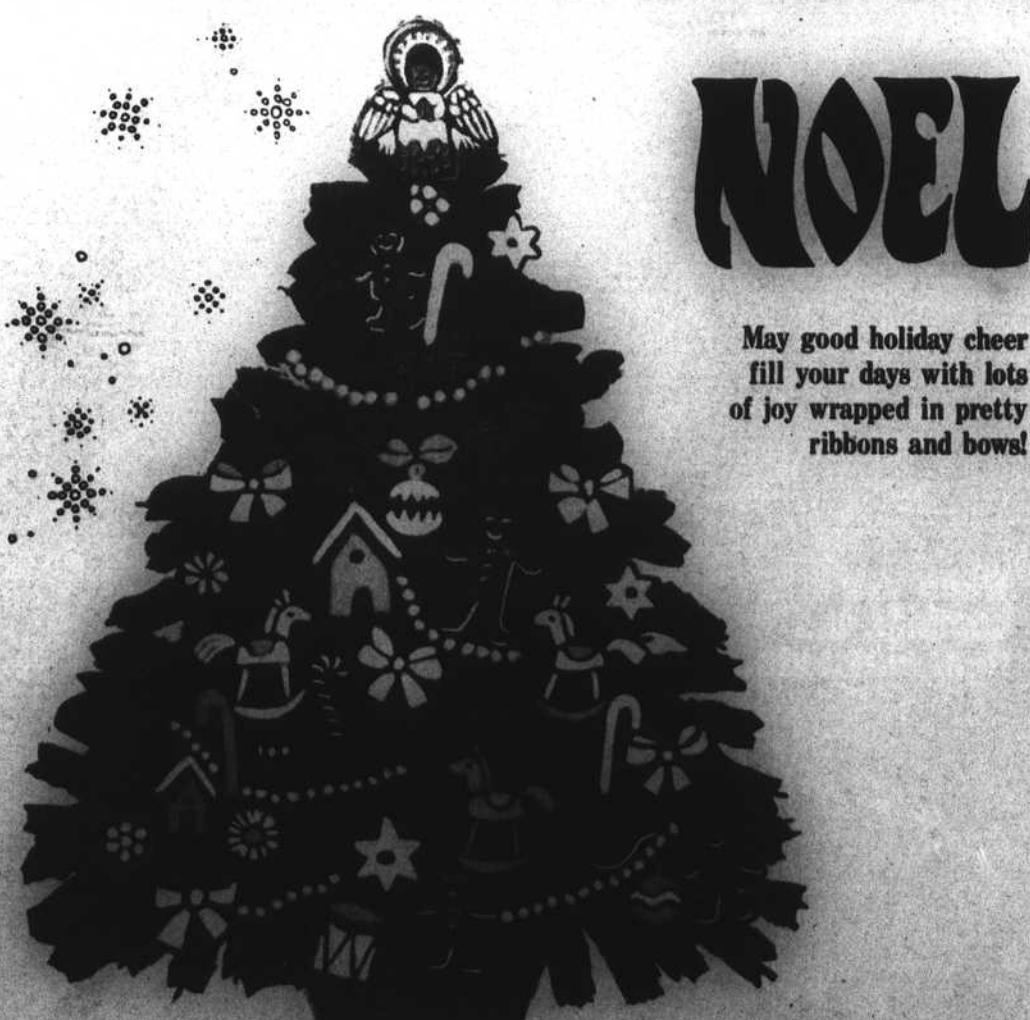


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When the last carol’s sung,
Though this Christmas will pass,
You’ve precious memories to last.

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Three Black Writers Recognized; Cited For Literary Achievement

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Three up-and-coming black writers were in good creative company when Phylicia Rashad of “The Cosby Show,” Denzel Washington of the Broadway comedy “Checkmates,” renowned author Maya Angelou and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Charles Fuller joined them in celebrating their first-place wins at the 1988 McDonald’s Literary Achievement Awards held recently in New York City.

Now in its 11th year, the McDonald’s Literary Achievement Awards program is a national competition which recognizes excellence for writing about the black experience in America.

For her collection of poems, Doris Harris of Seattle received the Nikki Giovanni poetry award; Frank B. Wilderson, III, of Minneapolis received the Maya Angelou fiction writing award for “The Ramadan Wars,” and John Henry Redwood, of East Orange, N.J., received the Charles Fuller playwriting award for “A Sunbeam.” Redwood was a runner-up in the 1986 literary competition.

“The McDonald’s Literary Achievement Awards winners are continuing a great tradition of black writers chronicling the black experience in America,” said Mike Gordon, director of public relations for McDonald’s Corp. “Through their work, these writers are making an important and enriching contribution to American culture.”

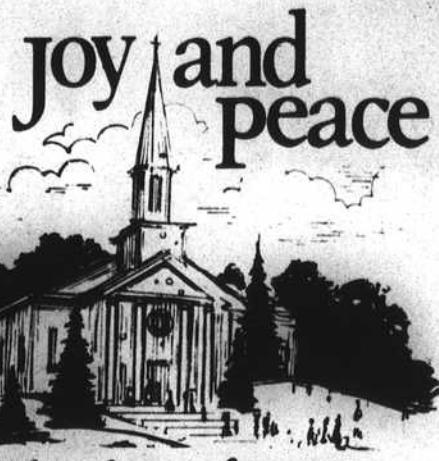
The winners, selected from more than 700 entrants, were the guests of honor at the awards program which featured a celebrity reading of their

works. Following the program, there was a reception for the winners at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center.

This year’s competition was presented in conjunction with the Negro Ensemble Co., a New York-based theater organization known for developing some of the country’s leading black talent. NEC alumni Rashad and Washington returned to their theatrical alma mater, the company’s Theatre Four, to host the pro-

gram, which was a fundraiser for the organization this year.

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Christmas Cheer



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May you carry the hope of peace and love
In your heart now and everyday.
Behold His blessing for it brings hope to all Mankind.
In appreciation of your continued Goodwill and Support.
Have A Very Joyous Season!

W. B. Lewis and Cosmopolitan Missionary Baptist Church Family

First Cosmopolitan Missionary Baptist Church

Theme: “Everybody at First Cosmopolitan Missionary Baptist Church is Somebody and Christ is All.”

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December, month of holly,
pine, and balsam,
Of berries red, of candles,
mellow light;
Of home and fireside, laughter,
happy faces,
Of peace that comes upon
the holy night

We’re thanking you for being here this
Christmas time and throughout the year.

Raleigh / Apex Branch NAACP

Portia Brandon, Pres.