Newspaper; n.d.; Chappelle Retirement

Bethel A.M.E. Church

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To Be Honored

[From Page 1]

Mrs. Chappelle

Sunday, July 13th, at 6 P.M., Bethel AME Church, E. Ferry and Michigan Ave., will honor Mrs. Mary Chappelle, in a Retirement Banquet at the Statler Hilton Hotel, in recognition of her retirement from the educational system of Buffalo. She plans to give full time to religious and civic activities.

Mrs. Chappelle was born in Milton, Florida, to the late Tilman and Maria Crosby. She came with her family at an early age to Ohio, where she graduated with honors— the only black in a class of 200, from Coshocton High School, in 1926.

Upon completion of her public school education, she enrolled at Clark College in Atlanta, Ga., where she majored in Social Science and Education. Her sojourn at Clark saw Mary active in the college Glee Club, dramatics, and an Instructor in Federal programs: Evening Adult School Programs: Art classes and Remedial Reading.

Some of her special activities are: director of weddings, banquets, receptions, etc., oratorical contests, diversified public programs, religious and folk social recreation, fashion shows and charm classes and workshops.

Mrs. Chappelle serves as chairman and counselor of various community committees, church related groups, youth social clubs, adult social clubs, moderates panels, forums, symposiums, seminars, youth groups, and women’s activities.

In appreciation of dedicated work, Mrs. Chappelle has received the following citations and awards:

Bethel AME Church—over 30 years of service and membership: First Baptist Church—Among 10 honored leaders of the year; Delaine Waring—Among 10 leading women of the year; Sojourner Truth Award—National Assoc. of Colored Women’s Clubs, Regional Resident, Parliamentary, and Executive Chairman. In addition, she holds membership in the following organizations:


Mrs. Chappelle has served as a panelist for public interest groups and a lecturer on radio and television and at the State University College of Buffalo. She has served as a solicitor for the following fund raising drives: Annual Community Membership Drive, Cancer Fund, Poppy Sales of VFW, March of Dimes and YMCA and YWCA drives.

Since 1938, she has taught in the schools of Buffalo and in 1946, was appointed Permanent Teacher in Exceptional Education. Other vocational endeavors have been: Social Welfare visitor, Surveyor for Municipal Housing, private tutor, a teacher at Browning Home in Camden, S. C., and an Instructor in Federal Office of a Vermont senator.

Mrs. Mary Chappelle's career highlights her lifelong dedication to public service and leadership. Her affiliations are legion.

As a member of the Lit-Mus Club of Buffalo, she has served the National Association of Colored Women’s Clubs for over thirty years, receiving a Life Membership and a 30-year award. She has served the Buffalo Region of the Empire State Federation of Negro Women's Clubs as Regional Resident, Parliamentarian, and Executive Chairman. In addition, she holds membership in the following organizations:


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