

# CHESTER N.A.A.C.P. NEWS

Newsletter of the Chester Branch of NAACP

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Fall 2006

## A Message from the President

By Darrell V. Jones, President, Chester Branch NAACP

Time flies whether you run, stand or walk. So, I will attempt to walk you through my first two years as your President.

I inherited a functioning Branch, but only a handful of working volunteers. I very much appreciate the work of our Officers and Committee members and also want to thank you, our members, for your financial support in the way of continuing your memberships. As you know, memberships are the lifeblood of the organization.

Losing our friend and Vice President, Jim Cottrell, was a great loss to us. There is just no way to replace a driving force for civil rights. Big Jim passionately worked for "his" NAACP and his people. We still grieve the loss, but know that he is in a better place sharing his stories with the angels.

Our four mandated areas of concern are Health, Education, Legal Redress and Political Action. These areas can be a full plate in anyone's eyes, but we endeavor to do them while sacrificing time spent with our family, friends and love ones. To the families of our Officers and Executive Committee members, I truly want to thank you for sharing your family with the Branch.

In the area of Health, we have participated in the Healthy Hoops Program. This is an outreach program that benefits at risk children with asthma and their families. The program offers asthma education and testing, a basketball program and entertainment for the children and their families.

Education has been in the forefront of this administration for the last two years, and will continue to be until our children receive the first class education that they deserve. I have joined with a parents group as a citizen of Chester, rather than joining as a NAACP member, so that I could participate in a lawsuit to have the Board of Control replaced with a receiver. I, and others, have met with Governor Ed Rendell, two members of the PA Secretary of Education, along with groups of parents to ask for the Board of Control's resignation. Until we get people who are willing to listen to parents, teachers and students, we are doomed to make the same mistakes.

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**Governor Pays Awards Dinner a Visit.** Pictured above are State Representative Thaddeus Kirkland, Governor Ed Rendell, and Chester NAACP President Darrell V. Jones. See story, page 2.

## Chester NAACP Election Results

Here are the results of the election of officers and Executive Committee of the Chester Branch of NAACP on October 26. They will serve for a two-year term, beginning in January, 2007.

President: Darrell V. Jones  
1st Vice-President: Charlie L. Warren  
2nd Vice-President: Ella M.G. McFarland  
3rd Vice-President: Donna Mims  
Secretary: Karen D. Jones  
Treasurer: Charlotte Beverly

### Executive Committee Members-at-Large:

Victor Bowes	Charles McNear
Evelyn Prattis-Frisby	Will Richan
Irma Jacobs	Jacqueline Rhodes
Darice Jones	Tara Jones-Stephens
Girlena Kinlaw	Barbara Stevens
Elaine Mathis	Tonya Warren
John Mathis	

## NAACP Looks Into Charge of Harassment Involving Chester, Parkside Police

Chester NAACP has been asked for assistance by a parent complaining that her son was harassed by officers of the Chester and Parkside Police Departments. President Darrell V. Jones and 2nd Vice-President Charlie L. Warren are pursuing the matter with the Delaware County District Attorney's office. According to the parent, it was a case of mistaken identity. The police came to the home and demanded to search it without a search warrant. The investigation by NAACP continues.

## Jones, Nichols Honored at Y Fete

Darrell V. Jones, President of the Chester Branch, NAACP, and Nafis Nichols, President of the Branch's Youth Council, were recipients of awards at the 92nd Annual Dinner of the YWCA of Chester. They were among five honorees at the gathering, held at King's Mill, Aston, December 1.

Other award winners were Dr. Gloria Grantham, CEO and Superintendent of the Chester-Upland School District; Rev. Dr. Joyce Scott, pastor, New Life Ministries International; and Ralph Dorsey, manager of the Biddy Basketball League.