



**1996 DEDICATION & SERVICE AWARD** winner Tom Dorward (center) is congratulated by Assistant Chiefs Dale Oplinger and Scott Hollister at the Lansing Fire Department Annual Inspection Dinner Saturday night at the Ramada.

## Celebrating The Life Of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

by Marilia Phillips

Singing, poetry readings and scholarship winners were all part of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. community breakfast on this frigid Saturday morning, January 18, 1997 at the Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC) building in Ithaca.

The program began with a musical selection by the Melatones and Fe Nunn. A warm, delicious breakfast of grits, pancakes, biscuits, bagels, danish, sausage, scrambled eggs was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Lauren Austin, Director of Tompkins County Human Rights Commission, presented awards to the Martin Luther King, Jr. poetry winners. Three hundred fifty poems were submitted. This year's poetry winners were Tempest McIntyre's poem, "Martin Luther King, Jr."; Ashley Leonard's, "I Have a Dream"; Nick Farni's, "Bottle"; Michael Perl's, "Imagine"; Pilar Rodriguez's "All They Had Were Maus (en) Luther King Words"; Yamini Raman's, "Harmonious Unification"; Laura Fowler's, "My Dream, My Future," and Leah Kaminsky's, "Forgive, But Don't Forget". All of the winners received a certificate and a book about Martin Luther King Jr. Their poems will be on display at the Tompkins County Public Library.

The winners for the art competition were Maria Pires for, "The Dream We All Share!" and Esy Casey for "Resolving Differences by Communicating with Each Other Despite Our Differences."

The students that have proven to have outstanding academic records, and have shown great strength and determination throughout their lives, despite the odds, received the Beverly J. Martin scholarship awards which were presented by Audrey Cooper a member of GIAC's Board of Directors. The three selected were Rakeim Rucker, Camila Vargas, and Jose Martinez. Honorable mentions went to Devin Mack, Genil McBean, Brian McKnight, Maya Smith, Liz Welch, Micah Wilkins, and Margo Williams.

There were two guest speakers, Thomas Baskin Bay, associate principal at Ithaca High School and Terry Calhoun, the director for the Multicultural Resource Center. Mr. Bay's speech about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was very inspiring and motivating. He wrote a poem called "Honoring Glory." The key points of his speech were that, "Martin Luther King Jr. was a very learned man," and that "Fighting without violence means real courage." Though a young man, Terry Calhoun, spoke as if he lived through Dr. King's era.

Following the speakers, the Korean Women's Choir performed in native costumes. A translator interpreted the Korean songs. There were beautiful dance movements to the songs.

TC-3 student Laura Knizova thought that the best part of the celebration was the Korean Choir. "I also liked the presentation to the scholarship winners," she said.

Others responded to the question, Valerie Rockney said that Martin Luther King Jr. had an impact on her life as "a source of inspiration." She walked eight or ten blocks to get to the breakfast on this very cold day.

Cornellian Candace Crawford said, "He taught us to persevere through his principles about nonviolence." Local hairdresser Awura-Abena said, "He had made people aware of the inequities in society. People are more able to listen because of his nonviolent approach."

Mr. Raman said, "He brought different colors together and unified strong nations because of his beliefs." Lastly, Michael Robinson who presented a plaque to GIAC said, "I consider Martin Luther King Jr. to be a prophet and modern day Messiah. Martin Luther King's struggle was not about black people, white people, yellow people, brown people, or red people. He was for all people, and he should be considered among the greatest people in all history."

Marilia Phillips attends Lansing High School and is a regular contributor to the Lansing Community News.



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# Community Calendar

**Notice:**

Tompkins County residents are now eligible to apply for individual disaster assistance for certain costs incurred as a result of storms and flooding on Nov. 8-15. Call 1-800-462-9029 to apply for disaster aid.

**Thursday, January 30**

Girls JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Southern Cayuga at home at 6:00 pm  
PTSO Tom Lickona, "Character Education" At Lansing Auditorium at 7:30 pm  
Men's Basketball in MS gym from 7:00-8:30 pm

**Friday, January 31**

Cayuga Heights Recycling Day (set out by 7:30 am)  
NO SCHOOL - Conference Day  
Sr. Water Aerobics at the High School pool, noon to 12:45 pm  
Boys Modified & Varsity B Swim Team at Southern Cayuga at 4:30 pm  
Modified Girls Basketball at Marathon at 4:30 pm  
Boys JV & Varsity Basketball at Southern Cayuga at 6:00 pm

**Saturday, February 1**

Varsity Wrestling at Oxford/Walton 1:00 pm  
Friendship Network free fresh produce distribution at Lansing United Methodist Church from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

**Sunday, February 2**

**Monday, February 3**

Town of Lansing Recycling Day  
Yoga/Relaxation Class for Seniors at Woodsedge, 11:30 am - 12:00 noon  
"Principal's Bag Lunch" with DeWitt Middle School parents at noon  
Sr. Water Aerobics at High School pool, noon to 12:45 pm  
Modified Girls Basketball vs. Union Springs at home at 4:30 pm  
Men's Basketball in the Middle School gym from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

**Tuesday, February 4**

Boys Modified and Varsity Swim Teams vs. Odessa Montour at home at 4:30 pm  
Boys JV & Varsity Basketball vs. Groton at home at 6:00 pm  
Girls JV & Varsity Basketball at Groton at 6:00 pm  
Adult Coed Volleyball at the Middle School gym from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

**Wednesday, February 5**

Sr. Water Aerobics at the High School pool, noon to 12:45 pm  
Modified Girls Basketball vs. Groton at home at 4:30 pm  
Lansing Town Board meets at Town hall at 7:00 pm  
Women's Volleyball at the Middle School gym from 7:15 to 9:15 pm

NIGHTLY EXERCISE - Walk the halls at Lansing Middle School from 6:30-8:30 pm each night that school is in session.

Send your organization's events listings to the Lansing Community News  
204 Wilson Road, Lansing, NY 14882-9065

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Building academic affiliations for medical education.



Cayuga Medical Center at Ithaca