

Heritage Jubilee Honors 2 W Distinguished Service Award

Heritage Jubilee was a concerted effort by the Afro-American Society to commemorate the birth and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King long before it became the trend to do so.

The students and faculty at Seminole Community College combined in the early 80s to plan a program as an annual reunion and as a community activity which would pay tribute to Dr. King's ideals and through which the community could offer recognition to anonymous as well as outstanding people.

Out of this interest grew the prestigious Distinguished Service Awards and the spotlighting of gifted artists. Heritage Jubilee has become a varied and spirited celebration of leadership in America with special emphasis on the contributions of all black leaders who are too often forgotten.

One of the Distinguished Service Awards for 1988 has been awarded to Mrs. Marie Jones Francis, who for 32 years, practiced the art of midwifery, being inspired by her mother, the late Mrs. Corrie Jones who was a practical nurse and midwife.

Mrs. Francis has delivered over 40,000 babies in this com-



**Marva
Hawkins**

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munity. Although born in Georgia, she attended Hopper Academy and Crooms Academy in Sanford and did further studies at Florida A&M College in the care of premature and immature babies and at Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., in the studies of Improvement in Midwifery.

Mrs. Francis is an active member of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church where she is an honorary member of St. Paul Gospel Chorus. She is also a member of the Royal Grand Chapter of the Eastern Star. Because of her many outstanding contributions to the community of Sanford, she has received many awards including Outstanding Service to the American Cancer Society, Exceptional Service to Mankind, Heart of Florida District Sertoma International, Dignified Achievement in Public Service, Pilot Club of Sanford, Meritorious

Service Gospel Chorus, St. Paul Baptist Church, certificate from Seminole County Health Department and Rehabilitation Services, Seminole Youth Employment Program Honoree and charter member of Mental Health Center Board of Seminole County.

Mrs. Francis is the mother of three daughters, Daphne, Cassandra and Barbara (deceased) and has a granddaughter, Amber Marie.



SCC Photo by Craig Orseno

Rufus C. Brooks, left, and Marie Jones Francis are the recipients of the 1988 Heritage Jubilee Distinguished Service Awards.