

# FMH NEWS

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TOPIC: BRONZE BUST OF DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIAN,  
ULYSSES GRANT BOURNE, M.D.  
TO BE DEDICATED AT FMH CEREMONY

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Frederick, MD: Sam Williamson's award winning essay about Frederick County's first black physician, Dr. Ulysses Grant Bourne, and his follow-up fundraising drive to create a bronze statue to honor the many contributions of this remarkable man, will come to fruition on December 18<sup>th</sup>, when the bust of the distinguished community leader will be placed in the lobby of Frederick Memorial Hospital. Sam raised \$25,500 to create the bronze bust by soliciting contributions from area businesses and private donors. "I want the whole world to know what he did and how good of a role model he was," said Sam, now a sixth-grader at Ballenger Creek Elementary School.

Born into a Calvert County farming family in 1873, the ninth of ten children, Dr. Bourne graduated from Leonard Medical College, in North Carolina in 1902. In 1903, he established his medical practice on West All Saints Street in Frederick City, where he practiced until 1953. He, and his associate Dr. Charles Brooks opened a 15-bed hospital in 1919 to better care for the County's growing black community.

Dr. Bourne was instrumental in founding the Maryland Negro Medical Association, and served as the group's first president. He was also involved in organizing the local chapter of the NAACP. He was a devoted member of Asbury United Methodist Church, serving as a trustee

for 50 years. He was involved in the Pythian Elks and the Fredericktonian Masonic Lodge No. 12, and served on the board of directors of Henryton State Hospital for a number of years.

“We are pleased and proud to display the bust of the distinguished Dr. Bourne who was not only a medical pioneer in Frederick County, but a civic minded community leader who worked tirelessly for the betterment of his fellow citizens regardless of race, color or creed,” said Thomas A. Kleinhanzl, President and CEO of the Frederick Memorial Healthcare System.

The dedication ceremony will take place on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:00 p.m..

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend the unveiling ceremony. Dr. Bourne’s daughter Dr. Blanche Bourne-Tyree, and Sam Williamson will be available for interview immediately following the ceremony.

## ADDITIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

When Dr. Bourne was unable to enter the front door of Frederick City's only Opera House, he and some of his friends opened a theater of their own. His daughter, Dr. Blanche Bourne-Tyree says, "I saw many a movie at that theater. He forbade our entrance into the peanut gallery of the segregated Opera House."

Dr. Bourne was instrumental in founding the Maryland Negro Medical Association and served as the group's first president.

In 1931, Dr. Bourne organized the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Dr. Bourne was the first black man from Western Maryland to run for the Maryland House of Delegates.

He served as the regional vice president of the 6<sup>th</sup> Republican District for many years.

"I did not know anyone more respected in Frederick than Dr. Bourne," said Charles V. Main, who served as Frederick City's chief of police for 24 years. "Dr. Bourne was the most honest and beloved person in the community. He was truly a gentleman." \*

*\*(The Frederick News Post, Wednesday, October 13, 1993.)*