

Honorees (from left) Patricia Butts, Hazel Duker, Sylvia White and C. Virginia Fields are feted Friday for decades of service.



Heroes of Harlem

FOUR OF Harlem's most revered African-American women were honored Friday at a Black History Month event for their impressive legacy of community service.

NAACP leader Hazel Duker, ex-Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields, Harlem Hospital leader Sylvia White and Abyssinian Baptist Church Health Ministry founder Patricia Butts were celebrated by local residents and politicians.

Fields said she is looking toward the future and urged the crowd to push back against the Trump administration if any attempts are made to roll back certain ad-

vances. "Civil rights, voting rights, education ... We will not allow things to turn back that we have fought too hard to gain," Fields said after receiving her proclamation and certificate of recognition.

"There may be difficult days, but let us not at any time give up. In the end, we're going to be OK."

More than 100 Harlemites turned out to honor the quartet, who were each hailed by Rep. Adriano Espaillat. "For everything you do for us and everything you do for our community, we give you thanks," said the Harlem Democrat.

Chauncey Alcorn



Rep. Adriano Espaillat (left) and state Sen. Bill Perkins honor Harlem Hospital's Sylvia White on Friday in Harlem.

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