



Photos by Evy Mages for Capital Business

CELEBRATING: Jane Pauley, a veteran broadcaster and author, beams as she is introduced at the luncheon marking Leadership Howard County's 25th anniversary. The group provides year-long leadership training for entrepreneurs.



Guests included, above, Nancy Minieri, president of Leadership Maryland, and left, Richard M. Krieg, president of Horizon Foundation, and psychotherapist Arlene H. Sheff.

Event marks 25 years of building leaders

By VANESSA SMALL

Nearly 450 business, nonprofit and community leaders recently gathered at the Turf Valley Resort in Ellicott City, Md., for a luncheon that celebrated the 25th anniversary of Leadership Howard County, a membership organization that provides resources for leaders across various sectors in the county.

Broadcaster Jane Pauley was the event's guest speaker. Pauley, who hosts "Your Life Calling With Jane Pauley," a monthly NBC series that highlights individuals over 50 who are rediscovering their purpose, spoke to the audience about uncovering the ways that passion and resources can be used philanthropically.

"We do have a number of people in this community that are reaching the point of retirement from the career they've been pursuing for 30 years but they're not ready to be done," said Stacie Hunt, president and chief executive of Leadership Howard County. "She had a really good and relevant message about reinvention even as we're asking ourselves as an organization, 'What's next for us?'"

The organization has yet to determine the amount of money that was raised from the event but organizers say the funds will support its scholarship program, which covers tuition for select leaders from small businesses and nonprofits to attend the year-long class. Funds will also support class pro-

grams, tours and community projects.

The class of 2011 is expected to graduate in June.

Funds were raised through ticket sales and a raffle, which included items such as Swiss chocolates and gift certificates for restaurants and a down-payment on a vehicle at Apple Ford.

Guests included Howard County Executive Ken Ulman; Howard County Chamber of Commerce President Pam Klahr; County Council members Courtney Watson and Greg Fox; and Howard County Economic Development Authority chief executive Laura Neuman.

Sponsors included M&T Bank, Kaiser Permanente, Howard County General Hospital, BB&T, BlueCross Blue Shield and Comcast.