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SPOTSYLVANIA CITIZEN CHOSEN TO RECEIVE THE 2016 GOVERNOR SPOTSWOOD AWARD

Spotsylvania, VA – May 26, 2016 – Spotsylvania County resident Dr. Paulino D. Sambat has been selected to be the 2016 recipient of the County's Annual Governor Spotswood Award. The Award will be presented at a public Awards Ceremony and Reception on Thursday, June 16, 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Senior Center of the Marshall Center, 8800 Courthouse Road, Spotsylvania 22553.

A selection committee consisting of Spotsylvania residents chose the honoree after reviewing all of the nominations submitted by the public.

Dr. Paulino D. Sambat, M.D., was nominated by Charles L. Trigger, Sr. Dr. Sambat received his medical degree in The Philippines, and came to institutions in New York City and New Jersey for further training. After he passed his medical boards in Virginia, he and his wife Perla, a Registered Nurse, were drawn to reside and practice in Spotsylvania County, which had not had a doctor in residence for six years up to their arrival in 1972. The successful concerted recruitment efforts to bring Dr. Sambat to the County by the Spotsylvania County Woman's Club were followed by the Club's continuing and strong support. The Club welcomed him and helped him get established through its fundraising efforts on behalf of his medical practice.

Dr. Sambat set up practice in 1972 in the historic Spotsylvania courthouse area, later establishing his office on Falcon Drive. For years he maintained a primary care practice as

a sole practitioner, offering service to citizens throughout the Spotsylvania and area community, while working nights at Mary Washington Hospital as an attending physician and surgeon. He has practiced medicine in the County for over 43 years, retiring from private practice at age 75 in January of 2016, but continuing to “give back” through increasing the hours of his already important volunteer medical practice at the Moss Free Clinic which serves uninsured and low-income patients. He also notably donated a large part of his private practice medical equipment and supplies to free clinics in the US, and toward needs in the Philippines.

In addition to his outstanding medical contributions over the years, Dr. Sambat dedicated the time to present the need for a rescue squad in the County to its leaders. Largely because of his efforts, the Spotsylvania Volunteer Rescue Squad (SVRS) was up and running, and serving, by 1974. Dr. Sambat offered no-cost physicals for rescue volunteers, and continuously served as medical advisor to the SVRS. He organized free flu-shot clinics and also donated much physician time to residents at the Thurman Brisben Homeless Shelter.

Dr. Sambat has deservedly received recognitions and awards from the Jaycees, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and numerous other medical volunteer and service organizations. A Resolution passed in the 2016 Virginia General Assembly expressed admiration for his tireless service to Spotsylvania residents and commended him on his retirement. Of course Dr. Sambat continues to serve on a volunteer basis, and is widely recognized in the Spotsylvania community as both a valued physician and a friend. He is highly deserving of this honor.

Dr. Sambat joins and complements these past Governor Spotswood Award recipients: Robert Newton, Dorothy Garland, Rev. John Edmonds, Thomas Mills, Shirley Boggs, Betty Turnley, Robert Kurtinitis, Leota Pendleton, Caroline R. Hayden, William R. Taylor, Virginia Durrett, Janice Lancaster, Spencer Roberts, Agnes McGee, James Duffy, Maude Scott, Layton Fairchild, Sr., John Mastin, R. Duval and Anne D. Dickinson (joint nomination), and George Gregory Raines, Jr.

The 2016 Governor Spotswood Award Reception is open to the public, at no charge. For additional information, contact Tourism Manager Debbie Aylor at daylor@spotsylvania.va.us or 540-507-7205.

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