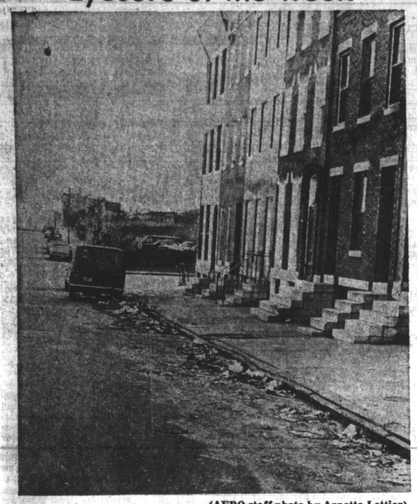
Will Md. legislators tighten drunk driving laws this session?

Eyesore of the week



(AFRO staff photo by Arnetta Lottier)

AFRO EYESORE — The 1500 and 1300 blocks of North Mount St. were littered with piles of trash and sand after recent snows melted. Trash sweepers are needed to clean up this mess.

Crackdown on resturants which advertise one thing; serve another

(UPI) — Maryland is cracking down on restaurants that advertise one thing on their menus but serve something else perhaps cheaper, but not necessarily — without notifying customers.

The State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene began recently "Truth in Menus" program to ensure that restaurants do not cut corners by serving meals of less quality than advertised, or switch food without notice.

Ronald Nelson, chief of the division of compliance and enforcement, said, "There is a significant problem in the state with restaurants that advertise products as something other than what they are."

He cited examples of substituting turkey in chicken salad and serving cheaper types of fish under the guise of more expensive fish.

Nelson said restaurant inspectors will check the accuracy of menus during their periodic visits.

Besides menus, the inspectors will also check the accuracy of food advertising such as newspaper ads, billboards and graphics used to display food.

About 12,000 restaurants will be covered in the new program, which was created under the Maryland Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Violators could lose their state operating permits. Nelson said Criminal chages carrying maximum penalties of three years in prison and a $25,000 fine could be given to the more "Blatant" violators.

Letitia Carter, executive secretary of the Maryland Restaurant Association represents about 1,000 restaurants in Maryland.

She said some restaurants unintentionally mislead the public about the type and quality of food they serve.

"They do it without thinking," she said.

Carter cited as one example menus offering "fresh" shrimp. She explained that most shrimp served in Maryland is delivered frozen to restaurants. Therefore, she said, restaurants claiming shrimp are fresh would be in violation of the law.

She said other common violations are foods listed as kosher when they are not and pressed steak that is advertised as New York strip steak.

Nelsons said about 60 per cent of the states have similar programs. —

Senate okays drinking age to 21 years

By David S. Aviles

ANNAPOLIS (UPI) — Alcohol and politics are inseparable in Maryland and it is questionable whether bills raising the drinking age and tightening drunk driving laws will be enacted by the 1977 General Assembly.

The State Senate has approved legislation to return the drinking age to 21 and stiffen the blood-alcohol content needed to convict inebriated motorists. But both bills face uncertain futures in the House.

Although the legislature is reluctant to tighten drunk driving laws. Other alcohol bills have received a favorable reception. The Senate Economic Affairs Committee Friday approved legislation to permit home brewing of beer.

Last year the legislature enacted a bill to promote the state's infant wine making industry.

For years state pols have urged the legislature to reduce the blood-alcohol content needed for a drunk driving conviction from 15 per cent to .10 per cent. Maryland is the only state in the nation which does not consider the .10 per cent level as legally drunk.

Although two out of three persons killed on Maryland highways last year had been drinking, the Legislature has been slow to respond to the state police pleas.

Thomas N. Walker, the Maryland Director of the American Council on Alcoholism, said the main problem in tightening drunk driving laws is lawyers.

"And that also is the crux of the whole difficulty of getting (legislation through) the House of Delegates and conform to other states," Walker said. "Both the House and the Judiciary Committee, which holds hearings on this every year, is made up three-quarters by lawyers.

They see a large portion of their income disappearing if the law is tightened," he added.

Maryland law has two drinking while driving offenses — Drunk driving and drinking while impaired. Lawyers often plea bargain a drunk driving charge into an impaired count, usually sparing their client a heavy sentence.

The State Senate also has approved legislation to abolish the urine test in another effort to convict drunk drivers.

Experts say the urine test can be manipulated and should not be used to determine if a person is drunk. The breath and blood tests are considered more accurate.

Another problem with the state's drunk driving law is that there is no mandatory suspension or revocation of a motorist's license upon conviction. But no legislation on that issue has reached either the Senate or House floor.

The concern over increasing traffic deaths among teenagers was instrumental in the introduction of legislation to raise the drinking age to 21.

Civil rights coalition watching shareholder vote in N. Y.

Coalitions of religious, labor and civil rights leaders across the country are mobilizing support for two shareholder resolutions appearing on this year's proxy statement of the J.P. Stevens Co., the nation's second largest textile manufacturer.

The two resolutions are expected to be voted upon at the company's stockholders meeting in New York. The resolutions seek disclosure of information regarding the company's policies in the areas of equal employment opportunity and labor relations.

In a prepared statement issued to the press, Dr Chester Wickwire chaplain of Johns Hopkins University, Rep. Parren Mitchell, D, 7th Md. and Thomas M. Bradley, president, Metropolitan Baltimore Council AFL-CIO, emphasized that: "The directors of these institutions have a perfect opportunity to exhibit their concern that basic human rights are protected. How they, vote their institution's stock will be closely watched and publicized.

"Directors who vote against public disclosure of the desired information asked for in the resolution - information which in no way will place the company at a competitive disadvantage - will symbolize to the public callous attitude on the part of their institution towards racial equality and the protection of basic human rights."

With the assistance of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), the two shareholder resolutions which were submitted by five religious organizations (World Division, Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church; Franciscan Justice and Peace Office of Washington D.C.; the Institute of Christian Doctrine; Franciscan Missionaries of Mary; Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, Inc. - The Maryknoll Fathers) holding nearly one million dollars in Steven's stock, were placed on the company's proxy statement but a Securities and Exchange Commission opinion found no legal basis for such action.

J.P. Stevens and Co. has been under investigation for over a year and a half by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) for alleged multiple violations of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

According to Dara Thorpe, ICCR project director, "Religious and civil rights organizations feel that much is at stake as to how shareholders vote on the two resolutions. A breakdown of the company by sex and race," Mrs. Thorpe added "shows that women and blacks employed at Stevens plants suffer from the massive discrimination in employment practices."

"The EEOC," according to an ACTWU representative, "has been trying to determine whether Stevens is engaged in a pattern or practice of unlawful acts with respect to its minority employees and applicants." In response, the ACTWU spokesman added "the company has pursued a series of legal maneuvers which for the past two years have helped to frustrate the EEOC investigation."

The entire labor movement is also greatly concerned with disclosure of information sought in the two resolutions.

Bill would notify parents of abortions

ANNAPOLIS (UPI) — A state delegate, who maintains parents have the right to know what their daughters are doing, has introduced a bill which requires parental notice before a young woman can obtain an abortion.

Del Leo Green, D-Prince George's told the House Environmental Matters Committee Wednesday that the bill was needed to protect the family.

"A very fundamental principle, the primacy of the family, is at stake here," he said. "A parent has a god-given right to be recognized.

"The bill is merely an attempt for me to know what is happening to my daughter," he added.

Dr. Merritt Garland of the state health department opposed the bill, saying it would interfere with the doctor-patient relationship.

"A physician must make his own determination of the patient's situation," he said. "A child may be so alienated from her parents that other responsible members of the society must take over."

But, Dr. Daniel Boyle disagreed.

"If I pierce a girl's ear. I have to have her parent's permission," Boyle said. "Certainly a serious medical procedure like an abortion should involve the parents."

He said 4,180 women under 18 received abortions in 1975. He said. the operation is one of the few surgeries for which a minor does not need parental consent.

2nd History Day at Morgan State

The Department of History at Morgan State University is scheduling its second annual History Day and is eager for all graduates to return.

"History Day means different things to different people. For the faculty it means the opportunity to see past and present students in non-classrooms situations. And it also means a chance to enjoy and observe the growth and development of students as professionals," says Dr. Ernestein Walker, chairwoman of the department.

"For history graduates it is an anticipated homecoming; for all majors, it is a chance to talk of personal experiences and career goals. For non-history majors and guests it means a chance to learn the joys and opportunities associated with studying history," Dr. Walker added.

The gathering will take place on the fourth floor of the Student Union Building, Wednesday, March 16, 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

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Baltimore Afro American

ALEX HALEY AND FRIEND — Alex Haley, author of the phenomenal best seller Roots, pauses to discuss his book with Theodore G. Venetoulis, Baltimore County executive, before autographing copies of his book recently at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Venetoulis presented the author with a proclamation designating February 28 Alex Haley Day in the county prior to the author's lecture to several thousand spellbound listeners. The audience was enthralled by Haley's tale of his 12-year search for his ancestry, which led him back to his origins in a small village in Gambia.

BLACK BEAUTIES — Posing with her trophies won in the Ms. Black Fort Meade Beauty Pageant are, from l to r: Ms. Merlowese Devane, third runner-up; Ms. Patricia Archie, first place winner; Ms. Celeste Williams, first runner-up; and Ms. Maryanne Edmonston, second runner-up. The pageant was held recently at Recreation Center No. 1 at Fort George G. Meade, Md. (U.S. Army Photograph)

lifestyles, fashions, women, **Reflections** food, youth, society, clubs

Local fashion designer was one of 500 in Nigeria

JANUWA WEARS one of her own African creations. The young designer hopes to expand her operation and "spread the news" about the Motherland in her travels.

By Benjamin M. Phillips
Reflections Staff Writer

"You, the participants of Festac 77, have been chosen by the forces. You are here with a purpose. When you leave you should have experienced spiritual contact with your ancestors." This statement was made by the International Secretariat of the Second World Black and African Festival of Arts and Culture (Fesac).

One of the participants, Januwa Moja recalls that the secretariat's statement stuck with her throughout the festival, held in Lagos, Nigeria, Jan. 15th-Feb. 12.

Miss Moja a local fashion designer was one of 500 Americans who participated in the international event. The U.S. Festac committee sponsored the 500, sending some 250 persons for two weeks at a time.

Miss Moja was among the second group to go over to the motherland. She says she feels it was an honor, especially since she was the only person from Baltimore.

The American delegation was among the 16,000 black people from all corners of the world. Miss Moja said the festival was an historical occasion because it was the largest delegation of blacks to return to Africa at one time.

"I was one of four designers from the U.S. Our contribution was what they call 'popular dressing'."

"I was in two fashion shows; one represented the United States, the other was with 22 other countries from all over the world.

"I took over 14 garments. I was honored because I was asked to leave one of them to be placed in a Nigerian museum, but I decided to make a special garment to send back."

Miss Moja says that the people in Nigeria were warm and friendly. The government built a Festac village which was some 15 miles long and four miles wide.

After the festival, it was turned into low-cost housing developments. In addition, she says, the government provided the participants with three meals a day and ample transportation.

"What made it so beautiful to me, was you could walk around the world just by walking around the village."

About Januwa

Januwa, as she prefers to be called, is a self-taught seamstress and designer. She designs contemporary African-oriented fashions. Her style consists of traditional African blended with contemporary "black" fashions.

Januwa has been into designing since 1969. This is her vocation. At the present, she is sophomore at Maryland Institute working towards a bachelor's degree in designing craftsman.

In addition to fashion designing, this major has exposed her to painting, drawing, silk screening, woodcut, ceramics and African art.

"All these things have opened me up to explore other areas of art. It showed me that if I have the materials, I can do any phase of art!"

Januwa does some 20 fashion shows a year in the tri-state area and uses some eight models. Most of her garments are one of a kind and are custom made.

Januwa plans to expand her work in fashion designing and after receiving her degree she would like to reach a wider clientel.

The single, 30-year-old says her trip destroyed the myth that blacks are not welcomed to return to Africa. As she puts it, "I did feel welcome and the people of Nigeria told me I was. When I stepped off the plane, they said "welcome home'."

In addition to traveling, Januwa would also like to work with adolescents and teenagers. "I would like to give them inspiration. I feel that all of us have talents, just have to tap the roots."

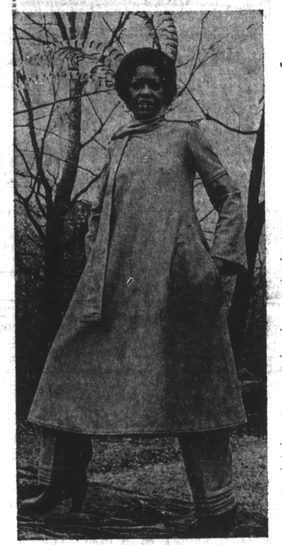
In the near future, Miss Moja plans to spread the news: travel around and tell of her experiences in Africa while showing her fashions. In addition to showing on college campuses and at local fashion shows, Januwa is scheduled to appear at the Baltimore City Jail and Jessups.

Januwa's designs are works of art. She feels that true art should have the capacity to move a person emotionally.

Januwa designs like a painter paints, when she is inspired to do so.

RENEE SHOWS off the beauty of this African print and the talents of Baltimore designer, Januwa.

(AFRO staff photos by Benjamin M. Phillips)



KIMBA MODELS a pants and tunic ensemble by designer Januwa, whose designs hold a contemporary flair.

KIMBA AGAIN in a native African pants and halter suit by local designer, Januwa..

How about a little wine for your soup?

Sherried Mushroom Soup

2 tablespoons butter or margarine
¼ cup finely chopped onion
2 medium carrots, peeled; finely chopped
2 cans (10¾ oz.) condensed cream of mushroom soup
⅔ cup sherry
1 cup water
1 cup grated sharp Cheddar cheese, plain croutons or garnish

Melt butter in medium-size saucepan. Add onion and carrot and cook, covered, over low heat until tender, about 10 minutes. Add soup, wine and water; stir to blend.

Heat to boiling point. Stir in cheese and heat below boiling point until melted. Stir to blend.

Makes 6 cups or 6 servings.

Serve with croutons. For special occasions, as shown, garnish with whipped cream bedecked with grated raw carrot.

Wine Pear Bread

2 cups all-purpose flour
One-third cup sugar
2 teaspoons baking powder
½ teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon cinnamon
¼ cup butter or margarine
¾ cup chablis wine
1 egg
⅓ teaspoon salt
1 cup chopped, peeled fresh pears (-)
2 tablespoons sugar
⅛ teaspoon cinnamon

Sift together into a bowl, flour, the one-third cup sugar, baking powder, soda, salt and the ½ teaspoon cinnamon. With a pastry blender or 2 knives, cut in butter until well blended. Beat wine and egg together; stir into flour mixture just to blend.

Fold in pears. Spoon batter into a greased and floured 9 x 5 x 3-inch pan. Mix the topping of 2 tablespoons sugar and ⅛ teaspoon cinnamon; sprinkle on batter.

Bake at 350 degrees about 35 minutes. Cut into squares and serve hot.

(-) Well-drained canned pears may be cut and substituted for fresh.

Cold Comfort: This moist, delicious bread may be frozen. Cool bread in pan for 10 minutes. Loosen and carefully turn upside-down on large strip of aluminum foil or freezer plastic wrap. Finish cooling. Seal, label and date. Freeze. Storage time: 6 to 8 weeks.

To Us: Remove wrappings, place bread in pan in which it was baked. Heat at 350 degrees about 20 minutes or until hot.

Sherried Mushroom Soup and Wine Pear Bread

Week's food economies

Attention has been focused on the part weather plays in food prices with the Florida freeze, loss of coffee-producing trees and dry weather in the West, says Georgia Stevens Nerud, consumer and food Economics Specialist, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland.

Produce markets are returning to normal after the Florida freeze that left many fruits and vegetables temporarily higher in price. Oranges and grapefruit are back in good supply and reasonable in price. Apples, bananas, pears, celery, carrots, and potatoes remain a seasonal buy.

Many consumers have cut their intake of coffee with higher prices resulting from the 1976-77 crop loss. This loss as well as lower stockpiles throughout the world will keep the prices high on coffee.

Drought conditions in the West are sure to bring higher prices and some shortages on fruits and vegetables out of California this summer. The San Joaquin Valley in California produces 40 per cent of the country's fruit and vegetables and about a quarter of its total food. Decisions to cut back on irrigation water to farms could cut farm production by as much as 40 per cent.

Meat products are still basically untouched by the weather problems and prices remain attractively low on beef, pork, and poultry. Beef feature include beef chuck cuts, rump roasts, some steaks, stew meat, and liver.

Pork prices should remain low until early summer with values to be found on pork picnics, Boston butts, and loin cuts. Broiler-fryer chickens have been one of the best protein buys throughout the winter. Egg prices should come down with a return to better weather.

A wider variety of fish should be in the market for the Lenten season with more cooperative weather. Frozen fish supplies are down around one-fourth from last year according to the National Marine Fisheries Service. Flounder, halibut, ocean perch and whiting fillets are more abundant than last year. Canned tuna should remain a feature item, although many sources indicate that the disputes between fishermen and environmentalists on the tuna-porpoise problem may affect the supply later.

Broiled Tuna Sandwich With Cheese

4 bread slices or bun halves
1 seven ounce can tuna
2 tablespoons horseradish
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
salt
pepper
chili sauce
½ cup grated cheese

Combine tuna, horseradish, mayonnaise, salt and pepper. Toast bread on one side. Then spread tuna mixture on untoasted side. Sprinkle top of each sandwich with two tablespoons grated cheese, and add one teaspoon of chili sauce in center of each. Place three inches from broiler heat, and broil until thoroughly heated and cheese is melted.

Serve hot

KAPPA ALPHA PSI

A night in Las Vegas

(AFRO staff photo by Benjamin Phillips IV)

The Baltimore alumni chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity held its annual Night in Las Vegas last Friday night at Marin's West.

Some 1,000 guests attended the annual fund-raiser which was highlighted by the drawing of the winning raffle ticket. Willie Williams (not show), who is employed by the Department of Education, "drove" away with a new 1977 Monte Carlo. The ticket was drawn by Dr. Elizabeth Murphy Moss and was sold by Kappa Brother Eddie Watson, who also won a prize — a citizen's band radio.

Pictured here at left are from L to R: Randolph Edwards, chairman of the affair; Roland Henson, raffle committee and Howard Tutman, polemarch of the Baltimore Chapter.

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