Woodlawn Highlights

... by Marjorie Green

Sunday was one of those days when we kept bumping into people we hadn't seen in several months.

It all started at the Ramada Inn Show and Tell Extravaganza of Arts and Handcrafts sponsored by Mrs. Loretta Watty, Social Security employee. Browsing around the ball was award winning hat designer, Pearl Agnew, SSA's Irene Carroll, Estelle Flowers, Verna Day, Shirley E. Smith, Bernice White, Vera Lumpkin, Barbara Lumpkin, Jerome Prettyman and many others. Some had products to sell — some were just admiring items on display while others were purchasing items to give as Christmas gifts.

Later that evening as we stood on our ushers post of duty at Concord Baptist Church, we spied Hollis Ward, advisor for the Fair Practice Department, American Federation of Government Employees (AFL-CIO), and deacon at Sharon Baptist Church coming through the door. Hollis is a former SSA employee and a very dear friend. Earlier we spoke to his lovely wife Mary, who is a member of the Sharon Choir.

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We also had a pleasant surprise last week when Wendell Sutton stopped in our West High Rise Office to say "hello." Wendell is a 31 - year veteran employee of the Social Security Administration who coordinates the night shift Stay in School Program in the Bureau of Disability Insurance.

The program is similar to the Summer Aid Program except that participants are limited to 16 working hours per week during the school year. Students must be between the ages of 16 and 22 years of age.

It was heart warming to hear how well some of the current 260 students (predominately minority) are performing as typists, file clerks, teletype, and card punch operators. Some have received cash awards in recognition of their outstanding job performances. Eighteen supervisors are directly responsible for the training.

We just heard that Ms. Audrey Hopkins, executive officer in the Office of Policy and Regulations, will soon be moving into the prestigious position of executive officer in the Office of Program Operations. Approximately 87 per cent of all Social Security Employees are in components of the Office of Program Operations (OPO). Congratulations are in order and we can't think of a more deserving person.

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Last week we talked with Mrs. Ernestine Smith while she transacted business in a Woodlawn bank. She seemed happy in her new role of retiree. She stated that she will be renewing friendships at the coming retirement parties. Look for her in Woodlawn on Dec. 2, 1977.

Columbia Capers

By Pinnie L. Ross

Thanksgiving Day was celebrated last Thursday in many homes. On this day people gave thanks with feasting and prayer for many blessings they have received during the year.

On Thanksgiving Day, one usually thinks in terms of a family day or a celebration with a big dinner and joyous reunion. The very thought of Thanksgiving often recalls the memories of Mom's old - fashion cooking, especially homemade pies, consisting of pumpkin and minced meat. Those pies were a rare thing to some rural people, but not potatoe or apples pies, simply because there were very little expense attached to them. They grew the potatoes, and usually rural people always have several apple trees growing in their backyards: Canning and preserving fruits and vegetables was something they did in order to help survive.

It was a joyous reunion with my family. We traveled to Philadelphia to join other members of the Ross family who motored from Delaware for an old fashion Thanksgiving Dinner. The dinner was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ross, brother of "Hubby" Bill Ross.

We have adopted the idea for each family member to bring a dish to be served at the Thanksgiving dinner as a supplement for the host and hostess. Think of it for next Thanksgiving especially if the dinner is rotated from one house to another. You will find it to be more convenient on the party who is sponsoring the dinner.

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There are many people who are not selfish at Thanksgiving. People and churches who have reached out to share with those who are less fortunate than others.

A good example is the City Temple Church, pastored by the Rev. W. W. Payne. They fed 4,000 needy people. I know it was a glorious time. I spoke to my good friend Mary Clayburn, a member of the church, who said, "They also had delivery service to the sick, shut-ins, and senior citizens. What a blessing!"

The Columbia Chapter of Epecureams headed by Mrs. Gloria Hagan, gave a huge box of vegetables and turkey with all of the trimmings to Mrs. Rachel Cobb, a resident of Ellicott City. The club is moving in the right direction helping other people.

Oh! give thanks unto the Lord for he is surely good, his blessings should be praised not by many, but by all people.

St. John Baptist Church held its Revival and Spiritual Healing Service last week commencing with a Pre - Revival Musical with choirs of the St. John Church choirs. Musical director was Leroy Giles.

The Rev. O. D. Brown, distinguished pastor of Second Baptist Church, Richmond, Va. conducted the revival, and has conducted revivals in the state of Virginia and as far west as Michigan. He has a degree in history and a masters degree of Divinity from Virginia Union University. He also holds a masters in Christian Education from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

The congregation will always remember Rev. Brown for his high spirit emotions. He has a dynamic voice. Whispers came from the audience saying, "He is a little man with a big voice, he is firey, and a man of God. His sermon was entitled, "When Enough is Enough."

Rev. Brown about 5'4" swayed and swayed from one side of the podium to the other, clapping his hands and shaking his head with strong emotion.

People are wrapped up and tied up in their own individual self. I find that if a religion does not get you into trouble its not worth having, search the Bible and there are individuals who have gotten into trouble, Moses and John. The absence of Jesus is what you will be able to appreciate when you think you are all alone. Suddenly Jesus will appear and that's when you'll really appreciate him most.

Rev. Brown has a Gospel Choir of 100 members. They travel around the country singing the words of God.

The spirit developed from the Rev. Brown's messages were so strong they led right into the next night's service.

We are very fortunate to have as our leader, the Rev. Dr. Walter L. Parrish II, pastor of St. John Baptist Church, another man of God, and a great spiritual leader.

Catonsville Notes

... by Liz Williams

Sympathy cards to the family of the late Henry James (Maude) whose funeral services were held last week. Mr. James was the father of Christine Moore (Marcellus) the well known educator and community leader. Cards also to the family of the late Vernon Newton (Thelma).

Continue to send Get Well cards to Alice Murphy, (John III), Helen Cathorne, (John), Lillian Spencer and Margaret Robinson. Lil is the nurse supervisor at Provident Hospital and Margaret is the retired employee of North Carolina Mutual Insurance Co. and the mother of Miles Robinson. Continue to send cards to all of the sick, the aged, and the shut-ins. Let them know that you are thinking about them.

Congratulations to Joseph and Margaret Jackson who recently celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary. Congratulations also to Reubea and Romaine Jones who celebrated their 49th anniversary on Thanksgiving Day. We pray that these two beautiful couples will live to see more anniversaries. Marriage is still an institution and it goes to prove that marriages do last and can last.

Susan Murphy Wood and Phillip Lance Barnes will be married in Buffalo, New York on December 17. Susan is the daughter of Frances Murphy Campbell (Charles) and James Wood, (Damita Jo)

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Friends are invited to hear the trial sermon of Marie Phillips-Cooke, Sunday, December 4 at 6 p.m. at Bethel AME Church. A reception will follow at the home of her parents, Paul and Bettye Moss. We wish the best for our Marie, whom we all love dearly.

Our Lady Of Lourdes Church will hold its Christmas Dance on Friday, December 30 at La Fontaine Bleu, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. For further information contact members of the church or the rectory, 542-7117. This would be a nice way to spend the end of the old year.

The Sanctuary Choir of Enon Baptist Church presents "The Incarnate Word" by Robert Elmore and Robert Reed. Charles Alston Jr., is the director. The recital will be on Sunday, December 11 at 4:45 p.m. The Rev. Porter W. Phillip is the pastor.

The Human Resources Development Agency of Baltimore County Inc. invites the public to attend the Delegates Assembly which is to be held Thursday, December 8 at 7 p.m. at the Steelworkers Union Hall, 550 Dundalk Ave., Dundalk, Md.

The purpose of the meeting is to ascertain community needs and ways to determine possible solutions. Some areas which are to be considered are Housing, Employment, Transportation, etc. This is the first county wide meeting to be held. Free transportation will be provided. The bus will leave Morning Star Baptist Church at 5:45 p.m. promptly. Hopefully, we, from the Catonsville community will fill the bus.

Many of the concerns which have been mentioned have or will affect all of us, one way or another, or if not now, may affect us later on as we grow older. I beg you, if you are able, to meet us at Morning Star Baptist Church next Thursday and attend this meeting.

The amount of money that was turned over to St. Gregory The Great Church by the Women's Day Committee was $3,000 instead of $300 as was reported last week. It was a typographical error.

A thought for the week: Let us set aside our own concerns and think about those needs and concerns that affect our entire communities. There are many ways that you can do this even though you may not be an active participant.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scovens and family of four children (4-16 yrs.), former residents of the Melvin Park Apts. were burned out of their home on Gwyndale Avenue in Woodlawn, on Sunday, November 27. All of their furniture, clothing and other belongings were destroyed There was not any insurance. This is a very tragic experience for this family.

The Head Start Center, located at 5 Roberts Ave. is accepting donations. Those interested in contributing may call Mrs. White or Mrs. Stanton at 788-8802.

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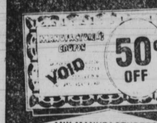

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