Baltimore Afro-American

OPINION

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Sam Lacy

Of course we were pleased fit to bursting that some 1500 Baltimoreans from all walks of life met Wednesday night to honor AFRO sports editor Sam Lacy.

That all proceeds from the affair go to this city's Project Survival which assists so many deserving youngsters gives even more meaning to our pride.

Sam Lacy is a legend in his own time. As a sports authority he is without peer and in this nation of sports lovers his has been an important voice for decades.

But there is more.

It is one thing to be an expert in a field as is our Lacy but what is more he writes so well about what he knows.

Lacy is a consummate stylist. In a land where too many mutter, garble and mumble their way along, we have felt extremely blessed that we had in our midst a writer who really is a writer.

Clarity, perception, humor and sting are all present in Sam Lacy's work and we have all been richer as a result.

There is another observation. Sam Lacy came to flower as a writer for the black press. The black press nourished him as it has nourished so many other distinguished Americans of letters as much as anyone. Mitchell epitomizes this proud tradition.

That Strip reunion

'You cannot win them all' was one of the milder reactions from folks attending the fifth annual reunion of families who grew up in the Fremont Avenue - Lafayette Square area.

This sentiment was a result of a snafu about catering arrangements that soured the celebration.

Our thought is that past and present residents of this extremely vital area did not lose

hitting but now immediately plan to make the sixth annual Strip reunion a resounding success.

This, of course hinges on the premise that the Strip program planning committee map a comprehensive, imaginative campaign over the next 12 months to recoup last Saturday's mistakes and to mount a resounding successful affair.

The fact that most patrons stayed until the end speaks for the spirit of community and love that has always exemplified this neighborhood.

Lest anyone minimize this community's contributions to the life and progress of this city, we are listing just a few of the many successful Baltimoreans for whom The Strip was or is "home."

We cannot list all and we mean to slight no one but Strip natives include: Dr. William Hall, Robert Johns, corrections officer; Dr. Archie Robinson, Mrs. Ruth Washington Ricks, teacher; Miss Jacqueline Porter, teacher; George Russell, attorney; Mrs. Irma Dancy, retired principal; Mrs. June Booker, teacher; Charles Tilden, chairman of the Community College Board; Michael Spruill, teacher; Joe Wilson Jr., teacher; Michelle Butler, teacher; Washington Nichols, Twilah Mallory Scarborough, Marion Conaway, Leslie Wilson Harrison, Edith Spruill, Alma Williams, Dr. Rebecca Carroll, Odessa Wilson Dyson, William Beverly.

This list could go on, as we said, but we hope all the sons and daughters of The Strip, plain and fancy, work in harmony to bring off a sixth annual reunion that will be bigger and better.

Baltimore is a city of neighborhoods and we hope all of them celebrate their yesterdays and tomorrows with the kind of love and neighborliness that has made 'The Strip' so strong.

UMBC needs to wise up

It would be echoing the convictions of the AFRO, down the years, just to join the black students and faculty of UMBC in their allegations against racist practices, great and small, wherever they show their head.

If not in the name of fair play and decency, there are practical grounds why UMBC should want to encourage, rather than discourage, the enrollment of black students in its institution.

UMBC needs every breathing body it can enroll, in order to overcome its persistent underenrollment.

One flourishing source to draw from is the blacks of Maryland. These rank and file students are no less valuable, in their way, than the black football and basketball players who the major Maryland campus seeks, every year.

These black students need the aid of funds and counsel, they deserve a spirit of welcome, they expect that promises made to them will be kept.

UMBC belongs to all the people of Maryland. Blacks and whites enrolled there are students of the basic of rights — not absolute rights, but rights just the same.

The University of Maryland, Baltimore County needs to "wise up" as to what is good for itself — before it is too late.

Graduation message

As the graduation season approaches for high school and college students, a message delivered at the Atlanta University Center by Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. zeros in on some significant past and remaining civil rights challenges.

The fight in the '60s to be served at lunch counters in department stores and the struggle in the '70s for equal job opportunities in those stores, must become a push to own the stores themselves, he said.

Califano urged Atlanta University Center students to aim not only for careers in business, but for control of banks, businesses and financial institutions; not only for careers in medicine but for chairs on medical faculties and hospital boards; not only for status as members of a black elite but for a seat in all the centers of national decisions; and, not just for participation in politics but for the presidency of the United States.

He warned them against allowing their dreams to be limited by accepting barriers imposed by custom or self - doubt.

Because education will play an increasingly important role in bringing about justice in the nation, this is a pre - season baccalaureate of considerable merit.

'Youth for Christ'

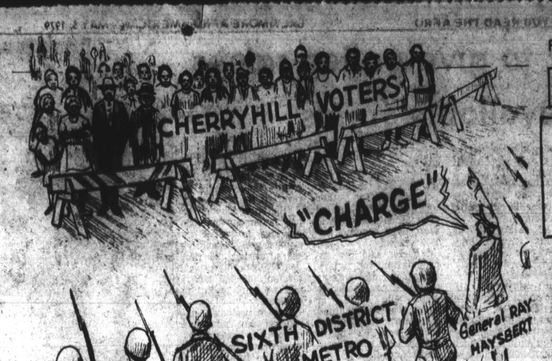
We hope the recent religious extravaganza, "Youth for Christ" ("Where Have all the Children Gone?"), did not backfire.

It was a giant step against the indirections of a young people, against wanting parents, and against the drug culture. It was a great appeal for a better way that is of present way to regard for most things.

But, it grieves us that it might have "turned off" the very young people it hoped to influence. Television audiences, young and old, are very jealous of their regular programs. When these are preempted, they go negative and mad.

The objectives of "Where Have Our Children Gone?" were marvelous. The great production (making it too long) did not hurt its impact.

From another angle, the film was so orthodoxly Christian, we wonder how it affected members of other religions, Jewish, Muslim and the others



PARREN MITCHELL

Budget battle

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week the U.S. House of Representatives debated the First Budget Resolution for the Fiscal Year 1980. The Congressional Black Caucus had asked me to lead the floor fight to try to make the budget better for blacks, the poor and other minorities.

Here are some of the remarks I made during the debate on the budget for Fiscal Year 1980.

"We have a system, a free enterprise system and a system of capitalism. The assumption is that that system will work well for all people.

"The reality is, it does not.

"I was saddened when I heard my colleague earlier this morning talk about people who are nonproductive and want to live off the backs of those who are productive. This saddened me because that is not true.

"Every man and woman and youth that I know who is unemployed does not want to live off of anyone's back — does not. The reason they are unemployed is that there is a dysfunctioning in the system, and when that dysfunctioning takes place it becomes a responsibility of this government — of this government — to provide for those people the jobs and the job training to make them productive citizens.

"You know what they are doing? You are going to run a game on the American people again. We are going to say, 'Look, join in with President Carter and cut out some jobs; join in with President Carter and outdo him and cut further below what he has done.'

"That is going to be the game we have to play, to take out [illegible] American people, saying, 'Look how great we are. Look what we have done.'

"But, when we do that, we must bring out the other part; for every 1 percent of unemployment there is a cost, and that cost ranges from $17 to $19 billion per year.

"When you go out talking about balancing the budget and how proud we are, or how proud we are of having made these cuts, do not fail to tell your constituents that by so doing you are going to make them pay between $17 billion and $19 billion per year for every 1 percent of unemployment. Say to them, 'We are going to make you pay for lack of production in this system.'

"There are a couple of other points I want to make. Under the Hawkins - Humphrey bill there are two major mandates. No. 1 is to reduce unemployment, and the other is to reduce inflation.

"I serve as chairman of the Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy. The staff prepared for me last month a bill which would take care of one part of the Hawkins - Humphrey mandate.

"It is a bill that I want to introduce. It is a bill that would gradually reduce the money supply so that we can, indeed, decrease inflation.

"I will not introduce it as of this time. I will be damned if I will. I think it would be arrogant and cruel of me to introduce that bill while at the same time we are pursuing policies to shove up the unemployment rate.

"I will not let my subcommittee, nor my person to be used as the cat's paw to go stand and [illegible] that part of Hawkins - Humphrey, while at the same time I stand and witness this Congress and the President pursuing policies to increase unemployment.

"I will be having some more to say on this. We have got a lot of time for debate, and I want to talk in the general debate on the budget process. I am not denigrating anyone, none of my friends on the Committee.

"Some of those who care about human beings really tried, but the others asked the questions, 'Who is expendable?' 'What groups are expendable?' The answers was blacks, Hispanics and minorities are expendable.

"The gentleman from California (Mr. Hawkins) said that it was not just a fiscal exercise and went through in formulating this budget, and he was right. It was a political exercise, and here is the way the politics entered into it.

"Number 1. What are the issues before the Congress today, before the nation? Inflation is one.

"Number 2. Who responds to these issues? In my District I get a large volume of mail from this portion as opposed to the black or Hispanic portion.

"Number 3. In terms of my own election, who comes out to vote? If I have an affluent part and a non affluent part, a white part and a black part, the vote is larger in the white part than in the black part. Therefore, the black portion can be expendable."

Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Revival of 6th District black politics

MADELINE MURPHY

The recent tragic death of a 14 - year - old girl, run down in the high speed lane on the Baltimore - Washington expressway last Sunday, is an inexcusable accident.

Because this is one of the many tragic mishaps at a place that has become a thoroughfare for people isolated from shops, drugstores and bus stops living in Westport Homes.

One commentator mentioned a walk way over the expressway, a quarter of a mile beyond this section, as if it were easily accessible to the people who cross this dangerous expressway.

The fact is that those who cross [illegible] to walk more than a mile to get to West[illegible] whatever purpose or need they had, Mount Winans, the adjacent community on the west side of the expressway, has one store, given the recent urban renewal effort that has left a vast wasteland facing the rear of the project.

Riding this route often, my heart skips a beat everytime I see young children, as well as adults, run the gauntlet.

At the same time, a few new concrete barriers have been constructed (whether temporarily or not I don't know) that further impede the perilous crossing.

But with this recent accident, one wonders how soon permanent concrete road dividers will be extended into this area, making the crossing even more dangerous.

You wonder sometime what the city fathers are thinking about when they plan and build isolated black communities. Given the history of genocide in this country, with more than our proportionate numbers going to war, more starving, more unemployed, this is just another part of the pattern.

Looking further down Russell Street, however, at the newly renovated houses in Ridgeley's Delight, one sees a beautiful brick wall, enclosing this new middle class white neighborhood. Who's building it? With whose money? Federal, state or local, it is still our money.

Yet, no one has even thought that another walkway should be built over the Baltimore - Washington expressway at this more concentrated area to stop the senseless killing and maiming of citizens of Westport Homes.

But given the kind of representation we have in the 6th District, where State Sen. Harry McGuirk and his Stonewall Democratic Club are gearing up to run black candidates for City Council, what else can one expect?

Citizens in Westport, Fairfield, Mt. Winans, and Cherry Hill, especially, better scrutinize these candidates closely; better see what hidden agendas they cover for the racist whites in the 6th District. They had better also become selective about whom they support for this winnable race, early.

Because the benign neglect, like the lack of an overhead crossing, in these areas can easily be traced to the backers of some of these black candidates now beating the bushes to become elected to City Council in the September primary.

Because the benign neglect, like the lack of an overhead crossing, in these areas can easily be traced to the backers of some of these black candidates now beating the bushes to become elected to City Council in the September primary.

Voter registration, however, is the key to beating machine politics. We have until Aug. 13. No longer can we vote black just because of color. We must vote for independent, unbought, unbossed black candidates in such large numbers that we send the message that things down here will change.

And here, we must appeal to all those Morgan political science students who want to see South Baltimore and particularly Cherry Hill, get on the map in political activ[illegible]

Now is the time to help, for you to launch a massive registration drive.

We need your muscle, brain and talent now, desperately.

Mrs. Murphy is a commentator on Impact News on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. on WEAA - FM.

—LETTERS—

Concerned parent blasts schools, testing

Dear AFRO:

Schools, a place for learning? What are our schools teaching our children? What are our tax dollars going for?

When schools fail to do their best, for our children, where can we turn for help?

Schools have inadequate funds to properly be called educational institutions, when children are in need of special help and cannot receive it. Can schools and their teachers really teach, when classrooms are overcrowded? Why should our children be held back from advancement, when schools have failed to provide the necessary opportunities for those that need it?

I should like to bring to your attention the proficiency tests. What exactly is their purpose? So far, I personally have seen nothing but frustrated teachers and children.

If this is an instrument to make teachers accountable, (my own personal belief) then I think the whole school system is in the entry stage.

You take a test and give it to children from various sections of the city, irregardless of the fact that all schools are not alike.

What I am referring to in my previous statement is discrimination. It is a known fact that most of your schools in a black or predominantly black neighborhood, bear the brunt of the city and state budgetary cuts.

They are understaffed, have inferior teachers, inferior classrooms, and lackadaisical administration.

My daughter attends one of these schools. I have known for some time that my daughter has learning problems.

This is nothing so uncommon in today's classrooms. Several years ago, when a television special was aired concerning children with learning problems, I contacted the State Department of Education, to see if my daughter could get remedial help.

Because I am a concerned parent and insisted that they provide her with the tools needed for a quality education, she was placed in a special education program.

I should like to also point out that I allowed my daughter to fail the third grade at this time, because it was pointless for her to continue to be in a class grade, not knowing anything.

The remedial program was good in that it enabled her to excel in reading. Thus, she was removed from that portion of the program.

However, she was still having problems with math. Thus, I transferred her to another school, because the teachers were better and the curriculum was quite diversified.

I also informed the administrative staff at The Mary E. Rodman School about her learning problems, requesting at the time that she be given the remedial help so important to her educational progress.

For two years, my daughter just coasted along. She was given no special help except in reading. Let me point out that she is a very quiet student, who with time and patience, can achieve above her tested potential.

Now, because of the proficiency tests and all tests similar to them, she has become a statistic, with no regards as to the problems that she has encountered or other students like her. This is due to the fact that she is not being taught.

All that you can find in the average classroom today is children being conditioned to pass a test.

And after all the testing is over with, what happens then? You will find most students knowing no more than before they took the test. If the tests are solely for the purpose of measuring a child's academic growth, so that help can be given in those areas which present problems, I say fine.

But if you give these tests and offer no follow - up programs to assist students with learning problems, then I say abolish them.

It is unfair to administer these tests when the student is made to pay the price for a system's shortcomings.

I think that Dr. Crew and his staff, the school board, the City Council, and other concerned persons should read the article in the July, 1977 Reader's Digest.

This article deals with tests that cheat our children. Particularly, our black children. Yet propose to fail children, who were never given the proper tools to get a decent education.

Due to budgetary cutbacks, my child's school lacks special education teachers, teacher aides, adequate classroom space, and learning tools such as stations designed to help the individual child in each classroom.

I refuse to sit back and let my child fail again, and am prepared to take my case further if necessary.

The slogan for our city "Baltimore is Best" is very contradictory. The city would prefer to spend funds building an aquarium for the sake of beauty, rather than seeing to it that each child, irregardless of race, is given a quality education.

Gratitude to 'leading citizen'

Dear AFRO:

Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Maryland Inc. would like to acknowledge the hospitality of Joe Brown a local leading citizen and proprietor of Lafayette Bowling Lanes on the occasion of the annual Bowling Event, conducted in behalf of Little Brothers and Little Sisters.

Brown for the fourth consecutive year has been gracious in lending the use of facilities, considerate in providing for refreshments as well as making other contributions in behalf of service to children.

Acknowledgement is also extended to the M. & B. Pro Shop for trophies and services and to others for making us feel at home and thus enriching an enjoyable activity.

WALTER J. PASCIAK
Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Central Maryland Inc.

AFRO welcomes letters

The AFRO welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be brief and must bear the writer's name and address. All letters will be given consideration for publication.

G. JAMES FLEMING

This 'take over' business

It is not easy to "take over" City Hall. But, it can be done.

There are several questions that must follow. Here are two: What is meant by "take over"? And, how does any under - represented group get into political influence and power?

"Take over" may mean the cosmetic capturing of the mayor's seat, in which there is no change in political party, in ideology or in objectives.

Most observers feel that this is what happened a few weeks ago in Chicago. A woman became the first of her sex to become mayor, but the Daley machine rides on.

Or, there may be a change of both person and quality of administration and purposes, even if only slightly so.

Rightly, some observers say that a minority group — for instance, blacks or women — can achieve municipal clout, regardless of who is mayor, if such a group has real leverage in the city council; if it has power.

Many Baltimoreans believe this, even if voters may have a poor way of showing this in some districts.

Baltimoreans also seem to feel that Baltimore City will not elect a black mayor just because he is black, but he or she must stand out as a "fighter for the right causes," as "a man of the people," as one with some experience in public life or business, and as one who can attract support across racial lines.

There is another angle: Baltimoreans, white and black, will be moved to elect a black as mayor (or a white woman) when, as and if they become rather thoroughly dissatisfied with whoever is the incumbent. (If all candidates are sitting at first terms, it becomes easier for a minority group aspirant to win, all other things being equal).

At the present time, "incumbent" is the key word. The incumbent in Baltimore's City Hall is well known, generally popular, and, more important, has few minuses against his record. He has been able to swing with the punches.

With City Council in his pocket most of the time, how then to takeover City Hall from Mayor William Donald Shaefer?

One way would be to have the mayor elevated — to have him "kicked upstairs," to have him appointed an ambassador, or to elect him U.S. Senator. Even the mayor is aware of this kind of escape hatch and played with the idea of running for governor last time around.

As this column has said in past months, however, the mayor's "angels" were not willing to support him for governor, but will back him, perhaps forever, for mayor.

Still another angle is for blacks to find and promote mayoralty material (men and women) right now. Too often, blacks are "too little and too late" (More correctly, they often field too many candidates who split each other into electoral effectiveness, as in a primary.

In the black community, there will have to be near unanimity on a candidate — one who can win as candidate of all the people (Already, there are about six aspirants who are likely to throw their hats into the ring for president of City Council).

Some of the stronger men and women are getting old, as they have waited during the past score of years. Blacks must find their successors and heirs. They must also promote politics as a profession worthy of the life of the best and most efficient young people.

To this end, that old saw, "Register in order to vote and vote in order to get power," must be resurrected. It is not enough for a people to boast of their being 56 percent of the city's population. It is not heads, in general, that count; it is heads attached to hands which actually cast votes.

Blacks must also pay more attention to organization including coalition. "Organization" has been preached so consistently that we mention it here apologetically.

Organization, however, is a step to power — to having done what a people wants done. Numbers are important, but "organization" is just as important; some politicians would say more so.

Then, too, blacks must invest more of their substance in politics. It must not be left to one "angel" or to the widows with their "mite." A wide spread of earners must start contributing to the support of candidates.

In all these ways, barely sketched here, blacks in Baltimore will be able to elect more City Councilpeople; or the president of City Council, or a mayor.

With some 64 black mayors throughout the country, one must join with grandmother in saying: "You can't beat something with nothing."

Blacks need maximum registration, organization, potential winners, money, and the will to "take over."

—MORE LETTERS—

Recognition for city's longshoremen

Dear AFRO:

I am a longshoreman of the port of Baltimore. I am writing because as a longshoreman and former president of Longshoreman's Local No. 333, I feel that the shuting down of the Port was bad for everyone, including the city of Baltimore, the state of Maryland and last, but not least, the longshoreman.

It is sad to say but I feel the reason it happened is because of a lack of communication between the leaders of the ILA in the port, the legislature, Congressional people of the city of Baltimore and the state of Maryland.

I feel that the longshoreman of the Port of Baltimore are not understood or appreciated by the news media, the public or the government of the state of Maryland.

Let's take a look at the Port of Baltimore. For every longshoreman working on the docks, there are 4.6 other people employed because of this longshoreman. I think this alone says a lot for the employment of this state.

Let me add that the Port of Baltimore pays better than 64 percent of the total taxes [illegible] to residents of the state of Maryland.

These facts should place the Port of Baltimore [illegible] with our leaders, yet, as I stood in Annapolis on Friday, April 6 trying to assist in resolving the shut down of the Port I was made aware that not only were the involved parties unaware of the above but it was sad to say that some were not cognizant of the fact that the port was closed down.

I wish to impress here that the Longshoremen have been making these and other contributions to this state for the better part of 100 years. The longshoremen worked hard and the port grew. As the port grew the Maryland Port Authority (MPA) was born, resulting in more jobs, directly related from the work of the longshoremen. The longshoremen continued to work hard and the MPA continued in its growth.

Finally, there is the World Trade Center, built by the state through the work of the longshoreman (more jobs). Now the state is collecting rent from the Center, more income, more jobs.

As you gentlemen know, the MPA is presently expanding in the Hawkins Point and Fairfield areas-more money and jobs, from the contributions of the longshoremen's work.

Lastly, let me say that while I was President the World Trade Center was completed. I spent $500 of the membership's money for an ad congratulating the MPA. I felt then as I feel now that the ILA should have been commemorated for its part in the growth of the port and the building of the World Trade Center.

I am hoping that someone will acknowledge the contributions made by the longshoremen to the city and state by: (1) giving us an "I.L.A. Day"; (2) having a plaque placed high on the Trade Center for everyone to see commemorating the I.L.A. for its contributions; and, (3) I feel that there should be an office given to our international officials - rent free, saying to the I.L.A. of this port that the city of Baltimore and the state of Maryland - love you.

Hoping that the above gives some idea as to my feelings for the now No. 3 port on the east coast - striving to become No. 1.

Renters and real estate tax

Dear AFRO:

I was pleased to learn that the Legislature declined to pass an enabling act under Senate Bill 116 that would have permitted a Maryland county to establish individual income taxes in lieu of the payment of all or a major part of the county real estate tax.

I was a member of the legislation committee of the Baltimore Association of Commerce, and testified before a number of legislative committees which I am sure saved Maryland tax payers a lot of money. I have no ill feelings toward corporate landlords.

I do feel, however, that the current discussions about real estate taxes have caused a penetrating focus on the long injustice which requires tenants to pay real estate taxes that are included in rents.

If the landlords deposit the tax money in interest bearing bank accounts this could net them collectively thousands of dollars in unearned income.

I would have no objections to the unearned income, if it is required by law that the landlord use it for the benefit of his tenants.

I do feel strongly, however, that the landlord should not be permitted to deduct the renters' tax money from the landlords' income taxes.

Therefore, the law should prohibit the present, very unfair practice, and let the people who pay tax money out of their own pockets be entitled to the income tax deductions.

I am sure this matter is of extreme interest to your readers who are renters.

I urge these renters to let the governor, and the two U.S. senators have the benefit of the renters' views in this matter.

GERARD G. KEOGH

Baltimore does not need a subway

Dear AFRO:

Is Baltimore's subway designed to help the city or the suburbs?

The houses on Wabash and Reisterstown Road and businesses on Charles and Baltimore Sts. are all suffering because of the damages caused by blasting — such as cracks in the walls caused by the building of the subway.

The MTA is not paying citizens for the destruction of their property.

The subway is not supplying many jobs for Baltimoreans. Most of the construction jobs have gone to out-of-town construction workers and out-of-town construction firms. People have come from as far as Texas to work on Baltimore's subway.

Since this is a federally funded project, it is supposed to be 10 percent set-aside for minority contractors. This goal has never been met due to devious means of the MTA system or unscrupulous white contractors manipulating loop holes within the law, setting up dummy companies to qualify for the 10 percent set-aside.

Is this another raid on the treasury, such as supporting the Civic Center, Walters Art Gallery and Peabody Institute?

It has been proven in Washington and New York that the subway will never pay for itself; the tax payers will have to subsidize it. With good bus transportation and a ban on parking lot developers in the downtown area so private cars would not go downtown there would be no need for the subway.

Our population does not total a million; therefore, it does not require a subway, especially since we have adequate modes of transportation.

ANGELA VAUGHN
Walbrook Senior High Sophmore

Parents should read to their children

Dear AFRO:

I would just like to comment on our school children and their reading abilities.

Today, with specific requirements set for graduation, it is very important for children to learn to read and write legibly as soon as possible.

Some students in our public schools are going on 20 and are still trying to pass exams and proficiency tests.

Parents should take time with their smaller children and just read to them for a few minutes every day.

If parents would consider this issue as something of utmost importance, I'm sure this growing problem of having adults as students in our schools will diminish in the future.

CAROLYN TILGHMAN

Goodcoverage

Dear AFRO:

I read your paper continually and consider it the only real way of keeping up with and abreast of the black community in Maryland.

I consider your coverage of politics to be very good.

[illegible] know that reading about [illegible] murder is [illegible] and necessary, notwithstanding what your critics have to say.

RAYMOND PEREZ

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

City Editor

For All We Know

APRIL 28 was the date those brilliant Bethel AME women introduced to the public their first edition of the directory of black women's organizations. It's a real jewel and certainly one of a kind. None before ever that I know of.

AT THE LUNCHEON we met the editor, Pam Brogden and of course Ocella Bryant, wife of the pastor, both of whom deserve great praise. The title of the directory is Kujichagulia meaning in Swahili "self-determination."

The luncheon which was really a lovely spring afternoon banquet also gave us the pleasure of meeting the ladies involved in this dynamic project, Carolyn Hill, Sheila Hopkins, Elaine Welsh, Beryl Williams, Josephine Wagner, Cardrienne Griffin, Celonia Walden, Sharyn Hunter, Joan Harris and Thelma McPherson.

THE VALUABLE information packed into that book makes it necessary that you get it for your children and your library shelf. Send check for $5 to Behel AME Missionary Department, 1301 Druid Hill Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21217.

BANQUETS and special events on the list include the one tonight (Friday) at Blue Crest North which honors Lake Clifton High's Bernard C. Jorn, a senior who is paralyzed and attends class in a wheel chair.

The Malcolm W. Johnson scholarship will be presented at 7 p.m. to this courageous young man who is adored by students and faculty and admired by the city school administrators.

Saluting him will be the sponsors, the City School Department of Social Studies; the L.C. principal, John Mohamed; Dr. John Crew, superintendent; Samuel L. Banks, coordinator of Social Studies, Mrs. Dorothy Chambers, chairman, and all such other top shelf people in the public schools.

The affair also salutes the young student's relatives who are credited with rearing him so well that he is not only able to adjust to his handicap but also to interracial cooperation in a predominately black school. Bernard is white. Nevertheless, he has overcome all racial barriers.

CONG. PARREN J. MITCHELL'S Open House last Sunday was (as usual) a wonderful fete with persons from all stations in life coming together to chat and dine and generally have a good time.

It's rare that you attend an informal party with everyone, black or white, rich or poor, in such complete harmony, that's the charm of Cong. Mitchell.

He's the only one we know who can do it. Everyone makes sure he runs into his Open House party to say hello and I venture this, "Nobody who could help it was absent."

THEY POURED in all afternoon to enjoy little sandwiches, homemade cake, potato salad, macaroni salad, pickles and punch and a lot of other ordinary goodies, nothing fancy.

Out on the sidewalk there were small conversations, citizens saying "Hi" and smiling, not a one seeming to feel obligated to come but all glad to be there for the delight of it.

THE PACKET given each guest had some newspapers from across the nation, those which have featured Cong. Mitchell on the cover.

The valuable historic pieces all describe Maryland's first black congressman as "The Most Powerful Black Man Today."

Marylanders certainly must be proud, especially Baltimoreans.

MONDAY, May 7, is the Evening With Odell Payne. Don't forget.

MAGGIE FULLARD, head of the Ebenezer Baptist Church Ushers Board and her magnificent group held a banquet last Friday "to end all banquets." You will see photos in the AFRO's special church edition due on the stands in a couple of weeks.

THE LADIES and gentlemen were beautifully dressed and the occasion a memorable one with candlelight and flowers. Maggie is the super chef at Loyola University and I understand the faculty and students can not live without her and her simply magic cooking.

THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY GUILD held its annual debutante affair at Enon last week and although the rain came tumbling down in sheets the 20 debs, escorts, parents and friends were there! A splendid affair. We will have photos in the coming AFRO Special Church Edition due out in a couple of weeks.

CONGRATULATIONS on their 37th wedding anniversary go to Mr. and Mrs. William Shelton Sr. who slipped away to D.C. to celebrate.

Mrs. Shelton who is the gracious secretary to Bishop Monroe Saunders, reveals she had a ball shopping and buying just what she wanted.

The couple's children weren't present but joined in on the best wishes, the son, a Morganite at home and their only daughter, by long distance phone.

DOUGLASS HIGH'S June Class of 1954 holds its reunion soon. If you are one of those fine grads, get in touch with Ben Mason — 323-6435 or Virginia (Sissy) Day — 944-2752.

IT'S IMPORTANT: Call now.

Virginia and my daughter Marsha are in nursery school at the Mission Helpers long ago. The Day family, prominent Catholics, used to reside on Pacca Street near Druid Hill. In fact, as I recall, they were there in the 1700's when the Catholics settled around St. Mary's Seminary.

Virginia tells me that her grandmother will be 84 years old this coming Monday. She is recovering at the Jenkins Memorial Home after breaking her leg. She is in fine spirits and certainly has a wealth of Baltimore history in her life.

DR. LEON SULLIVAN'S OIC Youth Jobs Program, that marvelous nationwide appeal to get 1 million jobs for kids is going full steam ahead. Over 150 US cities are now taking part and Sullivan says "We expect a united effort by 200 mayors by the time the 15th Annual Convocation comes in Washington.

At that time Dr. Sullivan will deliver 1 million petitions to President Carter and Congress.

I see listed the mayors of Philly, Atlanta, New York, Detroit, Washington, D.C., etc., but NOT Baltimore. But, many Baltimore churches have been sending money and aid

WONDER why none of Maryland's sorry elected officials never thought of such an idea? As badly as our young people need jobs here?

A TELEPHONE CALL came to my desk today from Jennie Jenkins, deputy director of Management Evaluation of the Urban Services Agency. She stated that she felt that she was really a part of the "Evening With Sam Lacy."

She recalled that Alvin Steele, neighborhood counselor and member of the Youth Services Division, had come to her office many months ago and told her:

"I HAVE A dream that I would like to share with you and would like your honest opinion. I think we should have a testimony for Sam Lacy.

"He is so interested in the youth and has proven this by his cooperation with us in our Project Survival Project.

"IT COULD be a twofold affair, letting people know some of the great things Sam has done as well as help Project Survival financially."

I THOUGHT it was a great idea and when I attended the affair last night I knew within Alvin Steele's heart he could say, not like Martin Luther King, "I have viewed the promised land..... I have a dream.....", but could say without reservation, "My dream has come true."

THE ALLEGHENY Beverage Corp. has announced that Michael Bowen Mitchell, partner in the Baltimore law firm of Mitchell, Mitchell & Mitchell, has been elected to the Board of Directors of Allegheny Beverage Corporation. The Company said that Mr. Mitchell will fill the vacancy left by the death of Joseph G. Leone in March. He becomes the first black director of the corporation.

Mitchell, 33, a partner in his law firm since 1971, currently serves as a member of the Baltimore City Council, having been elected to that position in November 1975. He is a member of the Budget and Finance and Urban Affairs Committees of the Council.

A native of Baltimore, he was graduated from Lincoln University with a B.A. degree in 1967 and from the University of Maryland Law School with a J.D. degree in 1970. In addition, he is a member of the National College of Trial Attorneys. MITCHELL is a member of the Board of Governors of the Monumental City Bar Association and of the National Bar Association.

He is also a member of the Baltimore City Bar Association and Maryland State Bar Association and is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Mitchell served as director of the Community Services Program of the Community College of Baltimore from September 1967 to June 1968.

OTHER PRESENT affiliations, Mitchell is secretary - treasurer of Mitchell Associates, Inc., a real estate company, and treasurer of Dr. Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum.

He is a member of the Sharp Street Methodist Church and a steward. Mitchell is married and has three children.

Alleghany Beverage Corporation which produces and distributes Pepsi - Cola, among other items, employes 1,200 people and has a yearly revenue in excess of $100 million.

Money Matters

Dollars for college degrees

Is someone in your family college bound? If you can scrape together enough money for tuition?

Maybe the problem isn't as insurmountable as you think.

According to the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants, families of college - bound students sometimes overestimate the financial burden they will have to bear. In fact, college costs don't have to impose undue burdens on a family, the Maryland CPAs say.

In many cases, students themselves can carry most of their own burdens by taking advantage of government - sponsored student loan programs that offer favorable interest rates and liberal pay - back arrangements.

For low - income families, actual grants are usually available to cover some college costs.

But let's look a little more closely at the Guaranteed Student Loan Program, as it's called.

This program underwrites loans of up to $2,500 a year to undergraduates (even more for graduate students) at an interest rate of only 7 percent.

The interest can be that low because a government or private agency guarantees repayment of the loan should the student - borrower default.

There's another advantage, too: while a student is still in school, and for at least nine months thereafter, interest on a Guaranteed Student Loan is paid by the federal government. The student, therefore, does not incur interest expenses until the time he or she must begin paying back the principal.

Until recently, the Maryland CPA Association explains, that interest - subsidy benefit was generally reserved for students from families making less than $25,000 a year. Last Nov. 1, however, the income ceiling was lifted.

Now a word about grants. According to the state CPAs, a student from a low - income family may be able to finance part of a higher education with a Basic Educational Opportunity Grant, also available through the federal government. Since a grant is essentially a gift and not a loan, the money does not have to be paid back.

The U.S. Office of Education says grants for the current academic year generally are under $1,800, so students shouldn't expect to rely solely on them. Supplementary funding through employment, scholarships or loans is likely to be needed.

The federal programs just discussed are not applicable just for college or university study. Guaranteed Student Loans and federal grants to students of low - income families can also be used by students enrolled at eligible vocational and technical schools or at nursing schools run by hospitals.

You can apply for a loan at any time, but the procedure is lengthy, because approval is required of both the loan and the lender. Loan applications can be obtained from banks and from most schools.

It's too late this year to apply for a grant for the coming fall semester. Generally, the deadline is mid - March but it is wise to obtain the grant application much earlier. Grant applications are available directly from most schools.

Carver student suggests improvements for city

Dear AFRO:

I am expressing my opinion on the Inner Harbor.

We should have more fairs down in that area so we can raise money for different resources, such as schools, March of Dimes, cerebral palsy, for the poor and for more things.

My opinion is that they are building more homes for people and I think they should build some for the elderly, too.

I like Baltimore, but we need to work harder to make Baltimore better by saving fuel, cutting down on the energy crisis, helping stop pollution and stop making those big automobiles

In the future, I hope that Baltimore will be better.

I hope that the subway, which we don't need, will satisfy everybody. I think our money going to the subway is a waste of money because we can use that money on important things like remodeling some of these old buildings, schools, restaurants and offices.

We also can use the money to get skillful and trained electricians to repair old wires in the houses. I think it will help very much.

Maybe the wires or the furnaces were causing fires to break out in people's homes. We can use our money in lots of things like repairing old things and making them useful.

I am a student at Carver Vocational Technical High School. My opinion in this letter is that in the future I hope that Baltimore will be much better than it was years ago.

VIOLA SAVAGE