Marylanders journey to Washington for farewell to Cong. Shirley Chisholm

Baltimore ladies host dinner party

By Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor

WASHINGTON — The 58 - year old, 106 pound congresswoman from New York, Rep. Shirley Chisholm, leaves her post voluntarily in December to take a corporate or academic post.

Among farewell parties going on continually until she leaves was the dinner sponsored July 26 by Baltimore ladies of the Black Womens Consciousness Raising Association and the Maryland Special Inaugural Committee.

The latter organization has also set a separate event, the Maryland Candidates Ball, for Sunday Aug. 22, 6 p.m. at the Baltimore Hilton.

The purpose of the ball is two - fold: To give all officials, candidates and the public opportunity to mingle in a non - partisan atmosphere; and more importantly the proceeds will be used to pay the expenses of a class of legislative interns.

All the Maryland candidates and guests are expected to fill the banquet hall according to Louise Johnson, chairwoman, Balmoral Towers, 7800 Liberty Rd., Suite 1013, 448 - 2600.

Ms. Johnson is founder of the Consciousness Raising group which spearheaded the Cong. Chisholm affair. Rep. Chisholm is a member of the national organization.

Among speakers with tributes at the dinner at Rayburn Congressional Building, DC, were Dr. Mary Johnson, Dr. Helen Turner and Mrs. Josephine Ball, president.

Cong. Chisholm responded with her usual sharp wit and dead serious attitude that she will not leave public life nor will she desert the cause of the poor and the forgotten. She said, "Instead, you will hear more than ever from me during the first six months of 1983.

"I leave the battle Dec. 31 for another battle. My voice will not be still."

In her 58 years, Cong. Chisholm has spent 24 years in government, 14 years in U.S. Congress and 10 in New York legislature. She and her husband, Arthur Hardwick, will reside in their newly built home in Williamsville, NY.

Further farewell parties include the Indians in Arizona in late August, one in California also in August and another in Switzerland in December. The September Congressional Black Caucus Foundation weekend and banquet will also salute Cong. Chisholm.

A special feature on Cong. Chisholm will appear in the AFRO in a subsequent issue to reveal further what she plans to do.

The Candidates Ball at the Baltimore Hilton has a $30 subscription and includes dinner and cocktails.

HOSTESSES — Members of the National Chapter Black Womens Conscienceness Raising Association and Parents Without Partners, Josephine Ball, president, BWCRA; Kelly Hill, PWP president; Elaine Simon, executive director, BWCRA; Mary Johnson, Marsha Forney, Imelda Johnson, Helen Turner, Mercelle Hill, Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, Juanita Prayou, Leslie Johnson, Winnie Wooley, Diane Wilson, Cynthia Shipley, Mrs. Louise Johnson founder of the Black Womens Consciousness Raising Asso. of which Cong. Chisholm is a member. ALL photos by Glasco Ryales

MORE INTERNS — M. David Fleming, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation; Leslie Talbot, CBCF; Kyle Malone, Cong. Adam Benjamin Jr., Wanda Ellison, San Francisco, Cong. John Burton's office.

INTERNS honoring Cong. Chisholm at the dinner included Janine K. Woods, Wichita, KS, Sen. Dole's office; Bruce S. Feaster, Flint, MI, Sen. Riegle's office; Janis D. Hazel, Detroit, Congressional Black Caucus Foundation; Sharian Smith, San Diego, CA, Rep. Chisholm's office; Jacques Morial, New Orleans, Democratic National Committee; Lisa D. White, Missouri, staff aide to Cong. Bailey.

MORE GUESTS — Geneva Puryear, Baltimore; June Watson, assistant to Rep. Chisholm; Rep. Chisholm, Louise Johnson, dinner chairman and founder of BWCRA; Ned Graham, Baltimore, executive director, Greater NE Baltimore Community Coalition.

DELTAS who held another fete for Cong. Chisholm are from her hometown, Queens, NY Delta Sigma Theta Alumni Chapter, Eileen Davis, chair, Commitee on Haitian Refugees; Jewel McPherson, Delta Social Action Committee; Carole Stevens, Catherine Arline, Willa Turner, Lorraine Murray, Ann Campbell, Lucille Peterson, Gertrude Thompson. Cong. Chisholm is in the center.

Baltimore Gospel Greats contest continues Friday on Morgan campus

SOLOISTS AND ENSEMBLES represented at the July 23 contest at the Bethel AME Church included Barbara Bailey, Julia Price Williams, Gene Serge, Donald P. Sullivan, Avalon S. B. Torrence, Tommy Roberts Sr., Sylvia Hardison, Pat Patten, Rev. William Bailey, Gretchen Starks, Rev. St. George Crosse, Nancy Mae Offer, Lloyd Marcus, Kevin Lee Ware, Walter Joe, Joyce Arnold. Bernard Roberson, Beverly Lyles; Fernando Allen Singers, Les Fleurs, Johnson Family Singers, God's Creation, Unity, Stansbury Family, Mt. Olivet Gospel Chorus, Cole Singers, Free Spirit, Tommy Roberts and Roland Joe Smith, Reginald McClurkin. ALL PHOTOS BY RYALES

Finale due Aug. 20 at Pier Six fete

By Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor

The Baltimore Gospel Greats Festival and competition, one of the special four - part contests designed for the city's most talented singers, continues today, Friday, at Morgan's Murphy Auditorium with choirs and quartets trying for the prizes.

The final contest is set for Pier Six, Aug. 20 with cash going to winners of each category. For info call the Baltimore Promotion Office, the sponsors. Dr. Nathan Carter MSU Choral director is coordinator.

The July 23 event at Bethel AME Church was the third section with soloists and small ensembles as contestants.

WINNERS

Winners included seven unusually talented soloists, Tommy Roberts Sr., Gretchen Starks, Julia Price Williams, Pam Jones, Gene Serge, Lloyd Marcus and Beverly Lyles.

Originally, judges were to select only three soloists but all were so outstanding, seven were selected for the final show at Pier Six.

SMALL ENSEMBLES

winners included Fernando Allen Singers, The Johnson Family Singers and Company, The Stansbury Family, and Les Fleur (The Flowers), all superb singers.

Judges are Dr. Carter, Festival coordinator; Norman Ross, Cultural Arts director; Harian Scott, Bethel Church director of music; Gloria Harvey, Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church music director.

The capacity crowd at Bethel gave standing ovations to the night's winners although they had not been designated.

Gretchen Starks, a MSU music major, was accorded raves as she exhibited perfect voice and moving emphasis in "Amazing Grace." Gretchen is a member of the United House of Prayer for All People and a keypunch operator.

Kevin Lee Ware, member of the Church of the Risen Savior choir and soloist, was designated a favorite through extended applause as he sang "He Looked Beyond My Faults and Saw My Need." Rev. William Bailey who sang, "The Lord Is the Strength of My Life" and to Gene Serge who was easily marked as a winner.

JUDGES — Dr. Nathan Carter, festival coordinator and director of Choral Activities, MSU; Norman Ross, cultural arts director, Baltimore; Harian Scott, director of Music, Bethel AME Church; Gloria Harvey, music director, Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church.

The top three winners in each categories will be invited to the final contest at the Pier 6 Concert Pavilion Friday, Aug. 20. There, the top winner in each category will win a cash prize . . . $500 for choir, $400 for quartet, $400 for duet, trio or small ensemble, and $200 for soloist. In addition, a well - known national gospel artist will judge and perform on this exciting evening.

Your questions, comments and concerns are invited.

For more information call the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism at 752 - 8632. Your support will help make this event a smashing musical success! Esther Lichtenberg is managing director.

KEVIN WARE favorite coloist

GRETCHEN STARKS winning soprano

GENE SERGE another winner

Robert L. White reelected head NAPFE, largest, oldest union in USA

WASHINGTON, DC — By a two to one lead, Robert L. (Bob) White was re - elected President of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees (NAPFE), for a seventh consecutive two - year term.

The Union leader's opposition included two members of the Executive Board of the nation's oldest and largest independent black - led industrial labor union. White captured more than 50 percent of the total votes cast.

James M. McGee, NAPFE District 4 president and member of White's slate, was elected first vice president of the 68 year old labor organization. McGee, a resident of Nashville, will move to Washington where NAPFE is headquartered. McGee succeeds Wesley Young who has held the office since 1970.

Others elected were incumbents Wyatt Williams, second vice president; Shirley E. Davis, secretary; Eugene A. Brockington, treasurer - comptroller and Jacquelyn C. Moore, editor.

The six national officers will be inaugurated prior to adjournment of the NAPFE 35th Biennial Convention in Atlanta, Aug. 9 - 13.

ROBERT L. WHITE NAPFE national president

B.S.O.'s first Community Awards Concert

IDA PETERS

Five promising young artists from the Greater Baltimore area will be the stars at the Baltimore Symphony's first Community Awards Concert to take place in the Pier Six Pavilion in the Inner Harbor on Tuesday, Aug. 3, beginning at 8 p.m.

William Henry Curry - who also serves as music director of the Awards program will conduct the concert. The award-winning soloists include Enrique Graf, piano, and Christopher Tranchitella, trumpet, who will co-star in Shostakovich's "Piano Concerto No. 1."

Baritone Joseph Pearson will sing "See the Raging Flames Arise" from Handel's "Joshua"; Luvada Harrison, soprano, will sing "Signore ascolta" from Puccini's "Turandot"; Dennis Raley will sing two arias, "O tu Palermo" from "I Vespri Siciliani" and "Hai welch'ein Augenblick!" from "Fidelio"; and Miss Harrison and Mr. Pearson will together perform Mozart's "La ci darmen la mano" from "Don Giovanni". The program opens with Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" and concludes with Tchaikowsky's tone poem "Francesca da Rimini".

The Community Artists Awards program was created to offer performance opportunities and assistance to talented local musicians. Yvette Mathews, mezzo-soprano the sixth winner was offered an opportunity to spend the summer with the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria and will not be able to appear at this event.

Soprano Luvada Harrison attended Western Senior High School before going on to study at Towson State University, where she graduated in 1979 with a B.S. in Music Education. Among her distinguished teachers are Ruth Drucker, Phyllis Krauhel, and James Valliant. Since 1977 Miss Harrison has been soprano soloist at Govens Presbyterian Church, and has performed solo roles in a number of Towson State University Opera Workshop productions.

Mezzo-soprano Yvette Mathews is a graduate of Coppin State College, and has studied with A. Maurice Murphy, Fred Petrich, Mildred Allen Taub and Veronica Tyler. She has received many honors in area music competitions and recently made her debut recital in Washington, D.C. She has appeared as soloist in both Baltimore Cathedrals and performed numerous solo roles in oratorios and operas as well as in recital.

Baritone Joseph C. Pearson holds a B.S. degree from Morgan State University and studied with Todd Duncan, Fred Petrich, Elizabeth Malkus, and Eugene Parker. He has appeared as soloist with the Baltimore Symphony, the National Symphony and other orchestras and opera companies. His repertory includes leading roles in fourteen operas and thirteen oratorios. He is Baritone Soloist at University Baptist Church.

The Baltimore Symphony Awards Committee is chaired by Wendell Wright. Auditions were supervised by Auditions Chairman Dominique deLerma, and the program is under the musical direction of BSO Resident Conductor William Henry Curry. Committee members include Margaret Armstrong, Jody Albright, Julie Alderman, and Norman Ross, with administrative assistance provided by Junetta Jones.

Graigers headline Madison Ave. Festival

By Frederick I. Douglass The Grainer Brothers,

SHOWTIME

Tour of McCulloh Homes

By Kathy Parrott

The AFRO - AMERICAN Clean Block mini-tour took us to the McCulloh Homes this week.

There are eight entries from that housing development in this year's campaign, and they were looking pretty good.

The 400 blk Cummings Court, where Ms Ethel Richardson is Captain, is a clean, flowering court of silver and white. Their court benches are painted silver and white, as well as the fences surrounding each lawn, the poles for clotheslines, and their flower urns.

The Stoddard Court entry, which borders Cummings Court, is also painted silver and white. These two courts are making a joint effort in keeping their areas clean and beautiful. They too have lots of beautiful flowers and clean, clean sidewalks.

The two courts are in need of grass or flowers in their plots around the courts, and flowers or picket fences around the trees in the courtyard. Ms Ruth S. Walker, 1028 Stoddard Ct. is the Captain.

400 blk Oxford Court has lots of pretty flowers, but on last Monday, they were in need of a serious sweeping and cleaning.

The block is all silver, which gives a very nice effect with the sunlight shining on it through the trees. The trees in the court need to be adopted, with flowers around them and or fences. Ms. Catherine Walker at 407 Oxford Ct. is the Captain.

Another entry on Stoddard Court, housing units numbered 1012-1018, is painted red and silver. They have red and silver benches, silver bricks around the trees. There are red and white poles around each yard, and fences in the courtyard have been painted silver. (One section of fencing needs to be repaired).

They are in need of flowers throughout the court and a really good cleaning.

One yard in the court has a beautiful garden of flowers. Perhaps if court Captain, Ms Cynthia Howard, were to ask her neighbor at 1018, he or she would be willing to share some of the beautiful flowers for the beautification of the entire court.

The 509-517 Dolphin St. blk is painted red and white. They are a little sparse on flowers, and could do with a good cleaning.

Daniel Mickens is the block captain.

Another red and white block is the block which houses 531 Dolphins St. Their dumpsters have been newly painted and the area around them is very clean, however, the block itself was n at very clean. The block also needs flowers and grass.

Block captain is Kevin Hand.

A third red and white block on Dophin Street is the block which houses 537. This block is very clean, but their urns need painting and there are very few flowers.

Of particular note we spotted a novel idea. Hanging from the fence surrounding each yard is a plastic litter bag. They seem to be used often.

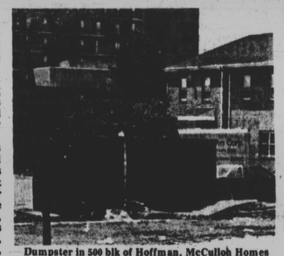
Ms Dene Hampton is the block captain.

The last block toured in the McCulloh Homes is in the block numbered 530-541 Hoffman St.

The block is all white and very clean.

Houses on the odd side of the block have neat lawns, and are particularly clean.

The even side of the block needs grass for its lawns, and flowers.



Dumpster in 500 blk of Hoffman, McCulloh Homes is overflowing. Grass needs to be reseeded and cut.

(Photos by Kathy Parrott)

Oxford Court in McCulloh Homes has plenty of pretty flowers.

Cummings - Stoddard Court needs help in getting new grass.

Graingers at Madison Avenue Festival.

members of a family of talented musicians who have performed and recorded with Pockets, Peaches & Herb. The Emotions and myriad other stars, will be bringing their music home to Baltimoreans this weekend when they headline a diversified bill of entertainment scheduled for the Third Annual Madison Avenue Festival. Scheduled to be held this Saturday and Sunday, the festival will also feature performances by the Maria Broom Dancers, the surging disco sounds and sultry models of Mike McCory and Funkalicious, plus many surprise appearances by various singers, dancers and poets.

Also starring the the Madison Avenue Festival will be an amazing array of delectable, delicious foods including southern style barbecued chicken and beef short ribs smothered with WASS-DIS-HERE Sauce, an exotic meat dressing and barbeque sauce concocted by one of Madison Avenue's long time residents.

Discussing the purpose of the Festival, Michael Tisdale, a Madison Avenue resident asserts "We are trying hard to instill a sense of pride in people who live in the 2200 and 2300 blks of Madison so that they will want to stay here in the beautiful and spacious homes that line the street. We support concepts like the AFRO Clean Block Campaign and other efforts designed to clean black neighbhoods. We also recognize that the complexion of Reservoir Hill is chaning rapidly with many of the older black residents moving out and being replaced by whites. We have a high rate of black homeownership in these two blocks and we would like to encourage young blacks to move here as some of our older residents move into senior citizen homes. We think that Madison Avenue is a tremendous alternative to suburban living".

Beverly Douglass feels that the festival is important for cultural reasons and because it gives the neighborhood's children a chance to learn about going into business and have access to a street that is usually bustling with speeding cars and motorcycles.

We are working with some of the smaller children this year who will be operating thier own booths. This is crucially important because they will be getting an opportunity to learn the basics of business. They will be responible for paying back their parents for the cost of booth and any materials they need. Whatever money is left over will be their profit which we will encourage them to put in the bank. Aside from learning about business, the children will have an opportunity to ride their bikes and skates in the street for a change. One of our major problems is that many people use Madison Avenue as an Expressway downtown and to other destinations."

Dedicated to improving the quality of life for its residents and members, the Madison Avenue Neighborhood Club is striving to further upgrade housing in the area by encouraging everyone to maintain their property and at least to sweep in front of their houses.

June Gee, who has spent all her life living on Madison Avenue says "I wouldn't trade my home here for anything, anywhere else in the City. It's close to downtown and the cultural facilities being developed on Mount Royal".

Be sure to stop by the Madison Avenue Festival this weekend to hear the Graingers belt out "Shine Your Light" as well as straight ahead Jazz tunes featuring Glenn on trumpet, Gary on bass and Greg on drums. Musicians, poets, singers and models seeking out a place to display their talents are invited to stop by and do their thing.

D.C. Curtain Calls

By Charles Farrow

The evening was perfect. A bottle of chilled champagne delicious food; delightful company and a sound track beyond compare, set last Sunday night apart from others. The location was the wooded country side of Virginia and the event was the concert by Lena Horne at Wolf Trap.

The concert was a sellout. There were probally ten more people present than the legal limit allowed. The place was packed! A wonderful tribute to the woman whose passionate grip on life weaves spells and joins diverse spirits. Sunday nights concert was truly unique experience.

"Lena Horne: the Lady and Her Music" was a unrelieved throbbing program that put the pressure upon living to the extend of one's ability to seize the day. It was a concert that included songs that have figured prominently in career that has spanned more years than some people are willing to acknowledge.

But not Lena! The Lady brags! She is a bodacious person who lets it all hang out! Sure her father was a number's backer, so what! He was there when she needed him, supportive and loving. She was facing the elegant Jim Crowism of Hollywood in the days when the only role for a Black woman was a maid. And a fair skinned beauty, that was too much for Hollywood!

Max Factor, Lena points out, "Yeah, there really was a real Max Factor" He was called in to create a new make up cosmetic in order to make her "look colored" Factor whipped up a tone called "light Egyptian" and promptly the Hollywood moguls put it on a North Carolina beauty, her friend Ava Gardner, who got the part!

The show under the stars and the lights from moving airplanes, crackled with sharp wit and a vitality that was exhilerating and almost embarrassingly exhibitionist. Ms. Horne sang she preached, she growled, shouted and cajoled as she mixed her music and her tantalizing human voice. It was the story of her life and she sweated as she worked through more than 2 hours of music that survives mere labeling as a "show."

"Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music" is a bright credit to the meaning of what it means to be an entertainer. It is not just a testimonial to one woman tenacious hold on life and her art. It is that Lady's determination to practice her craft as best she can, for as long as she can.

She performed, she worked and she retains an legitimate elegance that is breath taking.

At the Saturday afternoon jazz jam, the group Moon August is on tap, although they are not going by that name. Guess it must be Harold Adam's gig, since his name is listed first.

At any rate, they will be grooving from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, and must say we have been impressed with the group. Caught them out at the Oregon Ridge session, and although fusion jazz is their metier, the cohesiveness and musicianship shows through.

Discovered that the Birdcage was not open last Monday night. At least the upstairs room was not. Seems there is still a problem with the air conditioning.

Was told that they would be doing business as usual this Monday night.

And speaking of Mondays, the Sportsmen's Lounge seems to be pointing the way. They dropped the cover charge, and the price of drinks for the happy-hour Monday sessions, and have been doing turnaway business.

Besides, those who like dancing, no matter what style, get a chance to show out—'tis fun.

BRIEFLY — NOTED: Over at the Maryland Inn in Annapolis, veteran pianist Teddy Wilson is holding forth...In D.C., Flora Purim and Airto are at the Blues Alley...Wynton Marsalis is scheduled into D.C. Space ...the B-W three, with Marc Cohen and Hugh Walker are at the One Step Down, but we are told Buck Hill will not be with them for this gig.

BOB MATTHEWS

Night Scene Seen

Word reached us that one of the Night Scene's stalwarts, alto saxist Carlos Johnson went through the "rings and things" routine last Saturday.

The bride is Paula, and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are all smiles as they accept the congratulations of their friends.

Over at the Soul Shack, which is usually the habitat of Carlos, this week there will be an awards celebration in honor of trumpeter John Lamkin.

It all happens Saturday from 9 til 2, as John, along with vocalist Eartha, hold down the feature spot on the podium.

The Closet brings in another native son this weekend as Gary Bartz plays a return engagement at the club.

He'll be accompanied by the Billy Murphy Trio, and if the last outing was any indication, it will be a treat for Baltimoreans to hear Gary again.

Have been hearing a lot of things about the doings at the Julian Barrister over on Reisterstown Rd., and all of them have not been nice.

The live music every night policy seems to have gone by the wayside, as the Lady Rebecca and Bobby Ward group was cancelled last Sunday.

They were on hand for the Monday night setto, although Rebecca had to leave after the first set. She had an asthma attack, and was taken to the hospital.

She's O.K., and will be at the Woodstock this evening, 4-8 p.m. and plans are afoot for her to hold down the Wednesday night slot at the Gatsby's.

Over at the Sportsmen's Lounge, Miss Earlene Reed will be featured, along with Vernon Wolst and Bobby Ward. Tom Hurley is listed as the organist, but we know Tom is on vacation in the Caribbean.

They'll have a fill-in however, so the set will definitely be a winner.