—PAC money

Continued from page 1

one third of their ante during the period beginning after the 1982 elections and ending with the close of the 1986 General Assembly session."

In 1982, a typical PAC contribution to a legislative candidate was $25 or $50, the report said. Four years later, the average contribution was $150 and "contributions of $1,000 and $2,500 to legislative candidates are showing up in record numbers," the study said.

* * *

In the same report, released last month, Maryland Common Cause reported Del. Larry Young, D.-39th, received $12,096 from different political action committees.

During an interview, young admitted receiving PAC funds but called the amount "peanuts" to what he had been able to raise by his own efforts.

"I've been fortunate. That (the PAC funds) was one-ninth of the money I raised. I raised more than $92,000 for this campaign year, so to have $12,000 come from PACs is peanuts," Young said.

An acknowledged health care expert in the state, Young said Maryland PACs are "diverse." The groups contributing money to his campaign generally represent the medical community, he said.

He said he has absolutely no trouble with accepting money from PACs because they "don't outweigh what the public did. My voting record over the last 12 years has been consistent — there has been no equivocation of my record."

* * *

Sen. Troy. Brailey, D.-40th, received $4,700 from PACs in 1986. He said most of the money came from labor groups and the balance came from "small PAC groups that do not represent big business interest."

Brailey said he receives funds from labor PACS because of his record on labor issues. He said he does not go out and actively solicit PAC funds.

It is all right to accept their money if they "help poor and working people," he said.

"Other groups, big PACs are saying 'we're going to give you money . . . vote for our interests," Brailey said. "But I did not vote on banking bills, which in my opinion are bad for poor people and working people. All the bills I voted for are consumer-type bills."

* * *

Del. Pete Rawlings, D.-40th, received about $2,520 from different PACS in 1986. He said PACS are not homogeneous, omnipotent group, but many groups representing many interests.

"They're part of the political process," he said. "I get nervous if it (the amounts) get exorbitant" but PAC funds were only about 10 percent of the money he raised for his campaign.

"This is the way they can be effective in use of their resources to promote candidates they like to see in office," Rawlings said.

As an example, Rawlings used a $200 contribution he received from the C & P Telephone PAC — "if a person believes I'm going to vote for the C & P line just because I got a $200 contribution, it's ludicrous."

He said PACs are not evil, bogeymen lurking around corners, influencing elections. He did say that because PACs are organized during a general assembly session, they do tend to exert a disproportional influence over the ordinary citizen, who is not organized.

* * *

Sen. Jack Lapides, D.-44th, is among a small number of state legislators who either limit the amount of money accepted from PACs or refuse to accept any of the funds at all.

Lapides said he recently organized a fundraiser where more than $12,000 was collected.

"My total PAC contribution out of the $12,000 was $125," he said. "I believe very strongly in limiting PAC contributions. They're being abused."

Lapides said he thinks PACs are controlling elections. He said some very legitimate groups have political action committees but, "I don't think they should be able to buy people for office."

He also said he was one of several state senators to co-sponsor a bill limiting PAC contributions. Anne Arundel County Sen. Gerald A. Weingrad is the bill's sponsor.

* * *

Wadsworth said grassroots organizations are getting into the PAC game because "they believe that they can be politically effective, which means legislatively effective."

She said when PAC lobbyist contributes to a legislator's campaign it helps create "a relationship."

"Legislators deal with thousands of bills. Their time is limited," Ms. Wadsworth said. "If you feed them it helps with that relationship. Even if a lobbyist doesn't get a desired result specifically, it does help develop that relationship."

That relationship, formed by a triangle of political action committees, legislators and lobbyists, is what is ripe for "undue influence," she said.

—New sheriff

Continued from page 1

He said the office's major responsibility lies in serving all legal papers for the city's circuit court and and in transporting prisoners to and from the courthouse.

Stewart waved away all rumors of a house cleaning for the department once he assumes leadership. He said he will be guided by "fundamental fairness."

"I'm not coming in to sweep the floor," Stewart said. "I will have a tool box to build upon the foundation already in place.

Under-sheriff and Chief Deputy David DeAngeles, a 14-year-veteran of the department, echoed Stewart's sentiments.

DeAngeles said he has also heard the rumors floating around the department's offices but they are not to be believed because "it's impossible to clean house anyway."

He said most of the staffers are merit system employees, who do not serve at the sheriff's pleasure.

About the transition's progress, he said a meeting between Stewart and his team and Sheriff George Greeberger already has occurred and several more are planned.

At the first transitional meeting, Stewart was given a general overview of the office and how it operates and he was advised of several projects now underway or being planned by the sheriff's department.

DeAngeles said some of the planned projects may be scrapped or temporarily put aside, depending on Stewart's focus for the department.

One project, however will continue. A ranking system for the department is in the works, he said. Presently, there are only four supervisors under the sheriff, himself as chief deputy and three lieutenants.

Such a small supervisory staff is inadequate, DeAngeles said. He said he hopes to implement a system including corporals and sergeants thus allowing deputies a better, swifter opportunity of rising in the department.

DeAngeles said he is looking forward to working with the new sheriff.

"I think it will be a fine blending," he said referring to his expertise as a career law enforcement officer and Stewart's experience as an administrator.

Stewart said he will leave the MTA in November after 20 years of service. During his tenure, he said he was a public relations representative and trained about 150 people. That experience will translate well in his new position, he said.

—Police head

Continued from page 1

of the campaign depends in great part on public participation. He said the public is needed in reporting people suspected of carrying handguns illegally.

The campaign includes a series of printed materials and posters, radio and television announcements and newspaper ads. They all carry the same message:

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United Cable of Baltimore hosts party launching cable

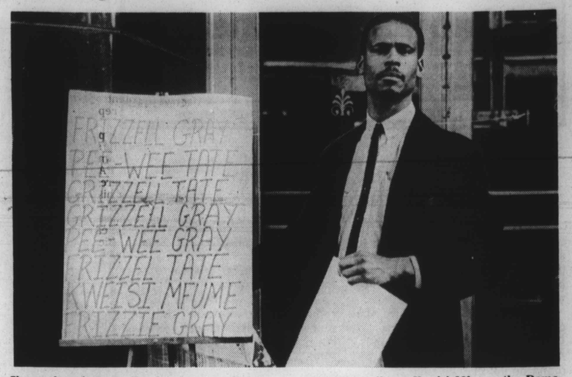
United Cable of Baltimore hosted its start-up party Friday, Oct. 17 to celebrate the launching of the system in Baltimore and to thank the subscribers who participated in the test period.

The mayor, city council president, members of the City Council, community leaders, representatives of BG&E and C&P, representatives of Sojourner Douglass College, Mayor's Office of Cable and Communications and subscribers who participated in the test program were all invited to the party at United Cable, located on Kirk Ave.

On Sept. 15, United Cable moved into their newly renovated facilities at 2525 Kirk Ave. and the response has been overwhelming. Company spokesmen report over 200 paying subscribers, who are mostly taking the basic service and at least one pay service.

Construction is continuing and plans are in the works to build up to a rate of approximately 30 miles per month. The hubsite on the westside of town is under contract and renovations are to begin shortly. The company plans to be in operation within the next six months on the westside.

The fiber optic interconnect should start within the next few months that will connect the east and west locations. "Cable TV looks like a winner," according to the company.



Shown above is Aaron Brooks who, according to the Board of Elections Supervisors, is an independent candidate running for Congress in the Seventh District. Mr. Brooks had a press conference Wednesday outside of City Hall. He lambasted Councilman Kweisi Mfume, the Democratic nominee, and claimed Mr. Mfume has used as many different names in his life. The General Election is Nov. 4.

Lift-equipped bus service begins

(UPI) — The Mass Transit Administration will begin operating regularly scheduled lift-equipped bus service on four MTA lines starting in January, 1987, officials said Tuesday.

Lift-equipped buses will operate approximately once an hour on the MTA's Number 3, 11, 33, and P-1 lines beginning with the Jan. 25 schedule change.

Officials said these trips will be marked in the public timetables being prepared for January.

Scheduled lift-equipped service on these lines will run on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The lift-equipped service will supplement the MTA's current Call-A-Lift bus service and Mobility Paratransit service for the handicapped.

Bethel Teen Parenting Center is on cutting edge of society

By Paula J. Wagner

A melancholy 14-year-old mother held her six-month-old daughter in her arms recently as she shared her appreciation for the Teen Pregnancy Enrichment program (TPEP) initiated by Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church.

This young mother and her child travel by bus two to five days a week to the corner of Lanvale Street and Druid Hill Avenue where the center is located.

There she sits in on the various talk sessions with other teen mothers and their counselor, and she is relieved to find there are those who will listen and understand.

"It's fun here," she said. "It's a place to come."

The program's director, Rev. Joan Wharton, said Bethel Church wanted to work on the problem of teen pregnancy, which is reaching epidemic proportions. "There is a need for teen parents to have their own program," she added.

Some 109 teens, mostly girls but a few boys, Rev. Wharton said, have come to the center, since the program started in April. Young mothers come from all over the city to participate in the program, she also said. "Teen Parenting Enrichment Program is the first of its kind."

These young parents can expect to be counselled on post-natal and pre-natal care, creative parenting, sexual disease, anatomy and physiology, child bearing, suicide, drug abuse, crime, and peer pressure.

Sensitive to the triple bond teen parents experience as mother, child and adolescent, as well as the pressure of the lack of family support that many teen parents undergo, the program provides a breath of fresh air.

A daycare mother is on hand during the hours the center is open to care for babies while their parents are in classes or relaxing in the center's television room.

Rev. Wharton contrasted the growth of teenage pregnancy to the inconsistency of sex education in public schools. "Teens are not necessarily trying to become pregnant," she said, "but are seeking love."

Morris Reddon, Jr., a social worker at the center, said the problem of teen pregnancy overlaps all socio-economic and racial groups. "What we see," he said, "are some bright young people. All they need is leadership."

In giving guidance, TPEP advocates strict sexual abstinence. "A lot of teens don't know that they have the option to say 'no'," Rev. Wharton explained.

In addition the counselors at TPEP talk to teens about waiting for the "right man or woman" and understanding how to choose life partners.

While most of the teens in the program are registered in school, Rev. Wharton said many are not. TREP provides a functional literacy class in math, reading and study skills two days a week.

It is also part of a network, assisting its clients with job placement, school admittance, and health care services.

Most of its seven staff members are volunteer doctors and nurses. The center's telephone number is 728-7890.

Rev. Joan Wharton, director of Teen Parenting Enrichment Program initiated by Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, talks with teen mother about raising children for Christ.

C&P delivers directories to customers

The C&P Telephone Company will begin delivering new telephone directories to its subscribers in the Baltimore metropolitan area on Oct. 15. Directory delivery will again be staggered, with the distribution of the Baltimore City White pages first, followed by the Baltimore Suburban East White and Yellow Pages Directories. The Baltimore Suburban West White and Yellow Pages will be delivered last.

According to C&P spokesman Carl Smith, "Each White Pages directory still contains complete government and business listings for the entire metropolitan area, with the residential listings being keyed more directly to customer usage. The residence section of each directory will contain the numbers most frequently used by subscribers in that area, based on extensive calling pattern studies done by C&P."

For added customer convenience, a map which identifies the residential listing area for that directory is included on the back cover of the book.

The Customer Guide section at the beginning of the White Pages Directories has been greatly improved this year. New graphics are used to better illustrate the various sections and plain English is used instead of "telephones" for improved customer understanding. Among the topics covered in the new, easy-to-read Customer Guide are: money-saving tips, customer calling instructions and choosing home telephone service.

According to Smith, a recent survey found that nearly 80 percent of C&P's residence customers think the Customer Guide is a good or excellent reference on matters ranging from telephone bills to telephone repair service. Changes in the new directories should make the guide an even more convenient and valuable source of information.

The cover of the 1987 White Pages directories features the LaVale Toll Gate House, located on Route 40 in Western Maryland. Erected in 1836, it was the first along the Maryland section of the National Road and is now the only remaining toll house along the National Road in Maryland. According to Smith, the cover is a reproduction of an original painting by Jerry Potter, and appears on all C&P White Pages and Combined (White and Yellow Pages) Directories in Maryland.

Baltimore metropolitan area customers who have previously requested directories for more than one area will receive them on a staggered basis due to the printing schedule. However, customers who do not receive their directories by Dec. 1, or customers who find they need additional directories, can obtain copies at no extra charge by calling their C&P Business Office after Dec. 1.

According to Smith, the White Pages Directories aren't the only ones changing. "There will be some major changes in the Baltimore Suburban East and Baltimore Suburban West Yellow Pages also," he said. The company will provide more information on the changes in the Yellow Pages later when delivery of those directories begins.

Park School Fall production

The Park School, in Brooklandville, Maryland will present its Fall promotion, OUR TOWN on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8, at 8 p.m. in the Meyerhoff Theatre.

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