BETTER HOMES — Vel Jean Hicks makes a point during the speak-out session, as she explains to the audience how the government spends the taxpayer's dollars.

Rally held at Murphy homes

By Ejike Obineme
AFRO Staff Writer

Some concerned residents of the Murphy Homes Housing Project in West Baltimore came together last week to demand educational and employment opportunities for all adults in the public housing, health care for all residents and child care for all parents pursuing education and employment opportunities, among other things.

The "Speak Out" session, which was held at the ground floor of a high rise project, was organized by the residents, in conjunction with Baltimore Jobs With Peace, an organization devoted to persuading the federal government to spend more money on social services instead of the military.

To be sure that their demands do not fall on deaf ears, the organizers invited the Baltimore City Development Commission, and the area members of the City Council to listen and bring solution to their problems.

The three members of the commission who attended were Father William Burke, Beatrice Gaddy and Richard Ullrich. Agnes Welch of the 4th District City Council and Eric Brown who represented Sheila Dixon-Smith also attended.

The residents' demands were contained in what they called the tenants' Bill of Rights, which they passed out at the gathering. They also asked for Co-op facilities and services to provide business opportunities for residents like laundry, food Co-ops and elevator repairs.

The organizers told the residents present to speak their minds and most of them responded. A teen-age girl, Dionne Phillips wanted a recreational center for girls. A teenage boy, Landis Franklin said the boys needed more games to help them fill-up their time.

"We want other things apart from basketball and ping-pong," he said.

Jobs With Peace appears to be doing just that. The organization is backing a National Omnibus Housing legislation to be introduced into Congress by Rep. Ronald Dellums (D.-Oakland)

Among other things, the legislation is calling for the expansion of HUD Section 202 (elderly) housing under the ownership of non-profit organizations, and increase funding for the HUD homesteading program.

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Council wants alcohol warnings

By Alisa Samuels
AFRO Staff Writer

The Baltimore City Council wants local liquor establishments to post signs warning the public of the hazards associated with drinking on their premises.

Council Bill 137, introduced for a second time in March, would require a liquor licensee to conspicuously place a notice notifying customers of the possible risks of alcohol abuse.

Carl Stokes, Second District and the health subcommittee chairperson, said the signs would not suggest a drinking limit or mention alcoholic disease.

It would only say, "Overabuse of alcohol can be injurious to your health, particularly if you're female and pregnant," Stokes said.

On May 25, the health committee was to hear testimony for and against the bill, but the hearing was delayed until June 14, to allow three opponents who were leaving town a chance to come back to testify, said the councilman. They were representatives of labor, said Stokes.

Stokes said he expects a heated debate, because he has already received many letters stating the pros and the cons.

Sen. Larry Young, 39th Legislative District, wrote Stokes a letter in favor of the bill. Young said one-third of minority domestic problems are related to alcohol, the councilman said.

Workers from the alcohol industry have also written to Stokes, opposing the bill, saying reduced consumption would mean reduced sales for them, said Stokes.

In 1986, Joseph T. (Jody) Landers, Third District, introduced a bill (Council Bill 1493) to require the warning signs, but the bill "died in Committee", Stokes said.

PEOPLE

FAMILY OF SCHOLARS—Laurence and Janette Campbell pose with their children Leslie, Janette.

Campbell family thrives on scholarship

By Denise Smith
AFRO Correspondent

Searching for the perfect role models? Search no further.

Parents Laurence and Janette Campbell, along with daughters Leslie, 14 and Annette, 17 are all proud 1988 graduates.

Laurence, 45, a graduate of Johns Hopkins University received his Masters Degree in Administrative Science on May 26.

Having to maintain a 3.5 average, attend to family member's needs and work during the night was anything but a piece of cake for this determined 45-year old.

Laurence Campbell, whose hobbies include landscaping, photography and reading works at Westinghouse Electronics Systems Group as a manager of materials for the E-3 program (early warning radar system).

"You have to learn to balance work and school," Campbell said.

Campbell also had to contend with his duties as a deacon at Wayland Baptist Church and his responsibilities as a husband and father of three outspoken children.

"I wanted to get an advanced degree," Campbell said. He said he received his Associate of Arts Degree from the Community College of Baltimore for his family, and his Masters Degree served as the ultimate goal of his own accomplishment.

Campbell said his degree pursuance also allowed his family; to see that there is hope for older adults who ean think, accomplish, and achieve.

He attributed his final "pay off" (the Masters Degree) to lots of support from family members and constant prayer.

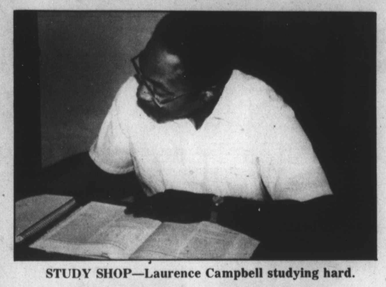
The successful student is the one who establishes "perseverance, has a goal in mind and does not let anyone deter him/her from his/her goal," Campbell said.

Janette Campbell, 43, a graduate of Coppin State College on May 29 accepted her Bachelor of Science Degree in Special Education.

"It's been an exciting and good year for our family," Janette Campbell said. She added that her children are self-motivated and "it has been a rolling year for everybody in the family."

Janette Campbell's hobbies including playing the piano, which she has been doing since she was four years old and sewing for 20 years. She said that she will sew her two daughters' graduation dresses.

Daughter, Annette, a graduate of Western High School has been accepted to Syracuse University. She has been admitted into the Honors Program at New House School, and is a recipient of the Wiley Daniels Scholarship Award.



STUDY SHOP—Laurence Campbell studying hard.

Annette Campbell, a B-student, feels that in many respects the Baltimore City School system is a failure. "It is good for students who are motivated, but there are too many students who are not motivated," she said.

She added that kids who have low self-esteem and low motivational drive are usually the ones who are truant and eventually turn to drug dealing.

Leslie, who graduates from Lemmel Middle School on June 8 has achieved perfect attendance for the last three school years.

She also managed to build a 9.13 grade point average. Leslie said she couldn't have been more pleased to see both her parents graduate.

She said she was happy to see her mother march across the stage because finally the strain and grouchiness was over. She related that during her parent's study time they were both on edge and although she wanted to help she felt helpless.

Masters League opens play

By Fred Lindsey
AFRO Sports Writer

The seventh season for the Cloverdale Athletic Club Masters Basketball League began Sunday with its usual bumps and bruises.

With games set at 8 and 9 a.m. each Sabbath, the 35 and older crowd, including players as "young" as sixty, held a "draft" to determine where club members were to play.

Incorporated in this year's season will be the fourth Walter Leslie Memorial Game, which will be a preliminary to the BBA — Baltimore Basketball Association — championships on August 16.

This memorial game is held in memory of an original Cloverdale Athletic Club member and former president, who died in 1985 of cancer.

Although the roster list is "officially" close, the word is that interested players can still participate, if they contact league commissioner Leroy Johnson at 383-0321. Be sure to bring money.

In the first week of play, the White team defeated the Red 43-32, in spite of Donnie Evans' 21 points. Carl Wilson led the Red team with 15.

James rises at TBC

Willie James has been named Production Manager at Trahan, Burden & Charles, Inc., a Baltimore-based advertising and public relations firm. The announcement was made by company President Robert Matz.

In his new position, Mr. James, who until recently was the firm's Associate Production Manager, will manage all print production needs for the agency's clients.

Prior to joining TB&C, he served as the Production Manager at Image Dynamics and Assistant Production Manager at Thompson Recruitment Advertising.

A graduate of the Maryland Institute, College of Art, Mr. James also holds certificates in graphic arts and printing from The Printing Institute of Maryland.

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