LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

By Paula Brooks
Lifestyle Editor

Phi Delta Kappa dance

The National Teachers Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. will hold its annual Scholarship Dance on February 24, at The Forum from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music by Ray Johnson's Esquire Band. For further information call LaNita Brown, 655-3265.

Great Blacks masquerade

Great Blacks in Wax Museum, a non-profit organization that is the only museum in the United States that exclusively displays famous Black people will hold its 4th Annual Black History Masquerade Ball on February 24, from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Museum. Call for further information.

Greenville moles

Greenville's Club Coterie, a popular elite social, cultural and civic women's organization, founded by Anna C. Smith, formally became the third chapter of The Moles in South Carolina on January 13, 1990.

The Moles of Raleigh, N.C. sponsored the local chapter which was installed during a festive weekend of sparkle and elegance at the Greenville Hilton. In attendance were four national officers, also Moles and Mules (spouses) from numerous national chapters.

The organization was founded in Norfolk, Va. in 1949 and was nationally chartered in 1950. The membership is committed to social, cultural, civic and educational projects. The Moles also address issues affecting the Black Community and nation.

Dr. Pennie Perry, National President, conducted the symbolic induction ceremony assisted by four national officers, Moles Vivian D. Tillman, Financial Secretary, Rocky Mount, N.C.; Dr. Marianna W. Davis, Publicity Chairman, Columbia, S.C.; Eunice R. Poindexter, Registered Agent, Roanoke, Va. and Dr. Virgial S. Webb, Past Nat'l President, Petersburg, Va.; also Moles Ruby Stroud, President; Floreiss Turner, Vice President and Genevieve Farmer of the Raleigh Chapter.

The 17 Greenville inductees are Moles Anna C. Smith, President; Myrtle C. Pickens, Vice President; Ruth M. Richburg, Secretary; Georgia H. Bennett, Financial Secretary; Clarence P. Schell, Corresponding Secretary; Clemmie M. Jones, Treasurer; Winifred A. Lykes, Parliamentarian; Carole A. Kenner, Chaplain; Blanche C. Zimmerman, Courtesy; Mamie W. Garrett, Publicity; Justine G. Adair, Henrietta Y. Bradford, Margaree S. Crosby, Jannie C. Hill, Rubye H. Jones, Carolyn B. Peden and Earnestine S. Whittenberg.

Following the induction the Moles indulged in a delectable luncheon and later an exhilarating black tie dinner dance resplendent with glitz and glitter. The delightful weekend was culminated with an animated, cheerful continental breakfast.

The Moles National President, Dr. Pennie Perry talks with Greenville Moles President and Founder, Anna C. Smith.

OSC donates uniforms

A presentation of 30 uniforms was recently made by the Original Sandtown Committee to Mrs. Launetta Reid, Principal of Harlem Park Elementary School. The uniforms are to be distributed to 15 girls and 15 boys who are in need of school uniforms.

Prior to the presentations, Mrs. Louise Mason gave this brief history of the organization. The Original Sandtown Committee, people who resided in the area known as Sandtown, were a closely knit group. Everyone knew their neighbors and did not hesitate to come to the aid of a neighbor in trouble. This comraderie, in many instances has held firm through the years.

With the passing of time, and the removal of housing barriers, many Sandtown residents moved to other areas. In spite of residential changes, Sandtown still lives in the hearts of those who loved the neighborhood, and cherish the memories of years past.

The desire to preserve the culture of Sandtown resulted in the creation of the Original Sandtown Committee. This name was given to distinguish it from other groups from the same area.

The Committee under the leadership and guidance of Mr. Sam Brown, President and Mrs. Lessie Smith, Vice President, has been revived and restructured.

In addition to the uniforms, a monetary donation of $200.00 was also given to Harlem Park Middle School to support a field trip to be taken by the students.

If you are a Sandtowner interested in joining this group contact Mrs. Smith at 669-3812 or Mr. David Hawkins at 728-4825.

BMA Black history reception

WJZ-TV, The Baltimore Museum of Art and Kentucky Fried Chicken kicked off a month of Black History events with a reception at the Museum. The evening began with a stroll along McCall Gallery to view the exhibits of Roland Freeman: The Arabbers of Baltimore; and the BMA Collects: African American Art. The reception was held in Fox Court.

"Arabbers," a folk term peculiar to Baltimore, for the mainly Black street vendors canvassing neighborhoods atop their horse drawn wagons, have been a part of Baltimore life for many years. they are the subject of this major photo documentary exhibition. Freeman, who grew up in the arabbing tradition, based this outstanding work on more than 20 years of research and photographic study.

BMA Collects: African-American Art is a selection of major works from the Museum's permanent collection by African-American artists includes such important artists as Haywood Rivers, Romeare Bearden, Sam Gilliam, Joshua Johnson, Jacob Lawrence, Horace Pippin, Joyce J. Scott, and James Van Der Zee. Many of the works featured are light - restricted works on paper which can only be shown periodically - so don't miss this exhibit!

The reception was wonderful! It was the kind of folksy, down to earth gathering that art inspired events frequently seem to attract. The crowd was full of artists and artisans.

Joyce Scott, who creates in many different mediums - sculpture, painting, clothing and jewelry, design, weaving, writing and acting; Joan Gaither, her works will be on display at the library of Columbia this month; Margaret Musgrove, author of a book on African cultures that is sure to become a classic; John Mayden, sensitive photographer; and Leon Bridges, architect; to name a few.

Also spotted in the sizeable crowd were State Director of Personnel, Hilda Ford, Joan Pratt, Bronwyn Mayden, Police Commissioner Eddie Woods, State's Attorney Stuart Simms, Irvin Phillips, Al Winters, Supervisor of Legal Aid, Bonnie Butler, Carolyn Davis, Cathy Pugh, Terry Addison, Gay Pinder.

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

Marcellus Alexander, WJZ's bright new Vice President and General Manager (2nd Black in the historyof the station) and WJZ's hard working Community Liaison, Phyllis Shelton Reese. They are co-sponsors of a month of activities at the Museum, along with Kentucky Fried Chicken and the BMA.

Michelle Towson, Clayton Ellerbee, Gerri Bohannon, Mr. Kentucky Fried - Harlow Fullwood, Ann Davis, Toni Robinson, Benny and Noella Gordon, Dale Madison, Shirley Marcus and Alvin Hathaway.

After the reception, the first in a series of movies shown on Thursday evenings, was viewed. The movie, Sugar Cane Alley, which depicted life in Martinique, but which was actually about the strength of African women of the Diaspore, was a special treat.

Links hold second R.A.I.S.E. activity

The Harbor City Chapter of the Links, Inc. held their second youth service activity of the R.A.I.S.E. (Raising Ambitions Increases Self-Esteem) program recently at William Lemmel Middle School. The Links have joined efforts with R.A.I.S.E., a collaborative effort with T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. to assist inner city youth in developing educational skills and job opportunities as a community service.

The international trends and services committee of the Links planned the activity entitled "Preparing For The World Of Work," which was the second of five activities that have been scheduled for the upcoming year. The year's theme is "Career Exploration With R.A.I.S.E." It was an afternoon full of inter-national fun, learning, prizes and food.

Committee chairperson, Marion L. Patterson, along with committee members Carmen Holmes, Yvonne F. Gina L. Patterson-president, Lansey, Lynne B. Taylor, Kimberly Statham, and Beth Woodland Hargrove, invited four speakers with international backgrounds and interests to share experiences and advice with the students. Link Lynne Taylor added even more of an international flair by welcoming the students and their sponsors with a Russian greeting.

(Photo by John H. Murphy, III)

Harbor City Chapter of The Links, Inc. recently made a contribution to three area organizations. Receiving the award were Frankie E. Martin, Vice president of Links; Frances Draper, President of AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper AFRO Charities; Anne S. Davis, Exceutive Director Florence Crittenton of Baltimore, Inc.; Eileen Carpenter, Board member of Henry Hall Scholarship — The National Aquarium; and Gina L. Patterson, President of Harbor City Links.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown M. Pinkney of Baltimore have announced the marriage of their daughter, Anita Cecilia to Gregory Lawrence Sears, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence O. Sears, Jr., also of Baltimore.

The wedding took place January 27 at the Pennsylvania Avenue A.M.E. Zion Church. Mrs. Hermeione Watson-Cater, Misses Yvette Pugh and Edith Dennis were the honor attendants.

Over three hundred well-wishers were in attendance. The reception followed at the LaFontaine Bleu Catering facility in Glen Burnie.

The couple honeymooned in the Pocono Mountains.

Recently married was Jean LaVonne Young, daughter of Ms. Elizabeth Grant of West Baltimore and Anthony Wayne Gillis, son of Mrs. Margaret Gillis Young of East Baltimore.

The ceremony was performed St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church. The bride was given in marriage by her father, Mr. Edward Young, and was attended by maid of honor, Regina Yzaguirre. James Gillis was best man.

ENTERTAINMENT/ LIFESTYLE

Stevie Wonder denies stealing movie hit song

LOS ANGELES — Singer-songwriter Stevie Wonder, responding to a suit accusing him of stealing the Academy Award-winning song "I Just Called To Say I Love You," testified on Feb. 8 he conceived the tune on a ride home from his mother's house.

Wonder testified in U.S. District Court that he came up with "working" lyrics, a chorus and music to the ballad during a drive to his suite at a Hollywood hotel after a visit at his mother's San Fernando Valley home on July 15, 1976.

Wonder said the tune underwent many revisions before it was released in the 1984 movie "The Woman In Red" and won an Oscar for best song in a motion picture.

The next year, the song became the object of a copyright infringement lawsuit brought against Wonder by a songwriter who accused the singer of stealing the ballad after it was played for Wonder several years earlier.

Lawyers for the plaintiff, songwriter Lloyd Chiate, played a recording of his song called "Hello It's Me — I Just Called," for the jury.

Chiate claims he and Lee Garrett, a longtime friend of Wonder, wrote the tune together. It contains similar lyrics to the song Wonder popularized, but the music is arranged differently.

Garrett was a former plaintiff in the case, who has maintained that he first played the song for Wonder shortly after Wonder persuaded him not to commit suicide in July 1976. Garrett, who has written several popular songs with Wonder, has dropped his allegations that Wonder stole "I Just Called."

When Wonder applied for consideration for an Academy Award, he allegedly approved documents written by his lawyer that said the song was written for the comedy movie that starred Gene Wilder and the late Gilda Radner, a requirement for Oscar consideration.

The same documents stated that the ballad was not finished before 1984, a contention Chiate said is untrue.

Wonder, speaking in a soft voice, testified that he had recorded some ideas for the tune at a sound studio the day after his visit with his mother.

"I put down a chorus with some lyrics, with words that I thought of at the moment ... not complete — with some 'ums' and some 'das' and some 'dos'," Wonder said.

But that recording was lost, and Wonder said the earliest version he has of the song is on a cassette he made months later and gave to a lead singer in the Japanese band Bread & Butter.

Wonder testified it was not until seven years later, while attending a screening of "The Woman In Red" before music was added to the film, that he was inspired to finish "I Just Called."

Wonder said the tune seemed appropriate for a scene he "sensed" in the movie in which Wilder is on the telephone with his wife.

"I said to (singer) Dionne Warwick that this gives me the inspiration for finishing up a song that I wrote that might be good for the film," Wonder testified.

The annual Miss Black America Pageant and television special will take place in Indianapolis, Ind. at the Black Expo from July 13-22. The pageant is devoted exclusively to showchasing the mental, physical and spiritual beauty of the Black woman between the ages of 17 and 29. The show will air nationally on the Black America Commercial Television Network in the fall of this year.

Kraft sets ad budget

RIVERSIDE, CA. — Kraft General Foods has announced a $1,000,000 commitment for corporate advertising for Black print for the new year at the National Newspaper Publishers Association's (NNPA) Mid-Winter Workshop meeting recently.

The corporate advertising campaign will complement the company's product advertising budget of $5.3 million for all Black media.

"Kraft General Foods is a strong believer in the effectiveness of the Black press," said Thomas D. Ricke, senior vice president of corporate affairs for Kraft General Foods, in a statement.

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