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UNITED METHODIST REPORTER THE FAIRHAVEN MESSENGER^{edition}

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OCTOBER 4, 1991

FAIRHAVEN HOMECOMING



Greetings in the name of Jesus our Lord.

Due to the death of Gerard A. Green, Sr., our annual homecoming took on a special significance this year. Our speaker was the son of Mr. Green. For most of us, the death of a father or mother would automatically cancel all outside obligations, and certainly immediate speaking engagements. However, Rev. Gerard A. Green, Jr. revealed an inner source of strength, by preaching two different sermons for our homecoming services, two days before his father's funeral.

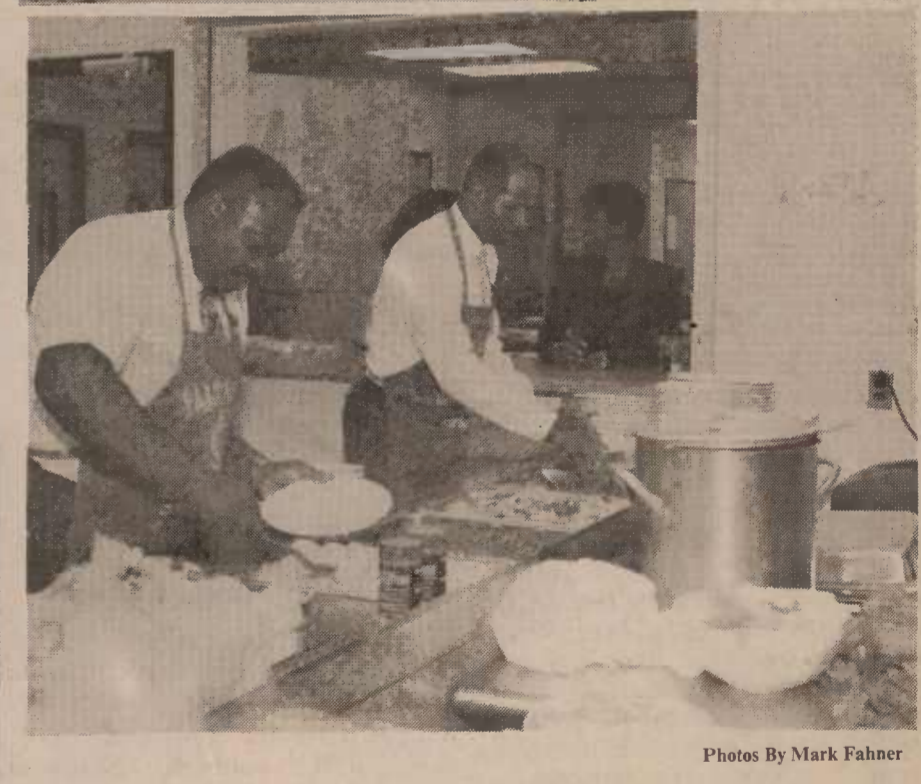
This year's homecoming will go down in the history of Fairhaven as being unique and inspirational. Pearl Green, Rev. Green's mother attended both worship services, along with other members of the Green family. I salute them for that. I will forever admire the courage and strength Rev. Green had in fulfilling his commitment to us as our homecoming speaker. We at Fairhaven were deeply impressed and will remember this homecoming. Our thanks and

prayers are for Rev. Green and his family.

1993 will be twenty five years since the merger of the three churches into Fairhaven. We would like to have an anniversary celebration in 1993, and we need a committee to plan this for us.

If you want to volunteer to serve on a planning committee, please give your name and phone number to Ada Howard or the minister. We would like to have our first anniversary planning committee meeting in January of 1992.

See you in church on Sunday,
Love and Peace
Martin



Photos By Mark Fahner

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DIANNE BETSEY — In 1980 Dianne Betsey was a housewife with three children, two in diapers. During this time she and fifty other Black families received eviction notices from a Boston real estate developer who had just purchased their Montgomery County apartment complex with the intention of removing the minority tenants. For most of the decade that followed, Ms. Betsey engaged in an intense battle at the local, state and national level; first to protect her own family and then to strengthen the laws protecting all victims of housing discrimination. At the end of her struggle, Ms. Betsey changed the nation's housing discrimination laws that benefited millions of American women, families and minorities. Ms. Betsey ultimately won a landmark ruling that significantly increased the rights of victims of housing discrimination throughout the country. Ms. Betsey's case also ended an "all adult" rental policy in one of the Country's largest apartment complexes, a policy which excluded all families with children and particularly hurt Black and other families in need of affordable housing.



DELORES COLE — In 1969, Ms. Delores B. Cole moved to Rockville, MD and did not lose a moment's notice as she started to make a positive difference in the lives of so many people. She is dedicated to issues pertaining to children and single parenthood. She has been an inspiration, source of strength and key resource person to many individuals. Recently Ms. Cole personally conducted a fundraiser to assist a South African student who was studying at a local college. She became aware of the needs of this student and created a direct mail appeal that resulted in the receipt of \$1000 to satisfy the amount needed for the "family contribution" category. At the time the student's mother had been jailed in South Africa for political activism. This is only a small token of Delores B. Cole's desire and commitment to helping those in need. She is an involved and dedicated participant in numerous activities.



DR. MARY COTHRAN — Dr. Cothran's numerous contributions to Montgomery County stem from her involvement with the Montgomery County Alumnae Chapter (MCAC) of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority in her capacity as President of MCAC (1985-87), Life Member of the NAACP, membership in the Montgomery County Commission for Women, Montgomery County Commission on Child Care, and numerous other committees and task forces. Mary has been instrumental in implementing various programs for Montgomery County residents, which have been of tremendous impact to her community. Under her leadership, MCAC also sponsored students to tour traditionally Black colleges during Black History Month, and she personally initiated a Pre-college Seminar to prepare 8th-11th graders to gain admission, pay for and succeed in college, and to provide information for their parents. Her commitment is indeed immense.



SHARYN ROCHELLE DUFFIN — Years ago, upon her graduation from high school, Sharyn Duffin was stricken with spinal meningitis and lay in a coma for thirteen days. Medical technology was not what it is today and Sharyn was not expected to live. A newly discovered drug was administered with hopes that it would keep her alive. Nevertheless, she was left unable to see and unable to work. For many the story would end here, but not for Sharyn Duffin. Upon her completion from college, she became involved in her community and keeps excellent historical records of the predominately Black community of Lincoln Park in Montgomery County. Her involvement in legislation, her work with youth, her civic organizations and her work as an author and writer continues to impact positively upon the lives of others. Ms. Duffin still finds time to knit hats for the homeless and blankets for little border babies. She is an inspiration to all of us.

Montgomery County Salutes Outstanding Black Women



On March 15, 1991, 12 women who had been selected in Montgomery County's "Salute to Outstanding Black Women of Montgomery County" were honored at a ceremony sponsored by the Montgomery County Office of Minority and Multicultural Affairs. The ceremony took place in the lobby of the Executive Office Building in Rockville.

The recognition was held in conjunction with Black History Month to honor those women who had made outstanding contributions to the community. The honorees were selected by a panel of judges from among 75 nominations received. Selection was based on submitted essays outlining civic, professional, and community service achievements of the nominees.

The women honored this year included Ida Pearl Green of Gaithersburg; Delores B. Cole and Sharyn Duffin of Rockville; Mary Cothran, Ruby A. Rubens, Gladys Young, Sharon Stallings, Dianne Betsey and Gladys McGill Magwood of Silver Spring; Edna B. West and Belle Thompson of Potomac, and Karen Knight of Kensington.

The ceremony included remarks by County Executive Neal Potter, County Council President Isiah Leggett, and State Senator Idamae Garrott. Each woman's photograph and a brief outline of her achievements were displayed. Light refreshments and entertainment also were provided.



IDA PEARL GREEN — Once there were three little country churches. These multi-ethnic congregations had the difficult task of joining together to be an example of racial equality. It was "Pearl" along with others who encouraged, lead and forgave, and because of these efforts, this integrated church continues to function and do great ministry in the Gaithersburg community. "Miss Pearl", a devoted wife and mother, has been active in the church all of her life. She volunteers two mornings a week at the Wilson Health Care Facility at the Asbury United Methodist Home which she has done regularly for more than seven years. She is an active member of the Pleasant View Historical Assn., a civic organization that seeks to preserve the History of African-Americans in the Quince Orchard/Darnestown area. She has been involved in the selling of Avon products for at least the last twenty years. Often times, when visiting the sick and shut in she would give them an AVON product, and say "Now use this and keep on smiling, you are going to be alright."



KAREN JACKSON-KNIGHT — Ms. Karen Jackson-Knight demonstrates a high level of sensitivity and caring for families and individuals in need of assistance. Whether there is a need for food, clothing, transportation or just someone to share a concern, Karen is there to listen, assist directly, refer or facilitate. In addition to her employment and her own family to care for, Karen makes time to be a very active participant in many activities, all of them directed to improve the lives of less fortunate citizens. As a member of the Ken-Gar Civic Association, she coordinates the food program "SHARE" and the Surplus Foods Distribution for the Ken-Gar Community; coordinates a Tutorial Program for the Elementary School Children of Ken-Gar's low-income families, and she coordinates all activities at the Ken-Gar's Neighborhood Center. Most recently, she was selected to be installed in the state of Maryland's Community Action "Hall of Fame". As a single mother, Ms. Karen Jackson-Knight is surely an inspiration and motivation for others.



GLADYS MCGILL MAGWOOD — During the 1960's and 70's, there did not exist many Black organizations in Montgomery County. Ms. Gladys McGill Magwood was an early pioneer and founder of many of these national and international organizations on a local level such as Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the National Council of Negro Women and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. These organizations served to improve the plight and conditions of Black Americans. They still exist today as an integral and vibrant part of the County's lifeline, providing the strength, unity and resources needed in our communities. Continuing to serve and willing to give of her skills and talents is one of Ms. Magwood's many strengths. In addition, Mrs. Magwood is involved with youth and conducts various workshops and seminars to provide them with the skills and tools needed to become leaders.



RUBY A. RUBENS — Mrs. Rubens is involved in a myriad of civic and political issues. However, she carries an olympic torch for three main issues which are very dear to her heart; housing, education and human rights. She is a true advocate for fair, affordable and decent housing and was the recipient of the Suburban Maryland Fair Housing Group's most prestigious honor, the Rita Morgan Award. The value of education is emphasized through her many educational involvements with the schools and the community. Her never-ending fight for human rights and equality keeps her active and involved in numerous organizations such as the NAACP, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Montgomery County Chapter) and the Coalition for Equitable Representation in Government. Ms. Rubens was also the recipient of the first Edith M. Throckmorton Montgomery County Human Rights Award. She stresses the importance of political involvement and good leadership skills that will make a positive difference in our communities.



Continued on Page 10

The Voice of History

BENNETT, From C1

and the broad mass of people just doesn't go to lectures."

In addition, he says, "white Americans have little real understanding of the totality of their history. Black people have been in the bone and marrow of this country, part of George Washington, part of Thomas Jefferson, and there is no way to understand what this country is all about unless you understand their role," not just as an abstraction like the slavery question, but "as human beings."

Take Chicago, for example, Bennett says.

"Chicago, Illinois, was founded by a black man. Jean Baptiste Pointe DuSable. He was not a slave. He was a free black man: a handsome, educated free black man. He founded the first permanent settlement on the north bank of the Chicago River where the Chicago Tribune is today. He built the first house. He established the first business. This is uncontested. The Potawatomi Indians used to smile and say: 'The first white man to settle in Chicago was a black man.'

"Now, that's the biggest secret in this city. There is not a single thoroughfare in Chicago named for Jean DuSable. Not even an alleyway! Everybody concedes that he was the founder of Chicago. But nobody talks about it. They don't teach it in the schools. There's no downtown building named for DuSable. That's what I mean when I say we've been robbed of our history. African Americans need to know things like that. And European Americans need to know things like that too, to free something that's locked inside all of us."

It's not just a matter of factoids. One of the most intriguing chapters in Bennett's book is the one where he argues that the first shipload of blacks to reach North America—in 1619 at Jamestown, Va.—were not slaves. They were, at the very least, blacks who had been bound for the West Indies aboard a Spanish ship when it was captured by a Dutch warship, which then put into Jamestown and traded them for supplies.

Slavery of all races, of course, had been going on for thousands of years throughout the world, principally as a product of defeat in war. The founder of the Jamestown colony, Capt. John Smith, for example, had once been captured and enslaved by the Turks. Arab merchants venturing to Africa made the trade in black slaves more international by buying up the captured booty of intertribal sub-Saharan wars (and rounding up their own captives as well) and bringing them back for sale in Europe and the Middle East. Portuguese explorers expanded things still further, taking thousands of

slaves first to the Iberian Peninsula—where, since there was no major demand for slave labor, they or their descendants were eventually freed and assimilated—and later to the particularly brutal sugar plantations of Brazil. By the time the Dutch ship reached Jamestown, black slavery had been fueling the sugar economies of Brazil and the West Indies for more than half a century.

But given that free blacks already lived in Spain—and in England as well—and that those arriving in Virginia from the Dutch ship bore Spanish names; and given the lack of any preexisting black slavery in Virginia, Bennett contends the arrivals were in fact skilled workers who were treated on arrival either as free men or indentured servants.

As proof he documents Colonial records that show blacks owning land and importing servants in subsequent years, intermarrying with whites and even voting and holding office until the mid-18th century.

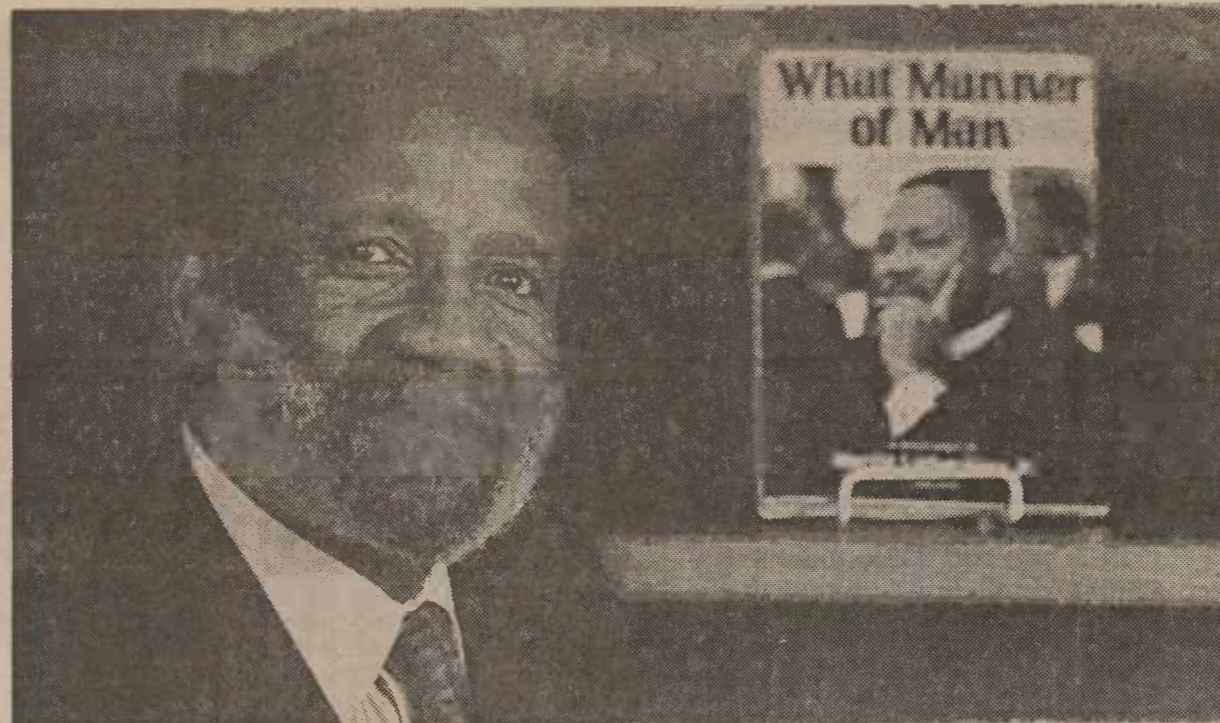
"The great and tragic missed opportunity," he says, "is that there was no initial hierarchy in this nation based on race. Blacks and white indentured servants were treated just the same under the law. It was a virtually colorblind society based on class, just as in England."

But as black slaves began being imported directly from Africa, the Founding Fathers found themselves called upon to deal with the consequences of such things as the legal status of mixed-blood children. Distinctions based on race became more and more codified, and, as Bennett says, "the great injustice was launched."

Bennett's zeal for writing about such things appears undiminished, even after the sixth full revision of his book. He doesn't understand people who don't share his passion.

"I get people all the time who tell me history is dull and dead. But I went to Lenier High School in Jackson, Mississippi, and I had teachers there who made history hop and skip and dance. It was a joy to go to class. And this was in Mississippi in a segregated society, remember. We had few books, no amenities, but great teachers, unbelievable teachers. They made us understand the great story of our people, and how in the midst of slavery—history's greatest crime—we not only survived physically, but were able to create out of our suffering things like the great spirituals, and the blues, out of which came jazz, the only truly American art form. . . .

"To this day I find it impossible to understand how anyone with a great story like that would find it dull. History's depressing at times, but it's peopled by all these figures who rise above the injustice and the tragedy. They give a glimmer of what can happen to human beings in any situa-



Lerone Bennett Jr., in front of a book on Martin Luther King Jr.: "Black people have been in the bone and marrow of this country, part of George Washington, part of Thomas Jefferson. . . ."

BY BARRY JARVINEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

tion if they keep the faith and maintain a sense of perspective and hope."

And it is not, he says, just the heroic leaders alone.

"I find so much greatness and strength in ordinary people. . . . I had a grandmother who was one of the wonders of the world—the greatest person I've ever known. She had 12 or 13 children. Came from family that owned some land up in the country outside of Jackson. And at a certain point in her life she said to her husband: 'Look, there are no schools for children up here. Black children must go to school.' My grandfather, according to family tradition, said: 'Yeah, we'll do something about it at some point.' But eventually she lost patience and loaded 13 children in a wagon, drove to Jackson and found a house. . . . She raised all of those children so that everyone who wanted to go to college went to college. And she did all this against battalions of people trying to destroy her. I tell people all the time that we have to go back and rediscover that kind of transcendent spirit—the spirit that helped us overcome slavery and segregation. It's the greatest thing we have."

Despite his obsession with history, Bennett says, he never planned to be a historian. He intended to be a lawyer but got sidetracked into journalism, hanging around the two black papers in Jackson as a boy and writing his first editorial when he was 11. He went to Morehouse College in the class after Martin Luther King Jr., then worked for a paper in Atlanta before moving to Ebony in 1953. He's been there ever since.

"'Before the Mayflower,' " he says, grew out of a series of articles he did in 1959 at the suggestion of Ebony Publisher John Johnson. The reaction was so overwhelming that the articles evolved into a book that

has turned into a mini-career in itself. He's just published in paperback a companion volume called "The Shaping of Black America." He speaks all around the country and tries to tell new generations the lessons he's learned.

Do they listen?

"Oh, I don't know. I think they feel they're down in a hole and want desperately for you to give them some magic answer that will get them out. And of course there is no magic answer. I tell them life is a constant struggle, and even if you do everything right there's no certainty of

success. I tell them their only sure hope is excellence. Without excellence this society will eat them alive."

But there's always hope somewhere, he says. He remembers a night in the Mississippi of his youth, when he was playing saxophone at a black dance in Canton when the white sheriff walked in.

"This was about 1941. Duke Bennett and his alto sax. . . . And this sheriff and his men came in looking for someone who had done something, and they lined everybody up against the walls and started around

the hall. I was only about 13 but I knew what could happen. A friend of mine had been beaten almost to death for some minor infraction of the Jim Crow laws. And so as the sheriff started around the hall questioning people and searching them, I noticed he would periodically just haul off and slam someone across the face with his fist or his pistol for no reason at all. And I watched as he came around and figured he was hitting about every fourth or fifth person. So I tried to weasel my way so I wouldn't be in the wrong spot. That was how you survived. That was Mississippi."

But now when he goes home, Bennett says, he is positively shaken by how much the state has changed.

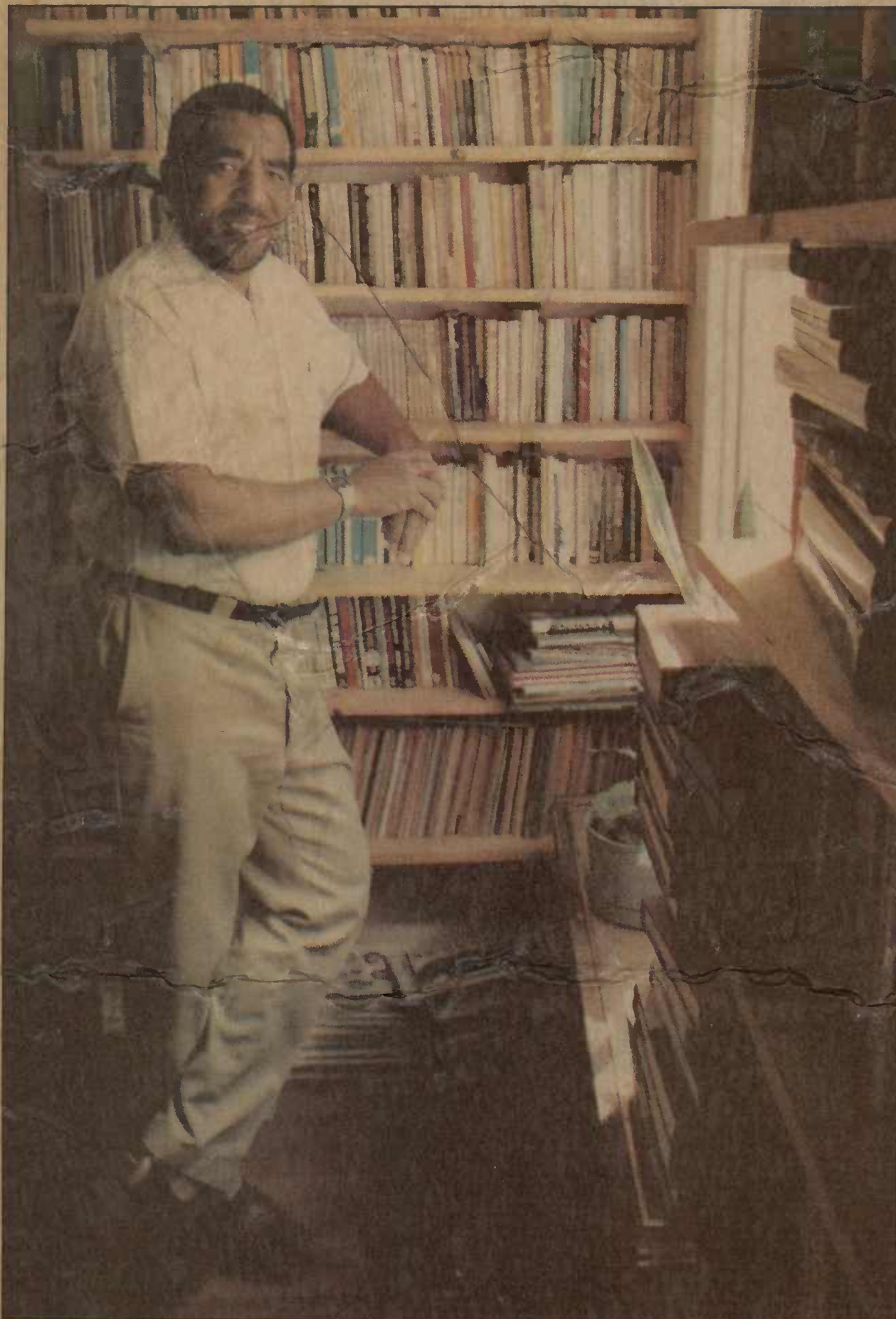
"They haven't changed all the way and there is much, much more to be done," he says. "But they have come so far."

One of the proofs, he says, is the Mississippi Writers' Project, where in the state has "asked everyone down there: blacks, white aristocrats, poor whites, women, everybody, to laugh and cry and argue and weep together and in the process try to rediscover and reclaim our common history—the history of the state that we all share together. Mississippi is the only state I know that has tried to do that, and it is a wonderful and beautiful thing. . . . Blacks and whites are discovering things about each other I promise you they haven't found out yet in many Northern cities."

The lesson in all that, Bennett says, "is that people can change. If Mississippians can change, we can all change. That's what history is. And that's our hope."

Photo by Barry Jarvinen

BEATING THE ODDS



W. Paul Coates, former state coordinator for the Black Panther Party, now republishes books by and about African-Americans.

LLOYD FOX/STAFF PHOTO

W. Paul Coates rescues the literary history of African-Americans

By Sandra Crockett
Staff Writer

W Paul Coates — African-American publisher of books for, by and about people of African-American descent — didn't listen when people told him it could not be done. There were those who said he could never start a publishing business on \$300 — and that was money he had borrowed. Statistics, they said, showed that African-Americans face even higher odds for failing in business ventures than whites. They said New York was the place to start a book publishing company, not Baltimore.

Finally, they said, don't take the added risk of focusing only on books by and about people of African descent.

Mr. Coates listened to none of the naysayers, and now the Black Classic Press — which he founded along with his wife Cheryl — is about to enter its 15th year.

He admits that it has not always been easy. Also, the business will probably never make him a wealthy man, he says. But Mr. Coates believes there are many barometers for judging success other than the size of a bank account.

"We are very successful. We are not very rich. The fact that we have survived against all of these so-called odds means that we are successful," says Mr. Coates, while sitting in an office in his Lochearn home, where the business is located.

"I've known Paul for a long time," says Calvin Reid, associate news editor at *Publishers Weekly* magazine, which is based in New York. "He is well respected as a publisher of classic black books."

Bakari Kitwana, editor of the African-American Publishers, Booksellers and Writers Association, says Mr. Coates has successfully filled a niche in the publishing world.

"He went into an area that no one had previously dealt with," says Mr. Kitwana from his Chicago office.

See COATES, 6G, Col. 1

Mood was Brotherhood

40 Mount Students Join Thousands in Washington



"We are going to liberate this bus." "Food is for the people." "Stay with your group." "Everybody on the trucks, now!" Every group needs a leader and David Toda was Mount's.



Mount students gathered in the Church's graveyard before joining other students, middleclass men and women, mother's with children strapped to their backs, G. I.'s, militants, longshoremen, veteran's, and the rest of the "effete, impudent, snobs" who marched for peace.



When MOBE marshals were unable to control the militant crowd supporting the Chicago Conspiracy at the Justice Department building they were pelted with rocks bottles and and red paint. The pigs (who weren't acting like pigs in the Chicago sense) quickly dispersed the gathering with an overdose of blinding teargas. This action followed the main rally.



Pete Seeger lead the rally in singing "All we are saying is give peace a chance." Thousands of "V" shaped hands swayed to the contagious tune that engulfed the audience as the folksinger interjected comments between verses. "Are you listening Nixon?" "Are you listening Agnew?" "Are you listening Pentagon?"

The congregation of the Pleasant View Methodist Church of Gathersburg, Md. donated their time, food trucks, their church and homes to the Mount students attending the Washington marches. Their generosity was overwhelming.



Although the crowds were diversified undoubtedly most in attendance were "on the right side of thirty," as stated by Dr. Benjamin Spock.



Who is the "silent majority?" Protesters felt Nixon misrepresented the American public when he associated that term with those who support his "Honorable" solution to the Vietnam conflict.

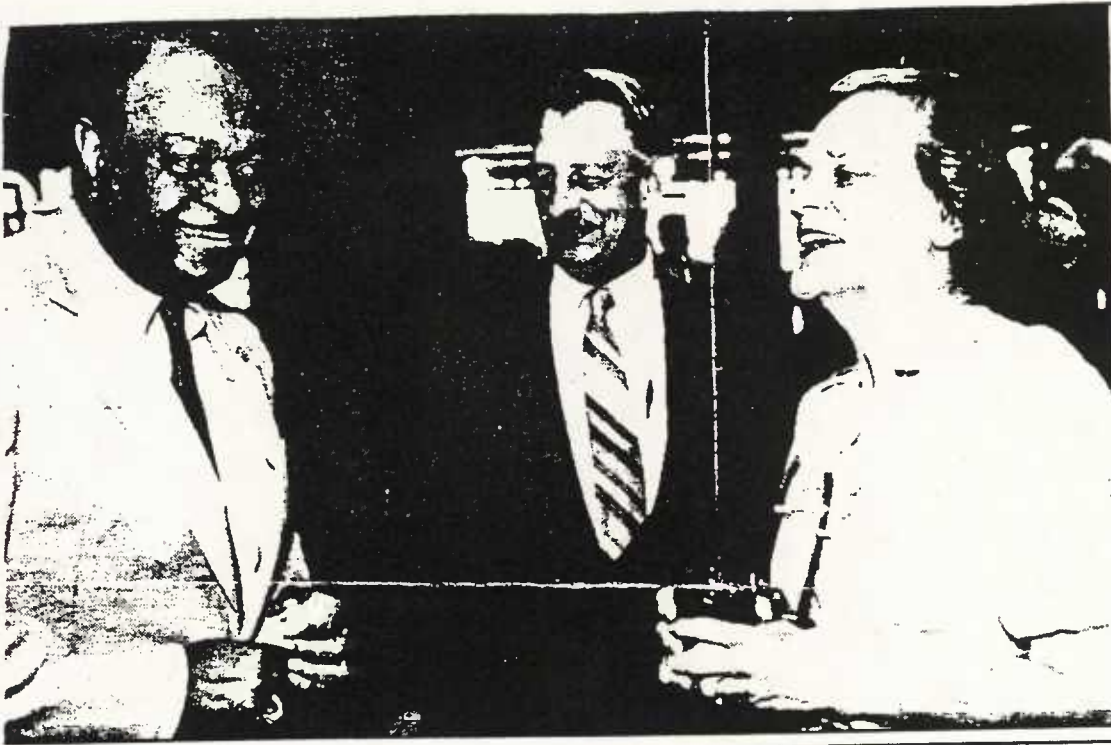


Estimates of the crowd attending Saturday's Mass March and rally range from over a million to 250,000. Mount students were seated near the tree in the background and could only see the outline of the stage from where this picture was taken.



Four and one half miles is one hell of a walk, and at 3:00 A.M. yet!...

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM COOLBES



Greene tribute

Carroll Greene Jr., left, who will retire June 30 as curator of the Banneker-Douglass Museum and as executive director of the Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture, is greeted at the recent Tribute to Green by Louis and Sadie Harlan. Harlan, professor of history at the University of Maryland at College Park, is a Pulitzer Prize winner for his second volume of the biography of Booker T. Washington. He is also a former member of the commission. More than 250 persons saluted Greene for his role in restoring the abandoned Mt. Moriah A.M.E. Church into a museum of Afro-American culture and history.

Black leader deserves tribute

EDITORIAL. THE CAPITAL, ANNAPOLIS, MD. 5-23-86

FOURTEEN YEARS ago Carroll Greene Jr. stepped forth to lead an Annapolis' movement: Rescuing Mt. Moriah AME Church from demolition.

Greene and his supporters never relented in their struggle to save and rebuild the century-old church. Two years ago it reopened as the Banneker-Douglass Museum, a cultural and historic center focusing on the lives and contributions made by black Marylanders. With Greene as curator, the museum and its variety of exhibits have established a reputation as a "must see" place among Annapolitans and visitors.

Saturday night, many of the people who helped make this possible will join other community residents at the Annapolis Hotel to pay tribute to Greene. He is relinquishing his dual posts of museum curator and executive director of the Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture. He plans to pursue writing, research, lecturing and other pursuits.

Greene, who was studying at the Smithsonian Institution when he first came to Annapolis, is a nationally recognized authority on minority artists. We were fortunate that he committed his talent and energy to benefit our community. We hope to see his continued influence here.

The greatest tribute to Carroll Greene Jr. stands on Franklin Street, and the best way we can show our appreciation to him is to visit and support the museum.

AROUND TOWN



TO LECTURE: Carroll Greene Jr. speaks Tuesday at 8 p.m. at the King-Tisdell Museum's Beach Institute cultural center

African-American art scholar **Carroll Greene Jr.** will give a free lecture entitled "**Despite the Odds: Five African-American Artists of the 19th Century**" at 8 p.m. Tuesday at the King-Tisdell Museum's Beach Institute cultural center, corner of Price and E. Harris streets. Greene is a Smithsonian Institute-trained curator who serves as historian of the Barnett-Aden Collection of African-American Art in Tampa, Fla. He will discuss the

work of Henry Ossawa Tanner, Joshua Johnson and other blacks who pursued careers in the fine arts despite being largely unwelcome in their field. The talk, part of the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences' 1990-'91 lecture series on art by African-Americans, is sponsored by the City of Savannah and the Savannah Arts Commission. Info: 232-1177.

Rockville Girl Runs Own Beauty Business



Maxine's Beauty Shop line-up includes, from left: Linda Leigh, Fleming, 19, Francine Johnson, 22; Maxine Jones, 24, owner, and Sandra Summerour, 20. Missing is a fourth operator, Diane Duvall, 19. Sentinel Photo by Andrew Schneider.

Thompson honor overdue

(Continued from Page C-1)

who flew a lot then but hates to fly now. "It seemed like every other week we were going somewhere. When we weren't going places, we were begging for money. I was living out of a suitcase.

"But it was fun. Big people watched out for me, and made sure I did the right things. I always had to practice a lot. I was one of those athletes who had to mentally prepare, and it took me awhile."

Her biggest disappointment came in 1964 at the Olympic Trials in New York. She was running a tight second throughout the race, but hit the final hurdle, staggered and came in fourth."

"Her heel just caught the wood and shattered it," said Griffin. "The third-place girl caught her and only the top three went."

"It was a disappointment, but not devastating," said Mrs. Thompson, who was an alternate on the team, but did not go to the Olympics. "I was happy just to get that far."

The next year she received aid to run track at Tennessee State. In those days there was no women's

NCAA college track, but she continued to run in AAU meets. Griffin remembers one international meet in Poland where he was the coach and she was on the team.

"We had to finish one-two in the hurdles for the U.S. to win its first women's international meet ever," said Griffin. "The Polish runner was an Olympian, but the one U.S. girl finished first and Tammy second and we won the meet, 59-57."

Then after three years at Tennessee State, Thompson decided to retire from track. "It was in 1967 and I thought it over carefully," she said. "I was burned out."

She has never run again although she did help her friend Debbie start a track club in Frederick a few years ago. Her 16-year-old daughter Kristine did throw the shot put at TJ, but only because her cousin was on the track team and got her interested in it. For Mrs. Thompson, running track was just a good, but distant memory.

"It was like a dream world," Thompson said about her running. "It just blossomed so fast and got much bigger than anyone thought it would, even Mr. Griffin."

School

(Continued from page A-1)
Valley. Once the high school is up, it will be another cluster," Sullivan said. "Anytime you have a new school built, it's exciting."

According to the school master plan, the school board is scheduled to determine the site for the high school this summer. In the fall, an educational specifications advisory committee is scheduled to approve requirements for the high school.

When the students of Sally Ride Elementary School move to their permanent home in the fall of 1994, the school where they now attend classes will become a

middle school. The Seneca Valley High School Cluster then will be reorganized to kindergarten through fifth-grade in the elementary schools and grades six through eight in middle schools.

In the winter of 1994-95, the school board will determine student assignments for all grades in the new northwest high school cluster. The school is scheduled to open in the fall of 1997.

"The population we have at the elementary school level is moving up and it's going to be crowded," Sullivan said. "When the new high school opens, you'll have less students per teacher. You'll have a brand new school with all new equipment."

In 1992, Quince Orchard High School had 1,978 students with

enrollment expected to rise to 2,309 students in 1998. It has a capacity of 1,875 and is already above that limit.

Seneca Valley High School had approximately 1,382 students in 1992 with enrollment expected to rise to 2,093 by 1998. It has a capacity of 1,615 students.

According to the master plan, the new school will have a capacity of 1,215 students and will draw 478 students from Quince Orchard and 72 students from Seneca Valley its first year.

The County Council appropriated \$600,000 this fiscal year for architectural designs of the school.

The county will pursue payment by the state for any eligible costs.

Church

(Continued from page A-3)
school sit unobtrusively beside Darnestown Road, just east of Quince Orchard Road near the Christian Life Center. It was in 1868 that three area landowners bought the 3-acre site for \$54 in order to establish a Methodist Episcopal church, Green said.

The church was built in 1888, serving a predominantly black congregation. The school did not come until later, however.

“When you walk into the front door, you will walk into the 1900s.”

Vernon Green

Originally the school building was located across the street from the church, on the site now known as Kentlands. It was a school for white children, who got a new building in 1902. Rather than destroy the old school, the Montgomery County Board of Commissions donated it to the Pleasant View parish. The building was moved to the spot it now occupies, about 30 yards from the chapel, and the congregation began holding school there.

The church was rebuilt in 1914, due to the deterioration of the original structure, Green said. Along with the schoolhouse renovations, the snake-infested bell tower of the chapel will also be repaired, he said.

The church is no longer used by the original Pleasant View congregation. The parish, along with two nearby congregations, Hunting Hill and McDonald Chapel, transferred its membership to Fairhaven Methodist Church in 1968, Green said. Dwindling membership of each of the parishes forced them to ban together for economic survival.

But unlike the other two congregations, Pleasant View did not sell its site for money to build Fairhaven, which is on Darnestown Road.

A stipulation in the deed for the land stated that it must be

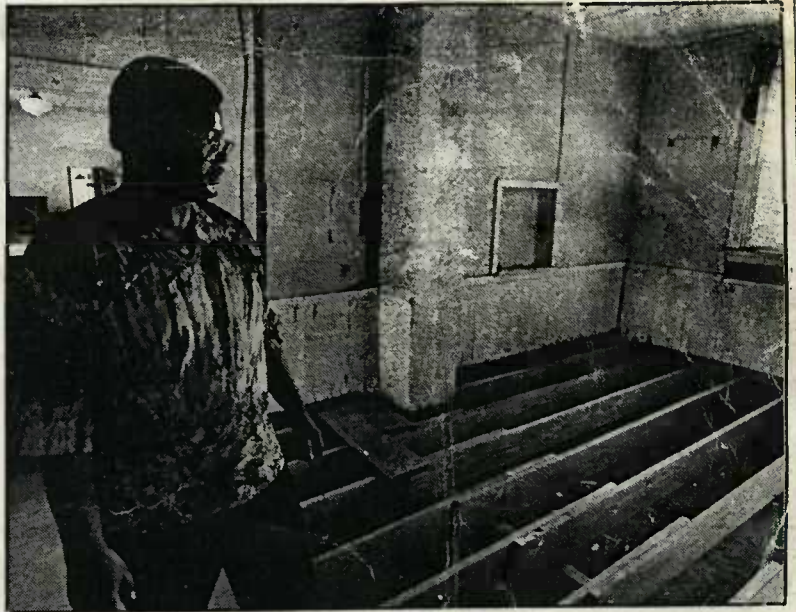


Photo by Dan Gross

Vernon Green walks through the old Pleasant View school in North Potomac, which is being restored to its early 19th-century appearance.

maintained as a site for Methodist Episcopal services, Green said. In exchange for monthly donations, the trustees have allowed different parishes to use the chapel and school, both now being used by the Mount of Olives congregation, Green said.

Through fundraisers, the Pleasant View Historical Associ-

ation generated money for the renovations. This organization was created in 1982 by the trustees of the site, many of whom are descendants of the original members of the church.

In 1985, Green said, the site was added to the county master plan by the county's Historic Preservation Commission.

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School moves ahead after name decision

by R.A. Richina
Staff Writer

When School Board members unanimously agreed Quince Orchard should be the name of the upcounty's newest high school, there was a sigh of relief from Principal Thomas Warren.

"I am delighted with the decision, and I think the community will accept it," Warren said after the vote last week, noting he can now purchase stationery and order sports uniforms for the new school.

The board's action settles the matter that has been under consideration for more than a month and brings to a close a chapter in the new school's history—a chapter that all sides agree was less controversial than portrayed.

The decision to name the school was postponed in early October after the board rejected the first choice of the students who will attend the school—Potomac Valley—as inappropriate for the new school. At the time, the board requested that a steering committee of parents return with new names for the board's consideration.

However, area students and community residents, who were separately canvassed during the interim by committee officials, returned the name Potomac Valley as their preference, despite the board's objections. Quince Orchard High School was the second choice of both groups.

Polling figures provided by school officials showed Potomac Valley continued to be the overwhelming choice of the students, while community residents were more evenly divided in their preference.

Of the 885 students who cast a ballot, 583 selected Potomac Valley High School. Quince Orchard High School received 128 votes, according to figures. Of the 295 residents casting votes, 104 supported Potomac Valley, while 95 chose Quince Orchard.

"Some students might be disappointed, but they understood that the School Board had the final decision," Warren said.

The new 1,700-student facility will open next fall at the corner of Quince Orchard and Darnestown roads to relieve overcrowded conditions at Seneca Valley High School in Germantown and at Wootton High School in Rockville.

Students from these schools as well as Ridgeview Junior High School and Frost Intermediate were polled for their preference.

What to name the facility became the focal point of controversy after neighboring residents petitioned the School Board to reject the name Potomac Valley. The residents said that the name Potomac Valley bore no relationship to the region of the county where the school is located and served only to promote commercial interest in the area.

During debate over the matter last week, board members argued along similar lines, noting that Quince Orchard more appropriately designates the geographic area where the school is located.

"I have a real problem with using the name of a community school to support a shopping center and a chain of banks," said board member Sharon DiFonzo.

Leaders of a parent steering committee, which was established to aid preparations for opening the new school, also welcomed the decision.

William Chen, who chairs the panel, noted that the steering committee had remained neutral on the issue of the name and had no objections to the board's decision.

"The only regret is that I think the board did not give full weight to the merits of the position of the students," said Chen, noting that students feared

the potential negative epithets associated with the name Quince Orchard.

Parents as well as school officials are looking forward to moving on in their preparations for opening the new school, including the creation of a full-fledged PTSA for the school.

Executive officers of the PTSA will be selected at the next community meeting scheduled in January. The next steering committee meeting will take place on Dec. 14 at Ridgeview Junior High School at 7:30 p.m.



Rudolph?

Reindeer look-alike Ryan Poticny patiently waits his turn to see Santa Claus at Lakeforest Mall on Friday, the official kickoff for the holiday shopping season.



Finishing touches

Artist Dean Wroth continues her work on a five-panel mural depicting the history and highlights of the county fair. The

mural is on the side of a Gaithersburg store at the fair's Chestnut Street entrance. (See story on page 39.)

Photo by Van Ly

Md. Restaurant Accused Of Racial Discrimination

Blacks Allegedly Told to Switch Tables

By Eugene L. Meyer
Washington Post Staff Writer

About 20 demonstrators picketed the Bethesda Crab House yesterday over what they said was the discriminatory treatment Saturday night of three black patrons.

The three women, joined at the demonstration by two Maryland state legislators and members of the Montgomery County chapter of the NAACP, said they were told to give up their table to a larger party of white people after the three had been seated and served drinks.

"It is unbelievable what happened, in this day and age," said Gwen Kimbrough, of Chevy Chase, who said her party of three had waited its turn for a table and was dismayed by a request to stand while the next group was seated.

Henry Vechery, owner of the restaurant at 4958 Bethesda Ave., said that patrons often are shifted to other tables to accommodate all diners. "I've been treating people the same way for 33 years," he said.

"They have all their marches and get bent out of shape; people over-react," Vechery said as demonstrators chanted, "No justice, no peace. Don't spend your money where you can't eat."

Earlier this year, an incident of alleged discrimination made national headlines after six black Secret Service agents said they were left waiting for service at a Denny's

Restaurant in Annapolis while white Secret Service officers seated at the same time were served. The black agents filed a federal civil rights suit, and the Denny's manager was fired.

In the case of the Bethesda Crab House, the African American women and the restaurant offered sharply different versions of what happened.

Kimbrough, who owns a health fitness facility next to Union Station, said she and her companions went to the restaurant after attending Saturday's civil rights anniversary march in downtown Washington.

With her were Marjorie Jenkins, her administrative assistant, and Josie Bass, a former official of the Prince George's County NAACP.

The women said they seated themselves at a long outdoor table that was half-unoccupied, were asked to get up while the table was cleaned, then were told to be seated, and ordered and were served soft drinks. They said they were about to order their food when two white women waiting in line told the waiter, "Move those black women. We got six [in our party]. We want to sit there."

"The waiter came over and said, 'You got to get up and move,'" said Bass, who said she then asked how he was going to seat the party of six

See PROTEST, D7, Col. 1

Crab House Incident Protested

PROTEST, From D1

when two other patrons were still eating at the table.

"He said, 'I don't care. Get the hell up,'" Bass said. "He said, 'You can sit there all night; nobody's going to serve you. We don't need your business and we don't want it.'"

Bass said she told the waiter he was in violation of civil rights laws "for which I demonstrated as a kid. . . . He said, 'I don't care about that. I don't care if you're some big-time black. I don't have to serve you.'"

Brian Thompson, the waiter, said he asked the women "three times politely" to move. "I said, 'I'm not trying to be disrespectful, but either move, or I can't serve you.'"

Thompson said that when one woman "pulled out her NAACP card, I said, 'Quite frankly, I'm not impressed. . . . You can sit here all night. I won't serve you.'"

"I did lose my cool a little bit, but I never said anything racial," Thompson said. "The only ones who made it racial was them. I said, 'Ma'am, I don't know what the hell you're talking about.'"

At this point, Bass said, the owner came outside and offered the wo-

men free drinks if they would wait for another table. "I said, 'We're three tired black women, and maybe we're the Rosa Parks of Montgomery County,'" a reference to the woman who initiated the 1955 bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., to protest segregation.

"The white people instigated this," Vechery said of the group waiting for a table. "They said, 'Move these black people.'"

Vechery said he eventually offered to return the women to their original table. He said the women demanded a free meal. But the women said he offered them free crabs, which they refused.

"I told him I could afford to buy my own crabs," Kimbrough said. "The issue was not free food. I can afford to buy my food and drink. The issue was, we followed all his rules and we were denied service unless we gave our seats to someone in line behind us. It's embarrassing. It's disappointing.

"You would think now, in metropolitan D.C., the nation's capital, and in Bethesda, Maryland, something like that could not happen," she added. "It's even more ironic on the day celebrating the 30th anniversary of the March on Washington."

Bass said waiters and other patrons jeered at them as they left the restaurant, with "hatred in their eyes worse than anything I saw in Alabama."

Gregory Mims, president of the Montgomery County NAACP, met with the owner and the waiter involved during the demonstration yesterday. "We're going to try and work it out," Mims said. "We're going to try to negotiate."

REGIONAL

Vance back to work after auto accident

Superintendent blacked out at wheel

by **Judith Splan Deutsch**
Staff Writer

Schools Superintendent Paul L. Vance was back to work this week after he reportedly blacked out last Thursday while driving east on Middlebrook Road in Germantown.

"He's fine as a fiddle," schools spokesman Brian Porter said of Vance, who returned to work Monday after sustaining minor injuries in the one-car accident.

According to county police, Vance's 1993 Ford Taurus veered off Middlebrook Road at 11:20 a.m., June 29, jumping over two curbs before hitting another car parked in a lot at Seneca Valley High School.

Vance "said he had lost consciousness which caused him to lose control of the vehicle," according to a report filed by county police Cpl. Rick Gibbons.

In a telephone interview Friday from Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Vance said he never lost consciousness.

"That's part of the puzzle," Vance said. "I was driving along. I felt nauseous and I felt light-headed. I was not in control of the car, but I was aware of what was going on. I turned into the parking lot at Seneca Valley High and ended up down by the tennis courts."

Gibbons, who happened to be driving behind Vance at the time of the accident, stopped and administered first aid until an ambulance arrived, said Ann Evans, a county police spokeswoman.

"He was disoriented when [Gibbons] found him," Evans said. The accident occurred about two miles from Vance's home at 20625 Hazelnut Court in Germantown.

Evans said Vance was wearing



Paul L. Vance

a seat belt.

Vance said the air bag that opened on impact caused his only injury. "I got surface burns on my chin," he said.

Vance's car hit a 1987 Chrysler LeBaron owned by Jeffrey Ermann.

Ermann, 17, who graduated in June from Montgomery Blair

High School near Silver Spring, said he had parked his car at Seneca Valley while working there at a baseball camp for young children.

"I saw the ambulances and I was shocked to find out it was my car," Ermann said. "It was smashed in the back and it was facing crossways from how I parked it. One wheel was on the curb. They had to tow it."

Vance was taken by ambulance to Shady Grove Hospital in Gaithersburg, where he was initially checked by doctors, and then transferred for an overnight stay at Holy Cross, where doctors affiliated with his health plan practice.

"I keep telling them I'm OK, I'm fine," Vance said late Friday morning from Holy Cross. "I want to go home. I've got a school system to manage."

Vance was released from the hospital late Friday.

Vance pointed out that when the accident occurred he was re-

turning from his annual checkup at Kaiser Permanente in Gaithersburg.

Vance said doctors think he might have been light-headed after not eating anything, since 7 Thursday night in preparation for the checkup.

Vance, 64, who is starting his second four-year-term as superintendent, said he is in good health and has had no previous conditions that would lead to this kind of episode.

Vance said all the medical tests have been negative: "I had every test known to medicine. They don't want to take any chances. They've taken blood samples, wired me up and tested me."

"What frightens me is that the doctors just don't know [what caused this]. I'm going to church on Sunday and pray that this is just a one-time thing."

Staff writer Lisa Curtis also contributed to this story.

Poplar Grove Baptist Church to honor 80-year-old pastor

County Council President Isiah Leggett is one of the invited dignitaries to be on hand at this Saturday's dinner honoring 80-year-old Rev. James E. Prather, the pastor of Poplar Grove Baptist Church in Darnestown for over 30 years.

The dinner is sponsored by the Emory Grove Youth Club and will be held at the Upper County Community Center on 8201 Emory Grove Road. Tickets are \$9 with a \$2 discount for seniors. Call 963-0179 for more information.



City Talk

By Sara Green

Preschool Programs A Priority, Librarian Says

The Gaithersburg Regional Library is asking its young patrons and their families for patience and understanding.

The problem, explains Tippie Goodson, the head of the library's children's services, is that limited slots for popular story hours for two to five-year-olds fill up so fast that some youngsters are often disappointed and frustrated. If you've been shut out of a program, call again at 840-2515 and try to do it at the beginning of each registration period, Goodson says.

Goodson's staff holds three back-to-back sessions for a total of 45 two-year-olds on the third Wednesday of the month. Registration opens the first Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m.

And, there are seven sessions for 3-to-5-year-olds on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month and on the second Thursday evening of the month. Call on the second and fourth Wednesday, again at 9 a.m., to reserve, she says.

Goodson admits that 45 slots in the 2-year-old category "is a drop in the bucket" for a community the size of the Gaithersburg area.

But, in view of the county's current budget restrictions, expansion is impossible. "We cannot have more programs or we would have more programs," says the librarian.

In any case, preschool programs are a "first priority" and will be the last items cut, Goodson said.

City Has Own Preschool Programs

Preschool parents shouldn't overlook programs offered by the City's Department of Parks and Recreation, including art and cooking classes and Mothers' Morning Out.

Call 258-6350 for information. The next Creative Tot Time session begins in January but parents should call now to reserve space. Fees range from \$208 to \$349, depending on the child's age and residency.

The "Cat Of The Year" Could Be Here

If your little darling is fur-covered and hasn't garnered his or her fair share of recognition, consider Tender Loving Cat Care, Inc.'s "Cat of the Year" Contest. The Gaithersburg pet-sitting firm is looking for the cat "that best represents the adored and pampered feline population of Montgomery and Frederick Counties," says a company press release. There's no big prize, just glory, the press release states. Photo entries and a \$1 entry fee will be accepted until Dec. 31 and winners will be featured in the company's upcoming calendar. Call 258-7745.

St. Martin's To Get Turkeys

Sir Speedy Printing, Inc. will donate turkeys to St. Martin's Catholic Church for distribution to area needy families this Thanksgiving. The Gaithersburg business will give one turkey to the church for every printing order of \$100 or more, and those who buy \$200 worth of printing will get a bird for their own family, says Lynn Roush, an employee. Just bring in the newspaper coupon to the firm's Frederick Road or Shady Grove Road stores by Nov. 15, he says. For more information, call 963-1400.