Baltimore Afro American

24 DECEMBER 14, 1974 This is our 83rd Year

FAREWELL TO THE CHILDREN—Retiring crossing guard, Mrs. Bernice White, in upper right, says her farewell to the children of Samuel Coleridge Taylor Elementary School, by helping one last group cross the street. The pre-kindergarten group and others like them are going to miss Mrs. White, who for 20 years, was not only a crossing guard but a "second mother." (Photo by AFRO Staffer Angela Chatman)

Mrs. Bernice White, 55, retires after 20 years as crossing guard

Mrs. Bernice White, 55, a crossing guard is retiring after 20 years of service.

Ill health and a series of personal tragedies have combined to make it necessary for her to leave her beloved profession.

In addition to back problems and a nervous condition, Mrs. White suffered the loss of a son, two nephews and a brother in the space of a year and a half. Out of a family of 16 children, of which Mrs. White was a member, only three remain.

Her husband, George, died several years ago.

Mrs. White regrets having to leave the service. Of her job, she said, "I love children and one of the incidents that I can never forget ... was when a little girl named Maria asked her grandmother if she could light a candle for me because my son had died."

Over the years, Mrs. White has made many friends like little Maria. She remembers having Christmas dinners for children at her home.

"I was like a second mother to the kids at school." She remembers taking the kids on excursions. "I've gotten a lot of experience working with children and I love them."

MEMBER OF AN UNUSUAL FAMILY

Miss de Ford to receive Ph D degree, teaches at Claremont Collage, Calif.

A young woman who was voted at Douglass High School some years ago as the student most likely to succeed, is now studying on a Ph-D degree at Claremont College graduate school in California.

She is Miss Cecile de Ford also a teacher at the college and member of a well-known old Baltimore family. Miss de Ford's study is in the field of education and under recommendation of the faculty for full graduate standing.

She was graduated this past June mum laude from Harvard University with a master's degree in education.

A brilliant student, she speaks 68 languages and received a bachelors degree in fine arts from Pomona College, Calif. and studied painting at the Academie Julian in Paris, France.

She once did substitute work at Baltimore's Calverton Junior High School.

After work with an architect-planner in Paris, she went with an advertising firm in Copenhagen, Denmark. Later she was a teachers' assistant under Dr. Martin Deutch at New York University.

Miss de Ford is daughter of Mrs. Rachael de Ford widely known civic worker and Sidney de Ford Jr., a Naval Reserve officer and Post Office employee of 20 years service.

Mrs. de Ford was a candidate for a City Council seat in 1964.

Mrs. deFord's brothers are Sidney III, with a Federal law enforcement agency; Louis, a Community College of Baltimore student and drummer who has a contract to appear on TV's Wide World in January. Herbert, the youngest, a pupil at Coleman Elementary No. 142, will accompany Miss de Ford on her European tour in the spring.

Her maternal side of the unusual family has famed baseball star Al Bumbry and noted opera star Grace Bumbry.

Grandmother is Mrs. Lucy Bumbry Thomas, daughter of the late Colonel Nelson Pryor who is buried in the grave next to U.S. Pres. John F. Kennedy in Arlington Cemetery. Mrs. Thomas resides in Pimlico.

Another grandmother, Mrs. Mary Brown de Ford, is widow of Sidney de Ford Sr. Uncles are George de Ford, supervisor at Westinghouse in Baltimore, and Capt. Franklin de Ford an administrator at the Pentagon in Washington.

Miss Cecile de Ford

NEEDS A HOME—Tim, a personable youth of 13, needs foster parents who can open their hearts and home to him. Now residing in an institution because he has nowhere to go, Tim is a nice boy with boyish ambition. He loves the outdoor. He is well-built for his age. This is a season of giving and sharing. You can give Timmy something to be thankful for by sharing your homes and lifestyle with him. Call 685-8221.

Sen. Beall calls for probe into Dulles crash

Stating that there are many unanswered questions surrounding the recent tragic airline crash near Dulles Airport, J. Glenn Beall, Jr. (R.-Md.) has called for a Commerce Committee investigation of the disaster.

In a letter to Commerce Committee Chairman Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, Beall says that the hearings should be held at the earliest possible date to clear up numerous issues raised by the accident.

Ninety-two persons died in the incident on Dec. 1, when TWA Flight 514 from Indianapolis, Indiana and Columbus, Ohio was diverted to Dulles Airport from National Airport because of extremely high winds and adverse weather conditions. The airplane crashed into the side of a mountain in Loudoun County, Va.

Former army guards to meet

Former members of the First Separate Company,229th Supply and Transport Battalion; 231st Transportation of the Maryland Army National Guard, will hold a reunion Jan. 4, 1975. For further information call Sgt. Clinton Nichols, 566-2170 and Sgt. Lloyd R. Scott, 233-8290.

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4 women's groups charge sex bias in Baltimore County school hiring

Four women's organizations have filed a complaint with the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare charging the Baltimore County schools with sex discrimination in hiring and promotion at five levels.

According to Elaine F. Solez, spokesperson for the Baltimore chapter of the National Organization for Women, "Education employs more women than men, yet women are concentrated at the lower ranks of the profession. In Baltimore County, no top administrators are women and few principals are women, yet 63 per cent of all the teachers are women."

The four groups are Baltimore NOW, the Maryland Commission on the Status of Women, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and the Women's Law Center.

The group accused the Baltimore County Board of Education in a letter dated Dec. 6 of violating both Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments.

Text of the letter to Dewey Dodds, director of the Office of Civil Rights for HEW in Philadelphia states,

"HEW's recent investigation of the Baltimore County Board of Education concerning race discrimination in hiring and promotion and the subsequent plans to remedy the situation prompt us to point out that the Baltimore County Board of Education also discriminates against women in hiring and promotion, particularly at the upper administrative levels.

"This discrimination is a direct violation of both Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments.

"Education is a field that employs more women than men, yet women are concentrated in the lower ranks of the profession. 1972 statistics show that 63 per cent of the teachers in Baltimore County are women, but there are no women in the position of superintendent, associate superintendent, assistant superintendent or director. The highest women in the administration are administrative assistants and coordinators.

"In the secondary schools, 5 per cent of the high school principals are women, 2.5 per cent of the high school assistant principals are women, 9 per cent of the junior high principals are women and 4 per cent of the junior high assistant principals are women, yet 40 per cent of the secondary teachers are women.

"In the elementary schools, 80 per cent of the teachers are women, but only 20 per cent of the elementary school principals and 37 per cent of the assistant principals are women.

"We spot checked 1974 employment data and found no significant change in this pattern of discrimination. We, therefore, wish to lodge a formal complaint with HEW and request that the Board of Education of Baltimore County be required to implement an affirmative action plan to improve its hiring and promotion of women in administrative positions."

Signatories are Ms. Solez for Baltimore NOW; Dorothy T. Samuel for WILPF; Lucille Gorham for the Commission on Women and Ann Hoffman for the Women's Law Center.

The same coalition was successful this year in persuading the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners to open all courses at the Polytechnic Institute to students of both sexes.

Mayor Schaefer urges Ford to halt food stamps cost raise

Mayor William Donald Schaefer, in a release issued Tuesday morning, announced that he wrote a letter urging President Gerald R. Ford "to immediately reconsider and rescind the President's proposal to increase the cost of food stamps."

In his letter, the mayor stated that the President's plan would "hurt most of those members of our society who are least able to afford it — poor families and low income elderly.

"Such action would have a particularly negative impact in Baltimore and other central cities which have large concentrations of low income families and individuals."

The Ford plan, which would take effect March 1, 1975, would require that food stamp applicants use up to "an average of 30 per cent of their net incomes" to pay for stamps.

The current program, which enables a person to buy stamps on a scale according to income and household size would be modified in such a way that would be detrimental to the poorer people who cannot afford to spend 30 per cent of their incomes on stamps.

The mayor also stated, "It is my firm opinion, this is the last program that should be cut as a means of achieving a reduction in federal spending. To the contrary, during these times of increasing inflation and rising unemployment, it would be more appropriate to broaden the eligibility for and reduce the costs of food stamps."

He concluded his letter by saying, "While I recognize the need to reduce federal spending, I suggest that cuts be made in the areas which will not have such an immediate and devastating impact on so many who have so little with which to resist the continuing erosion of their already marginal quality of life."

The mayor is not alone in his plea to the President.

At Monday night's City Council meeting, Councilwoman Mrs. Victorine Adams, (D), 4th District, attacked the President for feeling that people should pay more for food stamps. "It is my contention," she said, "that the raise in cost of food stamps should not happen."

Carrolls sets Yule benefit dance Dec. 20

The Carrolls Insurance Agency will hold its second annual charity Christmas cabaret from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 20 at the Maritime Union Hall in the unit block N. Broadway.

The proceeds will benefit the less fortunate during the upcoming holiday season.

According to Miss Margi Reyes, agency secretary, no money will be accepted. Instead participants are required to donate large cans or boxes of food like corn, yarms, canned ham, instant potatoes, peas, macaroni.

Donors may exchange the food with tickets for the dance at the Insurance Agency office located at 2119 North Charles St. Donors may mail a self-addressed stamped envelope and the tickets will be mailed to them, Miss Reyes stated.

Christian Citizens cite Rev. Melvin Swann

The Rev. Melvin Chester Swann Sr. was posthumously awarded the citation of "Christian Citizen of the Year" at the annual dinner meeting of United Christian Citizens, Inc. held at the Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church at 4605 Belair Rd., Dec. 5.

Accepting the award was the son of the slain pastor and community leader, Melvin Chester Swann Jr. Also present were representatives of the Waters AME Church of which the Rev. Mr. Swann was pastor.

Also receiving an award was Methodist layman Harold W. Warrington, church leader and very active in community affairs.

United Christian Citizens, Inc. is an ecumenical, interracial organization of church people who believe that they should be involved in the political process by recommending candidates and coming out for legislation in keeping with the principles of the Judeo-Christian ethic.

Rev. Melvin Swann

Rite held for man slain over record

Funeral services were held Saturday at Highway Church of Christ for Clarence Witherspoon Jr., 21. He is buried in Mt. Auburn Cemetery.

Mr. Witherspoon was killed Dec. 2 when he became involved in an argument with a man over the record, "I Shot the Sheriff."

His father, Clarence Witherspoon Sr., was shot in the chest and remains in South Baltimore General Hospital in satisfactory condition.

Mr. Witherspoon of 1000 block Orleans St. is survived by his wife, Mrs. L'Tanya Stern Witherspoon; a daughter, Miss Keisha Witherspoon; five brothers, Melvin, Calvin, Randolph, Leon and Claude; three sisters, Misses Loretta, Anette and Jeanette Witherspoon.

Women in art course

"Up the Down Stereo type, a course treating women in contemporary art, will be offered by the art department of Towson State College during the 1975 minimester, Jan. 3-30.

The three credit offering will explore the position of women in the ars, as well as, explore their ideas and works. The course will consist of seminars and lectures by both area and New York artists, tours of local artists studios, films and slides.

The registration fee is $10 and the cost r credit is $25. For further information, contact Ms. Frances Miner, Evening and Summer Office, 823-7500, ext. 792.

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Sen. Beall calls for probe into Dulles crash

Reflections... lifestyles, fashion, women, food, youth, society, clubs

The Toomer twins say that Christmas is their favorite time of year. Here Donna, front, is wearing a plae pink polyester pantsuit with shirt jacket with a coordinated pink ribbed turtle knit sweater. Diana is in sky blue with contrasting multi-colored collar and cuffs. The 10-year-olds from Columbia are Pinnie Ross models. (Fashions from Lerner's, Columbia Mall.)

(Fashions from Lerner's, Columbia Mall)

Look-alikes are not lady-like

AFRO model of the week

By Benjamin M. Phillips

"A lot of our good friends say that after you get to know us, you can see the difference."

This is what Diana and Donna Toomer, identical tiwns, had to say about people getting them mixed up.

These two active and slender 10-year-olds are models of Pinnie's Charm Studio in Columbia. They are the youngest of the five children in the Clarence and Jean Toomer household.

On their views of modeling, Diana, one to two minutes older, explains that their mother started them at the studio. They have no regrets even though they do not particularly like to be lady-like at this time, at least they know how to.

Donna added that they learn such valuable things as good posture, good habits as far as grooming, and how to manicure their nails just to name a few.

What do they think of while modeling different outfits in fashion shows? Diana says that most of the time she listens to the lady who is describing the clothes. They both admit that they get a little excited and think about who is in the audience or what they have to do later on in the day.

Most imoortant, they think about what Pinnie Ross, directress and owner of the charm school, taught them. As Donna says, "I don't think about giving anyone an impression. I just like them to be happy."

Share shows

These identical twins are not always seen on the runway at the same time. They often do separate fashion shows. They believe in sharing engagements.

Modeling is not their only interest. They both like to play sports and watch TV.

Born in Nuremburg, Germany in 1964 under the sign of Gemini, they consider themselves pretty lucky. "We are lucky because we always have a playmate."

In some ways, they are alike and in others they are completely individualistic. They are alike in that they both do not like to wear dresses. "We like to wear jeans and T-shirts because they are more comfortable — our mother understands and we hardly ever wear dresses."

They are also alike in the fact that they like to have slumber parties. Their favorite singing group is the Jackson 5.

Sometimes they go off to themselves. They both think for themselves and are not dependent upon each other.

Their feelings

They feel that people are getting careless with what they are doing, especially in the field of air pollution. If the twins were in charge of this country, "we would put some clamps on pollution."

They would show the world the starving people in Africa and get them "to start to help." Also, they would show what the world looked like before it had all these additives.

Fifth graders at Longfellow Elementary in Columbia, the girls do projects related to these fields. Donna and a friend are doing a project on pollution. Diana points out that they are reading a book in class called The Only Earth We Have.

Like Christmas

Christmas is their favorite time of year because of the school vacation and the jolly spirit during the season. They believe in the Christmas spirit and like singing carols.

They believe that a person should always smile, and always be sure of himself.

Most important, he should enjoy life and be happy.

HOW TO MAKE A TERRARIUM

Make up to 10 Christmas gifts for under $20

Baltimore area florist, Carl Norwood, owner of Norwood Florists, showed the AFRO how to construct terrariums. This photo illustrates, STEP IV: Pour the colored sand in the bottom of the container sparingly, using paint brush, pencil or spoon to shape design. Carefully spread a layer of soil on top of sand making sure you don't cover edges. Continue this layer process until the soil and sand design reaches the midway point of container.

STEP V: Take a spoon and dig plant beds. Carefully place green plants inside beds and surround with soil. Sprinkle with a little water.

By Michele L. McRae
AFRO Staff Writer

Christmas, the time for giving, sharing and loving. But this year everyone is cutting down on lavish gift-giving.

Here's a money-saving gift idea: Make your own terrariums and give them away as Christmas gifts.

Green plants are used year round to give a special decor to offices and homes. They add a breath of fresh air to any setting.

For under $20 you can make six to ten terrariums, depending on sizes.

Here's how:

Step I: Purchase and-or collect six to ten medium size glass containers, such as brandy sniffers, fish bowls, candy dishes, and wide-mouth mayonnaise, pickle and jelly jars.

Step II: Buy a large bag of soil ($1.98); three large bags of different colored sand ($.99); and a small paint brush ($.39) and a variety of inexpensive green plants, such as, cactus, purple passion, ivy, geranium and jade. You'll also need a kitchen spoon and a pencil.

Step III: Prepare work area spreading old newspaper over table to collect all wasted soil or sand. Spread work materials out on side of table so they may be easily reached.

Decide which container to use and what color sands will best fit your design idea.

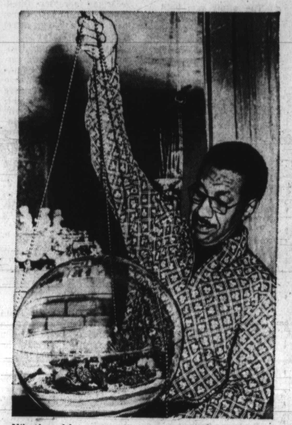
Step IV: Pour the colored sand in the bottom of the container sparingly, using a paint brush, pencil or spoon to shape design. Carefully spread a layer of soil on top of sand (making sure you don't cover edges).

Add your next color choice of sand around the edges still conforming to desired shape. Continue this layer process until the soil and sand design reaches the midway point of container.

Step V: Take a spoon and dig plant beds. Carefully place green plants inside beds and surround with soil. Sprinkle with little water.

Optional: You may sprinkle the colored sands on top of the final layer of soil.

Remember to water the plant with as little water as needed and only when soil is dry to touch. If glass container has a cover, watch for moisture to set in and remove cover. When moisture disappears, replace lid.



Whether big or small your finished product will look this lovely if you just follow the simple guidelines given in the story. Remember: It's easy, inexpensive. (AFRO Photos by Benjamin M. Phillips)

Community calendar

DEC. 13

Silhouettes Christmas Party; Kappa House, Liberty Heights Ave., 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Chi Psi Sigma Fraternity Benefit Cabaret; LeFontaine Bleu, 3120 Erdman Ave., 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Maryland Child Study Association, Druid Park West Branch, home of Brenda Wade, 4737 Bonnie Brae, speaker, Mrs. Doris Welcher, subject, "Testing and Informal Conseit."

Dec. 14

Provident Hospital Radiologists' cocktail party; Hollyday Room, Village of Cross Keys, 7:30 p.m.

DEC. 15

Woman's Assembly For Community Services, anniversary services, First Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 11 a.m.

Pimlico Community Parents, fashion show; Pimlico Elementary Auditorium, 4849 Pimlico Rd., 4-6 p.m.

DEC. 19

American Association of University Women's Christmas Program, 601 W. 40th St., 6:30 p.m.

DEC. 20

Alpha Wives, Third Annual Champagne Sip; Hollyday Room, Village of Cross Keys, Falls Rd., 8:30-11:30 p.m.

Carrolls Insurance Agency, Second Annual Charity Christmas Cabaret; Maritime Union Hall, 8 N. Broadway, 9-1 p.m.

DEC. 27

Chesapeake Club, Inc., Annual Buffet Dinner Party; 2216 Eutaw Place, 6 p.m.

DEC. 28

Continental's Dinner Dance; 6871 Dogwood Rd., 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

JAN. 1

New Year's Day Breakfast, sponsored by the Ladies Two; 2432 Shirley Ave., 2 a.m.-noon.

Me-De-So Deb Ball cancelled

By Marie P. Cooke
Reflections Editor

For the first time in its 28-year history, the Me-De-So Club will not sponsor the annual debutante ball.

The announcement came this week from Ball Chairman, Dr. Theodore Patterson.

"We ran into several problems, the place, the rising costs and several things that came up. The men voted that it was impossible to have it this year," Dr. Patterson told the AFRO.

For the past 28 years, the Me-De-So Debutante Presentation Ball has been considered the highlight of the spring social season.

The ball is usually held the week after Easter when the group of doctors and dentists, their wives and invited guests witness the presentation of first-year college students who have promise.

Traditionally, the new debutantes and their parents are introduced to members of the club at the annual Christmas tree trimming ceremony held during the Yule season.

Many of the young women are selected from the previous year's sub-debutantes, the young high school girls who served as attendants to the debutantes.

Last year 16 sub-debs participated in the ball, many of whom anticipated being selected as debs this year.

However, that is not the case.

Notices sent

Notices went out this week telling them that the cotillion is called off for 1975. "That's where it stands right now until we make some other decisions about 1976," says Dr. Patterson. "We haven't made any plans yet," he adds.

At this year's 1974 ball, held in April, some 16 college freshmen women were presented in the spacious ballroom of the Hilton Hotel. It was the first time the cotillion had been held at that site. In previous years guests witnessed the presentation at the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

Annually, following the formal presentation in the spring, the parents of the debutantes invite their sponsors, who are members of the group, and friends to a reception honoring their daughters. The receptions usually conclude the debutante season.

No substitute

At AFRO presstime, today, Friday, no decision had been made for a substitute affair.

"That's indefinite at the moment. We are still thinking about some kind of substitute affair, but that's still up in the air also. We probably won't know until the first of the year," Dr. Patterson says.

Dr. Edward Hunt is president of the group. Other members are Drs. Bruce Alleyne, Gilbert Banfield, M. L. Barksdale, John Braxton, William Beaman, C. R. Campbell;

Drs. John Camper, B. H. Christmas, B. N. Christmas, Earl Clay, Lionel Desbordes, Thomas Harris, John Holmes, I. B. Higgins, Albert Laforest;

Drs. Eugene Owens, Harold Ramsey, William B. Russell, Percival Smith, Charles Watts, William Watts, Basil Weaver, George Woodland and Henry Welcome.

Thank you department

E. Williams

Dear AFRO:

"I am glad that you gave me this opportunity to write about the happenings in Catonsville. I have received phone calls and have talked to folks wherever I go in the community, telling me how delighted they are with the column. They are saying, and I agree, that a lot of good things are going on in this community and they want people to know about it.

"This community has produced some fine leaders who are doing well throughout the country, city, state and country. There are many youngsters in this place who are doing well on all school levels and in many other areas.

"We thank you again for giving us a space in your paper. I have been very much encouraged by the reactions of people in this community.

Fondly,
ELIZABETH WILLIAMS
(Mrs. Williams writes "Catonsville Notes)

Send For Booklet

Send for your FREE copy of "So You've Been Elected Publicity Chairman," an easy-to-read booklet published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS. It tells how to write and submit news releases to the mass media. Write: Booklet, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203. Attn: Women's Dept.

On the inside...

AFRO readers exchange their favorite holiday receipes. Goodies likes Peacan Puffs, Macaroni and Ham Scallop and Egg Nog Cake ... they're all inside the Reflections section today.

Dr. Elijah Saunders, chief of cardiology at Provident Hospital was the guest speaker at a benefit fashion show-luncheon last Sunday ... the affair benefited his department ... see R.S.V.P.

Club news and more

The AFRO's newest columnist, Liz Williams tells about the fine things Grace AME Church has done and is still doing in the Catonsville area ... read Catonsville Notes ... inside this section.