I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal."

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. — 1929-1968.

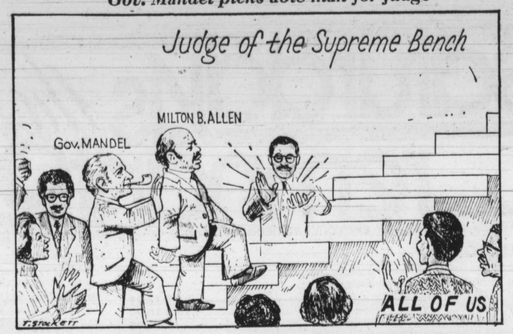
OPINION

Baltimore Afro-American

FOUNDED Aug. 13, 1892 by John H. Murphy Sr., 1840-1922. Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO - AMERICAN Co., of Baltimore City Inc.

May we let our light so shine that it will illuminate that which is good and beautiful and magnify our Father which is in Heaven.
CARL MURPHY (1889-1967)
Editor-Publisher (1922-1967)

Gov. Mandel picks able man for judge



A long way from 206 Kolker

Twenty seven years ago, Milton B. Allen, the third black student to enroll in the University of Maryland Law School, set up a law office on the second floor of the Kolker building, the corner of Aisquith and Gay Streets.

Associated with him were Robert R. Watts and W. Emerson Brown, who had already passed the bar. In that four-room area began a law firm which has continued to this day.

In 1949, two other Maryland University grads, Harry A. Cole and George Parish, joined the firm.

And in 1953 when they moved to 1520 E. Monument Street, Benjamin Brown, George L. Russell Jr. and the late George Rosedom became partners. The building they occupied was the old Dr. John Robinson offices.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Those were the days when the main thrust of black attorneys was handling civil rights cases, and aiding the Baltimore branch NAACP in its court fights for equal rights for all citizens.

They participated in the historic cases which led to opening of Baltimore city public parks and pools and had little pay for private cases because many of their clients were unable to pay.

We can recall long hours when these young lawyers, grateful for the NAACP fight to open the University of Maryland Law School for them, volunteered their time to help those in trouble.

This week, Gov. Marvin Mandel has named Milton B. Allen to sit on the Circuit Court of Baltimore City known as the Supreme Bench. He will be sworn in on February 6.

5 ON BENCH

His appointment brings to five the number of black judges on this 22-member bench.

It is significant to note that of the five, two were associated with the pioneer Allen law firm, Judge Harry A. Cole and Judge Robert B. Watts.

W. Emerson Brown is now a master examiner with the Circuit Court.

Still another member of that early firm, George L. Russell, Jr. formerly served on the bench but resigned to become city solicitor.

The present city solicitor, Benjamin L. Brown, was also a partner.

CREDIT TO MANDEL

We are happy that Gov. Mandel has listened to the black community, speaking through the new citizens' group, the Baltimore Metropolitan Committee, Inc. and the Legislative Black Caucus.

His elevation of Mr. Allen to a judgeship is a credit to his administration.

And Mr. Allen, of course, is eminently qualified to serve.

He has to his credit 28 years as a practicing attorney; 4 years as a prosecutor; and an enviable record as the first black elected state's attorney in this nation.

His administration of that office during his four years won national acclaim. The pity is that because of racism and voter apathy he was not re-elected last year.

However, he can perform even larger service presiding over courts of justice where a significant number of the clientele are poor and deserving of a fair hearing.

LANDMARK CASES

Not only is Mr. Allen, soon to be judge, a brilliant lawyer, he is also noted for his experience in administrative and constitutional law.

Until the law firm moved to downtown Baltimore offices in 1963, and expanded its services, he argued and won a dozen landmark civil rights decisions.

These included the case of Herbert Frisby vs. State of Maryland which maintained the right of black educators to secure higher education at state schools.

In Burrell vs. U.S., discriminatory employment practices in the Civil Service Commission were abolished.

The Evans vs. U.S. case overturned the Silver Platter Doctrine, a search and seizure question.

The Mary Malcon vs. State of Maryland case wiped out a law making it a crime for a white woman to become pregnant by a black man.

Belton vs. State of Maryland outlawed search and seizure.

Craig vs. State of Maryland, required proof in rape case.

Madeline Murphy vs. Supervisor of Elections, mandated the proper arrangements of names on ballots on election day.

CHURCHES, GYPSIES

It should be noted that even as late as 1969, another case, the Concord Baptist Church vs. Mayor and City Council, established the validity of special laws for churches in condemnation proceedings.

It gave them enough money to rebuild that church, rather than enough money to pay for the old church.

Pending today is another litigation questioning the Motor Vehicles Commission right to suspend drivers' licenses when they have not been convicted of any offense.

Also, a discriminatory law affecting Gypsies now required to pay 20 times more for their licenses than other vendors.

The public has benefited over the years from Milton Allen's efforts in the legal arena and we are positive that it will be so during his tenure as judge.

Gov. Mandel made a good appointment.

65 years ago

The following comments appeared on the editorial page of the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN year-end edition in 1910:

We are now standing in the closing hours of the Old Year with many memories crowding in upon us, while we look hopefully out into the New.

The Old Year with the seal upon the volume of recorded deeds of men and women, of races and nations, will soon be laid away much as the newspaper editor gathers his papers into a volume and files them away for future reference.

So the Old Year with its record of joys and sorrows is laid away in the archives of the past and the New Year is here, strong and hopeful to lead us into life's tangled maze.

To some of us the year has been a battle; to some of us a failure; to all of us it has been a struggle.

What we have written in the volume of 1909 is unalterably fixed and can never be changed.

Yea, what we have done will live on, for as Carlyle says, "God Himself cannot pell the deed that is done."

None of us has realized all our hopes and few are quite satisfied with the record.

But the New Year given by Providence brings us a new chance.

May each of us improve it.

AFRO and the police

A reader has chided us for our editorial position last week. He takes exception to our comment in "Disgraceful Spy Report," charging it appears we are defending the police Department and apparently have abandoned our campaign to urge more integration in the department.

Of course, this is not so. The AFRO posture on the spy report, we believe, is a responsible one. We will not retreat from our contention that the Senate Constitutional and Public Law Committee report offers no evidence to support its sweeping charges of illegal activities by Baltimore city police.

We deplore the irresponsible manner in which Senator Edward T. Conroy's committee and staff left the public hanging in the balance with their blatant failure to document their bold charges of illegal spying.

Until they come up with concrete evidence, the AFRO will stand on its stated premise.

As to our reader's comment that the AFRO has eased up on its campaign to improve hiring in the police department, that's tommyrot.

We have maintained regularly in these columns that the police department must move ahead faster. We say that again today.

Of the 3,451 sworn personnel employed, only 527 are black. This is unacceptable.

It is deplorable that 436 of the 537 black employees are at the lowest rank of patrolmen, and that only 32 of the 537 officers are black.

Police Commissioner Pomerleau employs 3 deputy commissioners, all white.

Only 1 of the 4 chiefs is black.

Of 9 deputy chiefs, only 1 is black.

Of 13 directors and majors, only 1 is black.

Of the 8 district commanders, only 2 are black.

There are 9 captains in traffic and criminal investigation. All are white.

Of 391 sergeants, only 21 are black.

Of the 105 lieutenants, only 5 are black.

Out in Chicago earlier this month a federal judge addressed himself to discrimination in that city's police employment.

U.S. District Judge Prentice Marshall has blocked millions of dollars in revenue sharing funds from the city and ordered new officers to be hired on a system of 16 per cent women, 42 per cent black and Latin men and 42 per cent white.

Judge Marshall also ordered compliance with a December 16, 1974 decision calling for the hiring of three groups of 200 policemen, each to be comprised of 100 black or Latin males, 33 women and 67 white males.

The employment policy of the Baltimore police department should not have to be tested in federal court.

We already have the disgraceful spectacle of the Baltimore city public schools defying federal orders to integrate. We would hate to have our law enforcement body engaged in such litigation.

We believe, as we have stated time and time again, that Police Commissioner Pomerleau can act promptly to effect meaningful change.

He has tried in the past, but he must try harder now and in the immediate future.

One big step he can take today is to name a black deputy commissioner and assign him the job of identifying officers within the system who are eligible for promotion and authorize him to launch a campaign to increase the number of black employees on all levels.

Register to vote

So you can vote in the Primary Election on May 18, 1976

LAST DAY to REGISTER is April 19, 1976.

You may register by mail by using the form in this paper to apply for Application to Register, or at the Supervisors of Elections, People's Court Building, Fayette and Gay Sts., Mndays through Fridays, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A thought of the week

Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. — Matthew 5:44

Make a list of all the people who have hurt and mistreated you or whom you do not like.

Then pray for each by name and sincerely practice forgiving each one.

Ask the Lord to bless them.

Tell the Lord that you want to mean this. Repel the thought that after all you are "justified" in your resentment.

Then speak kindly about these persons to others. Go out of your way to help them.

This will in time break down many barriers, but even if it shouldn't, the effect upon you will be amazing.

It will clear the channel through which spiritual power flows into you. (From "Thought Conditioners," by Norman Vincent Peale).

AFRO credo

A newspaper succeeds because its management believes in itself, in God and in the present generation. It must always ask itself—

- Whether it has kept faith with the common people;
- Whether it has no other goal except to see that their liberties are preserved and their future assured;
- Whether it is fighting to get rid of slums, to provide jobs for everybody;
- Whether it stays out of politics except to expose corruption and condemn injustice, race prejudice and the cowardice of compromise.

DECEMBER 24, 1920

(From the Papers of John H. Murphy Sr., who founded the AFRO-AMERICAN, Aug. 13, 1892).

82 years ago

"The interests of the Afro-American population of Baltimore are identical and any faction of the race which fosters strife to gratify its own selfish ambition should be classed with the enemy."

(From the AFRO-AMERICAN, April, 1893)

A little about a lot
Paul Robeson legacy

By Madeline W. Murphy

So often when a great man, or even a relative, dies, we have this uncontrollable urge to write him a letter.

Maybe our ineptitude won't seem so glaring. Or, there were things unsaid that we yearned to say. Or, we feel more secure in saying it when he can't talk back, assured that what we say is final.

But I cannot write such a letter. Perhaps school children, college students, union workers, organizers should, so that they can search for what Paul Robeson really stood for as a man.

When I heard of his death, after the more than ten years of seclusion, I thought of our trip on his seventy-fifth birthday, in 1973, to rededicate Mt. Paul Robeson, in the Republic of Kirgizia in the Soviet Union. Of the great outpouring of love the Kirgizians, in fact, all the Soviets felt for him.

I thought of my brief encounters with Paul Robeson when he stopped in Baltimore in the 40's, campaigning for Henry Wallace for President; and then in the 50's, after his McCarthy ordeal, when he attended George B. Murphy, Sr.'s funeral.

And it was then that I saw the greatness of this man, and yet his gentility, humility and most of all his ability to ignore the insulting shame that he experienced from his own people.

The fears and cowardice, at the height of McCarthyism, that somehow guilt by association (if, indeed, there was any guilt associated with his professing socialism and the right for all people to share in the wealth of this country) would in some way indict them.

It seems striking that the obituaries and glowing eulogies pouring forth from the same lips, pens and cameras that vilified him and were instrumental in his physical destruction, are now vindication, are poetic justice.

This in a country that has yet to decide in all its flirting with detente, what to do about the same problems, the same injustices that have divided citizenship into classes and race; that have manipulated the economy so that its goods and services merely trickle down to the least of us.

All those who never heard of him, never cared who he was, why he did what he did are unmindful that he was the forerunner to sit-ins, demonstrations of the 60's; are unaware of his daring ability to communicate forcefully not only in word, but also in song, pen, and deed; are bereft of a great chapter in black history.

Robeson was a graduate of a racist Rutgers.

Robeson was a graduate of a racist Rutgers, but All American football star nevertheless, Phi Beta Kappa, graduate of Columbia Law School, middle class, yet champion of the rights of working class people, regardless of color.

A stirring singer of trumpeting proportions, appearing in eleven plays, numerous motion pictures, using his art as the international symbol of the struggles and plight of the black man.

And as a result an obvious scapegoat of racists and bigots and the 200 per cent Americans who could not stomach a black man with an enormous audience and following who did not waiver in his fight for the legitimate rights of oppressed people everywhere, despite withdrawal of his passport, boycotts, denials of concerts, cutting off his livelihood.

In his courage, his unswerving fidelity to his beliefs, despite all his hardships Paul Robeson is perhaps the greatest prophetic black man since Frederick Douglass.

"Here I Stand," was his autobiography, yet here we must stand to make his life live again in what we do, in how we extol him at home, in our schools everywhere.

For the legacy that we must emulate is epitomized in the last lines of "Joe Hill" about a union organizer, especially written for him.

And when he sang this line it brought audiences to their feet: "Don't mourn for me — organize!"

A column of choice ___ by marion banfield
Kenneth Clark's mandate

By Marion Banfield

Dr. Kenneth Bancroft Clark, our most famous psychologist and educator, came from N.Y. recently to speak at the 125th anniversary of Family and Children's Society. "Civilized Society's Responsibility for its Children" was his topic.

Baltimore was challenged to take a new approach to preparing our children for adulthood. Because American racism has rejected the basic dignity, human worth and civil rights of our historic documents, our children suffer.

They suffer from the emotional chaos of living with the realities of hypocrisies which daily deny respect for persons.

Because our government's Constitution and Bill of Rights are presented as part of the foundation of our culture, there are feelings of confusion, of despair in determining personal, and consequently cultural values.

Black children have been the focus of America's implementation of 1954 Supreme Court decision which declared separate schools to be unequal in emotional climate as well as in other values.

Separate schools are the rational way to keep black and white children from developing and sharing similar values.

Dr. Clark has suggested that Boston's white children's hatred as revealed so starkly on television is the proof of what denial of human dignity to black citizens has produced.

This thesis is that we now concern ourselves with the harm to white children which comes when parents, in whatever subtle or direct manner chosen, separate children on the basis of race.

He challenged the alibi of scholastic excellence and lowering of academic standards when black people are a major part of educational institutions.

His example was the serious deceptiveness of cheating which was so very prevalent 35 years ago in a New York college which had very few black students.

Cheating for academic points is not an indication of intellectual excellence.

Dr. Clark further suggested that the curriculum include morals and ethics. He made it very clear that he did not mean religion.

I am sure that Dr. Clark would not suggest the ritual of school prayer as the basis for moral or ethical values. After all, our most anti-human racism is an integral part of America's religious institutions, starting in the South which is termed "the Bible belt."

The last challenge was to Family and Children's Society to convene an assemblage to consider changing the moral and ethical climate so that white and black children can proceed to become adults with inner convictions about human worth that will allow us all to survive in a nuclear weapon world.

Interestingly enough, the same week Dr. Clark appeared here Barbara Walters had Margaret Mead, anthropologist and Dr. Roy Menninger, psychiatrist, on television discussing the need for a "caring society."

They, too, recognize that we are all in danger of destruction by our lack of reverence for the child.

A choice is to face our dilemma of race and class prejudice.

A choice is to develop public demand that the public school system afford our children:

1) the right to read
2) the right to self-respect
3) the right to measurable education growth
4) the right to sharing in the development of a value system.

A choice is to make religious institutions become foundations for human worth.

Now and then
Vietnamese bright idea

By G. James Fleming

"In right place, at right time, with bright idea." This is the thought that came to this writer a fortnight ago when I read the saga of Mr. Do Sy of Annapolis, formerly of South Vietnam.

I had a healthy feeling of envy for a brief moment; but, as an old saying goes, "You can't keep a good man down."

What is the story?

Some months ago, the Navy department ruled that enlisted Navy personnel could no longer be used as kitchen and dining room help at the Naval Academy. No more large-scale enlistment of Filipinos or blacks for the main purpose of being cooks, waiters and so forth, to the 4,300 middies.

Somewhere along the line, it was also decided to turn over the food services at the Academy to a private concessioner. It was open field for those interested or who became interested. Fifteen companies submitted bids, with the concession going to the lowest bidder.

A brand new corporation, named "Viet My," was awarded the contract. How did the company come into being. Do Sy, earlier mentioned, son of a restauranteur father, read of the change at the Academy. He pondered. He considered the plight of so many of his refugee countrymen in America. He counselled with his father and with some other business friends. He sold them all on his proposition.

The result: He and they organized the new corporation. Do Sy took pencil, paper and calculating machine and, with his experience in the family business, came up with the winning bid — and has been feeding the 4,300 midshipmen since Jan. 1.

The real news, however, is that "Viet My" was organized for much more than making profits. It was conceived to give jobs to 100 or more Vietnamese refugees, with a promise of further employment to 50 or more other persons, including non-Vietnamese.

These 100-plus South Vietnamese, thus, will not have to be wards either of the government or their relatives; they will be able to use old skills and learn new ones; and they will be making a giant step towards Americanization.

They will also be the beneficiaries of many fringe benefits as part of their employment in the Viet My corporation.

If the enterprising Do Sy is as bright a businessman as he is keen in seeing a good opportunity, and as he is sensitive in wanting to help his fellowman, this new venture should be a great success in dollars and cents and an even greater success in the dividends and rewards which come to those who are, not only their brother's keeper but their brother's brother.

Importantly, there is a lesson to be drawn from this heart-warming story — a lesson which each AFRO reader must find for himself.

SCHOOL BOARD — It seems to make good sense to include at least one member who is under 25 years of age on the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners — a real member with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities of a voting member.

Several high school leaders charge that the practice of appointing non-voting student members is empty and meaningless. They recommend, instead, the naming of a recent graduate, one closer to the problems of younger people.

There is no guarantee that a 19-year-old is more sensitive to, or interested in, primary school children than are older people. Similarly, no proof that a college sophomore wants to be bothered with the problems of high school freshmen.

But, if younger people are to be given seats at the table of decision-making, meeting after meeting, they ought to be able to share in decision-making; they ought to be able to vote.

"I am a man of peace; God knows how I love peace. But I hope I shall never be such a coward as to mistake oppression for peace."

Hungarian Freedom Fighter Kossuth

PAGE OPPOSITE

Baltimore Afro-American

Subway for 10 cents

Dear AFRO:

I have had the idea to build our overdue subway system in Baltimore for ten cents. If West Germany can do it, so can we. Over one-third of the Maryland population is of German origin, as you may know.

The Olympic Stadium in Munich and the Subway in Munich were built and paid for, before the Olympic Games started, for ten cents — ten cents on every check, that is (not on retail food or prescription medicine).

For example, if you buy anything — clothes, furniture, restaurant or bar checks, etc., etc., etc. ranging from $2 to $100 or more, you would pay ten cents extra for each check.

In order to keep control of the system, for the I.R.S., every dealer has to get a stamp book similar to Post Office stamps. You can do it, and keep control of it!

(To be able to know how they did it in Germany, maybe you could telephone or send a letter to the Mayor of Munich or you could send one of your assistants to Germany to see how they built the Olympic Stadium and Subway there, for ten cents.

In my opinion, it is worthwhile to look into it. We would be able to build the overdue subway in Baltimore, and make jobs for 10,000 or more of our unemployed Baltimoreans. — HANS KRAMM.

Likes Riley

Dear AFRO:

I never take out time to write or to call when I like or dislike something. But, I thought this was important enough to mention.

I really really, enjoy the cartoons by Bill Riley. In fact, I look forward to reading them. It certainly adds to the AFRO to have a bit of humor with all the tragedies in the world. — JAMES FROSTER.

(Editor's Note: Bill Riley's humorous panel, 'Nowadays,' is a new feature on our Page Opposite. We'd like to hear from other AFRO readers.)

Food can drive

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the Emergency Food Coalition, I would like to express our thanks to everyone and anyone who in any way made the recent food drive the success it was.

Approximately 20,000 cans or more of food will be realized to assist our brothers and sisters in the Baltimore community who may find themselves in emergency situations.

To enumerate all the people who helped would take forever: Let me thank our mayor, his immediate staff, the city employees, the Maryland National Guard, General Warfield and his staff, the Armory Staff, the Armory Security Staff, the volunteers who helped at the Armory, the newspapers and other media.

We thank Baltimore as a city for showing itself that such a drive can work and can happen. God certainly touched many people because many people were praying during the "Give a can" drive.

Such an experience does prove that a community can care for itself, can reach out to one another and do something for its own members who are in trouble.

(Church of St. Ann)

Dear Jan:

My very best friend has just told me that the fellow I like is hanging out with another girl and that she doesn't really care about him but is just using him.

He is so mixed up, he has bought her furniture and even toys for the child she had by another guy before she met him.

Am I crazy or is it that I don't have what it takes to compete with gals like her who use guys who can't see they're being used because she puts stars in their eyes?

CRAZY?

Dear CRAZY?:

You're not nuts at all. The guy is, or else he's a real fall guy. Some men, you know, enjoy being taken advantage of, particularly if the gal puts stars in their eyes.

Maybe when she discovers he has no dollars left in his billfold to support her luxurious habits, the stars will disappear and he'll wake up and come back to you or some other nice gal who likes him for himself and not his money and gifts.

Dear Jan:

I am in love with a married man who has a child. He wants to get a divorce. Why do young men marry when they aren't in love?

PUZZLED

Dear Puzzled:

I really don't know. Neither, do I know why single girls waste their time with married men.

Dear Jan:

On my way to school I stop by my boyfriend's house and he walks me to the bus stop. Yet, when he sees other people, he forgets I am standing there. This is a bad habit. Can you tell me what to do?

DEJECTED

Dear Dejected:

Both of you have bad habits. Try walking to the bus stop by yourself or let him come by for you.

Make it official

The writer's name and address must be included in all Letters to the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN.

Those which contain printed or typed names and initials will not be considered.

All letters MUST be signed. Names will be omitted if requested.

The AFRO reserves the right to edit all letters.

Young beat ___ by larry young
Inner City-a back-bench view

(This is the first of two articles on this subject by Mr. Young, 25, who is the youngest member of the Md. House of Delegates. He represents Baltimore city's 28th District, which encompasses the inner city.)

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy set as a goal a man on the moon in ten years.

Prior to the Kennedy administration, Congress created the National Aeronautic Space Administration (NASA) by the Space Act of 1958.

NASA provided the vehicle to explore space and accomplish more than the nation's people ever imagined possible.

Nevertheless, on July 20, 1969, man landed in the Sea of Tranquility, ahead of President Kennedy's timetable. Since then, over 12 crewmen have landed on the moon, costing this nation over $10 billion.

There have been international space explorations, and the successful development and demonstration of satellites which have paved the way for an era in global commercial communication. Today, aerospace scientists predict colonizing the moon in the not-too-distant future.

On Nov. 6, 1975, I spoke to a citizens' group in Ft. Wayne, Ind., on the topic, "can the inner city be saved?"

It is timely, in many respects, for Baltimore, just as Ft. Wayne, to be seeking solutions to save the inner city, even though this nation's priorities have been shifted in a rather insane order.

However, like Ft. Wayne, Baltimore still has the time to avoid the problems facing many cities today. It is in no way immune to criminal deterioration without taking affirmative steps soon.

Yes, the inner city can be saved, the question is, "Will the inner city be saved and when?"

Will it be saved after those that are still residents can no longer afford the taxes and lose their properties?

Will it be saved after those that still have an option move, leaving behind the poor and powerless?.

Or, will it be saved, now, with a commitment of the resources to those desperately trying to survive today in the inner city?

I happen to believe that Americans can do practically anything they desire. We know that studies have been conducted and Presidential commissions have recommended many possible solutions and if only a few had been sincerely implemented, perhaps we would not be facing the present crisis.

Instead, debates, bureaucratic red tape, stalling tactics and less-than-human concern priorities have thwarted the initiative of those so vitally concerned about saving the inner city.

It's important to analyze the situation facing us today within the social, economic and political context that determines our direction.

The thirty-eighth legislative district, as well as all of the Baltimore inner city (precincts-wards) residents only want the benefits and promises so eloquently stated in this nation's founding documents.

At least, they want sincere and deliberate adherence to the more recent documents, without the hassles and barriers — the same treatment and commitment that has been provided other groups coming to this country today and those who immigrated centuries ago.

It is unlikely that this nation, anytime soon, will adhere to its stated principles, thus enabling inner city residents to save their communities themselves.

So, in the meantime, strategies must be developed now.

Perhaps during the next centennial observance, all people can willingly participate in the celebration.

As a start, inner city residents can develop a similar stance many neighborhoods took during the onslaught of blockbusters in the 1960's and vowed "this is my house and it's not for sale."

This is an orchestrated effort of neighbor-to-neighbor support, a clear understanding of rights, regulations, resources in state and federal agencies, and well-planned, organized strategy to retain hard-earned properties.

In addition, those who recently escaped the ghettos and fled to suburbia can invest their resources and talents to aid the neighbors they left behind.

This is a strategy of coalescing with other groups and organizations that are sensitive to the plight of the inner city to begin a movement toward the preservation of the city's deteriorating areas, and the restoration of a decent living environment and human dignity.

The task is monumental, but we cannot afford to stand by with indifference.

The cost is too great, not just for inner city residents, but for us all.

(Next week: Part 2-More options.)

AFRO-Line is an effective AFRO community service to help you solve problems. You may also report errors in news stories, request corrections and complain and inquire about AFRO news stories and policies.

You need only to write a post-card to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, MD. 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address and telephone number.

You may also call 728-8200, extension 64 or 50, between the hours 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and speak directly to AFRO-Line.

QUESTION: I was in a Reisterstown Plaza department store on Saturday night just before closing time, and saw what apparently appeared to be two white security men evict three teenage boys who were black, who appeared to be 15, 16, and 17.

I don't know the circumstances of what they did but once they had put them out of the store in the lobby, they manhandled and pushed them.

I don't understand why they had to hit them when they already had gotten them out of the store. A fight ensued in the hallway and later out on the pavement.

Afterwards, one of the boys threw a rock through the window.

Often it seems to me when people see black kids in a store they immediately presume they have done something wrong. I observed these two men who were dressed like hippies following them.

If they had done something wrong, why wouldn't they just call the police or prefer a charge and not violently handle them.

I am not saying the boys are right, but I am saying that from what I saw as an observer, the so-called security officers were wrong. — M. M.

ANSWER: A public relations spokesman at the store told AFRO-Line they have had problems with teenagers of both races ever since the store opened.

When a group of teenagers are together occasionally they do create a disturbance and have to be ejected.

They are juveniles and it is not the policy to have them arrested since the main objective is to get them out of the store and create the least amount of disturbance that you possibly can.

The spokesman explained the tussle in the lobby may have come because the teens resisted removal.

If YOU ask ME
by bettye moss

People being kind to others: State Senator and Mrs. Clarence Blount (Gordine), had a group in Saturday to meet the new vice president of Community College's Harbor campus.

Dr. Raymond Bowen Jr., has been here at work, but his wife Joan, a N.Y. teacher, and their kids, are waiting until the school year ends and they have time to move from their Westbury, L.I. home.

However, Mrs. Bowen and the youngsters visited here over the weekend and had a chance to meet a number of their new neighbors-to-be.

They'll be back soon, house-hunting for a five-bedroom house.

The Bowen youngsters are Raymond 3rd, 14; Rebecca, 9; Ruth, 8; and Rachel, 3.

Also here for the Blounts' welcome was Mrs. Bowen's brother, Lt. Col. Paul Nixon, who is stationed at Ft. Meade.

Who they were: — Ever since the Morgan State University Choir electrified the YMCA's Martin Luther King Memorial Breakfast — bringing the 1,050 guests to their feet to cheer and applaud — people have been asking the names of the soloists and organist.

Here they are: Miss Gretchen Starks, a junior music major from Baltimore, was the one whose glorious voice was heard above the others in the adaptation of "I Have A Dream," done by the choir's director, Dr. Nathan Carter.

The other soloist, whose rich voice moved the enthusiastic crowd to join the clapping, was Ms. Phyllis Jackson, a graduate student from Md.'s Eastern Shore.

And, the name of the organist who really rocked awhile is Charles Sloan, a music major from Dallas, Tex. Right on!

More people being kind. — It was so on Saturday at Blue Crest North when Morganites and a large number of community leaders turned out to salute Dr. Thomas P. Fraser.

So many know him as the brilliant scientist and educator who is unassuming and thoughtful to others.

As we watched him and his wife, Marie, receive the well-deserved gifts and greetings, couldn't help but think that the two of them are shining examples of people who remained pleasant, kind and alive despite great personal tragedy.

Those who remember that two of their brilliant children died at the height of their careers will never forget how tall Tom and Marie Fraser have stood — be going about the business of educating and pursuing excellence, and she devoting her life to classroom and church where she sings on choir and volunteers wherever needed.

That is why there was a hush and real emotion among those who remember when Mrs. Lewis Richardson (Deedee), spoke on behalf of Trinity Presbyterian Church where the Frasers attend.

Here is what she said: —

"Thank you for allowing the members of Trinity Presbyterian Church to share this special evening of tribute to Dr. Fraser.

"Thomas P. Fraser — husband of Marie who lifts our hearts with the beauty of song and her indefatigible spirit.

"Father of Dolores, whom we have come to know and enjoy her presence when she visits.

"Father of Stephanie, whose bright wit and lively personality gave us many happy moments.

"Father of Tom, whom we remember with love for the beauty of his selfhood and the excellent quality of leadership he gave to our church as its first installed pastor during ten formative years from 1959 to 1969.

"Brother, grandfather, uncle and cousin of many family members, teacher and counselor of many of us here this evening who were taught courses in the Biological Science at Morgan State.

"Neighbor, in whose home one always feels welcome.

"Church member and friend, who has exemplified Christ-like living in his relationships with others.

St. Paul wrote in the 1st letter to Timothy - ch. 4 v. 12 "In speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example to those who believe."

"Dr. Fraser, you have done exactly this.

"In recognition of your faith and service the members of Trinity Presbyterian Church are happy to present you with this plaque — with our respect, admiration, love and best wishes.

"This Irish blessing best expresses our feelings at this time:

May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be ever at your back,
May the Lord hold you in the hollow of His Hand."

Last month, the AFRO published photos of a rape victim whose body was found in Hanlon Park.

A photographer on the scene took the photo two hours after the body was discovered.

Sensitive to the reaction of its readers, we had the AFRO staff artist put clothes on the half nude victim's body and otherwise retouched the picture to eliminate the gruesomeness.

We published the photo as an example of man's inhumanity and to demonstrate how insensitive the police department was. There, standing around, were four police officers who had not the decency or the kindness to take a coat off or find a blanket to cover the body. (normal procedure when persons have been slain or abused.)

Instead, the victim was left lying there for all to see.

This was the message of the photo. We are amazed that several readers called to protest publication of the photo but not one of them censored the police. Ho hum!

NOWADAYS ___ by bill riley

Washington ___ by parren j. mitchell
The misery index

(Mr. Mitchell represents Md.'s Seventh District in the U.S. House of Representatives.)

When will the larger community listen to the gut pleadings of black folks for a chance, an opportunity, to participate in the economic development of this country?

Why can't our word be taken as truth, based on hundreds of years of living in this nation and having to continuously cope with its institutions?

When will America learn that her survival is unalterably tied to the survival of minorities in this land?

Why do those things that we know to be fact out of the depths of our blackness always have to be proven by someone else before any meaningful action is taken?

I guess the reality is that powerful congressional committees are listened to, sometimes, and powerless persons are ignored most times.

I guess the reality is that scholars and reams of studies carry more weight than the neglected and years of trying.

If that be the reality, then congressional committees and scholars are finally speaking out about unemployment and its ramifications and hopefully, now, America will take note.

For example, the Joint Economic Committee, comprised of both members of the House of Representatives and the Senate is in the process of holding hearings around the country on the feasibility of full employment legislation.

At one such hearing recently held in Atlanta, Ga., two extremely important points were made.

First, the full impact of millions of people consistently out of work cannot be measured in terms of social costs which eventually lead to billions in actual dollar costs.

Secondly, high unemployment and high inflation lead to persistent misery.

For some time, black leaders, national and local, have warned in columns such as this one that everyone eventually pays for high unemployment.

Now, in a study yet to be released, and in testimony before the joint economic committee, Dr. M. Harvey Brenner, Johns Hopkins University scholar, reports the following:

"There is now substantial evidence that trends in national economic indicators have a profound influence on the state of mental and physical health of the general population, as well as on aggression and other criminal behaviors.

"These basic relations were discovered during the past three years at Johns Hopkins University, and earlier at Yale University.

"In general, the national rate of unemployment, adverse changes in per capita personal income, and the annual rate of inflation (in that order) have the most serious effects on national levels of health and well-being.

"We now have data to show how these effects relate to mental disorders, suicide, heart and other vascular disorders, alcoholism, and infant and maternal disorders."

Further, in partial response to evidence given by witness after witness regarding the impact of economic uncertainty, the Joint Economic Committee now has defined a national "misery index" which equals the unemployment rate plus the inflation rate.

I am always amazed at the ability of some groups to quantify everything. But, in many ways I am pleased because quantification makes most concepts easier to grasp or to see.

Now those who had doubt can clearly see that nationally misery runs high, with an unemployment rate of 8.3 per cent and an inflation rate of 7 per cent, yielding a misery index of 15.3.

However, we can also see that misery in our state of Maryland runs equally as high with a recent report indicating that unemployment for the state is at 7.4 per cent.

For the Baltimore metropolitan area at 8.4 per cent, and specifically for our city of Baltimore at 11.2 per cent.

Therefore, Baltimore city has a misery index of 18.2, or almost 3 points above the national average.

Of course, again, as has been constantly said, the above figures are national statistics. If you want to find out the black misery index just take any of the figures and double them.

Black folks are twice as "miserable" and therefore feel twice as much the social impacts that Dr. Brenner's study points out.

Unfortunately, things have been that way for a long time.

Tragically, my perspective from the Congress indicates that things may remain that way for the next several years, at least, unless America starts to listen; not only to studies and Congressional committees, but to us.

Reducing unemployment has got to be this nation's number one priority. In the weeks ahead, many of my columns will be exclusively devoted to sharing with you the facts about high unemployment, its grave effects, and what, if anyactions are being taken by the Congress. Hopefully, someone will listen.

Hopefully, someone will listen, before it's too late.