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)

AFRO choices in Md. primary

Maryland's Primary Election on Tuesday, May 18, has turned out to be a much more significant one than most voters had reason to think it would be just a few weeks ago.

Voters have important choices to make in several crucial contests at every level. The AFRO encourages all registered voters to take advantage of this opportunity to help determine the nominees who will be your party's candidates in November.

On our front page the AFRO recommends candidates this newspaper hopes its readers will vote for on Tuesday. In many cases, the selections were extremely difficult to make.

Former Georgia Gov. Jimmy Carter is the AFRO's choice in the Democratic presidential contest.

In that race Gov. Jerry Brown of California brings to the voters, particularly black voters, a record seldom matched by any governor during the less than two years he has been in office. He also has a kind of political attractiveness about him that is inspiring. However, it is difficult to conjure up a set of realistic circumstances by which Gov. Brown, considering his late start and limited opportunity to win delegates, could win his party's presidential nomination.

Rep. Morris Udall of Arizona has the kind of civil and human rights record that greatly appeals to black voters. But again, unfortunately, his candidacy has not caught fire.

Jimmy Carter has a good record and he promises to run the kind of dynamic, even-handed government from which all Americans, especially the most needy, can expect a better deal.

He is a southerner who impresses us as a combination of former Democratic Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson.

Carter has a broadbased appeal of the kind the AFRO feels is required by any president who intends to move this country forward. He impresses us as a decent man possessing the necessary foresight, administrative ability and courage to give this country a new thrust.

On the Republican side, the AFRO is not enthusiastic about either of the candidates but urges GOP voters to select President Gerald Ford over California's conservative former governor, Ronald Reagan.

For the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate, in a most difficult choice between two extremely qualified candidates, the AFRO gives the nod to Rep. Paul S. Sarbanes.

His major opponent, former Senator Joseph D. Tydings, compiled a good record during the term he served before losing to Senator J. Glenn Beall. But although Joe Tydings talks of being a courageous senator if reelected, he has been somewhat fuzzy about some positions he previously held. He also has left doubts about the extent to which he feels the government can, or should, extend itself in solving some of our pressing problems.

Paul Sarbanes, highly regarded in and out of the Congress, does not flinch when asked whether the federal government can or should do more to combat problems such as unemployment. He has the courage to tell it like it is on the ineffectiveness of many good programs designed to overcome problems, the truth being that too often lack of support from public officials resulted in these failures.

It also is about time Baltimore took another turn at having one of our U.S. senators come from the city. Sarbanes' election would give Baltimore and other cities another strong voice in the U.S. Senate.

In the Third Congressional District where there is a scramble for the seat Rep. Sarbanes is giving up, City Councilwoman Barbara Mikulski seems the best choice.

Councilwoman Mikulski already has illustrated that she can provide effective leadership at the national level through work she has done with the Democratic party and in various organizations.

They'll know she's there in the House of Representatives and Baltimore will be served well by her election.

Four incumbent Supreme Bench Judges deserve reelection and the AFRO enthusiastically urges every voter, Democratic and Republican alike, to cast ballots for Judges John R. Hargrove, Mary Arabian, Robert L. Sullivan and Martin B. Greenfeld.

If we reelect Judges Hargrove, Arabian, Sullivan and Greenfeld, we can be assured that destructive elements will not slip in to throw a monkey wrench into some of the progressive steps being taken by the Supreme Bench. One look at the conservative and reactionary forces which make up the base of the opposition's support should be enough to spur AFRO readers to vote right.

Most of the presidential delegates supported by the AFRO are in either the Jimmy Carter (Democratic) or Gerald Ford (Republican) camps.

The AFRO believes it is important, nationally and locally, that all its recommended delegates receive your support.

Be sure to vote.

Prison crisis

It's time Maryland officials got around to making some hard decisions about which way the state is going to move on the problem of overcrowded prisons.

The prison system, which has a rated capacity of 4,866 inmates, is housing more than 6,600. Another 800-plus persons who have been convicted and sentenced to prison terms are stacked up in local jails across the state waiting for space in the overcrowded prisons.

Commissioner of Corrections Mark Levine says there are no plans to build new prison facilities soon. He makes the point that such facilities are expensive and Maryland wants to be certain about the trend of the prison population and other corrective options before moving ahead with additional building.

We don't think Commissioner Levine and others who must make the decisions have an indefinite amount of time to daily.

There is a degree of social dynamite in permitting prisons to become extremely overcrowded. There certainly is little hope that successful rehabilitation programs are going to be conducted under such conditions.

Furthermore, federal court judges consistently are ruling that steps must be taken to eliminate prison overcrowding.

Taxpayers who finance the justice system have a right to expect that people incarcerated for crimes get at least a fair crack at being rehabilitated during their stays behind bars.

Unless Maryland prison officials make a better effort at accomplishing this goal, the general population soon is likely to discover that getting criminals off the streets for a few years can produce disastrous results as men and women with increased anti-social hangups are turned back into the society.

Responsible officials always consider the cost of necessary programs. But it is not responsible to save dollars on a short-term basis when the final result is certain to be expensive both in monetary and human terms.

There was a rather tragic incident at the City Jail this week when a prisoner was accidentally killed in an elevator shaft fall. The inmate was in the City Jail only because there was no space in the overcrowded state prison system to which he had been sentenced.

This probably won't be the last unfortunate incident. The public, as well as the victims of overcrowded situations, have a right to expect better from responsible officials. There are times when what is passed off as prudence actually is foolishness—sometimes of the dangerous kind.

And there are more on the way

Washington report

Modernization of public housing

Shelter — housing — is one of man's basic needs. Strangely enough, adequate housing for the nation's citizens, particularly the economically disadvantaged, is not a priority of the current Congress nor the current Administration.

Squeezing funds out of the government for new housing construction appears to be an impossibility. Getting money allocated for rehabilitation and modernization of existing housing units is almost equally as tough.

However, every now and then a ray of hope and sensitivity does shine through.

On Friday, April 30, 1976, I was, fortunately, able to convince the members of the House Banking, Currency and Housing Committee of the need and subsequent cost savings of an adequate public housing modernization program. Therefore, in the full committee's final action of approving the Housing Authorization Act of 1976, H.R. 12945, my recommendation was followed and $60 million per year for the next five years (a total of $300 million) in contract authority for public housing modernization was approved.

The committee was fully justified in finally realizing that if there is to be an adequate public housing modernization program it must originate in the Congress.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) most recent survey of modernization needs was undertaken in November and December of 1973. From the survey HUD estimated the unmet modernization needs of local housing authorities to be $2.8 billion. Since that time the backlog of unfunded work has probably surpassed the $3 billion level.

There are two principal reasons for the increase. First, deterioration has continued, work items which could have been rectified through the operating budgets of local housing authorities have moved into the capital expenditure category as a result of the underfunding of operating subsidies. Second, inflation has eroded the value of the limited dollars HUD has sought to commit to modernization. HUD has traditionally sought $20 million in contract authority for modernization. This is sufficient to undertake $215 million in construction or 7 per cent of the need as estimated in 1973.

However, in the period from 1973 through October, 1975, the Department of Commerce composite construction cost index has increased from 147.7 to 199.0, an increase of 35 per cent. Inflation alone has undermined the viability of HUD's approach to public housing modernization.

An example of the type of modernization which is required is the replacement of the electrical system at the Mary Ellen McCormack Houses (1016 families) in Boston. During the winter of 1975 the electrical system, designed for the consumption levels of the 1930s failed. Electric power and heat were unavailable for several days, while a major snowstorm struck Boston. The power was eventually restored, through the efforts of numerous agencies and individuals, while the discomfort to tenants, many of whom were elderly, was reduced to within tolerable levels.

This incident only highlighted the fact that the 30-year-old electrical system at Mary Ellen McCormack Houses must be replaced at a cost in excess of $1 million. The Boston Housing Authority estimates total modernization needs in excess of $40 million for all B.H.A. developments.

The replacement cost of the nation's public housing stock would exceed $40 billion (1.6 million housing units at $25,000 per unit). The modernization program which I recommended, ($60 million in contract authority for five years,) will finance $3.2 billion in improvements to the public housing stock, a relatively small amount to secure an investment valued at $40 billion. The modernization program will have the obvious benefit of making public housing safer and more attractive for present and future tenants, as well as increasing the efficiency of local housing authorities.

The fight now shifts to getting the full Congress, both the House and Senate, to agree and the Administration to follow through. You can bet I will be there fighting all the way through until the money is delivered.

Now and then — *by g. james fleming*

Where can blacks go?

If Jimmy Carter continues his winning thrust towards the Democratic nomination for President, the National Black Caucus and other blacks will face a dilemma.

The dilemma is pointed up by the fact that most black voters are members of the Democratic Party or vote Democratic — 8 to 1 or better.

There is little sentiment among blacks for President Ford and almost none for Ronald Reagan, Mr. Ford's surprisingly successful challenger. If Governor Wallace of Alabama were the Democratic nominee most blacks would easily turn to almost any Republican. But, when the Democrat is not Wallace, "Where can blacks go?" is more difficult to resolve.

Some blacks are distrustful of even gift-bearing Greeks if they come via Georgia. Many willing to accept Carter as a voice of "the new South," were turned off by him because of his "ethnic purity" speech, not really a speech, but his reply to a newspaper reporter's question. Has Carter, thereby, insulted blacks enough to cause them to vote against him, if he should become the Democratic candidate?

We do not think so. If Carter wins the nomination, most black voters will support him because he is a Democrat, and because black Georgians give him a clean bill of health, politically speaking. Many blacks also seem to think that most white politicians (and most white people) would say the same thing about "ethnic purity" if they faced a Polish audience, or if they were behind closed doors.

It is to be assumed that Governor Carter, if nominated, will strengthen his position with a very "acceptable" vice presidential candidate, a liberal from the North or West.

This column finds no disposition on the part of blacks to "sit out" the 1976 election, or the primaries in the several states where they are held. Instead, there is great sentiment to get a Democrat in the White House, almost at any price.

So far, we have written as though there is no Governor Edmund (Jerry) Brown; as if Governor Carter is bound to win the nomination. Indeed, the Democratic nominee may be neither of the above aspirants.

As has happened in some other ways, a totally unsuspecting "dark horse" may be "drafted." Or one of the ex-aspirants may reenter the race. Or, the "bosses" in a "smoke-filled room" may "broker" the nomination to suit their rather narrow interests. Even Humphrey may not be the favorite at convention time that he is today.

However it goes, one fact remains: Most blacks will find a way to go along (support) whomever the Democratic National Convention nominates (again, short of Wallace), just as blacks accepted Harry Truman and Lyndon Johnson, despite their pre-Presidential voting records on civil rights matters.

Despite the rhetoric of black political "leaders," they know that they will not support Ford, much less Reagan, in the general election. More important, the white makers of Presidents also know this. For both whites and blacks, by and large, there is only one answer to the question, "Where Can Blacks Go?" The answer: "By and large, only Democratic."

All is not lost, however. Blacks, as delegates to the Democratic National Convention, will have to be smarter than black delegates have ever been. More than that blacks who are on the inside of political party decision-making will have to use their wits, their brains and their money long before convention time.

Warm black bodies are not enough. Disruption of the convention is not enough. Black voters and non-voters at home, black organizations, and black supporters of the party must generate as much clout as possible so that black delegates will be more than figureheads.

When a group is only 12-20 per cent of the population, nationally, it takes brains and cleverness, a sense of strategy and tactics and appreciation of the utilization of coalition to overcome the population discrepancy.

It is to be hoped that, in 1976, it will not again be "too little and too late."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Dr. Fleming wrote the foregoing column several days before the primaries were held this week.

A little about a lot — *by madeline w. murphy*

Digging our graves

A doctor was quoted on the radio the other day as saying that a hamburger, shake and french fries, satisfied the minimum daily requirements of a growing child, if supplemented with a green vegetable.

This must be gratifying to the sponsors of Rodney Allen Rippy and fast food chains that give us freedom of choice — our way.

Some sage hazarded a guess that in most of these places, eating the carton rather than the contents would be more nutritious.

And it is this constant brain washing by advertising media, including doctors untrained in nutrition, who are in cahoots with chains, that has fostered improper eating habits.

I went to a conference recently on nutrition and communication sponsored by the National Medical Association, Region II, where the participants tried diligently to dispel the misinformation about nutrition that has been promulgated in the mass media.

The recent scandal about poor quality of meat sold at top dollar to military establishments, in return for bribes, favors of women and the like; that multi-nationals and agri-businesses make more on synthetic foods — shakes made of thickeners rather than milk, hardened tomatoes, etc; that surplus food is sold and used by cafeterias whether it represents part of a balanced diet or not; that conglomerates in the catering business, through low bids, pre-package foods low in food value for institutions; all in the food industry compound the myths about what is good nutrition.

Moreover, it is no longer possible to trust the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Secretary Earl Butz, who has had close ties with Ralston-Purina, Stokely-Van Camp and other corporations, yet is ostensibly responsible for our nation's nutrition education program, has sought to undercut food stamps, school lunch and other federal food assistance programs and has liquidated the price-stablizing grain reserves and changed beef-grading guidelines in a way that bilks the consumer.

All the while the grain companies have admitted to stealing and contaminating those grains sold to foreign companies at inflated prices.

Add to this the recipes filled with gooey, fattening, salty, sweet ingredients found in every newspaper's food page and our addiction to greasy, salty 'Soul Food', it is no wonder that our mortality rate is higher than normal and that we risk disproportionate incidences of diabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, heart disease, iron deficiency, anemia and other ills.

To add insult to injury, we then inflate the drug bill for prescription diet medicine, to a $130 million industry. Convenience foods, lacking roughage and fiber, have a yearly take of $100 billion. As a result, our national bill for constipation amounts to $500 million yearly.

This all begins when we are babies, with sweetened formula, salted and glutamated baby foods and thus we are victimized by habit patterns not easily discarded.

As I sat at the first conference luncheon eating broiled flounder, baby carrots, parsleyed potatoes, tomato, lettuce and cottage cheese, the words were still ringing in my ears from the morning session: "Too long and too often, as kids, we have heard from our doting mothers: 'Eat, put some meat on your bones,' " and almost too late this noon, we were being taught that eating to live was more important than living to eat.

Without gravies, sauces, dressings, and fattening desserts, it did indeed seem futile, especially when hands swooped down on the huge sweet non-dietetic corn meal muffins, and crammed mouths dared to ask for more!

The old cliche — digging our graves with our teeth — is all too true, yet understandable since eating for a long time was our main entertainment. It is hard, but necessary for us to change our eating habits. We must learn the minimum daily requirements, eliminate our intake of salt and sugar in order to stem this spiraling mortality.

According to Food Day of 1757 S St., NW, Washington, D.C.; 20009, consumers are directly affected by corporate power in that the food we eat may contain hazardous chemical additives. High food prices are due in part to a lack of competition in the food industry and our children watch slick TV ads that encourage them to eat foods that are bad for their health.

Each of these profit-making processes and additions to the American diet is paid for by the public in money and sickness. This requires honest oversight and regulation by a government all too often corrupted by corporate interests and greed. It behooves us, therefore, to exert pressure on the Food and Drug Administration, Federal Communications Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture, congressmen and even the President.

Maybe the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon next year could reinforce this effort by substituting nuts, fruit, raisins, raw vegetables, cheese sandwiches, skimmed milk and pure unsweetened fruit juices for hot dogs and coke. At least this would publicize and provide a forum to make people more conscious of what comprises the daily minimum requirements in a proper diet.

What they're reading

Books most often requested at the branches of the Enoch Pratt Free Library this week are listed below. If the one you want is not immediately available, the librarian can suggest another which you might enjoy.

NONFICTION

JUDY, Gerold Frank (ML420.G233.F7)

HELTER SKELTER, Vincent Bugliosi (HV6533.C2B83)

WITHOUT FEATHERS, Woody Allen (PS3551.L44W5)

JOY OF SEX, Alexander Comfort (HQ9.C65 1972)

HOW THE GOOD GUYS FINALLY WON, Jimmy Breslin (E861.B73)

CHANGE THE LOBSTERS AND DANCE, Lili Palmer (PN2658.P3A33)

FICTION

RAGTIME, E. L. Doctorow

LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBAR, Judith Rossner

CLARA REEVE, Leonie Hargrave

SHOGUN, James Clavell

CENTENNIAL, James Michener

BEYOND THE BEDROOM WALL, Larry Woiwode

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).

Poet's corner

Some Men Came Running

It is our right to listen and to choose
No matter should our preference win or lose
The prospects all are highly qualified
And soon we hopeful voters must decide

It's almost like a mammoth talent search
Checking out Udall or Senator Church
And some gave up, they thought it smarter
Than to trade punches with Jimmy Carter

And Humphrey and Kennedy; the reluctant kings
Watch the drama unfold, as they stand in the wings
Wondering which candidate, after curtain call
Will be on center stage; this coming fall

I don't intend to shake your idol down
If it's Carter; Udall, or Jerry Brown
But I wish I could devise a plan
That we could certainly pick the better man.

PAUL D. McALLISTER

Young beat — *by larry young*

Vote to solve your cares

One Way

A vote is one way to solve your everyday cares.

In case you hadn't noticed, Tuesday, May 18, is the Maryland Primary Election Day you can vote for your presidential preference, as well as for U.S. Senate, congressional and Supreme Bench candidates.

Every hour of every day, YOU are in politics — that's right, YOU are in politics. Day and night!

Gas and electric rates are set by the Public Service Commission, which is appointed by the governor, whom YOU elect.

It's the people YOU elect who have the responsibility of providing funds to fight crime, protect our homes, our neighborhoods and its citizens. Approval and regulation of TV channels is made by the Federal Communications Commission, which is appointed by the President, whom YOU elect.

Leonard Woodcock, president of the United Auto Workers, has said, "Politics affects your life and your family 24 hours per day — it affects your job, health care, the food on your table, the air you breathe, the taxes you pay . . . all this and more determined by someone hired . . . by someone appointed . . . by someone YOU elect . . ."

Vote. Tuesday, May 18 — invest in your future.

Whether you're interested in the price of gasoline or coffee, or in a new house, or your mortgage, or your car, or a peaceful world . . . you are in politics!

With a great deal of difficulty, this writer has not endorsed a presidential candidate and will not do so until Tuesday, May 18.

However, I, along with most of our black elected officials, have endorsed Paul Sarbanes for the U.S. Senate. He is "from the people, for the people," — a democrat who supports full employment, national health insurance and other progressive issues.

Paul Sarbanes has earned a reputation as a people's congressman who listens carefully to his constituents and works hard to serve their needs. On scores of issues, Sarbanes has been a prominent champion for wage earners, for senior citizens, for consumers, for veterans and for all the residents of Maryland. As our next U.S. senator, Paul Sarbanes will be able to use this experience and knowledge to work on behalf of all the people of the state . . . and the nation.

Paul Sarbanes says, "Fight inflation . . . with jobs."

Some men talk about change. Others cause it. On May 18, this state will nominate a new Democratic senator. And in a single day, this person will join the top 100 office holders in America.

He must do more than talk about change. He must cause it.

He must know what's right. He must know what's wrong. He must know what's next. And he must know how to make it happen. Paul Sarbanes is that kind of man.

Paul doesn't believe America is a nation that has lost its way. He believes we are a restless nation, searching for better ways. He's prepared to propose those ways. And make them work. That's the kind of man he is. And that's the kind of U.S. senator he'll be.

Pull Lever 4-B on May 18!

As mentioned, I have not publicly endorsed who I support for the Democratic nomination for president; Neither Gov. Brown, Gov. Carter, Rep. Udall, or Sen. Church. However, a great moment in Black History occurred several weeks ago. Four candidates actively seeking the Democratic party's presidential nomination went to Charlotte, N.C. to court support at the Caucus of Black Democrats Conference which brought together nearly 1200 prominent black Democrats.

The black elected officials from Baltimore attending the caucus were: Senators Clarence M. Mitchell III, Verda F. Welcome and Robert L. Douglass and Delegates Walter B. Dean, Arthur Murphy and yours truly and Councilman M. B. Mitchell.

If I have one plea to Democratic presidential aspirants and delegates it is this: I know of your differences. I am aware of the emotion and deep commitment that exists. But I ask my partisan friends, those delegates elected to the Democratic National Convention, to conduct themselves in such a way that when the business of the convention is done, you will be able to walk out of the door — not as enemies, not even as critics, but rather as free men and women who have spoken freely their thoughts and their views and who are willing to go forth and do battle for the November general election. Be Democrats!

Yes, be Democrats. More importantly, be the kind of citizen who votes. Start or continue this Tuesday, May 18.

"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

Defending Jimmy Carter

Dear AFRO:

Some of the black elected officials and others are demonstrating the same unwarranted hysteria over Jimmy Carter's recent remarks with respect to "ethnic purity" as they did several years ago over the term "black power," popularized by Stokley Carmichael.

Carter, in his remarks and subsequent clarification, is articulating what the vast majority of black Americans are feeling, thinking and saying less privately than before; and in this regard, his philosophy of neighborhoods and communities, based as it is on the realities of American society, is a more rationally unifying concept than his detractors care to admit.

While frankly admitting that "ethnic purity" was an unfortunate choice of words, Gov. Carter has again demonstrated his political courage in opening up to debate new methods of solving racial problems in the U.S. while maintaining the integrity and psychological viability of the differences between groups.

If there were no Harlems we would have had no Adam Clayton Powell or Charles Rangel. Without the Bed-Stuys we would have no Shirley Chisholm. Blacks should not have to wait for the millenium when it is recognized that all men are in fact brothers, to participate in the political, economic and social process on an equal footing; rather they should use the realities of American life to ensure that participation now.

This writer, long an activist on the national scene, for black liberation and self determination, strongly supports the Carter concept of neighborhood development, as the most practical and realistic way to achieve greater black representation in local government and in Congress and a stronger and more viable black economic base.

LINCOLN O. LYNCH

Vote in primary

Dear AFRO:

During this Bicentennial Year, one of the greatest contributions citizens of Baltimore, Maryland, and indeed the nation can make, is to turn out in record numbers to vote in the coming Primary and all other future elections. This is especially true for black Americans.

If we, the people, have lost faith in government, are disgusted with corrupt, insensitive elected officials, have complaints about the weaknesses in government, then the responsibility is ours and we are the ones to blame.

In elections for the last six years less than 60 per cent of the eligible citizens took time out to vote and less than 30 per cent in the black community went out to vote.

With such disinterest in government by the American people, one can easily understand the following:

How political machines can control elections with "walk around money" and favors,

Why many incompetent and corrupt officials are returned to office,

Why those in office are insensitive to the basic needs of people,

Why we the people continue to complain about the ways the Constitution and laws are misused by those in office to suit their purpose.

If we the people, do not send a message to all candidates and those now in office by turning out in record numbers to vote, then we deserve nothing better from government and those who represent us than what we have received in the past.

ISAIAH E. WHITE

Salute of the Week

LORRAINE T. CHAPMAN

In the spotlight this week is Mrs. Lorraine Towns Chapman, who is being saluted by her family, friends, co-workers and church members.

Born in East Baltimore on Dec. 6, 1919, Mrs. Chapman is one of six children of Mr. and Mrs. Judge Towns (Thelma).

She attended Public School No. 124 at Broadway and Orleans; Dunbar High and Carver Vocational, where she majored in dressmaking and tailoring.

She walked each day to Carver, which was then located at Lafayette and Carrollton Avenues, worked two hours daily after school and sold newspapers to help her family.

She also attended Community College of Baltimore from which she received a certificate of honor.

Mrs. Chapman and her husband owned a produce store and rented horses. They also had two trucks, which they used on weekends to carry the kids to the beaches and amusement parks.

To supplement her family income, Mrs. Chapman took in laundry, did domestic work and sold beauty products. She sold the AFRO for 23 years on a route that was once her son's.

She has been a member of Faith Baptist Church for 44 years, where she sings on the Senior Choir No. 2, the Women's Chorus and is a member of the Canvass Committee.

Her minister, the Rev. Walter E. Paige, writes, "Much of Mrs. Chapman's service has been behind the scenes.

Whether spearheading a drive or assisting an organization, she stands ready to give her best — her all."

Our honoree has been employed as a neighborhood development assistant for the Urban Services Agency (USA) since 1969 (known then as the Community Action Agency), and has received awards each year for outstanding achievement.

Her former supervisors, Treadwell Phillips and Alvin Steele, who have continued to keep a close relationship with our honoree, told the AFRO:

"When one thinks of Mrs. Chapman, one automatically thinks of dedication, loyalty and love of fellow man. She has performed above and beyond the call of duty for USA residents, for they know they can count on her for assistance whether she is in the office or at home . . . It was a privilege to have the opportunity to work with her."

William Jackson, AFRO advertising salesman and former supervisor of Mrs. Chapman, said of her:

"It takes a very special person to make such sacrifices as getting up at the crack of dawn to chaperone 30 youngsters as they boarded a bus to camp; to accompany a destitute woman to the Legal Aid Bureau or to act as a guardian for a mentally retarded adult."

Her present supervisor, Marcus Knowle, writes,

"Mrs. Chapman has a very unique way of dealing with people, the young as well as the not so young. The diligence she displays in helping the residents is outstanding."

Mrs. Lillian Wright, a friend, writes: "She is called the neighborhood advisor and counselor, because her work is never done. People come to her home after hours for help and advice.

"She is also called Funeral Mary, for she is always available when death occurs to lend a helping hand. She doesn't have much, but she is always willing to give part of what she has."

Mrs. Chapman has been and still is active in many organizations from which she has received numerous awards.

They include: Dunbar; P.S. No. 133; No. 135 and No. 109 PTA's; Eastside Community Committee and Homemakers Club for 26 years; Voluntary Service, East Baltimore Community Fair; Women's Prevention and Juvenile Services.

Mrs. Chapman has four daughtrs: Mrs. Joyce Gittings, Mrs. Florence Harris, Mrs. Carolyn Whitener and Mrs. Lorraine Williams. She also has a son, Charles.

She has 21 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Why aren't our children learning?

By Helen Mitchell

There is a great deal of emphasis placed upon scholastic achievement in the school system. You cannot force a person upon any one individual; they must be willing to accept it, which apparently is not the case with today's black youth. The educational system must be revised. Busing is not the answer.

In this highly technological society, today's youth should be trained in such a manner so as to allow them to be expectants in their fields of interest. Even today they must compete and therefore it is still necessary for them to be amongst the best: More than likely, they find it a waste of time to learn geography or French when it is their ambition to be a good truck driver, a mechanic, barber, or dietician, etc.

Today we live in a world of specialists. Why should a student be forced to learn calculus when he simply wants to be a baker, artist, historian or physical education teacher.

In our highly specialized world, we find that even our military services are comprised of personnel who are trained in the fields where they are more likely to be effective and efficient.

We have heart specialists, eye, ear and nose specialists. Lawyers specialize in certain fields of law. Businesses thrive because most stick to one particular phase.

The Jews believe that at the age of 12, a boy becomes a man. Some states have enacted laws that allow an 18-year-old to buy beer and wine. The government says that at 18 a youth is eligible to enlist in the armed services. This should indicate that at an early age, a child's interests should be realized and thus developed through encouragement if the need arises.

By the time a student is eligible to graduate from high school, he should be proficient enough in his field of study to obtain employment.

By the time a student reaches high school, they should be so adept and exposed to other subject matter that they can then conclude that phase of education providing of course that they do not plan to further their education. A student then could devote the three or four years in high school totally and wholeheartedly to the mastery of his or her chosen field of study.

The school system that teaches our youth is itself comprised of specialists. For instance, the science instructor teaches science, the English teacher English, the history teacher history. Would the fact that a math teacher didn't take French in high school or college impede their teaching ability or make them less effective? I'm convinced that it would not.

We have to realize that every student is first an individual endowed with his or her own unique interests, talents and abilities. The school should strive to find those individual interests and only then can they help the student develop them. This must be done before there can be an effective educational system. Mass education is not achieving the expected results, nor is busing.

By the time a student reaches high school he or she should be at the stage in life where they are seeking to enhance their individual interests and needs. They find little help along these lines in school. A student interested in medicine should be able to take prepamatory medical courses after all nursing is now being taught in some of our vocational schools. Through interest and abilities tests, the schools can determine a curriculum that is best suited for the student.

There are several colleges in the country that I think have a solution to the problems the school system encounters in their attempts to educate our children. These colleges which are few in number and are not recognized by some of the larger institutions have established curriculums whereby a student can take subjects that are relevant only to their particular fields of study. As a result, a curriculum such as this cuts college time and expenses that so many of the higher educational institutions as a consequence has deprived many of formal educations.

Busing is a waste of taxpayers' money. Funds appropriated for busing could be used more purposefully for the reevaluation and the upgrading of our schools and for the implementation of necessary curriculums.

Recruiting police

Dear AFRO:

As you are probably aware, the Natural Resources Police Force has 199 officers who are responsible for enforcing laws and regulations relating to fish, crabs, oysters, clams, terrapin, game, waterfowl, migratory birds, boating and litter within the entire state.

Our recruiting efforts during the last few years have produced a significant number of qualified applicants, but few minority persons seem interested in applying. Out of our total force, we only have two black officers and they were recently hired as a result of the examination given last fall.

To overcome this disparity, we are sincerely attempting to fill vacancies as they occur with as many qualified minorities as we can. An examination is given once a year, usually in August or September by the State Department of Personnel. Any assistance that you can provide in helping us to increase the number of qualified minority officers in the Natural Resources Police Force will be deeply appreciated.

Should any one of your readers desire more information, please feel free to contact me at any time at Annapolis, 267-1240.

ROY W. RAFTER
Superintendent
NATURAL RESOURCES POLICE

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.

Nowadays — *by bill riley*

Seems the only way for a wife to get time for herself is to start washing the dishes.

Observation by an indignant faculty advisor: "When I was a kid there was no such thing as juvenile delinquency. We were all hard-core criminals."

"IF YOU THINK THIS ONE LOOK'S GOOD, YOU SHOULD SEE THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY."

Dear Jan:

I am dating a fellow who tells me that he loves me. Yet, his former girlfriend takes every opportunity she can to talk with him. We have had our differences about her before. I don't know whether or not he still cares for her or if he really loves me.

UPSET

Dear UPSET:

Remember you are not married to this fellow. He has every right to talk with anyone he chooses. The main thing that should interest you is whether or not he treats you all right. You will never have any peace of mind as long as you continue to be suspicious.

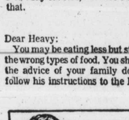
Dear Jan:

My problem is that I am too fat and I have short fingernails. My friends are all attractive and slim. Although my friends are nice to me I am always embarrassed when I am with them. Please tell me how I could get slender. Don't say eat less, because I have tried that.

HEAVY

Dear Heavy:

You may be eating less but still eating the wrong types of food. You should seek the advice of your family doctor and follow his instructions to the letter.



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 postcard to AFRO-Line, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21202, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address and telephone number.

QUESTION: I had a grandniece, age 19, who had lived in Baltimore all her life. Her niece, who is now deceased, visited another state and while she was there she gave birth at home. The doctor who delivered the baby is also dead. We have just discovered that there is no record of her birth. Do you know how we can go about getting a birth certificate?

ANSWER: AFRO Line was informed by a spokesman at the Board of Education that persons desiring an affidavit showing their birthdate should contact the last school that they attended.

If the school has been phased out or relocated, persons should call the microfilm unit at 396-6698 or 396-6599, for information on how they may obtain this affidavit. It is not a birth certificate but will serve as a legal document.

QUESTION: I read in your April 10 edition that a policeman, postal worker and bank teller were convicted of bank robbery and sentenced to five years probation and $250 restitution.

I am serving an eight-year sentence for bank robbery, even though I turned myself in to the police, signed a confession, pleaded guilty in open court and had no prior record.

Anytime a man who is employed to uphold the law is virtually set free, I feel that I have been discriminated against. Will you please give me the address of the Human Relations Commission so that I may apply for assistance?

G. L.

ANSWER: The address for the Maryland Human Relations Commission is Mondawmin Mall, Metro Plaza, Suite 300, Baltimore, Md., 21215.

A's AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Don't look for help, but if it comes accept it graciously. It will make a change for the better.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — You would have an easier time with world affairs than you do with your relatives. Concentrate on yourself for a while.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — You have fallen into a "wrong if you do, wrong if you don't" position. Use your own judgment to settle these matters.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — Get rid of that defeatist attitude and think positively. Things have been known to change at the last moment.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — If you want it done right, do it yourself. Matters as serious as yours should not be delegated to others.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — Refrain from shopping for some time. [illegible]

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Your problem is postponing chores that have to be done. Stick to your original plans.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Anything worth having is worth working for. Try a little harder, who knows, it might work the next time.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Thoughtless remarks may tend to harm your social ties. Listen more and speak less.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — You have a creative ability which can be used to your advantage. Display it in simple projects, then gradually move on to major ones.

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Try less complicated methods of doing your job. The work will flow much smoother.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — Forgive [illegible] says more [illegible]