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. 15, 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)

Donna, Boyce and this newspaper

Donna Stewart is the Lake Clifton High School valedictorian who defied school officials attempts to silence her and delivered a commencement speech extremely critical of her school principal. She is a current cause celebre, the Solzhenitsyn of the class of 1977.

Boyce Mosley is the educator who drew Donna's fire.

The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper is the medium through which an appealing young black woman is able to take her case to the people and in turn, Mosely is able to respond.

This is not so much a self-serving narrative as it is a statement, on where this publication considers itself at this point in its 85 years of operation.

Donna felt so strongly about her principal's policies she ended up just before graduation in local television news rooms and daily newspapers.

They turned a deaf ear to her entreaties.

But as we black folk always do, after some stumbling through darkness, through our mystical sense of unity and family we found Donna and she found us. Now not only the whole town knows her story but the nation as well. The United and Associated Press having caught up with the issue.

We are just as zealously attempting to publish Mosley's version of his administration while principal of Lake Clifton.

For Donna has captured our fancy so : now has Boyce Mosley.

It has been recently reported elsewhere that Mosley's educational practices have not been high on the list of this newspaper's priorities, that we have paid him scant notice.

That may be as we implied in our last editorial, "Contradictions At Lake Clifton." Mr. Mosely and the local white media had such a hot love affair going we felt it inappropriate to intrude, if not downright rude.

No matter. Donna, bless her heart, has blown the whistle on "Magnificent Lake Clifton" as principal Mosely is fend of answering callers on his office phone.

As an alternative newspaper, and as the black voice of this city, we see multiple roles for ourselves in this and most other matters.

As Ms. Stewart, correctly or no, challenged existing assumptions about a major institution, so must we—with maturity and in line with the real needs of our community. That has been an operating principle since our inception.

But we must also bear witness for brother Mosley, even as community elements rail against him, hear him out, let his positive ideas be heard in our community. Our public school system should be everybody's business.

And finally, as we are able to, we must provide not only a forum for Ms. Stewart, Mr. Mosley and all other of our citizens but a common healing ground as well.

As the AFRO prepares for the 1980's, we think it suitable to now say that we are not about dividing our people, we are are about fairness and we are about especially raising these issues that majority media in its own self-interest, must of necessity, duck or obfuscate.

Donna, Stewart, 16, brought her problem "home" to the AFRO. She understands that this is not only a news medium but it is home. Boyce Mosley, we are expecting any day now.

Post script:

The same TV types who had no time for Donna Stewart before her graduation speech now all want her on the tube.

There is a lesson in this for all of us. But what is it? "How soon they forget?" "How fleeting is fame?"

Beats us.

Questions about MSU's Center of Urban Affairs

We have watched, with much the same feeling of morbid fascination we suppose accompanies observing a mongoose stalk a snake, the unfolding saga of the Center of Urban Affairs at Morgan State University.

On this very page for three weeks now Madeline W. Murphy, our most daring columnist, with the help of Howard P. Rawlings, has been analyzing this important academic institute.

These two worthies have told us how the Center of Urban Affairs came to be, what its purpose was to have been and how it has fared since its inception.

Murphy-Rawlings stated in their opening parry that "Today, poverty and race, the core of urban problems, unfortunately leave us still within a vacuum of speculation about the who, where, what, why and when of blacks in the city of Baltimore. The Center for Urban Studies at MSU is our last resort of 'civilization and humanity' that might solve the overriding problems of 'The Baltimore Black'.

". . . for it will be through this center the proclamation and promise to be 'the hub of MSU's thrust into the Baltimore urban community' will be fulfilled."

At first glance we felt our writers might be expecting more of MSU's Center for Urban Studies than it could possibly deliver.

Baltimore's socio-economic and ethnocentric problems are innumerable, staggering but not insurmountable.

Cursed with less idealism than the Murphy-Rawlings team we are reluctant to place the city's salvation completely in the hands of a bunch of scholars no matter how brilliant.

You know how college types are. It takes them centuries to come to a conclusion about anything except, perhaps, how much money to ask for so as to continue studying whatever it is they're trying to figure out in the first place.

But then Murphy-Rawlings confounded us by reporting in their second installment, that in what was probably just a temporary abundance of rhetoric, the Center's spiritual godfather, then president Martin D. Jenkins, saw this urban center as the college's instrument of "community outreach and research on urban problems."

Dr. Jenkins also intended that the urban center, according to Murphy-Rawlings, "raise relevant issues in a public arena."

Dr. Homer E. Favor was named to head this visionary undertaking, a mission that with certain modifications he has been pursuing arduously since 1963.

Well the whole can of beans sort of spills out so far as our writers are concerned once the center concept was launched.

They speak softly but firmly, the questions of what precisely has the Center for Urban Affairs done to justify its existence? Why did MSU under then president King V. Cheek let the predominantly white University of Maryland at College Park walk away with some urban affairs money that MSU sorely needed to develop its unique program.

Murphy-Rawlings, in the necessary post-Watergate journalistic posture, in short, are questioning the very premises upon which MSU's urban studies rest.

As stated we are as fascinated as those of you who have been following their reportage must be.

If said institution is faltering, as Murphy-Rawlings imply, then thoughtful citizens, academics, laymen, yea, even journalists must set things right.

Our columnists have turned on the light. Now let's all take a good look.

Anybody home?

Now and then by g. james fleming

Adopting a business or two

There are ways in which black people of means can help to build black business — businesses owned and operated by fellow-blacks.

First of all, countless numbers of blacks must get over the hangup in believing black business places are, necessarily, inferior, or black business places "charge more," or black workmen "cannot be depended upon."

Instead, just as most blacks use — must use — black barbers, black hair culturists, black undertakers and attend black churches, blacks, of their own accord, must patronize other black businesses. This time, however, they will do so, not because they are forced to, but because they see the good sense in so doing.

This is no sermon against spending money with whites businesses. Rather, it is a plea that we find ways to spend with blacks as well as with whites, knowing the benefits that come to a people who develop their own economic energries.

In the very nature of the American society, black Americans cannot do business with blacks only, even if they wanted to. It would be foolhardy to try. It is just as foolhardy for blacks to discriminate AGAINST businesses conducted by their own group.

If a black artisan, vendor, or other enterpriser disappoints us, we must be willing to try another — just as we turn from one white businessman to another when the first white lets us down.

It will not always be easy finding black practitioners in some particular field, but we must try to find them, nevertheless.

The least we can do is to "adopt" some black enterprises — business places which we support even if it is somewhat inconvenient to reach them.

One of this writer's favorite adopted businesses is a travel agency, owned by a black couple and employing two other persons in the office and several field agents.

The owning family had three years' experience in a downtown travel agency before they opened their own business, and they are members of all the blue-ribbon certifying associations, such as the International Air Transportation Association, The American Society of Travel Agents, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation and the Air Traffic Conference.

This company can supply everything, from a bus ticket, to air or steamship accommodations around the world, to charter flights anywhere.

An important plus is that members of the organization have themselves visited most of the places for which they make reservations.

In earlier years, when I was editor of the Kappa Alpha Psi Journal, I had my fraternity "adopt" a black-owned printing company in Norfolk, Va., and we were able to help it grow from a small operation to a first-class, modernly equipped plant, able to handle every kind and size of job.

In another tactic, we can help black wholesalers by insisting on their products in supermarkets and other stores.

There is a housewife in Baltimore who, whenever she goes shopping, always checks to see if Parks sausage is on the shelves. When it is not, she heads for the manager and threatens what she will do, as a customer, if it is not displayed.

In the 1920s, when black musicians had the greatest difficulty getting their works and voices recorded, blacks in New York used to visit music stores and ask for records by black artists. They knew that there were no such records, but their frequent and numerous inquiries impelled the music retailers to pressure their salesmen, who pressured their distributors, who pressured their wholesalers, and so up the line.

Every race of people needs sellers as well as buyers; managers as well as the managed; employers as well as employes; producers as well as consumers.

Even with an agendum such as we have suggested, there will be lots of business that blacks will, or must do across racial lines. The important thing is that we give black business a piece of the pie, not the crumbs that fall from the "big house" table.

As we build up black men and women in business, we will also be growing the people who will, in turn, be in a position to give employment to others, support community institutions and pay the group's way in politics.

Spending some of our dollars, substantially, with black businesses and with white enterprises which employ and upgrade blacks, is the current version of a once-celebrated verbalism; "the Double-Duty-Dollar."

Washington report

Why strong minority businesses are a must

By Parren J. Mitchell

(Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's 7th Congressional District in the House of Representatives.)

During the present 95th Congress, I have and will continue to place a tremendous amount of time and energy fighting for national policies which assure the survival and growth of strong minority businesses. Continuously, I have and will continue to stress the burning need for blacks as a group to move toward the ultimate goal of "economic parity."

I totally and firmly believe the achievement of economic parity will open the door to the solution of many of the problems which plague our community and, further, that viable minority businesses are the keys to that door.

Many ask, "exactly what do you have in mind when you speak of economic parity?"

The reply is that economic parity is that point where blacks share in the positive benefits of our nation's economy at a level at least equal to our percentage of the nation's population.

Currently our country's population is approximately 214.6 million persons, with blacks numbering almost 24.8 million or 11.6 per cent. Economic parity, therefore, would be for blacks as a group to be responsible for 11.5 per cent of this nation's $1,792.5 billion gross national product.

Or, stated in a simpler fashion, economic parity would be, for example, when 11.5 per cent of the goods and services needed by the federal government are purchased from minority businesses. Or, going a few steps further, when 11.5 per cent of the procurement needs of state and local governments are purchased from minority vendors.

To date, however, I do not know of a single Federal Executive Agency, e.g., the Departments of HUD, Commerce, Interior, Labor, Transportation, Defense, etc., which obtains more than one per cent of its procurement needs from minority businesses.

The tragedy of the situation is described from another angle by the U.S. Census Bureau when it reports:

"Between 1969 and 1972, the number of black-owned businesses increased to 195,000 and their receipts grew to $7.2 million . . . (But) . . . Despite increases in black entrepreneurship during the 1969 to 1972 period, black-owned firms remained a marginal sector of the business community in every industry."

As long as black-owned firms remain "a marginal sector of the business community in every industry," blacks will remain marginal participants in the positive economic gains of the nation and over-burdened recipients of the negative economic trends of strife which the country encounters.

The trend is easy to follow. Continually marginal black businesses mean continually marginal black employment. Marginal black employment means marginal black income.

Reduced income, if not no income at all, leads to reduced purchasing power and increased dependence on human need programs. Increased dependence on human need programs must result in increased government spending and higher taxes on those who are employed. Higher taxes on employed people reduces their income and, therefore, purchasing power . . . and the sick cycle goes on and on.

Most importantly, we learn that with strong, viable minority businesses the trend can be completely reversed. Here is a prime example that the process can work.

A minority-owned and operated technical firm in Virginia, having participated in the federal government's Small Business Administration (SBA) procurement program for some years, has demonstrated a spectacular rate of growth and has proportionately contributed to the national, social and economic structure.

As a result of working with the government's most relatively successful program which encourages procurement from minority vendors, the firm's increase of sales from the first to the second year of operation was 220 per cent. Its net income before taxes increased by 3,000 per cent; its current assets increased by 100 per cent. The firm's community participation is markedly significant in that it paid more than a quarter of a million dollars in wages and provided almost a half-million dollars to other local businesses through outside purchasing of products and services. In addition, the firm paid almost $400,000 in state and federal taxes.

Best, however, is that this minority-owned and operated firm now has 170 employees. That is, 170 more persons who are consumers and producers, at the same time. That is, 170 fewer persons who have little need, if any, for dependence on human resource programs, unemployment compensation, food stamps and the like.

Much of this firm's growth, again, is directly attributed to receiving more than 100 government contracts, the majority of which were for less than a year in duration.

Strong minority businesses are a must and can be created through increased sensitivity at all levels of government. Economic parity is clearly a desirable and attainable goal, a direction in which this country must move or suffer the consequences.

Mondawmin appeals to Mayor

Dear AFRO:

Open letter to Mayor William Donald Schaefer

Dear Mayor Schaefer:

We, the homeowners and residents of the Greater Mondawmin area, make an urgent plea for your support to defeat City Council Bill No. 345.

We are aware of your long history, both as a councilman and mayor, of the high priority and consistent support you give to the improvement and stability of the residential neighborhoods of our great city.

We take this opportunity to emphasize the uncommon precedent the City Council established by ignoring the votes of our Fourth District councilmen who represented our community's strong opposition to Council Bill No. 345.

If "Baltimore is Best" is to become a reality, we submit it can only be achieved if all neighborhoods have the protection of their government when foreign elements, determined to destruct, invade our community.

We make this final plea to you, Mr. Mayor, to support our community in this fight for survival.

CASSANDRA YOUNG,
President,
Leighton Avenue and
Tioga Parkway
Neighborhood club

A little about a lot _____ by madeline w. murphy

Parenting becomes special friendship

The greatest thing about parenting is when your children no longer view you as an authority figure, but more as a friend.

No longer do you have to put forth the image of perfection implied in the terse command "do as I say do." You can relax; be yourself. Being an example reaches a weary stage, an outgrown, out-of-date, tiresome exercise that doesn't fool anyone anyway.

The former is the kind of friendship I had with my father, and though he's been dead for 28 years, I still miss the special camaraderie I had as a teenager, then as a young bride, when we would sit for hours talking or just communicating in silence.

It was not hard to fathom how this came about.

When we were kids, Pop never gave the impression that he was perfect. All of us knew his faults. I didn't have to go through that agonizing period of actually discovering the real person called "Pop."

He loved lots of kids around him. As manager of the public swimming pool in the summer, it would be nothing for him to cram 14 of us — friends and neighbors — into his V-8 and carry us the two miles to the pool. He let most swim free, because 15 cents was a lot of money then. Being an honest man, however, he'd let them through the turnstile and pay out of his pocket.

He taught physical education in five elementary schools and one combination Jr.-Sr. High School and gained a great deal of respect for doing (not telling how) every exercise. He performed on the horse, parallel bars, rings, rope, pyramid, tumbling, calisthenics and gave the junior high boys more confidence and a sense of bravado that made them excellent gymnasts in senior high.

However, in school and at home, he demanded respect. He was a firm believer that if you spared the rod, you spoiled the child.

As I grew older, since Mom worked late, I became his chief cook.

And in August he used to wheedle me into making a big pot of New England clam chowder from scratch.

It was quite a chore, steaming, chopping the clams, peeling the potatoes and making the milk sauce and heating both the clam broth and milk sauce to the same temperatures to keep the chowder from curdling. Because Pop was a perfectionist only when it came to his food!

When I would complain about the all day job, he would bribe me with the promise that next summer he'd get me a concession on the boardwalk at Atlantic City, even painting a big sign that read "Babe's Clam Chowder!" In my heart of hearts, I knew it wouldn't happen, but I'd go through the grueling chore, year after year, hypnotized, maybe seduced by that sign.

But Christmas really brought out the boy in the man. He loved playing Santa even when we became too old to believe and he always spent too much on gifts and decorations.

I often tell my kids his jokes. I try to copy his piano playing — always on the black keys. And I guess I inherited his love of nature. He grew his tomatoes from seed and loved late January when the days grew longer and the seed catalogs crammed the mail box.

He knew that meant that spring was galloping in ready for his seedlings. But when the tomato plants got large enough to stake, and grew close together, Mom had to take over hilling them up because Pop was scared of the tomato worms and bugs he called "hummers."

Many were the hot summer nights before air conditioning, when we'd all pile into the car in our pj's and drive through the marsh land to cool off. The same marshes where he would take us and our friends on 4th of July night to set off Roman candles, sparklers and plain old fire crackers that made an e-e-e-r-r-i-e-e-e-r-r-y, unusual brightness in the spooky damp back road. It was his farewell to summer.

Today during warm summer evenings, I think of how we'd drag the porch furniture down to the curb to get what he called "the sea breeze from the gutter." And on clear nights he'd point out the Constellation, the big and little dippers, Orion, the evening star, the Milky Way, for he had taken and loved astronomy in high school, and was mystified and fascinated by the heavens.

Now on Father's Day, though he's been gone a long time, as he promised would happen, thinking about him brings him closer and maybe brings his spirit nearer to all of us. At least I'd like to think so, and perhaps he'll see how his teachings have blossomed into parenting, at long last, an extension of that special friendship I shared all too briefly with him.

"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

Wanted: Young black Democrats

Dear AFRO:

I am deeply concerned by the very visible lack of black Marylanders in the Maryland Young Democrats — the youth arm of the Democratic Party.

It is my firm belief that the lack of black involvement in our organization bodes ill for the future of both the black community and the long-range health of the Democratic Party.

The Democratic Party needs the black community of Maryland! We need to understand the conditions of the black experience. We need to be exposed to the viewpoints of the black community in regards to important social legislation and economic development in Maryland.

Traditionally, the Maryland Young Democrats have not been an extremely youthful group. The age range for membership is 18 to 35 years. In the past, the average age was around 30. How it is around 20 or younger.

Traditionally, the Maryland Young Democrats have been a lily-white organization. At this point, it remains largely just that.

We are making a very major effort to bring young blacks into positions of influence in our organizations.

If any young black civic-minded or political individuals are interested in the Maryland Young Democrats, please drop me a line at Box 3, Elk Mills, Md. 21920.

STEPHEN S. CROCKETT
Expansion Director
Maryland Young Democrats

Inmate's prayers answered

Dear AFRO:

I am currently confined to the Maryland House of Correction in Jessups, Md., serving a life sentence and determinedly trying to qualify myself for re-entry into the community at large, properly equipped with skills that will denote my return to society as progressive.

Towards this end of self improvement, I am enrolled and participating in the Essex Community College program which is conducted by the college on site at the Maryland House of Correction.

Recently the financial package that enabled me to enroll in the program fell apart in face of rising education costs and reduction of federal grant money.

Seeing that the termination of my education was ominously approaching, I immediately launched a letter campaign appealing for help and directed them to more than one hundred churches, civic groups and charitable organizations and consumed over a month's wages for postal costs.

Most didn't even render a cursory response, the remainder responded negatively with the exception of the Rev. Dr. John R. Bryant, pastor of Bethel AME Church.

Dr. Bryant took prompt and strong affirmative action by contacting Essex Community College and offering a donation of funds to subsidize the cost of continuing my studies in the AA degree program.

I prayed for someone to understand. God proved to me that Pastor Bryant did.

LESLIE JOYNER

Indifferent politicians

Dear AFRO:

On Thursday, June 9, 1977, the Urban Affairs Committee of the Baltimore City Council conducted a series of five hearings on proposed urban renewal areas surrounding mass transit stations within the Rapid Transit System.

My purpose in writing this letter is to report, in disgust, that only two out of 10 members of the Urban Affairs Committee found time to participate in these hearings, which lasted for five hours.

Chairman Clarence Burns and Councilwoman Victorine Adams were the two in attendance.

Such displays of indifference by our elected officials make one wonder what values obtain to the democratic process?

As a resident of the Mondawmin area, I was a witness to the manipulations within the City Council that were finalized by a vote permitting a fast-food restaurant on the Mondawmin parking lot, over the vigorous protest of the homeowners and residents of the surrounding neighborhoods.

This conduct by elected officials explains the apathy many of our citizens have regarding their ability to be heard, particularly in issues that have immediate and permanent effect on their neighborhoods.

Our City Council should operate at a much higher level of ethics and purpose if Baltimore truly is going to be an "All American City."

CLARENCE L. YOUNG JR.
United Citizens of
Mondawmin

Walbrook high mystery

Dear AFRO:

A student at Walbrook High who is supposed to graduate this June may not graduate because of a mistake by one of the teachers.

According to a source (who will remain nameless), a particular science teacher failed to record a student's grades. This error was brought to the attention of the head of the Science Department who instead of giving the student a passing grade of 60, asked the principal, Mrs. Anne O. Emory her advice. It was agreed that the student write a term paper to determine his grade.

What angers teachers and students alike at Walbrook is the fact that the teacher who was supposed to issue the grade told Ms. Taylor, via phone, what the student's grade was.

Why then has Ms. Taylor chosen to ignore this. It remains a mystery as do many things that occur at Walbrook.

Name withheld by request

Ali's theology

Dear AFRO:

Christianity is the white man's religion, said Muhammed Ali, in a nationwide television interview.

He thus shows he can dispose of opponents (in the ring) by a knockout or points and has surely alienated many admirers with such a comment.

B. J. SMALL

Smile

"What's the matter? You seem so sad."

The college student answered, "I wrote my dad for money to purchase a study lamp."

"What's wrong with that?"

"He sent the lamp."

Let's support Andy

Dear AFRO:

The Baltimore Civic Interest Group (CIG) is calling on all black people in Baltimore and Maryland to write to President Jimmy Carter in support of the first black ambassador to the United Nations, Andrew Young.

It is our feeling that Ambassador Young is right in calling Mr. Nixon and Mr. Ford racists. The administrations of Mr. Nixon and Mr. Ford were the most racist that we have known. Therefore, we feel Ambassador Young's characterization of the two.

We also feel the Republican Party and its chairman Bill Brock is and always has been a racist group. Republicans have always been noted to be anti-poor and anti-black.

Now is the time for poor and black people to speak up and give Ambassador Young our support by writing to President Carter and telling him that we support Ambassador Young.

IRVIN J. CONWAY
Chairman, CIG

Young beat _____ by larry young

Monthly calendar

(Mr. Young is a member of the House of Delegates. He represents Baltimore City's 38th District).

During the past two or three weeks, members of the Maryland General Assembly have received two questionnaires that I wish to bring to the attention of "Young Beat" readers.

Both questionnaires deal with facts they wish to obtain from individual legislators that will be compiled and submitted to the Legislative Compensation Commission. This commission has the responsibility to recommend to next year's General Assembly session the proposed salary that members of the House and the Senate will receive, effective the next term.

So as I was answering the questionnaires from the Department of Legislative Reference and the Legislative Study Group, I reflected over the recent months so I could try to answer the questions as thoroughly as I could.

One question not asked was, "How does a state legislator explain to a vocal minority of his constituency the difference between being a state legislator and a city councilperson?"

It is not unusual to have persons call for services that should be handled by their councilperson, but so as not to discourage them from calling elected officials, the legislator will do his best to respond to that call.

The councilpersons, who have offices in City Hall and or offer services from their homes, have the advantage of the office and secretarial assistance year-round.

The legislator, if he is a House member, receives an interim expense account and has secretarial assistance only during the legislative session. And more often than not, since the session is 90 days, that same legislator has another job. And yet, for the most part, the legislator maintains a high profile so that one might easily suspect that he or she is at the legislative chores full-time.

Let's look at the month of June from this legislator's calendar. On June 1 there is a tour of the district with staff members of the Department of Economic and Community Development. That evening, I speak before the Sandtown-Winchester Neighborhood Association.

June 8 — Every Monday evening the 38th Legislative District team meets.

June 8 — Speak before the American Association of Blacks in Energy.

June 9 — Speech for Student Government Association leaders. Attend Planning Commission hearing on House Bill 939. Also, that same night I attend a groundbreaking of the Greater Model swimming pool.

June 14 — Monthly Citizens Democratic Action Organization meeting.

June 15 Health Roundtable monthly meeting.

June 18 — Attend monthly Prayer Breakfast, New Shiloh, speaker: Mr. Harold Carter Jr.

June 21 — People's Democratic Action Organization monthly meeting.

June 22 — Meeting with several Harlem Park block groups.

June 23 — Town Hall meeting on the proposed House of Good Shepherd Community Correction Center.

June 25 — The first of six District-wide workshops. This workshop will deal with the topic of housing.

The workshop will be held at the Greater Model Community Recreation Center from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. It will deal with the whole question of housing blight and related problems.

Two featured speakers are Ms. Susan Hamburg, assistant states attorney and Mr. M. J. Brodie. Registration is $3.00.

Anyone who wishes to attend, please call 488-6025 for more information. Or send your registration to 38th Housing Workshop, P.O. Box 13003, Baltimore, Md. 21203.

June 28 — Maryland Black Leadership Conference follow-up session, 7:30 p.m., Morgan State University, Room 319.

June 30 — We will host an energy briefing to voice our views on this very important issue and respond to its impact on our constituents.

The above sample does not include the non-legislative responsibilities or the two monthly meetings of the House Environmental Matters Committee. Nor does it include those meetings one gets called to with only a day's notice. Or the calls that you make in response to the constituents' complaints.

So, as I had to say to a lady at one of the neighborhood groups' meeting I attended, "Your group is one of my favorites, and I would like to attend all of your meetings, but if I did, other constituents in the district would say I was inattentive to their concerns."

So, we do the best we can with little or no staff, a low postage budget and maybe just enough money to have a part-time secretary to help. But you know what? As of this moment, I still love the job.

People are reading

From the Pratt Library's Dundalk Avenue Branch, 912 Dundalk Ave., here are five selections for pleasure reading recommended by Floyd C. Owens Jr., of the library staff. These titles are available at most Pratt agencies.

THE HOUSE OF DIES DREAR, by Virginia Hamilton. Mysterious going on in a house that was once a station on the Underground Railroad.

THE SOUL BROTHERS AND SISTER LOU, by Kristin Hunter. A singing foursome builds a triumph out of the materials of tragedy.

SING DOWN THE MOON, by Scott O'Dell. A forced Navaho migration from their homeland as told from an Indian's point of view.

AFRICAN MYTHS AND LEGENDS, by Kathleen Arnott. Thirty-four dramatic folktales from south of the Sahara.

SIMPLE'S UNCLE SAM, by Langston Hughes. A collection of forty-six short stories of the black experience as seen by Jesse B. Simple of Harlem, U.S.A. (Also available in large print)

In defense of horses

Dear AFRO:

Charm City isn't really as charming as it could be with tired, overworked, overloaded workhorses on its streets.

People blithely drive by these animals and scarcely give a thought to the overloaded wagons they're forced to pull, the whips that are sometimes used on them, the chronic sores they have under their collars and, in general, the miserable way they're treated.

Traffic flows beside them with horns honking and traffic lights blinking. These poor animals do not belong on the hard asphalt streets of a supposedly progressive city like Baltimore.

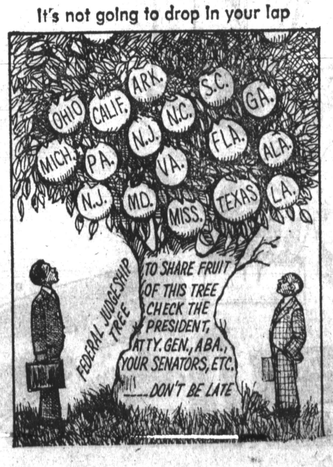
MARCIA WHITE

Smile

The teenager thought it stange that her date would be wearing his socks inside out. So, she inquired. He quickly replied, "I told my mother my feet were hot. She suggested I turn the hose on them."

A disgruntled wife accused her husband of thinking more of the family dog than her. The husband agreed. His reason: "The dog growls less."

It's not going to drop in your lap



Salute of the week

(AFRO readers are invited to submit names of persons or organizations to be used in this column. Write Salute of the Week, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203).

MRS. EVELYN FAULK

Mrs. Evelyn Faulk, president of the Kappa Chapter of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, was recommended for recognition in this column by one of her sorors.

Under Mrs. Faulk's administration, the Iotas have had several firsts.

They have become more involved in youth oriented activities and have initiated a tutorial process at Harlem Park Junior High for students who were in need of remedial English and mathematics. They also honor women who have contributed to the community.

Mrs. Faulk is an analyst for the Social Security Administration. She and her husband, Arthur, a pressman, have a 12-year-old daughter who attends Greenspring Junior High.

A native of Tarboro, N.C., Mrs. Faulk is the daughter of Mrs. Edith Boyd and the late Alfred Boyd.

She is a graduate of Cortez Peters Business School, Class of '59 and did further studies at Community College of Baltimore and the University of Maryland.

Mrs. Faulk is also a member of Tots and Teens, Inc. and finds time to serve as an adult volunteer for the Girl Scouts.

In addition she serves on the auditing committee of Leadenhall Baptist Church and was recently named chairman of this year's Women's Day observance.

Mrs. Faulk has a brother, Alfred and a sister, Mrs. Rosa Owens, both of whom live in Baltimore. Two other sisters are Mrs. Edith Tillery of Tarboro and Mrs. Mary Sturdivant of Brooklyn, N.Y.

Simple crime prevention tips

Stay alert when using your car. Don't assume you're an impossible target simply because you're on wheels.

Here are 10 "Rules of the Road" for crime prevention.

1. Don't travel alone at night if you are having car trouble or are low on gas.

2. Keep the doors locked and windows rolled up whenever possible.

3. be alert at stop signs and traffic lights. These are favorite places for assailants to try to jump in.

4. If someone tries to break into your car, pull away if possible, but by all means honk the horn. Short bursts attract the most attention.

5. If you think you are being followed, don't go home. Head for a police station, fire station, hospital emergency entrance or other safe public place where you can call for help.

6. Park in lots that offer good security, are well-lit and are close to your destination.

7. Don't leave valuables such as wrapped packages or cameras in plain sight in a locked car. Lock them in the trunk.

8. Before getting back into your car, check the back seat for someone hiding there.

Where to call

COMPLAINTS

Of discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental disability or tension in your community, call COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION — 396-3141 or 398-3150 — of questionable business practices, CONSUMER PROTECTION, 383-3656 — on food, drugs, cosmetics, medical devices, radiological products, call FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION — 462-4499

Afro Line

EDITED BY TRUDY STEELE

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., 21203, stating the question you want answered. Include your name, address, and telephone number.

QUESTION — My mother lives in a block where there are two empty houses on each side of her. These houses have been boarded up several times but the kids continue to pull the boards off.

I saw a picture in the May 31 edition of the AFRO showing that there is a way to board up property and the kids can not pull it off.

I fear for my mother's safety there and she refuses to move. She is blind and living on a small pension but feels she can stay there cheaper than she can anywhere else.

Please help me help her. — E. J. T.

ANSWER: Investigation revealed that the properties of which you speak are all privately owned. Attempts will be made to contact the owners and appeal to them to board up these houses in plastic which is not only more secure but attractive as well.

QUESTION: The topic for next month in our teenage Sunday school class is smoking. Are there any trends that indicate that teenagers are smoking less? Can you tell me where I can find the answer?

ANSWER: The American Cancer Society recently conducted a nationwide study and found some encouraging signs.

"First of all, cigarette smoking is a minority phenomenon among the young and the hazards of cigarettes are known.

"Young people value physical fitness and self control, traits that don't fit in well with entrapment by the cigarette habit.

"Young people tend to favor stricter anti-smoking regulations and young people who don't smoke tend to exert pressure on their friends who do.

For more information call the American Cancer Sodiety at 889-3800.

A's AND YOU

ARIES "The Ram" (March 21-April 20) — Your ability to carry out specific duties is greater than you imagine. Stand tall because you are going places.

TAURUS "The Bull" (April 21-May 21) — A friend is willing and able to help you get what you want. Avoid being extravagant and make an attempt to learn more about how money gets away from you.

GEMINI "The Twins" (May 22-June 21) — Certain matters need not be discussed at this time. You will do well to begin making plans.

CANCER "The Crab" (June 22-July 23) — You are getting closer and closer to your goal. A Scorpio may help you a great deal.

LEO "The Lion" (July 24-Aug. 23) — Plans for an upcoming trip should be cancelled. It is more important to concentrate on financial matters.

VIRGO "The Virgin" (Aug. 24-Sept. 23) — Learn to distinguish truth from fiction. You have a tendency to lean towards attractive things.

LIBRA "The Balance" (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — More patience and understanding will help solve your domestic problems. Also, take a good look at yourself.

SCORPIO "The Scorpion" (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Consider only jobs of which you are fully knowledgeable. Otherwise, you may ruin your chances for future advancement.

SAGITTARIUS "The Archer" (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — It will be to your advantage to swim with the current, no matter which deirection it takes. Later the true story will be told.

CAPRICORN "The Goat" (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — There may be an explanation for the way someone is acting. Before you draw your conclusions why not ask?

AQUARIUS "The Water Bearer" (Jan. 21-Feb. 19) — Your popularity will gain if you take the advice of those who are more experienced.

PISCES "The Fish" (Feb. 20-March 20) — What appears to be a mass of confusion may be a blessing in disguise. Good fortune will soon come your way.