Tower of terror

In last week's AFRO edition, Dec. 24, the "Our World" section featured a photograph of a young girl in a classical dance pose. The accompanying paragraph showed proud parents and friends in the audience.

The young dancer as it is with most of the audience calls the Murphy Homes "home."

We begin with these positive images to keep things in perspective.

Most of the 758 families in the Murphy Homes are good, hard-working people with positive hopes and aspirations.

It is on behalf of these families we speak now!

Five murders within a year in any neighborhood is pure horror. Five murders in a public housing project paid for by your municipal, state and federal taxes is horror compounded. That is the situation at Murphy Homes!

What has happened is that we are directly subsidizing violence, an outlaw climate and the control of government property (which is the people's property) by thugs, narcotics traffickers and worse.

We have no way of knowing how many rapes, robberies and other acts of violence go on in the Murphy complex (more go unreported than are recorded, we suspect).

We do not know how many decent Murphy children get "turned out," as the street saying goes, to lives of crime.

We do know that so much violence occurring in such a small area of the city indicates that terrible things are the order of the day in the microcosm called Murphy.

Casting blame is not the answer. The housing designers who thought low-income families would appreciate high-rise apartment living have been proven completely wrong.

Not too many years ago the city of St. Louis was honest enough to face up to the fact that its high-rise public housing increased despair, accelerated violence, indeed worsened conditions such projects were supposed to correct.

St. Louis faced its problem squarely and dynamited several city blocks of its sprawling Igoe district high-rise projects, blew them off the face of the earth ...

... and began to build public housing that was conducive to constructive family living and human development.

Public housing similar to actual family dwellings is the answer. Vertical ragers such as the Murphy Homes are not for people desperate to be free and with their feet on the ground.

We do not suggest that the Murphy Homes be razed to the ground, not just yet anyway.

What we do state strongly is that if the Department of Housing and Community Development decides there will be no violence or crime in or around the Murphy Homes – the killing will stop.

We state strongly that if the police department decides the casual, easily-observed dope dealing in and around Murphy Homes must stop – it will stop.

That gentleman, gentle spirit George B. Murphy Sr. cannot help but be a restless, anguished angel as his spirit observes the hell being enacted in an edifice bearing his name and commemorating his life of public service.

The real trouble with Murphy Homes is that our public servants are not doing their jobs.

That the inhabitants of Murphy are black and poor perhaps has much to do with murders, with no arrests, permissive dope dealing, juvenile terrorism, et al. – no one with final responsibility feels any sense of urgency about families caught in this horror – after all they are poor and black.

We speak not of who is to blame but of who is accountable.

We view the Murphy Homes' situation as one of hope, of young people longing to dance professionally or study or act or put balls through hoops, anything which is a positive act.

We hope this city's administrators come to see it this way also.

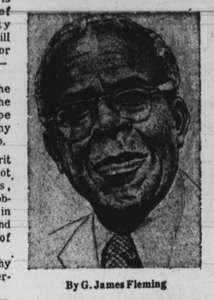
So far they have been blind.

His spirit must be weeping

G. JAMES FLEMING

NOW AND THEN:

What will 1978 bring?



By G. James Fleming

There is the usual wonderment about what is in the store for the world in the new year; what's in store for our own country, for our city and state; what's in store for our families and for ourselves as individuals.

Regardless of what happens in Cairo, Jerusalem, Geneva and Washington, in reference to the Middle East, 1978 is bound to be a significant year in the area of peace and war.

If Egypt and Israel can come to terms and end nearly 30 years of warfare, 1978 will be an epochal year. If the other Arab countries join Egypt, the year will be super-epochal.

But, it can go the other way. It could be that man fails man again and that all the hopes of 1977, starting with the Sadat visit to Israel, are rendered asunder and that a new state of war is resumed — only more intense than before.

It could also be that, even if a formal peace treaty is signed, it turns out to be only a "scrap of paper."

As 1977 ends, however, millions of people are praying for real peace in the Middle East and for a state of peace between and among the nations of the earth.

No country ought to want peace abroad and at home more than the United States. Our people have no taste for war so soon after the Vietnam involvement. Our people feel that the cost of war (not just in money) is too high.

There are also concerns on the minds of most Americans: The ever-increasing cost of living, ever-escalating taxes, the sad state of public education and crime in high and low places.

Most important of all, to most people, is the inability of millions of men, women and adolescents, willing and able to work, to find jobs. For instance, unemployment among black youth is as high as 40 per cent in some cities.

In matters narrowly political, there are many thoughts about the national administration. Is it able to meet the challenge of the next three years? Can it improve the unemployment situation in the private sector, in coalition with business and labor? Can the President bring his Democratic Congress in line?

The coming year will be a most important year for Jimmy Carter. He will no longer be a "new President," a "beginning President", an "untried President." Few will be making excuses for him.

To America, then, Best Wishes for a Happy New Year, from each of us, to all of us and especially for the best in American traditions and ideals.

In the several states and localities, 1978 will be a case of better or worse, or of making time. From Guam to the Virgin Islands and through the 50 states, there will be elections of governors, mayors, state legislators, county commissioners and members of the Senate and House of Representatives.

Many observers have long held that what happens in these state and local elections is, or can be, more important than what happens in Washington, or at the United Nations, or at "Summit" meetings. Indeeds, it cannot be overlooked that state and local governments, especially local, touch each person most intimately every day.

These midterm elections, more often than not, are a measure of the national mood.

Much of what 1978 brings will be called by man "acts of God." In truth, however, most of what affects us all in the coming twelve months will be acts of men and women — human beings at their best, at their worst, and in between.

That, in 1978, all of us will perform at our best and loftiest, and that each of us will find much to be happy about, is the New year's wish of this column.

Sarbanes' choice

Paul Sarbanes has finally decided on his nominee for U.S. Attorney for Maryland, a young white attorney from a prominent Baltimore real estate family. Russell T. Baker.

It is no secret that we would have preferred a young black attorney for the post. A. Dwight Pettit was the front-runner and we think Mr. Pettit or some other bright young black would have brought fresh vision and perspective to this important post.

If we knew Mr. Baker we might congratulate him but that's just the problem, we don't know him. He will remain insulated from our community until that day a campaign bug bites him.

We'll know Mr. Baker when and if he ever runs for office. He'll be shaking hands with us and eating chicken in our parlors and all that palsy stuff.

Come to think of it, that's how we met Paul.

The campaign but bit him and all of a sudden he was shaking our black hands and all that palsy stuff. Remember, Paul?

And good-hearted us, we went for it once again.

But "Karma," Paul! What goes around come around.

Mr. Pettit

A. Dwight Pettit is too young, politically astute and intelligent to worry himself unduly about not being Sen. Sarbanes' choice for U.S. Attorney for Maryland.

Pettit's bid for the post attracted wide support from blacks, whites, haves and have-nots. He was at all times gentlemanly in a tough political situation.

As one of President Carter's first Maryland supporters he has unselfishly seen that other blacks have been placed high in the Carter administration.

He has proven that he can deliver. The President knows that and most of us know that.

Our counsel, now, is patience. Mr. Pettit knows how to put political machinery together and we sense that he will be the right man in the right place in Maryland before much longer.

Mr. Pressman, Mr. Wilson

Hyman Pressman ranted and raved for naught against the city's award of a contract to Kenneth O. Wilson to operate the Inner Harbor boat marina.

We suspect Mr. Pressman, adroit politician that he is, knew he did not have the votes to block Mr. Wilson's bid but decided to put on a good show for the losers

The marina issue was drawn as black-white but Mr. Wilson, an officer of the AFRO, is a successful businessman with more than a decade of service with one of the city's oldest (86 years) continuing firms, this newspaper.

The city wanted a businessman to run its marina, not a society sailor. Mr. Wilson fills the bill.

A LITTLE ABOUT A LOT:

MADELINE MURPHY

By Madeline W. Murphy

I have no big resolves just yet for the New Year, but for those who received kittens for Christmas, and I hope there were a few, hear this:

The other day, I watched my cat in the yard as a huge dog approached. The cat crouched prepared for battle. So confident was he, Morris, that not a hair was raised nor was his tail bushed and to my surprise he pounced, frightening the dog so much with his aggression that the dog skittered away, his ears back and tail between his legs.

Often as I watch that cat, barely out of kittenhood, with his yellow coloring, I do believe that he thinks he's a tiger. For his fearlessness is next to folly.

And I fear Morris will rue the day, when he may stalk a willing adversary.

Many times he will perch in the gnarled branches of an African pine by the door yard, walk across the bent branches as if they were floorboards, then leap to the ground in front of me, stopping dead in his tracks, docilely rubbing against me and talking beguilingly in his semi-burr, semi-mew as if reverting to his house pet role. Play acting to a very willing audience.

Perhaps it is this dual, nay versatile, behavior that repels anti-cat people. "You can't trust a cat," they say. But what's to trust if you understand their sense of humor. Cats are putting us on all the time.

The unexpected in their behavior and antics seems mystical, frightening, the dark side of the unknown seems to be empitomized by their unpredictability. They do not blink their eyes and this gives people another reason to abhor their eerie countenance. As if they are ever watchful, have some clairvoyance, some ability to fathom or predict the occult.

And though they may have tiny brains by the mere size of their heads (making some surmise they are really dumber than most animals) what then makes them so close to the windshield until my husband lets him in. Whereupon he climbs over his shoulder on to his lap until he gets out of the car.

While he works on his stone wall, Morris jumps in and out the hedges, begging to be noticed, to be played with or even to be teased.

One thing, though, as I entitled this article, cats are not a take it or leave it pet — either you love 'em or hate 'em, there's really no in between.

But to cat lovers everywhere, I wholeheartedly agree, they are the greatest pets to have. Hope you got one for Christmas.

For cat lovers only

coat is so warm and if I don't hurt her she'll do me no harm . . ."

Then the wilyness of the cat, its independence, almost haughtiness in "Pussy-cat, pussy-cat where have you been?" "I've been to London to visit the queen." "Pussy-cat, pussy-cat, what did you there?" "I frightened a little mouse under the chair." ("Stupid!" he might have added.)

And indeed, if cats are encouraged to remain aggressive, like playing with string and newspaper batons; if they keep their claws sharpened on a velvet covered bark, they will earn their keep as mousers and ratters. And, heaven forbid, an unwary bird or two.

They may be unpredictable, aloof, demanding and arrogant at times, but they are also sensual, graceful and thoroughly endearing. Perhaps I'll make women's libbers angry when I say that this is exactly why they are often compared to women; called "she" more often than "he."

But tied to this idea is the old saying "A man who likes cats will be good to his wife."

And personally, I can attest to that, for my husband is the cat's best friend. Just like a dog he greets my husband at his car each day, and if he remains too long listening to the radio, Morris will jump on the hood, stick his nose close to the windshield until my husband lets him in. Whereupon he climbs over his shoulder on to his lap until he gets out of the car.

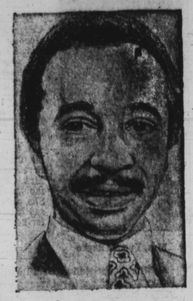
While he works on his stone wall, Morris jumps in and out the hedges, begging to be noticed, to be played with or even to be teased.

One thing, though, as I entitled this article, cats are not a take it or leave it pet — either you love 'em or hate 'em, there's really no in between.

But to cat lovers everywhere, I wholeheartedly agree, they are the greatest pets to have. Hope you got one for Christmas.

WASHINGTON REPORT:

PARREN J. MITCHELL



Present discrimination

..Mr. Mitchell represents Maryland's Seventh District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

As predicted months ago in this column, the year 1977 witnessed the sharpest increase ever in the cries of "illegal racial quotas," "unnecessary preferential treatment" and "reverse discrimination."

Although 1977 was bad, I shall predict now that 1978 will bring an even greater number of attacks on affirmative action programs and the beneficiaries thereof. The attacks will spread from the areas of education and employment to our lifeline to economic survival, a viable minority business enterprise community. In fact, it is already happening. The decision has been made that "they" have come too far too fast and it has to stop now!

During an appearance late in September on NBC's television program "Meet the Press," the issue of so-called reverse discrimination was raised with regard to past discrimination. The question was asked of me:

"...if minority groups are to receive any special consideration for a period of time, the idea being to compensate for damage of past discrimination, at what point should the period of time end and competition for jobs and school admissions be on a basis of individual merit without reference to race?"

It should be made very clear that preferential treatment on the basis of past discrimination is not necessarily the focal point, nor the real issue. What about preferential consideration on the basis of present, ongoing discrimination?

It is ridiculous to assume that racism, prejudice and discrimination are dead in this country. Those things are very much alive and preferential treatment or at least goal oriented affirmative action programs may well be the most affective tool presently available for addressing the situation.

Paranoia. Preposterous! Proof you say?

Just ask broher Willie Lanier, star linebaker for the National Football League Kansas City Chiefs, about present discrimination. Earlier this year Lanier was shocked when his application to become a member of the Salisbury Country Club, located in Chesterfield County near Richmond, Va., was denied allegedly based solely on the fact that he is black. Neither his status in the National Football League, nor his position as an off-season executive with the Philip Morris Company, nor his residence in the $100,000 plus Salisbury community made any difference. Willie Lanier was still black.

What about just last month in Boston when a group of teenage black students and their 25-year-old teacher were attached by "several white men swinging sticks and golf clubs" resulting in injury to four of the youths and the teacher? Allegedly the attackers were upset over a court-ordered integration plan. The students and their instructor were merely on a field trip visiting the historic Bunker Hill Monument.

How are the following events involving the U.S. Justice Department to be interpreted?

On Nov. 16 I was advised that the department had filed suit charging the owner of a roller skating arena in Texas with refusing to admit blacks and Hispanics.

On Nov. 28 a consent decree was issued requiring an apartment firm in Raleigh, N.C., to adopt a fair housing program.

Why, in December of 1977, is the New York Times able to headline and the Baltimore Sun able to carry a detailed account that a "2 Million Fund Support Research On Racial Inferiority?" The papers further explained that the private trust fund still existed and, in fact had existed "for more than 30 years" to support the research of scientists who believe blacks are genetically less intelligent than whites.

Prayerfully we can hasten the day when we can ring out the old, past discrimination and ring in a new day of racial harmony and human understanding. Presently, such is not the case.

For Discussion

Is TV to blame?

Our children can't read

By Kip Branch

Giant edifices called libraries stand tall and stately in every city in this country.

In New York City, the main branch is on 42nd Street, in Baltimore, on Cathedral Street and only 40 miles away, in Washington, is the Library of Congress. While we do use these valuable resources, we don't use them enough.

Too many of us do not encourage our children to explore the wealth of information libraries contain, as if they, by simply going to and coming from school, will somehow educate themselves by magic or osmosis. This does not happen.

Black parents, of all parents, must become even more seriously involved in the relationship between our children and their studies. If this means that we must grow some more, this is what we must do. Such support staples as the once dependable parent-teacher meeting have lost some of their impact. Nowadays before any of us can go to a parent-teacher meeting at school with any hope of progress there must occur in the home a parent-student meeting.

Since the early seventies, major colleges and universities have been seeking "qualified black applicants" to enroll in programs in journalism and the communicative arts.

Many students enroll in schools of journalism and communications. Sadly, many drop out after they discover they do not have command of the English language. Many of them simply cannot write.

Their dream of becoming journalists soon turns into a nightmare when they are forced to accept jobs as sales clerks or receptionists after graduation.

Granted, racism does enter the picture. But the most distressing aspect is our children do not have the ability to effectively use the English language.

However, the average youth can quote the name of Muhammad Ali's most recent opponent or how much money Reggie Jackson makes. Almost all of them can tell you how many yards O.J. Simpson gained on television any Monday night.

Ask Earl Monroe or D.J. what advice they would give young people and they would probably answer: study and learn.

Every child needs role models — people to emulate. It can be a relative, teacher, preacher or friend. When a child starts school, the amount of influence becomes a joint responsibility shared by those closest to the child.

Most children do not imitate real people who impact (or should) on their lives. Instead, they imitate electronic role models — the vacant faces on the TV screen.

All too often children spend long hours watching television when they should be doing homework or could be reading a book. Since television is indeed more entertaining than academic work or literature, school work and books take a back seat to the Tube.

It is important to see which events receive the most coverage on television. The answer is always the same: sports and entertainment.

The Olympics, the World Series, NBC playoffs, "Midnight Special" and numerous musical award shows are events that our children see in massive quantities.

And sporting events outweigh entertainment by about three to one. The athletes the child sees become real to him and the child aspires to become famous as an athlete. Few of them know or could understand why Abdul-Jabbar studies at Harvard during the off-season.

Unless your child is tremendously gifted, you should know by the time he reaches high school whether he has a future as a professional athlete. And, if city asphalt is kind to him and if he shows promise, his legs may be able to bear the weight and pressure of professional sport.

But what happens if he doesn't graduate? What happens if he doesn't get an athletic scholarship, and more important, what happens if he does not have a viable alternative?

Yet every day newspapers and magazines tell of the glory of sport: All has earned more than $30 million as a boxer and Reggie Jackson gets a half million each time he changes teams. We cannot argue with these figures because they are facts, and in black children, they create an urgency — for the money, fame and pretty faces that sports, entertainment and cash attract.

Television shows us the beauty of a Stevie Wonder, the honesty of a Richard Pryor, the fluid movement of a Dr. J. and the cool of a Walt Frazier. But it does not show us the many who have not made it. The realistic chances a black child has of becoming a celebrity or a pro athlete are less than one in 1,000. This leaves 999 potentially unemployed and unhappy persons.

Historically we have believed the quickest way out of the ghetto was to become an athlete or an entertainer, but we have forgotten, or maybe we have never truly realized, that the cheapest thing inside and outside the ghetto is the library card: it is free.

Black parents on all economic and social levels must place the desire for learning next to Earl Monroe in the backcourt and we must begin the task of demystifying the glory of sports and entertainment.

Because the career of the professional athlete is usually over by age 35 and because the entertainers that our children emulate live and endure such painful lives, the value of the diploma and degree is invaluable.

For every hour spent on the athletic field or basketball court one and one half hours should be spent inside the library.

The black child needs to develop all the intellectual talents he has if he is not to become disenchanted when his legs give out, when his voice falters or when someone younger or fresher bursts upon the scene.

ELIZABETH M. OLIVER

FOR ALL WE KNOW

City Editor

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

PREDICTIONS — 1978

BISHOP MONROE SAUNDERS and congregation in March will settle for the Reddy School's 30 acres on Rte. 40 and soon thereafter will unfold one of the most fabulous of all religious complexes on the East Coast. Who else but Rt. Rev. Mr. Saunders could fashion such an institution.

The 98-year-old fashionable school is in the heart of an old English settlement which dates back to the 1600s but the bishop will top it all in prestige with his plans.

CURTIS WRENN, the director at University Hospital, looked on higher branches and found several better berries. He'll be moving on out soon.

COL. BISHOP ROBINSON will soon wed we hear, and he and his bride will become another happy couple like Col. James H. Watkins and his new wife, Mrs. Goldie M. Moore.

JUDGE JOE HOWARD will go on the Federal Bench and lots of other appointments are due in '78 since Sen. Sarbanes promises something "real good."

MARIAN PINES of the Mayor's Manpower Office will have to take the rap for folks who have insisted that she "do them favors" by handing out jobs.

KENNETH WILSON'S plans for the Marine will make it blossom into one of the finest in the U.S.A.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY FORECAST

DEL. TROY BRAILEY says:

HOTTEST issues — Continental Can prison site will be crippled by the legislation now in progress to withhold the $25 million.

DEATH PENALTY legislation will be even hotter.

UNEMPLOYMENT benefits will bring smoke and fire as efforts come to raise aid checks from $89 to $110 weekly.

REAL property tax is another hot one.

ONE CENT sales tax will be recinded

COST OF LIVING will be increased for welfare recipients.

PRINCESS ANNE College will be closed if things go wrong.

BRAILEY'S legislation will extend the Jan. 15 MLK birthday holiday to all city employees.

FRANK CONAWAY, the lobbyist for insurance firms will set the stage to return to the Legislature seat.

CONAWAY FORECASTS: Blair Lee will become governor — if — he fills these two seats with blacks: Economic Development and the Lottery Commission plus command seats on the many lily-white boards and other commissions.

MORE black legislators will come to add to the 19 present total — from East Baltimore's 43d District and Cherry Hill's 6th District.

WILLIAM SWISHER, the vulnerable states attorney, won't make it since there's soooo much power against him.

GOV. LEE will back off the death penalty

ART MURPHY is the delegate most likely to follow Sen. Robert Douglass as Black Caucus chairman although the "big guys" in the 5th won't vote for him. Del. Larry Young is running neck-in-neck.

MCDONALD'S will open its plush place at Mondawmin.

CUTTING OUT the "making deals" activity, the Black Caucus will come in solid and make great strides on issues which benefit black citizens.

DEL. JOHN DOUGLASS, creative and innovative, will further add to his prestige as the most astute politician.

SEN. VERDA WELCOME, undaunted by illness, will hang in there through 1978 since no one can beat her at the polls.

MORE MONEY for Baltimore city education will come through legislation.

BLACK CAUCUS members will be "calling the cards" if they say, "OK," you beat us on Continental Can. Now you owe us the Secretary of Transportation and the Lottery Commission.

LOTTERY PLAYERS in Baltimore will "break the bank" by refusing to play three days in a row and that's for sure.

SEN. BLOUNT'S Urban Services Agency will come under the searchlight like no other Watergate before.

Marvin Gaye liberation

Dear AFRO:

It appears Marvin Gaye has started his own war on poverty but I am startled by the ground rules. How Marvin Gaye supposed his back-up musicians were working for free to enhance their image as a mystery to me.

I am a songwriter with a few songs on the market and the rule is — contracts. To avoid any possible misunderstandings there are contracts. The American Federation of Musicians will supply standard contract forms to any musician in need of them. Musicians are paid a flat rate or they have the option of a royalty agreement. Some musicians in need of ready cash will play for immediate cash and they will not be entitled to any royalties.

The spokesman for Motown claims no knowledge of the identity of these people but it is inconceivable to me that Motown will release recordings with no idea of who they are dealing with.

I can't imagine what is to be gained by poor entertainers playing for free for rich entertainers.

If Marvin Gaye is going to have a record session a lot of preparations have to be made: careful selection of material, voicing or positioning the instruments for the best performance, the number of instruments that are to be used.

I cannot believe that Marvin Gaye can cut an album by allowing untried musicians to walk right in off the street and join in the recording.

I have been around musicians that went around forever looking for jam sessions but they expected me pay. To play with Sonny Stitt or Charlie Parker was an honor and a great experience. How Motown or Marvin Gaye select their back-up men is one of the great mysteries of my time.

It is no probem becoming a millionaire if one is going to do business in this manner. Before I would use my brothers in this fashion to make my million I would rather stick up a candy store or sell drugs or snatch a pocketbook.

Of course I would not do any of those things but I am partial to struggling musicians. But now it is very obvious to AFRO readers why they are struggling.

Many brokenhearted musician has his intrument in the pawn shop window because some superstar ran out with all the money.

I am not saying at Marvin Gaye or Motown if their policy is securing free musicians to back up their superstars, but I do wonder how they pay their bills and who supports the family while they are busy burning out free superhits.

PAUL D. MCALLISTER

LETTERS

Gracious gesture

Dear AFRO:

Somewhere in our city there are two very considerate people who have not been thanked for a gracious gesture extended to my mother and to me Saturday, Dec. 10.

We were involved in an automobile accident when an oil truck struck the rear of my car at Northern Parkway and Belvedere Avenue. Obviously, many motorists continued toward their destinations but almost before we were aware of it, a calm, supportive lady was at the car inquiring, comforting, assisting, advising and rendering service which should not go unmentioned. She spoke firmly to us, to the ambulance attendants, to the driver of the truck and we think she had a word with the police.

There was a gentleman who responded also and he, too, was compassionate.

Perhaps by now these two persons — whose names we do not know — think we have forgotten or were unmindful of their concern.

That is why we hope that they (and many others) will read this word of gratitude and that they will know that our families thank God for them and their help.

MS. DOROTHY B. BROOKS
MS. DORA J. BROWN

Crew thanks the AFRO

Dear AFRO:

On behalf of the Baltimore City Public Schools I wish to extend to you our deepest appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the tremendous cooperation you gave us during our recent measles immunization program.

As you are well aware, five weeks ago we were confronted with a near crisis situation. Some 20,000 of our secondary students were not in compliance with the state law requiring them to have proof of measles immunization. Without proper immunization, these students would have been excluded from attending classes after Dec. 1.

We can thankfully report at this time that all but a very few of our secondary student population of 73,900 have been immunized. And to a large extent, media coverage made this possible.

I am aware that down the stretch, with time running out, you reported regularly on our progress and on the location of Health Department clinics. Also, that you urged parents and students to comply with the law before the Dec. 1, 1977 deadline date.

We are most grateful for the help and cooperation that you gave us.

JOHN L. CREW SR.
Superintendent

Department store commercialism?

Dear AFRO:

There has been growing criticism about retail overcommercialization of Christmas. That criticism has now been reenforced by the department stores, rationalizing a "defiance of the blue laws," promoting the Sunday before Christmas as a major sales day.

Normally, one does not expect the leaders in our retail community to set a negative example of law observance for the sake of the almighty dollar.

But then one recalls the many, many thousands of dollars expended the past few years in their efforts to repeal any and all restrictions on commercial activities on Sunday and perhaps they feel justified in "defying" the law in order to recoup some of those dollars.

It may be coincidental that these department stores, now owned and operated by out-of-state corporations, were much more sensitive to community opinion during the years when they were locally owned and managed.

HERMAN KATROW, Director
Mayor's Advisory Committee on Small Business

Predictions— 1978

THE AFRO: the way we were, Jan. 1, 1966

Cafe-Snubbed Baltimore Soldier Now Balking At Viet Duty

STORY IN COLUMN 2

TEEN PARTY ENDS WITH FATHER SLAIN

STORY IN COLUMN 3

Happy New Year To One And All!

Baltimore Afro-American

Annual Round-up Of Year's Events

PHOTO-STORY ON PAGES 4, 5

74th Year, No. 48 — Established in AFRO-AMERICAN 24 up to Publication published at the Carrier Express Building — BALTIMORE, MD., JANUARY 1, 1966 — 24 PAGES ★★★★★★★ 15 CENTS

WIFE DISCOVERS HER DYING HUBBY, UNCONSCIOUS WOMAN IN CAR GARAGE

Vets to protest war in Vietnam

War veterans from various sections of the country will descend this Sunday on the War Memorial Grounds at Gettysburg, Pa., to begin at the annual peace light (now) to demonstrate their opposition to the U. S. involvement in the war in Vietnam.

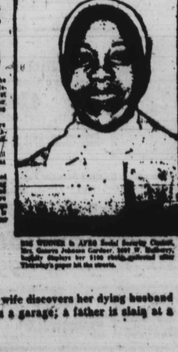
Leon Shaver, world-championship Baltimore veteran for the march, tells the AFRO that the gathering is also intended as demonstration support of last year's demonstration in the capital.

"We unconditionally defend their rights to full freedom of assembly, speech, press and other forms of freedom of expression," Mr. Shaver said.

Speaking for war veterans who have participated in all the major conflicts of this century and during that time have served in the armed forces of the United States, Mr. Shaver said the present U.S. involvement in Vietnam is an unjust war and that the United States should withdraw its forces from Vietnam and let the people of Vietnam settle their own affairs.

CORE decries

NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1966 — A wife discovers her dying husband with an unconscious woman in a garage; a father is slain at a teenage party and a Vietnam veterans protest at the War Memorial Grounds.



2ND WINNER in AFRO Social Security Contest, Mrs. Geneva Johnson Gardner, 1007 N. Bradford, happily displays her $100 check—second edition Yesterday's paper hit the streets.

Integration flags in Md. Military

A HIGH-AIR photo exhibit

"GARAGE DEATH SCENE — Sgt. John F. Wallace, Wednesday found his garage to be the scene of 2000 lb. Number 48 Baltimore Afro-American photo

Left her at door, never came home

By STERLING A. PAULE

A Tuesday morning was added to a Christmas holiday when a Baltimore house-wife and her husband were startled by discovering the unconscious body of her husband and another woman on the floor of a small garage.

The husband, Clifton Jones, 41, the man N. Dunning St., was pronounced dead on arrival at Lexington Hospital at 1:35 a.m.

The woman, later identified as Mrs. Ethel Mae Jones, 48, of the same address, was rushed to the Lexington Hospital in the same ambulance with her husband but was pronounced dead on arrival.

Mrs. Jones, a mother of two, was found by her husband in the garage of their home at approximately 1:30 a.m.

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Mrs. Jones, a mother of two, was found by her husband in the garage of their home at approximately 1:30 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S DINNER — Sgt. John F. Wallace, who was found in his garage by the wife and friend 2 p.m. Monday