—Rep. Mitchell endorses Lee

(Continued from Page 1)

He stated, "Lee is firmly committed to the school lunch and day care program and other programs for the needy. He is moving the poor from the back burner."

Rep. Mitchell has been noted nationwide in his congressional fight to keep federal programs for the needy from being scrapped.

In lauding Mitchell for his Congressional role, Gov. Lee told the AFRO, "He has a lot of clout and they listen to him in Washington. It's good for us in this state and we can work together."

Specifically, as to Lee's performance, Mitchell said:

CON CAN SITE

"I have examined Acting Gov. Lee's performance to date.

"He made the right decision in the Continental Can prison site controversy. He worked for and signed the Trotter bill which gives minority business access to participate meaningfully in State contracts.

In addition he worked for and signed the Maryland Small Business Development Financing Authority which will assist those who are socially and economically disadvantaged.

"As you know the funding for the $2 million bond bill is included in the budget.

"A further examination of the acting governor's performance reveals that (1) he has appointed the first black, Joe Woodrick, to the governor's executive staff; he appointed the first black to the Maryland Court of Appeals, (Judge Harry Cole) and he broke the color barrier by appointing the first black to the Exclusive Executive Detail of the Maryland State Police."

HOYER TOO

As to State Senate President Hoyer's performance, Mitchell said he made a check with leaders in the General Assembly and finds that Hoyer is responsive to the problems of the cities and the state.

He said, "I have talked with a number of representatives in Annapolis who have worked with Steny Hoyer and each one has pointed out one thing, that in his leadership in the Senate, Baltimore city faired far better than in any other leadership in the Senate.

"I have talked with members of the House and the Senate and they said he has really lived up to his committments, and based on that I am willing to endorse him."

Cong. Mitchell also said he talked with black leaders before considering Lee and "of course ministers because ministers' opinions are always critical."

"It's my understanding some meeting is being planned between Blair Lee and the ministers," he stated.

MORE ENDORSEMENTS

He said he had not talked with the Legislative Black Caucus yet but he would be very surprised if Lee did not get unanimous support from the group.

"Further he said in the next couple of days he expects a number of black elected officials to come out to support Lee. Most may wait until after July 3, the deadline for filing and immediately after that you may see endorsements.

Mitchell said he does not know if Lee feels that the Mitchell endorsement guarantees the black vote but he thinks his endorsement will be of "significance".

"I certainly do NOT assume that my endorsement of Blair Lee III, reflects the thinking of all the black citizens of Maryland. Some black citizens will probably support other candidates.

"That is healthy. The black community is not and should not be monolithic in its political participation.

"I do intend to urge black citizens to support the Lee candidacy."

LEE AND LABOR

As to Lee and labor, Mitchell said, "I don't think he has been as strongly supportive of organized labor as he should have been. He said some unions are strongly in favor of Lee and some are not.

"I am not at all sure the trade unions in Maryland are faring as well as in other states.

So I want a governor who will be sympathetic to those trade unions that have been supportive of civil rights and civil liberties and the cause of the poor and minorities."

LEE'S STATEMENT

Lee's complete statement as told to the AFRO, after the Mitchell endorsement was announced, is as follows:

"I am absolutely delighted. Congressman Mitchell and I have been friends a long, long time.

"We see eye-to-eye on most things and we disagree on some which I feel we can work out.

"He has a lot of clout in Washington and they listen to him in Washington and across the country. That is good for us and we can work together. I have much respect for him. It makes me very happy."

—Venetoulis

(Continued from Page 1)

—ensure that our urban programming is cost-effective; and

—ensure that our urban strategy promotes conservation of energy and natural resources.

During the end of Venetoulis' statement he said that there had not been an urban strategy under previous Maryland administrations.

"I challenge the Acting Governor of this state to tell the people of Maryland why our state doesn't have an urban strategy," Venetoulis said.

"I challenge the Acting Governor to tell the people of Maryland why, during a full year as Acting Governor, he has not directed that work be started to qualify Maryland for a share of the $200 million federal urban pot."

Venetoulis' announcement of an urban strategy came the same day that Congressman Parren Mitchell, D., Maryland, made public his decision to back Acting Gov. Lee.

When asked his opinion of Mitchell's decision, Venetoulis woul only say "I think Congressman Mitchell has made a mistake." Ann Stockett, his choice for the spot of lieutenant governor candidate.

The Baltimore County Executive also took time during his press conference to formally announce his running mate Ann Stockett, his hoice for the spot of lieutenant governor candidate.

Venetoulis said he chose Mrs. Stockett, an Anne Arundel County Councilwoman because he "wanted to do something bold."

The new lieutenant governor candidate, a 39-year-old Annapolis resident, said, "Let me tell you something about the Stockett-Venetoulis ticket. It was not in that old Maryland tradition, a political deal.

—Karate expert

(Continued from Page 1)

Johnson was known to give karate demonstrations and would "spend his last dollar to send a student to a tournament," said a friend.

He formerly taught karate at St. Ambrose Catholic Church and was a karate instructor in the Park Heights Avenue area at the time of his death.

Funeral services for Johnson were held June 21. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Catherine Johnson, two daughters, Lisa and Cecelia Johnson; five brothers, three sisters and his mother, Mrs. Delores Funderburk.

—Who 'bugged' CCB offices?

(Continued from Page 1)

"No one will fess up to how the wiring got there," said Dr. Rafael Cortada, president of CCB. "The devices could have been put there at anytime. They even coulf have been installed as early as three years ago, when the building was erected."

"I don't know why they were put in there anyway," he added. "Frankly what is said in the offices is really quite dull."

Dr. Raymond Bowen, vice president for academic affairs and former head of the Harbor Campus could not shed further light on the mystery stating "he had heard the rumors and reported it to the proper people."

"You can't charge anyone without the proper evidence," he said.

Although the how and why of the electronic devices remains a mystery, speculation among high placed CCB sources holds that the bugging may have occurred right after the death of CCB president Dr. Bard's demise, this theory has it, created an air of uncertainty among CCB officials as to the future of their own jobs with the advent of a new administrator.

There are reports that a key official still employed at the Harbor Campus may be directly involved but no disciplinary action has yet been taken against this individual.

Sources do say though that this staffer's position is quietly being phased out.

But the basic question still remains unanswered. Who installed the "bugs" and why?

A spokesman for the police department contends officials in Central District police headquarter, CID and ISD were unaware of any devices "legal or illegal."

"We don't have any there," said the spokesman Mike Bass.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer could not be reached for comment on the situation.

MSU professor gets grant

Dr. Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, an assistant professor of history at Morgan State University, has been awarded a $21,343.41 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to conduct a nation-wide study of the techniques of oral history in black urban communities.

The first stage of the investigation will examine the Baltimore City-Wide Young Peoples Forum, a precursor of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Baltimore, during the two decades between the World Wars.

An oral history workshop to be held at Morgan State University on June 21 and June 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Communications Center, Room 200 will launch the project.

Dr. Penn is the principal investigator of the project. Dr. Thomas Cripps, professor of history.

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Second Class postage paid at Baltimore, Md.
Circulation audited by Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC)
Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, 638 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201 Phone (301) 728-5300.
John H. Murphy 3rd, chairman of Board; John J. Oliver Sr., President; Max E. Dyson, Secretary; George C. Lettier, Treasurer; Frederick A. Howard, Vice President/Production; Raymond Boone, Vice President/Editorial; Kenneth O. Wilson, Vice President/Advertising; Moses J. Newson, Executive Editor; Ralph Matthews Jr., Managing Editor; Elizabeth M. Oliver, City Editor.
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Veterans can get education loans

Veterans Administration Regional Director John Rue reminded veterans in Maryland that they may be able to get a VA education loan to help with education expenses.

In addition to monthly educational allowances that begin at $311 per month for single veterans, the agency will make loans of up to $2,500 each academic year to qualified veteran students.

The GI Bill allowance is not to be repaid, and the loan repayment can be deferred until the veteran ceases to be at least a half-time student.

"Under new procedures," Rue said, "we will be ready to issue the loan papers almost as soon as the school tells us the veteran is in class."

But he reminded veterans that they, themselves, "are the key to making sure the loan is received promptly. Prompt application will make loans of up to $2,500 each academic year to qualified veteran students."

Rue said he wants to make certain that no veteran student in Maryland finds himself in a financial bind because of an avoidable delay in the necessary VA loan procedsing procedure.

Basketry workshop

A Basketry Workshop will be offered by the Baltimore City Bureau of Recreation on Tuesdays and Fridays, July 11, 14, 18, and 21, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., at Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave.

The cost for all four meetings and all materials will be $15. The class will include basic wicker techniques and participants may expect to complete two articles. Ms. Barbara Worthington will be the instructor. Class will not be held for fewer than 10 enrollees.

To register, please contact Mrs. Elizabeth L. Merryman, Nature Program Coordinator, Bureau of Recreation, 1129 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, Md. 21202.

Black political groups endorse Lee-Hoyer ticket

Acting Gov. Blair Lee's campaign for governor got a major shot in the arm this week when he was endorsed by several black Baltimore politicians.

The endorsements from several West Baltimore political organizations, mark the first official stand any black groups have taken for any candidate in the gubernatorial race.

One of the first black groups to endorse the Lee-Hoyer ticket this week was the Fourth District Democratic Organization.

The group voted unanimously to back the Lee-Hoyer ticket at its regular monthly meeting.

The unanimous endorsement of Lee came as a total surprise to Sen. Verda Welcome, head of the fourth district democratic group, who said she expected some of the members to back Baltimore County executive, Ted Venetoulis.

"It came as a total surprise to me," she said. "I thought the majority of the members would cast their vote for the Lee Hoyer team, but I didn't expect a unanimous vote."

Sen. Welcome said the fourth district endorsed the Lee-Hoyer ticket because it has "the ingredients of a winning team," and "will work in the best interest of all the people in the state."

The second endorsement for the Lee-Hoyer ticket came on Thursday from Rep. Parren J. Mitchell.

The Five and Five Political Organization, which is the major black organization in the 41st Legislative District endorsed the Lee-Hoyer team at a meeting held Fridav.

Sen. Clarence Blount, who is head of this powerful political group said they endorsed Lee because "he is the best man for the job."

Sen. Clarence Mitchell's group the People's Democratic Action Organization and Del. Larry Young's group the Citizens Democratic Action Organization will be endorsing Lee-Hoyer June 30.

City Council vice president, Clarence "Du" Burns' group the Eastside Democratic Club will not endorse a major candidate until its regular meeting July 16.

Burns said at the present time the group is split between Lee and Venetoulis.

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Swine flu claims dismiss negligence

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Americans paralyzed by swine flu shots in 1976 need not prove government negligence in pressing their claims for $365 million in damages, HEW Secretary Joseph Califano announced Tuesday.

But he said the Justice Department will further negotiate such claims and expects to pay only "a fraction" of the total sought by most of the 535 victims of polio - like Guillain-Barre Syndrome in the aborted swine flu campaign.

Twenty-three of the 535 died. Most others recovered completely, but the government — which did not warn of the paralysis danger — has been hit with 439 Guillain-Barre damage claims.

Altogether, 42 million Americans were vaccinated in the swine flu program before it was abruptly canceled Dec. 13, 1976, because of the outbreak of paralysis.

Calling Guillain-Barre a "tragic consequence," Califano said the Justice Department decided to drop the negligence requirement because the Department of Health, Education and Welfare did not warn people they might become paralyzed. But he said HEW did not know such a threat existed, and insisted the government was not negligent.

"There are some things that are simply not known," he said. "The truth of science changes all the time."

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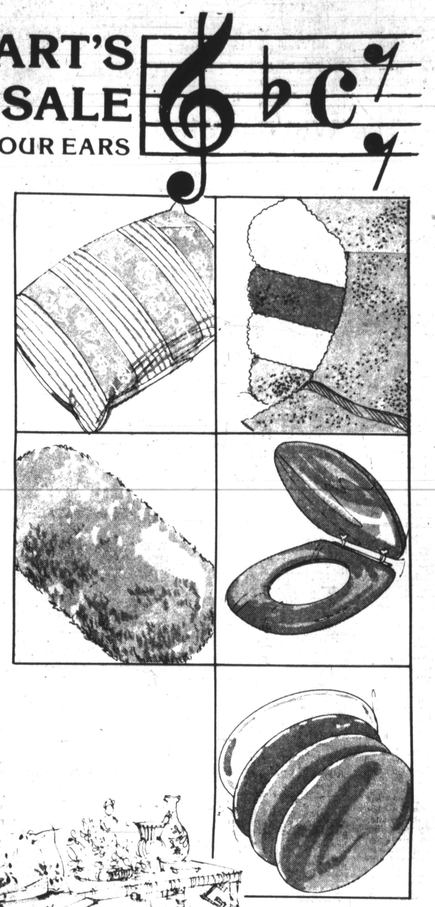

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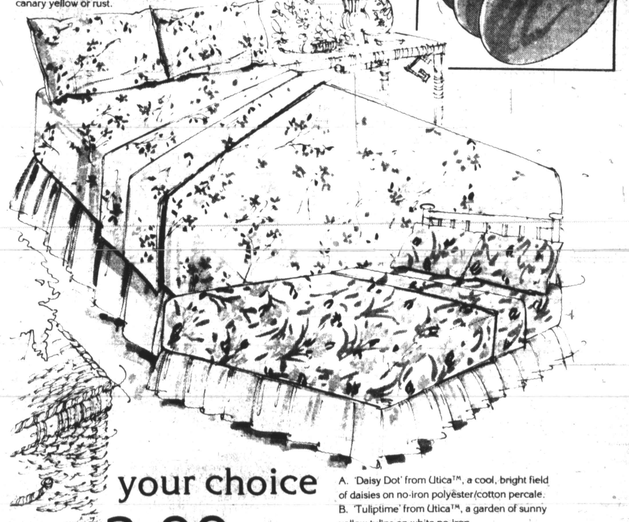

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