HANDSHAKING TIME — During the 6 to 10 p.m. affair held at the Teamster's Union Hall on Erdman Avenue, Sen. Robert Douglass took time out to greet his guests including Lucille Hall.

POLITICALLY SPEAKING — Sen. Robert Douglass, D-45th (L) chats with Saundra Banks, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas and Herbert Brown, head of Mondawmin Travel Agency who were among nearly 200 hundred guests who attended his fundraiser.

AFRO Photos by Mark Williams

Pvt. Larry D. Washington, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Washington, 10000 Stonewood Rd., recently received a Parachutist Badge upon completion of the three-week airborne course at the U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga.

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Douglass kicks off U.S. Senate campaign

Sen. Robert Douglass' campaign for U.S. Senate got into full swing this week as he held his first fundraising affair.

The dinner and dance, held Tuesday at the Teamster's Union Hall on Erdman Avenue, was attended by nearly 200 people from all over Baltimore and surrounding counties.

Douglass, East Baltimore senator from the 45th district, who filed for the Senate seat March 3, says he decided to run two years ago but didn't make the final decision until the night before the filing deadline.

He says Black candidates should not announce their campaign two years in advance because this gives the competition "too much time to try and defeat you."

On hand for the 6 to 10 p.m. affair were fellow were Senators Clarence Blount, D-Baltimore and Tommie Broadwater, D-Prince George's County.

Broadwater pledged the support of Prince George's County and urged residents from Baltimore who constitute over 50 percent of the voter registration population to use their strength to put him in office.

Other General Assembly members at the activity were East Baltimore Delegates Hattie Harrison and John Douglass and Margaret Murphy, D-41st.

Other political club members and leaders included West Baltimore businessman William "Little Willie" Adams, Ray Haysbert, president of Parks Sausage, Henry Parks, former owner of Parks Sausage, Earl "Coach" Banks and Wes Ivey.

Douglass has been campaigning in other parts of Maryland for the state-wide election. He has stated that there has not been "any real assessment of whether people in Maryland want or would accept a black candidate. But he said that "we must chart a new course for the future."

He expects the bulk of his votes to come from Baltimore City and Prince George's County along with parts of Montgomery County.

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Black astronaut keynotes 1st MSU science symposium

Major Federick D. Gregory one of the first black astronauts to enter NASA's space shuttle program, was keynote speaker at Morgan State University's first science symposium, held April 23-24 in the McKeldin Center Ballroom.

The theme of the symposium was "Expanding Opportunities in the Science."

After graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy, Gregory entered pilot training and received his wings for undergraduate helicopter training in 1965. He flew a helicopter for three years, which included taking a Vietnam tour as a rescue crew commander.

Maj. Frederick D. Gregory

In 1969, he cross-trained to fighters and entered the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxent River, in 1970.

From 1971 until 1977, Gregory was a research engineering test pilot for the Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and for NASA at the Langley Research Center, Va.

Gregory was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in January, 1978, and in July commenced a two-year training and evaluation program to qualify for subsequent assignment as a pilot on future space shuttle flight crews.

Representatives from the Franklin Square Hospital, District of Columbia Hospital, Provident Hospital and Howard University participated in informal sessions, panel discussions, and lectures by guest speakers on a broad range of topics, including "Career Opportunities for Women in Science," and "Engineering Opportunities for Minorities."

Participating firms from the private sector included Bell Laboratories, IBM Corporation, National Institute for Health, National Research Laboratories, Proctor and Gamble, and the Xerox Corporation.

Activities also included the famous Einstein Exhibit, and also featured exhibits by NASA, Western Electric, and ACM Computer Terminal.

Beth Steel to lay off 1,000

Bethlehem Steel Corp. plans to lay off 1,000 steelworkers at its Sparrows Point shipyard this week and expects to lay off another 1,000 workers within three weeks, a union official said Wednesday.

Walter Scott, recording secretary for Local 2610 of the United Steelworkers of America, said company officials told him the first 1,000 workers will be laid off at the plan's plate mill beginning today.

Scott said he was told another 1,000 steelworkers will be laid off from other plant divisions in "two to three weeks."

Company spokesman Ted Baldwin would not confirm or deny Scott's figures, but said the plant would lay off some employees because of declining sales.

"We have already released a statement that indicated there has been some fluctuation in order patterns and that we are making adjustments," he said.

A daily newspaper said sources within the company had confirmed the report.

Bethlehem Senior Vice President D. Sheldon Arnot was quoted in Wednesday's editions of the Wall Street Journal as saying "Large-scale cutbacks" would be made in the firms operations throughout the country.

Baldwin said 650 to 900 steelworkers laid off earlier because of the sales slump remain out of work. He could not predict how long any layoffs the firm might make would last.

The co-chairman of the Baltimore Rent Control campaign said his organization will continue to fight for the resignation or dismissal of Charles Colson as acting head of the Planning Commission.

Colson was treasurer of the Keep Baltimore Best Committee, a coalition of elected officials, property owners and landlords who worked to defeat a rent control referendum on the November 1979 ballot.

More recently, after Mayor William Donald Schaefer appointed him as acting director of the Planning Commission, rent control supporters learned he and his wife Marilyn own more than 200 properties in the city.

Rent control advocates claim many of those properties are substandard and protested living conditions in Colson-owned houses at a Planning Commission meeting.

Ken McElroy, rent control co-chairman, said members of his group will personally visit as many of Colson's properties and help tenants receive aid to make repairs or eliminate housing code violation where necessary.

"We are still adamant about his removal from the Planning Commission," McElroy said.

The rent control group's inventory of his properties is a warning to other landlords, he said.

"This is an example to other big landlords that they shouldn't get away with these things," McElroy said.

Press Institute

The second annual UDC-CPC Press Institute was held Thursday at the University of the District of Columbia Van Ness campus.

The theme this year was "1980: The Decade of Women and Minorities in Communication." Workshops were held on print media, public relations and the broadcast media.

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