EVEN HOPE IS GONE

The jobless picture in Baltimore today

Continued from page 1

Ministers announce every Sunday from their pulpits that Baltimore could surely employ more black persons "since Cubans are coming right in an getting work". But the rejection of black persons by employers continues.

The 1980 high school June graduating classes hold thousands of young people who are now joining the throng of unemployed.

INDIVIDUAL CASES

Some of them are destined at an age of below 20 years to join the host of older people who sociologists declare "will never work again." This is the result of the damage to health, home and family and the soul.

One unemployed man told Ryales he never expects to work again because life in the street last winter left him crippled by pneumonia. After his family was evicted for non-payment of rent, the mother took the youngsters and went to her home in Virginia.

He said he had not one cent to care for medical needs. Due to his shabby appearance he was unable even to beg for work. With no bus fare he could not journey across town "even if there were a job somewhere."

And, he added, eating from trash cans and missing meals all the time, he believes he has ulcers. "My health is completely gone," he said.

Another person sustaining harm beyond repair told the photographer he had been without a job for three years and his courage is completely wiped out. "Everyone turns away form me. I am dirty. I know. I look dangerous but I am not.

"I am sick now. I can't work anyhow. I have no one left. I do not know where my family went to.

"When I could not bring any more money home, they scattered. Pretty soon we had nowhere to sleep."

FEET FROZEN

Another man said he is suffering from both feet frozen last winter "and the winter before." He added, "I stay downtown, close to the market and I am glad to get something to eat, whatever I can find."

Asked where he goes in the winter, he replied, "Right around here. The police said I could stay in the jail but I'd rather risk it out here on the street. I have never been in jail. I am only 40. I look bad but I am a respectable man. I just need a chance. But my chance is gone forever."

A stranger in Baltimore soon comes to realize that the mentally afflicted, the hopelessly poor and the unemployed are easily spotted all around the town, North, South, East, West. The passing crowd (itself nearly on the brink of such disaster) goes on by each seraching for his own daily bread.

Hardly anyone has escaped layoffs "among their nears and dears." Those who have jobs, take in whole families who are victims of evictions, no home, no clothes, no food.

Overcrowded jails tell the story of youngsters arrested for stealing and shoplifting and as one Juvenile Court told the AFRO, "Evidence shows they steal for food."

HUNGER

Another jurist reveals that some youngsters brought before the court have been making regular visits to food markets "to take home food for the entire family."

One jurist said a teenager was caught in a supermarket after a guard saw him consume a pound of cold cuts, part of a box of crackers and a large bottle of fruit juice. He was apprehended after his "meal" and as he was carrying out food "to take home to the rest of the kids."

A stranger in town will also note that most residents "live behind bars," their homes secured against robbers by iron grating on every window.

Shades are pulled down. Almost every home has a dog and "perhaps every head of the house has a gun." Such fearful conditions are partly the result of unprecedented joblessness.

Regardless of the racial composition of the various Baltimore communities, the number of robberies is at an all-time high. Some of the thefts are not reported for fear of reprisals from the guilty ones.

Some persons fail to report since the list of stolen goods "would shock my family and friends."

"We just forget it," they state and add, "We know we'll never get anything back."

ABSENT FROM SCHOOL

School absences ranked highest in 1979 and 1980. Statistics will never tell that whole truth. Only the individual teacher knows.

Some instructors declare when cold weather arrived "and layoffs got worse" some youngsters never returned to class. Home visits showed heatless rooms forced the children to stay in bed to keep warm.

One principal told the AFRO the children line up around 7:30 each morning "to get in early for the breakfast we serve on the Title One Program."

She said the small children told her they were especially anxious to get to school on Monday "because we have had nothing to eat since we left school Friday."

NO SHOES

Often the boys and girls ask for leftovers to take home "for the baby and my mother and father." Always the story discloses, "My father has not worked in a long time."

How the unemployment situation has left hundreds of families without food is not the only hazard to health. The lack of adequate clothing is equally as disasterous.

The school teacher spoke again.

"The youngsters need shoes so badly they will take them too small or too large, anything to cover their feet and protect them from the snow and rain. We saw it all winter.

"Just about every teacher I know has a "Shoes and Clothes Box" and the children are glad to get anything whether it fits or not."

BAG PEOPLE

Persons who carry everything they have in the world with them every day and every night are becoming more evident every day since the weather is warm.

They spend nights in corners of buildings or in the various parks. Some policemen downtown told the AFRO, "We let them alone. We know what it is out here today. As long as they are no trouble we let them be. Most of them are quiet and they sure are pitiful."

Another officer said, "What else can you do but let them stay where they are? The jails are already full. There's nowhere for them to go."

A veteran of nearly 10 years, the policeman added, "I've never seen anything like it and it gets no better."

A so-called "Soup Line" on Charles Street is often wrapped around the block. Men, women and children of all ages go there regularly for soup and a sandwich. There are other "Soup Lines" across town.

Many churches stock food pantries after services on Sunday and report, "If it weren't for folks who bring something in every day, the supply would be gone before the week rolls around."

All photos by Glasco Ryales

OH, LORD, I'm weary

TO FIND

TAKING IT with him

BEFORE I journey on

TO SEARCH

TO SLEEP and perhaps to dream

HOPE and faith

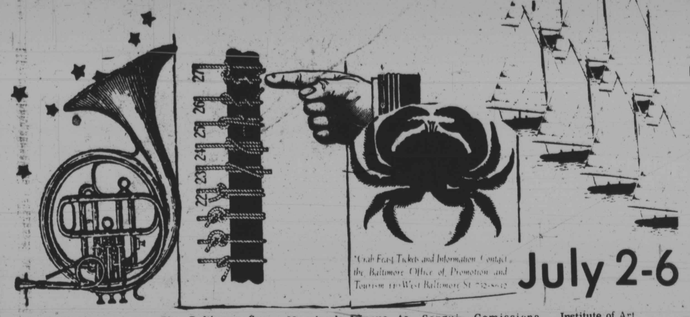
TO RECEIVE

A LONG, HOT DAY comes to an end

SHOWTIME

★Theatre ★Music ★Art

Harborplace celebration



July 2-6

By Ida Peters

Five days of celebration will begin at noon, Wednesday July 2 when two glass - canopied pavillions of Harborplace located in Baltimore's Inner Harbor including restaurants, shops and eating places will open their doors.

Baltimore's Maritime Heritage Festival will be open on the Inner Harbor promenade and at 11 a.m., July 2, sailing craft and vessels of every distinction from antique power boats to historic sailing ships will participate in the festivities.

The Pride of Baltimore, Port Welcome, Nymph, Patriot, Defender, Maryland Lady, The Dove, Black Pearl and others will assemble for a water parade carrying city officials to the dedication and opening of Harborplace pavilions.

Early from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. the working press will be feted at breakfast at the World Trade Center. Hosts will include Mayor William Donald Schaefer, Mathias J. DeVito, president, chief executive officer, The Rouse Company; James W. Rouse, chairman of the board, The Rouse Company; Martin Millspaugh, president, Charles Center - Inner Harbor Management, Inc.; and M. J. Brodie, commissioner, Housing and Community Development.

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will perform opening night amid a spectacular fireworks display at the Inner Harbor.

There will be bagpipes, Port City Jazz Ensemble, sea chanty performers, stolling musicians and steel bands entertaining audiences throughout the five days.

There will be sail - making and net weaving demonstrations, watermen with oystering and crabbing gear, and a sea captain telling tales of clipper ships.

Vegetable characters will prance on the promenade and delcious aromas from the many food concessions will drift and mingle with the ever present cinnamon and spices that perfume the Harbor from the McCormick spice factory located nearby.

Special parking facilities have been set up in the Inner Harbor area and increased bus service is available on No. 31 - No. 61 - No. 62 - No. 63 - No. 64 - No. 7 - No. 10 and No. 19 buses.

DOWNTOWN BUS — A special downtown bus service serving the city's downtown residents and visitors every 20 minutes will run in a loop from Gay Street to Pratt Street to Lombard to Calvert Street to Saratoga to Howard to Pratt to Gay.

PARK AND RIDE — (Every Day) — Pimlico - Pimlico area to Jones Falls Expressway to Maryland Avenue to Inner Harbor Area. Johns Hopkins University - From Johns Hopkins to Wyman Park area to the State Office Building to Howard Street to Inner Harbor area.

Events July 2

11:?? A.M. Parade of Ships
The Inner Harbor
The Pride of Baltimore, Patriot, M.V. Port Welcome, Defender, Black Pearl, Maryland Lady, Nymph, and 50 vessels of the Maritime Heritage Festival
12:OO NOON Dedication and opening of Harborplace Pavilions
12:30 P.M. Opening of the Maritime Heritage Festival
9:00 P.M. Americana Concert, The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Sergui Comissiona, Music Director
Featuring the "1812 Overture" with fireworks, cannons and churchbells
(Rain Date July 3)

FEATURING THROUGHOUT THE DAY

Annapolis Brass Quintet
Baltimore City Pipe Band
Baltimore Junior League Choir
Baltimore Music Club Salute to Hollywood
The Baltimore Oriole Bird
Baltimore Post Office Jazz Band
Baltimore Steel Band
Caricature Drawings by MD Institute of Art
Clowns of America
Ensemble of Prisma from Austria
Robb Goldstein Sea Chantey Performer
Harborplace paintings and give - aways by MD Institute of Art
Paula Hatcher Quintet Concert
Imag - i - mimes
Magic Shows by Zipper and Cotton

Northwestern High School Marching Band
Port City Jazz Ensemble
Quilt - Making Demonstration, Waxter Center

Bill Schustik Sea Songs
Sculpture Symposium by Baltimore City
Strolling Lexington Brass Band
Sundance Face Painters, Tai - Kwon - Do Demonstrations
John Taylor Dancers
University of MD Dance Troupe

Waxter Center Chorus
Jimmy Wells Jazz
Westsiders Drum and Bugle Corp
Wild Bill Hagey

Atlantic City jazz fest

Ray Charles, Damita Jo, Stanley Turrentine, Nancy Wilson,

Final plans are completed for the Atlantic City Jazz Festival-II, which is shaping up as one of the most exciting to be held in the resort city since the introduction of gaming casinos.

While the lineup of 23 featured artists is well known, the list of emcees for the various events has just been released by E-Street Productions, producers of the festival.

Thursday, July 3 at 9 p.m., hosting chores will be handled by two top personalities of radio station WDAS-AM, Philadelphia, with Georgie Woods splitting the duties with Mimi.

Friday, July 4, session will be shared by Washington, D.C. Jazz program personality Lillian Johnson Green, who announces and produces the lively Green Dolphin Street, head on radio station WPFW-FM in the metropolitan Washington-Baltimore area Mondays, her companion will be Harold (Stump) Cromer.

The Saturday afternoon salute to Gene (Jug) Ammons, July 5, will be handled by Brother Samir Ali Sadig of the Temple University radio station, WRTI-FM, a premier jazz outlet in Philadelphia.

Saturday night presentations will be in the capable hands of David Spatz, music critic of the Atlantic City Press newspapers.

I might sound chauvinistic to say, but the women are outdrawing the men in advance ticket sales to the various events. The number one draw seems to be Nancy Wilson, followed closely by Ella Fitzgerald and Carmen McRae.

Interesting sidelight: the powers that be have scheduled a topflight woman artist for each night of the festival.

Angela Bofill and Al Johnson at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre, Sunday, June 29.

Maria Broom, with her dancers and E. W. Wainwright Jr. and the African Roots of Jazz company will perform at the Little Theatre at Morgan State University, Sat., June 28 at 8 p.m. and Sun., at 2:30 and 8 p.m.

Altovise Davis makes her own way

Altovis Davis in new movie "Can't Stop The Music"

By Sue Williams

You would somehow expect the wife of such a talented and famous performer as Sammy Davis, Jr. to be...predictable. Aloof, maybe a bit haughty, and certainly not interested in sharing any parts of herself with anyone else.

But Altovise Davis is far from an image. Fresh, alive and almost naive, she was in Washington this week promoting the newly-released Allan Carr production of "Can't Stop the Music" in which she has a prominent part. The ever-present stereotyped image people have of her is something she is acutely aware of.

"I was an only child," she says, "and my mother and I have always been very close, even now. She always told me some very basic things about common sense and being real, and I've never forgotten them. Sure, I'm married to Sammy and I have a lot of money and clothes and all kinds of things...but I am still a person who has come a long way, just like a lot of other folks."

A chorus girl in the cast of "Golden Boy" when she met Sammy, Altovise admits that her life is quite a bit different than it might have been. But underneath all the glamour and glitter there remains a very basic girl who has never forgotten the lessons her mother taught her.

A graduate of New York's High School for the Performing Arts (1969) Altovise is a dancer as well as an actress, having performed with the Alvin Ailey dance troupe and others. In fact, she appeared with the Ailey dancers at their gala anniversary celebration two years ago, and admits that dancing will always be a part of her life.

But she is now starting to do other things, among them production of a record and hopefully some television specials. She never says it, but one can sense that it is not enough for her simply to be the wife of someone.

"Marriage has been a good experience for me," she says quietly. "I have learned a lot and have grown. And Sammy is very good to me and for me."

But that's about all she says. What seems to be most important to her now is making the most of her obvious talents, by herself, not leaning on the arm of her husband. With almost a child-like innocence, she smiles.

"I'm just having a good time," she says.

The Commodores with Patti Labelle will be appearing at the Capital Center on July 4.

Ella Fitzgerald at Towson Center, Sat., June 28.

Sarah Vaughan appearing at the Wolf Trap with the National Symphony Orchestra, Wed., July 2.

Night Scene Seen

By Bob Matthews

The Night Scene keeps expanding as more and more Baltimore clubs are turning to live music. The latest is The Amber Room in the 800 block Hollins St., which will begin a policy of live music this Sunday (June 29).

From 3 to 7 p.m., Jimhi Johnsun and a trio consisting of Jimmy Wells, Harold Adams and Bill Nelson, will hold sway, being joined at about 7:30 by dancer Olufunmilayo.

Always try to check out the prices, and was told that a smorgasbord will be on tap at the club, with an $8 door charge, but regular beer will be .80, with mixed drinks pegged at about $1.

— —

Pats Lounge in the 1500 block W. Saratoga St. is touting an extravaganza expected tonight (Friday) when two of the barmaids will host birthday celebrations.

The two ladies are Garanice Lewis and Saundra Parker, and in a bow to these inflationary times, there is no door charge. Incidently, Pats claims to have the sharpest shuffleboard players in town. Expect there'll be a challenge over that.

— —

Another grand opening is on tap for Monday when Big Daddy's will join the Night Scene with a brand new dining and entertainment facility. According to George Mitchell, the new proprietor, live entertainment, valet parking and dancing will all be on tap.

George, is of course, the force behind The Electric Eye, who is branching out in this endeavor. Big Daddy's is located in the 5500 block Reisterstown Rd., and if you can't place it immediately, 'tis in the spot that was once Wong's Chinese restaurant.

— —

The Left Bank Jazz Society presents Byron Morris and Unity at the regular Sunday afternoon concert at the Famous. While this is not what could be called a superstar, big-name group, they are in the mainstream of the new wave jazz movement.

Although they could be classed as an acoustic fusion group, they remember their "roots" and can play bop if the desire moves them. They generate a pulsing sound that has the rhythmic overtones that you can rock to, or just simply pat your feet to.

— —

Over at The Bandstand is Fells Pt., multi-instrumentalist Ira Sullivan will be the featured artist this weekend, and this is one fantastic musician you really should hear.

He's been making his home in Fla. over the past few years, and emerges occasionally to record and tour. Although he has played LBJS here, this is his first club date in Baltimore, and he will be backed by a rhythm section that has to be tops.

D.C.'s Reuben Brown will be on piano, with Rufus Reid, bassist who usually backs up Dexter Gordon on the upright, drummer is Steve Bagby, so look for pyrotechnics.

— —

BRIEFLY NOTED: Carlos Johnson called to remind us that Thursday evenings at The Ritz have really turned into swinging sessions. There was a special birthday celebration this past Thursday, and most of the local musicians have started dropping in to jam on these Thursday sets.

Gatsby's will have the group Crosswinds tonight, and the John Lamkin group Saturday in the upstairs jazz room...The Sportsmen's Lounge is presenting vocalist Jennifer Jones, along with the Dennis Fisher organ trio on Fri. and Sat. nights...The Saturday afternoon jazz jam will headline drummer Jimhi Johnsun this week from 4 to 8 p.m.... Mickey and Shirley Fields are the headliners at The Closet through Sunday night...Dancer Maria Broom is presenting "Afrasia" in honor of The African Roots of Jazz at the Little Theatre at Morgan State University There will be a performance Saturday night at 8, and two performances Sunday, one at 2:30, the other at 8 p.m....Ella Fitzgerald will be featured at the Towson Pops, along with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Tonights performance (Friday) has been cancelled, but the concert will go on tomorrow at 8:15 in Towson Center on the Towson State University campus...Cafe Park Plaza in the 800 block N. Charles St., presents Wooden Hands tonight and tomorrow with Pockets on the bandstand Sunday and Monday...Merriweather Post Pavilion, as a part of their summer of jazz series, has Herbie Hancock and guest artist Ronnie Laws for the Sunday night at 7:30 presentation...The Salute to American Music, performed each Tuesday night at the Inner Harbor features flutist Herbie Mann's Flute and Percussion Theatre on Tuesday night at 8 p.m. On July 8, vibraphonist Lionel Hampton will be on stage for the series.

Next week is the Atlantic City Jazz Festival, and your Night Scene and I ...All That Jazz reporter will be on the scene at the resort city. You can expect to get firsthand reports in this space...see you there!

JUN