City called 'ideal' for home buyers

Baltimore, with its renovated, older homes, has become an ideal place for young people with moderate incomes to buy homes at a price they can afford, the author of housing survey says.

A survey by Tom Parliament, of the U.S. League of Savings Associations, found almost 75 percent of the homes sold in the city last year were existing homes, with 30 percent of them more than 25 years old.

Parliament's survey found that 31 percent of the sales were to young married couples, and the 30 percent were to single persons, compared to 14 percent in 1977.

The number of homes bought by families with three or more members declined from 37 percent in 1977 to 41 percent in 1979, the survey found.

"The study shows Baltimore is an older city withsa large stock of older homes, keeping housing pries below the average," parliament said by telephone from his Chicago office. "There has been a lot of redevelopment in your city, and it's been successful in keeping down the price of housing.

"If you're young and single, then Baltimore has some moderate - priced alternatives. They might not be the dream house that everyone wants to have, but you can afford it."

The average price of a house sold in 1979 was $31,000, which parliament said is low in such a large metropolitan area and further evidence that most of the houses sold were old.

The survey also supported what many people hve been saying for months that low - income families are being priced out of themarket.

In 1977, 19 percent of the houses sold were bought by persons with an income of less than $15,000. That figure declined to slightly more than 4 percent last year. The majority of home — 48 percent — were bought by those with incomes of between $15,000 and 25,000.

TOAST TO THE 55TH — Mr. and Mrs. James Stewart (Anna) toast each other at the reception following the ceremony at St. Martin's Catholic Church, at which they renewed their vows in celebration of their 55th wedding anniversary.

James Stewarts mark 55th year

On June 15 James and Anna Stewart of N. Bentalou St. observed their 55th wedding anniversary with a renewal of their vows at St. Martin's Catholic Church, Fulton Ave. and Fayette Ste. at 3 p.m. Father Paul officiated.

A reception, held in the lower church hall, followed the "Renewal of vows" ceremony.

The anniversary affair was planned and given for Mr. and Mrs. Stewart by their children James J., Frescus T., Patrick S., Leon C., Mary E., Ann C., John E., Shirley B., Margaret E., Charles B. AND Gloria C. Stewart.

The senior Stewarts have been residents of Baltimore for 60 years, having been previously born and reared in Prince George's County.

They are the parents of eleven children, all living in Baltimore, fifty-five grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Stewart has always been a wife and is described as a "Super Mother" whild Mr. Stewart worked for 38 years for American Oil Company.

He retired 21 years ago and has kept active by gardening in his back yard and doing his own repair work around his house.

It was stated by Mrs. Jerri Stewart, daughter-in-in-law. "These two lovely people are loved by everyone who meets them because they believe in giving and sharing all of their earthly goods."

Guests attendingtheir anniversary observance included their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, other relatives and many, many friends.

Nursing home ordered to halt admissions

The Ardleigh Nursing home in Baltimore has been ordered to stop admitting patients because it is not providing proper care, state health officials say.

The state Department of Health and Mental Hygiene banned admissions at the 33 - bed home on grounds conditions there are life - threatening.

On recent insection, state licensing officials found three patients had been tied to chairs for more than six hours at a time. Several other patients were not receiving proper medical care.

(AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewyer)

12 - ALARMER — Arson is believed to be the cause of the 12 - alarm fire that destroyed the abandoned Imperial Packaging Co. warehouse in the 1300 block Race St. in South Baltimore which was reported around 9:30 p.m. Sunday, June 29. More than 300 firefighters from Baltimore City were called in to fight the blaze, which spread to the roofs of nearby houses.

Coppin summer registration scheduled

Summer Session II at Coping State College registration will be held Monday, July 7 and Tuesday, July 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 7 p.m. in the Tawes College Center. Classes begin July 9.

Contact the summer school office at 383 - 4540 or 383 - 4541. Only graduate levie courses will be offered during Summer Session II.

READ THE AFRO

Attorney general says 'no' to banks

The state attorney general said Tuesday two Baltimore area banks cannot charge annual fees for using credit cards.

In a preliminary opinion that will be followed by a more detailed brief, Stephen Sachs said Suburban Trust Co. and First American Bank of Baltimore would violate both the interest and usury law and the retail credit accounts law.

He added the "mater is not free from doubt," but said the pending openings would back up the first one.

Banks officials were unavailable for comment.

Sachs issued the opion at the request of Consumer Credit Commissioner Alan Fell, who wanted the state on the record before the fees on VISA and Master Charge cards were to take effect this week.

Suburan Trust intended to institute its fee Tuesday, while First American's was to take effect July 8.

Fell said he does not know if the banks will take Sach's opinion, which does not have the effect of law.

"It's only the first step they could either follow his advice or take it to court," Fell said.

Parole board seeking officers

There are not enough parole officers to keep track of inmates freed under the state's stepped-up release program, corrections officials said.

Arnold Hopkins, director of the Division of Parole and Probation, asked the Governor's Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Justice to help him persuade the general assembly to let him hire 10 more parole officers.

He also said he has not filled 40 budgeted staff positions because he hoped the staff might be enlarged.

Normally, about 200 inmates are paroled each month, but that number has nearly doubled because the state is trying to meet a court order to reduce prison overcrowding.

Delegate Frank Robey, D-Baltimore, a commission member, told Hopkins the department may not be given any new jobs and could lose the existing positions if they are not filled.

Robey also said the commission would not recommend the firing of 10 more persons unless the vacancies are filled.

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