Clean Blocks protect homes

Block problems

Captains, Co-Captains and Advisors are meeting today, Friday, at McCulloh Homes Auditorium at 11 a.m.

Most blocks are reporting they are getting tremendous cooperation in their blocks and by keeping their blocks clean they are able to sit on their fronts during this excessive hot weather.

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Onions to the Martin Sea Food House at 1517 Bank St. His dumpster in his back emits a foul smell that is keeping all the neighbors on Herring Court awake at night. The neighbors can't sleep and the dumpster attracts fleas and rats.

The neighbors have complained to their housing manager and to the city. Help!

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Neighbors and Clean Blockers in the 5000 blk. of Beaufort Ave. are complaining about high weeds, vacant houses at 3611 and 3613 Spaulding Ave. The rats hang out in the high weeds and all of their sewer holes are stopped up with trash. One sewer hole has a top missing where neighbors observe rats going in and out.

Mrs. Henrietta Mosley, captain for the 2800 blk. of Woodbrook Ave. says that her block is having a block party Saturday, July 19, so that residents can discuss some of the problems they are having. Some of the most pressing problems, she says, are (1) lack of cooperation among the young people of the block; (2) not enough cooperation from the city in having bulk trash picked up; (3) radios in the block being played too loudly, proving especially disturbing to some of the older people; (4) rats and (5) weeds overflowing in the yards of vacant houses.

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Mrs. Mosley says that an official from the Department of Sanitation will be on hand to answer specific questions, and says that she expects a big turnout.

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Diane Owens, captain, of the 2200 blk. of Ashland Ave. says that a construction company that recently renovated a bar on the corner of Ashland and Madeira, dumped debris in a vacant lot in the block including a lot of dirt, bricks, and trash. She would like either the construction company or the city to remove the debris.

Touring the blocks

By Sue Williams

Inspections began this week of blocks registered in the 46th AFRO Clean Block campaign for 1980, with AFRO reporters out on the streets to talk with participants about their problems and ways to overcome them.

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The tour began on the 200 and 300 blks. of Carey St. The blocks are in excellent shape; flower urns appear to be freshly painted in the block colors of red and black, and flowers not only have been planted but are well-taken care of.

The conditions of the homes, likewise, are excellent. Window panes are painted, steps are clean and painted where needed. Absolutely no trash was seen in the streets or on the sidewalks, and a walk around the corner showed that the alleys were very well kept.

The only problem with the 200 blk. of Carey St. is an old abandoned store on the corner. Poorly boarded up, the store would seem to be a convenient place for rats and trash build-up. The present boards appear weathered and useless, and should be replaced. The store is definitely an eyesore to the otherwise beautiful block.

The 1500 blk. of Vine street was clean enough, but very duilloking. It would seem that the captains might find ways to add color and life to the block, including flowers and window boxes.

The 1700 blk. of Lexington St. is a virtual mess. Trash is strewn all over the streets. Plastic bags of trash were set on the curbs for pick up, but, perhaps due to a large number of dogs or slow trash pick-up, garbage was everywhere. The flower urns had flowers in them, but because of lack of care, the urns were overrun by weeds.

At least 9 vacant houses were counted in the block, none of which were properly boarded or in the least kept up. There is much work to be done.

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The 700 and 800 blocks of Payson St. were generally clean, but drab. The flower urns in both blocks are in need of paint, and it would help to have a few colorful flowers painted.

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The 900 blk. of Payson St., on the other hand, is very colorful in addition to being clean. Block colors are red and white, and all the urns have been painted. The flowers add even more charm to the block.

One of the most attractive blocks seen on the tour was the 1000 blk. of McKean Ave which, unfortunately, has not registered yet for Clean Block. The folks on McKean did such a good job last year that it still looks good—the block colors of orange and white still grace the flower urns of flower boxes, and all of the steps look freshly painted. We hope somebody from the block will register soon.

The 900 blk. of Gilmo St. is presentable. Color, either on the urns or in flower boxes, would help out quite a bit.

The problem! not enough color is the biggest complaint the AFRO has thus far. That goes for the 900 Blk. Stricker; 1200 Blk. of Parrish; 1300 blk. N. Mount and 1600 blk. of Presser Ct.

The 1700 blk. of Monroe St. looks good enough to be judged today. It appears that residents of the block have kept it together all year long, cutting down on some of the work to dod u ring Clean Block Days.

The tours of the blocks will continue now through Inspection Sunday, August 17. Try to think not only of cleaning your block but making it look pretty as well.

Join
AFRO-AMERICAN
Newspapers'
88th Birthday Parade
and
Clean Block Honors Day
Wed. Aug. 13, 1980 -11 a.m.
Register your block float today$
Wanted bands and marching queens Bring your Queens and bring you Flag$ Call 728-8200

The GE Community Fund Team of Columbia, Md. Ms. Iva Townsend, Ms. Pat First and Clyde Rucker presented check for $250. to Mrs. Ida Peters for AFRO Clean Block Prize Fund.

New AFRO Clean Blocks

Clean Block fund $6,090

1200 Blk. Parrish St. — Darlene Cole, captain; Mary Williams, advisor.
Workers — Martha Curtis, Arlene Washington, Morris Commogies, Moses Simpson, Larry Burrell, Butch Burrell, Rene Buccarnon, Barbara Epps, Robert Commogies, Sister Taylor, Keith Holland.

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1300 Blk. E. Lafayette Ave. — Lizzie Aaron, advisor.
Workers — Irma Prittiman, Maggie Washington, Rita Washington, Lonnie Mae Bruce, Virginia Bell, Eula Williams, Dolores Chisholm, James Lambert.

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2700 Blk. Giles—Tia King, Captain; Kevin Childers, Co-Captain; Leona Daniels, Advisor.
Workers — Nessie Moore; Leona Daniels; Naomi Norman; Tea Robinson

Housing and Community Development	3,000.00
City of Baltimore	1,000.00
M. Goldseker Co.	350.00
William C. March Funeral Home	300.00
General Electric of Columbia	250.00
C & P Telephone Co.	200.00
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Masons	150.00
Gino's	100.00
V.A.G.'s	100.00
Anonymous	100.00
Vulcan Blazers	75.00
Dallas F. Nicholas Sr. School No. 39	65.50
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority	50.00
Past Masters Council	50.00
Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, Iota Chapter	50.00
Big Sisters of Baltimore	25.00
Mrs. Marie E. Murphy	25.00
Mrs. Marie Murphy	25.00
Dr. and Mrs. Edward McDaniels	25.00
Col. John L. Lee Jr.	25.00
Councilwoman Victorine Adams	25.00
Mrs. Robbie Chissell	25.00
Schoolmarms	25.00
Attorney DeHaven Smith	17.50
Raymond A. C. Young	15.00
Dr. & Mrs. Emerson Walden	10.00
Mark and Doris Wright	10.00
Marguerite J. Campbell	10.00
Mrs. Loretta Valentine	5.00
Mrs. Blanche Pettiford	5.00
Mrs. Maggie Peay	2.00

Murphy Homes register

753 George St. — Menthy Johnson, Captain; Ardrine Norton, Advisor.
Workers — LaTonya Ware, Danzene Thomas, Sallie Calvin.

900 Blk. Argyle Ave. — Margaret Jackson, Captain; Florence Spence, Co - Captain; Allen Whitehead, Advisor.
Workers — Vanessa Morgan, Linda Frazere, Gerdine Joseph, Florence Spence.

819 George St. — Hattie Hughes, Captain; Margaret Chase, Co - Captain; Ardrine Norton, Advisor.
Workers 8 Robert Hughes, Gary Hughes, Tracie Hughes, Edward Payton, Robin Reem, Rosheba Raem, Steven Reem, Rocky Raem, Calvin Taylor, Patricia Taylor, Gena Taylor, Tina Taylor, Michael Taylor, Kathy McBride, Donald McBride, Mary McBride, Patricia Chase, Brian Chase.

851 George St. — Margaret Holmes, Captain; Desiree Young, Co Captain; T. Moore, Advisor.
Workers — Desiree Young, Angelus Carey, Margaret Holmes, Emma Anderson, Zelma Grandison.

801 George St. — Deana Hill, Captain; Carol Brown, Co - Captain; Laura Brown, Advisor.
Workers — Deana Hill, Beatrice Hill, Julius Hill, Francis Reese, Viola Porter, Karla Hill, Karen Hill, Troy Hill, Carol Brown, Laura Brown, George Brown, Lula Zuben, Yvonne Harris, Gary Brown, Timothy Brown, Willie Tyler.

1058 Argyle Ave. — Doris Hicks, Captain; Doris McCray, Advisor.
Workers — Evon Est, Faye McDougal, Camille Decator, Augustine Burrell, Sheila Madison.

725 George St. — Donald Hawkins, Captain; Hean Harrod, Co - Captain; LaVerne Chase, Advisor.
Workers — Helen Harrod, Sheila Harrod, Albert Tillman, Rose Fleming, Ardrine Norton.

725 George St. — Melvin Harris, Captain; Rosetta Jupiter, Co - Captain; LaVerne Chase, Advisor.
Workers — Jannie Robinson, Rosetta Curkley, Lelita Freeman, Burtina Butler, Barbara Day, Shankin Thompson, Damian Thompson, Raymond Young, Shelton Saswell, Debra Damon, Lamone Stanfield, Donnetta Gwynn, Timothy Jupiter, Lloyd Jupiter, Ann Turner, Shalina Curkley, Shan Curkley, Thomas Curkley, Dean Freeman, Victoria Curtley.

1058 Argyle Ave. — Shirley Grace, Captain; Doroetha Berry, Co - Captain; Willie Mae Williams, Advisor.
Workers — Ethel McCall, Diane Lyle, Sandra Bordley, Bessie Dennis, Rosann Brown, Benita Barnes.

806 George St. — Louise Goodman, Captain; Loretta Brazier, Co - Captain; Ardrine Norton, Advisor.
Workers — Ollie Litter, Hazel Beverly, Gloria Baffy, Richard Warrick, Donald Wilson, Jack McCleland.

851 George St. — Rosie Givens, Captain; Darlene Perkins, Co - Captain; T. Moore, Advisor.
Workers — Elaine McDaniels, Carolyn Mack, Gwendolyn Felter, Delores Edwards, Gertrude Kelly, Rosie Givens, Delores Taylor, Darlene Perkins, Karen Gregory, Deborah Louis, Wanelia Quick.

900 Argyle St. — Veronica Ferguson, Captain; Doris Mc Feddem, Co - Captain; Allen Whitehead, Advisor.
Workers — Claudia Nelson, Terry Boots, Sarah Rainy, Valarie Lee, Toby Boots.

725 George St. — Lelia Dougherty, Captain; Denise Easley, Co - Captain; LaVerne Chase, Advisor.
Workers — Carolyn Bright, Rosalie Page, Ernestine Thomas, Van Hall.

851 George St. — Priscilla Davis, Captain; Sherie Chapman, Co - Captain; T. Moore, Advisor.
Workers — Clyde McCoy, Lillian Hughes, Rose Jackson, Albert Daniels, Gwendolyn Huntley.

725 George St. — Doris Conway, Captain; Doris McCray, Co - Captain; Helen Brown, Advisor.
Workers — Mike Moore; Jannie Hutchins, James McCall, Gwen Singleton, Sheila Patmore, Helen Brown, Beulah Cornish.

Ms. Syreena Jordan, representative from the Mayor's office, read mayor's proclamation and presented check for $1,000 for prize fund.

Mrs. Hattie Harrison, "mayor of East Baltimore".

Leonard Folio, general superintendent of Solid Waste, 396-4515 talked to clean blockers about trash problems.

Ms. Monica Green from the city's Rat Eradication program.

Al Tyler, from the AFRO circulation department, encourages youth to become AFRO carriers. To be a carrier, call 728-8200.

George Brown, C & P Telephone Company, speaks to Clean Blockers.

George Larkin Jr. manager for Community Relations Gino's, Inc. donated AFRO t-shirts to Clean Blockers and a check for $100 for the prize fund.

AFRO Clean Block needs you and $ $ $ $ $

Thousands of youngsters willingly volunteer to clean-up their block in the AFRO-AMERICAN'S annual Clean Block Campaign.

This much needed drive helps rid our surrounding of unsightly litter and filth. Each year it is necessary to establish a Clean Block Prize fund to buy paint, flowers and window boxes for needy blocks and reward the youngsters of the close of the campaign.

Can we count on you to play an important part again this year? All contributions will be acknowledged in the AFRO on the Clean Block page. Make all checks payable to AFRO Charities; it's tax deductible.

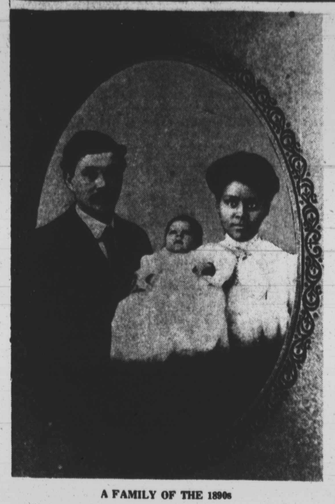
You! We Will Help!

Name_____
Address_____
Telephone_____

Make checks payable to
AFRO Charities
Mail AFRO Clean Block
628 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, Md. 21201

All groups making contributions of $50.00 or more will have picture made at a Clean Block meeting.

Attentive AFRO Clean Blockers at Dunbar High last week. Group is planning movie party and meeting at McCulloh Homes today, Friday.



A FAMILY OF THE 1890s

The Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN Coming Aug. 13 — this newspaper's 88th birthday

How was it then—in Baltimore in the 1890s?

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

When Aug. 13 comes the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers will mark its 88th birthday in a celebration which will include all Baltimore.

A newspaper is more than current happenings. With the AFRO, it is preservation forever the history of the people, all people. And, as news goes, "whatever happens from birth to death."

The AFRO began in 1892 and through wars and depressions has lasted nearly nine decades. In 1982, the AFRO will be 90. HOW WAS IT THEN?

What was life like at the close of the 1800s?

Scattered throughout Baltimore, black businessmen and women, whose advertisements appeared in early editions of the AFRO, displayed an amazing variety of interests.

Although there were numerous drug and grocery stores, barber and beauty shops, there were some enterprises which are unique even today.

Many senior citizens will recall Harry O. Wilson's bank, which was called Mutual Benefit Society and was run by his sons.

Only Butcher

Few will remember the Penny Savings Bank, 1634 Pennsylvania Ave.

Another bank was opened at Eutaw and Biddle Streets by Henry Jenkins and E. Bernard Taylor, the latter also a caterer, and a third by Winfield Thomas.

William Daly, the only colored butcher then in Lafayette Market, had triple business interests on Pennsylvania Ave.

In addition to his meat stall, he had what was one of the first open air theatres in the city.

It was in the 100 block of Pennsylvania Avenue, opposite his jewelry store.

Custom-made shoes were sold by James Fessenton, 918 Cathedral St.

Fine China

One of the most attractive stores in East Baltimore was that of T. J. Hilliard 1418 Orleans St., a dealer in fine chinaware.

With an eye to preparing Baltimoreans to fit into the business world, Arthur Jones became affiliated with Jones and Jones School of Typewriting and Shorthand, 1210 Etting St.

Columbus Gordon, well known in South Baltimore for his moving and transfer business, was also a milk man, as was William Dozier.

Bargains in secondhand furniture could be obtained from William H. Dodd, 1131 Pennsylvania Ave. Those seeking recreation went to B. F. Smith's Electric Pool Parlor.

Residential calls were made by Madam M. A. Hunter, a beautician, who offered wet and dry shampoos.

High Fashion Hats

The making of high fashion hats was the interest of Mrs. Ella Smith in her shop at Druid Hill and Dolphin.

Ladies purchased and had sewing machines repaired by Robert H. Butler, 941 Druid Hill.

These are but a few of the numerous business enterprises which waxed, waned and then disappeared as times changed.

A YOUNGSTEROF THE ERA

BEAUTIFUL HAT, lovely lady of the 1890s

STRIKING A POSE is this handsome gentleman photographed in the 1890s

A GENTLEMAN of the 1890s sports a high celluloid collar

FINE FROCK complete with butterfly sleeves for a young woman

COMING NEXT, Bertram Merrit, a school principal tells how his amazing room story began with his research through AFRO pages from 1892. AND, the autobiography of Rev. John Baptist Snowden dating from 1767.

ALL PHOTOS on this page are from the Rose Murphy Oliver estate, restored and rephotographed by Glasco Ryales, photographer.

The AFRO's history extends back to slavery in one unbroken line

FIVE DAUGHTERS AND FIVE SONS of Founder and Mrs. John H. Murphy Sr. gathered at the home in Baltimore in this photo for Murphy's Christmas Day birthday. The Murphy couple is seated with their oldest daughter Susan Murphy Purdy and small grandson Noah Thompson whose mother Lillian Murphy Thompson, a daughter, was deceased. CLOCKWISE are a cousin, Martha Howard, Mr. and Mrs. George B. Murphy Sr., son and daughter-in-law; Mrs. Harriett Murphy Gilbert, daughter; David Arnett Murphy, son; Daniel Murphy, son and father of the present AFRO board chairman, John H. Murphy III; John H. Murphy Jr, son; Rose Murphy Oliver, daughter and mother of the present AFRO president, John J. Oliver Sr.; Carl Murphy former publisher; Sarah Murphy Clean Block Program.

AFRO family history

As the AFRO heads for its 90th year, three grandchildren of the founder are corporate officers, John H. Murphy III, chairman of the board of directors; John J. Oliver Sr., president and Mae Dyson, secretary. A grandson-in-law, George Lottier is treasurer.

Family history which stems from the founder John H. Murphy Sr., a slave, includes eight generations of descendants many of whom are today associated with the poor.

Rev. Alexander, a better pastor than publisher, sold the AFRO-AMERICAN to Murphy, who had borrowed $200 from his wife to purchase it at auction.

Today, "see what the AFRO says about it," is more than a passing phrase.

It is the best yardstick for measuring the confidence and loyalty of thousands of readers who look to the AFRO each week to bring balanced news and views of the world.

Three men — two clergymen and one a Sunday school superintendent, all with a single hobby — were responsible for the AFRO'S birth.

JOHN H. MURPHY SR.
1840-1922

The Rev. William M. Alexander, pastor of Sharon Baptist Church organized a provision store and on Aug. 13, 1892, printed a four-page sheet, the AFRO-AMERICAN, to advertise church and community enterprises.

John H. Murphy Sr., a whitewasher by trade and superintendent of St. John AME Sunday School, wanted to unite state Sunday Schools into a convention on the order of the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor.

He purchased type fonts and a press, put them in his cellar and printed his small paper named the "Sunday School Helper."

Abandoning the whitewash brush, Murphy turned his attention for the next 25 years to printer's ink and, when he died in 1922, left a successful newspaper to his sons and daughters.

The marvel is that Murphy was past 50 when, overnight, he became a newspaper owner with $200 borrowed from his wife's savings.

When he took over, the AFRO had a circulation of 250, chiefly in Maryland. Today, the number of copies sold is over 75,000.

The AFRO regards the Eastern Seaboard, from Maine to Florida, as its special territory. In this area it sells twice as many papers as any of its competitors.

In the earliest years of the AFRO, the editorial page carried this line — "Independent in all things, neutral in nothing."

JUL