Press resolution

Catholic group urges homosexuals to take active role in church

A resolution by a Catholic Advisory Group urging homosexuals to take an active role in the church is a step forward, said a leader of a group of Catholic homosexuals said this week.

Don Miller, the head of Dignity, a group for homosexual members of the church, said the resolution passed Sunday is a step toward winning church support for homosexuals. But he said he was not "totally satisfied" with the church's position.

The Archdiocesan Pastoral Council, an elected group of priests, nuns and laypersons, approved a resolution encouraging homosexuals to paparticipate in the church and acknowledging they have been discriminated against.

The resolution was approved a week after the City Council turned down a controversial "gay rights" ordinance that would have banned discrimination based on sexual preference. Several council members said they voted against the bill because of pressure from church leaders, including Archbishop William Borders.

The Archdiocesan Council's statement said it will "encourage homosexual Catholics to take an active part in the church.

The council also said it "seeks to promote reconciliation within the Catholic community.

Among the many who stand in need of the ministry of reconciliation are homosexual Catholics.

"We recognize and regret the unjust discrimination which they have sometimes suffered in civil society and the church."

Borders attended the council meeting, but left before it voted on the resolution.

Miller said the council should go further than its resolution. He said he has called on its members to "set up a committee or commission to study all aspects of the issue, and to put people on it who have ministered to gay Catholics and to involve gay Catholics themselves. There needs to be dialogue."

12 Cubans settle here

(UPI) — A dozen Cuban refugees have settled in the Baltimore area, and community leaders say they will accept no more until the first 12 learn to speak English and have a job.

Ramon Sangue, of the Cuban Circle of Maryland, said 200 refugees may move here eventually, but local families are already strained by the cost of sponsoring the 10 adults and two children who have arrived.

"We expect it will take two or three months before they can communicate well enough in English to get along," Sangue said. "Meanwhile, we are freezing the number of new arrivals.

"Right now, Cuban-American families who are sponsoring these refugees are having to finance everything themselves. There are no government funds to help."

Rubber workers sue Goodyear

Eighteen rubber workers or their survivors have filed suits charging the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. with knowingly damaging their health by exposing them to cancer-causing chemicals at its Hagerstown, Md., plant.

The lawsuits, filed this week in U.S. District Court, contend that Goodyear caused workers to contract lung diseases or cancer as a result of exposure to the chemicals in its Kelly-Springfield plant.

The suit charged that two workers came down with lung ailments and the rest developed cancer, in some cases fatal, as result of exposure to nitrosamines and chemical solvents that were used at the plant until recently.

The National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety (NIOSH) has been investigating the possible effects of the chemicals formerly used at the plant on workers' health

ASSOCIATE CHAIRMAN — Hilda E. Ford, executive director of the Baltimore Civil Service Commission, recently was named as an associate general chairman for the 1980 United Way of Central Maryland Campaign.

Mrs. Ford will head the campaign's government and education division and will be responsible for the recruitment and training of the division's general vice chairman and division chairmen.

Cherry Hill Family Day scheduled for Aug. 2-3

The community of Cherry Hill, in cooperation with the Mayor's Station and local business, will sponsor the fifth annual Cherry Hill Family Connection, Saturday, Aug. 2 and Sunday, Aug. 3 on the grounds of School 180, 2700 Seamon Ave and Cherry Hill Road

Saturday, the festival will open at 11:15 a.m. Mayor William Donald Schaefer will officiate at the grand opening.

Sunday, Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, D-Md., will speak. The fair opens at 1 a.m. Sunday and runs until 8 p.m. both days.

All types of food and music will be featured and the public is invited.

For more information, call 396-4683

Avon Bellamy, AFRO 'Carrier of the Month'

AFRO "CARRIER OF THE MONTH" — Avon Bellamy Jr. was named AFRO "Carrier of the Month" at ceremonies held at the AFRO office.

Avon Bellamy Jr. was named AFRO "Carrier of the Month" and Lance Sturgis was runner-up for the month of June.

Avon has been an AFRO carrier for almost one year. His distributor, Edward Onley, speaks very highly of Avon.

He is an honor student in the advanced experimental curriculum at the Roland Park Elementary school. He has received numerous awards for scholarship, including honor certificates for French and Latin.

Avon is a first degree black belt at the Arnold Mitchell Karate School. He also enjoys football, music, writing and martial arts.

He was presented a plaque by the Baltimore Circulation Manager, Arthur Murray at a ceremony held at the AFRO. Lance Sturgis was given a certificate of achievement by Circulation Administrative Assistant, Mrs. Grace Singletary.

Corsages were presented to Mrs. Florence Bellamy, mother of the "Carrier of the Month" and to Lance for his mother who was unable to attend. The flowers were given on behalf of the AFRO-AMERICAN Company in recognition of their support of AFRO carriers.

Avon and Lance were greeted by AFRO Company officers John H. Murphy III, chairman of the board and George C. Lottier, treasurer.

Family members present for the celebration were Mr. and Mrs. Avon Bellamy Sr. (Florence); sisters, Akeem and Akia; brother, Jelani; cousin, William A. Randall and Jerome Parker, a stepbrother of Lance.

Also present were Ralph Matthews, Baltimore managing editor; Marion D. Partee Jr., business manager; Charles Baker, circulation zone manager and Mark Gail, photographer.

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BURGER KING

Throng gathers in Dr. Lillie's garden for Sunday evening affair

1,000 attend garden party at Lillie Jackson Museum

Neither intense heat nor threat of thunder storm kept nearly 1,000 persons from enjoying the First Annual Garden Party sponsored by the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum Trustees.

Board chairman, Judge Robert Watts and President Bishop Harrison Bryant held sway from 2 p.m. until 6. Viola Jackson, director and Ardell Vessels, co-director, were co-chairmen of the elaborate fete.

Louise Lassiter, chairman of refreshments, served gallons of cold punch freely all the afternoon. Homemade cake was eagerly sought after. Joining Mrs. Lassiter were her husband, noted columnist Lee Lassiter, Jannie Cosby, and Jessie Lee Gladden.

Hostesses, lovely June graduates and local teachers, were directed by Josephine Young and Jessie Gladden.

Mrs. Vessels invited seven artists to sing and be accompanied by her husband Lawson Vessels, who is the city's "Dean of Pianists".

Soloists were: Margaret Lindsay, Debra Craighead, Geneva Giles, Kim Kelly, Angela Walden, Jack Blair, and Bowen Jackson.

Ethel Gordon loaned her piano for the week of rehearsing prior to the Garden Party.

Susie Murphy and Florence McDonald joined Viola Jackson in the setting up of beautiful decorations.

Hanging baskets, ferns, Begonias, Lantanas, and tall tropical plants abounded, while dozens and dozens of chrysanthemums, sweet peas and other exotic plants were donated by Colonel Michael Lorenza, "Brother Mike."

Ethel Day, Myrtle Johnson, Jessie Mitchell, LeRoy Stokes, Betty Graves, Fiozella Clark and Anethia Williams took turns at the "Garden Gate."

Boy Scout Troop 118 did a yeoman job directing guests and traffic. Glascoe Ryales took dozens of pictures.

Virginia Jackson Kiah thanked everybody for helping with "Mama's Museum."

The Museum Board also hosted nearly 50 guests at another successful affair, the Second Annual bus trip to various museums in Washington including the Frederick Douglass home in Anacostia.

The priceless residence high on a hill overlooking the city of Washington is where the great abolitionist spent the later years of his life. The residence was bought in 1877 and is now administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior.

It was the home of his first wife, Anna Douglass who died in 1882. His second wife, Helen Pitts Douglass who had been his secretary, realized his greatness and after his death, preserved the home in tact as a memorial to him.

The contributions of the former slave who became a diplomat are preserved in the house for the inspiration of present and future generations.

The home is likened to the residence of the late Lillie Carroll Jackson now a museum in Baltimore.

The tour also included the Anacostia Museum, a branch of the Smithsonian which contains black art and sculpture and the Mary McLeod Bethune Memorial Museum.

Arranging the memorable day were Chairman Nancy Johnson and Mesdames Virginia Kiah of Savannah, Ga., Juanita Jackson Mitchell, both Dr. Lillie's daughters and Viola Jackson and Ardell Vessells, co-directors of the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum. Mrs. Kiah, founder, is also editor of the Museum Newspaper, an unusual magazine which she publishes at her Georgia residence.

RYALES PHOTO

GARDEN PARTY of the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum held in the rear gardens of the late civil rights leader's residence, 1320 Eutaw Place, included guests Lawson Vessells, noted pianist; Mrs. Viola Jackson, museum director; Mesdames Ethel Gordon, Ardell Vessells, co-director; Alfreada Hightower; Louise Lassiter, Lee Lassiter and Josephine Young, all members of the committee.

RYALES PHOTO

HOSTESSES and Garden Party guests and program participants included Mesdames and Misses Vonzia Nicholson, Elaine Wood, Tracey Thomas, Lisa Gladden, Bonita Billingsley, Lonnie Burke, Angela Walden, Kimberly Kelly and Jesse Gladden, chairman of the hostesses.

Noted artists lend charm to summer afternoon fete

Here are listed the noted artists who performed at the Lillie Carroll Jackson Museum Garden Party Sunday, July 19.

The area behind the residence of the late freedom fighter was a bower of hundreds of flowers given by Col. Michael Lorenzo. Guests were seated under umbrella tables and were free to browse through the museum inside the home.

The musicians gathered by co-director Ardell Vessells.

JACK BLAIR, former operetta and radio singer of the Maryland area has been soloist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, Peabody Opera and other groups.

DEBORAH CRAIGHEAD studied voice at the Peabody Conservatory. She has given recitals in Baltimore and is presently directress of the Senior Choir, Trinity Baptist Church where she began singing at the age of four.

BOWEN JACKSON began singing and playing at an early age at Sharp Street Memorial Methodist Church for the mid-week Prayer Service. While in college he played and sang with instrumental groups in school and out. Presently he is guest soloist at churches and civic affairs.

KIMBERLY KELLY has completed two years with honors at Catholic University with a double major in art and vocal music. She has also studied at the Peabody Conservatory. Currently she is studying voice with Samuel Bond, of Washington, and singing in the Forest Park Reformed Presbyterian Church choir.

MARGARET LINDSAY, dramatic soprano, is chairman of music at Forest Park High School and part-time assistant to the director of the Morgan State University Chorus. In 1978 she was a finalist in the Middle Atlantic Regional Competition of the Metropolitan Opera. She appears in recitals and is guest soloist for church and civic functions in Baltimore and other metropolitan areas.

LAWSON VESSELLS, pianist, began playing in church at the age of four and has appeared professionally for over 50 years, much of the time in the Maryland and Washington area. Dubbed the "dean" of pianists, he has also appeared as soloist (pianist) at the Palladium in London, Marseille, Paris and Eastern Seaboard. He is presently appearing in The Greater Baltimore Area.

ANGELA R. WALDEN, a 1978 graduate of Towson State University with a B.S. degree in voice, is currently a vocal music teacher in Baltimore County schools and active member of the Forest Park Reformed Presbyterian Church where she is a member of the Senior Choir and director of the Junior Choir.

DR. RALPH C. BALFOUR has been named vice president for student affairs at Bowie State College, according to an announcement by BSC President Rufus L. Bartfield. Formerly director of student affairs at Virginia Union University, Dr. Balfour also served as a vice president and adjunct professor in Haman Services at John Tyler Community College in Chester, Virginia.

Mrs. Margaret Mitchell retires

RYALES PHOTO

MRS. DEBORAH JAMES CRAIGHEAD, accompanied by Lawson Vessells delighted the Garden Party guests. The director of the TRINITY Baptist Church choir, Mrs. Craighead studied at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. She began singing at the church at the age of four.

RYALES PHOTO

FAREWELL TO A DEPARTING PRINCIPAL — Mrs. Margaret Mitchell formerly of Gist Elementary School and now principal at Grove Park Elementary, witnessed her former faculty members entertaining at Haussner's at a farewell luncheon: Mrs. Mitchell is center. Others are Mesdames Julia Elder, Maudnell S. Wilson, Betty Wilson, Bettye Graves, Dorothy Hunter, Mrs. Mitchell's sister; Helen Murphy, Lois Martin and Mrs. Herbert (Arnelta) Graves Jr.

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