BUSINESS/REAL ESTATE

This week's financial section produced by P. E. Badham

Mortgage rates climbing

Before the end of the year mortgage interest rates may climb above 15 percent according to local lending institutions and real estate agents.

The current average is between 14 and 15 percent as compared to just over 13 percent last month. However, those interest rates can fluctuate depending on the amount of the buyer's down payment.

Otis Warren, owner of Otis Warren Real Estate, an independent black-owned real estate agency that was originally affiliated with Century 21, explains that regardless of the increasing interest rates "people are still going to buy homes."

He points out, "The effect the higher interest rate has had on mortgages is that the buyer must pay higher monthly payments. This may take the buyer over his budget and he may have to settle for a house that costs less."

While Warren admits that there is no solution for the steadily increasing rates, he says the answer may be that prospective buyers may just have to seek out homes that cost less than what they planned to purchase.

Warren also says he expects the rates to climb even higher by the end of the year, "I think President Carter tried to hold down the rates as best he could but it just didn't work."

HCD receives HUD grant for O'Donnell Heights

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has awarded $22.11 million to the Housing Authority of Baltimore City for substantial rehabilitation of O'Donnell Heights.

O'Donnell Heights is a low rent public housing development in southeast Baltimore. The housing authority will receive $4 million of the award from the 1980 fiscal budget and the remainder of the allocation from the 1981 subject to funding availability.

The funding, available through the HUD Comprehensive Modernization Program, was awarded based on nationwide competition. Selections were based on the urgency of the project's needs, the ability of the public housing authority to complete the program within a three-year period, and the potential for long-term viability of the project.

O'Donnell Heights was opened for occupancy in 1943 as temporary war housing. The development consists of 900 dwelling units and houses approximately 3,000 persons. Since the development opened it has experienced physical deterioration.

Among the proposed improvements for the project are upgrading the interior plumbing, the electrical distribution system, sewer and storm drains, replacing roofs and sidewalks, and developing playgrounds.

Other planned improvements include replacing deteriorated wood floors and entrance doors, installing ceramic floor tile detectors, and modernizing the bathrooms and kitchens.

THE MALL at the Equitable Bank Center is now coming into its own as downtown Baltimore's newest shopping facility. Located at Pratt and Charles Streets in the 17 - story multi - use complex that serves as corporate headquarters for the Equitable Trust Company, the mall includes in addition to the Hutzler's department store, Dalton Booksellers, The Athlete's Foot, the Dark Room, Kinney's Shoes and several other businesses.

Business in Brief

City Solicitor Benjamin L. Brown will institute 1,500 new court cases to recover from defaulting property owners real estate taxes due the city.

The city solicitor said the city had purchased close to 1,500 properties as a result of the current tax sale. These properties are for the most part in disgraceful, vacant and rundown condition and have been abandoned by their owners.

According to William Hughes, associate city solicitor and chief of the litigation division, "Last year on a test basis our collection division recovered close to $30,000 from defaulting property owners as a result of such direct tax suits.

"We estimate that these 1,500 new suits could bring anywhere from $250,000 to $1 million in collection revenues."

Thomas Hobbs, Housing and Urban Development Baltimore area manager announced recently that initial endorsement has been completed on the mortgage for Upton Courts to be located in Baltimore City.

Upton Courts is being developed by the Upton Courts Associates of Chevy Chase, Md. The 180-unit complex will have two, three and four bedroom townhouses renting from $362 to $398 per month plus utilities.

All units will be assisted under the Section 8 Housing Assistance Payment Program. Each townhouse will be equipped with range, refrigerator, disposal, kitchen exhaust fan, carpet, and air-conditioning equipment.

Thomas J. Reynolds has been appointed senior vice - president and head of the lending division. In his new post, Reynolds will have responsibility for all lending functions, mortgage origination and administration, including the second mortgage market, consumer lending, and real estate appraising.

Reynolds who has been with Baltimore Federal since 1957, is also president of general service corporation, Baltimore Federal's subsidiary construction and development firm.

State-wide conference on co-ops planned

A state-wide conference on "Cooperative Development and Alternatives for the '80s" will be held Friday, Nov. 14 and Saturday, Nov. 15 at Calvert Education Center, 200 E. North Ave.

The conference begins Friday at 5:30 p.m. with registration and the general introduction by Al Atkins. Cornbread Givens, president of the Poor Peoples Development Foundation in Washington, D.C. will present the history of cooperatives and a structure to succeed.

Douglas B. Sands will give the conference overview and purpose.

Sponsors for the conference are Baltimore Area Cooperative Development Coalition, Baltimore City Planning Department, Maryland State Office for Minority Affairs, Maryland Task Force on Cooperatives, Maryland Chapter NAACP, Remington Community Survival Center, University of Maryland and Urban Services Agency.

Gerard Land named SBA head

Gerard J. Lang, deputy district director of the Baltimore office of the Small Business Administration has announced the appointment of John L. Conway as chairman of the Baltimore District Advisory Council of the SBA.

Conway, a resident of Cumberland, Md. is president of the Cumberland Savings Bank and has served on the advisory council for the past five years. He was selected for membership to the group in recognition of his knowledge and concern for the problems of small business.

Conway's personal involvement with small business has carried over into his work at Cumberland Savings Bank. The financial institution is a primary participant in the Small Business Administration's guaranteed participation loan program and works hand in hand with the Frostburg State College Small Business Development Center. He is also a member of the Advisory Boards of the Salvation Army in Cumberland and Sacred Heart Hospital and is active in the Downtown Development Corporation of Cumberland and the Rotary.

The Advisory Council, which meets semi-annually, serves as a conduit for information between local commercial interests and the Small Business Administration.

It provides recommendations necessary to the development, execution and evaluation of existing or proposed SBA programs and strives to bring about a greater degree of understanding as to the needs of small business.

Members of the council now number sixteen and represent a wide variety of commercial, financial, and legal interests.

Barter keeps cash flowing for small businesses

Had the Internal Revenue Service been around when Manhattan Island was bartered for a bunch of beads and blankets, they would have insisted the deal was taxable because the properties exchanged were not "like - kind."

In fact, the IRS says you cannot barter a steer for a cow because one sex is more valuable than the other.

Bartering has become popular again, despite the fact that it's taxable, says the Maryland Association of CPAs, because if offered the small business a way to acquire goods and services without any cash outlay.

Before lossing money on slow - moving inventory or selling it at close - out prices, consider exchanging those products for goods that your company needs. With barter, you don't have to worry about collecting payments, and your exchanges may generate new cash business as well.

There are several ways to do it. You can search around until you find a company that wants to swap every time you have merchandise you want to barter.

Perhaps that firm has exactly what you want, maybe not. If not, you'll have to keep looking until you can trade again. This would reduce the practicality of barter, so barter clubs or trade exchanges have been established.

These organizations act as clearinghouses to bring together members who either want to "buy" or "sell." Be sure the club is licensed or covered by state legislation.

Joining a barter club or exchange generally requires an annual membership fee. Larger clubs may issue checks or credit cards, send you a monthly statement listing your transcations and provide you with periodic listings of goods and services available.

You will probably be charged a fee when you "buy" goods or services from another member. You'll also have to pay the club a standard commission, which can range from two to 15 percent, whenever you "sell" goods or services.

These fees can be paid in "trade dollars" (or credits) or in cash, depending upon the rules of the club. Keep these fees in mind before you sign any contracts.

Determine if your profit structure is set up so you'll benefit from barter deals, CPAs say. For example, if you sell stationery supplies for 200 trade dollars and you have to pay a 10 percent commission in credits, you net only 180 spendable trade dollars.

When you use those 180 credits to make a purchase and the buyer's fee is eight percent, you end up paying another 14.40 trade dollars.

The total price of the purchase is then 194.40 trade dollars. (one trade dollar generally equals one cash dollar within the exchange, but a trade dollar is not redeemable for $1 cash.)

Receipt of barter club credits can be considered gross income by tte IRS, and therefore subject to federal taxes.

You are taxed on the fair market value of all credits you use, generally when they are credited to your account, not when you redeem them.

For example, the $200 worth of stationery supplies you sold for 200 trade dollars this year must be reported on your 1980 tax return as income of $200. (The commission you pay to the barter club may be deductible as a business expense. Check with your tax advisor to be sure of the tax treatment.)

Some business barters are not taxable. CPAs say there is no tax involved when like - kind properties are exchanged. To be considered like - kind, business property must be held for "productive use" or for investment purposes, and not be held for sale as part of your inventory.

Bartering an apartment building for a store building qualifies as a like - kind exchange.

Barter clubs and trade exchanges aren't always easy to find. Look for them in tte Yellow Pages under "Trade Organizations," "Brokers," "Merchandise Brokers," "Stocks," "Business Brokers" or "Due Bills," if you can't locate them under "Barter."

Cecil Keene named help veep

Cecil B. Keene Jr., has been named vice-president of personnel at American Health and Life Insurance Company, an operating company of Commercial Credit Company.

Keene will be responsible and employee relations, salary and benefits administration, training and equal opportunity planning.

Prior to joining American Health and Life, Keene was a personnel consultant for Commercial Credit Computer Services. Previous to that he held several management positions in the personnel area including Control Data Corporation in Minneapolis.

Keene holds a bachelor of science degree from Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, alabama. A U.S. Air Force veteran, he is a former member of Toastmasters, Sertoma and the Urban League in Minneapolis.

Americna Health and Life Insurance Company offers individual and group life, disability and medical expense insurance, credit life and disability insurance nationwide.

Commercial Credit, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Control Data Corporation of Minneapolis, is a worldwide financial services institution with nearly 9,000 employees and more than 950 offices.

Headquartered in Baltimore since its founding in 1912, the company offers financial, insurance, education and technology services to more than a million customers worldwide.

MTA to hold hearings on $$$ request

The Mass Transit Administration will conduct a public hearing Monday, November 17 at 7:30 p.m. to announce a request of $4,386,524 in capital assistance under Section 5 of the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964.

The hearing will be held in the first floor assembly room of the War Memorial Building, Lexington and Gay Streets.

MTA plans to use the federal money requested to acquire new equipment, including 13 new 40-foot advanced-design buses equipped with wheelchair positions and lifts, as well as 5 lift-equipped vans to be used for the MTA's Mobility service for the handicapped.

A portion of the money is also slated for use in land acquisition and engineering design of a new Northwest Bus Maintenance Center to replace the MTA's Retreat Street Division.

Other items to be purchased with the grant money include 20 supervisory and police security automobiles, bus spare parts and 43 bus radios.

The total project is estimated to cost $5,483,155. A federal grant of 80 percent of the project cost ($4,386,524) is being requested. The 20 percent local share ($1,096,631) will be financed through the Maryland Department of Tranportation through State funds.

The hearing will afford interested persons or agencies an opportunity to respond with respect to the social, economic and environmental aspects of the project. Interested persons may submit orally or in writing evidence and recommendations on the project.

The MTA will provide on request a qualified interpreter to assist deaf persons in understanding proceedings of the hearing. To request such assistance, contact: William H. Elkins, Mass Transit Administration, 109 East Redwood Street, Baltimore, Md. 21202, 383-6236.

Terry earns underwriter designation

Charles C. Terry, CLU, an agent with the Prudential Insurance Company's Franklin Centre Agency, has recently earned the insurance industry's Chartered Life Underwriter designation from the American College in Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Terry joined the company in 1974 as an auditor in the corporate office in Newark.

In 1977, he graduated from the company's management development program and became development manager in the Franklin Centre Agency.

After three years in that position, he went into personal production in 1980. A graduate of Lehigh University, Terry is a member of the National Association of Life Underwriters.

Charles Terry

New Hyatt Regency gets last steel beam

The Hyatt Regency Baltimore, a $33.2 million luxury hotel on the Inner Harbor "topped off" with the addition of the final steel beam to its structure. The Hotel is located at 300 Light Street and is connected to Harborplace and the Baltimore Convention Center by over-the-street walkway.

The Hyatt Regency Baltimore, which broke ground in June 1979, is owned and was developed by BRC Corporation (of the Pritzker interests of Chicago) and managed by Hyatt Hotels Corporation.

It is partially financed by a $10 million federal action grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as by The First National Bank of Chicago and the city of Baltimore with permanent financing by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States.

The hotel will be sheathed in reflective glass and will feature a six-story atrium lobby; a rooftop restaurant and lounge; a specialty restaurant and lounge with an indoor lake and greenery; a coffee shop complete with a waterfill; a lobby bar; 500 guest rooms including 25 suites; 27,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space including the Constellation Ballroom; a variety of retailshops; a swimming pool, jogging track and three tennis courts and a 650 car parking garage.

September 1981 is the anticipated opening of the Hyatt Regency Baltimore.

Course for vets going into business

Veterans! Are you thinking about self-employment or starting your own business? Are you wondering if this is the right decision for you? Do you know what factors should be considered? Do you know what help is available to you in establishing a business? Chances are you could use some help.

The Veterans Administration, together with the Small Business Administration and the Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), will explore these and other topics in a workshop for veterans entitled "Owning Your Own Business."

The workshop will be held Monday, Nov. 24, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., in the VA Training Room, Room G-07, of the Fallon Federal Building, Hopkins Plaza.

This workshop is especially designed to assist you in successfully managing and operating your business. Workshop topics will cover every phase of business management important to the new business person — such as record keeping, taxes, business insurances, advertising and sources of capital.

This workshop is offered at no cost to Vietnam-era and other veterans. Attendance is limited, so pre-registration is required. To obtain further information or to register, please call Rick Miller at SBA, 962-2233.

Scared Straight' comes to Baltimore

Baltimore's own version of "scared straight" will be held Monday at St. Mark's Church, Garrison Blvd. and Liberty Heights, as a group of five inmates from the Maryland State Penitentiary talk to groups of youth in an effort to discourage them from a life of crime on the streets and a subsequent life in prison.

Al Corbin, external advisor for the Inmates Advisory Council, said that the forum is one of several to be held throughout the city in preparation for a week-long moratorium on crime, tentatively scheduled for the first week in December.

Corbin, in an interview with the AFRO this week, said that "there is a difference between going to the penitentiary as a visitor and going there for the rest of your life."

Many Baltimore youth, he said, have a romantic notion of what prison life is all about, equating survivors with a toughness that becomes a goal for achievement.

"Kids need to know that prison life is not pleasant," he said.

"The public needs to be educated, about the reality of prisoners who are returned to the real world, their needs and even their thoughts, and there also needs to be a lot more education for our young people in what a life of crime is really all about."

Because of the stigma attached to inmates after their release from prison, they are often unable to get or to hold down good jobs, Corbin said.

By discriminating against the prisoner in the area of jobs, he said, the public gives him no choice but to return to his old ways, simply as a matter of survival.

Corbin said that he hopes the series of forums, all of which are to held at different locations in the city, will discourage youths who attend from crime. He also hopes business community will increasingly give inmates the chance they need to make it once they are released.

He said that the forums have gained the support of the Western police district, and that the governor has been advised of what is being done.

The Commissioner of corrections, Edwin Goodlander, has also approved the concept, Corbin said.

"We need the public to understand that there are some positive things going on inside the prison walls," he said. "The inmates involved in this program are serious...they have a lot to offer kids on the streets today.

"Every time something negative happens, either in prison or in a halfway house," he continued quietly, "the public gets mad. They want to close the halfway houses, get rid of the inmates..."

"But when something positive happens, nobody says or does anything. This program is something that people need to know about."

He also said that "correctional institutes are like big business. "If there was no crime, or if it were drastically reduced... a lot of poeple would be out of work,"

The forum on Monday will begin at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Church. It will be free and open to the public. The moratorium on crime, now set for the first week of December will call for a elimination of crime for one full week.

15-80

SELLING THEIR SERVICE — Evangelyn Cooke and Donna Brown, two pretly Urban Service Agency employees, both work for the USA's jobs program. Here they are shown staffing that program's booth at the USA week activities.

AFRO Photo by Roman Hanckewycz

Rawlings deplores cutbacks in aid to crippled kids

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

A proposal to cut the state Department of Mental Hygiene's Crippled Children's Services division budget by an amount between $1 million to $2.9 million has raised the ire of a local black House of Delegates member.

Howard "Pete" Rawlings, in a strongly-worded letter to Governor Harry Hughes, blasted the proposed cuts, and said that the plans are "short-sighted."

"A hard of hearing child," the letter read, "who cannot be provided a hearing aid and early remedial care may possibly end up functioning as a deaf child and require many more years of special education than would have been true with early and appropriate attention to his handicap."

Rawlings added that between 3,000 and 9,000 children would be affected by the cuts, depending on the size of the budget slashes.

The legislator listed several local institutions, including the John F. Kennedy Institute, the Easter Seal Treatment Center, and Children's Hospital as possible victims of the proposed cuts.

Rawlings' charges come on the heels of a chorus of complaints raised by the Welfare Rights Organization and several other advocacy groups a month ago, after it was announced that the state has plans to decrease the amount of money used to maintain the area's Medicaid system.

United Way raises $20 million

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The United Way Campaign of Central Maryland drew to a close Wednesday night, as more than a thousand supporters of the program showed up at the Convention Center to pay tribute to the organization's efforts.

The United Way continued last year's tradition of surpassing the previous year's final total according to William Clark, president of this year's drive.

The Campaign raised a total of $20,337,660, which surpassed last year's total by $1,332,218.

Hank Butta, vice president of the C&P Telephone Company, served as the general campaign chairman of the 1980 effort, and received the praise of United Way president William Clark for the achievements of this year's campaign.

"Many community leaders," said Clark, "aware of our economic climate, were sure Butta and his campaign leaders would not raise as much as 1979's $19 million, and they had hard statistics to back up their concerns."

Clark pointed out 24 of the leading contributors to the 1979 effort had lost an aggregate total of 13,000 employees to date, and that these employees represented a potential loss of approximately $65C,000.

Over 300 services and programs benefit from the United Way's annual drive.

City Council fumbling with rent control issue

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The City Council rent control hearings ended Monday night on an awkward note, as a steady file of people, including a lady, a New Jersey politican, and renters seeking immediate relief from high rents and poor living conditions filled most of the three hour session.

Addie Quinn, a small woman with heavily rouged cheeks and six shopping bags near her, was one of the first speakers, and gave a rambling account of herself, with only two brief references to rent control.

She set the tone for the night, as several additional speakers paraded before the microphone with disjointed tales of their problems and the need for rent control.

Probably the low point of the night was reached when Herb Klein, a deposed New Jersey legislator, strode to the podium, placed one hand in his pocket, and proceeded to read a half-hour long speech on the "dangers" of rent control. Klein had been brought to town by the Maryland Homebuilder's Association.

By a pre-arranged agreement, opponents of the rent control bill gave almost two hours of uninterrupted testimony, prompting most advocates of the measure to complain that they were being short-changed.

Although many advocates of the measure had denounced the carefully-planned list of speakers organized to testify at the two previous hearings by the Rent Control Campaign, by the end of the night, most of the bored audience had begun to realize the comparable success of the efforts of the group.

"The cause (for rent control) was set back more tonight than in all the past hearings," overstated one disgruntled observer.

Near the end of the session, Judiciary Committe head Frank Gallagher revealed his anti-rent control sentiments as he told the last speaker, Rent Control Campaign head Rich Gatto, that the large amount of money spent by the anti-rent control forces, (officially $500,000), could have provoked many to vote for the measure a year ago.

"We'd like to think we had something to do with it," responded Gatto with a smile.

Sentiment among council members is that the bill will not pass in its current form.

Several, like Gallagher and 5th district representative Rochelle Spector appeared to be blatantly opposed to the measure, while a host of others, including Norman Reeves, D-6th, Nathan Irby, D-2, and Donald Hammond, D-1, are leaning toward a compromise resolution of the issues.

The most liberal element of council, including the sponsors of bill no. 283, may have gained the most from the three-day hearings.

Kweisi Mfume, D-4th, Mary Pat Clarke, D-9, and Tom Waxter, D-5, all were closely indentified with the rent control cause, and if the threats by advocates of the measure hold true, the three should expect to carry a sizeable vote total from those supporters when they run for office again in 1983.

Besides these three, few tangible gains were made for either side at the hearings.

Mfume's bill, which was almost an exact copy of "Question K", the rent control referendum issue which passed in the 1979 municipal elections but was nullified by Judge Joseph Kaplan's ruling, was considered too radical by council to pass before the hearings, and, from the reactions of council following the hearings, his bill still will not clear City Hall.

What may emerge is a bill similar to that introduced by councilmember Clarke and Hammond. Her bill calls for stiffer code enforcement and more accountability on the part of landlords.

According to Gallagher, action on bill no. 283 may not be forthcoming before the end of the year, but several other housing bills, probably including Hammen's bill, may be presented to the full council sooner.

The MSU crisis

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

Whether or not the Morgan State University Foundation improperly used monies it received for the institution is a question that will still have to wait to be answered.

It was expected that the private group which was formed to solicit funds for the university, would release its files to the Attorney General's office by Nov. 11 but to date the information has not been provided.

Assistant Attorney General George Nilson last week told the AFRO, "It is the collective sense of the Legislative Policy Committee and the Attorney General that a complete audit be conducted."

But he added that the audit cannot be performed unless the files are submitted.

In a Nov. 7 letter to Sen. Victor Crawford, chairman of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, David Johnson, chairman of the Morgan Board of Regents, stated, "The board feels strongly that only a thorough audit can adequately answer the questions and allegations that have been raised."

The private group, chaired by AFRO advertising executive Kenneth O. Wilson, has been under attack by political leaders as well as members of the Morgan board for questionable financial practices.

In November 1979 state auditors determined that money had been improperly transferred from the university account to the foundation account. The money was returned after the discrepancy was found.

Meanwhile, Dr. Samuel Banks, Baltimore city public schools administrator who is chairman of a citizens group that was formed to help resolve problems at the troubled university, stated that if a steering committee does not report its plan of action within seven days he will convene the entire group and take decisive action.

"This is a matter of urgency and if the steering committee cannot come up with a plan on the recommendations, I will convene the larger body to take appropriate action," said Banks.

The group first met Oct. 27 to consider three recommendations which called for the resignation of President Andrew Billingsley or that the board terminate him.

Those recommendations were held off until a later meeting Nov. 6 at which time a 15 - member steering committee, to be chaired by Rev. Vernon Dobson, was appointed.

The group was charged with developing a specific outline of how the problems at Morgan could be eliminated. Among those on the committee are Banks, Dobson, Virginia Coleman, president of the Baltimore Morgan Alumni chapter and Rev. Leroy Fitts.

Last rites held for Mrs. B.A. McLeod

Services for Mrs. Betty Ann Stewart McLeod were held Nov. 3 at Shiloh Christian Community Church. Mrs. McLeod, the daughter of Mrs. Carrie Gibbs and the late Charles H. Stewart died Oct. 30 at University Hospital.

Born in Baltimore, Dec. 8, 1938 Mrs. McLeod was the wife of the late Timothy McLeod. She was a member of Shiloh Christian Community Church and a member of the Octettes Club.

Mrs. McLeod was employed at the Maryland Cup Company. She is survived by four sons; two daughters; three grandchildren; her mother; five sisters and five brothers.

A. Reggie Yates, (R), son of the late Atlas Yates and Mrs. Katie Yates, was recently promoted to major in the U.S. Army. A graduate of Douglass High School, Yates received a B.S. degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1976, and is a member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity. Yates recently graduated from the U.S. Army Infantry Officers advanced course in Ft. Benning Georgia and the U.S. Army Organizational Effectiveness School in Ft. Ord, Calif.

Urban Services fetes its many friends

Thousands of Baltimoreans converged on the Convention Center this week to enjoy the many exhibits and features sponsored by the many branches of the city's umbrella agency of human services, the Urban Services Agency.

The exhibits, which were coordinated with open houses held at all USA offices throughout the city, were formally presented to the public Monday at noon; and an opening day banquet, held that same night, attracted an overflow crowd of dignitaries, patrons of the USA, and Baltimoreans who benefit from the wealth of services offered by the agency.

A host of civic officials were cited for their assistance to the program over the years, and they included Mayor William Schaefer; State Sen. Clarence Blount; Robert Embry, of the federal Dept. of Housing and Urban Development; and Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, who served as an original director of the program when it was known as Model Cities.

Elva Edwards, current head of the agency William Sykes, a former head and Peace Corps executive; and Linwood Ivey, director of USA, also received special awards.

Other honorees at the sumptuous banquet included Thelma Daley, Cleveland Brister, Clayton Tucker and Norman Ross, all key pins in the daily operation of various programs sponsored by USA.

The stirring invocation was delivered by the dynamic Rev. Darneal Johnson of the Urban Services Commission, and the program was chaired by Sam Daniels of CEBO.

Mr. Daniel Comegys, coordinator of the USA Cultural Arts Program, sang a stunning solo, "The Impossible Dream," and a note of beauty and youth was injected into the proceedings by pretty April Riley, Miss Inner City 1980.

The week of festivity and information ends today, and city residents are urged to attend either the Convention Center exhibits or a USA field office in their area to get a better idea of what the agency is up to.

READ THE AFRO

—More church briefs

A candlelight vesper service highlighting five Biblical women is scheduled for 4 p.m. and will culminate the Women's Day activities. Mrs. Brendella Hawkins is chairperson and the Rev. Marcus G. Wood is pastor.

The wome of Brown's Memorial Baptist Church, 200 Fulton Ave., will celebrate Women's Day on Sunday, Nov. 16. Sister Debeyii Sabaka Thomas will be the 11 a.m. speaker. The Rev. Douglas I. Miles is pastor.

Annual Men's Day service will be observed at St. Luke United Methodist Church, Riggs Avenue and Gilmor Street on Nov. 16.

Aguilla Moxley of Washington is the 11 a.m. speaker. The 3:30 p.m. special guests will be Lewin United Methodist Church members and the Rev. Alfred Statesman will be preaching.

Charles Kelly is chairman and the Rev. James H. Smith is pastor.

Members of Sharp Street United Methodist Church, Dolphin and Etting Streets will have a kidney candy sale at the community house on Nov. 30.

—Judge Bell

Continued from page 1

come anywhere is just ask. Although I had to step it up, (during the campaign), it's not anything I didn't do before."

In the wake of his stunning victory, some observers feel that Bell's votegetting ability could be translated into a shot for a citywide office in 1983, but Bell scuttled any such talk.

"I ran for this position because I am a judge," he pointed out.

"I am a judge, and it's my thought that I would like to remain a judge.

"I'm not thinking about any other position but this one."

"The one thing I am most concerned with," said Bell as the interview concluded, "is letting everybody know that I am really very thankful for their support. I just hope that I am able to perform my duties in a manner that will bring pride to and reflect credit on them.

—Father-son team

Continued from page 1

of blacks and a substantial number of whites are willing to support a qualified candidate.

"There are more than enough qualified black attorneys who should consider becoming judges but there is a lack of ambition and fear.

Also a fact in the Murphy family's precedent setting is that the son will be sitting on a higher court than the father. Murphy Jr. is the youngest ever to get a seat on the Supreme Bench through an election. Neither Murphy is pleased with the number of black judges in Maryland. Only four out of 20 district court judges in Maryland are black.

A successful criminal attorney, one of the younger Murphy's important legal victories was the case of Charles A. Hopkins, who went berserk in City Hall in April 1976, injuring two people and killing Councilman Dominic Leone.

Defended by Murphy Jr., Hopkins was found not guilty by reason of insanity and is now confined to Clifton T. Perkins State Hospital.

Judge - elect Murphy received a degree in electrical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1969 and graduated from the University of Maryland Law School in 1973.

He was the law clerk for Judge Robert C. Murphy who was chief judge of the state Court of Special Appeals and now chief judge of the Court of Appeals.

As an attorney, Murphy recalls that says his first case was before Judge Harry Cole, who is now the first black judge to sit on the Court of Appeals.