1,000 at Martin Luther King Memorial Breakfast

More than 1,000 people attended the seventh annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast held Jan. 15 at the Baltimore Convention Center.

The 7:30 a.m. breakfast was sold out a week in advance.

Dr. Leon H. Sullivan, pastor of Philadelphia's Zion Baptist Church and founder of the Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC), served as the guest speaker.

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Sullivan, in his address, talked about the three C's— confidence, cooperation and competence. Addressing the theme on confidence, he said, "As Martin would tell us, we must go forward because our cause is right.

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"We must let those in our cities and across the nation know that we've been through all that discrimination stuff before and we're not going to go back. We will not go back to segregation and discrimination again."

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The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast was initiated in 1975 by Richard M. Kelly, former president of the YMCA of the Greater Baltimore area and Alonzo Paul Moss, executive director emeritus who served as coordinator until 1980.

SPEAKER — Dr. Leon H. Sullivan, nationally known minister and businessman, gave the keynote address at seventh annual Martin Luther King Memorial Breakfast at Baltimore Convention Center Jan. 15.

WINNERS — Junior high school students who shared $500 awards and received citations for living up to King philosophy include (L to R), Sharon McClary, Charles Wood, Montray Dixon, Gail Reid, Caroline Shelton, Andrew Frank Deshawn Bouges, Aria Davis and Richard Frierson.

SPONSORS — Members of King's Landing Women's Service Club, co - sponsors of breakfast pictured with speaker Dr. Leon Sullivan (C) and State Comptroller Louis Goldstein (far L) are from (L) Majorie Green, Geneva Small, Doris Street, Joyce Cotton, Bettye Lindsay, Mildred Nelson, Gwen Clarke, Mary Smith and Mary Upshur.

GUESTS — Among the more than 1,000 at the annual memorial breakfast were (L to R), Dr. Joseph W. Zebly, city physician; Delegate Larry Young, D-38th and Attorney General Stephen Sachs.

CO-CHAIRMAN of the breakfast, Mrs. Gwen Clarke of King's Landing Women is shown with (L to R) County Commissioner Don Hutchinson, honorary chair; Mrs. Dee Kline, member of steering committee; Judge Robert B. Watts and WBAL TV execx Sydney King, co-chair at the breakfast.

RICHARD M. KELLY, former YM director and U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes, a regular supporter of the annual event, were both on hand this year.

SPECIAL GUESTS — Among the special attendees at the annual event were from (L), Mrs. Bernice S. White, co-chairperson; Judge Robert B. Watts; A. Paul Moss, Baltimore YMCA executive emeritus and founder of the breakfast; Governor Harry Hughes; Dr. Leon Sullivan, guest speaker; State Comptroller Louis Goldstein and Mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Sign-up available at Free University

Registration for the 74 courses offered this spring by the Baltimore Free University will be held on Sunday, Feb. 7 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Gilman Hall on the Homewood campus of the Johns Hopkins University.

Begun in 1968 under the auspices of the Chaplain's Office at Johns Hopkins, the Baltimore Free University is part of a national network of free universities.

The non-credit courses are led by community volunteers who share their skills, ideas, and interests with their classes.

This spring courses cover a wide range of interests and include astrology, silkscreening, creative writing, auto mechanics, yoga, Jewish and Islamic history, backpacking, cello for beginners, stamp collecting, vegetarian cooking, Esperanto, gerontology, beekeeping, and income tax preparation.

Individual courses run from one day to 10 weeks and are open to all adults for a $10 registration fee. Sessions begin March 1. For further information call 338-8188.

Scholarship applications accepted.

Loyola College in Maryland is now accepting acholarship applications from high school seniors for the Presidential Scholarship, the Black and Decker Scholarsfip and the Knott Scholarship.

Deadline for submitting applications is Monday, Feb. 1, 1982.

Scholarships are awarded to highly qualified students on a competitive basis, without restriction on family income. In order to qualify for these scholarships, students must have a minimum high school grade average of B plus, 90 or 3.5; combined SAT scores of 1150; and a recommendation from a principal, counselor or teacher.

For more information or to receive an application, call the college's admissions office at 323-1010, ext. 252.

Girl Scout cookie drive starts Jan. 22

Friday, Jan. 22, marks the start of this year's Girl Scout Cookie Campaign. An American tradition that dates back to 1933, it's still the main fund-raiser for the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital.

The unbeatable combination of seven cookies will include the original samoas - vanilla cookies covered with caramel on top and bottom, rolled in toasted coconut and covered with yummy chocolate stripes; thin mints - chocolate wafers made with natural peppermint and covered in a smooth cocoa coating.

Also tagalongs - a delicious chocolaty, peanut butter combination, van'chos - vanilla and chocolate cremes; trefoils - old fashioned tender shortbread (only 24 calories per cookie) old fashioned tender shortbread (only 24 calories per cookie) do-si-dos - oatmeal peanut butter sandwiches; and chocolate chunk - made with pure chocolate.

Proceeds from the campaign make up 62 of the GSCNC's annual operating budget. The income is used to fund girl programs, girl and leader recruitment efforts, adult development, grants to girls and other services.

J.C. Hayward of TV Channel 9 will serve as honorary chairperson of the campaign for a fourth consecutive year.

Attention

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mary Louise Gwens please call

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See page 2

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Reagan: a giant step backward?

Is Wayne Williams gay?

ATLANTA — A policeman testified Wednesday that Wayne Williams showed up at the scene where the body of one of Atlanta's 25 abducted and murdered young blacks was found and offered his help in making official photographs.

Henry Starr, a Rockdale County police officer when Terry Pue's body was found Jan. 23, 1981, 25 miles from Atlanta, said a black photographer showed up at the crime scene, said he was a professional photographer and "asked if he could be of any help taking pictures."

Starr said he told the man no help was needed. He identified the photographer as Williams.

A stony - faced, mumbling black youth named Darrell dropped a bombshell on the defense Tuesday — he said the defendant had lured him into his car, fondled him and was "going to get something out of the trunk" when he fled.

Williams, 23, the only son of a quiet, middle - class black family, is charged with the murder of Nathaniel Carter, 27, and Jimmy Ray Payne, 21, two of the 28 young blacks — all but two of them males and most of them children — abducted and murdered in Atlanta over a two - year period.

The prosecution is introducing evidence of more of the murders, even though Williams is not charged with them, to try to convince the jury of a "pattern, scheme, plan or bent of mind."

Darrell's testimony was the first to mention that Williams'

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While president addressed nation, Baltimoreans tried to keep warm

(AFRO Photo by Martin Evans)

ANGRY TENANTS — Chanting "We want heat," and other slogans, Aljerome Thomas and other residents of buildings owned by Ms. Eileen Stevens picketed in front of some of her East Lafayette St. properties. Tenants say they have had only two days of heat so far this winter, and that needed repairs have gone undone for several months.

Witnesses' testimony raises question

Eastside tenants picket for heat

By Mark Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

A group of Eastside tenants, backed by the Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization, mounted a protest against the owner of several dwellings over what they described as unliveable conditions.

Carrying placards and shouting slogans, the tenants assembled into a small picket line and circled in front of several of the buildings which run along the 200 block of E. Lafayette St. Wednesday.

The group cited several reasons for their protest, including the lack of heat and hot water, the presence of leaded paint, vermin infestation and the absence of maintenance resulting in drafty and insecure apartments.

Jeraline Harris of the 200 block of Lafayette St. said she has had heat on only two days "since before November," and calls to the landlady were unavailing.

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Leaders fear President's message turns clock back 50 years

In response to President Reagan's "new federalism" plan that would shift more than 40 federal programs to state and local governments over the next eight years a Baltimore Congressman, civil rights leader and social activist called the plan "dangerous," "dismal," and "slick."

However, the plan does have its supporters, mostly Republicans.

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Congressman Parren Mitchell said the president's initiatives were "very bad and dangerous." Mitchell said Reagan had taken the first step in "trying to kill these programs."

"I have served under four presidents and I have heard many State of the Union messages," but Reagan's speech was "incredibly bad" in terms of substance, Mitchell said.

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State and local municipalities will not be handling the federal programs. Many of those programs "became federal programs ... because the states did not meet their responsibility," he said.

Enolia McMillan, president of the Baltimore branch of the NAACP told the AFRO after hearing the address she thought the president's "rhetoric was very good, but his reasoning was poor."

Reagan showed a complete "insensitivity to the needs of the people ... he offered no solutions at all for the rotten state of the economy," she said.

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The proposal for the states to absorb 40 federal programs met with Mrs. McMillan's criticism. She said the states and cities do not have the staff or the expertise to administer such programs.

"People are supposed to sit it out (for the next six months) some will freeze it out ... starve it out," she said. "It looks pretty dismal to me."

The president's message held no surprises for Bob Cheeks, executive director of the Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization.

"It goes back to this administration's idea of new federalism, giving more to the states. Its the same concept of revenue sharing we opposed years ago," Cheeks said.

Reagan's plan will hurt the organization efforts of poor people around the country in the future. Instead of massing and focusing upon the nation's capital for help, they now will have "50 focuses," he said.

"It's a very slick strategy," he said.

Advocates and organizers will be forced to become "much more militant, radical and no nonsense about fighting for the rights of poor people," Cheeks said.

He predicted new federalism "will be devastating" and the state's already have shown a callous disregard for the poor.

While blacks, Democrats, such as Gov. Harry Hughes and Sen. Paul Sarbanes panned Reagan's plan, Republicans in the state hailed it.

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Sen. Charles Mathia called the president's speech "inspirational."

Congresswoman Majorie S. Holt said she approved of the president's general concept, but "I do reserve judgement until I see exactly what he is proposing."

Allan S. Levey, the state's GOP chairman, is reported to have said new federalism will "put the responsibility where it really belongs — with the state and local governments."

Black legislators battle workfare bill aimed at welfare mothers

Two black members of the General Assembly Ways and Means Committee oppose a "workfare" bill they said would force welfare mothers to work off their grants at below minimum wage.

Delegates Troy Brailey (D-40th) and Walter Dean (D-41st) told the AFRO even though they are opposed to the bill, they expect it will be passed by the 24-member committee and sent to the House of Delegates for consideration.

Both said the bill has strong backing by such agencies as the Department of Human Resources.

George Merrill, a DHR spokesman, told the AFRO his agency supports the bill, with several amendments, because it will be "beneficial in the long run" to welfare recipients and to taxpayers.

Brailey, however, does not see it that way. He said provisions of the bill makes it mandatory that welfare recipients work off their grants.

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30,000 bowlers on the way

SERIOUS BOWLERS—30,000 bowlers will be converging on Baltimore Feb. 6 to participate in the 79th Annual American Bowling Congress National Championships. The event will last 100 consecutive days featuring some of the finest amateur bowlers in the nation. Above are a young man and a veteran woman polishing their games at the Lafayette Bowling Center.

1st woman assistant states attorney

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

Out of a total of 115 assistant state's attorneys who work for State's Attorney William A. Swisher, there are only four blacks and Miss Sondra Lynn Spencer, is the first black female assistant state's attorney.

Swisher says he has offered jobs to blacks who have graduated from law school but, "they don't want to work here. About 13 blacks have turned down the job. Many blacks don't like prosecution work."

He said when Milton Allen, who is now a judge on the Supreme Bench was the state's attorney "he never had more than five black prosecutors."

However, Miss Spencer finds her new job to be a challenge and exciting. "I wanted some trial experience and this job will enable me to develop trial skills. The work is extremely interesting and there is never a dull moment."

In her new position, Miss Spencer has been assigned to juvenile courts and stated, "This gives me the opportunity to work with other attorneys and court masters. There will be a little pressure but I can handle it."

The 27-year-old University of Maryland graduate who is now earning $21,600 a year said she decided to become a lawyer because, "It involves using skills that I enjoy working with. It is hard work and you must be willing to do it."

Miss Spencer, who is the daughter of Milton and Marian Spencer is a member of both the Pennsylvania and Maryland Bar. She is also a member of the American Bar Association, Maryland Trial Lawyers Association and the Baltimore City Bar Association.

AFRO Photo by Roman Hankewycz

A BALTIMORE FIRST — Miss Sondra Lynn Spencer is the first black female to work as an assistant state's attorney. She is shown with State's Attorney William Swisher who said there are 115 assistant state's attorneys in his office and only four are black.