Schaefer proposes statewide enterprise zone approach

Mayor William Donald Schaefer revealed his proposal for implementing enterprise zones statewide in a press conference last week.

Working with Governor Harry Hughes, the state plan is to create eight zones in the state, where firms would receive tax breaks and capital loans in exchange for locating in impoverished areas.

The proposal, which previously identified with the black Park Circle Industrial Park in Northwest Baltimore, now makes specific provisions for other areas.

The eight zones have not been officially designated.

The bill would offer businesses or industries agreeing to locate and provide jobs in such zones, income and property tax breaks, state loans and even subsidies to pay interest on loans.

The focus of the program is new small businesses, which according to John Barker, Assistant Press Secretary to the Mayor, "is where most of the new jobs come from in the economy today."

Governor Hughes says the bill will provide special aid for firms owned and operated by minorities, such as helping them obtain capital for business ventures in the zones.

The property tax credit feature would give a business locating in an enterprise zone a 20 percent break on taxes due on the building.

State funds would reimburse the local subdivision for 60 percent of the taxes, but the locality would have to absorb the remaining 20 percent.

The state backed bill would allow firms locating in high areas of unemployment to receive state income tax credits of up to $1,500 per employee, help from a $1 million venture capital fund and "special consideration" in applying for other state loans.

The measure, according to the Governor, also will provide state assistance to lower the costs of borrowing money for businesses that want to build new plants in enterprise zones.

The Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development, under the zone proposals, would designate six areas each year for special treatment. Any of Maryland's 23 counties and Baltimore City could apply for help.

Areas eligible may include as few as 1,000 inhabitants in rural regions, or as few as 4,000 in urban communities.

The selected zones also would have to meet the requirement of an unemployment rate 50 percent higher than the Maryland or national average, or be defined by the census as "low-income," or have had a 10 percent decrease in population as reported by the census.

County and state officials heard the proposal at the Mayor's press conference and had mixed responses.

Officials from Eastern Shore and Western Maryland Counties are said to have been favorable because of the high unemployment in their areas.

It is rumored more affluent counties fear the already higher share of state income taxes they pay, will be increased to finance the repayment aspect of the program.

Possible Problems with Enterprise Zones

The bill will not breeze through the Annapolis legislature. The possibility of unequal costs and benefits statewide has often murdered legislation.

The measure specifies areas designated in the enterprise program are to cut property taxes in their zone by 80 percent for five years, but would get back half of the lost revenues through a state rebate.

Designated communities also would receive preference for state economic development loans and grants, either for businesses or for improvements to attract firms.

Then there is the cost factor of the state proposal. The bill calls for $1 million in loan guarantees for venture capital.

According to Schaefer, "there has to be money up front inorder to coax some small businesses into a zone."

No one is saying how much the state will be expected to contribute to the enterprise zones.

The enterprise zone concept has been criticized because tax incentives alone may not be enough for businesses to build in a zone.

The Committee on Economic Development (CED), a national group including several hundred top corporation officials, released a report voicing strong reservations about the idea.

CED Senior Research Associate, Renee Berger, quoted the report, the "real costs (of enterprise zones) are unknown and the approach of tax rebates about which we have reservations, is a concept in its infancy.

"Enterprise zones are experiments (and) should be implemented on a limited basis (and the) results carefully evaluated before proceeding with wider efforts.

"Government should proceed with caution."

Prison attack prompts tightened security

After the rape of a female social worker last week, State prison officials are implementing a new security plan at the Maryland Reception Diagnostic and Classification Center (MRDCC).

The new system went into effect on Wednesday Feb. 17 and includes the hiring of six new security officers.

The 14-story facility at Greenmount Avenue and Madison Street tests, evaluates, refers inmates to other prisons and supervises programs set up for parolees.

One guard will supervise the interviewing process. Interviews with prisoners now will occur in a large room with partitions. There will be 11 counselors to 11 inmates in the new interview room equipped with closed circuit television cameras.

Stationed in the inmate interview waiting room will be one guard. Four officers will be assigned to escort inmates from the housing unit.

If a woman counselor must interview an inmate in his cell or the cell block area, she will be escorted by security guards who monitors the interview.

Inmates previously had easy access to counselors. Interviews had been conducted in the "pods," bi-level cell blocks containing 64 prisoners, with separate offices for interviewing the convicts.

However, after the attack on the woman staffer, all "treatment staff" activity, including interviews by social workers, psychologists and other counselors immediately was suspended.

State prison officials said the six security officers assigned to monitor the interviewing process will be new positions and will not leave a "security vacuum" elsewhere in the maximum security facility.

The rape occurred last Tuesday when an inmate, coming for an interview, forced the door shut, turned off the lights and attacked the social worker.

States attorneys are seeking grand jury indictments against the 43-year old convict accused of raping the social worker.

The American Revolutionary victory at Stony Point, a village on the Hudson in New York State, was made possible by a Black intelligence agent named Pompey.

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Baltimore Chapter, Jack and Jill observes Founders' Day

JACK AND JILL TEEN MODELS airing fashions during the "Fashion Extravaganza" segment of the Jack and Jill Founders' Day celebration held in the Emmanuel Chambers Auditorium of Provident Hospital are (L to R): Kim Chambers, sporting a hip-hugging sweater, slacks and leg-warmers; Jill Robinson in a velvet pantsuit and Debbie Patterson in a "dress-up Peasant Girl" style. The Founders' Day marked the 44th year observance of the national organization and the 36th of the local (Baltimore) chapter.

AFRO Photos by Roman Hankewycz

The Baltimore Chapter of Jack and Jill of American, Inc. celebrated its 44th annual Founder's Day of the national organization and the 36th observance of the local chapter with a Founder's Day Tea held Sunday, Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. at Emmanuel Chambers Auditorium of Provident Hospital.

Greetings were given by Mrs Shirley Hill, president of the Baltimore Chapter, who reminded those present that "we should set the child in our midst as our greastest wealth".

The invocation was given by Mrs Louise Owens, who was followed by Mrs. Gladys Bragg with The Occasion.

Mrs. Ann Davis introduced the two charter members who were present— Mrs. Charlotte Shervington (her mother) and Mrs. Zadie Koger.

As a token of love each was presented a long-stemmed rose by Shae Habersham and Paul Williams, of the three-to-six year age group.

A candlelight memorial service for deceased members was conducted by Corrine Coleman.

Two tap-dances were, choreographed and performed by Kimberleigh Delaine, of the 11-12 year age group.

The following members of the 13-14 year age group presented a narrative poem—Scott Adams, Ruth Bowen, Kim Coleman, Cluey Hargrove, Roland Selby, Jackie Sykes, Robert Williams, Doris Patterson and Lydia Griggsby.

Julie Gray of the 11-12 year age group performed two piano selections. Candance Davis, of the same age group, played two musical selections on the clarinet. Marc Bragg, of the three-to-six year age group, sang a solo.

The teen group (from age 15 and up) presented a fashions extravaganza, under the direction of Mrs. Mazie Rea, with Talmira Hill, vice president of the Eastern Region Teens, commentating.

The latest in fashion for teens and the "Preppy" look were modeled in four scenes — "May I Introduce?", with the teens wearing clothes of their choice; "Preppies on the Move", featuring the teens in fashion attire from the buttoned-down (Oxford) shirt to corduroy slacks to plaid shirts and penny loafers; "Time for Fun" featuring casual and sports wear and "Winter Wonderland" featuring dress-up clothes.

Modeling were Jill Robinson, Devy Patterson, Felicia Hill, Chuck Howard, Missy Rea, Kim Chambers, Cheryl Johnson, Monica Hunt, Rebecca Bowen, Earlie Francis, Paula Pennington, Jeffry Russell, Brock Lindsay and Mark Davis.

Music was provided by William L. Griggsby and Mark Davis.

President Shirley Hill and vice presidents Flossie Johnson made presentations to the following past presidents:— Mrs. Kathleen Carter, former Eastern Regional Director; Dr. Anne Emery, Mesdames Juanita Gates, Catherine Howard, Marion Patterson, Ida Murphy Peters, first national editor and Carolyn Willis,

Vice president Flossie Johnson presented long-stemmed roses to Shirley Hill, current president, for her outstanding and dedicated services to the Baltimore Chapter.

Members whose children graduated from the the Jack and Jill Program were Marion Haynes, Ann Fuller, Mattie Mumby, Bernice Brandon, Juliet Bragg, June Gee and Doris Holmes.

A reception immediately following the program was hosted by the Founders' Day committee.—Mesdames Gladys Bragg, Corrine Coleman, Anne Davis, Flossie Johnson, Louise Owens, Joan Powell, Mazie Rea and Edwin Burke, Rita K. Selby, chairperson and Gwendolyn Lindsay, co-chairperson.

Jack and Jill of American, Inc., a non-profit service and family organization dedicated to the interests of the children was founded in Philadelphia, January, 1938.

It has its objectives: To create a medium of contact for children which will stimulate growth, and provide them a constructive educational, cultural, civic, recreational and social program; to aid parents in learing more about their children through careful study and to insure that all children have the same advantages.

The Baltimore Chapter was founded in 1946 by 25 mothers. This year's membership totals 6 families and two associate members. There are seven age groups, with each group planning activities for the entire year.

Each age group planned at the September 1981 family outing and planning sessions held at The Dozens Club in Dorsey, Md.

Many activities have been carried out during the year by the various age groups. These include donations to the UNCF, Provident Hosital, Mt. Calvary Day Care Center, a special nursing home and the National Foundation of the Jack and Jill of America.

Young people have participated in and enjoyed theater parties, Halloween parties, ice skating, a visit to the Cloisters Museum, a Day at the acquarium, a cookie-making party, a visit with Santa and an international dinner party, skiing, bowling and swimming, as well as many others.

As a fundraising event for the year, the parents a have planned, a 'Spring Happenings' event for Sunday, March 14 to be held at The Forum, from 2 until 6 p.m. Funds raised from this affair will be used for the Chapter's service project.

A TAP DANCE is performed during the program by Kimberleigh Delaine, of the 11-12 year age group.

CANDANCE DAVIS of the 11-12-year age group of Jack and Jill performs on the clarinet.

CHARTER MEMBERS of the Baltimore Jack and Jill Chapter looking on are (from left) Mrs. Charlotte Shervington and Mrs. Zadie Koger.

Partyline

Phi Delta Kappa hosts annual Sweetheart's Ball'

By Pattie Hodges
AFRO Women's Editor

The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc., Gamma Chapter, held its annual Sweetheart's Ball at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave., Friday, Jan. 29.

Sorors and friends of Gamma danced til dawn to the beat of those fabulous Commissioners of Washington, D.C.

Guests were welcomed by the sorority's president Rose J. Gallop and Delores Thornton, chairperson for the affair.

The highlight of the evening was the crowning of this year's "Sweetheart." Mrs. Lila Makle, a new soror was crowned by the outgoing queen Mrs. Ethel Hunter.

Former Sweethearts recognized were Bessie Black, Rose Gallop, Charlotte Brooks and Claire Dorsey.

Following the coronation of "Miss Sweetheart" Gamma gals chose their own sweetheart and led a waltz, with guests joining in.

Committee members who served diligently as hostesses were Charlotte Brooks, Claire Dorsey, Cecelia King, Evelyn Scott, Ethel Hunter, Marjorie Hunt, Wynonia Rhock, Lila Makle, Clemmie Cornish and Althea Lucas.

Sweetheart Ball committee members included Sorors Ethel Hunter, Cecelia King, public relations director, Evelyn Scott, Delores Thornton, chairperson; Charlotte Brooks, advisor to Zions (youth group) Claire Dorsey, first anti-basileus Lilla Makle, Athea Lucas, Marjorie Hunt, grammateus, Wynonia Rhock and Nellie Bowie, tamias.

Les Onze Valentine Party

Membes of Les Onze feted their husbands and dates to a gala "Love-Soul" Valentine party Sunday afternoon, Feb. 14 at the home of club president, Bernice McDaniels.

Orchids to the hostess who orchestrated an evening of sumptuous food and fun and games with prizes to those who wrote the most humorous and creative love poems and Valentine cards for their sweethearts.

Members and their spouses on hand were Bernice and Edward McDaniels; Mildred and James Harris, Betty and Bernice Harris, Frances and Joshua Mitchell, Faye and Sidney Burnett, Janice and Dennis Tribble, Vashti and Bernard Christmas, Doreva and Milton Stanley;

Also Edith and Irvin Henry, Barbara and Chaliapin Dungee, Thelma and Donald Millard, Helena Hicks and Samuel Richburg.

Members unable to attend were Junanita Morton, Serena Holmes and Anne Dickens.

Sandy does it again

Sandra (Sandy) East, who is one of Baltimore's most gracious hostesses has done it again.

Friday, February 12 she hosted a festive dinner party at Bowers Ave. home for her house guests Irene Jones, who was in town from Los Angles, Cal.

Delectable on the meun included scrumptuous cornish hen, candied sweet potatoes, rice-a-roni, broccoli with cauliflower and carrots, delicious gravy, green bean salad, rolls, olives, pickles and other condiments, apple and lemon meringue pie, as well as wine and other delightful sippables.

Enjoying the scrumptuous food, beverages, lovely background music and much animated fun were Sherly Woodland, Valerie Dean, Andrea and Sherman Abraham, Nathalia and George Roberts, Lionel Roberts, Sheila and Derrick East and Derrick Jr., Nedra East, Marguerite East, Timothy Wilson, Calvin Woodland and Angie McClain.

Sweet Sixteen Birthday Party

Bad weather conditions did not deter the many friends and relatives of Jollenta D. Street from joining her to celebrate her sweet sixteen birthday.

The party was held on Saturday, Jan 23, from 9:00pm until 1:00 am at the Twin Lakes Racquet Club Baltimore. Disco music provided by Clayton Elerby.

With January 24th being the actual birthday, at the stroke of midnight the music stopped and the guests sang "Happy Birthday" to the honoree.

Following the serenade and cutting of the birthday cake, the guests returned to the dance floor and continued to demonstrate the latest dance steps.

Braving the snow and ice to take part in the festivities were: (from Baltimore) Natalie Alston, Michele Barber Jennifer Dyer, Lisa Giacett, Ami Gaston, Hope Hathaway, Angela Johnson, Robin Mayfield, Alysha Morgan, April Mosby, Rebecca Murphy, Jai Obey, Devy Patterson, Kim Stokes, Cynthia Thomas, Monica Thomas, Terrie Tildon, Bret Ball, Elliott Bridges, Keefe Clemmons, David Cosby, Chip Dates, Byron and Tony Desbordes, Brian Distance:

(Continued on Page 14)

JOLLENTA STREET who was recently hosted at a sixteenth birthday party by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Street (Dolores) prepares to enjoy a slice of birthday cake.