Inner city visitors enjoy a great day at the 363rd Maryland General Assembly

SENATOR CLARENCE M. MITCHELL III (L), Del. Larry Young and delighted guests, Mrs. Johnny Mae Thompson and Mrs. Grace Brady.

Invitation from Sen. Mitchell and Del. Young brings unprecedented crowd to state capitol

By-Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

ANNAPOLIS — It was a rare occasion. Some say the March 8 event tops any every seen. At any rate, it was a big day, the best yet in the 363rd session of the Maryland General Assembly.

Over 300 citizens arrived from Baltimore at the joint invitation of Senator Clarence M. Mitchell III and Delegate Larry YOung, the representatives from Baltimore's new 39th Legislative District (the old 38th District). The purpose of the unprecedented bid was "for buffet dinner, a visit with the two men and a look at the Senate and House in action."

Buses and cars left Pennsylvania Avenue and Robert Street just about dark. As the caravan wound down the highway to the state capitol — that was a pretty enough sight. But, when the jubilant crowd formed a line and walked into the James Senate Office Building, that was the real picture — Citizens of all races, from all stations of life and of all ages, interested in their government.

After dinner catered by John Bond of Baltimore (a feast which Del. Young termed "good old Baptist food"), Senator Mitchell and Del. Young revealed their new 39th District now includes downtown Baltimore as well as some of the inner city "which will soon be recommended for as much attention as Harbor Place."

Noteworthy was the presence of Mrs. Mable Young, Del. Young's mother, who makes all important occasions and will be there March 15 when Gov. Hughes entertains the legislators and their guests at dinner in the Mansion.

Also present were Maurice Jackson who headed the Young Adults Asso. from Cherry Hills' St. Varonica Church and Nathaniel Oaks leader of the young people from St. Bernadine's Catholic Church in Baltimore.

Lt. Governor Samuel Bogley and other legislators greeted the Mitchell - Young guests when they visited the State Capital and stood with them as they posed for group pictures on the historic stairway in the main foyer.

All photos are by Glasco Ryales an independent photographer.

Who was there

ST. VERONICA'S, CHERRY HILL

Maruice Jackson, Mamie Norris, Vanessa Bullock, Edith Hall, Corintha Harrison, Vicky Jones, Cheryl Ogelsby, Robert Turner, Debra Williams, Sam Turner.

ST. BERNARDINES, BALTIMORE

Chris Headleberg, Debra Dyson, Lisa Fowler, Charline Stokes, Margo Gillis, Simone Smith, Stephen Foster, Kevin Young, Margo Gillis, Simone Smith, Stephen Foster, Kevin Young, Regina Pearson, Martin Young, Kenneth Williams, Marc Jackson, Tracy Knox, Rene McWhite, Cynthia Wise, Crystal Hopkins, Antorla Robinson, Brigette Wartes, Shora Hopkins, Twanda Richardson, Karen Carter.

PEOPLES DEMOACTION CITIZENS DEMOACTION

Blanche Williams, Katheryn Knox, Bettye Graves, Herbert Graves, Minnie Leverette, Valerie Leverette, Lillabelle Buller, Mary Waters, Margaret Anderson, Patrice Clark, Tina Miller, Anna Davis, Grace Brady, Douglas Starvis, James Starvis, Rosetta Thighman, Esther Nat-thews, Joan Jeffries, Johnnie Mae Thompson, Wilhelmina Curley, Werner Jordan, Geneva Puryear, Rosabelle Robinson, Edward Savage, Ruby Howell, Roberta Swinton.

Myrtle McCullers, Ora Weathers, Ruth Kirk, Elaine Bowen, Ida Jackson, Vanessa Brockington, Dorothy Mooney, Dorothy Washington, Sarah McRae, Evelyn Feaster, Edward Savage, Tena Miller, Pat Clark, Phyllis Stevenson, Gladys Mack, Maria Toane, Florine Knox, Bernice Mayth, Effie Cole, Angela Lyman, Evelyn Johnson, Roberta Gaines, Edith Hall, Maurice Jackson, Lonnie Lorne, Vanessa Bullock.

Victoria Jones, Coritha Harrison, Anna Davis, Wilhelmine Curley, Carol Lyles, Homer Dorsey, Effie Gordon, Violette, Paulette, Margaret, Betty Rawlings, Rosetta Thighman, Mary Steven, Terry Plaster, Ernest Hill, Elizabeth Winder, Ruth Thomas, Maurice Johnson, Wendell Wright, Vanetta Wright, Ruth Ford.

MITCHELL STAFF

Robert Turner, administrative assistant; Paulette Stroud, secretary; Chris Landon, law office; Kim Blaney, adm. assistant; Vincent Leggett, John dond catering staff.

Feast fit for a king

Signing in

Welcome

Senator Mitchell's Staff — Robert Turner, administrative assistant; Paulette Stroud, secretary; Kim Blaney, Chris Landon, Vincent O. Leggett.

The never-ending line

St. Bernadine's Catholic Church United Souls

St. Veronica's Church Young Adults

Senator Mitchell in his seat in the Senate

MSU students value education at the black school

"Every school I had gone to was predominantly white," said Robyn Finney. "I just wanted to see what the difference was."

Robyn was talking about why she decided to attend Morgan State University. One might imagine Robyn to be young and curious, a white person interested in a close view of the black experience.

But the Morgan sophomore is indeed black, and her reasons for choosing a black college are shared by many other young black students.

The desire of a number of students to return to a black environment for their education was a recurring theme expressed in interviews conducted on the MSU campus in recent weeks by the AFRO, a theme with several variations.

Many students such as Robyn Finney grew up experiencing predominantly white situations, either in their neighborhoods or their schools, or both, and felt the need to get the cultural experience of close contact with their black peers.

For others who grew up in black environments, the selection of a black school meant the ability to study in a familiar cultural millieu.

"You are with people you are familiar with in a cultural sense," Vaughn Stuart, a freshman from Park Heights said of the advantages of a black education.

Vaughn said the cultural focus of a school frequently is incorporated into its administration and its programs.

"Since the majority of the people there (at College Park) are white the University tends to come to their needs," Vaughn said. He added the same factors apply at Morgan, giving MSU its value to black people.

Some students, such as Karen Nelson, seek to take advantage of the relative absence of subtle racial tensions which had troubled them while attending predominantly white high schools.

"I wanted to be in a black atmosphere. I put up with a lot of attitudes I didn't think I should have to," she said, referring to her high school experience.

She said she also had considered attending at the University of Maryland at College Park, but was afraid it would prove to be insensitive to her needs as an individual apart from the white mainstream there.

AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

ROBYN FINNEY, a sophomore at MSU. "I just wanted to see what the difference was."

"College Park is so large and impersonal. It is not like it is here," she said, contrasting College Park with MSU.

James Waller, a MSU history professor, said the relationship between students and faculty often is easier at a black institution.

He said many professors at predominantly white colleges have had little contact with blacks before and during their teaching experiences.

"In many cases you don't have an easy, free flowing relationinship," Waller said. "White professors often never learned how to deal with black students."

He also noted black colleges attempt to incorporate black perspectives into the course material, providing a cultural focus on black people that is often shifted away from them at other institutions of higher learning.

Efforts to create black studies elsewhere have usually been ad hoc efforts and have not had much impact on the mainstream of college curricula, a disappointment to black educators, Waller said.

Most universities "never made a permanent integration of the black experience in their programs," he said.

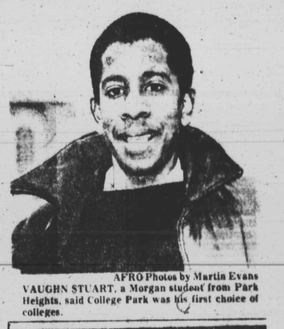
He noted also while blacks are required to study the prevailing white culture in philosophy, history, art and language courses, there is no requirement the black experience be given a historical and cultural perspective.

"It is important to give blacks a historical sense of heritage, an understanding of self," Waller said.

"Without that anchor you are going to be cast adrift."

AFRO Photo by Martin Evans

KAREN NELSON, a sophomore from Catonsville. "College Park is so . . . impersonal. It is not like that here."



AFRO Photos by Martin Evans

VAUGHN STUART, a Morgan student from Park Heights, said College Park was his first choice of colleges.

Mondawmin Mall hosts Health Fair '82

Provident Hospital, Constant Care Community Health Center and the Baltimore Urban League will co-sponsor the Mondawmin Mall site of Health Fair '82 Wednesday, March 24 and Thursday, March 25.

The Mondawmin Mall has provided space for the eight-hour fair, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., which will provide community residents with free comprehensive health education and disease prevention services including testing for visual acuity, blood pressure, anemia, sickle cell anemia, and oral screening.

Blood chemistry testing also will be available for a small fee.

The Health Fair will feature exhibits on various health services available, as well as information on numerous health conditions.

A booth for the elderly and the Viet Nam veteran will be special exhibits at the fair this year.

Health professionals will be present to refer residents to sources if conditions tested warrant such a referral. Volunteers from the Health and Welfare Council's Information and Referral Service also will be present to assist persons in the area of non-health related referrals.

The Provident-Constant Care-Urban League Health Fair is one of several fairs to occur during "Health Fair Week" - March 20 through April 2 - at dozens of locations throughout Baltimore, the 23 counties of Maryland and southeastern Pennsylvania.

Testing provided at the Health is not intended to be a replacement for a thorough medical examination by a physician, and suspicious findings are not necessarily positive evidence of disease.

Tests provided are designed to detect diseases before they became serious. If any indications of unusual conditions are found, health professionals at the fair will alert those individuals to contact their physician for diagnosis and treatment.

Individuals who do not have a physician will be referred to one.

The goal of the Health Fair '82 is to help community residents learn more about their own personal health, learn more about local and social programs, and to assume responsibility for their own health.

Through extensive health education and promotion members of the community receive information as to how their current lifestyle and health habits directly affect their physical, mental and emotional well being, and even their life expectancy.

Residents also are informed as to what positive steps to take to achieve better health.

Constant Care Community Health Center, Provident Hospital and the Baltimore Urban League have worked together to provide this worthwhile service.

With Reaganomics intensifying and the decrease in funds appropriated for adequate health care for the poor, it is crucial for community residents to be aware of the importance of preventive medicine.

Community Calendar

The Community Residence Center, a halfway house for ex-offenders is having its second annual salute to successful ex-offenders, Friday, March 26, at the Famous Ballroom, 1717 North Charles Street at 6:30 p.m.

The major goal of the center is to help ex-offenders return to society and function without further involvement in crime. Help salute ex-offenders who help others and themselves; ex-offenders who refuse to buckle to the forces of unemployment, temptation and criminal promiscuity. Most of all help the Community Residence Center salute real people in hopes they will remain strong and provide the motivation for helping our youngsters become stronger and sustain productive crime free lives.

For ticket information call: 732-1348.

Morgan State University's Student Government Association is putting on its Sixth Annual Talent Show, Friday, March 19 at 7 p.m. in Murphy Auditorium on the southside of the campus.

For more information call: 444-3454.

The Association for Retarded Citizens of Maryland is sponsoring a 10 hour state-wide KATE - A - THON Saturday, April 10.

The event will raise funds to provide services and programs for the 140,000 mentally retarded citizens of Maryland.

Skaters are needed to sign up sponsors who will pledge a designated amount of money for each mile skated.

Valuable prizes are being offered skaters to seek sponsors. Among the prizes are a moped, $250 gift certificates, precision roller skates, trophies and free skating passes.

For more information visit your local skating rink or call toll free 1-800-492-2111.

The House of Ruth, Baltimore's shelter and counseling program for battered women and their families, is holding their fourth Annual Auction, Sunday, March 28 at 4 p.m. at the Lord Baltimore Hotel in the Grand Ballroom.

The theme for this year's auction is "A Little Bid of Baltimore."

Tickets are $5 and hot hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar are available.

Items to be auctioned off include theatre tickets, lunch with local celebrities, art pieces, handcrafts, antiques, vacation homes and many goods and services.

For tickets and information call: Judy Katz at 377-2818.

Free health screenings are being offered at St. Agnes Hospital on March 30 and 31 for the Health Fair '82.

The fair will be in the Alagia Auditorium from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. each day.

Free screenings include: height and weight, blood pressure, vision, hearing, anemia, sickle cell, diabetes, hemocult testing, breast exams, glaucoma, oral cancer and podiatry.

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