Community Calendar

INSTRUCTORS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Qualified instructors are needed at the Druid Hill Family Branch YMCA to teach the following programs and classes: swimming, fitness and dance, youth sports, martial arts and gymnastics. The YMCA does and will provide additional training for persons interested.

If you have specific skills and are looking for a few hours per week or want to volunteer your services please send a letter of interest and resume to: Druid Hill Family YMCA, 1609 Druid Hill Ave., Baltimore, MD 21217.

ST. MARY'S BOYCHOIR CONCERT AT BOWIE

On Sunday, Dec. 4, beginning at 7 p.m., in the auditorium of the Martin Luther King Communication Arts Center on the campus of Bowie State College, the St. Mary's Boychoir of international fame will be featured in concert. The St. Mary's Boychoir, which has appeared before heads of state both here and abroad, will sing a two-part program of music ranging from Gregorian chant to the 20th century. Under the distinguished direction of Brahmachari Keith, the choir's performance promises to be a rare musical treat. Sponsored by the College's Lyceum Committee, the performance is free to the public. For further information, please call Terry Johnson at 464-3276.

CANCER PREVENTION PROGRAM

The American Cancer Society in conjunction with Provident Hospital is sponsoring a Colorectal Program on Sunday, Dec. 4, 1:30 p.m., at St. Francis Xavier Church, 1501 E. Oliver St. Featured will be free information on Cancer prevention and a film explaining colorectal cancer, starring actor Harry Belafonte. For more information, call the American Cancer Society at 821-7200.

PUPPETEERS NEEDED

The Kennedy Institute for Handicapped Children needs puppeteers to operate "The Kids on the Block", a troupe of disabled and non-disabled puppets which perform at fairs, schools, churches, hospitals and community organizations.

Mrs. Allen, who directs "The Kids on the Block" program, is currently seeking new puppeteers to work in the Baltimore and metro areas. Puppeteers receive initial training which is partially funded by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and the National endowment for the Arts.

The Kids on the Block are part of Kennedy's educational program designed to familiarize the public with the services offered by the Institute. Each year Kennedy serves 6,000 handicapped children who have learning disabilities, behavior problems, mental retardation, physical handicaps or other disabilities caused by genetic, prenatal or post-birth damage.

To interview for a puppeteer position, or to book a performance by the kids, contact the John F. Kennedy Institute, 707 N. Broadway, 21205, or call 522-5460.

SCOUTING BOWL-A-THON

Would you like to bowl free, win prizes, and support local youth —all at the same time? The Baltimore Area Council invites you to do just that by participating in their Bowl-A-Thon from Dec. 1 - 18 between 1 and 5 p.m. daily.

Any adult may join in the fun at all Baltimore Area Fair Lanes and additional independent alleys by obtaining sponsors to pledge so many pennies per pin. With a minimum of five sponsors, you can bowl three free games and pay no charge to rent bowling shoes.

A special commemorative mug will be awarded to anyone signing ten or more sponsors, and there are lots of ther prizes to be won.

Proceeds from the Bowl-A-Thon will support Scouting programs in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties and Baltimore City.

Don't be left out! For sponsor sheets or more information, call the Council Service Center at 338-1700.

SENIOR CITIZEN DINNER

The John & Samuel Tyson VFW Post No. 8509 will have their Senior Citizen Dinner on Sunday, Dec. 11, from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m.

If you have any questions you may call Mrs. Marcella Tyler, 732-5640.

YOU AND YOUR pet can bring joy and excitement to lonely nursing home residents through weekly visitation. Pets on Wheels and the Baltimore City Commission on Aging will be holding its monthly pet observation and training program on December 17 at 9:30 a.m. at the West Baltimore United Methodist Church. Call 396-1762 for directions and more information. Shown above are Senior Citizens Rose Armstrong and Tessie Mills.

City could get $23 million if school aid is hiked

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

A preliminary report by a governor's task force on education has called for overall funding increases and for shifts in state funding patterns to equalize the per-pupil amount spent by school systems statewide.

If the report's findings are embraced by Maryland lawmakers state funding for education in Baltimore could be increased by as much as $23 million for the 1984-1985 school year, with additional increases in later years. The increases would be targeted for teacher salaries, books, supplies and other in-classroom costs.

Former U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Civiletti, who headed the task force, said the shifts were needed because while $3,000 per pupil is spent in the state's wealthiest school districts annually, only $2,000 is spent in the three poorest districts.

"It is very difficult to conceive of how you could provide equal education with such a wide disparity in funding in a state as small as Maryland," Civiletti said.

Speaking Thursday before a regular meeting of the Greater Baltimore Committee attended by more than 300 businesspersons, elected officials and school administrators, Civiletti discussed the task force's findings and noted some of its recommendations.

Among its suggestions was to replace a three-pronged state funding program targeted at underprivelidged students with a single program. The unified program would provide an additional subsidy to local school systems to educate underpriviledged students equal to 25 percent of the system's classroom costs.

Currently the state targets about $24 million to help roughly 77,000 disadvantaged students statewide. Most of the state's disadvantaged students live in Baltimore city and Prince George's County.

Civiletti also noted that the state's goal of funding 75 percent of public school in-classroom costs has been eroded to roughly 65 percent, aggravating the disparity between per-pupil costs in rich and poor school districts.

Civiletti said to bring the state's share of in-classroom spending back up to 75 percent would cost about $42 million per year statewide.

Eventually the state should determine some minimum cost for in-classroom expenses, which make up roughly 60 percent of total school expenditures, and fund 100 percent of that cost, Civiletti said. He noted that some method of preventing local school jurisdictions from taking advantage of increases in state funding by reducing their own contribution would have to be implimented.

The 18-member task force, made up of teachers, Politicians, community leaders, and school administrators from around the state, was appointed by Governor Hughes after a court found that Maryland law does not require per-pupil spending by school systems across the state to be equal. The court left it to state lawmakers to decide if and how school spending by local jurisdictions should be equalized.

Civiletti said he expects the findings will be endorsed by Governor

(Continued on page 22)

THE UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE FUND SAYS:

"A MIND IS A TERRIBLE THING TO WASTE."

R.J. Reynolds Industries made a $1,000,000 four-year commitment to the United Negro College Fund this year. RJR hopes other individuals, businesses and organizations will increase their giving to the Fund in 1983.

America's black press and the United Negro College Fund thank R.J. Reynolds Industries for their pace-setting support of our historically black colleges and universities. Together, the black press, UNCF and RJR urge you to support this effort. Please send your pledge to:

The United Negro College Fund, Inc.
500 E. 62nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10021

R.J. REYNOLDS INDUSTRIES HAS DONE SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

THE TUBE: A Complete Television Listing for Baltimore-Washington

Friday Plus

THE WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT/ LEISURE TIME GUIDE FOR THE BALTIMORE AND WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

December 9, 1983

Volume 2, No. 8

Samm-Art Williams plays arctic explorer Matt Henson in "Cook-Peary: The Race to the Pole"

Inside:
Salute to Coppin State College