FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, THIS CHILD WAS DYING FOR A GOOD EDUCATION.

Illiteracy. It's the disease that robs our youth of an opportunity to grow, prosper and contribute. Simple functions like reading the classified ads, writing a check, even comprehending a warning sign become monumental tasks with disastrous implications.

But we're winning the fight against this plague. Dedicated educators, concerned parents, a responsive community and a school system that works have helped turn the corner. And the Maryland State Lottery has been proud to have been part of this effort.

Since 1973, more than $510 million dollars have been given to the General Fund by the Maryland State Lottery Agency to aid in education. We believe that's where the smart money really is.

THIS MESSAGE PROVIDED BY THE MARYLAND STATE LOTTERY.
MARTIN M. PUNCKE, DIRECTOR

000005650 USPS-009-060
99799799 OY 00M 00W BA-2 OIX
PUBLICATION SYSTEMS DIVISION
BELL & HOWELL-ATTN SHILA HYLTO
OLD MANSFIELD RD
WOOSTER OH 44691

Black College Fair

Lake Clifton High School student Iranee Cunningham pauses to inquire about the academic program at Howard University in Washington, D.C. with school representative Chester Wilson.

More than 8,000 prospective black college students jammed Baltimore Festival Hall to participate in a day-long Black College Fair sponsored by the Maxwell House Coffee Division of the General Foods Corporation.

AFRO Photos by P.A. Greene

Student Kimberly Bond and Melissa Baxter anxiously copy college information during Wednesday's Black College Fair in downtown Baltimore.

8,000 high schoolers attend first Fair

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

An estimated 8,000 high school students participated in the first-ever Black College Fair held at the Festival Hall on Wednesday. The fair was sponsored by the Maxwell House Division of the General Foods Corporation.

Baltimore was the first stop on this year's four-city tour, with other stops in Chicago, Philadelphia and Detroit.

Representatives from 60 black colleges and universities participated. They came with catalogues and banners and displays of photographs depicting college life, all designed to lure potential students for the class of 1990 and beyond.

A number of parents attended the fair, some seeking scholarship information, others trying to get a view of college life, and still others preparing themselves for a major rite of passage.

Whether it's across town, across the state, or across the country, the transition from high school to college is a major event.

With college enrollment declining nationwide, many schools participating were glad for the Maxwell House's help.

According to Freddie Clark, director of public relations for Uniworld, the advertising agency handling the campaign, the fair represents part of the General Foods on-going commitment to education.

"General Foods has always had a strong corporate education program. But we wanted to do something specifically aimed at black colleges," explained Ms. Clark.

Clark said that statistics indicate to General Foods that black students seem to do better at black colleges. "They do better both academically and socially. They have more role models. They have more of an opportunity for nurturing."

Clark added that black students at black colleges have more opportunities for full participation in academic life.

"They can be the team quarter-

Continued on page 2

Copyright by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co. LATE CITY EDITION SATURDAY

Baltimore Afro-American

94TH YEAR NO. 26 BALTIMORE, MD., NOVEMBER 9, 1985 40 CENTS

D-DAY for Provident!

No, they're not spacemen. They're members of the out-of-state clean-up crew hired by the Environmental Protection Agency to remove containers of cyanide and acid compounds that were found in an abandoned building at 1009 W. Baltimore Street, the site of the Union Art Gold and Silver Plating Company. The building has been abandoned since 1982. The $50,000 clean-up will be paid for with federal Superfund money. The immediate threat to the neighborhood has been dissipated.

Black Caucus meets with governor today

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

When 62-year-old Chris Gatewood read about the plight of Provident Hospital, he was moved into action.

Gatewood, who had been a patient in the hospital two years ago, still owed the hospital money. "I had been trying to have my insurance company straighten it out, but they've just taken so long."

So Gatewood got the balance together and went up to the hospital to pay this bill. "It's our hospital," said Gatewood. "I don't want it to go under."

He believes that if the hospital spent some money advertising its delinquent accounts, it would be able to recover at least part of the money it needs to survive.

And while it's true, you've got to spend money to make money, Provident hardly finds itself in the position to advertise its delinquent accounts, as it scrambles to meet its payroll and other expenses.

George L. Russell, Provident's Court-appointed trustee has told state health officials he plans to eliminate 56 jobs this month and ask all remaining employees to take a 20 percent pay cut.

The request comes on the heels of a $1 million advance on Medical Assistance payments granted by the state in September to help the hospital meet its cash flow needs.

A state task force established to study the request, predicted that Provident will need at least $5 million, and perhaps as much as $12 million by the end of June 1986.

The hospital has asked the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for $1 million to allow the hospital to meet immediate cash flow demands.

That $1 million would help to decrease, but not eliminate all of the current cash flow deficit.

In a report presented to Adele

Continued on page 3

Veterans Day ceremonies will be at War Memorial

By LaMont Curry
AFRO Staff Writer

Monday is Veterans' Day, a day set aside in commemoration of the end of hostilities in 1918 and 1945, according to Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary (1977). It is a day that means different things to different veterans in this area, as the AFRO has learned.

"It has been an important day to me ever since I was a teenager," said State Adjutant Arnet Powers, of Maryland's Veterans of Foreign Wars. "My uncle, who raised me after my mother died, was a WWI Vet. He was gassed during that war to the point of being blinded for 90 days. From time to time, once I was old enough, he drummed into my head the importance of the day. I served 20 years in the armed services and even after retirement I've been active in veterans affairs. It means a great deal to me... I don't want to get mushy about it... That's it," he said.

Originally celebrated as Armistice Day, the armistice terminating WWI on Nov. 11, 1918, the official adoption of Veterans' Day was etched in stone in 1954. Despite its original definition, the day is widely held to commemorate the services rendered by veterans of all U.S. foreign wars.

"Veterans' Day don't mean (bleeps) to me," said Marcus Ford, 27, who served in the navy. I never served during wartime. I wouldn't have served with the racial climate in this country, I would've found it hard to fight for somebody else's freedom and I ain't seen it yet," he said.

Leon Brown, 65, served in the 366st Infantry during WWII, the first and only all-black unit in the war. This unit was especially unique in that there was the famous 92nd which was black, but they had white officers.

"We had all-black officers. We were the first black unit to ever see combat in Italy.

"When Veterans' Day comes around, I think of my buddies that died in the war. Two of them were Baltimoreans, I'm originally from Indiana myself. I wonder what they would be doing had they survived that war. I will never forget them...

Continued on page 2

City offers new loan program to buyers

By Racine S. Winborne
AFRO Staff Writer

Are you a local resident whose tired of paying exorbitant rents? Anxious to purchase that first family home but discouraged by high interest rates?

Worried that your annual personal income may be too low to risk a low-term mortgage commitment?

Well, a city mortgage loan program instituted by state and local officials may have the answers to all your problems.

As it has for the past five years, the Neighborhood Progress Administration (NPA) through its Baltimore City Residential Loan Program is ready to make available low-interest mortgages to qualified city residents.

Over $17 million in funding for the mortgages has been made available from the Community Development Administration of the Maryland Department of Economic and Community Development's Mortgage Purchase Progam to aid first time homebuyers, it was announced at a NPA press conference this week.

The program has been directly responsible for providing over $110 million in low-interest financing to some 4,000 low-moderate income families since its inception in 1980.

Qualified residents will be eligible for two types of 30-year mortgage loans. The first, for persons whose annual income is $20,000 or less, carries an interest rate of 9.5 percent.

Households with an annual income of $36,000 or individuals whose personal income fall below the $30,000 mark may qualify for a loan whose interest rate is fixed at 10.25 percent.

The standard market interest rate for homebuyers averages about 12.5 percent.

To qualify for a residential loan, applicants must be citizens of the United States and be at least 18 years of age. They must

Continued on page 2

Change in WIC rules leaves many without nutritious food

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

The fears of many people opposed to the change in the Women, Infants, and Children's Supplemental Food Program, or WIC as it's known, appear to be coming true.

The change from a twice-a-year pick-up to a once-a-month pick-up has meant a drastic reduction in the number of WIC participants treking to their assigned WIC office to pick up their food vouchers.

Opponents say that the children will suffer the most and in the end it will cost the state's taxpayers. They'll be the ones footing the medical costs for illnesses related to poor nutrition, opponents contend.

At the heart of the change lies a problem that affects virtually all mothers at some point, the problem of child care.

Many WIC mothers have trouble arranging care for their children while they attend to this important matter, and they're reluctant to make the monthly trip with children in tow.

Said Bob Cheeks of the Baltimore Welfare Rights Organization, "I believe this is designed to cut down the use of the program by making it very difficult to use it."

Declining numbers in the program will mean a reduction in the number of people served, thus a reduction in the number of dollars spent on it.

"The state will then come back saying it's not cost effec-

Continued on page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- DRUID HILL YMCA celebrates its centennial, page 15.
- DAWN MAGAZINE looks at 1986 autos.
- FRIDAY PLUS — WEBB's Chuck Maxx: Programming for the future
- LOTTERY — Page 17.

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION:

Affirmative action order won't erase Maryland action

By LaMont Curry
AFRO Staff Writer

Despite widely reported predictions that the president will sign an executive order severely diluting affirmative action regulations for government contractors, Maryland intends to eliminate discrimination, said an official.

Elinor Kerpelman, deputy director, Maryland Commission on Human Relations, said that it would be impossible to tell at this point what effect the order will have.

"We don't know what it will say . . . But we have plenty of aggressive affirmative action policies in place that cannot be erased by the stroke of a pen," she said.

Recently, Clarence Pendleton, chairman of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, said that he expects President Reagan to adopt a new policy on hiring that would abolish preferential treatment for "minorities" and women.

Pendleton, who is black, called the current regulations, issued 20 years ago by former President Lyndon Johnson,

Continued on page 3

To Subscribe Call: (301) 728-8200

NOV