—Changes in WIC rules

Continued from page 1

tive,"added Cheeks.

Some city and state health officials feel that a lack of communication regarding a change in the program has resulted in declining numbers.

Beverly Camp of the Baltimore City Health Department indicated that problems in informing WIC participants of the change and a computer delay are also factors.

"We've run ads in the newspapers, and we've done radio shows. There's even a hotline number to give the different locations of the WIC offices."

Ms. Camp also added that some participants may be confused by the changes.

"It's not an easy program to understand when you've had to be certified for every six months," she said.

Formerly, WIC mothers were required to be certified twice a year, but the monthly change was instituted as a way to ferret potential fraudulent activity.

Ms. Camp added that the change also reflected "a general trend on the part of the federal government."

During the height of the program, WIC served an estimated 22,270 women, children and infants. Currently, because of the recent change, the program serves far less.

Ms. Camp said of the frequently sited 17,000 served, "It's definitely less than 22,000, but more than 17,000."

Mary Jacobus of the Maryland Food Committee, an organization opposed to the change said, "In Baltimore, women have been either turned away because offices are understaffed, or they're unable to make the trip."

According to Ms. Jacobus, several Maryland counties now have critical "no-show" rates for WIC mothers. In some counties like Anne Arundel, Queen Annes and Talbot, it's as high as forty percent.

For Baltimore, Mrs. Jacobus added, "It's roughly 60 percent of the women who haven't picked up their vouchers. It's astounding. It's all the things that we predicted.

"The biggest irony," continued Ms. Jacobus, "is that it will result in a more unhealthy population. And the state will end up paying more money. Obviously, it's cheaper to feed a person than to provide medical care.

Steve Rohde, Baltimore City director of the WIC program, said, "Before the program was implemented, a number of groups said people would not come to the sites to pick up their vouchers. Not as many people are coming in who should be coming in."

Rohde said the change in the program "requires participants to do more to stay in the program than before." Now, in addition to picking up their vouchers, WIC mothers will have to participate in a nutritional education program."

Rohde said added participation might be viewed as "an additional wrinkle in the program."

WIC mothers who fail to pick up their vouchers for two consecutive months will be automatically dropped from the program. Rohde said a notice is sent to the participant before that happens.

Ms. Camp said that city health officials are aware of the problem and it was with optimism that she said, "The benefits are very good to mothers and children who are nutritionally at risk. This is a good program and we'll do everything we can do to save it."

Said Leslie, an eighteen year-old mother of a baby girl, "When you go there, there are so many people. You go at eight in the morning and a lot of times, you don't get out until three or four. If they don't get to you by the end of the day, then you have to come back. It would be easier if they mailed them out."

Many observers hope the state can make the necessary changes in the program and woo the wayward mothers back to the program. Anything less than that they fear, signals the death knell for the program.

—Affirmative action

Continued from page 1

discriminatory."

Those regulations cover an estimated 23 million employees in 73,000 firms and other institutions doing business with the government and make it illegal to discriminate in employment practices. Violations can lead to forced affirmative action programs using numerical goals and timetables to remedy discrimination.

Conservatives in the administration, led by Attorney General Edwin Meese, with Pendleton, active support, want to eliminate the goals or timetables, relying on contractors' efforts to bring more "minorities" and women into the workplace.

Pendleton was interviewed Sunday on "Face The Nation" (CBS) after the White House, the justice and labor departments refused to make any other spokesman available, according to CBS.

"I think that it's clear that there's going to be an order signed where there won't be any preferential treatment, and where statistical imbalances in the work force will not trigger a finding of discrimination," he said.

"This administration is sending the message that it is trying to turn back the clock. Those segments of business and industry that never were serious about affirmative action can say: 'Hey! Us rednecks can proceed as we wanna," said Del. Larry Young.

He asked: "How does Ronald Reagan want to be seen in history? Does he want to be seen as the man who demoralized the 25 years of progress civil rights legislation has paved? If that is his resolve, then Pendleton and his other surrogates will give him that."

Technically, the proposed executive order would only affect contractors doing business with government (Federal) agencies and therefore would not effect local mandates, per se.

"Here in Maryland, a contractor could be in accord with the executive order and still be in violation of the state mandates," said Kerpelman.

"Let's say a federal contractor needed welders. A black welder with ten years of experience applied and was rejected, while 10 whites were hired, some with obviously less experience than the black. If he were to file a complaint, we would investigate and reach a finding justified by the facts. Under state law we can take action against the employer," she said.

According to Kerpelman, the state law forbids discrimination based on sex and race and also forbids quotas. But, Maryland has asked people to establish affirmative action programs and timetables to give a hand to women and minorities that they might get an equal footing with white males, she said.

"The programs worked until the layoffs came. As long as the pie was big there was more to go around but when white males started getting laid-off, affirmative action created a back lash.

"The pendulum always swings . . . The Civil Rights programs of the sixties and seventies made progress and had broad public support, but now the pendulum is swinging back. It will swing back as far as the public allows," she said.

—Black Caucus

Continued from page 1

Wilzack, secretary of the State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, members of the Provident Study group examined the short range financial goals of the hospital through June, 1987.

The major components of the plan require increased occupany, reduced expenditures, a rate reduction and a reduction of bad credit.

The best case scenario indicated in the plan would leave a cash shortfall of $3 million by June 1986, ignoring the current $1 million advanced by DHMH.

However, after weighing all the variables, the Provident Hospital Study Group concluded among other things;

— The hospital would not be able to survive until the end of the fiscal year with only $1 million;

— A grant, not a loan, of $4.5 million is needed to keep the hospital afloat until the end of the fiscal year, if the hospital's assumptions are to be accepted; and,

— Over the longer term, rethink its mission and consider merger or consolidation with another facility.

On Wednesday evening, members of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus Health Study group and George Russell, along with his two consultants, met behind closed doors to discuss the fate of the hospital.

George Russell said at the meeting, "We're here to determine the direction of Provident." Russell said he'll ask for a rate reduction, a cumulative 10 percent by December 1, 1985, adding, "we're going to live within that budget."

"We need your help because we're at a critical point," he told the group. Then the meeting was closed to the press for two hours.

Emerging from the meeting, Del. Elijah Cummings, chairman of the Black Caucus said, "There's no doubt about it, Provident won't be able to survive unless there's an immediate infusion of funds." Of that request for $1 million, he said, "Even under the best of circumstances, more money will be needed."

Cummings said that members of the Caucus would be meeting with Governor Hughes on Thursday at noon, however, the meeting was rescheduled for today (Friday) at 11:30 a.m.

While Del. Cummings refused to be specific about the proposal to be given to the governor, he did say, "I think what George is recommending is practical and fair and helps Provident to retain its identity."

Is a merger inevitable? Answered Cummings, "Certainly we have concluded that Provident will have to at least give serious consideration to merger—but under no circumstances would there be a merger where the hospital's identity is lost."

Del. Larry Young, chairman of the House Environmental Affairs committee said he was optimistic that Governor Hughes would give Provident the $1 million. "I expect that there will be some conditions," he added.

Legal Notices

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of Section 22-22 of the Baltimore County Code, 1978, as amended, that the County Council of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing, at the date, time and place indicated below, on the following Reports of the Baltimore County Planning Board:

1. Report of the Baltimore County Planning Board dated November 7, 1985 concerning recommended revisions to Basic Services Maps.
2. Proposed amendments to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations concerning Satellite Receiving Dishes (Planning Board Final Report dated October 17, 1985)

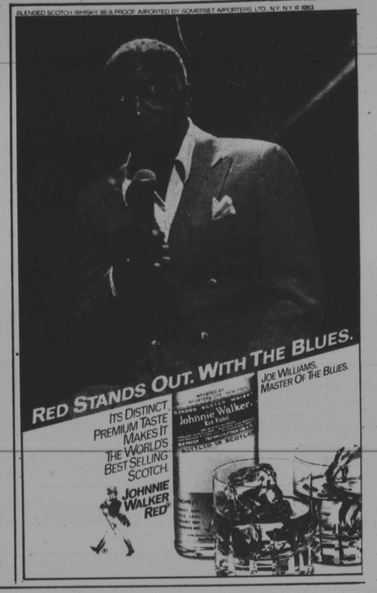
THE PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD:
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1985 AT 7:30 P.M.
COUNTY COUNCIL HEARING CHAMBER
SECOND FLOOR - OLD COURT HOUSE
TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204

Notice is further given that copies of the Planning Board Report are available for public inspection on the bulletin board in the County Office Building, at the Office of Planning and Zoning, Courts Building, Towson, Maryland, the Office of the County Council, Court House, Towson, Maryland, and in each Councilmanic District at the following locations:

First Councilmanic District: Catonsville Library & Catonsville Branch Office.
Second Councilmanic District: Randallstown Library & Pikesville Library
Third Councilmanic District: Reisterstown Library & Cockeysville Library
Fourth Councilmanic District: Towson Library
Fifth Councilmanic District: Essex Library & Perry Hall Library
Sixth Councilmanic District: Parkville
Seventh Councilmanic District: North Point Library & Dundalk Branch Office

County Council of Baltimore County, Maryland

Thomas Toporovich, Secretary
Baltimore County Council



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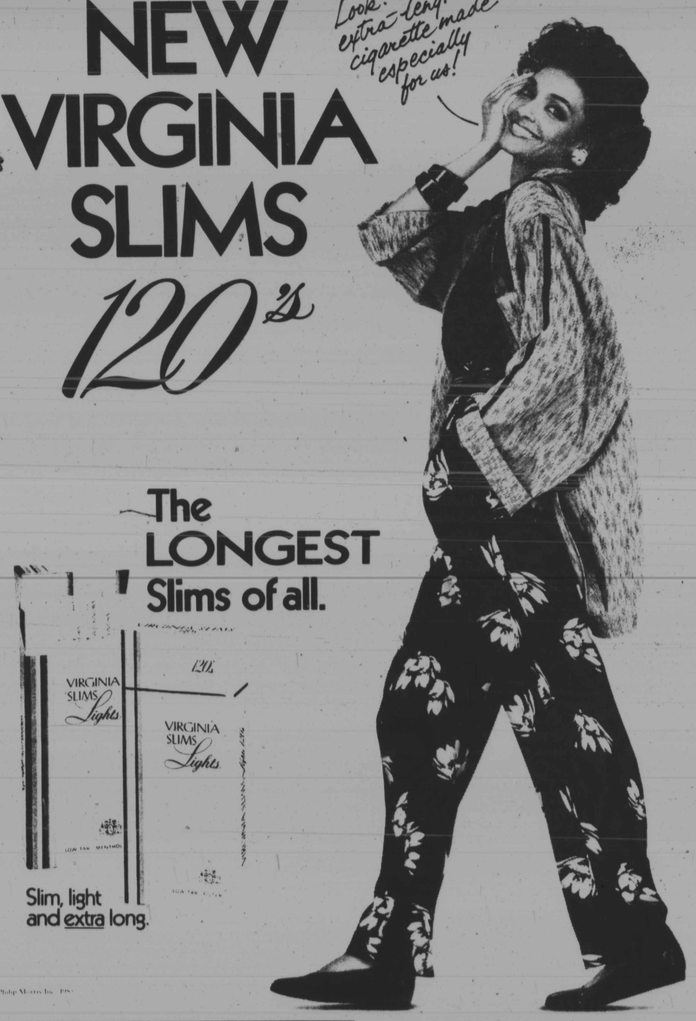

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Community Calendar

Events for Seniors

On Nov. 18, there will be a special registration day at four Hecht Co. stores: Reisterstown Plaza, Towson, Security Mall, and Northwood. Anyone 60 years old or older may join the Oasis Club. There is no membership fee. Members will receive a card entitling them to participate in a variety of classes, trips, and special discount shopping events.

For further information, call Barbara Rogers at 396-4799.

Salute to Joe Chester

The New Era Democratic Club of East Baltimore, Inc., is hosting a "Tribute to the late Del. Joseph A. Chester, Sr.," on Nov. 9, 7-11 p.m., at the Fifth Regiment Armory Officers' Dining Room.

Del. Chester represented East Baltimore in the Maryland State House of Delegates for 16 years. During his tenure, he served on the Ways and Means Committee, the Appropriations Committee for Health and Environment and the Task Force for Prison Reform.

For ticket information, call Leroy Kirkland at 732-0674 or Thomas Saunders at 566-5094.

Conference on Land Use

An all-day seminar on land use issues is scheduled for Dec. 5 at the Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel to focus attention on the need for a partnership between conservation and development interests in state and local long-range planning efforts.

Among the topics which will be covered by panel discussions in the afternoon are the following: residential design as a solution to sprawl, zoning for preservation, conflicts generated by building roads, the future of the conservation movement, financing growth, and revitalization.

Jacques T. Schlenger, a Baltimore attorney specializing in tax law, will speak at lunch. His topic will be "Will Tax Reform Kill Development?"

For more information, contact the conference coordinator, by writing the Department of State Planning, 301 W. Preston St., Room 1101, Baltimore, 21201, or call (301) 225-4500.

Care Bears at Reisterstown Plaza

The Care Bears and Strawberry Shortcake will be appearing at Reisterstown Road Plaza's Center Court stage on Saturday, Nov. 9, at 11 a.m., 12:30 and 2 p.m. courtesy of Erol's. During the meet and greet sessions, Cheer Bear, Sunshine Bear and Strawberry Shortcake will be giving away free balloons and lollipops to children. The sessions are free and open to the public.

Cylburn Arboretum Association

The Cylburn Arboretum Association and the Maryland Ornithological Society are sponsoring an Open House at the Cylburn Mansion, 4915 Greenspring Ave, on Sunday, Nov. 10 from 2 to 4 p.m.

At 2:30 p.m. Hazel Numsen, The Flower Lady, will present a program "Flower Designs for the Holidays," including decorations for the home for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Among her many accomplishments, Mrs. Numsen is the designer of all silk plant materials used in the background of talk shows and news sets at TV Channel 11 and "People Are Talking" show at Channel 13. She is an accomplished lecturer and instructor throughout Maryland.

The museums and library will be open. Admission is free.

Westview Neighborhood Park is holding a Holiday Crafts Fair on Nov. 16, from 9 a.m. 'til 4 p.m., at the Johnnycake Elementary School, 5910 Craigmont Rd. off Ingleside Ave.

Come and shop for your holiday gifts.

Food and drinks will be available.

Talk on Headaches

"Migraines and Other Severe Headaches" will be the focus of a talk by Dr. Dana Frank, one of the nation's leading headache specialists, at the University of Baltimore on Thursday, Nov. 21. The talk will be held in the U of B's Law Center Moot Court Room from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

For additional information, contact the U of B Health Center at 625-3034.

Go To Graduate School?

The University of Baltimore is sponsoring a free workshop for persons considering enrolling in graduate school in the Baltimore metropolitan area.

Slated for Tuesday, Nov. 19, in the Student Lounge, the workshop will be offered from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

The workshop is free and open to the public. For additional information, call the U of B Career Development Center at 625-3050.

Concert at St. Mary's

A combined concert of the College Wind Ensemble, Choir and Chamber Singers will be presented at St. Mary's College Thursday, Nov. 14 and Friday, Nov. 15 at 8 p.m. in the Montgomery Fine Arts Center Recital Hall. The public is welcome to attend without charge.

The first Wind Ensemble Program of this season will include works by Anthony Ianacone, Percy Grainger, Gustav Holst and William Schuman. Directing the Wind Ensemble will be its newly appointed director, Kenneth Meisinger.

The concert will be a gala shared by the choir and Chamber Singers, directed by Larry Vote. Works performed by the choir and Chamber Singers will include the "Glorianna" choral suite by Benjamin Britten and "The Song of Fate" by Johannes Brahms. Guest soloist Carol Heinick, pianist, will accompany the combined choirs on "The Song of Fate" A motet of Heinrich Schutz and several Madrigals will also be performed.

Alzheimer's Aid Fashion Show

Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association (ADRDA) Baltimore/Central MD Chapter will be having Fashion Show Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 17 at Martin's West (Beltway & Security Blvd.) 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $30 per person ($25 gift certificate with purchase of each ticket). Call ADRDA office 282-6648 for more information.

Blood Pressure, Diabetes Screening

Students from the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy and volunteers from Provident Hospital will conduct free high blood pressure (HBP) and diabetes screening at Lexington Market on Nov. 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The students are members of the Maryland-Chapter of the Student National Pharmaceutical Association.

Charles Village Flea Market

The Charles Village Civic Association will hold a Flea Market on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9-2 at the Margaret Brent Elementary School, St. Paul and 26th Sts. The event will feature antiques, collectibles and unique junque.

Desserts, face painting, chalk drawing and playground fun will also be available throughout the day. For more information, call 235-2069.

Health Center Open House

The Central Maryland Medical Group's Ellicott City Health Center will host a health fair/open house on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free blood pressure screenings, diabetes testing, glaucoma testing and vision testing will be available. In addition, blood tests will be done at cost.

The Ellicott City Health Center is a primary care facility serving Ellicott City and surrounding areas. Located in the Howard County Medical Center building at 3459 St. John's Lane, it provides care in family practice medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology and minor surgery.

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READ THE AFRO

By the way...

By Joe Black

No doubt many of you have heard the Staple Singers and Diana Ross suggest through song that we can help to make the world a better place by reaching out and taking the hand of a fellow human being. And through the years. Blacks who were on an upward and onward career path have been admonished to reach back and help someone else up the ladder of success. But I wonder how many of us understand this challenge of reaching back. Does it mean being charitable with your money? Yes, sometimes we must be willing to share our money with those who are still struggling to rid themselves of a depressed lifestyle. On occasions, it will require nothing more than some of your time for listening and/or making suggestions as to how he or she can overcome. And at times, we may "reach out" in a positive way by "opening the door of opportunity" for someone else. Please bear with me as I give an example of opening doors.

The Georgetown University Basketball Team has been a dominant force in collegiate basketball for the past several years. Their successes have given Coach John Thompson favorable identification as a leader who molds winners in athletic ability and character. His team has won national championships, and he has been honored as Coach of the Year. But John Thompson was not content to rest on his laurels. He has used his fame and prestige as a "tool" to help a needy, but worthy Black institution — our colleges and universities. Coach Thompson included a Black college on the Georgetown basketball schedule. This act generates two positive results: (1) it identifies the existence of Black schools and (2) the TV exposure adds to the revenues of the Black schools. I salute Coach John Thompson for demonstrating that you can enjoy the success of a king and still be able to walk with the "common" man.

Joe Black
Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

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