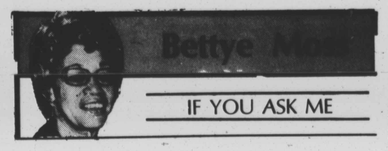


IF YOU ASK ME

Smile

Smile of the week salute to Mrs. Kennard Griffin (Charlene). We are attracted by her warm smile and friendly manner when we shared a seat at a Monday night parish meeting at St. James Episcopal Church.

It was only later that we learned Mrs. Griffin is really Dr. Griffin, and that she is an executive director in the office of School Superintendent Alice Pinderhughes.

During the meeting, Dr. Griffin and other church leaders showed their expertise in church programs by outlining steps required to select a new pastor to succeed Father Donald O. Wilson, who retired last month.

The sunshine in her voice was a delight to hear. Cuff notes: Dr. Griffin and her hubby mark their wedding anniversary on Valentine's Day. He's a C and P employee.

Readers John Grimes writes: "I am glad to see your new smile-in-your-voice salute. Please give orchids to all the kind people who wait on you at Liberty Hospital. I was in there for tests last week, and they really made me feel better, just being in their presence."

NOTE: Please let this column know when you hear about or observe others with a smile in their voice when they greet and serve others. Let us salute. Smile . . smile . . smile.

Gov. Don

You have to give it to former Mayor William Donald Schaefer - he has the down-home manner many admire. He was in rare form on Wednesday when he was inaugurated as Maryland's 58th governor.

The Annapolis ceremony was lively.

This column liked Schaefer's frank admission he was wearing a new suit and the way he kissed his special lady—Hilda Mae Snoops after he took the oath of office.

And we loved the singing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" by the integrated chorus from the Baltimore City School for the Arts.

Under the direction of Dr. Nathan Carter, the youngsters gave a vibrant rendition of three verses of the old song. The crowd gave them appreciative applause.

Limelight

Occupying prominent positions in the official party were Court of Appeals Judge Harry A. Cole, and State Senator Clarence Blount.

Judge Cole wore the red robe as did Chief Judge Robert Murphy who administered the oath, and other judges on the state's highest court.

Smile: — There was laughter when Gov. Schaefer told the 5,000 listeners the need to get his program going—"get it done right the first time, time is important. . .there is so much to do . . . if you don't like the words do it now, use the words deliberate speed. . . ."

And, after stating his emphasis will be on programs to improve education, help people in need, improve the economy and business and transportation, he added. "Not all is going to be right, but if I do propose things, it will be because I think they're right . . ."

Who was there

Among those is the special reserved section — Mrs. Ruth Massinga, the state human resources chief who Schaefer has retained, and Mrs. Hilda Ford, former city personnel who takes a similar position in his cabinet.

Also there, incoming mayor Clarence Du Burns, who becomes our city's no. 1 officerholder now that Schaefer has move to the State House.

More faces in the crowds: Congressman Kwesi Mfume, Baltimore city police commissioner Bishop Robinson was there. So were, Dr. Harvey Webb, Charles Tildon, Dr. Uthman Ray, Dr. and Mrs. Joel Carrington (Vera) and city school board member, Mrs. Earla McKinnon and Mrs. Doris Johnson.

Also, Mrs. Betty Edmonds, the Northern High principal; Mrs. Evelyn, the Roland Park principal; Mrs. Gwendolyn Johnson, the member of the Democratic State Committee and Mrs. Constance Coates, of the state awards commission.

More there

Also spied in the inaugural crowd: — Business leaders, William (Little Willie) Adams, Osborne Payne (the McDonald franchiser), Mrs. Blondell (Cookie) Boyd (7-11); CEBO president, Samuel T. Daniels, Mrs. Ella Pierce, acting head of the city's purchasing department;

And, City School Superintendent Alice Pinderhughes' staffer, Dr. Lincoln Stokes, City Councilwoman Agnes Welch. Mrs. Carolyn Colvin of the city health department, Rev. Antoinette Phillips, assistant pastor of New Bethel Community Church; and community leader, Mrs. Marguerite Campbell, and Mrs. Dorothy Reddick, the teacher.

Also, Mrs. Lillian Dorsey, of Womanpower, Baltimore County, and also the first vice president of national Womanpower was in the crowd.

So were Womanpower members, Rosetta Copeland, Bertha Anthony and Shirley Fisher and Yvonne Mitchell and Prince Hall Eastern Star leader, Mrs. Helen Benton.

And, Morgan State University board member, Frances Gates, and Jesse Wine, the Coppin State College building chief.

Art display

Attorney Joe Thomas lived up to his reputation as a thoughtful person on Sunday. He invited relatives, friends and neighbors to a wine and cheese reception at his Rubped Way home in the Otterbein area in the Inner Harbor section of downtown Baltimore.

The 110 persons who accepted the invitation had a real treat — an opportunity to view the art collection he and his late wife, (Dr. Lois Young), acquired.

Guests had a guide to view the collection tastefully arranged on all four floors of the home. On display works they had collected abroad, as well as of family members and a striking portrait of Lois by Ronald Roberson, done in 1986 before her death.

Mr. Roberson was one of five Baltimore black artists whose works were on display. Others were Harry Evans, George O'Neill Holmes, Ronnie Watts and Larry Sykes. Family friend, Gina Patterson, coordinated the reception.

Small world

More smiles in far-away places: At New York's Carnegie Hall a Wednesday ago, we were greeted by a friendly hello from an usher. She spied our Baltimore sign and volunteered she had just returned from Baltimore.

She is Mrs. Vaness Fields, a Carnegie employee for years. Her Baltimore kin are Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hanlon (Octavia) of the Woodlawn section.

We were at Carnegie for the Jan. 7th University of Maryland International William Kapell Piano Concert featuring Arthur Greene.

The next morning New York Times review by Donal Henahan, said of Mr. Greene's recital,"

"...Mr. Greene's recital last evening suggested in many ways why the young New York native has carried away several such prizes in recent years. It also disclosed some chinks in his artistic armor, as one might expect of a comparative newcomer to the major recital ranks. There was evidence of enterprise in his program, at any rate, which set him aside from the mine-run of contest winners. Not many pianists of whatever importance offer the public the "Concord" Sonata of Ives, a work that demands great organizational ability and poetic imagination as well as a powerful keyboard technique..."

* * *

More small world: At the reception following the concert column got a pleasant surprise when a very attractive young woman tapped us on the shoulder to announce she is a regular reader of this column.

She is Ms. Jacqueline A. Proctor who is employed as Supervisor of Program Operations by ABC (American Broadcasting Company) in N.Y. Plus, she is a 1976 graduate of the University of Maryland and current president of the N.Y. Alumni Association!!

Cuff note: Ms. Proctor's mother, Mrs. Doris Proctor, resides on Franklin St., in Baltimore, is employed at University Hospital.

Thoughtful

Members of the Monumental City Medical Society Auxiliary did a thoughtful thing on Monday. They gave a pizza party for the Florence C. Crittenton Home (for girls).

Since it was the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday, several residents presented a dance they created for the celebration, and gave a moving rendition of the famed King dream speech.

On display in the foyer were photos of famed black Americans and commentaries written by the residents.

Auxiliary members who staged the party were Alice Russell, chair; Arnetta Ganbrill, Frances Mitchell and Mabel Young, president of the group.

Crittenton Home executive director is Ann Shervington Davis. Carolyn Coots is activities director.

Sick list

Good neighbors on the mend: Mrs. Beatrice Shockly, the retired teacher, was in Union Memorial Hospital.

Still confined there, Dr. Roger K. Williams, the retired Morgan U. prof. had surgery on Friday.

* * *

Home from the hospital, recuperating after surgery is Royal Weaver, the golf pro.

* * *

Continue cheer to the Rev. and Mrs. Kelly L. Jackson, (Viola), both still confined to their Hillsdale Rd. home.

* * *

Mrs. Verniece Reynolds, the retired teacher, is out of the hospital, back at the Meridican Nursing Home, Longview. Club members-We Wives and Couples Club-gathered there on Wednesday to salute her on her birthday.

Thinking-of-you-cards to Mrs. Marjorie Green, the NAACP volunteer and AFRO columnist. She was in Pittsburgh this week to bury her sister, Mrs. Ernie Jones (Jean), who suffered a fatal heart attack during a car accident.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Women on Wheels

If you've resolved to learn to do your own routine automotive maintenance, then come to Loyola College on Thursday, Feb. 5 for "Women on Wheels," a workshop on basic car care. Mary Jackson leads this seminar to be held at 4 p.m. in the Multi-purpose Room in Loyola's Andrew White Student Center.

"Women on Wheels" is open to the public. The charge is $1, payable at the door. For more information, call Loyola's Office of Student Activities at (301) 323-1010, extension 2713.

The House of Ruth, Maryland's oldest comprehensive domestic violence center, will offer 12-week parenting education groups starting February 1987.

The groups will focus on such issues as parent "burnout", discipline techniques and developmental needs of children.

These sessions will combine an instructional and participatory format and are geared toward parents who have experienced, or are experiencing, domestically violent situations and exhibit a tendency toward abusive behavior.

For an intake appointment or more details, contact the House of Ruth at 889-7884.

Annual Health Fair

WBAL-TV is the site of this year's first health fair. On Wednesday, Jan. 28, from noon to 4 p.m. the studio will be open to the public. As part of Maryland Health Fair '87, free health screenings and education will be offered to anyone 13 or older. This annual statewide campaign is sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield, the American Red Cross and WBAL-TV and Radio.

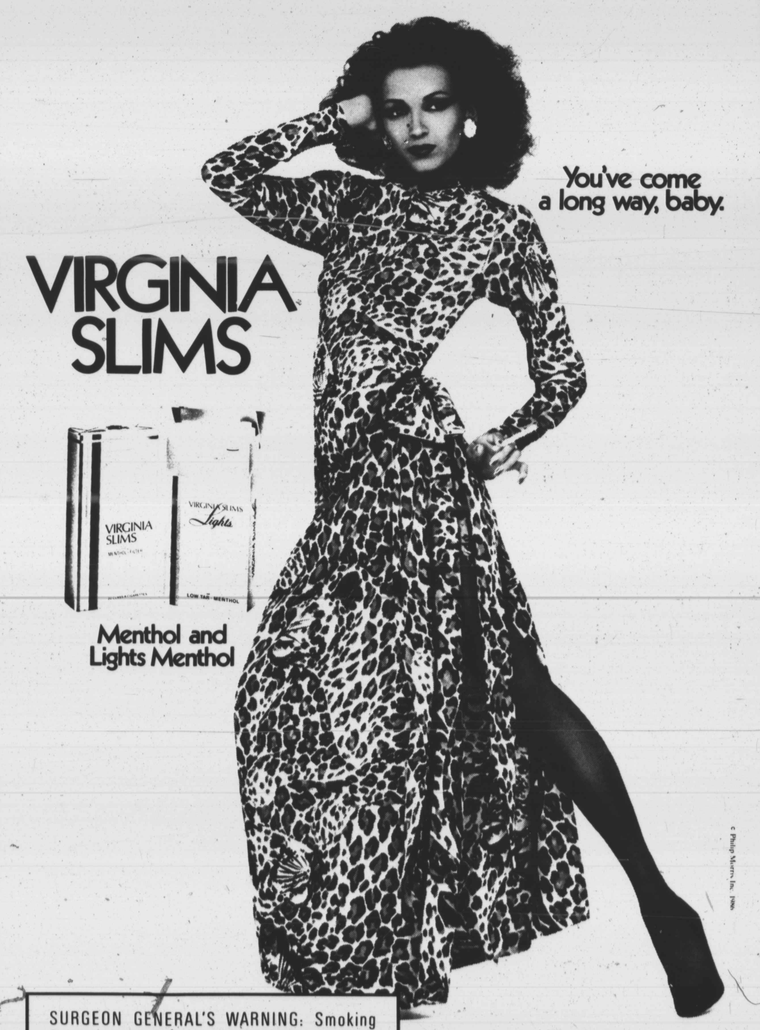
Participants may take advantage of the basic screenings: height and weight, vision and blood pressure, as well as several additional screenings which include glaucoma, podiatry, diabetes and asthma. These screenings are free of charge.

A 20-factor blood chemistry test or the blood chemistry with coronary risk assessment, normally ranging from $40-$80 in cost, will be offered for only $10 and $20, respectively. The blood work up is used to evaluate kidney function, liver function, cholesterol, as well as other health concerns.

To obtain more information contact Mary Johnson at 889-7112.

Science Classes Offered

The Maryland Academy of Sciences is once again offering its popular "Turn on to Science" program, a series of exciting Saturday classes for elementary school students. The morning and afternoon classes introduce children to the excitement of science through hands-on activities and experiments. Session 1 of the spring program begins on Saturday, Feb. 21 and runs through March 28. Morning classes are scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., while afternoon classes are held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Baltimore's First

(AFRO Photo by P. A. Greene)
His Honor The Mayor Clarence "Du" burns

Du's come a long way

By P.A. Tatum

From jazz man to mayor - it has been a long, tough, rutted road for Clarence Henry Burns, Jr. If he had it to do over, Mayor Burns said he would have done some things differently, but he would still have chosen politics because it is one of the things he said he does best.

The crowning of Burns' lengthy political career occurred Monday, Jan. 26, 1987 when he wa sworn in as the 45th mayor of Baltimore. It was a doubly proud moment for many in the black community because Burns was the city's first black mayor.

During his remarks, Burns, 68, made references to his humble beginnings. From old news clippings, the mayor and his relatives, those beginnings emerge and come into focus.

He is, of course, a product of Baltimore's Eastside. Born and reared, in the section of the city bound by Spring and Caroline Streets, according to his younger sister, Mary Burns Futrell, 67.

Burns was named after his father, Clarence Henry Burns, Sr., a St. Mary's County native. Mrs. Futrell said her father worked as a laborer for the Robinson Oil Company on South Caroline Street for about 26 years.

His mother, Selena, also hailed from St. Mary's County. The couple met in Baltimore and married around 1912, Mrs. Futrell told the AFRO. Mrs. Burns worked for private families, she said.

The couple had six children, three of whom survive. Gone are Thomas, Richard and Virginia. Mayor Burns has another sister, Selena Hines.

Mrs. Futrell, who is the mother of eight children and has worked as a cook at Mercy and Sinai Hospitals, remembers her brother as just an ordinary boy.

"He did a lot of things boys

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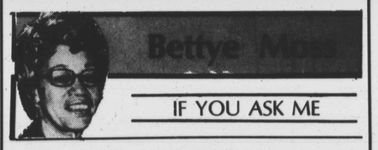

IF YOU ASK ME

Meet Mrs. Du Burns

The new first lady of Baltimore is Mrs. Edith Phillips Burns. She and Baltimore's new mayor, Clarence Du Burns, marked their 47th wedding anniversary on Nov. 3.

A fourth generation East Baltimorean, Mrs. Burns is a lifetime Catholic, attends St. Frances Xavier Church. She is a product of Dunbar High and the renowned St. Francis Academy, run by the Oblate Sisters.

She was 18 and he was 21 when they were married in the church rectory. They first met at a cousin's wedding, and it was love at first sight.

Mrs. Burns was a federal employee for 25 years, worked for the Department of the Army at Holabird and Ft. Meade before her retirement in 1981.

During her husband's inauguration on Monday morning at the War Memorial, Mrs. Burns held the Bible while he took the oath.

She wore a becoming blouseon silk dress — grey dotted with black and gold, and a white orchid. He was careful not to crush it when he gave her a big hug after he repeated the vows.

For the evening fundraiser at the Arena, Mrs. Burns was attractive in a black sleeveless dress over which she wore a gold and black evening jacket

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Clarence and Edith Burns

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STUDY SAYS

'Rot' beneath city's glitter threatens community's survival

(See editorial and excerpts inside)

Beneath Baltimore's glittering image of new office buildings, renovated downtown neighborhoods and Inner - Harbor tourism lies a "rot" that threatens the future of the city, according to a comprehensive report released this week.

The report, "Baltimore 2000: A Choice of Futures," by Peter L. Szanton, a Washington-based policy analyst, concludes that Baltimore in 13 years could become a town with virtually no middle class, fewer jobs, with wealth concentrated in the hands of a few and the majority poor and under educated.

These conclusions did not surprise Dr. Benjamin C. Whitten, president of the Baltimore Urban League.

"This report has brought to the surface what many of us have been saying for a long time," he said.

Whitten said the information contained in the report would give "visibility" to the problems and create "a climate" to begin serious debate on how to solve Baltimore's pressing problems.

Whitten cautioned that the subject of education must be examined very closely when formulating theories about how to increase employment among blacks.

The National Urban League isued its annual "State of Black America" earlier this year. This report stated, "There is a longstanding belief that the black/white unemployment gap is largely due to racial disparities in educational attainment."

However, the National Urban League's Research Department found that nationally the unemployment rate blacks with one to three years of college was over twice that of whites with comparable education.

"Race is the factor," Whitten said, "and education does not remove that. As we discuss improving education we must remove (the racial) barrier."

While the Szanton report paints a dim picture of Baltimore if

Continued on page 2

Health officials' firing irks Black Caucus

By Roz Hamlett

Two black assistant secretaries were among six, who lost their jobs Wednesday when State Health Secretary Adele Wilzak eliminated an entire tier of management from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

According to AFRO sources, these are the first of many personnel changes in the state's health agency that will result from Gov. Schaefer's "do it now" approach.

"There has been a restructuring in the department in response to Gov. Schaefer's directive to make the state agency more accountable and responsive to the needs of local government and the citizens of Maryland," said agency spokesperson, Viola Lewis.

Schaefer's efforts to trim down the largest state health agency in the country, resulted in the loss of two black personnel — Douglas Morgan, who was assistant secretary of the Medical Care Program, and Jesse Williams, the assistant secretary for administration.

Del. Howard Rawlings, vice chairman of the House Appropriations Committee which oversees any state agency's budget request, said the firings were a surprise as a result of a "gag order" that the new governor has on many of his department heads and secretaries.

However, Rawlings said he regarded the manner in which the directive took place as a "personal slap in the face."

"In the past, the secretary would have at least called out of courtesy to inform me of the decisions," said Rawlings, who described Wilzack's behavior during a phone conversation as "evasive."

Rawlings said he was not provided with any information and was forced to discern the facts

Continued on page 2

First black investment firm opens Monday

By Clarence Brown

Nathan A. Chapman is leaving Alex Brown and Sons investment firm (Friday) today.

Not because he is unhappy or got fired. But to start his own company, one of only six black-owned companies in the country.

"This is a relatively new field for blacks," said Chapman, 29, prior to opening the first black-owned investment firm in the state on Monday.

"I want to be able to build a quality service and help people meet their financial objectives."

Chapman, who is a Certified Public Accountant, raised $500,000 start-up money from investors, including Alex Brown.

Of the six black-owned investment companies, Chapman's starting capital, makes him one of the largest. Because of an agreement with Alex Brown, Chapman is able to transfer all his clients to his new company.

"I think it's a tremendous step forward when you have the largest investment firm in the country risking its money on a black-owned business," Chapman said.

Chapman was graduated from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2½ years.

He worked as a CPA for Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., the largest public accounting firm in America, for three years.

Chapman currently holds the title of a Registered Investment

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Whitney Houston, Lionel Ritchie sweep awards

By Kathleen Neumeyer

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Whitney Houston won five awards and Lionel Richie won four Monday night to dominate the 14th annual American Music Awards.

Houston, who won two awards last year, took the honors for best female pop and soul vocalist, best soul video for "Greatest Love of All" and best pop album and best soul album for her debut, "Whitney Houston."

"I don't know what to say," said Houston on repeated trips to the podium to collect awards. "Thank you. I love you."

Richie, who already has 11 American Music Awards as a solo artist, picked up four awards - pop video single for "Dancing on the Ceiling," favorite male pop video artist and favorite male vocalist in both pop and soul categories, Richie was not on hand to accept the awards.

Janet Jackson, whose brother, Michael, has a dozen American Music Awards trophies, stole the show with an exciting performance of "Control." She was the big nominee with nine awards, but won only two, for favorite soul single and female soul video.

"I feel really wonderful," Jackson said after the show. "I've always wanted to establish my own identity, without my family, and I feel so good I've done it."

Diana Ross, who was hostess for the show for the second year in a row, was clearly impressed by Jackson. "I can't tell you how thrilled I am to present Janet Jackson," Ross said.

Alabama won three awards in the Country category - favorite group, album and video. Huey Lewis and the News and Billy Ocean each won two awards.

The Judds, a country western

Continued on page 2

Kenneth Law gets 30-day jail sentence

Kenneth Law, a prominent funeral director and member of the state's licensing board for morticians, was sentenced to 30 days in jail on Thursday by Circuit Court Judge Edgar P. Silver.

Earlier this month Law, 46, admitted to fraudently billing estates of deceased nursing home patients for services he never performed. His sentence will begin Feb. 17.

His attorney, Stephen L. Miles, who was unavailable for comment at AFRO's presstime, was reported to have said his client admitted to some charges under a binding plea agreement that reduced his penalty to his current 30-day work release and a $1,000 fine.

Sentence date was originally delayed in order to give Law the necessary time to raise money to repay his fine.

The owner and operator of the New Kenneth Law Funeral Chapel in northwest Baltimore, Law, as part of his sentence will have to pay $3,022.10 to Medicaid.

Continued on page 2

Photo by United Press International

Nine-year-old Louzon Davis of Kansas City, MO is all smiles as he holds his six-month sister Aleia Dunson along with his five other brothers and sisters. Louzon, who saved them from their burning home late Monday, Jan. 26, is a hero today.

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