Black History Month events on tap

The exhibit "But Now When I Look Back" depicts the history of the black community in southern St. Mary's County. It combines photographs from the 1940's and 1980's, and narratives of the people in those photos to tell a history that might have otherwise gone untold. The exhibit opens on Friday, Feb. 5 at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, and will remain on display until Thursday, March 3.

On Feb. 10 at the Enoch Pratt Free Library from 5 to 7 p.m. Mayor Kurt Schmoke, Edward T. Lewis, president of St. Mary's College, and others will host an opening reception for the exhibit.

For more information contact Don Schumaker at 862-0380.

In recognition of Black History Month the Morgan State University Choir will perform in a benefit concert at the Berea Temple of the Seventh-Day Adventists, 1901 Madison Avenue, Saturday, Feb. 6 at 6 p.m.

The concert is free and open to the public. For more information call 544-4916.

Clifton Wharton, Jr., the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Teachers Insurance Annuity Association/College Retirement Equities Fund, will be held at the main branch of the Enoch Pratt Free Library, 400 Cathedral Street. The lecture/discussion will take place in the Wheeler Auditorium on Sunday, Feb. 7, at 2:30 p.m.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 396-5494.

The Honorable Parren Mitchell will be the guest speaker at Essex Community College on Wednesday, Feb. 10, from 12:20 to 1:15 p.m. in the Lecture Hall of the college's Administration Building.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 522-1641.

The Maryland Historical Society, 201 West Monument Street, celebrates Black History Month with storyteller Alice McGill in "Black Heroines and Songs and Tales of Afro-American Folk Culture" on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 2 p.m.

Although the program is free and open to the public, advance registration is required by calling 685-3750 x322.

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School celebrate Black History Month with its 15th annual Gospel Night on Sunday, Feb. 14, at the Aberdeen Post Theater, beginning at 4 p.m.

The program is free and open to the public. For more information call 278-5598.

Calvert Hall College's Black Awareness Club will celebrate Black History Month by sponsoring a dinner on Sunday, Feb. 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Calvert Hall cafeteria. The guest speaker will be Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of Pediatric-Neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Proceeds from ticket sales will go to the Paul Kinney-Craig Cromwell Scholarship Fund.

For more information call 825-4266.

The Residence Life students and staff at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Loyola College, will sponsor "In Search of Excellence: Achieving Against the Odds" on Sunday, Feb. 21, in the Doyle Lounge between 3:00 and 4:30 p.m. on Notre Dame's North Charles Street Campus.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information call 532-5555.

During Black History Month at the Maryland Historical Society Library, 201 West Monument Street, a manuscript journal by America's first black scientist, Benjamin Banneker, will be on display through March.

The hours for the Maryland Historical Society Library are: Tuesday through Friday: 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 1-5 p.m. MHS is closed on Monday. For more information call 685-3750.

On Stage Theater Series 88' celebrates Black History Month with its tour of two award winning pieces of drama entitled, Parting and Zora and Langston. The tour is scheduled for Feb. 18-27.

For show dates and times call 225-9430.

Deltas to honor female legislators

The Maryland Council of Deltas will be honoring 13 black past and present female legislators on Monday, Feb. 1, at the Legislative Services Building in Annapolis.

Each of the former Maryland General Assembly members, including former state Sen. Verda F. Welcome, will be presented with the Verda Freeman Welcome Legislative Award.

The award was named after Welcome because she was the first black female senator in Maryland, the first female senator in the nation, she served the longest in the Maryland General Assembly, and she is in the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. said Thelma B. Cox, former president of the Baltimore Alumni Chapter.

Senator Welcome is the first black female Senator in Maryland and also the first female State Senator in the United States.

She served Maryland in the General Assembly as a Delegate for four years and as Senator for 20 years.

During her 24 years in office she sponsored and had passed into law a variety of bills, dealing with such issues as public accomodations, mixed marriages, voter registration, gerrymandering, Provident Hospital construction, Afro-American History and Culture, equal pay for equal work, harassment of welfare recipients, illegal employment practices, gun control, adoption, bicycle safety, non-smoking areas, funeral home licenses, disabled Veterans, University status for Morgan State College, and many other issues which impacted the community.

Thelma B. Cox said that there are few women in legislative offices and the goal of this award was to "focus on black women in politics after 1960, also to focus on women's activities in the legislature."

She also said that the awards ceremony is being held on Feb. 1, because the date starts Black History month and it is also the 75th anniversary of the founding of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

The award will expand to Delta chapters beyond the state.

Shore beautician fights 'City Hall'

In a dispute that has raised charges of racism, Mayor Torbert Williamson says he will try to overturn a zoning decision allowing a black-owned beauty shop in a residential district.

Williamson, mayor of the Eastern Shore town of 2,000, denied an NAACP lawyer's charges of racism, saying Tuesday that he is motivated by concern for maintaining the neighborhood's mostly residential character.

Bertha Mack of Cambridge last week won a zoning variance to open the beauty shop on Main Street, several buildings away from the Williamson Funeral Chapel.

"I think the consensus of the neighborhood is we want to ask the (zoning appeals) board to review it," Williamson said. If a rehearing is rejected the case may be appealed to the state Circuit Court, he said.

"If it were a white citizen I would have the same opposition," Williamson said. "If my sister were to buy it, I'd fight her."

Town attorney Starke Evans said the block is zoned for single and multi-family dwellings, with provisions for some home-operated businesses.

He said part of the problem is the commercial district merges into the residential areas on both ends of Main Street, and that there are many former businesses and current businesses in the residential-zoned areas.

Mack's building is a former fish market, but Evans said it has been a long time since it was used as a business.

Williamson's funeral home was in existence before the zoning went into effect in the early 1970s. Since the zoning, Williamson has won two variances to expand his business.

NAACP lawyer David Honig of Berlin said the opposition is racially based. "There was some evidence we received from two white witnesses to the effect that some of the opposition may have been racially motivated," Honig said.

"It was very explicit what their motives were. They did not want a black business," he said.

When Mark applied for her variance in September there were no other black-owned businesses in Federalsburg. Since then a black-owned car wash has opened along Main Street.

Mack's appeal for a variance from the residential zoning was denied in November, but the appeals board reversed itself Wednesday when Mack's lawyers presented evidence of a nearly identical case involving a dentist's office several years ago.

Mack owns Orchid Beauty Enterprises in Cambridge and wants to open a new store to serve Federalsburg customers, Mack said. She was not available for comment Tuesday.

Baltimore center touts central city living

By Woodrow Thompson III
Special to the AFRO

The lobby of the new Baltimore Living Information Center on 25 Light Street was filled to capacity Wednesday as Mayor Kurt Schmoke unlocked the doors of the center to kick off a unique effort to promote intown living.

The Living Center is part of a 9-month-old campaign, said the Director of the Baltimore Living Program, Steve Himmelrich.

"We have already rented apartments to people, and I know that this program will be a great one, and will definitely promote inner city living," he said.

The center provides a central location for Baltimore residents and new arrivals to the city to gather information on all aspects of living in Baltimore's central city.

By using this information center, clients will have an opportunity to investigate city services, cultural activities and referrals for condominiums, and other central city real estate options.

According to Zack Germroth of Housing and community Development, Baltimore is the only city with this type of program.

"This is a great program to get people to live in Baltimore City," Germroth said, "and I believe that there will be more people living in Baltimore City in the years to come."

According to Jacqueline Lampell, a press secretary, with the Department of Housing and Community Development, the program has been successful, and the department is looking forward to expanding the campaign.

"This is a great start for city dwellers," Lampell said confidently.

Thin ice claims youngster

United Press International

CHARLESTON, S.C. — The doctor treating a 9-year-old who emerged from a coma 13 days after spending 40 minutes at the bottom of an icy pond says he got the first sign the boy would come around last week "when I asked him to 'give me five,' and he slapped my hand."

Kendall Smith, trapped at the bottom of the farm pond Jan. 12, regained consciousness Jan. 25 and doctors were "cautiously optimistic" about his future.

Although Smith's physical condition improved markedly, physicians at the Medical University of South Carolina are now primarily concerned about brain damage he may have suffered.

Dr. Fred Tecklenburg, director of MUSC's pediatric intensive care, said doctors are "happy with where things are heading."

Tecklenburg said Smith will begin intensive rehabilitation in the coming several weeks and that will give doctors a better understanding of his prospects for further recovery.

Smith had been sedated to help recover from a respiratory infection and hospital spokesman Jeff Watkins said the youth emerged from the coma when the medication was withdrawn.

"When he came out of sedation, he was awake," Watkins said. "He was actually seeing things and pointing to them. He's been awake most of the day. He's pointing at objects around his bed, he took a few sips of water and he's even sitting up with some assistance."

THE GEOMUTION COLLECTION

GEOMOTION is the newest collection of hair, make-up, and nail fashion for the coming season. The short cut and style for women of all ages and lifestyles is just one of the many looks available to you this spring and summer. Versatility and ease-of-care are the key features in every Geomotion look, so visit **ARTISTIC DESIGN COIFFURES** 1816 WEST NORTH AVENUE or call 523-8003. A National Cosmetology Association member salon. **ARTISTIC DESIGN COIFFURES** also features **fashions** and **leather designs** by **HARCUM and RICHARDSON, Hari Designs by Sharrion Nipper, Mary Stevens & Marion Wade.**

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Deltas celebrating their beginnings

EDITOR'S NOTE: There are many stories and legends surrounding the beginnings of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, but an article written by Madree Penn White, one of the 22 co-founders of the sorority in 1913, in the sorority's own magazine — The Torch — in 1927 apparently gives the true history.

A few weeks ago Frances Murphy, the publisher of the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN Newspaper, a Delta and one of five daughters of another co-founder Vashti Turley Murphy came across the article while preparing to attend the 75th Jubilee celebration this weekend here in the District.

To honor the thousands of women through the decade on this their group's 75th birthday the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN reprints the article.

By Madree Penn White

In 1908 at Howard University, Washington, D.C., Miss Ethel T. Robinson then a member of the faculty, formed from the upper classmen young women of the school of Liberal Arts, a girls' club known as the A.K.A. Sorority. Up until 1912 the club continued to function, and in the fall of that year, Myra L. Davis, then a senior, was completing her term as president.

During her administration there came a demand from the members of the club that steps be taken to justify the name 'Sorority," for the club had no legal entity, and unincorporated as it was, had neither charter nor power to form other chapters."

The work of the committee may be grouped as follows:

1. Drafted a constitution and by-laws and urged their adoptions.

2. Recommended that the name A.K.A. be changed to one distinctively Greek, and suggested the name Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

3. Brought in a drawing of new designs for a pin, which design was later adopted.

4. Suggested an initiation ceremonial commensurate with the dignity and traditions of college women.

"These changes were made and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority has the distinction of being the first Sorority composed of colored women to apply to the Trustees of any University for the right to become an incorporated body.

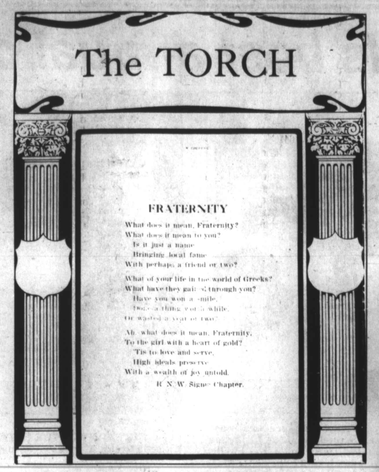
"To summarize, in November, 1912, the above mentioned constitutional committee was appointed, its report adopted and application made to the University authorities for the right to apply for charter. Charter was granted in January 1913. In March 1913, Madree Penn was elected president. During her administration Beta Chapter was formed at Wilbereforce, Ohio, and set up by Ruby Martin in 1914.

"One other result attendant on the formation of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority should, for the sake of clarity be mentioned. It was, in the beginning intended to make internal changes only, in the then existing college club, and after formal chartering link up its graduate members. Because of the one lessening vote on the part of one of the graduates present at this meeting, this could not however be done.

"Nellie M. Quander felt that the old name and the old pin should be retained. So strong was her feeling that she went from that meeting, gathered together a group of women applied for a charter for an organization to be known as the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority., This was granted, also,, in the 1913.

"Thus 1913 is a red letter year. In it there came into existence two real Greek letter sororities. Both organized at Howard. Both chartered in this same year. Both an outgrowth of the college club organized in 1908 by Miss Helen Robinson. The histories of each are things of which to be proud. Each has fully justified her existence. Each points with pride to the record of her achievement. No history of the formation of Delta would be complete unless some tribute be given to its founders. Elsewhere in this journal is a picture of its charter members, the beloved founders of our great sisterhood."

In the 1912 picture are the founders whose married names and positions in 1929 were added by the editor of the Torch.



They were Myra Davis, San Antonio, Tex., first president of Delta Sigma Theta, a high school principal; Mamie Redd (Roles), Pennsylvania; Bertha Pitts, Colorado;. Florence Letcher, Washington, DC, teacher; Jessie McGuire, Galveston, Tex. teacher; Jimmie Bugg, Lynchburg, Va. former teacher residing in Savannah, Ga.; Ethel Carr, West Virginia teacher; Oscelo McCarthy Adams, Georgia residing in Chicago (not in picture); Pauline Oberdorfer, Philadelphia, former teacher in West Chester, P.; Edna Brown Coleman, Washington, DC, deceased, former instructor Howard University; Edith Mott, North Carolina teacher; Marguerite Young Alexander, Chicago; Naomi Sewell Richardson, Washingtonville, NY, former Princeton, NJ teacher, resident NYC; Winona Cargile, Macon, Ga. social worker in Florida; Wertie Blackwell Weaver, Kansas City, Mo. former E. St. Louis teacher now wife of Dr. Barrington Weaver, LA;

Also Vashti Turley Murphy, former D.C. school teacher and wife of Carl Murphy, editor/publisher Afro-American Newspapers, Baltimore; Ethel L. Cuff, Wilmington, Del. teacher; Fredericka J. Chase Dodd, former Dallas, Tex. teacher and wife of Dr. J. Dodd, Dallas; Olive Jones, former teacher, Washington, DC; Madree Penn White, Omaha, Nebraska, former teacher, YWCA secretary, writer, journalist and businesswoman and now wife of Dr. J.W. White, St. Louis, MO.

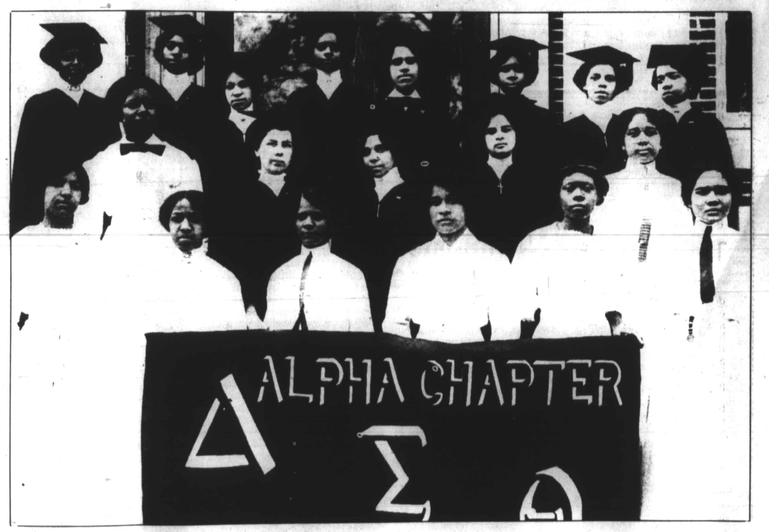
Missing from the picture are Osceola McCarthy Adams, Zephyr Chisom Carter and Eliza P. Shippen.

FRANKIE FREEMAN, who was national president in 1971, talks with Georgia's Albany State College's Delta Rho Chapter member

DELTA PRESIDENT Elise Austin in 1942 with fellow Soror Mary McLeod Bethune.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29	
12:00 Noon	**REGISTRATION**
2:00 P.M.	White House Briefing (Reservation required) Executive Office Building
8:00 P.M.-10:30 P.M.	Grand Presidents' Reception Grand Hyatt Hotel
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30	
9:00 A.M.	Colloquium "Delta's Past ... Present ... Future" Grand Hyatt Hotel
12:30 P.M.	Luncheon/Fashion Show Grand Hyatt Hotel
4:00 P.M.	Heritage Tour (Ending at Howard University)
6:30 P.M.	Reception — Blackburn Center Howard University *Hosted By:* Dr. Geraldine P. Woods, Chairman Howard University Board of Trustees Dr. James Cheek, President Howard University
8:00 P.M.	"An Evening with Ruby and Roz" Featuring Ruby Dee and Roslyn Burrough in Songs, Sounds and Words Cramton Auditorium — Howard University
9:30 P.M.	Celebration Cabaret Featuring the Bill Cummings Professional Sounds Grand Hyatt Hotel
SUNDAY, JANUARY 31	
9:15 A.M.	Founders Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast Grand Hyatt Hotel
2:00 P.M.	An Afternoon of Entertainment Lena Horne as Ambassador of the Arts Presenting Clamma Dale, Soprano The Howard University Choir Kennedy Center — Concert Hall
4:30 P.M.	Reception "Meet the Artists" Grand Hyatt Hotel



THE BEGINNING — These were the Howard University students who banned together in 1913 to form the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, one of the first black greek fraternities in existence. The girls in cap and gown were seniors and the others are underclassmen. Not pictured were Osceola McCarthy Adams, Zephyr Chisom Carter, Eliza P. Shippen.

Top row, left to right — Myra Davis, San Antonio, Texas, first president of Delta Sigma Theta, lady principal high school, San Antonio; Mamie Reddy, (Roles) Pennsylvania, deceased; Bertha Pitts, Colorado; Florence Letcher, Washington, D.C., teacher in public schools of D.C.; Olive Jones, Washington, D.C., formerly teacher in public schools of Washington, D.C., teacher of music; Jessie McClure, Galveston, Texas, teacher in Galveston; Jimmie Bugg, Lynchburg, Va., formerly teacher, residing in Savannah; Ethel Carr, West Virginia, teacher.

Second row, left to right — Pauline Oberdorfer, Philadelphia, Pa., former teacher in public schools of West Chester, Pa., present address not known; Edna Brown, (Coleman) Washington, D.C., deceased, formerly instructor Howard University, Washington, D.C.; Edith Mott, North Carolina, teacher; Marguerite Young Alexander, Chicago; Naomi Sewell (Richardson) Washingtonville, N.Y., formerly teacher in public school, Princeton, N.J., resident of New York City.

Front row, left to right — Winona Cargile, Macon, Georgia, social worker in Florida; Madree Penn, (White) Omaha, Nebraska, formerly teacher and Y.W.C.A. secretary, a writer, journalist and business woman, now wife of Dr. J. E. White, St. Louis, Mo.; Wertie Blackwell, (Weaver) Kansas City, Mo., formerly teacher in E. St. Louis, Ill., now wife of Dr. Barrington Weaver, Los Angeles, Cal.; Vashti Turley, (Murphy), Washington, D.C., formerly teacher in public schools in Washington, wife of Editor Carl P. Murphy, Afro-Americans, Baltimore; Ethel L. Cuff, Wilmington, Del., teacher; Fredericka J. Chase, (Dodd) formerly teacher in public schools of Dallas, Texas, wife of Dr. J. Dodd, Dallas.

JAN 1988