—Anti-loitering

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so when it it goes in to effect, we can make it stick," said Clarke.

If the anti-loitering proposal becomes law, there will be a maximum $1,000 fine and maximum 60-day jail sentence.

Phillip Dantes, acting chief of the legislative counsel, said if a person is convicted of loitering and found with narcotics, that person is also subject to state narcotics penalties.

"The real purpose of this ordinance is to get rid of public pockets of drug selling activity and allow police another tool to clear streets of these transactions," said Dantes Wednesday.

The mayor said many people have suggested the city needs to strengthen its laws and toughen on crime to decrease drug activity.

But Schmoke said the city has had an impact upon crime, because there are 3000 inmates in Baltimore City jail.

"It's not that we're getting tougher on crime in this community, but we're getting smarter about crime in this community," Schmoke explained.

"That's what we have to do....to keep these guys off-balance and to improve the quality of life in our community," he added.

The anti-loitering idea grew out of the April town meeting on crime at the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute. Among concerns, citizens asked police if law officials could do anything about the known drug-trafficking on their corners.

Years ago, police would tell young people they could not stand around certain corners that the police delegated off-limit and that idea worked for a long period of time, until people caught on Schmoke said.

"We can't indict a corner (today), but we sure can come close to that concept," the mayor said.

The mayor said the police department has identified 63 places that are known drug-trafficking spots in the city. He did not reveal them.

"By tomorrow those people will have moved to a new 63," said Schmoke.

During the morning press conference Lawrence A. Bell, III, Fourth District councilman, said he looked forward to reading the piece of legislation because many of his constituents are concerned about drug-trafficking.

"I'm in favor of the basic direction and purpose of the bill," Bell said Wednesday afternoon.

The councilman said his district has the highest rate of drug-trafficking in Baltimore City. North Avenue and Pulaski Street and Edmondson Avenue and Brice Street are examples of heavy drug-trafficking spots in the Fourth District Bell said.

In the past, Schmoke said courts have thrown cases out of court that involved suspected street drug-trafficking, because the courts ruled the arresting police officer did not have sufficient evidence.

The officer would see someone walk up to a car and see money transferred, but no drugs. That was not enough evidence.

Edward Tilghman, city police commissioner, said police support the legislation and he hopes it will scare drug-traffickers out of the city in to neighboring counties.

"We're trying to keep drug-dealers off-balance and hope Baltimore becomes an uncomfortable place for them," Schmoke said.

Stuart O. Simms, city state's attorney, said the legislation was another "piece of the puzzle" in the city's fight against drugs.

"This will be an effective tool in the law enforcement arsenal," Simms said.

The attorney said it was too early to estimate how many arrests would result from the legislation.

—Rosemont Community

(Continued from Page A1)

tion. But, life has not been the same for the people who live there since work began.

At a meeting early Monday evening, city officials and construction workers apologized for failing to warn area residents before beginning work on water mains. The Rosemont Neighborhood Association, outraged by the city's lack of communication prior to starting work, demanded an explanation and a promise that it would not happen again.

"They agreed that our concerns are reasonable and that we should all work to form of a partnership," said Mary Parish, president of the Rosemont Neighborhood Association. "I'm pleased that there has been a commitment, but I'm waiting to see if it will be followed up with action."

Before last September, a stroll through Rosemont would have revealed the soul of an old Baltimore style neighborhood complete with character and unity. No obscenities or autographs are scribed on the playground wall. Crime is at a minimum since the neighborhood got the city to increase the number of street lights last summer. Clean, well swept streets and alleys, uncluttered by trash and unwanted debris, a low level of noise and other disturbances were all trademarks of a community that cares about its appearance and its people.

Then, the city moved in and disrupted the community's vibes. Long yellow and black sewage pipes began to line the streets, trash began to pile up in the alleys, and noise sounded so loudly from street drilling that it shook houses and disturbed the daytime peace that many of the neighborhood's retired residents had grown accustomed to.

Houses are hooked up to a temporary water system while pipes are being restored. But, residents have complained that their water pressure is low, sometimes they have no water, and some have said their water bill is higher as a result. Most of all, they have complained because they were not told this was going to happen and why it is necessary.

"They have turned our neighborhood into a cesspool," Parish said. "Hoses go across the alleyways and garbage trucks won't roll over the hoses to pick up the trash. Water is running through the trash, and senior citizens are being asked to drag heavy trash cans up and down backyard steps, carry them through the house, and leave them in front."

Parish continued, "We are being serenaded with ground plates, flapping up and down all night when cars drive over them. Some homes have been sprayed with water when kids walked through the neighborhood and turned the pipes on."

Mrs. Parish stressed that she is concerned that members of her community will lose faith in the neighborhood association as long as these things are allowed to continue. She also said that she doesn't want other neighborhoods to be faced with the same kinds of problems.

"If this can happen in our neighborhood, it can happen to others," she said. "Imagine turning on the washing machine and having it running with no water and you don't even know it."

During Monday night's long overdue meeting, the Rosemont Neighborhood Association demanded that the sanitation department pick up their trash. They asked that a better temporary emergency number be issued, for a shorter response period for solving problems, and that one day's notice be given before turning off the water in people's homes and hooking them up to the temporary water system. They also requested that at least one month's notice be given to all members of the community before work of this nature begins. Lastly, they requested that all holes drilled in the street be closed up before workers break for the winter.

The discomfort Rosemont had to endure over the past two months was not in vain because the city has agreed that they could have communicated better with the residents and has agreed to honor the community's wishes.

The city has contracted Spiniello Construction Company to clean and line water mains throughout Baltimore and restore them to their original design capacity, according to Lawrence Hudson, chief of water and waste water for the city.

"This is necessary for the people of the community," Hudson said. "The city recognizes that these pipe structures are old and that affects the quality of water as well as the ability to fight fires. Once the work is complete, the water system will be greatly improved and that will be beneficial for everyone."

Rosemont is the only area being worked on now, but work has recently been completed in Roland Park and some areas of East Baltimore.

While the contract stipulates that no additional work could begin after November 15 in Rosemont, plans have been made to begin again in March and continue through the summer until October 1989.

"I hope this has been educational and will provide for better communication between the city, construction companies, sanitation department and other communities," said Councilwoman Sheila Dixon (5th district). "My concern is that the city and construction company neglected to inform residents and this kind of thing is done frequently, especially in the inner city."

Hudson said he is not sure which Baltimore area will be worked on next, but he believes communications will be improved.

"We may have been able to do a little more to let people know what we're doing, but it is difficult for the average person to understand," he

(Continued on Page A8)

Revised
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College Fair comes to town: 16,000 respond

Toi Robinson, Desiree Langley, Stacey Morgan, Nichole Joseph are all ears as Lisa M. Wendel introduces them to Xavier University.

MONET BOOKER signs up for further communications with Cheyney University after talking with recruitment officer, Angela Brown.

IT ALL BEGINS WITH A SIMPLE "HELLO" — Christine Gerifone, Thomas Jefferson University, begins many a long-lasting relationship with students like Taesha Newman who meet her at the college fair and wind up in the alumni association.

By Jill P. Carter
AFRO Staff Writer

Sixteen-thousand teenagers went shopping this week, but not for clothes, or books, or shoes, or dates. The shopping center was Festival Hall and all the stores were selling the same thing. A college education. Three-hundred colleges and universities set up shop, featuring their most marketable majors, activities, and programs.

The National College Fair came to town Tuesday and Wednesday, drawing 11th and 12th graders from all over Baltimore City, surrounding counties, and stretching as far as Pennsylvania.

Some came with parents, others traveled with friends and classmates. Most carried notepads and pens to jot down values offered at various schools.

"I've decided to go to Bowie State," said Stephanie George, a senior at The Mark of Excellence Christian Academy. "I had thought about it before, but now I'm convinced that Bowie is the school for me. It has everything that I need and more."

Stephanie's decision came without a lot of deliberation. After visiting several booths, the recruiters from Bowie State sold her on a mutually beneficial merger.

But for some students, choosing a college is not that easy.

"At first, I wanted to go to school in California, but my mother wants me to stay in the area so now I'm thinking of Howard University," said Ursula Brown, a senior in Columbia. "I still haven't made my final decision because I like different schools for different reasons."

For students who can't quite narrow it down on their own, counseling is available. Ready to help students select the college best suited to their personalities and needs, a short, wide advisor stores information on all colleges in it's electronic brain and prints out a list of schools for students to consider.

Students are not the only people who look forward to the college fair. College recruiters enjoy telling kids about the schools they represent.

"I love it," said Karen Payne, associate director of recruitment for Morgan State University. "I am very pleased with the number of kids who have come over. I know we've talked to over 500 students in the last two days who have left their addresses for a follow up."

Once students express an interest in a school, recruiters usually ask them to fill out cards with their names and addresses so they can contact them for open houses, seminars, and information that can lead to registration.

Baltimore is one of 24 sights to host annual college fairs. The first one was held approximately 12 years ago. Since then, they have expanded from getting only mainly local and state institutions to participate, to having schools from 11 over the mid-atlantic region and beyond.

"This gives students an opportunity to do the kind of comparative shopping that no high school can offer," said Baltimore college fair spokeswoman, Chelseia Harold-Miller.

'Clean Block' lady joins Lottery staff

Last week, the AFRO said good-bye to AFRO Charities Director, Elyn Garrett. Elyn came to the AFRO In 1985 as an intern while she was completing her senior year at Morgan State University.

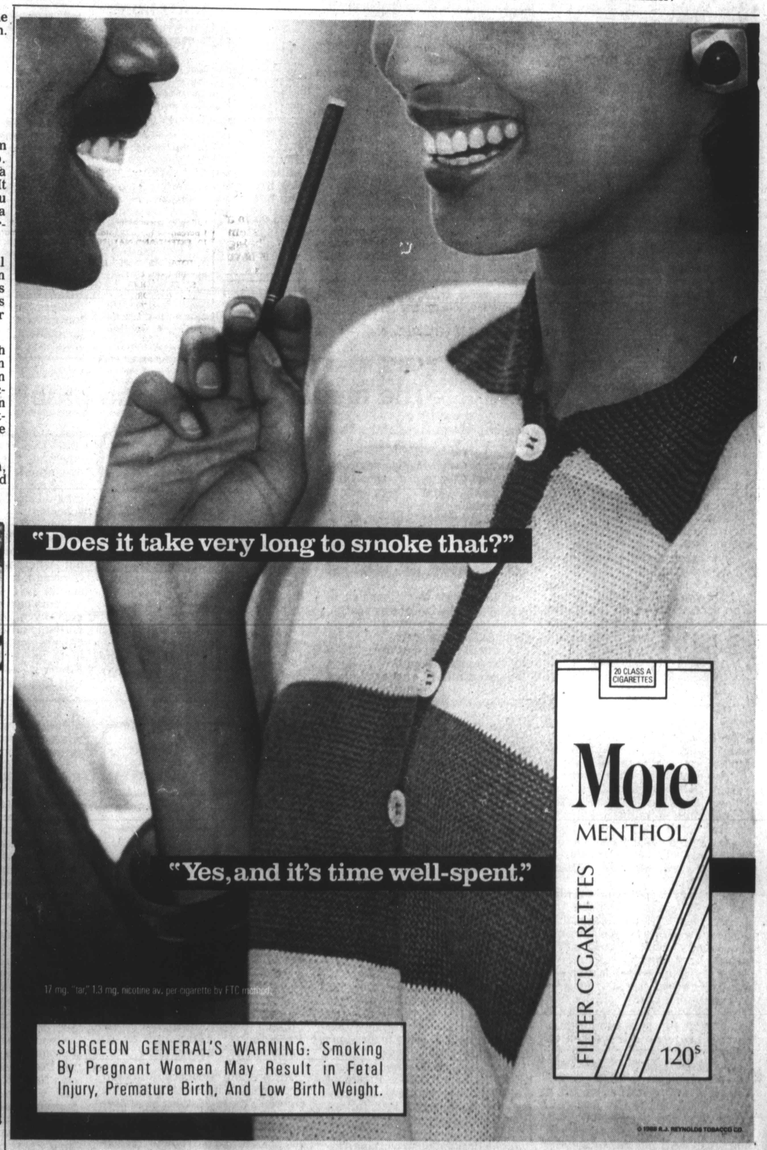
Upon graduation, Elyn was hired to assist with the Clean Block Campaign and the Entertainment department. In 1986, she was promoted to head up AFRO Charities.

She has eagerly and enthusiastically taken on the challenges of raising money and reaching out to help the community. She was responsible for Mrs. Santa, Clean Block Campaign, and the Second Annual Black Press Hall of Fame.

"One of the things I like most is the Christmas program," Elyn said. "We receive over 1,000 letters from families who need help. Things like meals, shoes, a winter coat for the children. It is heartwarming to know you have helped people have a Christmas they would not ordinarily have had."

After three years, Elyn will miss being called "The Clean Block Lady" when she drives her car through city projects where a great deal of her work is done.

A graduate of Morgan, with a bachelors degree in Telecommunications, Elyn will be Assistant to the Director of Community Affairs in the Public Relations Department at the Maryland State Lottery.

Born in North Carolina, Elyn plans to make Maryland her permanent home.

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