The women's auxiliary of the Baltimore County branch of the NAACP held their first annual Bull Roast to help support vital causes and honor distinguished members of the community on April 29. Participants honored included (L to R): Mrs. Frances Hooks, and M. Bea Gaddy. Presenting the awards was Lt. Governor Melvin Steinberg.

The bullroast bought out numerous local community supporters. Familiar faces in the crowd included Councilman Laurence Bell and Harold Fullwood.

County sets rabies clinics

In an effort to protect Baltimore Countians and their pets from rabies, the county Health Department will hold a series of 10 rabies - vaccination clinics starting on Saturday, May 12.

The clinics, which will run through June 24, will be held countywide. Cost of the rabies vaccination is $4 per animal.

Health Department officials recommend that all cats and dogs be vaccinated against rabies when they are three months old, and revaccinated at 12 months of age. After that, pets should receive a rabies vaccination once every three years.

All dogs brought to the county rabies clinics must be leashed, and cats must be crated in carriers with breathing holes. Owners should be prepared to provide information about their pets, including breed, sex, and approximate age.

Rabies clinic sites and dates are as follows:

MAY

Saturday, May 12, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Overlea High School, 5401 Kenwood Avenue.

Saturday, May 19, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Franklin High School, 12000 Reisterstown Road.

Sunday, May 20 1-3 p.m., Westchester Annex, 2414 Westchester Avenue.

JUNE

Saturday, June 2, 10 a.m. - 12 noon, Perry Hall Middle School, 4300 Ebenezer Road.

Sunday, June 3, 1-3 p.m., Landsdowne High School, 3800 Hollins Ferry Road, Grange Elementary School, 2000 Church Road.

Tuesday, June 5, 6-8 p.m., Timonium Fair Grounds, 2200 Block York Road.

Sunday, June 10, 1-3 p.m., Loch Raven Middle School, 8101 LaSalle Road, Johnnycake Middle School, 6200 Johnnycake Road.

Thursday, June 14, 6-8 p.m., Carney Elementary School, 3131 East Joppa Road.

Sunday, June 24 1-3 p.m., Deep Creek Elementary School, 1101 East Homberg Avenue, Old Court Middle School, 4627 Old Court Road.

For more information, call 887-2723.

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C&P files for rate stability

The C&P Telephone Company of Maryland, the Office of People's Counsel and the Public Service Commission Staff today filed a petition with the Public Service Commission which would keep basic telephone service rates at their current levels for two more years.

The agreement between these parties must be approved by the Commission before it would become effective.

The plan also would allow telephone ratepayers to share earnings with C&P through a credit on their bills.

According to C&P President Hank Butta, "This is a win-win proposal. It continues an existing freeze on rate increases for our customers and it allows them to share in our profits if we are successful."

Rates for local service, among other services, would be capped at existing levels for two years. While they cannot be increased, they could be decreased.

C&P's last rate increase for basic service was in 1985. Since then, rates have been reduced twice.

The plan also allows C&P to have continued pricing flexibility on the services which the Commission has already found to be competitive.

For these competitive services, C&P would continue to change rates on 14 days' notice, and earnings would be determined by the market.

For C&P's remaining service, earnings which fall into the range of 13.6% to 15.6% return on equity would be shared, with ratepayers receiving 50% on returns within the range.

All earnings in excess of 15.6% would be returned to ratepayers. Up to ten percent of any refunded earnings could be given to interexchange carriers.

International News

S. Africa talks begin

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — The minority White government and the African National Congress met at the negotiating table for the first time in history May 2 and started talks intended to lead eventually to the abolition of apartheid.

With their delegations standing expressionless behind them, ANC leader Nelson Mandela and President Frederick de Klerk shook hands in the garden of a centuries - old homestead shortly before the beginning of a scheduled 18 hours of talks over three days.

Each spoke of the urgency of "creating the right climate" for meaningful negotiations and overcoming formidable mistrust between the White ruling party and the nation's largest Black political movement founded in 1912, two years before Mr. de Klerk's National Party.

"This is the first time in 78 years that a truly serious meeting takes place between delegations of the African National Congress and the succession of White governments that have ruled our country for generations," Mr. Mandela said. "This is a fact that is sobering in its implications."

Declaring the talks a sacred exercise, Mr. Mandela said both sides would have to overcome the "terrible tradition of a 'dialogue' between master and servant."

He rejected any post - apartheid solution based on race or "on any of the inhuman follies which had led our country into the destructive crisis in which it is now immersed."

"The Black masses of our country demand and expect fundamental change now, and not tomorrow," he said. "The people as a whole want the peace and stability which can only come about as a result of the total abolition of apartheid."

Mr. de Klerk, who freed Mr. Mandela from 27 years of imprisonment and lifted a 30 - year ban on the ANC in initial steps of his reform program, pledged his government was "approaching the talks with the utmost earnestness."

"There are bound to be difficulties, but there is cautious optimism as well as faith and conviction that our problems will be solved by negotiations," Mr. de Klerk said as plainclothes security and uniformed police patrolled the sprawling grounds of the Groote Schuur estate. "The government has accepted the challenge of doing everything possible to achieve this."

The nine - man all - White government delegation and the 11 - member ANC team of Blacks, Whites and South Africans of Indian and mixed descent then retreated inside the historic homestead for more than seven hours of scheduled talks expected to end at 11 p.m. A working dinner was also on the agenda.

On the outskirts of Cape Town, Groote Shuur originally was constructed as a barn in 1657, just five years after the first Dutch settlers landed at the Cape. Steeped in political history, the present Cape Dutch house became the official residence of the nation's prime ministers.

As Mr. de Klerk and Mr. Mandela spoke, their delegations remained standing on a grassy knoll and a set of steps behind them, mixing but exchanging few words. At one point Foreign Minister Roelof "Pik" Botha found himself in the unlikely position next to the White Lithuanian - born Joe Slovo, leader of the South African Communist Party. Mr. Slovo has long been regarded as public enemy No. 1 as a commited Stalinist and longtime strategist behind the ANC's limited guerilla war against White rule. Moments later, Mr. Botha moved down one step.

The ANC was expected to present its preconditions for participation in power - sharing negotiations, including the lifting of a 4-year-old state of emergency, the release of all political prisoners and the return of thousands of exiles.

The government in turn is certain to raise objections to the ANC's commitment to an armed struggle and refusal to publicly declare that struggle suspended.

"Attention will be devoted to the obstacles identified by both the government and the ANC," Mr. de Klerk said. "From our side, there is serious concern about the escalating spiral of violence and intimidation which has caused so much suffering and hardship."

"It is absolutely essential that peaceful negotiations for a democratic solution must be conducted in peaceful circumstances," he said.

South African President F. W. de Klerk and African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela depart after issuing a joint statement in Cape Town prior to talks between the South African government and the ANC.

Jamaica asks relief

WASHINGTON — Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley began a working visit to the United States May 2 with a plea for rescheduling his country's crushing debt repayments.

Mr. Manley, at an Interamerican Development Bank luncheon, said that over 1989 and this year Jamaica would pay $208 million more in loan repayments to the IMF and the World Bank than it would get from the multilateral organizations.

Neither the IMF nor the World Bank permit rescheduling of their loans to member countries.

Mr. Manley told reporters that he would ask Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady for help in changing the rules to permit refinancing such debts.

He said that Mr. Brady can't do it alone but could bring pressure on other major lenders, including Japan, Germany and other countries of Western Europe.

Mr. Manley began his series of meetings with U.S. officials by meeting Mr. Brady.

"It's insane when the two primary lending institutions (the IMF and the World Bank) draw more money from debtor countries than they give," Mr. Manley said at the press conference.

The United States, according to a senior administration official briefing reporters at the White House, will permit rescheduling of the approximately $800 million owed to the United States.

Jamaica is scheduled to receive $70 million in economic assistance from the United States this year, but that amount has come into question because of new aid programs scheduled for Eastern Europe and Central America.

Jamaica's total external debt, according to the World Bank, is $4.4 billion about $1,700 for every Jamaican and one of the largest debt burdens in the Third World.

Chad asks France for more military aid

PARIS — Chad has asked France to boost military support for Chadian troops battling Libyan - backed rebels and announced President Hissene Habre's government will hold the first legislatives elections since 1969.

Chadian Foreign Minister Acheikh Ibn Oumar said "a few dozen" Chadian troops had been killed and scores wounded in fighting with guerrillas of the Libyan - backed Islamic Legion led by Idriss Deby in April. The rebels captured the towns of Tine and Baha on Chad's eastern border with Sudan.

Mr. Dumar denied suggestions that French troops took part in the fighting alongside Chadian forces.

The Chadian army, he said, "has no lack of men or experience. What is lacking is equipment and air cover."

A recent reduction in French troops and anti - aircraft installations at the Eastern city of Abeche had "encouraged Libya" to sponsor the incursion, which Chadian forces eventually had repulsed, he said.

"A stronger Epervier force would have a more efficacious role in dissuasion" of Libyan leader Col. Moammar Gadhafi, he told a news conference after holding talks in Paris with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas.

France deployed troops in Chad known as Epervier on Feb. 15, 1986, in response to a Libyan offensive in the north of the West African country.

But France began cutting back its military commitment in Chad after Libya and Chad reached an agreement in August 1989 to end their war for control of the disputed Abuzou Strip.

Mr. Dumar said Chad plans to take Libya to the International Court of Justice in September if Tripoli does not comply with the terms of the peace plan designed to prevent a re-occurrence of war between the neighboring nations.

Dismissing criticism of Chad's human rights record and treatment of Libyan prisoners of war, Mr. Dumar said "our attitude is to refuse to respond."

He acknowledged the war with Libya had led to "undesirable practices" but claimed a list issued by Amnesty International of people missing in Chad included many opposition group members in Libya or people killed in combat.

He said also many Chadians had disappeared or been imprisoned in Libya and said that Libyan troops had fired on Chadians who tried to escape.

8 die in Dominican Republic shipwreck

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — Eight people were killed and 52 others were feared dead when a boat carrying 72 emigrants sank off the eastern coast of the Dominican Republic on May 3 officials said.

Twelve people were rescued from the waters of the Caribbean after the vessel sank close to the Punta Tutu beach.

"We have recovered eight bodies, and at least 52 undocumented people are still missing," Dominican Civil Defense spokeswoman Sarah Toledano de Fernandez told United Press International.

Navy officials said it was one of three boats carrying emigrants that sailed either May 2 or early on May 3. Two other boats were intercepted by navy patrols and 13 people were arrested.

"That boat escaped us, and everything would appear to indicate that it sank because of bad weather," said Navy spokesman Andres Ortiz.

Mr. Ortiz said six of the survivors were in the hospital and six others under arrest. Rescue operations by divers and navy and air force personnel continued into the evening.

Mrs. Toledano said authorities received a distress call from the boat at 11 a.m., informing them 72 people were on board the vessel, but said they did not know the nationalities of the passengers on the boat.

Mrs. Toledano said the boat was apparently heading toward the west coast of Puerto Rico.

In recent years, thousands of impoverished Dominicans and emigrants from neighborhood Haiti have used boats to travel illegally to Puerto Rico, where they hope to find a better living. Haiti occupies the western half of the islands of Hispanola, and the Dominican Republic the eastern part.

South African Communist Party General Secretary Joe Slovo (left) and African National Congress General Secretary Alfred Nzo share a light moment after their arrival in Cape Town from Lusaka, Zambia. The two are part of an 11-member ANC delegation that is negotiating with the White minority government for political reform.

Government defection, Ethiopia rebel fighters say

NAIROBI, Kenya — An estimated 1,800 Ethiopia government soldiers have switched sides in the bloody fight over the country's Eritrea province, the clandestine rebel radio station claimed.

The Voice of Eritrea radio, monitored in Nairobi, said the defecting soldiers who joined the Eritrean People's Liberation Front came mainly from three garrisons south of Massawa port, 470 miles north of the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

The EPLF, fighting a 29-year war of provincial secession, captured the port in early February, cutting off government access to the Read Sea and depriving troops of military equipment and food.

The fall of the port precipitating a logistical crisis for about 130,000 troops of Ethiopian Second Army, which were stationed in Eritrea at the time.

The radio said the defectors, including three garrison commanders who it named, came from encampments at Adi Kayeh, Senafe and Koatit, all about 60 miles south of Massawa.

The EPLF claimed to have taken Senafe April 25. The town's fall, it said, triggered the latest rush of defections.

"More Dergue (government) soldiers are joining us daily, some with plenty of weapons. This (latest wave) brings to 1,800 the number of defectors in our camps," the radio said.

It said EPLF fighters were now advancing toward the government-controlled town of Adigrat, 370 miles north of the capital.

There was no government comment on the claims of defections, but western diplomats in Addis Ababa said they believed morale among the Second Army was very low.

One diplomat, who asked not to be identified, said more than 40,000 of the mainly teenage government soldiers in Eritrea may have been killed by the battle-hardened EPLF this year.

IMF approves loan to Trinidad, Tobago

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund announced a $166 million loan to Trinidad and Tobago.

The loan will help the Trinidad and Tobago government's 1990 economic program, the fund said.

Of the $166 million, $111 million will be available over the next 11 months as a "stand-by" loan in support of the Caribbean nation's balance of payments.

The balance of $55 million would be available under the IMF's Compensatory and Contingency Financing Facility to meet additional needs in case of adverse external developments affecting the economy.

According to the IMF, Trinidad and Tobago's economic program for 1990 aims at achieving a positive rate of economic growth for the first time in a number of years, reducing inflation and increasing net international reserves.

The plan includes a strengthening of structural reforms that is already underway, such as exchange and trade liberalization measures, tax reform, reforms in public enterprises and an employment reduction in the public sector.

The program is aimed particularly at helping the most vulnerable groups in the population, including unemployed workers and those affected by employment reduction programs.

The program also is designed for investment in the nation's productive capacity, infrastructure and social services.

Inside an old DC-8 refitted as a hospital room, a child in Ghana is prepared for eye surgery as part of Project Orbis. Billed as a flying hospital with an eye for the future, it is a teaching hospital. Each Third World country visited gets a 3-week education in treating diseases. Local doctors perform surgery aboard the aircraft.