LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

By Pattie I. Berry

Birthday Fete

Dr. Lawrence Bell, Jr., local dentist, got the thrill of his life when his mother, Mrs. Roxie Bell, and his sisters and brothers hosted a birthday party for him at the Milbrook Community Center in Pikesville, MD Saturday, Feb. 25.

The center was festively decorated with blue and white balloons and a blue and white "Happy Birthday" banner.

Party highlights included a continuous hot buffet, cocktails, other sippables, homemade cakes and pies. Two large blue and white birthday sheet cakes were a standout, inscribed, "Happy Birthday, Lawrence." A Disco dee jay spun everything from "oldies but goodies" to the Top 40.

Nearly 150 family members and guests came out to join Lawrence in his celebration, along with many of his first brothers from the Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity. A special feature was then the honoree's nephew Corey Golden and his fiance did a musical routine, and his niece Crystal Golden sang.

Many gifts and cards, along with "Happy Birthday" wishes were forthcoming. Lawrence's wife, Elinor and sons City Councilman Lawrence Bell, III (4th D.) and Marshall Curtis Bell, a student at Howard University, gifted him with a video camera outfit.

Hosting the gala event were sisters Mesdames Sarah Horsey, Minnie Saunders and Carrie Johnson, and brother Kermit Golden.

Special guests included City Council President Mary Pat Clarke and the family's cousin Congressman Kweisi Mfume. Guests were also in attendance from New York City, Silver Spring, and Columbia, MD, as well as Baltimore.

Sigma Fraternity hosts Diamond Jubilee Conference

Baltimore's Zeta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. on March 9-12, 1989, at the Omni International Hotel, will host the Eastern Regional Diamond Jubilee Conference.

The Eastern Regional Conference, celebrating Sigma's founding at Howard University in 1914, is chaired by Brother Dr. Guilbert Daley who serves not only as General Chairman, but also as Program Chairman. He is assisted by co-chairman, Brother Marvin Cheatham, Chairman of housing and hospitality, and Bro. Eustache St. Pierre Greaves, chairman of finances and printing.

Among the highlights of the Eastern Regional Conference will be the public meeting on Friday, March 10, at 12:00 noon, featuring the Honorable Mayor Kurt Schmoke as the keynote speaker; the Jubilee Banquet with the Honorable Kweisi Mfume as guest speaker on Friday evening.

On Saturday morning, March 11, 7:30, will be the awards breakfast in which the fraternity will give three regional programmatic awards: Bigger, Better Business, Social Actions and Education.

The host chapter has the privilege of selecting the recipients for the region. On Satuday noon the Sigma Wives luncheon and fashion show will be held at the Radisson Ballroom of the Lord Baltimore Hotel. Mrs. Reva Lewie, serves as president, Sigma Wives.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Wilson mark 66th year.

66th Anniversary

Sylvester Wilson and Helen (Livingston) Wilson met and married in Wampee, SC on March 8, 1923. They lived in South Carolina until 1957 when they moved to Baltimore.

Out of this union were born three children—Albert C. Wilson, Marie Wilson Gause of Baltimore, and James A. Wilson of Little River, SC.

The couple also raised a nephew, French Wilson, of New York, one granddaughter, Martha Wilson Thompson, two great-grandsons, Phillip Thompson, III (deceased) and Sylvester Conn, Baltimore.

They also have three daughters-in-law—Marie Wilson, Eva and Hazel Wilson; one son-in-law David Gause, Jr. and one grandson-in-law to be, Reggie Johnson.

They have 30 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and two great-grandsons. All of their grands and great grands, as well as others call them Mamo and Daddy Wilson.

They have 10 granddaughters-in-law and 10 grandsons-in-law.

Congratulations to the Wilsons on 66 years of marriage.

Your children wish you a "Happy 66th Anniversary," and say to you: "May you have many, many more. We love you."

1,700 at Kappas' Nite in Vegas

The crowd swelled to such mammoth proportions (1,700) that it filled not only the main ballroom of Martin's West, but spilled over into one of the secondary ballrooms. The roulette wheels spun incessantly as guests tried to win with "Lady Luck." The pulsating rhythms of Bobby Felder and his Blue Notes kept the dance floor jammed. Many were so caught up in the festivities that they "boogied down" on the taped music during intermissions, and several could be seen dancing between the tables.

What was this gala of galas? It was the 17th annual Nite In Kappas Vegas hosted by the Baltimore Alumni Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. on Friday March 3 from 9 p.m. until 2 a.m.

Many Kappas journeyed here for the fun from Washington, Annapolis and other places. (25 came in from Philadelphia.)

RANDY EDWARDS (far R) chairman of the 17th annual Kappas' Nite in Vegas hosted by the Baltimore Alumni Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. on Friday, March 3 at Martin's West are (from L): Kim Pinkney, Ted Murray and Jackie Zachary.

TALKING ABOUT OLD SCHOOL DAYS are a couple of the younger members and their ladies (from L): Ron Johnson, Carolyn Jefferies, Claude D. Watts, Jr. and Vicki B. Watts.

Featured also was a buffet of "good ol' " soul food, continuous open bar and prizes.

Surprised by prizes from the drawing were winners Sherman Patterson, who garnered $800; Alexander Turner, who got $1,000, and grand prize winner of the Toyota Tercel car (provided through the assistance of Schaefer Strohminger, Spencer Edmonds, who was not there to claim his car (or his choice of $5,000) but must have been overwhelmed later when he heard the news.

Chairing the event—a smashing success—was Kappa Brother Randolph T. "Tandy" Edwards. Milton A. Mayo is Chapter Polemarch.

Ms. Big and Beautiful 1989 crowned

"The bigger the better," says Felecia Roberts, Ms. Big and Beautiful Queen of 1989.

The Ms. Big and Beautiful pageant held February 18 at the Lord Baltimore Hotel was an overwhelming success witnessed by a crowd of over 700 enthusiastic people.

There were 15 finalists who vied to be crowned Ms. Big and Beautiful of Maryland. All contestants showed that they had what it took to be a finalist as they displayed coordinated red and white fashions in the opening projection scene.

They followed that category with surprising and unique talent presentations. Then came the gowns which illuminated them with elegance and fashionable style.

The audience was silent as emcee Don Williams, of WJZ-13, announced the five finalists.

The five remaining finalists were Gay Weldon, Cindy Baylus, Jacqueline White, Sarah Moulden and Felecia Roberts.

The last question and answer category was to determine the new Ms. Big and Beautiful Queen of 1989. Cheers roared high as they announced Ms. Felecia Roberts as winner.

Felecia's eyes widened as she screamed with excitement and glowed as she was crowned by the Promotional Director, William Beverly. The other contestants congratulated her with hugs and kisses.

The second place position was won by Sarah Moulden. The others who placed, were Jacqueline White, third; Cindy Baylus, fourth, and Gay Weldon, fifth.

All in all the fifteen ladies had a great time. They got to meet, prior to the pageant day, national entertainers such as the O'Jays, Temptations, Gerald Albright, Jerry Butler. This is the sixth pageant and they just keep getting better.

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

QUEEN AND HER COURT—Felicia Roberts (C) who was crowned 'Ms. Big and Beautiful 1989' recently at the Lord Baltimore Hotel is seen with her runners-up (L to R): Jackie White, third place; Sarah Moulden, second place; Gay Weldon, fifth place, and Cindy Baylus, fourth place.

(Photos by Ricardo Gray)

LENORA THOMPSON, a senior at the Edmondson Westside Skill Center presents a plaque naming a construction wing for him to Dr. Benjamin Whitten at a ceremony held Friday, Feb. 17.

Vocational educator honored

On February 17 the construction wing of the Westside Skill Center was dedicated as the Benjamin C. Whitten Construction Wing. This wing, the only addition to the original Hecht Company building (which later became the Skill Center) was named to honor a man who all of his life has been an advocate of vocational training for young people.

Benjamin Whitten rose through the ranks of the Baltimore School System to become Assistant Superintendent of Vocational Education before his retirement in 1979. During his tenure Dr. Whitten proposed the establishment of skill centers as a way of delivering more effective vocational training to all youngsters in Baltimore who deserved this type of education.

In 1982 the Board of School Commissioners approved a resolution introduced by Dr. Monroe Saunders to name a wing of the newly-opened Westside Skill Center in honor of Dr. Whitten.

Bestowing this honor upon Dr. Whitten was a way to document his contributions to vocational education and especially the Baltimore School. Dr. Whitten is recognized locally and nationally as a vocational educator of the highest caliber.

COLUMBIA CAPERS

By Pinnie Ross

HOWARD COUNTIANS CONTRIBUTE $7,400 TO UNCF

Just recently, the Howard County, MD Committee for the United Negro College Fund presented the sum of $7,400 to the United Negro College Fund.

The Annual UNCF Telethon was held at WBAL-TV Channel 11. Noted singer Lou Rawls is the host of the national telethon.

The 1985 UNCF Maryland Campaign, under the chairmanship of Victor Frenkil and Dr. Levy Watkins was the first statewide effort in the history of the Fund. That campaign provided the opportunity for the county to join with others and collectively demonstrate their commitment to the UNCF goal. Howard County was among the first counties to participate in the Statewide Campaign under the leadership of the Campaign Coordinator, and my good friend Laurel Knight and her committee.

Congratulations to the entire Maryland Telethon Committee for raising more than $250,000 during the January telethon.

Dr. C. Vernon Gray, Chairperson for Howard County and yours truly, Co-Chairperson and Publicity Coordinator for Howard County, wish to thank the following individuals and groups for their generous contributions to the 1989 UNCF Campaign: Columbia (MD) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, $2,000.00; National Chapter of Club DeJouir, $1,000.00; Columbia Alumni Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, $829,00; Columbia's graduate chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, $600.00; Columbia graduate chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, $500.00; Columbia Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women, $300.00; Columbia Chapter of Jack and Jill, $250.00; Columbia Chapter of Tots and Teens, $200.00; Grayson Homes, $500.00; Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Grayson, $200.00;

Unity Baptist Church, Elkridge, $250.00; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, $150.00; Mrs. T. C. Taleferro, $100.00; Columbia Club De Jouir, $75.00 and the Maryland Bondage Retainer Service, $25.00.

A special thanks to the members of the various organizations who manned the VIP telephones during the telethon: Clinton Sellers of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; Alice Frazier, President of the Columbia Club of the National Council of Negro Women, William A. Ross, Sr., Past Polemarch of the Columbia (MD) Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Fraternity; Larry Walker and Kenneth Smith of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity; Elaine White of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, and Tashunda Brown of the Columbia Tots and Teens.

The United Negro College Fund represents a consortium of forty-three predominately black colleges and universities, all private and fully accredited. UNFC's purpose is to raise monies for its members so that they may continue to maintain the highest academic standards and prepare their graduates for demanding professional careers.

Howard County, Thanks for your sincere contributions towards this most worthwhile campaign. Who knows? Your children or grandchildren may be among the students who could benefit from your generous contribution.

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