LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

IOTAS SHARE WITH NAACP

More and more, Greek letter organizations are becoming increasingly community oriented, with the social side co-existing with the dedicated service side.

An example is the Alpha Omega graduate chapter of Iota Phi Theta fraternity, which will be holding its annual founder's day banquet at the Forum Saturday, April 1.

It is a tradition event, held each year to celebrate the founding of the chapter, and this year, there is an added purpose. The chapter will help provide financial support to the Baltimore Branch of the NAACP.

Keynote speaker for the event will be Carmie "Pete" Pompey, Athletic Director and head coach for Dunbar High School.

History repeats for Alphas

Back in the late 1930s, Alpha Phi Alpha's national theme was "Go to college—go to high school." Every chapter in the country was charged with getting out to area schools to promote the theme.

The idea has surfaced again as the Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha plans its 57th Eastern Region Convention in Baltimore April 6-9. And—the theme for this convention: "Go to High School—Go to College: Revisited 1980's.

As a part of the confab, there will be a public program on Friday evening, with Howard University president Dr. Cheeks as guest speaker, along with music by the Morgan State University choir, under the direction of Dr. Nathan Carter.

FYNDZ sponsors an open house

The outside was cold and gray but the inside of the home on Buckingham Road was warm and alive with vibrant color as it was transformed into a veritable gallery of art by the owners of FYNDZ (rhymes with minds), the Collectique.

Operating at 119 Mulberry Street West, FYNDZ is an ethnic art gallery featuring the popular works of noted black artist such as LaShun Beal, Romare Bearden, Varnette Honeywood, Brenda Joysmith and others.

Claudia K. McKee and Betty Jeffries of FYNDZ and Vinetta Paige, art facilitator, put their wares on the road and traveled to the home of Terrye and James Ashby who acted as hosts for this exclusive showing.

OPEN HOUSE — Claudia K. McKee (left) and LaShun Beal (second from right) admire the works of Bob Houston as others look on.

the town is buzzing . . .

ABOUT the rash of party celebrations that have been going on since the word surfaced that Elva Edwards was out at the Urban Services Agency. There were at least two parties last night (Thursday) and one of them was hosted by a big wheel in the agency.

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ABOUT who will be tapped to replace Sam Daniels as head of CEBO. Word on the street says Sam was set to resign, and the board of directors asked him to stay around until a replacement was found.

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ABOUT a starting revelationcoming soon about a Northwest Baltimore church which has discovered a bit of hanky-panky with some of its funds. Initially, the finger was pointed at the minister, but it will be laid on the heads of some of the trustees.

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ABOUT Red Prysock, who was on stage during the stint of his brother Arthur's Blues Alley gig, but has been staying in Baltimore while recovering from what has been called a mild stroke. Reports are that he has really changed, and is now a subdued, introspective person.

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ABOUT the fact that the Clarence 'Du' Burns fundraiser was poorly attended. It was. But, for the benefit of those tee-hee-ers who called the event a failure, remember the ice storm that sprang up that day. Attempts were made to call off the event that night — but it was too late.

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ABOUT the dethroning of Ken Wilson as head of the President's Roundstable. Talk is after six months or so, they couldn't take it anymore and K.O. was forced out . . . or so the word goes.

NBA holds mid-year conference

It was both work and play last weekend as the National Bar Association held its national conference in Baltimore. More than 200 attorneys were in attendance.

Highlight of the three-day session was the Gertrude E. Rush Award Dinner, at which Hon. Parren J. Mitchell, Hon. John H. Stroger, Jr., of Chicago, and Ronald H. Brown, Esq. were honored.

The award is named for Gertrude Rush, the only woman co-founder of the National Bar Association.

Guest speaker was Ronald H. Brown, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

While social activities are a part of national conventions, this one struck a serious note with the recent Supreme Court decision invalidating a Richmond, VA affirmative action program was a focal point.

The National Bar Association represents more than 12,000 minorities in the legal profession, and the convention gathering, studied strategies for defending affirmative action contracting laws.

Needless to say, it was a very successful meeting, and the Baltimore group did themselves proud with the arrangements and facilities.

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

AWARDS—At the National Bar Association meeting, honorees pause for pictures following the presentation. L to R: James O. Cole, Esq., Pres. NBA; Hon. Parren J. Mitchell, Ronald H. Brown, Esq., Hon. John H. Stroger, Jr., and Ruby Burrows McZier, Esq., chair dinner committee.

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

ENJOYING festivities, L to R: Mayfield K. Webb, Esq.; Ann Hughes-McAllister, Donnal Hill Staton, Esq., and Kerry D. Station.

NAACP annual Spring breakfast

Over 800 well-wishers took part in the Baltimore NAACP annual Spring Breakfast last week, which was a fundraiser to keep the chapter afloat.

It was a resounding success. Executive Secretary of the branch, George Buntin reports that the chapter's total receipts are now over $65,000, thanks to the breakfast results.

Since the indebtedness of the chapter was around $30,000, they are now out of debt, have some operational cash on hand, and are ready to launch Phase 2 of the revitalization plans.

(AFRO Photos by Paul Greene)

HEAD TABLE GUESTS included L to R: Rep. Helen D. Bentley, Rep. Kweisi Mfume, Sec. of HUD Jack Kemp, Mayor Kurt Schmoke and Joshua I. Smith.

TOTALLY INVOLVED in the proceeding were Rev. Benjamin Hooks, AFRO Chairman Jake Oliver, Enolia McMillan and George Buntin.

Tisha Winslow
Act-So participant

Camera Kambon
Act-So participant

They were a part of the Talent displayed by the Act-So NAACP Youth program.

IF YOU ASK ME

By Bettye Moss

Smile Orchids

Smile-of-the-week orchids to **Mrs. Lottie Page**. She is the west Baltimore resident who marked her 100th birthday on March 9.

We chatted with her this week and asked her the secret to her long life. In a cheery voice, she responded, "I don't have a secret. The good Lord gave it to me."

It was a joy to talk with "Ma Page" as many call her. She is full of life and quick to observe she has no pain—is able to enjoy television and do some reading, including the AFRO which she says she has read "for a long, long time."

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Cuff note: Some 200 relatives and friends gathered at a birthday celebration for Mrs. Page on March 11, at Morning Star Baptist Church. Event was arranged by grandson, **Aubrey D. Redd**, the Gaithersburg, Md., postmaster, and granddaughter, **Yvonne Clayton Gavlin** the N.Y. telephone company executive.

Ma Page's daughters are **Mrs. Lucille Clayton**, Asbury Park, N.J. and Baltimore residents, **Mrs. Mabel Redd** and **Mrs. Ruby Holley**, with whom she lives on Bryant Ave.

Other grandchildren are **Ruby Howard**, Long Branch, N.J. and **Philip Murphy** of Baltimore. She also has four great grand and eight great, great grandchildren.

More Orchids

More smile orchids to these good neighbors we observe this week:

Avon Evans—plenty of sunshine in his voice. He's the MBE liaison in the Department of General Services Fair Practices Division, with offices in the State Office Building. He attends All Saints Church, is an Edmondson High and Morgan U grad.

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Usually pleasant lady is **Mrs. Yvonne Mallory**, a check-out clerk at Big B in Mondawmin, who makes customers feel extra special. She's member of Garden Prayer Baptist Church.

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Another smiling lady it was nice to meet this week **Ms. Loretta Ann Baldwin**, office assistant at the Baltimore Civil Service Commission. She's member of Central Baptist Church.

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Orchids to Civil Service Commission head **Jesse Haskins** and his wife, **Phyllis**, and to Civil Service secretary **Miss Deborah Neukam**.

All were among guests who gathered last Wednesday, (March 15), for the fifth annual Baltimore City Women's Hall of Fame Awards Ceremony.

Special orchids to the three honorees, former city school superintendent, **Alice G. Pinderhughes**, Md. Food bank founder **Ann Miller**, and **Vivian Washington** author and founder of the school for unwed mothers.

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Cuff note: Ceremony was at the Preston Room. **Mayor Kurt Schmoke** praised the three honorees as "3 great role models, and persons who have demonstrated their commitment to our city."

Orchids, too to commission chair, **Awikda Marquez**, and vice chair, **Anne Davis**.

And More

Lots of cheer in the voice of **Mrs. Thomasina T. Binga**, The Richmond, VA public school community relations coordinator.

She was in our city this week attending a national education conference and guested with old friends, the **Richard Hunters**, (Margo). He's our city's school super.

Mother Bryant

An estimated 2,000 persons came from far and near on Tuesday morning to say goodbye to a beloved mother, teacher, friend, **Edith Holland Bryant**, whom they fondly called Mother Bryant. She died March 13 at the age of 77.

Two hours before the noon services, mourners filled all of the unreserved 1,700 seats in historic Bethel AME Church, at Druid Hill Ave., and Lanvale St., in the heart of west Baltimore. Parking was restricted in a three block area in all directions and police directed traffic on the busy thoroughfare.

The family arrived to meet friends at 11 a.m. There was a steady stream of mourners who greeted and embraced the deceased's husband of 53 years, retired AME **Bishop Harrison J. Bryant** seated on the front row with his children. Among them, son, **Bishop John R. Bryant**, former Bethel pastor who flew home from Liberia where he assumed his duties last year.

The noon formal service followed a procession of church dignitaries, including 9 bishops from the U.S. and abroad as well as connectional leaders, officers and community leaders.

This area's bishop, the Rt. **Rev. H. Hartford Brookins** presided with grace. There were presentations of resolutions and testimonies from city and state leaders, church and fraternal groups attesting to Mother Bryant's devotion, her love and unselfish service.

Warm Smile

Baltimore's **Mayor Kurt Schmoke** described her as a "symbol of strength" with whom God blessed with a warm smile. He remembered he was baptized in Bethel by her husband some 40 years ago.

Dr. Dolly Adams, wife of this area's former presiding bishop, **John Hurst Adams**, came from Atlanta where he is now assigned, to recall **Mother Bryant's** role as an excellent teacher who gave of her best and expected the best of others.

Mrs. Delores L. K. Williams, N.Y., president of the Connectional Women's Missionary Society, speaking for 800,000 members around the world, praised the deceased's commitment.

In his eulogy, retired AME **Bishop D. Ward Nichols** told anecdotes of his half century friendship with the family and called Bishop Bryant "the AME Church's "holy man"," and his wife, "a good woman" a loving companion to her husband during his long service as minister, then bishop at churches in the U.S. and abroad.

Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell recited the Bryants' role as freedom fighters and their early support of the NAACP's program to integrate city schools and other public facilities, when he pastored Bethel in the early sixties.

Bethel pastor, **Rev. Frank Madison Reid, 3rd**, remembered Mother Bryant's tactful candor and her serenity.

Granddaughter

There were beautiful musical tributes by the Bethel John R. Bryant Choir, with Minister of Music, **Harian Scott** at the organ.

The deceased's granddaughter, and namesake, **Edith Graham**, gave an electrifying rendition of "Don't Cry For Me."

So Was "Safe In His Arms" by soloist **Rev. Vonda Perry**.

AME bishops in attendance included, **Richard A. Chappelle, Robert Pruitt, Philip Cousins, Vernon R. Byrd, Frank Cummings, Donald Ming, Frank Madison Reid, Jr.**

Ministers from across the country were pallbearers. Among them, N.Y. Congressman **Rev. Floyd Flake**, and from Charleston, S.C., **Rev. James Blake**, from Portsmouth, VA., **Rev. Ronald E. Braxton**.

Some 145 cars transported family and friends to the AME Church Mount Zion Cemetery — off Hollins Ferry Rd. in Lansdown. Mortician **William C. Brown** called it the largest funeral procession he has seen in 30 years, an appropriate tribute for the deceased whom he called "a special kind of person."

In addition to her husband and son, the Bishops Bryant, **Mrs. Bryant** is survived by two daughters, **Cynthia Pitts**, Milwaukee, Wisc., and **Rev. Eleanor Graham**, pastor of Baltimore's Agape AME Church;

Also, a brother, **Charles Robinson**, Baltimore; two sisters, **Mrs. Rebecca McCutchen**, Bowling Green, Ky., and **Mrs. Golen Lee**, Gary, Ind., and four grandchildren, **Monique** and **Edith Graham**, Baltimore, and **Jamal** and **Simone Bryant**, Monrovia, Liberia.

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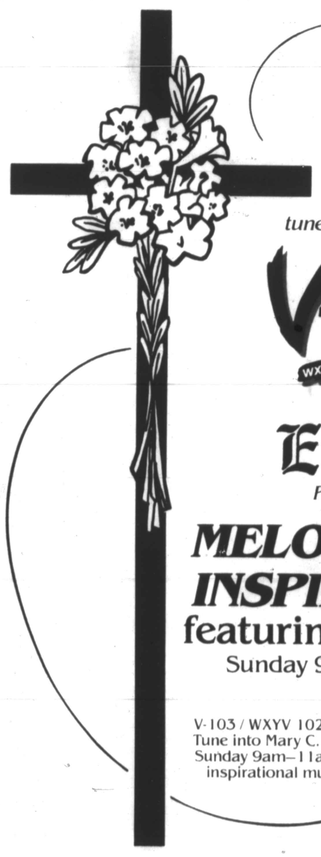

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