LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

By Paula Brooks
AFRO Lifestyle Editor

Admiral Walter Davis

A combination Fourth wedding anniversary celebration and reception for Admiral Walter E. Davis was recently held at the home of Tyrone and Jean Taborn.

Admiral Davis is one of three black admirals in the United States Navy. He is commandant of the Washington Naval district, which includes Baltimore.

Admiral Davis is also a decorated Viet Nam veteran and commander of the aircraft carrier that the movie "Top Gun" starring Tom Cruise was filmed on-he even supervised the filming done on board his ship.

Tyrone Taborn is the publisher of Black Engineer Magazine, and Hispanic Engineer Magazine. Among those present at the thoroughly enjoyable affair were Congressman Kwiesi Mfume, Councilwomen Vera Hall and Iris Reeves, Jake Oliver,

Cecil Flamer, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cryor, and attorney Richard Falcon.

Photo by Ricardo Gray

Vera Hall and Iris Reeves, councilwomen, flank Admiral Walter Davis at reception.

Photo by Ricardo Gray

Tyrone Taborn, Jean Taborn, Tony Robinson, Gail Robinson enjoy reception for Navy's Admiral Davis.

Iota Crab Feast

The Alpha Omega Graduate Chapter of the Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. will present its 6th Annual Crab Feast on Saturday, August 26. The affair is from 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. and will be held at the St. Phillip and St. James Hall. Music will be by A Rising Star Production. For further information contact Brian Murray 922-0706.

Volunteers Needed

The Joseph Richey Hospice currently a non-profit seven bed Baltimore city inpatient facility for the terminally ill is expanding its care for AIDS/infectious disease patients and is seeking volunteers for both direct and indirect patient care.

A 22 hour training program is provided and will begin August 12. For further information contact Sharon Loving, LCSW/Volunteer Coordinator at 523-2150.

Virginia Bennett's Birthday

The Ramada Inn was the setting for a beautiful birthday dinner given for Virginia K. Bennett by her son, Charles Riley. Mrs. Bennett arrived for the festivites with her husband, James (Big boy) Bennett. She was radiant in an exquisite black chiffon dress with a black and red bodice.

Welcome remarks were made by W.R. Duvall, who was mistress of ceremonies. After dinner, tributes were given by Charles Riley and her sister Willie-Mae Corbett. Her husband presented her with a check after a few touching remarks.

Mrs. Bennett stated that she did not want gifts. She considered her guests to be her "beautifully wrapped" gifts. A champagne toast was made to the honoree.

Guests included Donna Ingram, her niece from Ca.; nephews from N.J.; a brother and wife from Philly; a sister from S.C. Sean Riley, her grandson was host, and Jerry Talley, her niece was hostess.

Mrs. Bennett spent a week at her son's waterfront home at Highland Beach to complete her birthday activities.

An Evening of Understanding

This is not the type of story generally found in the Lifestyle section. However, as more and more of us become aware of the importance of our history as African-Americans, more events like this one will take place and be covered.

The reception was given by Sister Inora McQueen at the Park West Medical Center to introduce The Rainbow Circle Throne Room of Jah Rastafari elders to the Park Heights community. They are the real Rastas, unlike many sporting dreadlocks for style, or because they are mentally disturbed.

Members of the House of Nyabingi Order, drumming and chanting are part of their daily routine. Through vibrant poetry and oration, they tried to let the audience know the true nature and purpose of Rastafari.

Peace, love, justice and awareness of the history of African descendants wherever they happen to be in the world was the message they brought. The Nyabingi ceremony that they performed seemed to connect the audience with their African roots.

However, if you get a chance to see them in their native Jamaican Blue Mountains, by all means do so. The ceremony loses something when it's brought inside.

Sister Inora was formerly hostess of "Dem A Roots" reggae program on WCVT radio; singer in Ichelle Cole's Striker's Posse Band; Associate Director of St. James/St. John Community Center; and Asst. Program Director of Mondawmin's Anacostia Cultural Arts Program.

She says the program was conceived as a way to unite neighborhood factions into a single coalition that would address problems of crime, drugs, and violence in the community.

The reception was also held to shed light on and allay fears of the Rastafari community. Participating in the program were Ras Marcus, who spoke on the Rasta way of Life; Ras Maurice Clark, rep. of the Baltimore Rastafari community; Ras Abraham and Ras Michael, rep. the Washington Rastafari community;

Shirley Pulliam, Jamaican Association prexy; Rick Nugent, Jamaican Assoc. vice prexy; Derrick Charles, Caribbean Cultural Assoc. prexy.

Also present were Earles Mitchell, Langston Hughes Assoc. prexy; Sgt. Golden Phillips, community liaison of the community relations section of the Baltimore City Police Dept. and Timothy Mercer, Park Hgts.Community Corp. prexy.

This affair was well organized and presented. It's a shame that more people who have misconceptions about Rastafarians were not in attendance.

Participants in the planning and presentation of the reception included the Pimlico Mayor's Station, Khadijah Crawford, Zima Johnson, Marcet Sutton, Ras Mikey, Sandra, Lola Jenkins, Rosalind Wilson, Jumanne, Benyahmin, Clint Thomas of WCVT radio, Bill Harvey of WEAA radio, Sandy Mallory of V-103 radio;

Charles William of the West Indian Market; and Sisters Dawn Lamb and Pinchie of the J.B.R. Red Parrot Jamaican Restaurant.

Sister Inora McQueen, event co-ordinator and Khadija Crawford production assistant.

Elders of the Rainbow Circle — Throne Room of Jah Rastafari perform Nyabingi drumming and chanting ceremony

Charles McGill Soulful Artist

New paintings by Charles McGill will be on view in the Main Gallery at School 33 Art Center from July 1-July 28. An opening reception was held July 6.

McGill incorporates destruction in the process of creating his work. Employing an architectural scale and assemblage, McGill's charred paintings were inspired by his recent work, A Wake, selected for exhibition in the school's Installation Space by New York artist David Hammons.

These paintings continue to explore the coffin as a symbol that speaks both of life and mortality. On display are three paintings "Lethargy and the Smile", "Reassessment", and "Youlogy".

McGill had this to say about the birth of "Reassessment". "In a tantrum of frustration, I cursed it, talked to it, argued and demanded it to let me make it. All the while I was adding paint and tar and screwing things onto the surface. It seemed only to get worse."

"I lost sense of time. Finally, I felt myself slowly returning to my studio as if I was waking from a dream. Standing there with a drill in one hand and a paint brush in the other, I realizedthat I literally disappeared into my painting-my body did the work, but my spirit dove into that painting and made the image from the inside out."

"It was a beautiful experience. In the third painting, I knew I wanted a mirror, but beyond that I had no inspiration whatsoever."

Charles McGill received a BFA from the School of Visual Arts in 1986, and in 1989 received a MFA from the Maryland Institute, College of Art where he was awarded a Ford Foundation Fellowship.

His work has been exhibited at the Albright-Knox Museum of Art, Harlem Renaissance Gallery, and J.B. Speed Art Museum in Kentucky. McGill is currently represented by MidTown Galleries in Manhattan.

If your schedule will permit, this viewing is a must! School 33 Art Center is located at 1427 Light St. It is administered by the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Art and Culture and is supported by grants and private donations.

Artist Charles McGill looks at his own reflection in mirror mounted on his "Youlogy" painting.

Painting by Charles McGill on display at School 33.

(All Photos by Ricardo Gray)

TWILAH SAYS...

By Twilah Scarborough

The Police Community Relations Council of the Western Police District recently held a fantastic community meeting. It was their closing exercise for the summer.

There were close to 150 people in attendance — a great turnout.

The program was short and to the point. Thirty awards were given out to community leaders; 15 citations to various business establishments. Sgt. Farmer, Officer Wynder and Sgt. Williams received recognition for outstanding service rendered to our community.

These three noble and fantastic persons are always on call and they are responsible for neighborhood services. Like the old saying, "may their work speak for them," the community slautes you.

Our very own Major Marcellus Boyles of the Western Police District presented the awards and congratulated all for their outstanding performances. Representatives from the C & P Telephone Company, Carl Smith and L. J. Kuecki, commented on better telephone service to be arranged in the areas in our community.

Many thanks goes to chairpersons Mary Parrish and Charlotte Perry and Chaplain Reverend Era Ferrell.

Special awards went out to various members of our police force. These VIP's helped to combat, drugs in our community. We are proud to name and salute Lt. James Rainey, St. Ernest Wright, Officer Alexis Leverette, Officer James O'Donnell.

Sgt. Randy Blades, Officer Sherina Long, Officer Antonio Rodriguez, Officer Michael Kain, Sgt. Deal Allen, Officer Benjamin Braxton, Officer Joanne Gerczak, Officer Thomas J. Torrence, Officer Martin Young.

Lt. James Madigan, Sgt. Paul Davis, Officer Sandra Bell, Sgt. Thomas Cassella, Officer William Cowley, Sgt. Robert DeAngelis.

Officer Ralph Archibald, Officer James Bossi, Sgt. Marvin Froneberger, Officer Lawrence Ames, Officer Lynee Carter, Lt. Kenneth Berbett, Sgt. Edward Feeney, Officer Kenneth Stanton, Officer Leon Jones, Officer Avon Mackel, Officer Marco Miranda, Officer Malachi Wilson.

Sgt. Carmine Baratta, Officer Davis Cheuvront, Officer Lori Munion, Officer Thomas O. Torrence, Sgt. Fern Lundell, Officer Stanley Gasque, Officer Carl Morris, Officer Barbara Sloan, Officer Timothy Wade, Lt. Eugene Yeager.

Sgt. Russell Shea, Officer Charles Crocker, Officer John Fabula, Officer Clarence Smith, Sgt. Burl Tuller, Sgt. Allen Kogut, Officer Brandon Beard, Officer James Bowen, Officer Robert Brown, Officer John Freund, Officer William Pohler.

Sgt. Bert Risasa, Officer Robert Bigos, Officer Jerome Grayson, Officer Michael Hammel, Officer Terry Hendrickson, Officer Dartagnan Spencer, Officer Glenn Williams, Officer Robert Bandel, Officer Charles Dillon, Officer Michael Hanks.

Officer Allan Miskiel, Officer Clementine Russum, Sgt. Charles Brown, Officer Elizabeth Geiselman, Officer Corey Belt, Sgt. Harold Farmer, Officer Edward Williams, Officer Vercell Wynder, Officer Ivory Byrd, Officer Isabella Washington.

Sgt. William Driscoll, Sgt. James Henderson, Sgt. Robert Biemiller, Sgt. John Slawinski, Officer Lamont Bivens, Sgt. Timothy Devine, Sgt. Donald Haskins, Sgt. Clifton Macer, Officer James Rood, Officer Glenn Hester, Officer Rose Hill, Sgt. Michael Baptist.

Officer Thermon Cox, Officer Charles Prehn, and Officer Ernestine Ruffin. All awards were well deserved because they fell into the line of duty in keeping drugs controlled.

Let's become involved, let's help one another. Know your officers in your area, become acquainted and friendly with them. Lets back ourselves up by being Block Watchers and more concerned about what is going on or happening in our very own area. Let's be "Crime Wise and Look Out For Each Other."

LOVE YA!!!

COLUMBIA CAPERS

By Pinnie Ross

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION INSTITUTE SET

"Family Life and Biblical Witness" is the theme for St. John Baptist Church's Christian Educational Institute scheduled for Saturday, July 29 at the Wilde Lake Interfaith Center.

Registration will begin at 8:00 AM followed by a continental breakfast and a message from keynote speaker, Rev. Steven Tucker, Associate Minister at New Shiloh Baptist Church in Baltimore. He is the superintendent of Christian Education at New Shiloh and will speak at 9:00 AM.

The first session will commence at 9:45 AM entitled "Discovering the Gifts of the Holy Spirit," led by the Rev. Mrs. Precious Davis, organizer of The Living Water Fellowship. Session Two, "How Christ, Christianity and the Church School Can Make A Difference in Your Life" led by Rev. Steven Tucker and Mr. Leroy Giles will begin at 11:00 AM.

Mr. Giles is a professor of English at Catonsville Community College. The third session, scheduled to begin at 11:45 AM is titled "Developing and Strengthening Family Relationships Through Biblical Witness" will be led by Mrs. Alica Cornelison, author of "A History of Blacks in Howard County, Maryland."

Scheduled at the same hour is Workshop Four "Approaching the Issue of Substance Abuse Through Christian Education" will be led by Rev. Arthur Wood of Enon Baptist Church and Rev. Alonzo Hall.

This institute has high hopes of being very successful. Workshop leaders will tell of personal experiences and the workshop participants will be invited to share their experiences with others.

The Institute will conclude with a free luncheon and a wrap-up session. To register, please call Mrs. Pinnie Ross, 730-8689 or 730-9545 or Deacon Sadie Woolford, 730-1839 and Deacon Mulda Patterson, 381-1366.

The Rev. Herbert H. Eaton is the pastor of St. John.

Disabled Vets

Hopital Chairman for the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Baltimore Chapter 1, William Butler presented a $1,308 check, on behalf of his chapter, to the Director of the Fort Howard VA Medical Center, Phillip Elkins.

This generous gift will be used by the facility's Engineering Service to purchase 12 new replacement outdoor table umbrellas for the Nursing Home Care Unit patio and the west picnic area.

Hospital Chairman for DAV Baltimore Chapter presents check to Director of Fort Howard VA Medical Center. Also left to right front row-Ruth White, adjutant; Jessie Armstrong, commander; and Elsie Jackson, Tres. Middle row-Otis Lee, commander; Thomas Bland, past state commander; Back row-Bill Wiest, VAVS rep. and commander; Richard Griffin, Preston Watson, Tres.; and Dollie Whitehead, assoc. dir. of the Fort Howard, VA.

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