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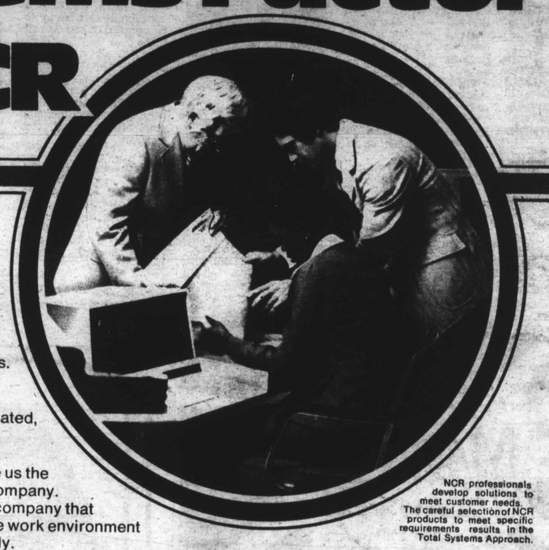

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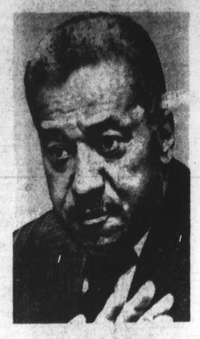
CYNTHIA LaVERNE KESS was crowned Miss Coppin State College for 1979 - 80.

Minister plans to feed 5,000 on Thanksgiving

See story page 2



REV. WILLIAM PAYNE PASTOR OF City Temple of Baltimore Baptist Church.

Baltimore Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 88TH YEAR

LATE CITY EDITION

88th Year No. 28 BALTIMORE, MD. NOVEMBER 17, 1979 30 CENTS

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Fuel $ for poor due in 3 weeks

Improverished Maryland residents unable to afford the skyrocketing cost of home heating fuel will begin to share in $3.3 million in federal funds in three weeks, Gov. Harry Hughes said Wednesday, Nov. 14.

The money, which Hughes said is already in hand, will be distributed in all 24 of the state's major subdivisions, based on the percentage of low income families in each jurisdiction.

The largest share — $1.3 million, or more than a third of the total — will go to families in Baltimore, Hughes said in remarks prepared for release today.

Families will be limited to a maximum of $250, and payments will be made directly to the oil companies or utilities that provide heat to eligible families, rather than to the families themselves, Hughes said.

To be eligible for assistance, families must show that their incomes are no more than 125 percent of the official poverty level.

To determine eligibility, state officials used a sliding scale based on family size and family income compared to the official federal poverty level, plus 25 percent.

(Continued on page 2)

Postal employee's death on job angers co-workers

Postal employees say the death of David J. Henry, a 15 - year worker might have been prevented if foreman had been notified that the post office medical center was closing at 4:30 p.m. because the nurse scheduled to work until midnight had called in sick.

Henry, 46, who worked at the main Post Office on Fayette St., lay helplessly on the floor 20 minutes after having a heart attack before an ambulance was called.

A co - worker who had talked to Henry earlier in the day stated that Henry said he felt fine when he arrived at work.

Several hours later, however, he asked his foreman if he could go to the medical center. According to postal employees, Henry had to walk a mile to the center and found it closed.

"They should have announced to the staff that the medical center was closed. We have employees here who have had training in cardio - pulmonary resuscitation and first aid that might have been able to save his life," said a 21 - year employee.

A Post Office spokeswoman, Ms. Megaera Ausman told the AFRO, "The Postal Inspectors are investigating the case."

(Continued on Page 7)

DINNER DATES — The Brides of Funkenstein, Lynn Mabry and Dawn Silver, who will be in concert along with Parliament - Funkadelic and Cameo Thanksgiving night at the Civic Center, will take 10 lucky AFRO Clean Blockers to turkey dinner that day.

3 workers transferred

City workers 'not thieves' - had 'dumb' judgement

By Ann Sagi
AFRO Staff Writer

Three Department of Public Works, DPW, employees, including an assistant supervisor and a foreman, were each given three days off without pay and were transferred to a sewage treatment plant because they "found" items after last summer's Inner Harbor ethnic festivals.

The AFRO reported Nov. 9 that city workers allegedly stole a golf cart belonging to Pepsi Cola, a rented cash register after the Greek Festival and a Coca Cola dispenser with canisters of soda and pressure guages.

But the workers did not really steal anything, they simply commited "dumb errors of judgement," said Richard Trainor, deputy director of DPW.

The three-day suspension and transfer is lenient, he said. Although the workers could have been fired, the workers were not fired because they have been with DPW for several years and have good records.

"They work all kinds of hours. These are the kind of workers who give you everything you want. I gave them a break because of that," Trainor said.

None of the items taken were used for personal gain, he said.

"Nothing that they took was sold and they did not intend to sell it," Trainor said.

He said a police investigation indicated that no criminal offense had been committed. He likened the articles to "garbage."

(Continued on page 2

LOCAL CROSS BURNINGS

24-hour police watch begins in Gardenville

A red, white and blue city police cruiser has been parked around the clock in the 4300 block of Shamrock Ave. since Tuesday, Nov. 13 to prevent any more racist harassment against that block's only black family.

It is the first positive action taken by Northeastern District police after the AFRO first reported a series of racially - motivated incidents in the Gardenville community.

George Wise, a 29 - year - old homeowner, told the AFRO that, beginning in the middle of October, windows were broken in his house three times, a friend's car was vandalized and, on Nov. 6, a cross was burned outside his home.

The latest incident occurred Sunday, Nov. 11 at 3:30 a.m. Rocks were thrown through his two living room windows.

Five crosses were torched in the Lansdowne section of Baltimore County in an 11-day period. A second cross was burned in northeast Baltimore City in a grassy vacant lot.

Wise, a single parent with a 10-year-old son, said the cross-burning in front of his home is the fourth racially motivated incident since the middle of October.

Wise does not expect police surveillance to continue for long.

(Continued on page 2)

RENT CONTROL

Landlords go to court

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Opponents of the controversial rent control measure presented their opening arguments in the suit against the amendment filed by the Cedlair Corporation and William and Lucia Goodheart.

(Continued on Page 7)

Bob Cheeks — forgotten man?

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Bobby Cheeks, head of the Welfare Rights Organization and the People's Campaign for Rent Control, stated Thursday, Nov. 14 that the city media has distorted and ignored the role played by his organization and himself during the battle to obtain passage of the rent control bill.

(Continued on Page 7)

3 youths injured in school fight

Police report three Forest Park High School students were cut Nov. 13 in a fourth floor hallway, following a fight.

Police said the victims, received superficial wounds in the arms and hands during the altercation, which resulted from an earlier argument with two other boys.

According to the school principal, Mrs. Edmonia Yates, the fracus did not involve any weapons and the students were not stabbed.

She told the AFRO, "We do not believe a weapon was involved. No one seemed to be stabbed. It looked more like someone had been scratched. One of the students was on his way to the office to report the incident which occurred last week when another student started the fight."

The students involved are now on three - day suspension and school officials are waiting to meet with their parents. However, school security officers report according to witnesses, a weapon was involved but that a stabbing did not occur. Leon Billie, assistant security chief, stated that the three boys received scratches but did not require medical attention.

Mrs. Santa's goal — $20,000

FIRST BIG GIVER — Dr. James A. Priest presented a Howard L. Cornish Humanitarian Award and a check for $233 on behalf of Pi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity to AFRO's Mrs. Santa Ida Peters last Sunday at Morgan Christian Center. See more Omega and Mrs. Santa inside.

The AFRO's Mrs. Santa program is dedicated to helping hungry families and the children of Baltimore so that no child will go hungry on Christmas day.

The Mrs. Santa AFRO Charities is a non-profit organization of the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers which collects funds to purchase food baskets and coupons.

We are appealing to clubs and organizations to help us reach our goal of $20,000. To kick - off the campaign Pi Omega Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity made a presentation of $233 last Sunday.

Medina Temple No. 1 and Medina Temple No. 2 of the Hiram Grand Lodge of Masons Denver Blackwell and Lloyd Cure, Potentates have presented check for $100. They will also hold a Christmas party for the Baer School on December 20.

Another early bird contribution of $150 came from the Continental Society Inc., Mrs. Louis Mapp, president.

Now open is AFRO's Mrs. Santa's store at 622 N. Eutaw St. If you have good warm clothes or usable toys in good condition bring them in or call 728 - 8205.

Orchids to the folks of New Shiloh Baptist Church, the Rev. Harold Carter, who adopted 30 of Mrs. Santa's families for Thanksgiving.

Also orchids to George Mitchell of Electric Eye who is adopting 10 families for Thanksgiving.

Are we being 'taken for a ride' on subway?

By Ann Sagi
AFRO Staff Writer

What will take six years to complete, travel eight miles from Charles Center to Reisterstown Plaza in 14 minutes and cost at least $768 million?

What will serve white commuters from the suburbs and practically ignore inner - city blacks?

The Baltimore subway.

Dr. Elijah Rowe, associate professor of urban studies at Morgan State University, said rapid transit will have a negative impact on black communities which will not have direct access to the subway.

That will result in further blight in neighborhoods, greater chance for failure for small black businesses and intensify existing differences between black and white neighborhoods, Rowe predicted.

EIGHT MILE SUBWAY Route from Charles Center to Reisterstown Plaza

"The subway is not a pressing need of blacks in Baltimore City. Bus service in the central city is sufficient for city residents," he said.

"If we look at the orientation of the existing subway route, with the exception of Mondawmin, it will predominantly serve whites in the metropolitan area."

Rowe said planned future routes bear out that contention. Rapid transit routes under development by the state Department of Transportation include a north line to Cokeysville, a south line to Anne Arundel County, an east - southeast line to Dundalk and a northeast extension to Clifton Park.

(Continued on Page 3)

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