47th AFRO-KOOL Clean Block Awards

Honored for their many years of service with plaques and certificates are these Clean Block workers. They are pictured with Mrs. Ida Murphy Peters, Clean Block Director. L - R, Mrs. Elizabeth Farmer, 10 years; Mrs. Maggie Quille, 10 years; Ms. Khadeeja Fatou Mata, 10 years; Mrs. Louise Flood, 15 years; Mrs. Mary James, 15 years; Mrs. Annie Thomas, 15 years (absent but represented by her daughter; Mrs. Berlean Thorne, 10 years; Mrs. Esther Middleton, 15 years; Mrs. Mary Sue Johnson, 18 years; Mrs. Helen Foote, 18 years; Rev. Elinor Powell, 22 years; George B. Dozier, 47 years, and Mrs. Ida Peters.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

THE TOP BLOCK — winners of $350 are shown with City Councilman Nathan Irvy, Captain Annie Lee Johnston; Vivian Horne, Advisor, Elain White; Dorothy Ramsey, Co - Captain, Elijah Washington and Rachester Johnston.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Proud winners from 500 blk N. Fulton Avenue pictured L - R, Ms. Mary Johnson, Ms. Shanda Brown, and George B. Dozier, Captain and Advisor.

We are proud of you

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

First Class rendered their current hit 'Don't Listen to Your Friends," to entertain Clean Blockers at Awards Ceremony. Members of group are L - R, Harold Bell, Tony Yarborough and Sylvester Reddett. (Member Fred Brown not shown.)

Winners shown with Delegate John Douglas are Alfreda Keyser, 1400 Druid Hill Ave. and Julia Brown of 1400 McCulloh Street.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Four Winning Blocks — Shown are Cathy Lee, Co - Captain, 600 Appleton St.; Bernadette Owens, Captain, 600 Appleton St.; Sarah Ross, Captain, 1900 Harlem Ave.; Grace Adams, Advisor for the Four blocks; and Jessie Thompson, Captain, 2000 Harlem Ave.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Mrs. Dorothy Harris, HABC Consultant, receives her Certificate of Appreciation from AFRO Chairman of the Board, John H. Murphy, III.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

[illegible] was a $250.00 winner in the AFRO [illegible] campaign. Pictured are members of [illegible] L - R, Mrs. Ardella Oliver, Advisor; [illegible] Brockett, worker; and Ms. Dolly Wesby, Captain.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Members of the 1900 blk Druid Hill Ave. where workers earned $250.00 for their block are L - R, Mrs. Helen Foote, Captain; Ms. Dorothy Lothank, Co - captain; and Mrs. Maggie Quille, Advisor.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

1900 Mosher St. winners of $150. Shown are Eva Burgess, Advisor; Kimberlyn Howie, Co - Captain; Marvin Randall, Kenneth Randall and Darryl Norton.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

George Lee, AFRO's Baltimore Single Copy Manager, presented Mrs. Grace C. Adams, 600 blk N. Payson St. with an AM - FM radio for selling the most AFRO subscriptions during the Clean Block campaign.

Winners of $250 in the 500 N. Gilmor St. Shown are: Laura Flood, Chanetay Flood, Mary Gilbert, Co - Captain; and Louise Flood, Captain

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Also shown in far left hand corner is Mary Sawyer of the 1800 Braddish Avenue

Winners of $250 are 2700 Berea Rd. in Cherry Hill. Shown are Karen Blake, Shannell Hawkins, Sabrina Kent, Bonita Kent, Barbara Ben, Advisor; Carol Hawkins, Co - Captain; Beverly Ragler, Captain; and Robin Baker.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

George W. Larkins Jr. of Gino's Inc. presented Mrs. Ida Murphy Peters, AFRO Clean Block Director with $400.00 worth of coupons that were distributed at the 47th AFRO Clean Block Awards Ceremony.

Nation mourns NAACP's Roy Wilkins

See story below, pictorial on page 24

Meet 'The Wizard of Bars' See page 17

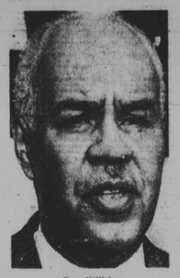
000005650 USPS-009-060
99/99/99 UY OOM OOW LC 01X
MICRO-PHOTO DIVISION
JAN CARNAHAN PROD CONT LIBRARY
OLD MANSFIELD RD
WOOSTER OH 44691

Afro-American

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 90TH YEAR

90th Year No. 10 BALTIMORE, MD. SEPTEMBER 12, 1981 LATE CITY EDITION 35 CENTS

Copyright by the AFRO-AMERICAN CO. for all material previously printed in the current National Edition



Roy Wilkins

Last of civil rights giants

NEW YORK — Roy Wilkins, former NAACP leader and the "last of the giants" in the battle to win equality for blacks, died Tuesday. He was 80.

Wilkins, whose fight against school desegregation laid the foundation for the civil rights gains of the 1960s, died of uremia at New York University Medical Center.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Community Church of New York.

The thin man with the neat, gray mustache, who was executive director of the NAACP for more than 20 years, had been in failing health for the last 10 years. He entered the hospital Aug. 18.

President Reagan said Wilkins "worked for equality, spoke for

Continued on Page 23

Killers strike at daybreak

Bail bondsman's stepson slain in Moravia Rd. flat

By Patricia Tetum
AFRO Staff Writer

Police have issued an arrest warrant for one of two men accused of invading a far Northeast Baltimore apartment Sept. 5 and killing one occupant and seriously wounding the second.

Mike Bass, police spokesman, said a warrant has been issued for the arrest of 31-year-old Michael Green, of the 1400 block of North Ellamont St. Green is charged with the murder of Purcell Turner.

The warrant was issued after the shooting victim, James Roscoe Jr., 29, of 4417 Moravia Rd. No. 8, identified Green as one of two men who forced their way into Roscoe's and Turner's apartment shortly after dawn on Sept. 5. A second suspect has not been identified, Bass said.

Roscoe was in stable condition at City Hospital at AFRO presstime. Earlier he had been listed in critical condition after he underwent surgery for a gunshot wound to the head.

Turner, the stepson of Baltimore bail bondsman, James Carter, died of multiple gunshot wounds, a spokesman for the medical examiner's office said.

Was Turner's murder an execution-style slaying or was he, with Roscoe, a rob and kill victim? Bass said it has not been determined whether anything was taken from the apartment.

The method used by the gunmen in the shooting of Turner, however, indicate an execution-type homicide, but Bass said there was nothing to suggest Turner had been tortured before his death.

Bass said two men, armed with handguns forced their way into Roscoe and Turner's apartment at about 7:19 a.m. Once inside, the men separated Roscoe and Turner, questioning them about

Execution or robbery?

the location of drugs and currency.

Turner was forced into the bathroom. An officer later found him in the bathtub, immersed in hot water. Turner had been shot once in the head and twice in the left side of the chest, Bass said.

Roscoe was lead to a back bedroom. Police found him lying in the livingroom near the front door. He had been shot once in the head.

Angela, Turner's 20-year-old sister, said she spoke briefly with her brother the day before he was killed. Turner had telephoned to speak to his mother, she said.

"He was really happy, his usual self," Ms. Turner said.

Turner had moved into Roscoe's apartment about a month before the shooting. He and Roscoe had known each other for several years, she said.

Unemployed at the time of his death, Turner had previously worked as a salesman at a Light Street men's shoe store and at a men's clothing store.

Ms. Turner said her brother was interested in fashion and modeling. At one time he journeyed to New York City with hopes of pursuing a career as a model, she said.

Turner later returned to Baltimore where he participated in fashion shows at several popular nightclubs.

He was buried on Labor Day at the Cedar Hill Cemetery. A wake and funeral services were at Carter Memorial Church of God in Christ on Sept. 6.

Turner is survived by his stepfather and mother, Barbara Carter; his father and stepmother, Purcell David Turner Sr. and Mary Turner; four sisters, Angela, Debbie, Nicki and Darlene; three brothers, Jimmy, Cornell and Tyrone; and his grandparents, John Turner, Olga Butler and Annie Marcelena.

Jordan leaving Urban League

By Andrew Geller

NEW YORK — Vernon Jordan, reportedly still suffering from a sniper's wound that nearly killed him last year, announced his resignation Wednesday as president of the National Urban League.

Jordan, whose resignation will become effective Dec. 31, said his departure was "based on the belief that it is time for a change personally and institutionally."

Jordan, 46, who has headed the Urban League for 10 years, said he will become a partner in the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer, and Feld in Washington, D.C.

The firm, which is based in Dallas, is that of Robert Strauss, former Democratic Party national chairman and former President Jimmy Carter's special trade ambassador.

An eight - member search committee has been appointed to find Jordan's successor.

In a statement announcing his resignation, Jordan did not otherwise spell out why he is resigning.

But there were reports he has never satisfactorily recovered

VERNON JORDAN

from the wound he received from a sniper's rifle in Fort Wayne, Ind., last year, and his wife is also in poor health.

"I leave secure in the knowledge that the National Urban League is strong fiscally and programmatically and that it has the depth of talent to take a change in leadership in stride," Jordan said.

"The time of my departure is at hand," he said. "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith.

"This has been a tough job, a lonely job, a demanding job," he said. "But it has been a great job, rich and rewarding for opportunities in leadership and service.

Jordan, 45, a native of Atlanta, was a member of the National Advisory Commission on Selective Service under President Johnson, and was appointed director of the Urban League in 1972 when Whitney Young drowned.

He became a civil rights activist in 1962 when he led a boycott of stores in Augusta, Ga., that allegedly refused to hire blacks. Later in the 1960s, he headed the Southern Regional Council's voter education project.

A bullet from a .30 - 06 rifle ripped a hole the size of a fist in Jordan's back in the parking lot of a Fort Wayne motel at 2 a.m. on May 29, 1980.

'African Queen' quits Harborplace location

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

The African Queen, one of the minority-owned businesses at Harborplace, has thrown its towel in the ring.

Owners of the business, which features traditional African dishes, say the reason for the close is two-fold and not totally financial.

Sheila Williams, who is the owner and operator of the business along with her husband Dwight, stated that expenses at Harborplace were too high. Mr. and Mrs. Williams paid $2,800 a month for the space they occupied on the second level of the Light Street Pavilion.

"The upstairs rental fee is higher because there wasn't supposed to be any prepared food sold downstairs. But that changed," Mrs. Williams said.

She said the current rental fee was higher than the amount initially paid when the African Queen opened in Harborplace in July 1980 along with more than 100 other businesses.

But there were problems other than financial ones. Acquainting and getting people to try African food proved to be a large and sometimes difficult task.

Mrs. Williams stated that the majority of the Harborplace clientele was white and that most white customers did not favor African food. "There are some blacks who don't want to be associated with Africa," she said. "It was a whole educating process."

The Williamses considered opening another location last January when the slow season hit Harborplace. "We didn't think we could survive the winter. We knew we couldn't survive another one," said Mrs. Williams.

But the couple decided to wait until the summer season before firming up plans to open another location.

Continued on page 2

Advance Federal opens drive-in branch

Advance Federal Savings and Loan Association is completing plans to open a drive-in office at 3411 Clifton Ave., in the Walbrook Shopping Center in Northwest Baltimore.

Located in a spanking brand new building, the facility is equipped to handle transactions inside, as well as at the drive-in windows.

Dr. W.O. Bryson Jr., Advance president, said the office will provide customers with an overnight depository and ample parking.

Continued on page 2

For more business news see page 6

Black leaders worried over redistricting plan

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

The city's black legislators watched their hopes for majority representation in Annapolis go down the drain as an alternate plan was accepted by the city delegation Wednesday night.

In a 12-13 vote which was split along racial lines, the group of delegates decided to endorse a plan developed by the delegation's sub-committee on redistricting, chaired by Del. Larry Young.

The biggest surprise of the evening was 40th district delegate Troy Brailey's decision to abstain from voting, thus allowing a compromise plan which would maintain the four black districts to pass.

"I thought it was an exercise in futility, (to vote for either plan), said Brailey after the meeting. The state senators have already said whatever action the delegates took wouldn't be valid.

As a result of Brailey's decision to abstain, city delegation leader Dennis McCoy and Young both avoided having to line themselves up with either faction. Young said he would have voted with the caucus, which would have left McCoy to cast the deciding vote.

Brailey's fellow black legislators were furious after the hearing.

"It's seldom you get the chance to vote on a totally black issue, and that's what this was," said Del. Howard "Pete" Rawlings. "This was an opportunity for blacks to gain their fair share of representation in the General Assembly. I just don't understand his vote."

Del. Frank Conaway, who will be facing Brailey in the 40th district senatorial campaign next year could not resist the opportunity to make political hay over Brailey's decision.

"Brailey is running for Senate, and we can't have somebody who will not vote on crucial black issues," he said. "You can't dodge issues."

Conaway also praised the efforts of Del. John Douglass, who avoided

Continued on page 2

Baltimore activists recall Wilkins

See page 2

Educators declare war on illiteracy

200,000 Baltimoreans can't read or write well enough to cope

The staff of the reading lab at the Calvert Adult Educational Center has apparently made a commitment to back up its belief illiteracy in adults does not have to be.

This week the reading lab was awarded for excellence in curbing illiteracy as city school teachers prepared to bolster reading skills of adults as well as their children in the upcoming school year at workshops held at Greenspring Junior High School.

According to the most recent statistics compiled by the state about 200,000 adults in Baltimore City are functionally illiterate, which means they are unable to read, write or comprehend well enough to survive and cope on a day to day basis.

This inability, according to experts, leads to frustration, diminished success levels in the attainment of goals, and a lesser reading proficiency level for their children.

But the city, as well as the state, has launched an intensive effort to combat the illiteracy problem here, including the establishment of reading labs, such as the one at Calvert Center, throughout the city.

At an awards ceremony this week, a spokesman for the mayor, Bill McKay said reading centers will be set up in 33 different neighborhoods citywide.

McKay said the centers will be stocked with newspapers, magazines and other materials including books, in an attempt to increase the awareness of the importance of reading, in addition to using expert staff to alleviate the problem.

The centers, he said, will establish reading as a priority.

The reading lab at Calvert Center, considered a model, is equipped with automatic readers, recorders, and, soon, computers.

Students, who range in age from 16 to 80, are given individualized attention in areas including the building of vocabulary, correct sentence structure, comprehension skills and methods of absorbing dictation.

At the end of having completed the five-phase program which involves heavy and careful monitoring of each student, the participants find the stigma of being illiterate removed. For most, the course makes a profound change in their lives.

What's important about the Center, said Donald Patterson, assistant superintendent of the Division of Adult and Community Education for the city's public school system, "is that people come to realize . . . they don't have to be illiterate."

In response to the prevalence of illiteracy in the city, the mayor set up a special commission this year to "increase citizen awareness of the problem.

The Commission has been active in promotinghand assisting communities in their efforts to improve adult reading skills, and is one of the most unique programs of its kind in the entire country.

In addition, the adult education division of the Baltimore City Public School system has poured a wealth of money and attention into the development of adult reading curriculums.

According to statistics compiled by the state, 15 percent of all city residents have reading skills below the 8th grade level.

Statistics also have showed children of functionally illiterate parents have a higher risk of being illiterate themselves.

Concerned about those numbers, and determined to improve the reading skills of city school children the city with the help of the state launched its intensive illiteracy program for adults.

According to Dr. John Crew, superintendent of public instruction for the Baltimore city schools, "our children (coming out of school) won't read at the 8th grade level.

Crew said the improvement of reading skills of parents will help their children all around.

TWO LOVELY LADIES (Mrs. Mary Shorts (R) and Mrs. Hazel Colbert (L) about the same age as the AFRO, are going to tell us about Baltimore in days gone by in the AFRO's Special 90th Year Edition which is coming soon. Look forward to this historic issue in full color, one that will brighten your life with photos, features and facts, one that you will want to keep on your coffee table to remember the past and take a look into the future. The AFRO has been on your side for 90 years. You can "read the difference" each Tuesday and Friday.