—School suit

(Continued from Page 1)

"But," she said, "any time there is evidence that education is not up to standards, we are concerned, and there is evidence that education here is not up to standards despite improvements."

McMillian said any organized effort of the local chapter of the NAACP to spruce up the school system here would have to be backed by the national offices in New York. She did not say if she felt her superiors would be supportive of such a move.

News of the intentions of the federal government came this week in a Washington Post article, in which William Bradford Reynolds, the assistant attorney general for civil rights, stated his belief that inferior education exists in urban areas throughout the country.

Reynolds said that "unequal treatment at the education level suggests a 'different kind of constitutional violation than does separateness," and said that the Reagan administration will move "very energetically" in the direction of filing lawsuits.

Reynolds refused to say, however, when those lawsuits would begin, and Wilson, during a phone interview with the AFRO, said it was "too early to give details" about the proposed plan.

Reynolds reportedly has said he does not know when the first lawsuit will be filed, but said that there will not be a barrage of suits, suggesting there will be stiff guidelines for determining just which cities are providing inferior education.

—Cabbie

(Continued from Page 1)

Arthur Naylor, a Yellow Cab driver for 19 years said, "When you hear about a cab driver being killed, it makes you want to quit. You just stay out there and avoid working in certain areas of the city."

Naylor, who carries a gun says he has been "lucky" during his 19 years as a driver. Today, you just can't pick up every passenger that puts their hand up. I don't pick up any young men," he told the AFRO.

Naylor says he picks up most of his passengers from the train station, hotels, bus stations and downtown areas, where he feels safe working.

A dispatcher for Royal Cab company said Hopkins had picked up two passengers at North and Greenmount Ave., fifteen minutes before he was found dead on Franklin Street.

A citizen who lives in the area and saw Hopkins stagger in the street called the police and said she saw four men running from the scene of the murder. However, the dispatcher for the Royal Cab company reported that Hopkins had only picked up two passengers. Police say four men might be involved.

Estell Jackson, a Royal Cab company driver for eight years says he only works the day shift and usually picks up his passengers from the bus stations.

In the first eight months of this year, 103 cab drivers have been robbed and two have been killed. Last year, three drivers were killed and 122 were robbed during the first eight months.

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—Phillips

(Continued from Page 1)

Dean D. Wright, 16, 1800 block Payson St., and Walter Vaughn, 18, 1700 block of Pulaski St., At AFRO presstime, they were all being held at City Jail on $100,000 bail

Dr. Phillips, 72, was shot and killed as he was about to get into his car and drive to Provident Hospital. Police report he had planned to visit a patient scheduled for surgery when he was shot during an armed robbery attempt.

Michael Brown, a Pre Trial release investigator told Judge Bundy Brittingham has an "excellent background and no prior juvenile arrest. He is a member of the Pentecoste Community Church baseball team and active in sports at school."

Brown ask Judge Bundy to release Brittingham on $5,000 bail. However, Judge Bundy told the court, "A $50,000 bail would be sufficient. Brittingham's bail has been the lowest bail set in the Phillips murder. The case has been presented to the grand jury and indictments are expected to be handed down soon. Brittingham lived a block away from Dr. Phillips and was being held at City Jail at AFRO presstime.

According to Brown, the three Douglass students all have excellent family backgrounds and no prior criminal records. A trial date has not been set.

—'Bey-Bey'

(Continued from Page 1)

In a case county police are calling "strange and puzzling" Thomas is accused of murdering Donald L. Spurling, 26, a former undercover narcotics officer with the Maryland State Police, his wife, Sarah, also 26, and the rape of the Spurling's tenant, a University of Maryland Baltimore County student.

Jay Miller, Baltimore County Police spokesman, said no motive has been established in the case and Thomas "hasn't talked to us yet."

"After he was arrested, he simply asked for an attorney," Miller said.

Apparently Thomas turned himself in to the police at the urging of his family members. He and a relative, a cadet at the city police academy, strolled into the central district station the evening of Monday, Oct. 5.

Hours before the murders and rape were discovered before dawn on Oct. 2, Spurling and Thomas had been seen in the Arbutus area at a bar and on East Drive, Miller said.

The pair had driven to the home of an East Drive man where Spurling rapped on the man's door, he said. The man stepped out of his home and he and Spurling had a fist fight over $20 Spurling claimed the man owed him. Thomas did not participate in the fight, Miller said.

About five hours later, Spurling was found stabbed to death in his Chelwynd Road rowhouse basement. Spurling's wife, a nurse, was found lying in the dining room, also stabbed to death.

The tenant told police, Thomas confronted her in the woman's bedroom. He asked her about money and guns located in the house. He then raped her and tied the young woman to the bed, Miller said.

County police are trying to determine a motive for the slayings and rape. The length and nature of the relationship that existed between Spurling and Thomas also is under scrutiny.

A lot of things about the case are "puzzling" Miller said. There were no signs of forced entry into the house and all of its doors were locked. A butcher knife, believed to be the murder weapon, was found in the Spurling's backyard.

No drugs or illegal weapons were found in the Spurling's home, he said. Spurling had been known to frequent a bar, the Sulphur Spring Inn, in the company of blacks, Miller said. The bar's clientel is predominately white, he said.

In a separate incident, city police spokesman Mike Bass, said police are investigating the murder of John R. Hubbard, 35, of the 2300 block of East Federal Street

Hubbard, a former state trooper, was shot in the chest following a confrontation with an unruly young patron at Hubbard's bar, the Federal Lounge, at about 1:17 a.m. Oct. 3.

The suspect in the case, described as about 23-year-old, 5 feet 8, who weighs about 115 pounds, is "known to live in the neighborhood (where the shooting occurred) but his name and address is unknown at this time," Bass said.

Hubbard, who had owned the bar for about six months before his death, was killed about three hours before a fellow ex-state trooper, Spurling, was discovered murdered.

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Provident Hospital: 'Success Story'

Hospitals, a trade journal published by the American Hospital Association in its July issue cited "Provident Hospital as one of the most notable success stories in the hospital field in recent years."

The article examines the plight of black hospitals in America. It noted that between the Civil War and the turn of the century, more than 150 private and public hospitals came into being. Today, however, less than 25 of those hospitals remain.

Hospital president, Thomas W. Chapman stated, "The economic and philosophical climate today would make it hard for any black institution to survive. What you must do is decide that you will survive, we made that decision at Provident."

The article credits much of Provident's success to its emphasis on black related health issues. In addition to an aggressive sickle cell program, Provident has introduced a high blood pressure screening program in black churches, a stroke unit, a teen parenting counseling program, the largest, free public health education program in the state, Tel-Med and its newest outreach program, Lifeline, a 24 hour emergency response systems for elderly and disabled persons.

Chapman said, "There is something unique about a hospital that can thrive in the current environment. There's a cultural link to the community. But to the skeptics who ask if such hospitals are necessary, all I can say is, look at the pattern of health care today.

"Our patients receive a certain sense of comfort here and there is a sense of brotherhood, of sisterhood and of community. We're going to continue to be around."

Provident was founded in 1894 in Baltimore and has grown to a 271 bed acute care facility in West Baltimore. It is the second oldest black hospital in the nation and the largest black employer of blacks in Maryland.

Mail-order divorce Maryland style

The state's highest court has approved a change in judicial procedures that starting Jan. 1 will allow Maryland couples to get divorced without ever setting foot in the courtroom.

The Court of Appeals approved a rule by a 4-3 vote that enables a couple to receive an uncontested divorce simply by filing written documents, a method that Baltimore County Judge John E. Raine Jr. critically termed "mail-order divorce."

Judge Marvin H. Smith advocated the change despite the strong opposition from parties that said eliminating formal divorce hearings would cheapen marriage.

Periscope on Politics

By James M. Abraham
AFRO Staff Writer

Although this is still an off season, as far as local politics are concerned, our elected officials are still hard at work either performing their jobs, making public appearances, or shoring up the old campaign chest for the next run at office. Two candidates who fall into that last description are a state delegate who wants to keep his job and a county executive who wants a new post.

Howard "Pete" Rawlings

The state delegate, Howard "Pete" Rawlings of the 40th, will be holding a fundraiser at the Belvedere Hotel on Oct. 22. Rawlings, a freshman legislator, has already managed to push his way into the "inner circle" in Annapolis, and is developing a reputation as a keen student of legislative infighting and maneuvering.

He and Del. John Douglass, D-45, are responsible for the development of the Black Caucus city redistricting plan which bit the dust last month.

Anne Arundel Co. Executive Robert Pascal is shopping for another job—governor of Maryland. He apparently has the present occupant of that seat, Gov. Harry Hughes worried. The governor is already embarking on a campaign to increase his visibility, and is providing reporters, for the first time in his administration with itineraries of his jaunts throughout the state.

Pascal says he is "fairly confident" that he will run, and says the only thing, besides lack of money, which would preclude his running is a bid for the top slot by Baltimore mayor William Donald Schaefer.

Del. Larry Young, who heads the Center For Urban Environmental Studies over in our nation's capital, has fired off an angry response to President Reagan's planned energy policy.

Young, who last year advocated having the state buy and store it's own oil for needy families, characterized Reagan's policy as being "as deceiving as the poker player who deals from the bottom of the deck."

Young delivered his barbs at a recent CUES National Eergy Teach-in, in Washington.

The state's only black Republican elected official, Anne Arundel Co. state Senator Aris T. Allen, is on his way to Washington to join the staff of the Department of Health and Human Services.

Allen, who joined J. Glenn Beall in 1978 for an unsuccessful bid for the state gubernatorial slot, will head the Health Care Financing Administration. Aris, a popular physician-politician, served as the first black secretary at the GOP presidential convention last year.

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