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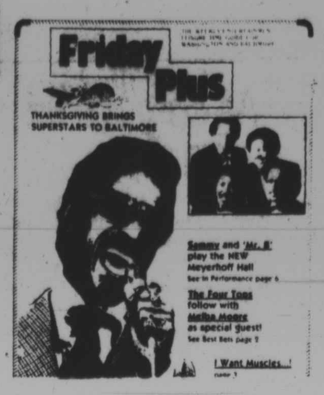

More arrests in CCB $388,000 theft?

Mayor moving to keep Md. General in town

A spokesperson for the mayor's office said the city is continuing in its efforts to block the planned move of Maryland General Hospital from its present Howard St. location to Baltimore county.

Mayor Schaefer's press secretary, Judith Kreiner, said the city is examining administrative and legal maneuvers to prevent the hospital from relocating.

"They are in the midst of the legal minuet, as it were," Ms. Kreiner said, describing the moves and counter-moves made by city and hospital officials.

Ms. Kreiner said the city's concern regarding the impact the move would have on area health care was the prime motivation behind the city's resistance to the move.

Ms. Kreiner said the fact that no plans for the hospital building's future use exist, the impact t of its possible abandonment on the resurgent Howard St. area, and the potential loss of city jobs also are concerns.

The Maryland state Health Planning and Development agency gave the go-ahead to Maryland General Oct. 1, permitting the move.

Hospital officials say ground breaking is expected to begin at

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AFRO photo by Johanne Brown

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS — Two Carver High School students and their teacher - advisor represented Baltimore and the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America at the Youth Volunteer Conference in Washington Nov. 11-13. Shown from left are Renee Jones, 18-year-old senior; George Jackson, 17-year-old senior and their teacher, Ms. Alice Murray. Miss Jones was selected from the group of students to present President Reagan with a scrapbook on volunteer activities of young people.

Carver students visit White House

Ms. Renee Jones and George Jackson, seniors at Carver Vocational Technical High School represented their school and the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America at the Youth Volunteer Conference in Washington last week.

The Carver students were among 50 students representing young volunteers from across the nation in a three-day program which included a meeting with President Ronald Reagan on Nov. 12 at the White House.

Ms. Jones and Jackson were selected because of their involvement in school and community volunteer activities. They were accompanied by their teacher Ms. Alice Murray.

Ms. Jones was selected to present President Reagan with a scrap book highlighting the volunteer activities of young people.

She told the AFRO, "I was excited and honored and proud to represent student organizations in attendance."

Ms. Jones and Jackson are state officers in the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, an organization providing opportunities for students in vocational programs to develop their leadership skills. Jackson is a senior food service student and Ms. Jones is majoring in cosmotology.

Both students said they plan to attend college and continue their volunteer work in the community.

Ms. Jackson and Jones are active in the Community Act Program, Carter Safety Committee which promotes safety in the community and the Anti Crime Team.

Ms. Jones also is an active member of Timothy Baptist Church and does volunteer work with St. Gergory Church youth program.

"I am rendering the community a great service because human safety is a necessity to life," Ms. Jones said.

Jackson, who attends New Shiloh Baptist Church and participates in the Saturday Church School said the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America has been an inspiration to his future plans.

"I truly believe that community action is the only way America will stay the great county that it is," Jackson said.

Woman accountant held on $300,000 bail

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

While a 30-year-old Community College of Baltimore assistant accounting supervisor is being held at City Jail on $300,000 bail for allegedly embezzling $388,000 from the Liberty Heights campus, the state's attorney's office reports investigation is continuing and more arrests may be made.

Ms. Marion White, of the 500 block of Half Mile Court in the Orchard Mews development in West Baltimore, was arrested at home Monday, Nov. 15 and charged with one count of felony theft.

Assistant State's Attorney Darrio Broccolino said Ms. White allegedly withdrew the money during a 17-month period from a fund used to make refunds to students who registered for CCB courses, but later dropped them.

Broccolino would not confirm or deny if any other Community College of Baltimore employees may be involved and would only say, "We have a pretty good line."

Ms. White is scheduled to appear in Criminal Court for arraignment Jan. 7.

She began working at the Liberty Heights CCB campus in May 1980. According to H. William Hammond, vice president for CCB's administration services, Ms. White's annual salary was approximately $18,000 and she worked in an office with eight other employees.

As an assistant accounting supervisor, it was Ms. White's job to verify payment checks issued to students.

Prior to working at the college, she was employed with the city for the Department of Finance Bureau of Disbursement.

Hammond told the AFRO the college uncovered the fraud in the accounting office and called the City Department of Auditing. According to Hammond the investigation began Nov. 8.

Broccolino said an investigation revealed at least 22 people who never registered as CCB students received refund checks from the college. All the checks involved in the alleged scam were for more than $900.

Ms. White was suspended from her post after a city grand jury issued an indictment charging her with one count of theft.

Charles Tildon, president of CCB told the AFRO, "While a very serious problem has arrisen at the college with regard to an alleged fraud I can assure you that every measure is being taken to insure that the fiscal integrity of this institution is protected.

"We are investigating every

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19 blacks pass Md. bar exams

Results from the July Maryland State Bar Examination were released last week by the State Board of Law Examiners.

According to the Board, 537 law school graduates passed the exam. There were 17 black law school graduates who passed the exam.

The total number of blacks who took the exam has not yet been calculated by the Board.

The graduates are Lance Brown, Susan Cherry, George Davis, David Douglass, Lois Giles, Robert Gordon, Arnold Hawkins, Donna Hill, Dwight Jackson;

Robert Pain, Clayton Powell, Jr., Sharon Smith, Betty Stemley, Andrea Thompson, Rebecca Warren, Warren Weaver and Sharon Wyatt.

The Bar exam is offered twice a year once in February and once in July. According to Joanne G. Dowgwillo, Clerk for the Maryland State Board of Law Examiners, the July exam usually has more applicants because students are just graduating from Law Scools around that time.

This July 806 graduates took the exam and last February there were 513.

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CITY CABLE TV BATTLE DOWN TO 2

Councilmen try to delay bidding

By Martin Evans
AFRO Staff Writer

A motion to delay the bidding deadline for companies competing for exclusive right to offer cable television to city residents failed in City Council Monday evening.

Two firms submitted bid proposals on Wednesday, the bidding deadline.

Councilman Norman Reeves (5th district) brought a resolution before the city's legislative body calling for a postponement of the Nov. 17 deadline pending an investigation of the bidding process.

Only two companies, Cox Cable PortVision and Caltec have bidded for the local franchise. Reeves' said the measure, which was co-sponsored by Kweisi Mfume and Michael Mitchell, was prompted by their concern that the low number of bidders would weaken the city's bargaining position in negotiating and enforcing the terms of a contract.

Several companies which at one time had expressed interest in the contract have since withdrawn from the running. Doubts have been expressed concerning the economic feasibility of complying with the city's bid specifications, and the lack of feasibility has been cited as a reason for their withdrawal.

Many have said the economic climate has shifted fundimentally since communication firms began wiring cities in the middle 1970s cable boom, and now wonder if any company could operate profitably and comply with the Baltimore specifications.

The councilmen also expressed fears the low number of bidders will mean less pressure on the eventual contract winner to include a generous minority participation provision.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity and blacks should also benefit from it," Reeves said.

According to Selection Board

(Continued on Page 2)

Cox, Caltec are only contenders

By Johanne Brown
AFRO Staff Writer

Competition for the rights to Baltimore city's's cable television franchise continues as the deadline for submissions of bids ended Wednesday in the Board of Estimates.

Two companies, Cox Cable PortVision and Caltec Cable vision of Baltimore City submitted proposals for the financing, construction, staffing and administration of a multi million dollar cable communications network.

CCPV and Caltec now must enter still another waiting game as the Mayor's "blue ribbon" commission dissects each bid in search of the proposal that best suits the needs of the city.

An annoucement of the franchise's award is scheduled for February.

The RFP requires the franchise involve suitable minority participation. PortVision, a company headed by WEBB radio owner Dorothy Brunson, consists of several black business persons in the community including Otis Warren, Henry Parks, William C. March and Dr. H. Garland Chissel.

As of the Nov. 17 deadline, PortVision had acquired $645,000 in initial equity contributions. The proposal said PortVision will control management and employment of their Baltimore operations.

Caltec's minority component also has several local black business persons.

Lester Green, owner of a cable company serving more than 200 homes in Coldspring, parking lot owner Allen Quille, former city solicitor George Russell are among tbe partners in the venture.

Russell and Quille originally had joined forces with Telecommunications Inc., one of

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Judge overturns denial

Ex-Congressman Diggs may get mortician's license

By Patricia Tatum
AFRO Staff Writer

Now that a Baltimore City Supreme Bench judge has overturned a ruling by the Maryland Board of Morticians denying Charles C. Diggs Jr. an apprentice mortician's license, Diggs told the AFRO he hopes to establish his own business soon in Prince George's County.

Diggs, a former 12-term Michigan Congressman, was denied his application for a license after a Jan. 6, hearing by the board because of a 1978 mail fraud conviction.

The board had concluded the conviction amounted to a crime of "moral turpitude" and on that basis, denied Diggs' application.

The former Congressman, who was a successful funeral director in Michigan, said his conviction had no relation to the funeral business and appealed the decision through his attorneys, Clarence Mitchell Jr., Michael B. Mitchell and Norris Ramsey.

In his ruling Tuesday, Nov. 16, Judge Solomon Baylor said Diggs had been denied due process by the board.

Baylor also cited one of the board's members was unqualified to have been seated and the two required consumer representatives were not present at the hearing.

Diggs, who now lives in Prince George's County, told the AFRO he feels vindicated and is grateful for those who have supported him through the application and appeals process.

"I feel fully vindicated," Diggs said. "As we contended right

(Continued on Page 2)

RYALES PHOTO

THE WINNING TEAM of lawyers for Congressman Charles Diggs (seated left) includes (seated right) Clarence M. Mitchell Jr., and (standing L TO R) Norris Ramsey, Mrs. Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Blaine White and Michael Bowen Mitchell.

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