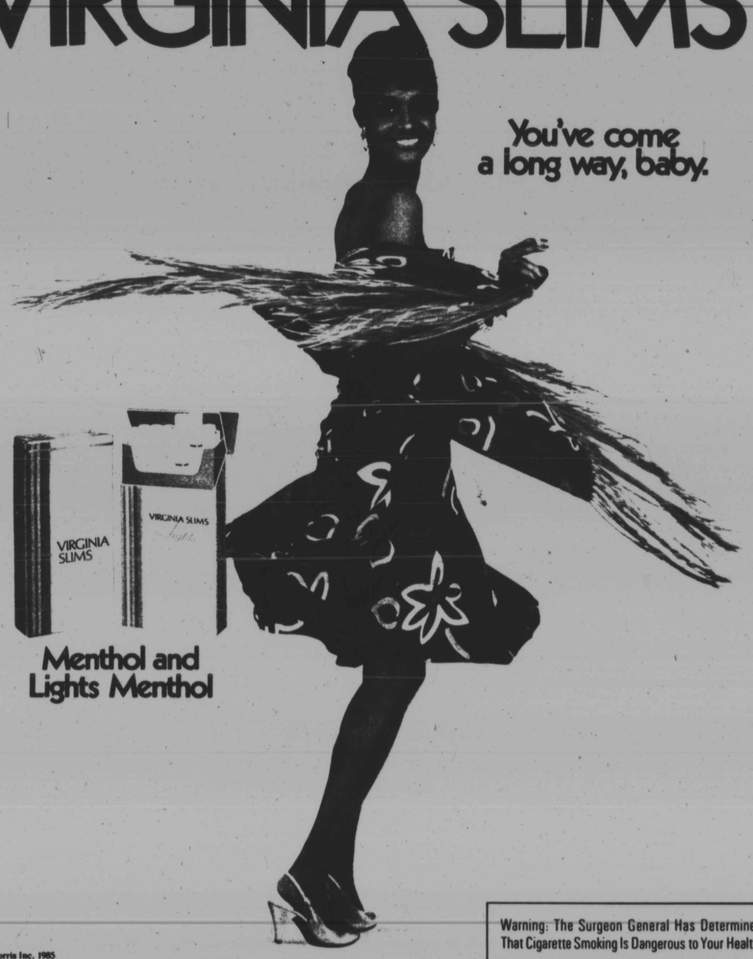
VIRGINIA SLIMS

You've come a long way, baby.



Menthol and Lights Menthol

Fashions: Scassi Boutique

Warning: The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

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Menthol: 15 mg "tar," 1.0 mg nicotine—Lights Menthol: 8 mg "tar," 0.6 mg nicotine av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar.'84.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- KENNEDY INSTITUTE — An up close profile of [illegible]ins Hospital's world famous children [illegible] – Page 17.
- AME[illegible] appointments — Page 14.
- FRIDA[illegible]S — Your weekly TV and entertainment guide
- LOTTERY — Page 20.

Girl gives birth during Links deb ball

(See column 3)

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AROUSED COMMUNITY P[illegible]DGES TO:

'Stop the killing!'

By Tea Montier
AFRO Staff Writer

A host of community residents is up in arms over the spiraling incidence of teenage homicide in Baltimore. So far an old-fashioned "street meeting" and a community meeting that focused a major portion of its agenda to the topic has allowed many parents, politicians and children an opportunity to voice their feelings.

"Some people don't realize that there is a problem, declared Rev. Willie Ray, organizer of a 'Stop the Killing Coalition' aimed at making kids more aware of the growing crime problem. "In the last 40 days there have been at least nine senseless killings in metropolitan Baltimore. The murders have been directed towards our youth."

In order to help kids deal more effectively with the increasing amount of teenage crime, members of the "Stop the Killing Coalition" are proposing holding weekly street meetings in front of the Shake & Bake Family Fun Center, and conduct door-to-door canvassing, while holding classes in self-defense and crime prevention.

"I came out because teenagers are getting killed," said eight-year-old Geon Floyd, one of about 20 youngsters attending the 'Coalition' meeting held Tuesday in front of Shake & Bake. "My mother told me to come up here and help pass out flyers."

At the "street" meeting even media people got involved. Channel 11 news anchorman Rod Daniels covering the meeting for his station responded to charges made by one community member that inner-city news is often reflected in a negative light.

"You said something about the media being negative and always reporting negative news on the community," said Daniels obviously incensed at the remark. "Let me tell you something, I can't tell you how ashamed I am when I have to report about black people killing black people, and I have to do that two, three, sometimes four times a week. So I'd like to challenge those people here tonight and those not here to give me some good news to report." Daniels comments were

Continued on page 2

AFRO TALKS TO:
Oakley Saunders

President Provident Hospital

By Bob Matthews

AFRO:—I want to know precisely your stand and your feelings on the latest development, which is the removal, I'll call it, of Dr. Brown and Dr. Fountain as staffers with the hospital. How is it legal, is it possible—is it actual or what's your role in it.

Dr. Saunders—The action taken by the trustee board after meticulous review of the situation and upon advice of counsel was in their opinion, quite legal. The trustee board is ultimately responsible for the affairs of the institution—all affairs of the institution including the medical part of it.

Because the trustee board is not a group of physicians, it delegates some of its duties to the medical staff. In order to perform those duties, the medical staff of the hospital is permitted to organize into a formal structure known as the Medical Staff at Provident Hospital Inc.

It may do those things at the direction of the board which has been delegated to it by the board, but the board reserves the right to assure itself that the medical staff is functioning, in carrying out those duties in a way that is proper within the guidelines of the overall hospital.

When in the opinion of the board, these activities are not being carried out properly or when in its opinion the medical staff representatives are engaged in acts which are interior to the hospital, it has the legal right and their responsibility to withdraw those delegated tasks and assignments and that is what they have done.

* * *

AFRO:—Now what is the next phase? My understanding is that the two doctors mentioned are filing a counter-suit or something of this nature or are saying that the hospital trustees do not have that right.

Dr. Saunders—I think that they are mistaken. It would not be proper for me to offer a legal opinion, but it seems quite clear that it's well within the constitutional bylaws of the hospital. I've been advised and the trustee board has been advised, I should say, that it's well within corporate law of the state of Maryland.

* * *

AFRO:—All right now—going back through the days—the big hassle according to Dr. Brown and the staffers, was—they wanted you to step down. The board of trustees has put its vote of confidence and made you the permanent president. Is it possible for you to work with Dr. Brown and his group or do you feel there has to be a division here in order for the hospital to go ahead?

Dr. Saunders—Oh, I hope that the division rather than widening will be narrowed. I hope that we're mature enough and professional enough to put aside any petty, personal differences and work for the benefit of Provident and the community that we are supposed to serve.

I would implore all members of the Provident family to come together in a period of healing. To say that we can't work together, I think is a shameful indictment of our responsibilities to the citizens of this community. I implore all the members of the medical staff to come back home.

* * *

AFRO—All of them?

Dr. Saunders—All of them who are willing to work for the advancement of Provident hospital—I think should come back home.

* * *

AFRO—Well now, in light of the recent development by the trustees what position does that put you in, in trying to heal the wounds.

Dr. Saunders—The trustees didn't take away their right to admit patients. The trustees in the action that was taken is—I read the letter, simply said that their actions were so detrimental to the affairs of the hospital in their role as officers that they could no longer hold office, but they could still admit patients.

* * *

AFRO—Okay, but as far as holding office is concerned . . .

Dr. Saunders—The board essentially said they engaged in actions which were injurious and this was incompatible with the development and the safety and the security of the institution.

* * *

AFRO—Turn to another subject—the boycott. What is the occupancy rate at the point in time—is it stabilized—is it declining or do you see the light at the end of the tunnel?

Dr. Saunders—Through March, the occupancy rate was about 61 percent.

* * *

AFRO—Would you consider this the norm?

Dr. Saunders—During the Eastertime it went into the high 40's and the last week, it has begun to come back into the 50's.

* * *

AFRO—And to what do you attribute this rise?

Dr. Saunders—Oh, it's difficult to say, but I believe that first, a large number, a significant number of the members of the medical staff have never supported the boycott. Secondly, I

Continued on page 16

Billie Holiday statue unveiled

By Racine S. Winborne

In a mini-park across from a vividly green playing field occupying the site where Billie Holiday once starred along with other legendary performers who graced the stage of the old Royal Theater, an eight foot bronze statue of "Lady Day," without her famous gardenia, was unveiled.

The work is the creation of local award winning artist James Earle Reid who was commissioned to create a memorial to Holiday for the Upton Community in 1978.

Eight years and several delays later, the statue was debuted before a crowd of 100 spectators, including a number of school children during a special Thursday morning dedication ceremony.

Born on Baltimore's East Side on April 7, 1915, Billie—her real name was Eleanor — lived in the city for 13 years before leaving to settle in New York in 1928.

Miss Holiday suffered tremendous personal tragedy throughout her brief career, including a lengthy bout with drug addiction, while still managing to thrill audiences with her unique brand of jazz singing.

She died at the Metropolitan Hospital in New York on July 17, 1959 at age 44.

Among the guests present at Thursday's dedication ceremony inside a small newly constructed part at the corner of Pennsylvania and Lafayette Aves. were Mayor William Donald Schaefer and City Council President Clarence H. DuBurns.

Other invited guests included legislative delegates Ruth Kirk and Larry Young (D.-39), city

Continued on page 2

Mayor Schaefer, Council President DuBurns, Del. Larry Young and others admire the recently unveiled statue of Billie Holiday.

Girl at deb ball gives birth in the ladies room

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

WASHINGTON — An 18-year old woman guest at the Links debutante ball at the Mariott Hotel Saturday, April 13, is reported by police to have abandoned a new-born baby in a trash receptable in a ladies restroom.

Police reports state that the young mother who was NOT one of the 12 young ladies who made their bow to society, is a resident of Landover, MD.

According to Charles Segal, the spokesman for the District of Columbia Department of Social Services, the baby, a 5-pound girl, is now in the Children's Hospital. He told the AFRO that the infant will remain there until a study is completed on the residence of the young mother's home.

Segal said he does not foresee any problem "but we have been ordered by the D.C. Family Court to be certain that the home where the baby's mother resides with her parents is a suitable home."

The infant now called "Baby Jane Doe" will probably go to the Landover residence of the parents of the young mother this weekend. She is in satisfactory condition, records show.

Mrs. Gloria Massie, president of the Prince Georges County Links Club, the sponsors of the White Rose Cotillion at the Marriott Hotel at 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, told the AFRO the young mother was not a debutante.

When reached by phone at her home in Laurel, MD. Thursday, Mrs. Massie said she had no fur-

Continued on page 2

Housing bias claimed at Colman Apartments

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

Baltimore Neighborhoods Inc. (BNI), a local fair housing agency, two of its black testers and a black couple, Michael and Jessyca Douglass, filed a suit in federal court on April 16 alleging housing bias by the Colmar Apartments.

The five plaintiffs (The Douglasses are current residents of the Colmar Apartments) allege that the Colmar Apartments practice "racial steering," a practice which preserves and encourages patterns of racial segregation in available housing by steering members of racial and ethnic groups to buildings primarily occupied by members of the same racial and ethnic group.

Secondly, on occasion when no apartments have been available in the "black buildings," and there have been applicants in the "white buildings" the defendant

Continued on page 2

LOST BIRD—Orioles troubles were further compounded early Thursday morning when Eddie Murray was called home to California by the death of his oldest sister. It was the second tragedy for Eddie and his family in four months, his mother having died earlier. Murray will probably be lost to the team through the critical weekend series with the Blue Jays in Toronto.

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