Shown in the Peale Museum looking at artifacts of what Baltimore used to be like are Mrs. Millie Wilkes, left, and her daughter, Mrs. Neva Wilkes Brown.

In this second photograph both ladies look at an AFRO picture of Mrs. Brown taken when she won a top prize in that year's Easter parade.

A Baltimorean remembers what Easter was like in the city 30 years ago and what it meant

By LaMont X Curry
AFRO Staff Writer

Mrs. Neva Wilkins Brown, 40, was watching the 11 o'clock news back in February.

The Peale Museum was the focus of Channel 13's tribute to the accomplishments of blacks in Baltimore this particular night.

Mrs. Brown, the mother of a recent college graduate, was swept back 34 years to more simple times - when things were black or white. She was reminded of a part of her own story one Easter Sunday in 1952.

"As I sat there watching the camera pan the Peale Museum exhibit I caught a quick glance of a photo.

"That's me," said Brown, who immediately called her mother to share her excitement.

The black and white photo, indeed, turned out to be the original snapshot of a six-year-old Neva Wilkins, winner of the 1952 kiddie version of the "Colored Easter Parade," up Pennsylvania Avenue.

Clad in a tweed coat and gabardine suit made by her mother, she had been selected as the grandest little lady in the annual parade.

"It was a show-stopper," said Brown's mother, Mrs. Milly Wilkins.

"It was Baltimore's Colored version, as we called it then, of New York's Fifth Avenue Parade - new suits, bonnets and all.

"Even the whites would line up on The Avenue to watch our parades," she said.

The Easter parade was one of two important social events through the Pennsylvania corridor. The other event was Halloween.

Parading in Baltimore was strictly a white affair for years, according to Hiram Butler, one of the first black city policemen.

"In the 1930's, we used to pile up in cars and drive to Charles Street to watch a parade that was restricted to whites. Nobody black could walk in the parade without being confronted.

"I used to take my mother to see it. She loved it," he said.

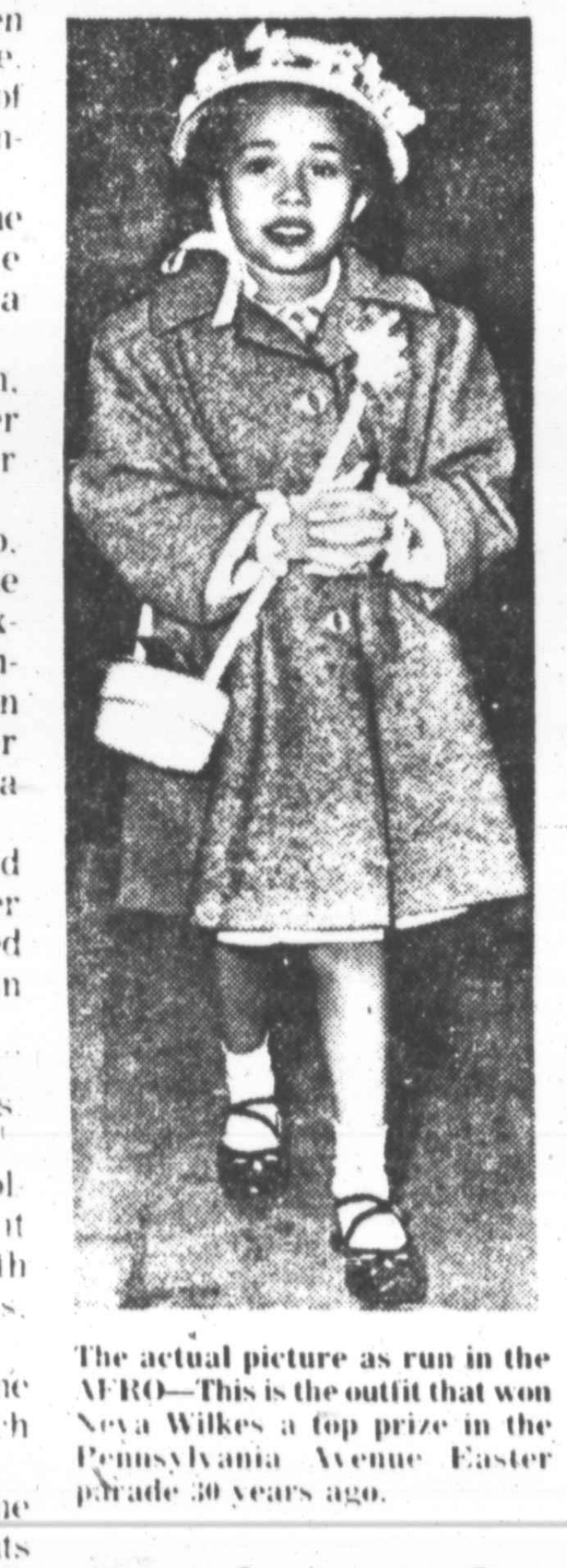
Butler, one of the first three blacks hired onto the Baltimore City police force in 1938, was the first black detective in the city's history.

He related an older story of the first black parade to run here on Druid Hill Avenue starting in 1940.

"It was really a church affair or an after-church affair in which members of Bethel, Union Baptist, Sharp Street, Douglas Memorial and other churches would stream out of services in grand fashion and showcase their Easter Sunday finery from Dolphin Street to North Avenue and back," he said.

In the early 1950s, the white merchants on Pennsylvania Avenue started a parade and offered prizes for the best Easter suit or Halloween outfit.

According to Butler, the Druid Hill Avenue parade lost its appeal with the advent of the Pennsylvania Avenue affair, but it only lasted 10 years and fissled out as people lost interest.



The actual picture as run in the AFRO—This is the outfit that won Neva Wilkes a top prize in the Pennsylvania Avenue Easter parade 30 years ago.

In 1952 little Neva won a cake described by her mother to be larger than her (Neva). She had also won top honors the year before (1951) - she'd earned a doll.

"It was a thrill to see and be reminded of that day 34 years later.

"It was great," said the modest mother and designer of both winning outfits.

For little Neva, it was just another day and another outfit.

"My mother designed all of my clothes - I always looked nice," she said.

The youthful looking mother of one adult child said that Easter didn't have the same religious connotation as it does for her now.

"As much as the day has been commercialized with egg hunts in Druid Hill Park and the Harbor, I have discovered how the holiday plays into the beginning of Spring.

"It's an ending and a beginning of what Christ means to an individual. It's the ending of the physical and the beginning of the spiritual," she said.

The Peale Museum, which focuses on the history of Baltimore, has extended the Pennsylvania exhibit to run through the summer.

The building, which is located at 225 Holliday St., was the first City Hall, a school for blacks and is the oldest museum in the Western Hemisphere, according to museum curator of prints and photographs, Richard Flint.

Business honor society slates annual induction

Michael D. Poe will be guest speaker for the ninth annual induction ceremony of Howard University's Beta Gamma Sigma, the national business honor society, Saturday, April 5. Fifty-five honorees from the undergraduate and graduate divisions will be recognized for scholarship, service and leadership.

Since 1983, Poe, a 1982 graduate of the School of Business and Public Administration with the bachelor of business administration degree in insurance, has had responsibility for general liability in the Actuarial Management Development Program of Aetna Life and Casualty Company in Hartford, Connecticut. Before then, employed by Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company in Oakland, California, he developed a marketing plan for insuring area churches.

During the summers from 1978 through 1981, he was an actuarial intern with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company in San Francisco.

Poe received the master of business administration degree from the University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) Graduate School of Business Administration, which he attended on a fellowship for actuarial studies and where he received the Minority Leadership Award.

At the Howard University School of Business and Public Administration, he was elected to Beta Gamma Sigma, selected for "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" and belonged to the Asa T. Spaulding Insurance Society.

The induction ceremony, which begins at 5:45 p.m. in the chapel of the West Campus, is followed by an invitational reception and dinner in the cafeteria of Houston Hall.

Ad

DON'T CHICKEN OUT.

EXCUSES DON'T SAVE LIVES BLOOD DOES

American Red Cross

Education Notes

Compiled by
Valerie Smith-Madden

A week-long Young Artists Program for high school brass players will be held from June 15 through June 21, and a ten-day College/Pro Symposium will be offered from June 25 through July 4. Both programs are sponsored by the International Brass Quintet Festival and both will be located at the College of Notre Dame.

All participants will perform in a concert as part of the International Brass Quintet Festival.

The Young Artists Program is designed for high school brass students between the ages of 15 to 18. Students will be formed into quintets and will take part in an intensive week-long course covering all aspects of brass quintet performance. Coaching will be under the tutelage of the Tower Brass Quintet from Bowling Green, Ohio.

The College/Pro Symposium is a ten-day program open both to individuals and formed brass quintets. Participants will be coached daily by members of the festival's host ensemble, The Annapolic Brass Quintet, and by the guest European ensemble.

Deadline for enrollment is April 30. For application and further information contact Eiise Lazar, Festival Coordinator, The Village of Cross Keys, Baltimore, Md. 21210, (301) 323-1000.

Area High School students will hold a Youth Awareness Day on April 12 at Western High School.

Sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, the all-day conference will focus on increasing student awareness of six contemporary issues of peace and social justice.

The conference format will include presentations by people active in local organizations, hands-on workshops, and informal discussion. A two-dollar donation for the event will include lunch and materials.

For further information, please contact Kate Walsh at 233-0488.

The 1840's House, Baltimore's only museum exclusively devoted to living history is presenting "Steps In Time," through May 17.

This thought-provoking series of dramatic scene depicting everyday life in 1840 Baltimore was commissioned and produced for the museum by the Baltimore City Life Museums (BCLM) and the School for the Arts.

Directed by Donald Hicken and written by playwright Kermit Frazier, "Steps In Time" is comprised of eleven scenes illustrating dominant themes in urban life — race relations, class struggles, and health issues.

Performances of "Steps In Time" are held Tuesday through Friday at 12:30 p.m. for special tours and school groups. Saturday performances are at 12 noon, and 1, 2, and 3 p.m. Admission is free. Because space is limited during the week, reservations are required.

The Office of Guidance Services of the Baltimore City Public Schools is sponsoring three (3) College Board Parent Information Nights on April 15, 16, and 17.

This year on a one-time basis, the college board will conduct a total of 75 parent information programs offered at no cost to participants.

The programs will cover such things as the purpose of the SAT. What the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) is and what it measures—fact and myth, how to prepare for the SAT, and how students can use SAT scores in the selection of colleges to which to apply.

Parents of city high school seniors should preregister at their child's school site.

The April 15 program will be held at Polytechnic Institute April 16 at Edmondson Senior High School and April 17 at City College. Call your school to determine the participating schools for each of the three days.

Re/Max tops $700M in sales

Frank Altobelli, Regional Director of RE-MAX Realtors, has announced that Dallas C. Wood of RE-MAX Xecutex in Alexandria has been honored as the 'Top Producer' for 1985 with more than $19 million in residential sales.

According to Altobelli, the 39 RE-MAX offices in the region generated $717 million in total settled volume.

Other top producers in the region included Iris Spriggs, of Upper Marlboro, with $8 million in sales; James Hughes, Annandale; Carolyn Arrington, and Gloria Farrar of Camp Springs with $7 million in sales each.

RE-MAX Distinctive Properties, Ltd. in Reston was the Top Office for Average Volume of Sales per Sales Associate - $3.36 million.

Coming through

The hummingbird is the only feathered bird able to fly backward.

ANNOUNCING CENTRABANK'S IRA OPENER FOR EARLY BIRDS.

Find out about CentraBank's IRA bonus by calling 539-1636, or stopping in the branch nearest you today.

Member FDIC

CENTRABANK

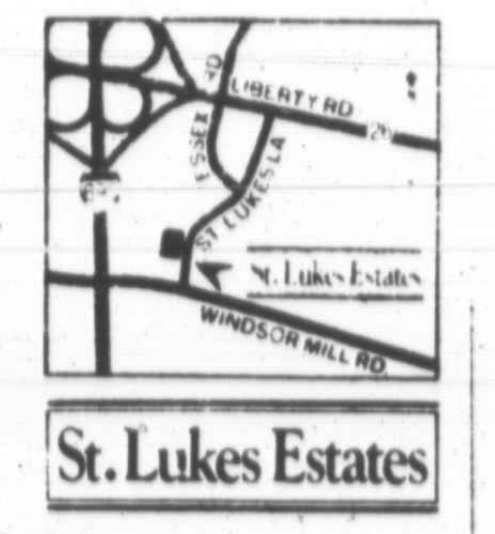
Country priced.
But located inside the Beltway!

Conveniently located in the Woodmoor area just off Liberty Road, and about one mile from the Baltimore Beltway, St. Lukes Estates offers first-time buyers, professional couples, and young families a rare opportunity to buy a new individual family home in a desirable community with a good school system . . . for less than the cost of most row houses.

Each 3-4 bedroom, 2 bath St. Lukes Estates residence features numerous living amenities, including: Fully Carpeted Interiors Skylight Step-Up Garden Bathtub Dishwasher and Disposal Sliding Glass Doors Cable TV and Security System Wiring Handsome Vinyl Siding. Available options include Fireplace Full Basement Garage Jacuzzi Deck Central Air Conditioning.

Priced from $64,900, with up to 100% F.H.A. approved financing available to qualified buyers, a St. Lukes Estates model home is now available for your inspection.

For more information, call the Sales Office today at (301) 597-9787 and ask for Lurphan McLaughlin.



St. Lukes Estates

2210 St. Lukes Lane, Baltimore, Maryland 21207 Sales Office, (301) 597-9787
Sales by: Otis Warren & Co., (301) 484-6700 Model home open daily. Noon 6 PM.
St. Lukes Estates is sponsored by CPM Development Corporation of Hunt Valley, Maryland.

000035650 USPS-009-060
99/99/99 OY OOM JOW BA-2 01X
PUBLICATION SYSTEMS DIVISION
BELL & HOWELL-ATTN SHILA HYLTO
OLD MANSFIELD RD
WOOSTER OH 44691

- **AME'S MEETING — 170th Convocation in session. A pictorial of the meeting, page 17.**
- **DAWN MAGAZINE — Meet Debi Thomas, "Queen of the Silver Skates"**
- **FRIDAY PLUS — Time is running out to enter the "I'd Love to Meet New Edition" contest**
- **LOTTERY — Page 19.**

Bounty hunters can get cash for information

(See column 1)

Copyright by the AFRO-AMERICAN Co. S LATE CITY EDITION

Baltimore Afro-American

94TH YEAR NO. 70 BALTIMORE, MD. APRIL 12, 1986 40 CENTS

THE "GREEN" SIDE OF SHOW BIZ—Sultry R&B vocalist Deniece Williams discussed the business side of the recording industry before a crowd of Howard University students in D.C. last week. She is the artist-in-residence at the school.

Fourth elderly black woman found murdered in Atlanta

All victims over 60, all were strangled

By June Preston

ATLANTA — Police officials, fearful of a serial or copycat killer, said Thursday that four elderly women recently killed in a lower-income neighborhood died by strangulation.

All of the victims were black, poor and lived alone. One was blind, investigators said.

"In every case it was strangulation and asphyxiation due to strangulation," said Deputy Chief Beverly Harvard. "In one case, the victim had also been smothered."

The body of the fourth victim, 65-year-old Grace Hill, was found Wednesday, almost a month after a four-man task force was formed to investigate the slayings of three other elderly women in the neighborhood.

Harvard said police want to put a quick end to the current series of killings but have few clues.

"We're just out there beating the bushes right now," Harvard said. "We are assuming that it is a male involved and we're really working hard at it. We really want to wrap this up quickly."

Police Chief Morris Redding said officers were "looking at the similarities" in the slayings but added there may be more than one killer.

The last major serial killing in Atlanta occurred from 1979 to 1981 when 28 young blacks were slain in similar manner. Wayne Williams, a self-styled talent scout, was convicted in two of the slayings and police closed the books on the other cases.

Officials refused to say if the attacks on the elderly women might be related to publicity surrounding the upcoming trial of the "Stocking Strangler" in Columbus, about 110 miles southwest of Atlanta.

"We have nothing to suggest this is a copycat case," Harvard said, "but you know generally in terms of a copycat crime it is only after an arrest is made that you find out that was the motive."

Seven elderly, white, wealthy women were killed eight years ago by the "Stocking Strangler" and a suspect in the case, Carlton Gary, 33, was scheduled for trial March 10. Two weeks of heavy publicity preceded the trial date, during which time two of the Atlanta slayings occurred.

On the day jury selection was to begin, a judge ordered a psychiatric examination for Gary and delayed the trial. The next day, the third woman was slain in Atlanta.

Besides Hill, the Atlanta victims were Annie Rochelle Copeland, 85, found dead March 1; Aretha Clements, 61, found wrapped in a bedspread March 6; Dena Mike, 62, who had been blind 20 years, found in her bedroom March 11.

Following the first three slayings, Gov. Joe Frank Harris posted rewards of $2,000 each for information leading to the conviction of anyone responsible. An aide said Harris likely will authorize a reward in the fourth case also.

Two 2-year-olds die in truck accidents

By Brion M. Tyson
AFRO Staff Writer

The miniature playground in the center of Mello Court was bare Thursday afternoon as the clouds and winds created a gloomy day. On sunny days the children of the neighborhood can be found there, laughing and having fun.

However when the sun returns to smile on that small, closed in area where kids play on the slide and climb the monkey bars, two-year old Alonzo Osborne won't be there.

Young Alonzo was crushed beneath the wheels of a huge meat delivery truck Monday afternoon, after he, for some unknown reason, broke away from his sister, 12-year-old Nicole Osborne, and darted into the street, police said.

Alonzo and his sister were walking in the 1300 block of E. Monument St. Wednesday afternoon as they returned from a nearby playground when the tragic accident occurred, witnesses said. It was reported to police at 12:50.

The boy, as he ran into the street, quickly found himself beneath the trailer of a meat delivery truck where he was instantly rolled over by the truck's

Continued on page 2

B&M Associates charged:

State says landlord violated court order

By Racine S. Winborne

The attorney representing a city landlord facing criminal contempt charges for allegedly violating a December court order says his client is the victim of "gross overreaction" and is actually making every effort to comply with the terms of the original court settlement.

Ira Cooke insists that his client, Robert William Connolly, of 2122 Pine Ave., in Woodlawn, is not deliberately ignoring the consent order issued by Baltimore City Circuit Court Judge Joseph H. H. Kaplan.

Connolly will appear in court on April 30 to answer the contempt charge motion filed by the attorney general's office on Monday.

The state contends that he has "flagrantly" violated the terms of a Dec. 31 court - approved settlement of a lawsuit brought against the 49-year-old landlord for numerous housing code violations involving countless rental properties which he is said to own.

"Mr. Connolly has been in good faith compliance with the order. It takes a significant amount of time to implement a 21-page order. He has been working very closely with a monitor and is making every effort to comply and I think it is a gross overreaction," Cooke said in defense of his client.

Last July, in response to a number of tenant complaints and based on its own investigation of various alleged housing code violations, the Consumer Protection Division of the attorney general's office and the Baltimore Legal Aid Bureau filed a law suit against Connolly on behalf of all of his tenants.

About 2,000 mostly black and poor tenants lease units from the white landlord who reportedly owns over 600 rental properties. He has operated a real estate business, B&M Associates, from 945 Broadway.

At that time, according to court records, Connolly was cited for various housing code violations, including lead paint contamination, rodent infestation, faulty electrical wiring and plumbing, and holes in tenant walls, ceilings and floors.

As part of the court - approved settlement, he was ordered to

Continued on page 18

SUICIDE CALLED PREVENTABLE

Commission report flays Montrose School services

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

The ruling by a five-member state commission that the suicide of 13-year-old Troy Chapman at the Montrose School "was preventable" is no victory for the many child-care advocates across the state who are calling for reform in the Juvenile Services Administration.

Many organizations such as MARFY, the Maryland Association of Residential Facilities for Youth have long held that institutions such as Montrose, while having a purpose, lacks many of the services needed for children like Chapman.

Chapman spent 133 days at Montrose before hanging himself while locked alone in a cell on January 31.

According to the report released by the JSA, a branch of the state health department, Montrose "has virtually no intensive therapeutic services for someone like Troy."

The commission concluded that the responsibility for Troy's death reached beyond the school and its employees.

It suggested that state health officials and politicians are also to blame; they have ignored repeated pleas to improve staffing, treatment services nd upgrade the program and buildings at the institution.

The JSA calls Troy Chapman "a prime example of a youth who fell between the cracks of a board social system and who came to Montrose as a last resort following a series of rejections within the community."

Admitting that young Chapman's problems were known since he was six years old to a host of entities: educational, family, private hospitals, the JSA and the Social Services Administration, and that he was rejected "by every community-based facility where an attempt at placement was made, the JSA agreed that Chapman should not have been placed at Williams Cottage at Montrose.

Williams Cottage contained younger and physically smaller children than the 5'4", 127 lb. teenager. The JSA said it was planning to move the youngster "to another cottage more consistent with his size and rehabilitational needs at the time of his

Continued on page 18

ELIJAH CUMMINGS:

Black Causus reflections

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

ANNAPOLIS—As the 1986 session of the state legislature came to an end, many of the legislators faced new beginnings. This was especially true for several members of the Legislative Black Caucus.

Last week, it was announced that Decatur Trotter (D.-24th) of Prince George's County had been elected as the new chairman of the 24-member caucus.

For now former chairman Del. Elijah Cummings, (D.-39th), the adage rings true; "One door closes and another door opens."

According to Cummings, Trotter has asked him to chair the Caucus' Economic Development Committee. The position is a natural extention of sorts for Cummings; he's always been interested in economic opportunity for blacks.

Of this new position within the Caucus, Cummings said, "I'll continue the fight for economic parity for our people."

Cummings stressed that the Caucus' changing of the guard should not be viewed as a defeat for him.

"This doesn't mean that I'll never run again," he said. "I could only run twice."

In reflecting his tenure as Caucus chairman, Cummings feels he's achieved several things.

"Probably the most important thing we were able to do was to increase the number of blacks in state government." According to Cummings, the number of black state employees has increased by five percentage points.

"In the Department of Natural Resources, the number of blacks increased by ten percent," he added. He also said there was a

Continued on page 2

City police publish 'Most wanted' list

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

A sum of nearly $20,000 in reward money is awaiting anyone who can give the police information leading to the arrest of a list of persons wanted for murder.

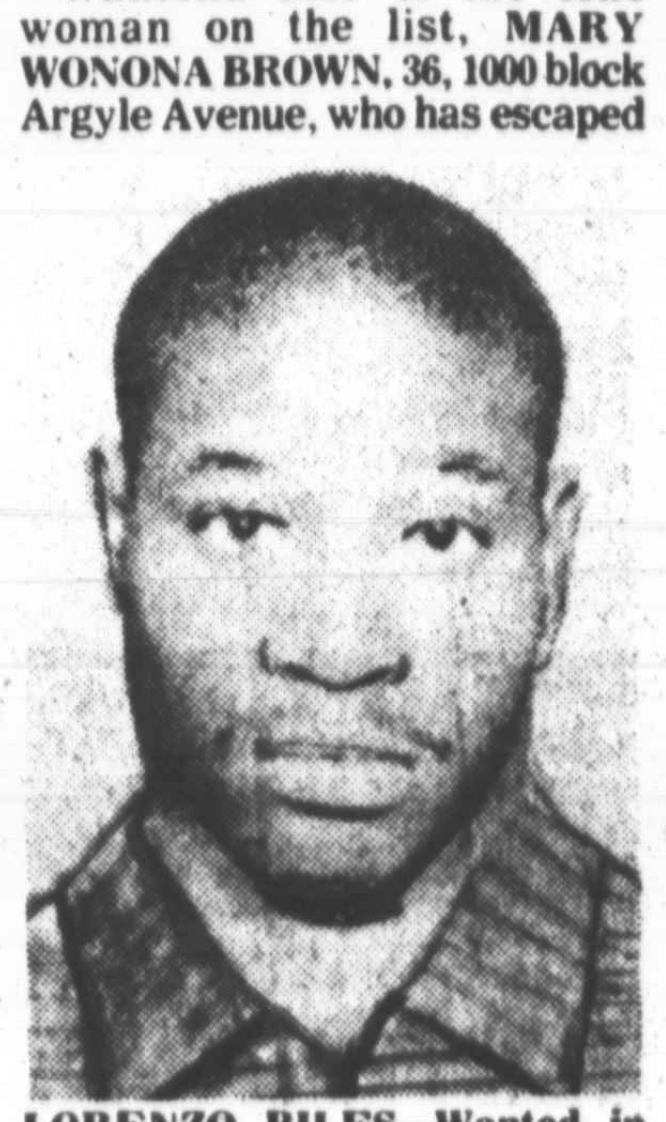
Metro Crime Stoppers (24-hour HOTLINE - 276-8888) is offering up to $1,000 for the information leading to the arrest of each person listed below.

Leading the list is **LORENZO BILES**, 36, 800 block E. 22nd St., who is wanted in the March 31, 1986 fatal shooting of Arthur Ross Evans, son of an AFRO Newspapers route man.

Next is the unknown suspect who was involved in the Feb. 23, 1986 murder of Tyrone Jacobs at GATSBYS' NIGHTCLUB, 1817 N. Charles Street.

Also wounded in the spray of bullets were Donna Turner, 22, 3800 block Oakford Ave.; Lee S. Martin, 22, 3500 boock Lynchester Street; Derrick Williams, 23, 800 block W. Fayette Street.

Wantend also is the lone woman on the list, **MARY WONONA BROWN**, 36, 1000 block Argyle Avenue, who has escaped capture for six years in the Nov. 22, 19980 murder of John McCullough. The incident occurred in the 400 block Lorraine Avenue.



LORENZO BILES—Wanted in the death of Arthur Ross Evans, March 31, 1986.

DARNELL W. BALDWIN, 22, 1800 block Presstman Street, also has a $1,000 reward on his head for the robberies of four fast food places:

McDonalds, 25 N. Howard Street — March 10, 1986

McDonald, 717 Washington Blvd., March 10, 1986.

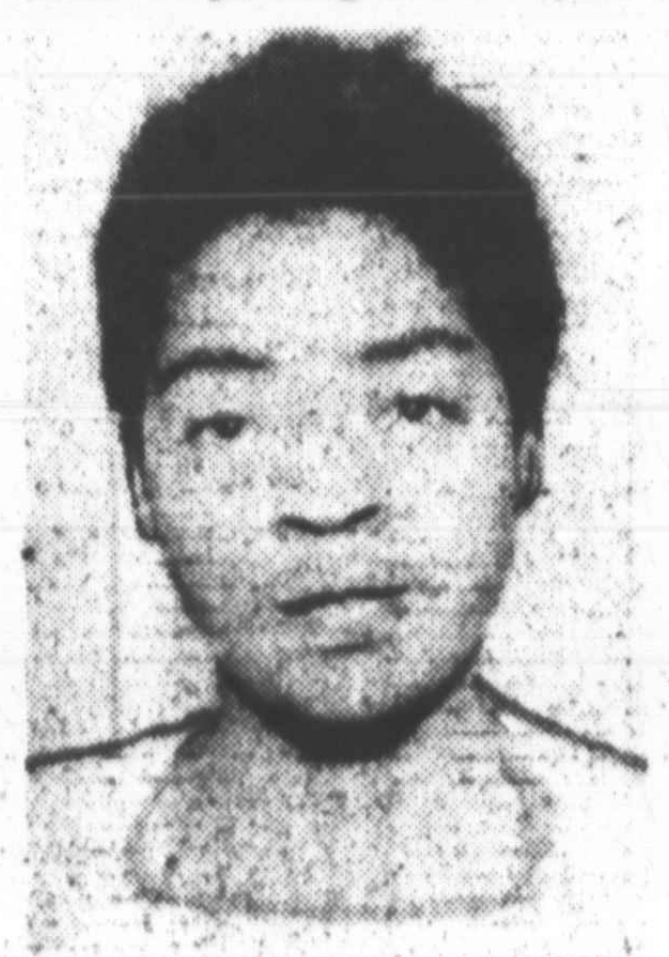
High's Store, Baltimore County, Hollins Ferry Rd., March 11, 1986.

Churches's Chicken; 4614 Reisterstown Rd. - February 26, 1986.

Baltimore City and Baltimore County police are searching for Baldwin (see photo) who is the suspect who was armed at the time of each incident. He is believed armed and dangerous.

* * *

$1,000 is also offered for the identity of the man who shot and killed Diamond Cab Driver James Reaves, 54, 4500 block Rogers Avenue, who was murdered while in a parking lot of an apartment complex in the 1900 block N. Forest Park Avenue Feb. 23, 1986.



MARY WONONA BROWN—Wanted in the death of John McCullough

The suspect is a man between the ages of 19 and 21 years who is described as tall and well built with short cut hair.

On the night of the murder, the murderer was wearing jogging jacket, slacks and tennis shoes.

* * *

METRO CRIME STOPPERS will also pay as much as $1,000 cash reward for information leading to arrest and indictment of any one of the following suspects who are wanted on murder warrants.

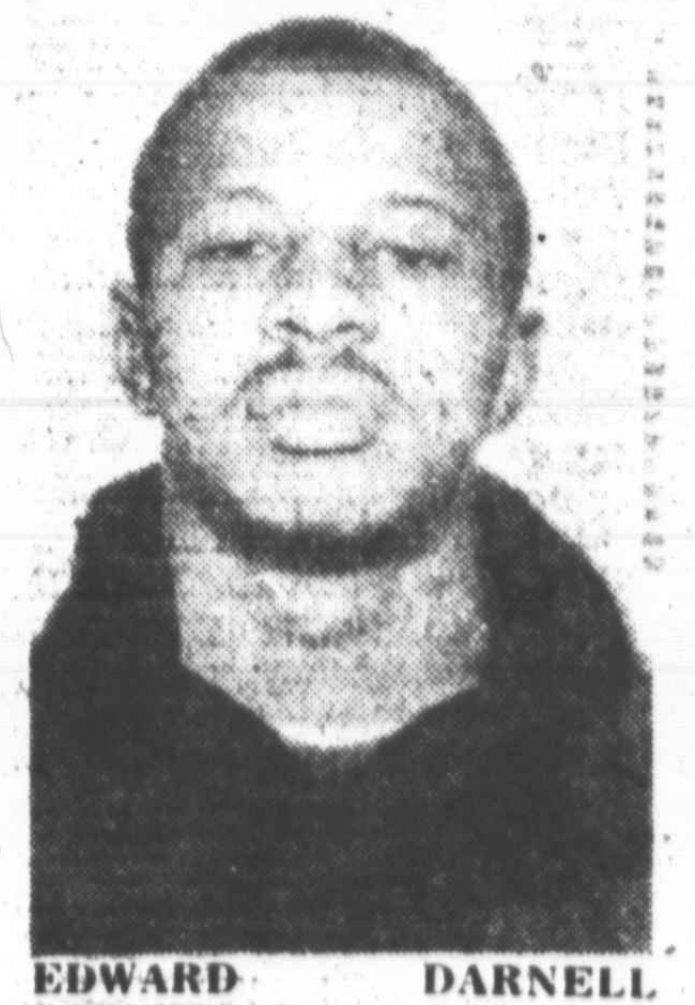
METRO CRIME STOPPERS in cooperation with the Homicide Unit of the Baltimore Police Department, states that all of the following suspects are considered armed and dangerous.

You need not give your name. CALL HOTLINE — 276-8888.

MURDER SUSPECTS

EDWARD DARNELL ROBERTS, 2000 block Braddish Avenue, wanted in the fatal shooting of Larry McDonald

Continued on page 2



EDWARD DARNELL ROBERTS—Suspect in the death of Larry McDonald

To Subscribe Call: (301) 728-8200

APR 1986