FOOD TOWN BLAZE — A four-alarm fire which virtually destroyed Food Town Pimlico, in the 5000 block Park Heights Ave., is one of many post-Christmas fires that have caused several hundreds of dollars worth of property as well as killed several people. Early Monday a two-alarm fire caused an estimated $200,000 damage to an office building in Joppatowne while last week, a two-alarmer claimed the lives of Commissioner Jordan's two children in Crownsville.

FOUR-ALARMER IN HIGHLANDTOWN — City Firefighters made quick work of a four-alarm fire that destroyed the roof and bell tower of the Salem United Methodist Church at Gough St. and Highland Ave., Monday afternoon. The fire, which lasted only 45 minutes, was one of many in Baltimore during the past week.
AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz

Baltimore Afro American
24 JANUARY 24, 1976

Fire outbreaks haunt Baltimore City 300 alarms are raised each day

Fire outbreaks are haunting the city of Baltimore. Fire officials state the situation is getting worse as fire alarms, both real and false, are raised in hundreds by the minute.

According to a spokesman for the Fire Department as the weather gets colder, heating systems are overtaxed and that, coupled with carelessness, are a major part of increasing fire outbreaks in the city.

Even though nobody has died from fire in the city since Jan. 1, statistics show a total of 57 persons died in fires in 1974 as compared to all time high of 76 during the past year. However, damage to property runs into millions of dollars by cost.

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Fire officials report a four-alarm fire virtually destroyed a Park Heights Ave. grocery store early Monday and heavily damaged an adjacent sporting goods firm.

Meanwhile in nearby Joppatowne an estimated $200,000 damage was done to an office building when fire swept through the building on Tuesday.

Last week, multi-alarm fire destroyed the home of former Maryland Corrections Commissioner James Jordan, killing his two children. Shock from that tragedy has left Mr. Jordan with a heart condition in hospital.

—

Reporting on last Monday's fire, officials state the fire apparently began in the Food Town Pimlico, in the 5000 block Park Heights Ave. It burned through the roof and wall and spread to Lee's Outdoors next door.

The cause of the fire, which firefighters fought for over two hours before controlling it, was not immediately known. One fireman was injured fighting the fire and was treated and released from the Mercy Hospital.

The bitter cold temperatures, below 15 degrees, hampered firefighters in extinguishing the stubbon fire and officials were completed to call two salt trucks to melt ice which formed from water from fire hoses.

Several blocks of Park Heights Ave. were blocked off, causing traffic jams and the re-routing of traffic away from the heavily travelled street.

The fire was discovered shortly after 1 a.m. and not until 3:22 a.m. that was it brought under control.

Man pleads guilty in rape, murder and kidnaping case

(UPI) — A Glen Burnie man pleaded guilty Tuesday to murder in the August fatal shooting of State Police Sgt. Wallace J. Mowbray.

Richard C. Patterson, 28, entered guilty pleas to first degree murder, rape and kidnaping during arraignment proceedings in Calvert County Circuit Court before Judge Perry G. Bowen.

The judge delayed sentencing until three others accused in the case, including Patterson's brother Raymond, 25, come to trial.

Richard Patterson was originally accused of murder while attempting to escape a law enforcement officer, which carries the mandatory death penalty under the state's capital punishment law enacted last year. The murder charge carries a maximum life sentence.

Mowbray, a 13-year veteran of the force and the father of three children, was shot in the head Aug. 9 as he approached a van in the parking lot of a Kent Island Liquor Store, just across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge.

Richard Patterson and another defendant in the case, Charles E. Watson, were also accused of kidnaping a young couple and sexually assaulting the woman as they fled the murder scene.

Raymond Patterson, Watson and the fourth suspect in the case, Albert E. White Jr., 24, who are all from Glen Burnie have pleaded innocent to the charges.

Mom gets two years for son stabbing boy

Mrs. Poly Stith, 46, was sentenced to two years in prison for encouraging her son to stab a 12-year-old boy July 31, 1975 near the Belair Market. The victim later died.

Criminal Court Judge Martin B. Greenfeld imposed sentence Jan. 21 and told Mrs. Stith, he accepted the recommendation of Assistant State's Attorney E. Nicholson Gault, that the maximum term of two years be imposed, but stated he would have sentenced her to a heavier punishment had the law allowed.

Mrs. Stith, 1100 block Orleans St., was tried before a jury on murder charges. She agreed through her attorney to plead guilty to contributing to and causing her son to be a delinquent by urging him to commit a crime.

Mrs. Stith's son was found guilty in August, 1975 in Juvenile Court in the fatal stabbing of Stefan D. Redd, 11.

Court records state Mrs. Stith's son became involved in an argument with Stefan. Mrs. Stith's son ran into the market and grabbed a knife off a stall. The court was told Mrs. Stith told her son to, "stab Stefan."

Robert Newton, 30, stepfather of the slain Stefan boy, and his 33-year-old wife, Mrs. Ella Newton, are slated for trial next month on a charge of child abuse growing out of the death of their son.

According to defense account, Mr. Newton attacked Mrs. Stith despite a previous agreement that if the Stith boy attacked Stefan police would be called and juvenile charges filed.

The defense contended that it was during the attack on Mrs. Stith that the Stith boy struck Stefan because he thought Stefan was going to take part in the attack on his mother.

Postal Service to swear in Mrs. Williams as postmaster

The U.S. Postal Service will hold a swearing in ceremony Tuesday Jan. 27 at 10 a.m. for Mrs. Elizabeth C. Williams.

Mrs. Williams, a resident of North East, Md., was appointed to the post of postmaster of Warwick, Md. on Nov. 11, 1975. She will be sworn in along with two others at the main post office in Baltimore.

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Born in Loreauville, Iberia Parish, La., Mrs. Williams has worked for the Postal Service since March, 1970. She is a graduate of the University of Southwestern in Lafayette, La. and the Temple Training School in Baltimore.

MRS. ELIZABETH C. WILLIAMS

Her husband, John L. Williams, is an assembly line worker at General Motors in Wilmington, Del. She has two children, Leo Adam, who is a senior at St. Mark Catholic High School in Wilmington and daughter Josie, who is in the 8th grade at Immaculate Conception in Elkton, Md.

Mrs. Williams worked at the main post office in Wilmington for three years, first as a substitute worker then as a scheme examiner. Later she moved to North East, Md. where she was a window clerk at the time of her appointment.

Confab on civil liberty abuse set

Congressmen Clarence Long, Parren Mitchell and Paul Sarbanes will participate in a conference on "The Intelligence System and Civil Liberties" in the Garrett Room of the Eisenhower Library at Johns Hopkins University, Monday Jan. 26 at 8 p.m.

Also speaking will be Jay Miller, Aassociate director, National Legislative Office, A.C.L.U., and Robert Borosage, director, Center for National Security Studies.

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The conference will focus on congressional and citizen response to abuses of civil liberties by the CIA, FBI and other federal intelligence agencies as well as problems posed by Senate Bill 1.

Questions relating to alleged agency depredations against American political figures and civilian dissenters, and possible connections between federal and local phone surveillance will also be discussed.

OFFICER FRIENDLY — William Woods, an efficient and charming police officer with the Community Relations Division of the Baltimore Police Department, is one of many police officers studying law enforcement at the Community College of Baltimore to upgrade their careers. Busy with his college work, Officer Woods who is also in the Officer Friendly program, says he enjoys his work.

Free buses to take citizens to legislature Mon. nights

Responding to interest expressed in legislative activities during the General Assembly session, a number of Baltimore businessmen are sponsoring free bus transportation for the Monday night sessions.

According to Marshall Jones Jr., the mortician who has been coordinating the project, plans call for the free buses to leave the Mondawmin Shopping Center on Monday evenings and to return passengers there after the night sessions, starting Feb. 2.

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Space on the buses will be filled on a first-call basis.

Each week there will be someone on the bus to provide passengers with information about the General Assembly's schedule, to answer questions and provide assistance in helping first-time visitors reach legislators from their districts.

Anyone 18 or over will be provided space on the buses.

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This will be the first time that this type service has been sponsored on a weekly basis for most of the legislative session. In the past buses have been chartered for special occasions when there was great interest in civil rights or other legislation.

Additional details on bus departure time and specific location for boarding the Monday night bus will be provided in Tuesday's AFRO.

Meanwhile, seat reservations may be made by calling Mrs. Hackney of the AFRO, at 728-8200 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Reservations for bus seating are being accepted now for Feb. 2, Feb. 9 and Feb. 16.

BARC meeting

Two nationally known spokesmen in the field of sex education for the retarded will feature the Jan. 28 open meeting of the Baltimore Association for Retarded Citizens' set for 8 p.m. at BARC's Towson Activity Center, Charles St. and Bellona Ave.

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The Black Presence in Baltimore 1815 - 1915

(Citizens Committee for Black History Exhibits holds preview.)

By Wendell K. Sutton
Reflections Staff Writer

The Citizens Committee for Black History Exhibits, in association with the Peale Museum, previewed the traveling exhibit of "The Black Presence in Baltimore 1815-1915" on Sunday, Jan. 18.

The exhibit, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities Commission and receiving an additional donation from the Mayor's Ball, was designed and researched by Robert Harper, a student of the University Without Walls.

Mr. Harper said his exhibit was a recap of the first exhibit "The Black Presence in Baltimore" presented by the Peale, researched and planned by Karen Freeman.

Museum Director Wilbert Hunter, stated, "The biggest problem was designing the exhibit so that it could travel." Mr. Hunter said all the credit goes to Robert Harper who designed and performed the work on the exhibit alone.

Mr. Hunter believes there is need for more research on the subject. "We are discovering things that were once known but forgotten."

The exhibit consists of a series of panels devoted to different subjects in Baltimore's black heritage.

There are panels dedicated to such renowned black Baltimoreans as Frederick Douglass, Benjamin Banneker, and Matthew Henson.

In addition, there are several panels which feature many lesser known Baltimore figures.

A series of panels on "Women's Roles" feature such well-known women as Harriet Tubman, leader and organizer of the Underground Railroad; Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, poet; Susie Carr Love, first woman graduate of Morgan in 1888; and Martha Howard Murphy, who provided her husband, John H. Murphy Sr., the money to purchase the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers.

"Medical Pioneers" another of the panels, presents photographs of the first Provident Hospital, one of the first black doctors, Dr. Reverly M. Hall, and another physician, Dr. Thomas Killion. Also in the collection is a photograph of Annie M. Barnes, one of the first nurses of color in the Baltimore Public Schools.

There is a section on "Education" which features a series of panels devoted to Morgan State University. They show the development of Morgan from a single building campus to its spread in Princess Anne, Md., which later became Maryland, Eastern Shore, to the acquisition of its Hillen Road campus.

On the "Religion" panel there appears such notables as Bishop Levi Jenkins Coppin, Bishop Daniel Coker, co-founder with Richard Allen of the African Methodist Episcopal demomination, and also James W. C. Pennington, a Maryland born author and pastor of a Presbyterian church.

And finally on the panel entitled "Men of Affairs" there are personalities such as Ira Aldridge, a Baltimore born actor who became a distinguished Shakespearean actor in England; Joe Gans, world lightweight boxing champion; and John H. Murphy Sr., founder of the AFRO - AMERICAN Newspapers.

Mrs. Kelly (Viola) Jackson, chairperson of the committee, announced that during the year the exhibit will be traveling to the Sharp St. Church, Morgan State University, Ft. Meade, and the Timonium Fair.

Among the guests at the preview of the traveling exhibit of "The Black Presence in Baltimore 1815-1915" were these women from: Sharp Street Church. From L to R: Mrs. Edna Johnson, Mrs. Lillian Gordon, Mrs. Jean Fisher Turpin, exhibit committee member; and Mrs. Mary C. Allen.

Others seen at the preview on Sunday were (from L to R): Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Myers, president, Bowie State College; Mrs. Philatha Carter Hall, member, Citizens Committee for Black History Exhibits; Dr. and Mrs. Roland McConnell, and Mrs. Kelly R. Jackson (Viola), committee chairperson.

AFRO AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS
WEEK ENDING JANUARY 24, 1976

Community calendar

Jan. 23

Auxiliary of Provident Hospital's 11th Annual Dinner Dance, Martin's West, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Jan. 24

Iota Chapter of Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, Inc., Annual Founder's Day Luncheon, Martin's West, 12:30 p.m. Georgia H. Goslee, keynote speaker.

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Hutzler's Spring 1976 Bridal Fashion show and luncheon, Hilton Inn, Pikesville, 12:30 p.m.

Jan. 25

Weight Rally and Program for the United Baptist Missionary Convention Ushers, New Pilgrim Baptist Church, 6:30 p.m., Rev. Halsey, host pastor.

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Rahab Day, Willard W. Allen Masonic Temple, 1307 Eutaw St., 4 p.m.

—

"China Visit," a lecture with slides, by Selma Gross, executive director, Baltimore Commission on Aging and Retirement Education, Central Pratt Library, 2 p.m.

Jan. 31

Black Women's Consciousness Raising Assoc., Inc., "Open House Seminar, Dunbar Community School, 1400 Orleans St., 1';30 p.m., Guest speaker; Mary Carter Smith.

—

Peter and Eileen Caddy, Founders of Findhorn, present two free lectures on their community and lifestyle, Northwood Public Library, 1 p.m., evening at Koinonia Foundation, Greenspring Valley Rd., 8 p.m.

Jan. 30-31

YWCA to sponsor a ski trip to Binghamton, N.Y., call 685-1460, International Division.

National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Gamma Chapter, Sweetheart Ball, to benefit Scholarship Fund, Martin's West, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Feb. 2

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Annual Mardi Gras, Martin's West, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Feb. 10

Community College of Baltimore to launch its calendar of Bicentennial Events with a lecture on "A History of Black Education in the United States," 11 a.m., College Fine Arts Center Theatre.

Feb. 11

Testimonial dinner in honor of Mrs. Daisy Brandford, Ames Community Center, Calhoun and Gold Sts. 7-11 p.m.

—

Women's Organizations to participate in Women's Fair 3, Civic Center, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Feb. 14

Women's Day Committee of The Church of Saint Gregory The Great, 1542 N. Gilmor St., Valentine Cabaret, Church Hall, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Feb.27

Urban Services Cultural Arts Project to feature the "return of the Heritage Hall Jazz Band from New Orleans, La." Dunbar Performing Arts Center, 1400 Orleans St., 8 p.m.

March 7

Women's City-Wide Committee for Juvenile Delinquency Prevention, to sponsor annual Blue Ribbon Tea, Dunbar Community High School, 1400 Orleans St., 4 p.m.

—

"Concert of Historical Music," by Victoria Villamil, CCB Theatre, 3 p.m.

April 2-4

"Gabriel," premiereperformance of a specially commissioned opera of the American Revolutionary Period, CCB Theatre, 8 p.m.; Sun.-2:30 p.m.

May 2

"Mass Choir Concert," CCB Concert Choir and other choirs, War Memorial Plaza, 3 p.m.

June 13

"Early American Music and Dance," by the Society for Early Music, combined with the CCB Dance Company, War Memorial Plaza, 3 p.m.

SEND COMMUNITY NOTES
You can have your notices included free on the AFRO's Community Calendar. Send the dates of meetings, civic and social events, wedding, parties . . . anything of community interest to: Community Calendar, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203

Mrs. Ella Walker, Living Group leader, and Phyllis St. Clair, one of the YWCA's Teen Women at student at Lake Clifton High School, take a break following one of the sessions.

REFLECTIONS OF YOUTH

YWCA teens meet for talks on drugs, racism

The Maryland version of the National Teen Organization held a mini-Action Assembly at the Franklin St. Branch of the YWCA.

The NTO is a regional and national structure that provides a vehicle for teen women to be employed and acting and is a "Authorized Group" which has the power to elect its own officers, determine its own programs, and govern itself.

The Assembly was a part of the continuing effort on the part of the YWCA to keep abreast of current affairs. A major concern of the group is the involvement of youth in social and political problems.

The goal of the NTO is "The empowerment of youth through teen programs to thrust our collective power toward the elimination of racism wherever it exists, and by any means necessary."

On a recent Friday morning some 65 and 70 teenage girls from the Md. area began arriving at the "Y". The program continued through Saturday afternoon. The NTO composed of teen members of the YWCA conducted workshops dealing with drugs, employment, birth control and abortion, communications, and the building of Y-Teen Clubs.

Elections were held at the Assembly and the girls elected officers for the upcoming year. In this election procedure the girl with the highest number of votes will have preference on the office of Executive, Program, Workshop, Publicity, Food, and Living Groups.

The group heard speeches by Denise Barrie Hill concerning Racism in the Media, and were addressed by recent mayoral candidate, Ms. Claudette Chandler.

The Teen Executive, Cassandra Walker, became involved with the "Y" in 1973 after winning the "Miss YWCA" Pageant at the Madison Avenue Center.

Since winning the Pageant Ms. Walker has attended two summer conferences and was elected to the Planning Committee of the "Y".

Special Ms. Dixon, program coordinator for the Assembly and National Organization Leader for the Eastern Region, has been a member of the Homestead-Montebello Y-Teen Club for three years.

Ms. Dixon is also serving on the YWCA Central-City Center Committee as well as on the Nominating Committee.

The Workshop Coordinator of the Assembly, Valerie Christian, is a junior at Walbrook Senior High. Ms. Christian is involved in many activities including being a YWCA Sweetheart for 1975-76.

This mini-Action Assembly is a smaller version of a larger National Assembly which will be held later this year in New York. The entire affair was planned by Cassandra Walker, Denina Dixon, Jeanine Taylor, Valerie Christian, Ruth Rice, and Beverly Wilson.

The group Y teens who participated were Rhonda Bell, Hampstead Hill Jr. High; Y-vette Brice, Rock Glen Junior High; Darlene Brown, Dunbar High; Constance Camper, Lake Clifton High;

Brenda Deveaux, Lake Clifton; Cynthia Dorsey and Venetia Dorsey, Rock Glen; Lisa Dudley, Garrison Junior High; Debbie Finch and Lara Gary, Mt. De Sales;

Margaret Glover, Lake

Continued on page 26

Beverly Wilson, teenage program director, coordinated the one-day Mini NTO action Assembly attended by young women throughout the state.

Weekly program for women

"Psychological Aspects of Being a Woman" and "Women — Know Your Rights" are just two of the 12 lectures planned for the Spring Women's Program at Essex Community College. The Thursday morning program, in its sixth year, is specifically designed for women who have been absent for extended periods of time from the traditional world of education.

The program, running from Feb. 5 through April 29, has successfully assisted hundreds of female participants to more fully explore and examine their personal, educational and career potential. The program includes aptitude and personality tests administered by the Essex Community College counseling center to help women determine their talents and use them most effectively. Each session runs from 9:15 a.m. to noon.

"The Contemporary Woman," the evening woman's program will meet on eight Tuesday evenings, from Feb. 17 through April 6, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Optional mini-courses worth one college credit will be held on Thursday afternoons for the convenience of women already on campus for the lecture series and for other interested women.

Course titles include Crisis of Female Self-Identity, Beginning and Advanced Interior Decorating, Personal Psychology, How To Study, Slimnastics and Career Decision Making. "Search for Self" taught by James Rojahn, director of the division of human development at Essex Community College, will be offered on Mondays, from Feb. 16 through March 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. Mini-courses allow women considering a return to school to test their abilities and become familiar with college facilities before making a full commitment.

A fee of $10 is charged for the Women's Program. Each mini-course costs $13 for Baltimore County residents plus a $1 activity fee.

Interested women may register for either women's program as well as the optional mini-courses up until the first class session. Enrollment is limited so those interested are encouraged to register as early as possible. The Office of Community Services at 682-6000, Ext. 405, is handling registration.

Inside Reflections

R.S.V.P. with Marie
Zetas Founders' Day
Columbia Capers
Woodlawn Highlights
Catonsville Notes
AFRO Bridal Register
Fruity dessert recipes
Planning for parenthood

Speaking of women. . .

(A look at what black women are doing locally.)

Do you know a dynamic woman — an outstanding community leader, church worker, businesswoman, mother, club woman — who is great in her own right? The AFRO wants to know about her. Send a brief biographical sketch and black and white glossy picture (or we can arrange to take a photo of her) to: Speaking of Women, c-o AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPER, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md., 21203. Sorry, pictures can not be returned.

Jacqueline A. Fleming, daughter of the Rev. O. E. Fleming of Lochearn, has been selected for inclusion in "Who's Who of American Women," "Who's Who of Women in the World," "Dictionary of International Biography," and "Who's Who in the East and Child Development Professionals."

Ms. Fleming is a teacher of special education and chairman for Special Education at Howard Park Elementary School. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore and was graduated from Coppin State College with a master's and has also done post-graduate work. Ms. Fleming was listed as one of Ebony magazine's Most Eligible Bachelorettes.

Ms. Fleming is a member of the Herbert M. Frisby Historical Society, Inc. Lambda Kappa Mu Sorority, Inc., member, National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women, member, Provident Hospital Auxiliary and volunteer, member, Sharon Baptist Church and holds membership in several other organizations.

Ms. Fleming has received several citations, chaired numerous committees and is a world traveler.

In addition, Ms. Fleming has been invited to participate in the International Conference on Arts and Communication to be held in Washington, D.C. in July.

So, YOU'VE BEEN ELECTED PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN!

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