News behind the news

Pat Harris wants cities' isolation of the poor to halt

A new urban strategy may be underway that would stop federal money going to cities that fail to reduce the "isolation" of the poor.

Patricia Harris, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, told the annual U.S. Mayor's Conference in Tucson, Ariz. that the Federal Housing Administration "encouraged people to go out to the suburbs and we're going to try to reverse some of that."

In her speech, Ms. Harris said: "We want you to use the (federal) block grant program to reduce the isolation of low-income people —to promote the diversity and vitality of neighborhoods...When a community refuses to provide housing opportunity for low and moderate-income people, then it is running the risk of HUD turning down its application."

"Therefore, we intend to implement programs that will provide a realistically free choice for people who are black and poor. At this moment they are the only persons denied free choice in the housing market," she said.

It remains to be seen whether or not such a program can be put into practice nationally.

Medical fraud is nationwide

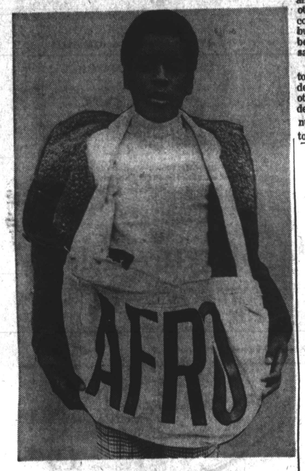
A computerized investigation has found thousands of cases of Medicaid fraud and abuse among doctors and pharmacists, Joseph A. Califano Jr., the secretary of Health, Education and Welfare revealed last week.

At a press conference, Mr. Califano cited what he said were examples of "a flagrant wrongdoing." One doctor billed Medicaid for performing six tonsillectomies on one patient in a year, he said, while another physician turned in bills for performing an abortion on a patient who previously had had a hysterectomy.

The two-month-old Medicaid investigation called Project Integrity plans initially to identify the worse 500 cases of abuse by doctors and pharmacists involving Medicaid, a partially federally supported program to provide health services for the poor and disabled.

"There are thousands and thousands of cases of other excesses" that the computer has printed out but which have not yet been examined," Califano said.

After finishing with doctors and pharmacists, the department will examine other health-service providers, including hospitals, nursing homes and laboratories.



350 PAPERS PER WEEK—Ace AFRO carrier in the Cherry Hill section is Richard Coleman of Bethune Road. Richard sells 350 papers per week at the Cherry Hill Shopping Center and other parts of the area. He attends School No. 163 and his favorite sport is football. Richard is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Partlow of Bethune Road.

Troubled bridge over Bay water

Maryland transportation officials have approved a $4.8 million settlement with a contractor who had claimed more than $18 million in cost overruns.

The settlement brings to $120 million the total cost of a second Chesapeake Bay bridge that was supposed to cost $91.4 million when it was decided in 1968 that a parallel Bay Bridge would be built despite Maryland voters' rejection of it in a 1966 referendum.

Maryland voters turned down the second Bay Bridge in 1966 in a referendum. A year later, a new General Assembly approved plans for the parallel bridge again, this time putting in a larger package that included a second Baltimore harbor crossing, which was first supposed to be a second tunnel, but ultimately turned out to be newly opened Francis Scott Key Bridge.

The state spent about $200,000 on fees for consultants and lawyers to investigate and negotiate the [illegible] on sum-costs of the parallel Bay Bridge.

The bridge was built to payers' money have been eliminate traffic jams that put to better use? [illegible] mer weekends. Could Maryland tax-

piled up on approaches to

Solomon flip-flops on garbage disposal

Dr. Neil Solomon, Maryland's health secretary has changed his mind about ending the operation of the Baltimore pyrolysis garbage disposal plant, despite the fact that it puts out seven times more pollution than state clean-air standards allow.

Last Thursday Solomon ordered the troubled $21 million plant closed and gave the Schaefer administration 30 days to come up with an acceptable plan to meet state and federal air quality standards.

He changed the order after meeting with Mayor Schaefer and his advisors Monday and said the plant could reopen as soon as $300,000 in repairs for a gas purifier are completed.

Mayor Schefer's administration has been unwilling to invest in the pollution-control machinery because the experimental plant has never operated still unsure whether to continue for more than a few weeks vert it to a more cost-at a time and the city is ventional incinerator.

Carter administration 75% white and male

Minorities and women were only given 24 per cent of the high level positions throughout the government as 76 per cent (over 200) of the 266 jobs in the Carter administration are filled by white males.

A year ago, Carter said he would "make the fullest possible use of the women in America in helping carry out my program for America."

Before a women's group last October he vowed to insist on hiring that would bring more women into the highest civil service levels. Similar promises were made about minority groups and their roles in a Carter administration.

Maryland's Rep. Parren Mitchell (D) said the Black Caucus feels the hiring process has been too slow and "we're not seeing blacks in sub-cabinet levels. There have been some breakthroughs, but we're not seeing the kind of breakthroughs the President suggested."

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President serves as chief administrative officer of the institution and functions under the direction of the Board of Trustees of the State Universities and Colleges of Maryland.

Candidate should possess the earned doctorate, have extensive higher education teaching and administrative experience, be dedicated to serving the needs of a diversified student body in a growing metropolitan area, have proven ability to direct institutional growth and program development, and be able to maintain successful relationships with community and higher education organizations.

Nominations and/or applications with current resumes should be received no later than November 15, 1977 and directed to:
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Ann Wentworth found not guilty

A 27-year-old woman who was convicted of second degree murder, kidnaping and armed robbery in 1976 and sentenced to 40 years in prison, was granted a new trial by the Court of Special Appeals and the Maryland Court of Appeals.

Mrs. Ann L. Wentworth of Salisbury was found guilty by a Dorchester county jury in 1975 for the murder of Jimmie Mosley, head of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Art Department.

JIMMIE MOSLEY
body riddled with bullets

The jury who heard the second trial of Mrs. Wentworth found her not guilty of four counts of murder, kidnaping and armed robbery.

Mrs. Wentworth was granted a new trial after the state high court overturned her conviction after a Supreme Court ruling followed by Maryland judges in instructing a jury that placed on the defendant the burden of proving absence of malice in reducing murder to manslaughter.

DAVID S. WENTWORTH
key witness

Her husband, David S. Wentworth, who is serving a 70-year sentence for the Mosely murder was the key witness for the prosecution at his wife's retrial.

Mr. Mosely was gunned down in cold blood April 3, 1974 on a lonely Princess Anne Rd. His bullet riddled body was literally blown to pieces by shots fired from a magnum handgun and a caliber pistol.

Mrs. Wentworth told the jury on Tuesday her husband forced her "to participate in the shooting and I had to do what he told me to do."

MRS. ANN WENTWORTH
"I had to do what he told me."

Mrs. Wentworth testified that she asked Mosely for a $200 loan and received the money from his financee Dr. Delores Taylor who was a college professor and lived with Mr. Mosely.

She told the jury the money was for her husband who was planning to purchase junked car parts. Mr. Wentworth testified he and his wife went to Mr. Mosley's trailer home and told him he was going to beat him in the woods.

Mr. Wentworth said that when Mr. Mosely cried, "I am sorry I raped your wife." He was "in a daze and fired the gun."

A 40-state alarm was issued by the FBI for Mr. and Mrs. Wentworth following Mr. Mosely's murder. The 1973 Fiat car used in the kidnap murder was abandoned in Bainbridge, Ga. The couple was arrested in Mountain Home, Idaho in May 1974 when a motel owner discovered that the credit card they used belonged to Mr. Mosely.

MEMBER OF THE Baltimore Teachers Union participate in Wenesday's demonstration. The teacher's contract expires at the end of month and they are not guarenteed a new without a bargaining agent. (AFRO staff photo by Robin McGinty)

Tripp's conviction upheld

The first degree murder conviction of Willie Tripp Jr., 44, was upheld by the Court of Special Appeals.

Tripp was convicted in 1975 in the shooting deaths of his girlfriend, her mother, son and niece on October 12, 1974.

The 27-page opinion stated Tripp had been properly convicted and Judge Marshall A. Levin, who presided at his trial was not obligated to give the manslaughter instruction because there was no evidence presented at Tripp's trial indicating the killings were a response to a domestic quarrel with Mrs. Hazel Wilson.

Tripp was convicted of murdering Mrs. Hazel Wilson, 34; her son, Jimmy, 11, and her mother, Mrs. Sarah Brewer, 60 all of the 1700 block Guilford Ave.

WILLIE TRIPP JR.

He was found guilty of assault with intent to murder Deborah Wilson, 7, and Derrick Wilson, 9.

Tripp was Mrs. Wilson's former boyfriend and the Guilford Ave. shooting was the tragic ending of a week-long domestic argument.

The shooting took place Oct. 12, 1974 on the first floor Guilford Ave. apartment. Tripp entered the apartment and started firing at close range at his victims.

Tripp was arrested when he re-appeared on the scene carrying a bag of groceries while the bodies were being removed from the house. He is now serving four life prison terms.

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