Wife beaters

may be whipped

Group wants abortion issue on Sept. ballot

By John W. Frece UPI - Maryland's highest court was to summer session Thursday to consider separate requests to place two referendum questions on the November ballot, including one that could affect the state's medicaid abortion

program. Stop Taxes for Abortion, a Rockville - based statewide group that opposes abortions, has asked the Court of Appeals to allow voters to decide whether state funds should be used to pay for non - therapeutic abortions for poor women federal medicaid program.

A similar request was

denied in Montgomery County Circuit Court in

The other case involves a 40 - acre tract at a busy Baltimore County intersection where developer plans to construct a major shopping

The suit asks the high court to permit voters to decide in a referendum whether the zoning on the land, located at the intersection of McDonogh and Reisterstown Road, should be changed.

Court officials said decisions in both cases could be made immediately or could be delayed for a few days. In any event, the decisions are expected quickly. The high court

agreed to hear the cases without them first going to the Court of Special because the referendum proposed questions must be certified by Aug. 21 if they are to appear on this year's state ballot.

The anti - abortion group contends use of state money for abortions is illegal because the state constitution requires that appropriations be "for maintaining the state government." Attorneys for the group say abor-tions do not fit that

The state, however, that state payments for abortions legitimate are expenses.

Before the McDonogh referendum question is placed on the ballot, the court may have to decide what zoning would apply to the property if voters agree to rescind the current "major business" zoning category.

Persons convicted of

beating their spouses or

children could soon feel

the lash of the strap if the

State American Legion

Chapter can convince the

general assembly to bring

back the whipping post as

Spokesman Daniel

Burkhardt said the Legion

will create a committee to

study the whipping post

theory and will seek

legislation from the 1979

whipping post, which was

used in Maryland until

1953, would not be used to

Diabetes Education

Program offered

North Charles General

Hospital's Diabetes

Education Program will

begin on Friday, Sept. 8.

Applications from

diabetic patients and their

families are currently

punish first offenders.

Burkhardt said the

general assembly.

punishment.

Prior to a 1976 change in the Baltimore County zoning law, the parcel had the same major business

But the McDonogh case also rasies questions concerning the use of the state's power

He said five lashes

would be appropriate for

a second - time offender,

up to 10 lashes for a third -

time offender and up to 20

Burkhardt said the

punishment would be up

to the judge, but "We feel

the punishment should fit

"If anyone got a taste of

He said the legion has

not decided where the

whipping post would be

located or who will do the

what they were doing,

they'd never do it again,'

the crime."

he said.

whipping. UPI

for subsequent offenses.

questions of zoning of the McDonogh parcel. Opponents fear that it the zoning question

permitted to be put to voters in a referendum, i could undermine the decision - making power of local zoning bodies and lead to other similar referendum questions on zoning issues.

referendum that tran-

SBA to hold clinics

The Baltimore district office of the U.S. Small Business Administration will conduct a series of problem clinics beginning Monday, Aug. 21, through and including Thursday,

These clinics will deal with special problems affecting small business and will be held in the SBA Training Room, 630 Oxford Building, 8600 LaSalle Road, Towson, Md. 21204.

Problems such as business planning; cash

for the small be covered. are for two h and will be and from 1:30 to

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Inequity in awarding contracts irks Clay

The Department of General Services says it is implementing a new plan to guarantee minority owned firms a certain amount of state contracts because such firms were awarded only \$45,000 of the \$97 million in 1977

contracts. Officials of the state agency released the figures at a meeting of minority groups, trade associations and white

businessmen. The meeting Wednesday was called to explain the state's new policy of awarding selected state contract worth \$5,000 or less ex-

The Legal Aid Bureau is

expected to file a suit

today, Friday seeking to

Penitentiary inmate

segregation for five years

for allegedly setting June

13 cellblock fire that killed

The action is being

taken because, according

to the bureau's counsel

Paul Lee, the prison's

action against James

Taylor, 27, is "illegal"

and tantamount to "abuse

Lee said there was not a

shred of evidence that the

fire was caused by an

arsonist, and even if it

two other inmates.

of authority."

administrative

punitive

against

clusively to minority owned businesses.

The contracts under \$5,000 account for about 20 percent of all contracts awarded by the depart-

"We wanted to solicit the help of these people," said Robin Zee, director of the department's Office of Central Services. "When they learned that only \$45,000 had gone to minority firms last year, they were more recep-

He said department files indicate that 59 of the 6.000 Maryland manufacturers and vendors are owned and

was, there was no

evidence to connect

the administrative action

Aug. 8 after charges of

assault and battery and

destruction of state

property had been filed

The June 13 blaze oc-

curred in the third floor

cell in the early morning

and was accompanied by a loud explosion. Killed in

the blaze were Larry

Fore, 21, who was serving

life term for murder; and

James Fitchett, 22, who

was also serving 30 - year

Investigators at the

scene after the blaze

murder term.

origin. And we promote from within on

the basis of merit alone.

Taylor was informed of

5 year confinement

operated by blacks about one percent - but eight more firms have petitioned to be added to

Robert L. C'an chairman of the Mary. 'v Minority Contractors Association, said it is a "disgrace to have 18 percent of the population receiving far less than 1 percent of the business from a state agency."

He said affirmative action is needed.

"I was angry because could see the kind of racism that has run rampant in this state and in the country," Clay said.

theorize that the fire was caused by a careless smoker. However, the state's attorney's office after a long investigation testified before a city grand jury that the fire

and that the two deaths were murders. According to Mr. Lee, the grand jury did not return indictment against

was the result of arson

George Collins, the Penitentiary warden, said Taylor's segregation is based on the report of a three - man adjustment team. He said he felt the report was right and that he took the proper action. He would not elaborate

being accepted. Suit filed to block inmate's Jointly sponsored by North Charles General Diabetes Maryland Affiliate, the program consists of four 6-hour class sessions held on

consecutive Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the hospital, Charles and 28th Classes are under the supervision of Abraham Silver, M.D., chief of endocrinology and

metabolism, North

Charles General, and

medical director at Camp

Glyndon for Diabetic Children. Diabetic patients and their families learn about disease, nutrition, insulin adurine ministration, testing, medication, complications, personal

hygiene and

that are essential to the operation of our

business.

Procter & Gamble

adjustment problems. Lunch will be served as For further details and registration information, Diabetes Association at 486-5515.

part of the program. Along with Dr. Silver, coordinators include Joan Scotch, Judith Boggs Lapierre, M.S.W.

Urban Services

sponsoring dinner

The Urban Services Agency's East-West Advisory Council invites the public to attend the first annual Dinner and

This event will be held Friday, Aug. 18, 1978, at the Bolton Hill Dinner Theater, 1111 Park Ave. For more information call 396-1768.

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