2,000 attend Family Day Festival in Park Heights

An estimated 2500 people milled around, danced, played and listened to the music at the Family Day Festival sponsored by Park Heights Community Corporation last Sunday.

As in previous years, the festival was held outside, this time at the Arlington Elementary School playground.

The theme of the day was "Unity in the Family," a subject which was briefly spoken about by emcee Kweisi M'fume, by PHCC president Ronald Thomas.

Games requiring more than one person per team were played for prizes such as record albums and wading pools; encouraging, for instance, a mother and son to compete in a sack race against a father and daughter.

Local artists exhibited paintings, ceramics, mood cards and handmade chess pieces.

The highlight of the day was a concert by the Hugh Walker Quartet and the Musicians Cultural Arts Quintet. The enthusiasm with which the young audience responded to the concert musicians surprised many adults in the crowd, who felt that young people are only responsive to disco.

One jazz lover said that watching the youngsters listen to the music was a show in itself.

REFRESHMENT BOOTH — Fair goers at the Park Heights Community Corporation Family Day Festival were tempted by food and drink at several refreshment booths.

DANCE TO THE MUSIC — These youngsters' idea of hot fun in the summertime is the same thing they like to do in the cool of the evening: dancin' to disco. Later, they seemed surprisingly fascinated by another phase of music provided by the Hugh Walker Quartet and the Musicians Cultural Arts Quintet. The MCAQ consists of trumpet player Mack Rucks, saxophone player Harold Adams, bass player Vaughn Bradshaw, keyboard player Greg Hatza and drummer Willie Barber.

WELCOME DANCE — Some dancers in the Olu Funmilayo African Dance Company dance a welcome to families at the Family Day Festival sponsored by the Park Heights Community Corporation Sunday, August 20.

Gray dreams of a political future in predominantly white 42nd district

His wife is his campaign manager. He only has about $1,200 in his campaign fund. His daughter campaigns for him door to door. His son goes throughout the district handing out mimeographed campaign literature and all his campaign workers are volunteers.

That is the entire campaign operation Larry S. Gray Sr., one of the two blacks in the predominantly white 42nd legislative district running for a seat in the House of Delegates.

The district which is in the forthwestern part of the city, is boardered on the old city limits, Charles Street, Reisterstown Rd. and the new city limits.

Gray, who is a 36 - year - old state government employee, admits he is running a shoe - string, grassroots campaign buh points out that he is very well received in both the black and white community.

"I've raised very little money," he said pointing out he is receiving assistance from family and friends.

"We've knocked on a lot of doors in the white community and received a lot of support," he went on. "I'd like to think voters would be interested in someone willing to represent them and their their issues."

A big man with an easy manner and A.B.A. in Business Administration, Gray is running in a field of nine which includes the other black candidate, Richard Jerome Scruggs and incumbents Dels. Ben Cardin, Steven V. Sklar and David Shapiro.

But the large field of candidates does not really concern Gray. He feels that he can win.

"I feel that new and fresh ideas are needed in Annapolis," he said. "I'm not going for just the black vote in the district (which is about 40 percent) I'm going after the white vote too and there are those who said they will support me and even vote for me."

Gray said if he were elected he would try to introduce progressive legislative which would include a law furry protecting laid - off workers in a financial bind, a payroll investment plan to let residents share in the ownership of Maryland's utilities, reduced taxes and allow privately owned apartment owners subsidies for setting aside some of their units for lower income families.

Gray is quick to point out that he is not running as a black candidate in a predominantly white district although he has sought (but not received) the endorsement of the black groups outside of the district.

He also said he is not running against Scruggs for the black vote in the district although some political observers have said Gray was put into the race by the white political power in the district to split the black vote.

Whether that is true or not, Gray is serious about his intentions about going to Annapolis in January.

Larry S. Gray

BON VOYAGE — Members of the Cardigans Club, who were feted at a bon voyage party by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Alston of Aristocrat Travel look over their travel brochure. From (L to R): Mrs. Alston and club members, Margaret Peck, Mary Williams, Bernice Hall Louise Edwards, Vera Taylor and Mr. Alston. (See R.S.V.P. for names of other vacations on the Cardigans' cruise.)

Pastors fail to endorse gubernatorial candidates

They came to New Psalmist Baptist Church Tuesday each confident that he would walk away with the endorsement of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, a city - wide group of black ministers.

Acting Gov. Blair Lee came with his smooth aristocratic style standing on his record of the last year. Ted Venetoulis, in his Kennedy style, pounded on the lecturn promising a new Maryland and Harry Hughes quietly promising change.

But none of them promised what they would do for the blac community.

So the 220 - member strong alliance, regarded as a great political force in black neighborhoods in an election year, decided to endorse no one.

"There was no clear cut front runner who impressed us that he was really interested in what we're all about," said the Rev. Wendell Phillips, president of the ministerial alliance.

The Rev. Marion C. Bascom, who chaired the meeting, said too few black have been appointed to state jobs. He said the gubernatorial candidates will have to address themselves to that issue.

"I don't love any of them until they tell me exactly where they're going," he said. "I don't want any of them to talk to me peripherally by saying 'We love colored people.' "

The candidates didn't say exactly where they were going with blacks but recited their civil rights records, pledged to increase the number of blacks in top and mid - level state jobs. However, they gave no promises.

"There's a disease that gets hold of candidates when they start promising everything under the sun," Lee said evasively. "Then they can't deliver and the people feel disappointed and start saying that all politicians are bums."

Venetoulis praised his record as Baltimore county executive but got called down when Rev. William Johnson, a minister in the Baltimore County's predominantly black Turner's Station area, charged his administration with racism and turning deaf ear to the needs of the black residents.

Venetoulis shrugged embarrassingly and said nothing.

Though the alliance endorsed no one some sources stated that the organization was split between Lee and Venetoulis even though Hughes got the best reception.

Other sources said the endorsement would have gone with Venetoulis. One member disagreed. He said he believed some of the members would have picked Lee.

"As far as I'm concerned he's the lesser of two evils," he said.

Willen, PR head of D.C. hospital

Phillip Willen has been named public relations directors of the Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital Inc., it was announced by Brooks R. Major, president of the hospital.

A native Baltimorean, Willen is president of Philip Willen Associates Inc., a public and community relations firm, which does marketing and development for the health care industry and other non - profit organizations.

Prior to forming his own company in 1968, Willen was affiliated with several advertising agencies and department stores as an artist and as sales promotion and advertising manager.

From 1954 - 60 he served as director of public relations for the Development Corporation for Israel, both for the state of Maryland and Washington, D.C.

He was executive director of Histadrut from 1965 - 68, planning and fund raising for health care and senior citizen projects for the state of Israel.

His professional affiliations include the Public Relations Society of America, Academy of Hospital Public Relations, American Hospital Association Public Relations Society, Maryland Hospital Association, the Maryland - Delaware - D.C. Press Association and Advertising Club of Maryland.

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The AFRO on stump with the candidates

Special reports on page 3,6,7,8,10,11

Pot smoking —does it make you stupid?

Here's Mr. Millman's theory — page 5

Retired AFRO editor Ralph Matthews Sr. dies

See page 17

Baltimore Afro-American
WE ARE NOW IN OUR 87TH YEAR

Ministers debate politics, religion

See page 16

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State worker found nude in tub

Atlantic City fun weekend ends in tragedy on Hillsdale

What started as a fun weekend in Atlantic City for a group of Baltimoreans ended abruptly in Baltimore Aug. 28 when a 25-year-old woman of the team was found dead in the bath tub of a Hillsdale Road apartment.

Police are still baffled by the death of Miss Vanessa Rawlings, 3300 block Liberty Heights, who was reportedly found dead at 6:30 a.m.

The medical examiner's office is still trying to unravel the mystery surrounding the death. A spokesman told the AFRO the cause of death is still pending. Police, however, have ruled the death as questionable.

Police reports show the young woman and her friends left Baltimore at 2 a.m. Aug. 27 for Atlantic City and returned the following day.

Police reveal they received a call to the Hillsdale Avenue apartment around 6:30 a.m. for a "sick case." When they arrived they were met by a man who said, "Come in officer. She is upstairs either sick or dead."

Reporting officers said they were led by the man, to the bathroom. He reportedly told police "She is in the bathtub and has been there all night."

Police state they found Miss Rawlings half nude in the tub.

The man told police the only thing he could remember was that Miss Rawlings went to the bathroom and lay in the bath tub. He later fell asleep.

Police said when they questioned the man as to why he did not take Miss Rawlings out of the tub, he told police he felt too tired.

The man also told the police he recalled hearing his phone ring that night but did not remember answering it.

Miss Rawlings lived alone in her Liberty Heights Avenue apartment and was employed with the Department of Human Resources as statistical assistant since December 1977.

Funeral services for Miss Rawlings will be held 10 a.m. Sept. 2 at March Funeral Home. She is survived by her parents, three sisters, two brothers and grandparents.

Protests mount following pharmacy shootout

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

"We will picket every day. We have set up a boycott. We will be in front of David Pearlman's AID Drug Store at 3107 W. North Ave. and his next - door beauty supply place as long as it takes for him to move out of this community."

This is the statement of a spokesman for the hundreds of protestors who began to voice their objections early this week to the slaying of a 26-year old man who tried to cash a check in the AID Drug Store's check - cashing department.

Police reports say Dr. David Pearlman, 47, 6706 Cokesbury Road, pharmacist and owner along with his brother, William of the drug store, fatally wounded Ronald James Van Hook inside the pharmacy about 6 p.m., Aug. 28.

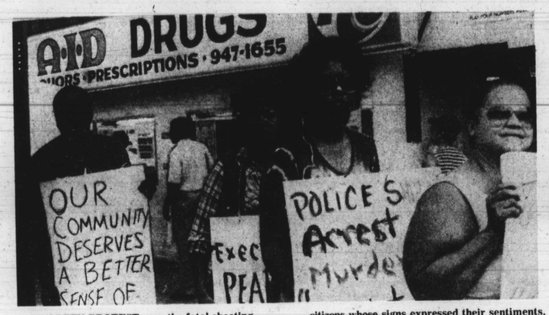
Police reports show the victim was on his knees at the drug store door when they arrived. They state he was pronounced dead of one bullet wound in the back at Lutheran Hospital.

Police reports quote Dr. David Pearlman as saying he told the man to halt after he, the victim, had run all around the store seemingly out of control.

Police reports say the victim was about five feet from Dr. Pearlman and about to go through the door when Dr. Pearlman (David) fired one shot from his revolver and "the victim dropped where he was shot."

Dennis Hill, public relations officer for the Police Department, told the AFRO the case is still under active investigation and not closed "by any means."

(Continued on Page 2)



COMMUNITY PROTEST over the fatal shooting of a customer of the AID Drug Store, 3107 W. North Ave. this week brought out some 200 citizens whose signs expressed their sentiments, that the slaying was not justified.

Ryales Photo

Indictment looms in rape of Hagerstown jail inmate

The rape case in which a Hagerstown Maryland Institute Correction officer allegedly raped a jail inmate Aug. 13 will very soon be presented to the grand jury.

Revealing this to the AFRO this week, Jack Holiday, Hagerstown state's attorney, said even though he had not talked with the state troopers investigating the case, he believed the probe was nearing completion.

He refused further comment.

Meanwhile, Howard Lyles, assistant commissioner of the Division of Correction, has denied inmates caused a disturbance when the news of the rape incident flashed through the jail facility.

"It is not true that there was a confrontation and that physical force was used to quell the demonstration. We have not had any reaction from the inmates," Lyles said.

Last week the AFRO received a number of calls and a letter from an inmate of the Hagerstown facility alleging that a jail guard raped a male inmate in the recreational center of the institution between 6 and 7 p.m. on Aug. 13.

AFRO efforts to get official denial or confirmation proved futile, but reports from concerned citizens stated that inmates, on learning about the rape incident, staged a protest demonstration, shouting obscenities at guards and causing general commotion.

Lyles said while it was true that such a complaint was made by an inmate, it was totally false there was rioting. "Even the inmate who made the allegation did not display such behavior," he said.

Investigation into the complaint, he said, was still continuing and it was against "our rules to comment on cases when they are under investigation."

A letter from an inmate appealing for public support on behalf of the inmate population said:

"We are living under a thunderstorm of racism, overcrowding, cruel and unusual punishment, such as a recent incident when a correction officer raped an inmate."

(Continued on Page 23)

Political dirty tricks on rise

By Clarence W. Hunter
AFRO Staff Writer

There is no such thing as sportsmanship and fair play in a political campaign.

It is dog - eat - dog and every man for himself in a fight where nothing matters but winning.

Some politicians try to win honestly — standing on their records and their plans for the community — while others use "political dirty tricks" to win.

No election season is without them.

Political dirty tricks is a nice way of saying a politician uses any means necessary to win. The method — sometimes not within legal boundaries — include political espionage, spreading rumors and simple vandalism.

Black political leaders are unwilling to reveal any incidents of dirty tricks claiming that a "gentleman's campaign" is being conducted this year.

Tell that to the Rev. Wendell Phillip, Doug Sands; the Garnett Team of Titus - Garnett, Zatella Giles, Thelma Tucker and Loretta Carrington; The Metro Team of Western Ivey, Troy Brailey, Lloyal Randolph and Frank Conaway; Verda Welcome, Rev. Jerome Scruggs, John Douglass, J. Randolph Carroll, Larry Gray and Dwight Petitt.

(Continued on Page 11)

'Ditty Wo' Davis murder suspects on trial Sept. 18

WEBB radio marks 25 years

By Michele L. McRae
AFRO Staff Writer

The week of Sunday, Sept. 10 thru Saturday, Sept. 16, WEBB Radio Station will mark its 25th silver anniversary throughout the Greater Baltimore area.

City and state agencies, as well as community leaders and businesses, have pledged their full support to the event. Various representatives of these segments will be highlighted during the anniversary week on WEBB Radio.

The week of festivities will begin with a WEBB Radio City - Wide Kick - Off Parade at 1 p.m. Sept. 10. The parade will begin on Wabash Avenue to Garrison Boulevard down North Avenue to Denison Street where the station is located. Following the parade there will be a WEBB Radio Festival in Leakin Park. More than 5,000 persons are expected to participate.

The week will end on Saturday, Sept. 16 with a WEBB gala silver anniversary dinner dance at the downtown Hilton Hotel. Tickets are $25 per person and entertainment will be provided by national recording artists.

Proceeds from the dance will benefit the purchase of a new transmitter for the 25 - year - old black radio station.

The entire week of activities are being planned under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Richard V. (Louise) Johnson, who are presently negotiating the purchase of the WEBB radio station on behalf of a group of black citizens.

(Continued on Page 2)

September 18 has been set for the trials of two men charged with the Sept. 3, 1977 shooting death of Elijah "Ditty Wo" Davis, a drug kingpin who was gunned down as he sat in his car in the 1000 block Calhoun St.

Henry E. Richardson, 28, 1900 block Cecil Ave., arrested one month after the murder; and Gregory Jones, 24, 3000 block the Alameda, who surrendered to police last week, were charged with first degree murder in the shooting.

Jones, who disappeared soon after the Davis slaying, was persuaded by Philip 'Ghost' Kane to give himself up and face state charges in the killing of the West Baltimore drug pusher. And last Tuesday, for agreeing to cooperate with state prosecutors in their investigation Kane received a lighter sentence of two consecutive five - year terms in a federal prison on heroin charges.

Kane, who was convicted in 1970 and 1974 on state narcotics charges, was found to be actively involved in a heroin operation during the time he was free on a prison work - release program.

Kane was originally charged as a major distributor under a conspiracy charge that was dropped as part of his plea bargaining for cooperating with investigators in the Davis murder probe.

(Continued on Page 23)

Getting through Labor Day

— Maryland State Fair at Timonium Fair Grounds plus horse racing through Sept. 5. More than 7,000 exhibitors including inner city 4-H Clubs.

(Continued on Page 2)

'Taste of Honey' here to boogie, oogie

There were thousands and thousands of young fans on the pavement and parking area of the Northwood Shopping Center on Monday afternoon.

They were there to steal a peak at popular recording group, 'A Taste of Honey.'

The group recently released the disco tune 'Boogie Ooogie Oogie' that has soared to the top of record charts.

The lucky fans were able to not only see the stars but to receive autographs.

The fast climbing young artists had to struggle through the mob to get inside the For - the - Record Tape and Record Collector Shop.

Young fans really went wild. They yelled and screamed to the top of their lungs.

"She sure is fine," said a young male fan of one of the group members. "I sure would like to take her home to meet my mom," he added.

'Taste of Honey' members include Perry L. Kibble, Donald R. Johnson, Janice R. Johnson and Hazel P. Payne and appeared on the show at Painters Mill last weekend with the 'Isley Brothers.'

AFRO staff photo by Roman Hankewycz

'TASTE OF HONEY' — The popular recording group, 'A Taste of Honey' signed thousands of autographs on Monday when they stopped in Baltimore to visit the For-the-Record Tape and Record Shop in the Northwood Shopping Center. Members of the group from (L) include: Perry L. Kibble, Donald R. Johnson, Janice R. Johnson, and Hazel P. Payne. Gina Chatman is the lucky lady at the front of the line.