13 relatives must live in 2 rooms after fatal fire

ior-Latanya, 3, Carrie,

Thirteen relatives are now sharing a two bedroom apartment following a fire that struck a three story crowded row house at 612 North Carey St. at 6:20 p.m. New Year's Eve and left the family homeless.

88th Year No. 42

Five of the younger children are now sleeping together on the floor because there are not enough beds in the apartment.

Mrs. Carrie V. Holmes, 43-yearold mother of 10 children and grandmother of eight, told the

AFRO, "We were forced to stay with my daughter following the fire that left us homeless and two of my grandchildren dead."

The cause of the fire has not been determined and smoke inhalation

was blamed for the deaths. Dead are Latanya Jones, 4 and Carrie Coleman, 5 who were pronounced dead on arrival at University of Maryland Hospital.

(Continued on page 2)



Latanya Jones

New Year religious rally brings 10,000 to Civic Center

See Living Church inside

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LATE CITY EDITION

JANUARY 5, 1980 BALTIMORE, MD.

WE ARE NOW IN OUR 88TH YEAR

Baltimore Affic American

Carrie Coleman

30 CENTS



NEW YEAR BABY - Little 8 lb. 6-4 oz. Parls Jerene Manning came bouncing along at 9:16 p.m. on Jan. 1, 1980. She was born at Provident Hospital Inc., shown with her proud mother, Ms. Alvis Thompson.

HOMICIDES UP IN '79

1980's first day was last day for 3

A 32-year-old woman is the first person to be charged with a homicide this year. Ms. Shirley Johnson, was arrested Nov. 2 after she allegedly stabbed James Ray, 56-year-old Maryland Dry Dock employee around 4:39 a.m. New Year's Day following an argument.

Police report Ray, was found lying in a pool of blood in the hallway outside an apartment building in the 2600 block Reisterstown Rd. He had been stabbed in the throat and back. Residents of the Reisterstown Road apartment told police they heard a

loud noise coming from the first floor hall and later heard a door slam. The apartment door was locked and police were forced to break the back door to enter. At AFRO presstime, Ms. Johnson was being held without bail.

In another New Year's day homicide, Sammy Furr, 28, of the 1600 block Patterson Park Ave., was shot outside the Peacock Bar in the 900 block East Hoffman St., following an argument.

(Continued on page 2)

Cross burnings only part of Catonsville racial woes

By Portia E. Badham AFRO Staff Writer

A meeting between police and residents of the Catonsville community of Baltimore, where recent cross burning took place brought to the surface several racial problems in the area.

During the meeting held by Col. James Pennington, president of the Baltimore county NAACP, Catonsville residents told of assaults by white youths who also trespassed on property and drove

cars through neighborhoods at fast speed during the night yelling obscenities and throwing bottles. One Winters Lane resident,

Lillian Reynolds, had first hand proof of racial activity which she says occurred during the summer She reported that several sheets of paper were distributed in her area and displayed the loose-leaf notebook sheets with hand lettered "Who needs niggers?"

(Continued on page 2)

Provident's first 1980 baby Public hearings may decide Morgan's fate

State board inching toward merger of schools

By Portia E. Badham AFROStaff Writer

While the State Board for Higher Education has not taken final action, it has moved a step closer towards a possible merger of Morgan State University, University of Baltimore and University of Maryland, Baltimore

December by Sheldon H. Knorr. commissioner of higher education which includes three recommendations designated to ease the crunch of declining enrollments. consolidation

recommendation. colleges would be managed by the University of Maryland but maintain separate campuses and

presidents. Knorr who called the merger a "unique opportunity" for higher institutions to contribute equally, stated that the merger was a very controversial issue to which he had given a lot of thought.

"I've thought a lot about putting these three institutions together in a way that will preserve their uniqueness and enhance it not

Before the board takes any further action, a hearing will be eld to allow input from the institutions as well as elected and private citizens concerned about

the future of the schools. However, the move to hold a hearing is viewed by some as just a step of protocol since the board has already conducted hearings prior to Knorr's issuing the memo. At that time, several schools voiced concern about their future and maintaining individual identity.

(Continued on page 2)



AFRO Photoby Mark Gail CONCERNED PRESIDENTS - Andrew Billingsley, president of Morgan

Robert Bell named to Supreme Bench

By John H. Frece Gov. Harry Hughes has named a black, a Jew, a Polish-American and an English-born naturalized citizen to Baltimore's Supreme bench, and has named a former city mayor who is already on the bench

as the court's new chief judge. Highes Wednesday named Judge who was elected mayor in 1959, to succeed Chief Judge Anselm Sodaro, who retired

Hughes also named Robert M. Bell, M. Albert Figinski, Joseph I. Pines and Peter D. Ward to the 23member bench, the equivalent of circuit courts elsewhere in the

The four new judges will fill one newly created seat on the court, and will replace Sodaro and Judges Shirley B. Jones and Joseph C. Howard, both of whom were recently appointed to the U.S. District court in Baltimore.

Grady, 62, was appointed to the Supreme Bench in 1962 while still serving as mayor, and last year presided over the highly publicized trial of Deputy Police Chief James Watkins, who was acquitted of charges of bribery and

malfeasance. The four new judges were chosen from a nine-person list submitted to Hughes Nov. 13 by the Trial Courts Judicial Nominating Commission for the eighth judicial circuit.

Bell, Figinski and Pines must stand for election this November, but Ward, who fills Sodaro's unexpired term, will not have to go before voters until November 1982.

Bell, 36, the only black among the four, is a North Carolina native and a Graduate of Morgan State University. He has been a district court judge in Baltimore since 1975.

Continued on page 2

State University and John Toll, president of the University of Maryland, listened to the State Board for Higher Education discuss the future and possible merger of their universities.

CONVERSION TO LUXURY APARTMENTS

Bay College building to get face lift

New plans are envisioned for the former Bay College and Western High School Building located at the intersection of Howard and Centre Streets, according to the city's Department of Housing and Community Development.

1875, was originally the home of Baltimore City College. In 1928 Western High School was located there, and most recently it held the now-defunct Bay College.

Conversion of the facility has been delegated to Multi-Family

Services, Inc. and Streuver Bros. and Eccles. Both firms have had previous experience in restoration and rehabilitation of historic

Plans call for 55 luxury apart-The building, which was built in ments, with rents ranging from \$365 to \$612 per month. A sidewalk cafe is projected for the building's interior courtyard, and 14 shops are also slated to be added to the

Total cost of the project is estimated_at \$2,393,800.

AFRO helps mother find son 'lost' in prison system

By James M. Abraham AFRO Staff Writer

What do you do when your son or daughter is lost in the state or city prison system? What can you do when no knowledge of the inmate is

available? Mrs. Defivar Barrett, of the 2600 block Gatehouse Drive, encountered such a situation early in December, when her son, Alfred Barrett, had been in City Jail for almost a year, after he had escaped from the Maryland House of Correction in Jessup, and had been

recaptured. For months Mrs. Barrett and her husband sent packages and money there," said Mrs. Barrett. to their son, and visited him on one occasion at the jail, but in

"He had gotten a friend of his to call us," said Mrs. Barrett. " And he said he wanted to see us. He said it was very important."

But, According to Mrs. Barrett, she was unable to go visit Alfred at

As Christmas approached, Mrs. Barrett and her husband decided to bring Alfred some gifts, and that's when the trouble started.

"When my husband went over there, (to City Jail), he was told that they had no record of anybody named Alfred Barrett. They said he might be at the House of Correction in Hagerstown, but he wasn't

Perplexed and confused, Mrs. Barrett called the AFRO: After calling the City Jail, the AFRO found out that if Barrett had committed any additional crimes since escaping from Jessup, he would still be at the jail, otherwise he was currently back at Jessup. The spokesman also stated that Barrett had been admitted to the jail on Jan. 1 1979, and had been sent to the Department of Correction in November of the

In November, he was sent to the Maryland Penitentiary's Diagnostic and Classification Center. An offical at the center confirmed that Barrett had been sent back to Jessup, and a call to the House of Correction at Jessup disclosed that he was there.

"I'm so glad," said Mrs. Barrett. "I was so worried about him."

(Continued on page 2)

The '70's — decade of backlash?

By James M. Abraham AFRO Staff Writer

1979 may well be remembered as the year white Americans started

'fighting back". Legally, such cases as the Weber case and the Bakke conflict. illustrated the strident demands of the white middle and upper classes for an end to affirmative action programs, which gave blacks what was viewed by these people an unfair advantage in the job and

college market. Socially the late seventies saw the resurgency of the Ku Klux Klan, that traditional ugly symbol of white lower class hooliganism.

Across the nation, a shift in public opinion away from the "Great Society" and "New Frontier" mentality of government toward a more individualistic, every-manfor-himself outlook, was evident in legislation such as Proposition 13 which benefitted property owners in California at the expense of poor residents who received services paid for by the taxes.

Blacks in the United States have traditionally borne the brunt of American anger when conditions in the country as a whole have deteriorated.

The current drift toward the right by this country, then, should be an ominous warning to all black Americans. When the Dutch ancestors of today's South Africans were making their way across that region, they had a simple defensive plan known as the "laager". This tactic involved placing all the wagons in a protective circle, and blasting away at any and everything not in the group of wagons. Americans familiar with our own western history will recognize this action as similar to that taken by our own pioneers.

Today the wagons are again being drawn up in a circle, and guess who is still on the outside? As America enters another period of economic uncertainty which will probably be matched only by the Great Depression, it comes as no surprise that suddenly.

one hears a multitude of voices crying "haven't they got enough?" or "I didn't discriminate against anyone, why should I pay the price?" The liberals of the sixties are now the insecure conservatives

of the seventies. Why? As history has proven, minorities traditionally are used as scapegoats in times of national distress. One need only look at the large European Jewish populations of the last century, and how they allsuffered decimation due to the pogroms conducted by several Eastern European countries, in-

cluding Russia. The holocaust of the Naz1 regime in Germany probably one of the most gruesome reminders of this phenomenon, as over six million Jews were murdered, after being accused by Hitler of being responsible for Germany's defeat

in World War I. Another clue to the current turn to the right is the recent Supreme

Continued on page 5