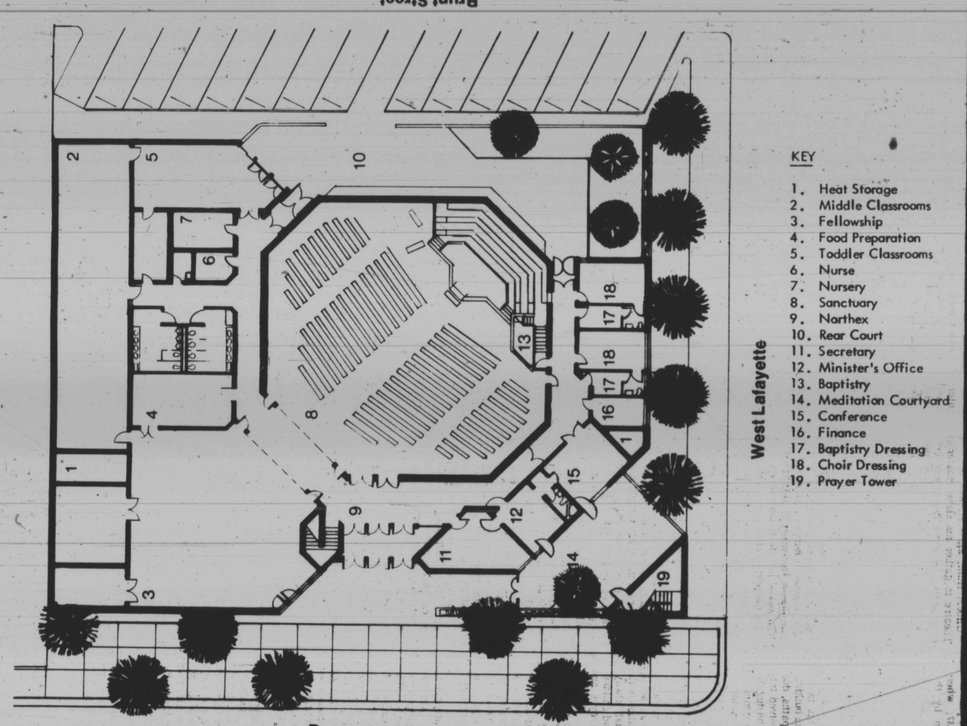
What's Inside Providence Baptist



18,000 SQUARE FEET OF BEAUTY might well describe the spanking new $1.3 million, solar-heated Providence Baptist Church, on northeast corner of Pennsylvania and Lafayette Aves., in the heart of Baltimore City. Architect Mark Beck's first floor plans, reproduced here, gives key numbers for interior. No. 8, the octangal sanctuary with a seating capacity of 500, features a raised pulpit and choir area, fine oak pews and a glass wall. The baptistry (13) is internally lighted. Stained glass windows brought from the old location, Edmondson Ave., adorn the room. Burnt orange carpet serves as floor covering. Another highlight of the church is the prayer tower (19 on key) where one might go for quiet meditation and prayer. And on warm days, there is the meditation courtyard (14). A large fellowship hall (3) will accommodate catered banquets and can be divided into additional classrooms. Educational space is provided for in several middle and toddler rooms. The pastor's office (12) opens into the library and conference room as well as the outdoor courtyard. Parking is provided at the rear of the Church and a cross atop the Prayer Tower commands attention to the building and welcomes all to worship. The Library is to the right of the Main Sanctuary. There are separate choir rooms and baptismal dressing rooms for men and women, in addition to the Minister's and secretary's offices. On the left is the Sunday School Office, as well as the Health Station, to be used for first aid, blood screening and nutrition. To the left of the Fellowship Hall there is the large Conference Room, which may be subdivided into smaller rooms. The facility is complete with multi-media equipment and closed circuit TV. The entire area is ground level, easily approached by disabled or handicapped persons. There is a special Chapel in the Fellowship Hall to serve the handicapped.

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6 hostages survive shoot-out

Our colleges may lose $1.2 million

By Portia E. Badham
AFRO Staff Writer

ANNAPOLIS — After fighting disenchanted faculty and student body, Morgan State University President Andrew Billingsley took on yet another battle this week in Annapolis to prevent any futher cuts from the school's proposed $13.7 million budget.

Billingsley, speaking before the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, said, "We are very hopeful that you will sustain the governor's budget as submitted to you and will resist recommendations from your staff to cut the budget further."

While the committee's budget analyst, Edward Quinn, did not propose any cuts, he did recommend that the school abolish 30 full-time teaching positions.

But, Billingsley said it would be "disastrous" to cut 30 positions now. He pointed out that the university has already retrenched 48 positions over the past two years.

He outlined for the committee members, a plan that would allow the school to cut 14 positions next year and 12 each year for the following two years.

The school kept 19 positions vacant this year to meet expenditures and not risk another deficit. Last June the school faced a $700,000 deficit and transferred funds from a student account to meet expenses.

In addition to recommending that 30 positions be cut, the analyst also saidthe 19 vacant positions should be abolished.

The committee was obviously split in its support for Morgan with Clarence Blount, committee vice chairman vehemently opposing the faculty cuts.

"We can't continue to give them less and expect them to compare with other schools," said Blount. "We've got to look at the institution and stop making comparison. You can't compare an apple to an apricot and that's what you're trying to do."

But, Sen. Charles H. Smelser, D-Carroll County, took a hard-line stance against the university and opposed the governor's additional $1 million in appropriations. that doesn't deserve it. By giving them this money we're not requiring them to do what they should do," said Smelser.

Several members of the Maryland Black Caucus will participate in a budget briefing for the community, scheduled today, Friday, Feb. 13 at Bethel AME Church. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the community of the budget cuts for the various black colleges in the state which total more than $1 million.

Blount along with Delegate Howard "Pete" Rawlings, D-40th, will conduct the meeting.

LUCKY TO BE ALIVE — Ms. Linda Glasgow (right) is shown seated on a sofa in her Lantern Hill apartment after being held hostage by one of two prison escapees who robbed the Woodmoor Maryland National Bank Tuesday. Ms. Yvonne Pitts (right) and daughter Lisa Pitts, who live in the same apartment complex across from Ms. Glasgow says she was forced out of her apartment by county police officers and FBI agents. Below is a photo of the Lantern Hill Apartments in 3400 block of Aurora Lane, where the gunman ran after leaving the bank.

(AFRO Photos by Roman Hunkewycz)

Bank robbery suspects flushed out of Woodmoor apartments

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

Families in the Lantern Hill Woodmoor apartments, a suburban complex just pass the city line, are still recovering from the shock and horror of a shootout with law enforcement officers.

This terrifying experience for Ms. Linda Galsgow started around 12:30 p.m. when she went to wash her clothes in the basement laundryroom of her apartment complex.

"I saw a guy with a gun and money come in the laundry and I continued to put my clothes in the washer. I acted like I did not see him.

—

"He said be cool and he wanted to go with me to my apartment," said Ms. Glasgow, with a quiver in her voice. While walking up the steps with her laundry basket in her arms, Ms. Glasgow said the man kept the gun under his coat. "He told me he had just robbed a bank and would not hurt me."

Ms. Glasgow, mother of two children said it was like a nightmare. She said the man took off his coat and hat and laid across her bed for nearly twenty minutes before the police entered her apartment with a pass key.

The man who held Ms. Glasgow hostage ran in her bathroom when he heard the police and FBI agents come in her apartment.

—

Pacing her living room floor with her arms folded and a frown on her face, Ms. Glasgow pointed to her bullet riddled living room wall and shouted, "look what they have done to my apartment."

The officers were about to check the bedroom, when the gunman pushed open the bathroom door and started shooting.

(Continued on Page 2)

Assembly bill urges stiff penalties for cross-burnings

In an effort to stem the recent rash of local cross - burnings, two Maryland legislators have introduced a bill in the General Assembly which would make the offense a felony instead of a misdemeanor.

"When it becomes a felony," said Del. Frank Conaway, D.-49th, "law enforcement officers will more aggressively so after the offenders."

Conaway, who has introduced the bill along with Del. Isiah Dixon, D-38, said that since felons lose - their voting rights and jeopardize their chances of employment, the bill would "act as a deterrent."

He added that he is afraid of "blacks getting guns" and going after cross - burners themselves unless police step up their enforcement of current anti - cross - buring statutes.

"Maybe the strong conservative trend of the current administration, (is responsible for the wave of cross - burning" said Dixon. "The Administration is saying a lot of things that may be mis - interpreted by people."

He cited the recent murders of 18 black children in Atlanta and the rash of slayings of blacks in Buffao as evidence of a national trend.

The measure has the backing of the state NAACP and the University of Maryland chapter of the Association of State, Federal and Municipal employees.

Henry G. Parks named fire board chairman

Mayor William Donald Schaefer Wednesday appointed Henry G. Parks Jr., founder of Parks Sausage Company as the first black president of the city board of fire commissioners.

Parks, 64, replaces Norman Ramsey, now a U. S. District Court judge. Ramsey resigned last year following criticism from some black city councilmen for naming Peter V. O'Connor, a white, as fire chief.

Two of the three fire board members now are black. The other members are the Rev. Montague J. Brackett, a black and Robert Bollinger, a white.

Schaefer said he did not appoint Parks as president of the board because he is black, but because he is needed in public service.

"He's my friend and I have great respect for him" the mayor said. Parks founded his sausage firm, one of the most successful minority-controlled businesses in the United States, in 1951. He sold it to a conglomerate in 1977.

He served on the city council with Schaefer from 1963 to 1969, when he resigned. The nomination of Mr. Parks is subject to confirmation by the City Council, where no opposition is expected.

Henry G. Parks

'Dear murderer... please stop killing...'

ATLANTA (UPI) — An open letter from a 10-year-old published in the Atlanta Journal and addressed to "Dear Mr. Murderer" pleaded with the person responsible Tuesday to "Stop killing little children."

During the past 18 months, 17 Atlanta black children have disappeared and 15 have been found slain. The other two are officially listed as missing.

The letter, signed "A Ten Year Old Boy," said:

"I am the age child you are killing. Being a kid isn't so bad, but I want the chance to grow up. Please stop hurting us so we won't be afraid to play out.

"I am sorry if somebody hurt you or wassmean to you when you were a kid, but if you like killing kids and it makes you feel good and happy then you could be sick or something and there are people who could help you.

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South Fulton Street woman grocer slain, home set afire

'She said she felt safe alone in her store.....'

By Pam Widgeon
AFRO Staff Writer

Mrs. Elaine Butler never had a chance to serve her home cooked spaghetti, fried chicken, hamburgers, hot coffee and tea to her regular customers for lunch on Monday.

The 59-year-old owner ofButlers grocery store in the 600 block of South Fulton Ave., was found dead in her first floor kitchen by fireman around 11:30 p.m. Feb. 9. The food she had prepared was still simmering on the stove and chicken was still hot in the oven.

Police report she had been stabbed seven times and her house was apparently set fire after she was slain.

Mrs. Butler, a widow for eight years, lived alone in an apartment above her small immaculate store. For seven years, she had been the proprietor of Butlers Grocery and Sandwich Shop and would sell breakfast and lunch to citizens who live and work in the area.

'...she knew everyone in the neighborhood...'

After seeing smoke coming from the second floor front room, neighbors called the fire department around 11:30 p.m. Monday night. Police report Mrs. Butler had been dead for several hours.

Police have no motive for the homicide and believe Mrs. Butler might have walked into her store while the suspect or suspects were taking money from the cash register. No arrests had been made at AFRO presstime.

Mrs. Butler, fondly called "Miss Sis or Aunt Sis" by her friends, customers and relatives was described as a "good samaritan" by her brother, Charles Cooper.

Mr. Cooper told the AFRO, "If she had any food left over after selling lunch she would give it to the neighbors for their children. She enjoyed helping others." The cups of coffee, tea and sodas that were to be sold on Monday, were still on a shelf behind the counter. The food was prepared daily in Mrs. Butlers first floor kitchen and her store was open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 5 P.m. When Mrs. Nellie Swanson was not able to contact her sister-in-law (Mrs. Butler) by phone Monday around 12:30 p.m. she said she did not become upset and did not think anything had happened.

"I tried to call her from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. We would talk every day. I had always talked to her about

(Continued on Page 2)

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