CRIME DISPATCH

Trial of alleged drug king continues

Witness testifies King paid $30,000 in cash for furniture

The former owner of Contemporary Design Furniture Company testified this week that Maurice Davis "Peanut" King spent more than $30,000 in cash for furniture and accessories in April 1981 for an apartment.

Kenneth M. Spakfin, told the jury King also paid $7,000 cash for bedroom furniture for his mother's Clover Road home.

King, 28, dressed in gray pants, gray sweater, black and white tweed sport coat and a tie, was seated directly behind his attorney, while Spakfin was testifying.

King, who is on trial with eight other co-defendants who are charged with narcotics violations showed no emotions. Throughout the trail, James Carter, one of the defendants has been taking notes.

Throughout the three week trial, King has been sitting next to Thomas Ricks, who is also charged with narcotics violations and is allegedly one of the highest members of the $75 million a year ring.

Before any spectators enter the courtroom, the U. S. Marshals use a magnotomater to search their purse and pockets. The federal court jury consist of 10 white and two black citizens.

Other defendants on trial are Marcell Moffatt, James Carter, Kenneth Hart, Kearney Lindsay, Clifton Frisby, Stanley Rogers and Beatrice Roberts.

King owned and operated two supermarkets in East Baltimore where heroin was allegedly sold, according to police.

Police said he was Baltimore's alleged largest drug dealer.

Spakfin testified that King and Thomas Ricks, had purchased a substantial amount of furniture from his store and Ricks spent $15,000 in cash in furniture.

U. S. Attorney Fred Motz told the jury that King had paid $245 in cash for an ash tray and $210 for another ash tray. King had also paid $25,000 cash for a car from Honda City and spent $951 in cash for clothes he purchased in September 1981 from California.

Spafkin told the jury he was having financial problems before closing his business and borrowed $25,000 from King.

Spafkin testified that he had discussed with King possibly purchasing the building where Contemporary Design furniture was. The witness said King wanted to pay $1 million in cash for the building and had talked about possibly making it a night club.

The trial will continue in Federal Court on Monday, Dec. 27.

Teen killed in Russian Roulette game

A teenage boy was charged with first degree murder Dec. 21 in the fatal shooting of a youth who was wounded in the chest during a game of "Russian Roulette," homicide detectives said.

Detectives said Charles Leonard, 17, allegedly shot Anthony Queen, 19, once in the chest with a .38 caliber pistol Dec. 20.

Police said a third teenager who witnessed the shooting said the youths alternated taking shots at one another before Leonard wounded Queen with his second shot.

Police said Leonard, who was charged as an adult, was ordered held at the Central District police station on first degree murder and weapons charges.

Former trooper indicted for theft

A Baltimore county grand jury indicted a former state trooper and a truck driver this week for allegedly stealing $114,800 worth of marijuana that police seized in a drug raid.

Dan McCarthy, a state police spokesman, said Marie Barnett, who resigned from the state police in August, was charged with theft for allegedly stealing 287 pounds of marijuana from a Woodlawn State Police officer more than two years ago.

Manson Brock, 37, of Randallstown was charged with theft for allegedly stealing 287 pounds of marijuana from a Woodlawn State police office more than two years ago.

Manson Brock, 37, of Randallstown was charged with theft, possession with intent to distribute and distribution of marijuana, McCarthy said.

He said the marijuana was discovered missing in August 1980 during a routine inventory of the evidence room at the special services division. The marijuana had an estimated street value of $114,800.

Norris promoted to police major

Eleven appointments and promotions within the Police Department were made Wednesday, Dec. 22 by Commissioner Frank J. Battaglia.

Lieutenant Bessie R. Norris was promoted to a major and was assigned as the district commander of Southwestern District.

Major Bessie R. Norris

Prior to her promotion, Lieutenant Norris, who has 18 years of service with the police department, was working in the Education and Training Division of the department.

The 49-year-old officer is the first woman of her race to become a district commander. She is a graduate of Coppin State College.

District Commander Calvin Lewis of the Southwestern District was promoted to deputy chief of patrol area one. Commander Lewis has 25 years of service with the police department.

He formerly served as district commander of Western District and district commander of Northwestern district. The promotions ceremony was in the department's education and training division.

Commissioner Battaglia also announced that Major Harry C. Allender will become a colonel and chief of the detective division upon the retirement of Col. William L. Rawlings Jr., on Jan. 15, 1983.

Deputy Chief Calvin Lewis

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Social notes / club news / trends family and home / urban lifestyles

OUR WORLD

Alpha Wives host their Annual Christmas Party

FROM SANTA DOMINGO — Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Davis, of Santa Domingo, the Dominican Republic enjoy the conviviality during the Alpha Wives Annual Christmas party held Sunday, Dec. 19 at LaFontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave.,

PRIVATE JOKE? — Laughing it up are (from left) Mrs. Margaret Land and Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Welles of Rockville, Md.

COUPLES ON THE SCENE are (from left): Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Jackson of Washington, D.C., Ms. Florence Camper and Harry Macer. CHECKING OUT THE ACTION are (from left): Mrs. Elaine B. Page, Mrs. Marguerite Petersen and Mrs. Myrtice Bennett.

The Apha Wives of Baltimore, auxiliary organization to the Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, held forth at their 11th Annual Christmas Party recently at the Erdman Avenue La Fontaine Bleu. What an event it was! Seemed as though last year's effort could not be topped, but the ladies did it again with an affair that surpassed all others.

The Alpha Wives, an organization of long standing in the community has, through the years, supported many charities and civic groups in the city. The ladies have, on occasion, been cited for their philantropy. The Christmas Party is one of the ways chosen to say "Thank You" to their many friends for support during the year.

Bill Cummings provided the music for this gala which was chaired by Catherine Adams. Committee members assisting Catherine were: Mesdames Norma Bracy, Cleo Diggs, Margaret Driver, Ellen Johns, Shirley Pickett, Mary Pitts, Doris Reese, and Maurice Toadvine.

Out of towners spied at the affair were: Kay White of Salisbury, MD., J.L. Jackson, the John Tooles, Bert and Gwendolyn Smith, Gerladine Coleman and Milton, the William Lees, Mr and Mrs. George C. Page, Jr., all of Washington, D.C. Rufus and Hattie Wells of Rockville, MD. and the Lonis Ballards of Alexandria, VA, Julrica, Trinidad and Mr. and Mrs. LLoyd Davis of Santa Domingo, the Dominican Repub. W.I.

Other participating Alpha Wives were: prexy, Helena Hairston, Audrey Davis, Josephine Kimbers, Margaret Land, Sue Jones, Patricia Page, Edwin Burke, Betty Moss, Ada Veney, Audrey Howard, Olivia Dixon. Theda Wilson, Elaine Davis, Edmonia Yates, Elizabeth Ramsey, and Grace Walker.

The Wives and their guests enjoyed an evening of genuine good cheer, laced with the old fashioned Christmas spirit, which was filled with a heartfelt MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR to each and all! It was a GRAND affair!

Committee X-71 hosts it's Seasonal holiday gala

AT THE COMMITTEE CHRISTMAS PARTY held Saturday, Dec. 18 at Blue Crest North were (l to r): Margaret Proctor, Rebecca Davis and Ruth Dorsey.

PART OF THE YOUNG CROWD seen during the festivities are guests of Paul Scott (from left): Pauline Hicks, Doris Carrol, Anne Scott, Sheila Brooks, Esq., and Saundra Days

By Pattie Hodges

Nearly 500 guests turned out Saturday, Dec. 18 for fun and frolic at Blue Crest North, 401 Reisterstown Rd.

The occasion was the annual Christmas Party hosted by Committee X - 71, that group of congenial men who from year to year provide help for others and happiness for their supporters at this seasonal gala.

From 1 until 5 p.m. guests enjoyed music and dancing, with music provided by the Dennis Fisher Band, and songs by their soloist, Jennifer.

There was continuous open bar, with cocktails of every variety available, to the delight of all.

A scrumptuous sit - down dinner was also served, with delectables of many kinds on the menu.

Folks engaged in much lively party patter in addition to dining and sipping, and took home with them a bit of the Christmas spirit.

Members of Committee X - 71 are George B. Barrick, Malcolm Chamberlain, Marvin C. Davis, Ben H. Foreman, Cornelius Griffin, J. Wilson Henson, Charles G. Hillen, William V. Lockwood, Charles H. Lynch, Cyrus Marshall.

Also, Charles C. Mason, Robert L. Payne, Lewis H. Richardson, Wellington S. Ross, Paul F. Scott, John S. Ward and Alfred A. Woodland.

partyline

BLACK PARENTS WITHOUT PARTNERS HOSTS CANNED GOODS DISCO

By Pattie Hodges

Black Single Parents Without Partners hosted a Canned Goods Disco Saturday, Dec. 18 at Room 81, a new club located at 3121 W. Belvedere Ave.

From five p.m. until 2 a.m. hosts and guests mingled, made merry for the Christmas season and gathered many items of canned goods to be distributed to the poor through the Belvedere Volunteer Food Bank.

Music for dancing was provided by disco d.j. man Lester Purnell.

Palate pleasing food included Swedish meat balls, spaghetti, fish and crab cake balls, bread and munchies. Thre were also many sippables available to quench the thirst after a round of dancing.

The fundraiser, a first for this Parents Without Partners, was an unqualified success.

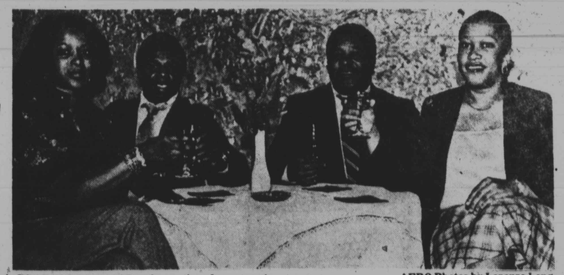
Black Single Parents Without Partners was founded here in March, 1981 by Kelly Hill, herself a single parent, and went public in June, '82.

Their first activity was a reception hosted for Georgia Goslee in Greenspring Valley.

So far members of the group have been compiling a master mailing list, and plan to hold their first official meeting Saturday, Jan. 25, 1983.

They have had two preliminary meetings to let everyone get acquainted and to set up an agenda for their first official meeting.

Officers of the organization, the first for blacks in the nation, are: Kelly Hill, founder and national director; Herman Johnson, executive director. Diane Robinson, membership director and Lorray Brown, Program Activities Chairperson.



PROPOSING A TOAST to the continued success of their organization during their Canned Goods Disco hosted at Room 181, Belvedere Ave. are members of the Black Single Parents Without Partners (l to r): Kelly Hill, founder and national director; Darnell B. Dance, national director; Earl Williams and Rosalyn G. Williams.

AFRO Photos by Lorenzo Long