—Parren & Pinderhughes

Continued from page 1

"Now whether or not they (Bureau of Purchases) comply I don't know. In the past they've been very cooperative. But if I have anything to do with it we won't get anything from South Africa."

Hartsfield says he intends to look into the city's school food inventory to see just how many products are being ordered that come from South Africa. So far canned pineapples, used as desserts in the schools have been identified as products of the apartheid country.

Totally unaware of the practice and appalled with it also, School Superintendent Alice Pinderhughes says she will discuss the matter with the schools board of commissioners.

"I will request that when we prepare specifications, one of our requirements will be that we purchase no products from South Africa," declared Mrs. Pinderhughes, "I am in total agreement with the congressman."

Asked whether or not she thought the city's purchasing department realized they were buying from South Africa Pinderhughes responded, "I don't know. I don't think that they didn't know.

"He said (referring to Arthur Fournier director of the city's purchasing department) that they had no recourse but to buy from the lowest bidder."

Fournier was unavailable at AFRO presstime. Harold Tall, deputy director of finance for Baltimore City has not returned our calls.

City Councilman Kwiesi Mfume briefed, on the situation by Congressman Mitchell, says he and other elected officials will be sharing results of the congressman's research into the city's practice of doing business with South Africa sometime in the near future.

"I would hope the mayor would issue a directive that puts the Bureau of Purchases on notice that never again would we buy any products from South Africa," Mfume said.

—General assembly

Continued from page 1

deceased funeral policy, bank accounts, the state will consider those as sources of income for the costs.

Thirdly, the burial itself must not exceed $400. Said Bolger, "If the burial exceeds $400, the state will not pick up the tab."

The state, however, will allow the following expenses; Cost of burial lot, a vault, if one is required, grave digging and burial clothing.

"In normal circumstances," added Bolger, "our program will not be of any help unless the funeral director takes a tremendous loss in his services," Bolger said, that frequently, this is what happens.

In a last minute appeal, Del. Rawlings asked Governor Harry Hughes, in a letter dated December 30, 1984, to make a provision in his budget for an increase in the grant amount.

Said Rawlings in the letter, "It is appalling that poor people are unable to have death with the dignity of a modest funeral and burial because the Maryland Grant, which has not been increased over the last five years, is inadequate in meeting the inflationary costs of funeral and burial services.

Myrna Jackson, chief of communications for the Department of Social Services said that the $400 includes removal of the body, providing a container for the body, preparation or embalming and transportation of the body to a cemetery.

Marshall Jones, of Marshall Jones Funeral Home and president of the Baltimore Burial Guild agrees with Dels. Rawlings and Davis. Four hundred dollars is not enough, but $900 is better," he said.

As a member of the year-old burial guild, Jones and 12 other funeral home owners provide burial services for those who fail to qualify for assistance and are unable to meet burial costs.

Said Jones, "We hope to eventually subsidize those people who fall through the cracks." To meet this end, the guild will document their expenses in providing this service for the next two years, in hopes of having in a impact on the state legislature in the future, and in hopes of being able to provide this service to all who need it.

Jones said that if the guild charged for the half dozen funerals that its done so far, the cost of a "modest" funeral performed by the guild costs about $1200. At best, said Jones, this includes a grave side service and cemetery costs.

Jones feels that it is important that survivors be able to bury their dead. "No one," he said, "should be send to the anatomy board."

Ron Wade of the anatomy board, a subsidiary of the health department said that the board is "here to protect the public health and well being. It would not be in the best interest of the board to prevent a body from being claimed by a loved one."

When an unclaimed body goes to the board, the board does everything in its power to notify the next of kin. "We do everything that we can to make sure we're not ignoring someone's rights," he added.

When a person dies in a hospital or residence, and there is no one to claim the body, the board will hold it, undisturbed for 48 hours. If death occurs in a hospital, the hospital is required to hold the body and make a resonable search for the next surviving relative.

If no one claims the body, it then becomes property of the board, which is located next to the University of Maryland Hospital.

Said Wade, "As a rule, a body would be held for a minimum of 30 days, with cremation as the final disposition."

—Lil Melvin, Hawkins

Continued from page 1

set for next week goes back to the week before Christmas when Williams and Hawkins won bail, $200,000 for Williams and $100,000 for Hawkins.

Judge Albert J. Bryan Jr. sitting in the District Court in Alexandria, VA. set them free on Dec. 21. However, before their bailbondsman had arrived, a motion to appeal the bail had been filed in Baltimore before Judge Murnaghan.

Judge Murnaghan "stayed" Judge Bryan's order setting bail. Williams and Hawkins were not present at the Dec. 24 hearing.

In the document filed in Federal Court in Baltimore this past Wednesday, Jan. 2, the four lawyers for Williams and Hawkins point this out: that Judge Murnaghan stayed the bail order "without hearing and notice" thus violating the defendant's right to due process.

They state, "Judge Murnaghan's stay has unconstitutionally held the defendants (in prison)."

UNCF raises $10 million

The first national telethon for the United Negro College Fund raised $10 million last weekend in pledges. The twelve hour parade of stars hosted by Lou Rawls was the fifth annual appeal for funds, but the first time that a national network of stations carried the broadcast.

Individual contributors were headed by millionaire publisher Walter Annenberg, a close friend of President Reagan who contributed $100,000 and A-Team star, Mr. T. who gave $15,000.

The goal of the telethon was $15 million and when corporate pledges of $4 million are added to the total raised by the telethon the goal will be nearly reached.

The United Negro College Fund aids 42 black colleges around the country that graduate a large percentage of the black college graduates in America.

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—1985 ushered in

Continued from page 1

ter in the 2000 block Hollins Street.

The man police identified as Ernest Neely Jr., 22, 2500 block Loretta Ave., was shot with a small caliber gun and, transported to University Hospital, was officially pronounced dead at 6:19 a.m.

No suspect has been apprehended.

TWO GUN VICTIMS

Two other New Years Eve shootings were reported by police.

Preston L. Pope, 38, resident of a 900 blk. Argyle Avenue apartment house was shot in the stomach and left in critical condition while in a phone booth in the Unit block of Schroeder Street about 4 a.m. Dec. 31.

Police state that the assailant approached Pope, accused him of taking out his girlfriend, took a sawed-off shotgun from under his coat, fired and then walked away.

Pope is in critical condition at University Hospital.

Police are searching for Kenneth Butler, 27, of Marriottsville Rd. or the 700 block West Saratoga Street.

Harold Queen Jr. was another shooting victim New Years Eve. Police report after the 16-year old was shot in the back by an unknown person in the 1600 block North Chapel Street, he staggered to his home in the 1600 block of N. Washington Street. His father transported the youth to Hopkins Hospital where he was admitted in serious condition shortly before midnight.

Tuesday, Jan. 1, the first day of the New Year, witnessed murders, assaults, breaking and entering, assaults upon police officers and firefighters.

JAN. 1 MURDER

Highlighting the early morning hours was the argument between two men in a Dallas Court apartment which ended with one of them killed with a knife.

Michael Antonio Crawford, 24, 291 Dallas Court, wounded in the chest, was pronounced dead at Hopkins Hospital.

Wanted for murder is Jerry Johnson, 200 block Herring Court.

Police reports state that the suspect, age 21 years and six feet tall, weights about 120 pounds. Reports show the argument began inside the Dallas Court building and continued on the outside where as a fight ensued, Crawford was fatally wounded.

FINGERS NEARLY CUTOFF

Police report that Ms. Wendy Cowans, 20, 800 block Washington Street, was seriously cut by her boyfriend Jan. 1 when they were in front of the house where both reside.

Police state that Ms. Cowans' three fingers of her right hand were "practically cut off" by two butcher knives.

Reports show that she was taken by ambulance to Hopkins Hospital for emergency surgery in hopes of saving the fingers.

Police state that Dennis Jones, age 25, was taken into custody on the scene.

DOUBLE SHOOTING

In a double shooting New Years Day, Ronald Carroll, 22, 2100 block West Baltimore Street was left dead in the 800 block West Lexington Street, after an unknown assailant fired several shots at him and a cousin.

The cousin, Donald Kosh, 33, 900 block Frederick Avenue, sustained a gunshot wound of the right hand. Police still investigating the incident, say it is unknown if the gunshots came from one or several persons.

WOMAN ACCUSED OF MURDER

Ms. Vanessa Owens, 23, 4700 block Beaufort Avenue, has been charged with the fatal stabbing with a 10-in butcher knife of a 35-year old man while they were in the 600 block N. Carey Street New Years Day.

Police state that Glen Albert Green of the 3700 block Beehler Ave. was hit in the left chest and taken to Shock Trauma at University Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

ESCAPES WITH HANDCUFFS ON

Malicious destruction of property, escape from police, breaking and entering and assault on police and firefighters are the charges lodged against a 21-year old man, Pete Esposito of the 1600 block Spruce Street and a juvenile.

Police reports say the teenaged male who is charged with malicious destruction of property at the recreation room at Southwestern District, ran away from the room with handcuffs affixed to his hands behind his back.

Police state as of late Jan. 1, search for the juvenile was futile. Esposito was arrested inside the firehouse at 4427 Pennington Ave. after he broken out a pane of glass and entered through the front door.

Resisting arrest, police reports show he kicked Sgt. Paul Hoffman in the left rib, assaulted Firefighter Edward Gruss during a struggle.

Reports state that the suspect previously escaped from custody when four firefighters were trying to put out a bon fire in the rear of a house in the 1600 block Spruce Street. Police state that he went to the firehouse not long after, looking for the firefighter he claimed struck his friend, Richard Spencer.

Finally after subduing Esposito, police lodged the multiple offense against him.

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Registered U.S. Patent Office
Second class postage paid at Baltimore, Md.
Circulation audited by Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC).
Published every Tuesday and Saturday by the AFRO-AMERICAN Company, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. Phone (301) 728-2200.
John H. Murphy 3rd, President; Rose E. Dyson, Secretary; George C. Lortier, Treasurer; Frederick A. Howard, Vice President — Production; Kenneth O. Wilson, Vice President — Advertising; Robert W. Matthews, Executive Editor; Paul F. Evans, Associate Managing Editor; Ronald B. Jones, Assistant Managing Editor.
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Have guns become a 'way of life?'

By Elizabeth M. Oliver

Have guns become a way of life in Baltimore and all such large cities across America?

Maryland state and Baltimore police authorities hesitate to put it that way however they do agree that "there are more guns out here in the street than anybody can venture to say."

More than a dozen cases of gun-toting teens were reported during the Yule shopping season. A total of 10 gun-involved crimes was reported the last week of the old year, 1984.

State Police Headquarters' statistics show between January, 1984 and September, 1984, a period of nine months, there were 3,663 robberies done with firearms; 3,328 aggravated assaults by guns and 105 murders committed with handguns in Maryland.

Mrs. Eleanor Mercef of the State Police who also keeps the statistics on Baltimore states that her files show 2,209 robberies were committed with firearms; 1,769 aggravated assaults with guns and 81 murders done with handguns — all in Baltimore.

Guns are not hard to come by

Baltimore Police Public Information Sgt. Mike Bass at PL Headquarters downtown told the AFRO Wednesday that people on the street sell guns at probably around $100 each or "whatever the market will bring."

Stating that there is a tremendous number available, probably thousands, he said, "Yes, tragically guns a-plenty are available to those who are able to use them. No one knows the answer to the problem.

"You can get them in any gun shop if you are over 21 and have no felony record in Maryland.

Some are obtained in thefts and some from dealers as antiques and from others who have taken them in burglaries. There are illegal transactions every day in private sales. If you want one bad enough, you can get one."

Sgt. Bass noted here that in 1974, the Police Department attempted to get as many guns out of use here in town as it could and initiated what was called "Operation PASS". The Department paid $50 each to person "with no questions asked" to bring the weapons of any kind or size. Thousands were turned in voluntarily. But, how many thousands did NOT come in is still "anybody's guess".

Police keep a constant eye out for persons who bring guns in from "down South" or anywhere else and sell them in the metropolitan area.

Youths on the street are known to offer stolen guns to anybody they can get the cash from "for as little as $15." When they need money to buy something they want they may sneak out a gun parents or relatives have in the house and try to sell it.

State Police Sgt. Tom Moore told the AFRO there are 360 dealers licensed to sell handguns in Maryland. Also, there are 2,400 licensed by the Federal government to sell long guns, rifles and shot guns and amunition in the state.

How many are sold otherwise "is only a guess," he stated.

There is a process through which a person must go to legally buy a gun, Sgt. Wells states.

The purcnaser must be age 21 years but for a hunting gun, the age is 18.

Approval to buy a gun must be had first and the process begins in the gunshop where the buyer must fill out a State Police application.

The application is sent to the State Police Headquarters in Pikesville where the applicant's record is searched as to conviction for felony, murder, robbery, etc; mental problems or alcohol or narcotics convictions, "or anything that would affect the person's stability."

The dealer may get the application back within seven days or longer. If the application is approved, the dealer sends back to the State Police for its record the person's name, the make, model and serial number of the gun the person purchases.

If the application is turned down, the person may appeal back to the State Police. If necessary the appeal may be taken to the Circuit Court.

The cost is $36 for a two-year permit and if needed longer, may be renewed for $36 for three years.

Permits to carry a gun are granted more readily to cab drivers, physicians, insurance persons and business personnel who may have to have them to go from home to office and to the bank.

Otherwise, Sgt. Wells notes, "Legal permit to carry a gun is hard to get."

The Baltimore Yellow Pages under "Sporting Goods" carries advertisements for merchants who have air guns (B-B type guns) hunting guns, collectors firearms, antiques, guns of any size or description and amunition. Often newspaper ads announce private sales of firearms.

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What to do with the Xmas tree after the holidays

By Tea Montier
AFRO Staff Writer

The holiday season is by far one of the more festive and highly decorative times of the year. There are the lights and the tinsel, the wrapped gifts and colorful ornaments. There's the warm gathering of family and the uniting of friends old and new. But perhaps one of the more familiar features of Christmas time is that old holiday favorite, the Christmas tree.

All dressed up and standing aglow the holiday "tree" graces the homes of millions throughout the country. For about a two-week period it becomes the center of conversation when comments are made about "what a pretty tree" and "there's nothing like that fresh smell of pine."

But then comes the first days of a new year, early January, and with it that inevitable period when the lights are put away, the blinkers are turned off and the all time favorite tree has to come a tumbling down.

Getting rid of a tree is by no means as exciting or stimulating as selecting one to adorn your home. In fact, tearing trees down can become quite a task. The dry needles are no fun, dropping off wherever the tree is placed and often pricking whomever does the placing. But there is some consolation however. And that is once you get the tree outside and next to where the trash is kept, city collectors will pick it up from there.

"We emphasize put your tree where your trash is," advised Leonard B. Folio of the city's waste collection division. "...A lot of people put them (trees) in the yard/or throw them in the alley, which isn't necessary. A lot of people may pile trees in others' backyards and that's a fire hazard."

There are six designated days set aside especially for Christmas tree collections here in the city. Those days also on regular collection days are either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, Jan. 8, 9, 10; or Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, Jan. 22, 23, 24. People with trees can select either week for Christmas tree pickup. Forty to fifty trucks will travel throughout the city in search of discarded greenery.

Approximately 60,000 trees were picked up by city workers last year. One out of every four houses had a natural tree. According to Folio, no tree is too small or too large for the city to pick up.

"We are set up to handle what we handled last year," he confirmed. "We may add an extra day if we feel we need it."

Ever wonder what becomes of those once precious trees after they've been picked up by the city? Well they are taken to one of three city locations where they are chipped up and used for mulch.

Folio adds, trees can be picked up before the designated dates if the branches and trunk are cut up and put in containers or bags.

"Be sure," he warns to remove all metal bases, nails and ornaments before discarding the tree.

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