DEL. YOUNG SAYS

Dr. Oakley Saunders refuses to meet with him

By Tela Montier
AFRO Staff Writer

Despite Provident Hospital being faced with a dismal future that could include merging or the possibility of even closing, top administrators there have not been in attendance at key meetings that could impact dramatically on the institutions overall health.

According to Delegate Larry Young, chairman of the House Environmental Matters Committee he has asked on at least four different occassions to meet with hospital officials to discuss what impact the governor's health care cost initiatives will have on Provident, but according to Young: "as of this point they have yet to respond."

On January 31, Governor Hughes officially filed his health care cost containment initiatives. Those initiatives were heard by Del. Young's committee on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

However because those initiatives will directly impact on several area hospitals Del. Young hosted a roundtable discussion among local hospital heads, the Commissioner of Health and members of the Baltimore City Delegation who serve with Young on his committee. Young also requested from the governor that his committee be briefed, in full, on Hughes' initiatives.

"I met with all the hospitals last week," acknowledged Del. Young. "Provident was not represented. I had a meeting four weeks ago with those hospital's directly impacted by this health legislation and Provident was absent."

With the physicians boycott at Provident Hospital entering its 14th week with no end in sight, Del. Young was asked if any progress has been made regarding the Black Caucus offer of arbitration to settle the internal dispute at the hospitals.

Del. Young responded, "..It's still on the table..but we're not optimistic. We're not optimistic at all."

Gross heads council on vocational ed

Clarence F. Gross, Jr., president of Springdale Construction Company, recently assumed the leadership of the Baltimore City Advisory on Vocational Education (BCACVE).

Although the council's mandate is to advise on matters relating to vocational - technical education funds, programs, and job needs, the council strives to work with educators to help build support for quality vocational education programs in the community.

As president of the advisory council, Mr. Gross wants the council to work toward upgrading classroom instruction, increasing job placement rates, and improving the work attitudes and skills of students.

The advisory council works closely with school craft committees, the public and private sectors, and the state Advisory Council on Vocational Education.

For further information, please contact Ms. Angelia Gray Nicholas, Office of Vocational Education at 396-4226.

TRADES '85 to highlight education

The Baltimore City Public Schools' Office of Vocational Education, in expressing concern over the employment situation faced by talented and highly qualified students trained in trade areas in particular, has set in motion plans for its annual TRADES EXPO '85 to highlight education and training and to improve job possibilities for graduates.

Angelia Nicholas, heading the project for students at Fairmount Hill Vocational High School, has announced the school will again hold its annual TRADES EXPO on Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the school "in order to display the work of students and demonstrate their employability skills to area businesses."

At the TRADES EXPO, employers will have the chance to quiz students, to challenge their knowledge and skills, and to observe completed projects fields such as auto mechanics, painting and decorating, carpentry, food service, printing, industrial sewing, nursing assistant, and office occupations.

TRADES EXPO '85 is only one of the activities which are planned to observe National Vocational Education Week Feb. 10-16). The theme for this year's celebration of vocational education nationwide is "Vocational Education: Real Learning."

For more information on TRADES EXPO '85 and other planned activities within Baltimore City Public Schools during Vocational Education Week, call 396-4226.

Community Calendar

Seminar on nationalism

The Kawaida Community Project announces its second annual community organizers seminar: **Introduction to Afro - American Nationalism: From Social Theory to Social Practice**, will be held for five (5) consecutive Saturdays, March 2 thru March 30, 1985 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. John - St. James Community Center, 901 E. Eager Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

The purpose of the seminar is to build and maintain a community of social change advocates who are conscious and capable of and committed to the cultural, economic and political development of the Afro - American population of Baltimore, Maryland. The seminar will be under the instruction of Sanifu Onaje Mwananchi, an accomplished community organizer and dramatic artist. Mr. Mwananchi has been a student and advocate of Kawaida nationalism for the past 14 years.

Tuition for the seminar is $49.00 and is due by Saturday, Feb. 23, 1985.

For more information write to: The Kawaida Community Project, P.O. Box 2102, Baltimore, MD 21203, or call Brother Sanifu at (301) 665-9423.

Vocational Education Week proclaimed

The week of Feb. 10-16 has been proclaimed Vocational Education Week and is observed in concurrence with the national celebration of Vocational Education Week sponsored by the American Vocational Association (AVA).

"Vocational Education: Real Learning" will be the theme of Vocational Education Week. One of the primary purposes of Vocational Education Week is to focus attention of the public, business, industry, education, and is to focus attention of the public, business, industry, education, and government on vocational education.

In observance of this special week, the mayor issued a proclamation officially noting Vocational Education Week.

In order to promote an awareness of vocational education during this week, schools having vocational education programs should consider implementing the following types of activities.

1. Bulletin board, showcase, and hall displays highlighting vocational program activities.
2. Shop laboratory tours (open house)
3. Assemblies with guest speakers from the business industry labor community.
4. Assemblies involving successful graduates from vocational programs.

All questions relative to this circular should be directed to Divisional Specialist, Trades and Industry, Office of Vocational Education at 395-4224.

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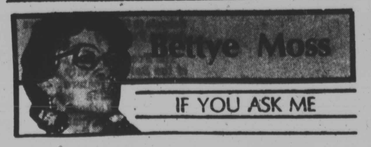

About people

Mrs. William Griggs, (Becky), the retired teacher, will be home from Mercy Hospital this weekend. She had surgery.

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Prayers, please for Mrs. George C. Lottier, (Arnetta), who remains ill at her home. She is the wife of the AFRO treasurer.

—

Also on the mend, Mrs. Alfred C. D. Vaughn, (Lillian), wife of the pastor of Grace Memorial Baptist. She is recuperating at home after a hospital stay last month.

—

Get - well cards, please to Raymond A. C. Young, the retired postal employee, black history expert and Bethel AME Church trustee - emeritus.

He suffered a stroke on Sunday. is confined to Baltimore County General Hospital, Room 409. Cheer to his wife, Mrs. Helen Young, who has been ailing at their Owings Mills home since she had foot surgery a month back.

—

Dr. Bernard Christmas, the dentist, who was hospitalized with pneumonia, is recuperating at home.

—

More people on the mend: — Mrs. Joseph Bracy, (Norma), the retired school librarian, was able to be out this week. She had been hospitalized following a heart attack.

—

Singing the blessings of God and her doctor, the late Dr. Bobby Young, is Mrs. Charles P. Howard, Jr. (Audrey). She's the lawyer who suffered heart attack and cardiac arrest and was brought around by her family physician, Dr. Young, who died two weeks later of a heart attack.

'Box' Harris

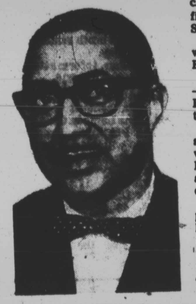
Shortly after his parents registered him in the neighborhood elementary school, Wiliam A. Harris, Jr., attracted many friends. He was chubby, full of life and greatly admired.

One classmate followed him step by step the first week, and then announced, "your head is shaped like a box. I'm calling you Box, okey?"

William, Jr. shrugged his shoulders, and accepted the miscall as a compliment.

But his parents, Dr. William A. Harris, Sr., the physician, and Mrs. Nellie Thompson Harris, were not impressed. They insisted that William Jr., and his younger sister, Nellie, use their real names and encourage others to do likewise. Not even "Willie," "Bill" or "Nell," were acceptable in the Harris home at 703 Dolphin St., in West Baltimore.

Nor were they permitted in Dr. Harris' second floor office at Dolphin and Pennsylvania, atop Hoover's Drugstore, or in Bethel AME Church, where Dr. Harris was superintendent of the Sunday School, and the family spent the Sabbath day in church.


James I. Gustus

The rule remained after Dr. Harris died and Mamma Harris and the two children moved to 1304 Division St., to live with grandparents, Rufus and Nellie Imes Thompson.

But away from the eyes and ears of their elders, the Harris children and their friends continued to use the nickname bestowed by an admiring classmate on William, Jr's first week at Elementary School No. 103.

William A. Harris, Jr., who was 'Box' to thousands, died February 12, at the age of 66.

Box and his wife of 37 years — Ivy Logan Harris — left Baltimore on Friday for a three - week vacation.

Enroute to Singapore, they stopped in Tokyo, Japan, where he participated in a Black History symposium arranged by the Association of the United States Army.

The servicemen were pleased that a real role model had come from the States to talk language they could understand. But he never finished his talk. He collapsed and died while delivering his luncheon address.

Role model

William A. Harris, Jr., built a reputation in his native Baltimore as a man of courage and common sense who knocked down barriers to take leadership roles in his community.

His physician - friend, Dr. Uthman Ray, Jr., put it this way: "He was a role model to so many people because he had an impeccable record as a true and dedicated leader, because he always set positive goals for blacks through his own achievements.

"He thought of himself as a doctor of social wounds and ills. I liken him to a community activist par excellent. He was a catalyst. He could relate to anyone — people in high office, as well as drug addicts. He was a champion of the causes of the rejected, the disenfranchised, the forlorn ..."

Dr. Ray cited these 'firsts' by Box Harris: — 1952, first black parole and probation officer, 1964, first black adjutant general of Maryland with rank of captain; 1968, first black deputy U.S. marshal, U.S. Department of Justice, and first black special agent for the state; 1968 — Director, Community Relations Division, Baltimore City Police Department 1971, first black division chief, with rank of lieutenant colonel in police department's traffic division; 1973, appointed executive assistant, community services by Gov. Marvin Mandel, and served in similar role under Governors Blair Lee and Harry Hughes.

To Storer

During all these years, Box Harris continued his education — taking law enforcement courses at Catholic U., U of Baltimore, U. of Md., "He was prepared," Dr. Ray added.

Cuff notes: Box Harris was among the first Douglass High School students to leave the school and enroll at Storer College, where he earned a reputation as an athlete (The late Douglas Johnson, a Douglass High counselor, was a Storer trustee who encouraged city youngsters to attend the W. Va. school).

Box went to Lincoln U., and after Army service, finished Morgan U.

Friends remember him for his loyalty to them and to all organizations where he served.

In the 60's when he played a

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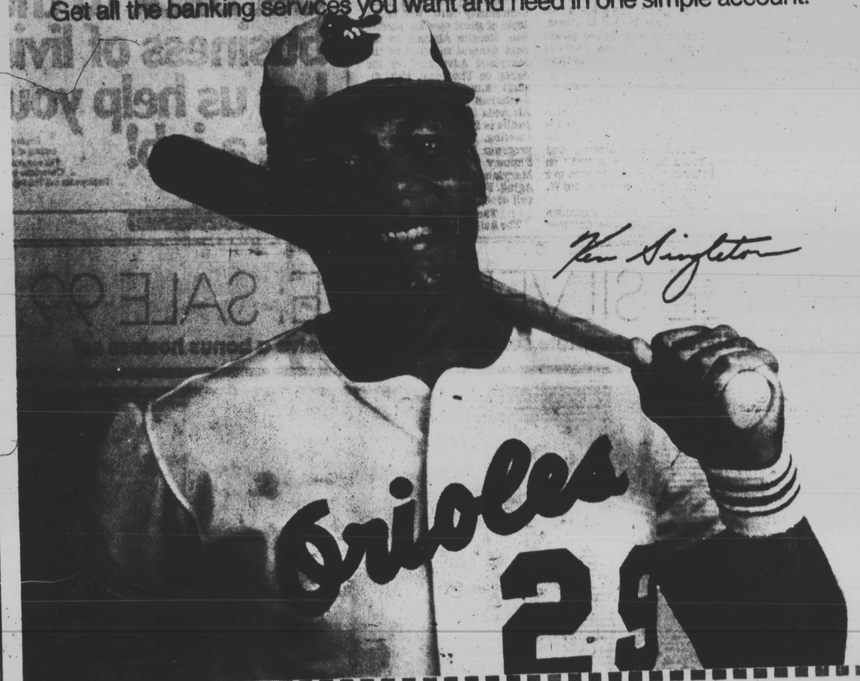

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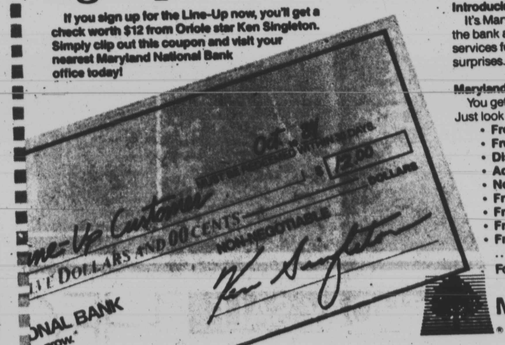

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