—Money approved

Continued from page 1

reported that they began accepting applications on October 31, and will continue accepting them through March 31st, 1986. Interested persons should contact The Urban Services Agency at 396-5555 to locate the neighborhood center nearest them.

"There are about 20 local agencies where people may apply, but those in doubt should call us to find which serves their particular agency," said Mr. Miller Wednesday.

Officials at Urban Services also reported that since Oct. 31, 17,028 applications have been approved for the program, 196 have been denied, and 1,008 applications are still pending.

Urban Services will determine an applicant's eligibility based family income, family size and fuel type used for heating. Listed below are the MEAP income eligibility guidelines.

Family size	Eligibility Income (monthly)
1 person	$656.00 or less
2 person	$881.00 or less
3 person	$1,106.00 or less
4 person	$1,331.00 or less
5 person	$1,556.00 or less
6 person	$1,781.00 or less

If an applicant is renting and heating costs are included in the rent payment, the landlord's name, address, and phone number must accompany the application.

The name, address, and phone number of a supplier of wood, coal, propane, kerosene or oil must accompany the application of those who heat with other natural gas.

Once an applicant is determined as eligible a check is sent to their fuel supplier. The amount of an applicant's grant is based on the amount of household is total income, and other expenses (phone, rent, etc.).

The maximum amounts that a family can receive are $510 for oil and $417 for natural gas per winter heating season. Although an applicant's eligibility status may stay the same through to the following year, he must still reapply.

Last year, MEAP assisted 41,394 city families and nearly exhausted $12 million that was granted for the program. Ed Dupree, chief of Energy Programs at Urban Services reported that less than one tenth of that amount remained at the program's end of March 31st.

"This year we have a little bit more money and we hope that it will last through the winter heating season which ends officially at the end of March," said Mr. Dupree Wednesday.

Another winter heating program, conducted by Baltimore Gas and Electric, also designed to help low-income families manage winter heating costs, the Winter Heating Protection Plan (WHPP). Persons eligible for MEAP automatically become eligible for WHPP, which allows families to pay a minimal amount of their monthly heating bill during the winter, and pay the accumulated balance during the warm months when heating costs should be considerably lower.

"WHPP is an experimental program in its second year. Families must be 150 percent or less below the Maryland Poverty Level to be eligible," Baltimore Gas and Electric spokeswoman Mary Frantz told the AFRO.

—Mayor not home

Continued from page 1

It seems the state is willing to do likewise but only if Schaefer will grab a bucket and risk getting his pants wet.

But the mayor is not at home right now and the troops can't act without him.

They are however musing over the problem. And while it is not a house divided, a possible split could be shaping up.

Those troops who support the sinking Good Ship Provident Hospital and want to bail it out financially have this to say:

"Certainly the city must be involved in coming up with some kind of financial solution. After all it is a institution that is of importance to the black community and we are the larger percent of the city population," said 5th District Trooper Reeves.

"The city should certainly come up with some kind of innovative financial package that's going to help Provident. They found additional revenues for Esskay, why not Provident," 2nd District Trooper McLean said.

"Provident is very important to West Baltimore and all of Baltimore. The city should make every effort to help not only provident (but) all hospitals," Trooper Ambridge, also of the 2nd District, offered.

From First district Trooper DiPietro, "I'm for Provident Hospital being bailed out for a million (dollars), and no more. I think we have the money to keep that hospital open."

Trooper Welch of the 4th District has already rolled up her legislative sleeves and is preparing to get her arms wet if necessary to drain some of the rising waters.

She said, "I have asked to be part of any information and negotiations to lend any assistance I can for our hospital."

5th District Trooper Spector is also in the hunt for bailout funds, "I think we must do whatever we can because we need a medical center in that corridor. I don't want to throw money away, but I think there's a need for a hospital there."

There are some troops who while they haen't said no to Provided they hedge as if waiting for the mayor to come back home. Others choose to straddle the political fence.

"I haven't read the text in order to comment," said a nervous Trooper Curran of the 3rd District.

His district colleague, Trooper Landers, said, "It's interesting that we're talking about cutting back hospital beds and we're considering such paramount lengths to save one hospital."

Said the head trooper who serves simultaneously as the Mayor of Baltimore when the real mayor is away from home, "I don't see where we have the money to support an independent institution. Plus the city has given them money before.

"You ask me should we help? "Sure, but where's the money going to come from? Besides, its not my decision, its the mayor's," quipped Commandant "Du" Burns.

Yes . . . but . . . he's not at home.

—Neighborhood in uproar

Continued from page 1

You see, Ms. Sparks, I have neither the inclination or the desire to justify the existence of this club, nor that of its predominantly black, intelligent and economically sufficient clientele.

"Your thinly-veiled suggestion that I do so, is tainted with a disturbing connotation of racism."

Is it racism? One patron of the club said, "the people who are making these complaints, just don't like the idea that Robert has found so much success here.

"Look at all the other businesses around here like the 7-Eleven and Tugboat Annie's. You mean to tell me that those people don't litter, don't make a lot of noise, don't take a leak on the street?"

Said another, "The people that come here are upscale, you know. For them to do something like litter, well, that would be beneath them," she said sarcastically.

Second District City Councilman Nathaniel McFadden doesn't think its a case of racism, and hinted that Clay's overzealousness in calling a press conference some weeks ago "has precipitated conversations on another level."

McFadden who was made aware of the problem "a couple of weeks ago" added, "I've always felt that we could resolve whatever problems that existed there."

McFadden, and fellow second District Councilmembers Anthony Ambridge and Jacqueline McLean have received correspondance from the two factions regarding the matter.

At the press conference, Clay charged that he was being "hassled" by police in the area.

McFadden said he was not in favor of the press conference, but he added, "Many of the problems are not directly attributable to 32nd Street Plahza.

"I don't think its racially motivated as much as it's people who are irritated about not having parking spaces."

"Robert runs an excellent business," added McFadden who counts himself as a frequent patron.

"There have always been neighborhood complaints."

Sterling Paige of the Liquor Board said he has not yet received any complaints about 32nd Street Plahza. Paige recounted one complaint regarding sexual activity during the clubs previous incarnation as the Office Disco, a reputedly gay night spot.

Paige did not go into depth about the allegation but did say, "We were never able to confirm it."

Paige indicated that there was also "a problem regarding racial discrimination." He said that matter was currently before the court.

As for problems with storing trash, Charles Gilliam of the city health department's Food Control Unit said, "the law does not require on site dumpsters, only that garbage be stored in an appropriate manner."

Gilliam added that a lot of people do use dumpsters, "but sometimes it causes more problems than its worth."

"There's certainly no complaint about the club itself," said Ms. Sparks. She said their complaints were not part of an effort to boot Clay and his establishment out of the neighborhood.

"There's no need for him to move. He's invested a lot of money."

Ms. Sparks on behalf of the CVCA maintains that she'd like to meet with Clay and resolve the matter.

Said Sparks, "I'm not interested in an inflamatory situation. It's the last thing I need to deal with."

CORRECTION

Earlier this week David Jackson of Brock Fuel was mistakenly identified as Jason Akins. Also, in the body of the story Jackson Oil was incorrectly mentioned as the supplier of East Baltimore. Burkhardt Fuel will distribute in East Baltimore and Brock Fuel will supply West Baltimore (Buyers Up).

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—Provident meeting

Continued from page 1

references to linkages of Provident to other medical institutions have raised serious questions in the black community, and this forum is designed to lay all the cards on the table, according to sources involved in calling the meeting.

A number of community leaders are also expected to attend the meeting and offer bailout suggestions as well as assistance to the troubled 90-year-old institution, according to sources close to the situation.

Elder Isaiah Lee dies at 74

Funeral services for Elder Isiah Samuel Lee were held last Thursday at the New Shiloh Baptist Church.

He was born on March 14, 1910, in Baltimore to the late Luviemia Harrison and the late Evangelist William Henry Lee. He was one of ten children born in that union.

Elder Lee, a native of Baltimore died November 3 at Mercy Hospital following an extended illness at the age of 75.

Educated in the Baltimore Public Schools, he was one of the first graduates of Carver Vocational College School of Religion and the Sabbath School of the Church of God and Saints of Christ.

In 1953 the Elder Lee was ordained and his pastorate was in Plainfield, New Jersey.

His awards include Certificate of Recognition from the New Shiloh Baptist Church and the Church of God and Saints of Christ.

Elder Lee was a 32nd degree Mason of the Hiram Lodge, a member of the Knights of Templar, a life member of St. John's Lodge No. 13 and the Shriners.

He is survived by his loving wife, Mrs. Ruby Murray Lee; two daughters, Mrs. Gloria Leach of Washington, D.C. and Sherry J. Reed; two sons, Richard G. and William S. Lee; one grandson, Jason R. Lee; one granddaughter, Pamela Reynolds; one great-grandson, Derek Reynolds; one sister, Hannah Elliot; one brother, John L. Lee.

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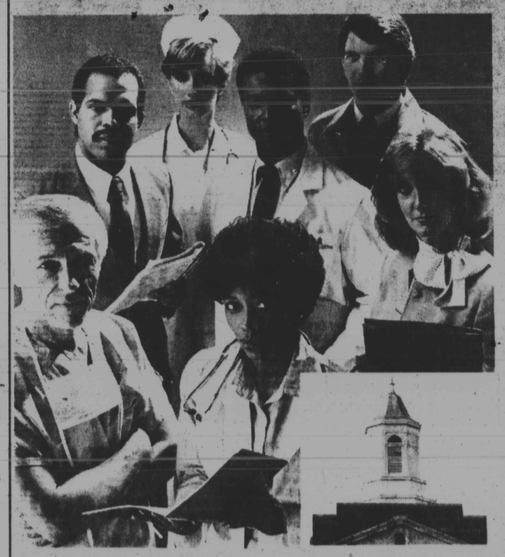

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This week's City Council wrap-up

By Racine S. Winborne

A resolution was introduced into the Baltimore City Council on Monday which would urge all city residents to voluntarily donate blood to the American Red Cross blood donor program.

The resolution, which was subsequently adopted, was sponsored by Councilpersons Anthony J. Ambridge (D-2nd) and Kweisi Mfume (D-4th).

Mfume is chairman of the council's Health Sub-Committee which has conducted two nights of hearings on ways to effectively combat the problems of the growing local A.I.D.S. epidemic.

Representatives of the Red Cross testified at that time that the increased public unawareness of the facts surrounding the infectious disease had caused many people who normally donate blood to cease.

The council also unanimously adopted a resolution calling for local support for the fresh California grape boycott now being spearheaded by United Farm Workers of America President Cesar Chavez.

Mr. Chavez was in town this week to kick - off this latest grape boycott. He received a key endorsement from the Metropolitan Baltimore Council, AFL-CIO.

— —

Newly-elected Annapolis City Councilman Carl Snowden, Genealogist Agnes Kane Callum of East Baltimore, and novelist Freddie Oliva Durant each received special recognition from the council for their individual achievements.

Snowden, known for his years of grass roots community activism, was elected to office on Nov. 5.

Mrs. Callum, a self - taught genealogist and graduate of Morgan State University, has devoted many years to researching and recording the history of her family and its migration during slavery from St. Mary's County.

Mrs. Durant is a little known local author who over a decade ago wrote and published one of the first black romance novels, "The Donaldson Mansion." She is currently working on a sequel.

Mrs. Maggie Quille, Noble Davis and Gregory Walls congratulate Mrs. Dorothy Brunson, owner of WEBB Radio Station, during the recent Junior Achievement of Metropolitan Baltimore's annual Baltimore Business Hall of Fame dinner at the Hyatt Regency.

Homeless, hungry to get help

Baltimore's homeless and hungry will be getting some help from Uncle Sam this winter. That help will come in the form of thousands of dollars in grants to shelters, soup kitchens and other similar programs.

The funds, which flow from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will be distributed in the city through a Local Emergency Services Board. As in past years, the board will divide the funds among qualifying agencies.

The board is made up of representatives of the Baltimore Jewish Council, Associated Catholic Charities, Salvation Army, Associated Jewish Charities and Welfare Fund, Baltimore City Government, American Red Cross, and The United Way.

However, unlike past years, the money will probably be allocated in two stages. The first, totaling about $94,000 will be allocated during the month of November.

Additional funds — perhaps as much as three times that amount — are awaiting congressional approval and will be distributed later this winter, contingent to their being approved.

The board is asking all shelters, soup kitchens and the like to apply once for both amounts of money. For applications, the care providers should contact the Local Emergency Services Board through the Baltimore Jewish Council at 752-2630. Deadline for returned applications is Nov. 15.

Last year, the board allocated $296,270 to 23 different agencies that provided over 30,000 nights of shelter, thousands of pounds of food and rental assistance to the needy of Baltimore.

"The money wasn't enough last year and it won't be enough this year," said Board Chairman Jennie Z. Rothschild, who also chaired the program last year. "But it made a real difference for the poor in Baltimore City. Some shelters were able to remain open, others were able to expand the number of beds they offered."

The board received about $1 million in requests from care providing agencies last year.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Emergency Services Board, local governmental or private voluntary organizations chosen to receive funds must be: non - profit, have an accounting system and conduct an annual audit.

They must also practice non - discrimination, have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and if they are a private voluntary organization, should have a voluntary board.

Qualifying organizations are urged to apply.

All agencies which previously received funds and all Baltimore City shelters known to the Greater Baltimore Shelter Network will be sent applications which must be returned to the Local Emergency Services Board by Nov. 15.

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State jobless rate is 'stable'

Maryland's estimated unemployment rate remained stable in September, 1985, holding at the August rate of 4.3 percent, according to statistics released by the Maryland Department of Employment and Training.

This September's rate was the lowest for a September since 1973.

Between August and September, Maryland's civilian labor force decreased by 14,017 persons, to total 2,277,459 as students and other summer workers continued to leave the labor market. Employment dropped by 13,824 persons for a total of 2,180,255. The number of unemployed persons, declining slightly by 193 persons to total 97,204, represented the lowest level of unemployed persons since May, 1976.

Over the year, the labor force increased by an estimated 35,642. Employment grew by 48,084 persons. Meanwhile, unemployment declined by 12,442 persons.

Of the state's total unemployed, an estimated 30.4 percent received unemployment insurance benefits in September.

Employment in education increased substantially in September as schools began their fall semesters. Other hiring was noted in construction, trucking, school bus driving, and personal services. Meanwhile, large numbers of summer workers were laid off in all levels of government, membership organizations, food processing, eating and drinking places, food stores, hotels and lodging places, amusement and recreation services, and health services.

The national unemployment rate, like Maryland's, was unchanged in September remaining at the August rate of 6.9 percent. In August, only four states had lower unemployment rates than Maryland: They included New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and Rhode Island.

Unemployment among black persons, nationally, was up from the 14.3 percent recorded in August to 15.1 in September. In Maryland, the unemployment rate among black persons, reported annually, was 9.3 percent in 1984.

In the Baltimore metropolitan area, the unemployment rate increased slightly from 5.0 percent in August to 5.2 percent in September. Baltimore City's unemployment rate rose from 6.4 to 6.6 percent.

Unemployment in Maryland's suburbs of the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area in September remained at the August rate of 2.8 percent.

Western Maryland's unemployment rate increased from 6.7 to 6.9 percent. In the Balance of State, the unemployment rate dropped from 5.9 to 5.3 percent.

Statewide, during September, Maryland's unemployment rates ranged from 3.3 percent in Frederick County to 9.8 percent in Somerset County.

Persis Jennings' art show at HU

HAMPTON — "The Homecoming," a twenty - five year evolution of drawings and sculptures by Persis Jennings, is on exhibition at the Hampton University Museum until Dec. 16.

Persis Jennings was a student at Hampton Institute in 1943 when Elizabeth Catlett taught art and Charles White painted the mural, The Contribution of the Negro to American Democracy. Some of her school - mates at the time were Dr. John Biggers and Dr. Samelia Sanders Lewis. These giants of art all took root at Hampton Institute, their fertile ground.

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