—Funeral directors

(Continued from Page A1)

tivate the "where to call for help card" program that was formerly produced by the Mayor's office.

This program gave citizens a listing of phone numbers of individuals and agencies that would answer consumer's questions and any of their specific needs.

Also noted was the various brochures available, and the association would be willing to assist the city in developing brochures that would be available in each councilmanic district office and information centers.

Close was quick to point out that during the hearing, representatives from the Health Department and Commission on Aging reported neither area is equipped or qualified to perform the bill's major function.

Bill 818 would mandate the city health commissioner to conduct an annual survey and publish a report of funeral costs.

Presently the Federal Trade Commission has in effect regulations concerning funeral industry practices called the Funeral Rule which enables consumers to obtain the information about funeral arrangements.

Consumers are already able to gain access information about telephone price disclosures and any other information as well as a lest of individual funeral costs, items and services offered may be obtained by the consumer.

"Bill 818 is not only frivolous, but is just another bill where money and other responsibilities will take up additional city taxes," stated Close.

"This funeral bashing has been the mainstay recently in some political arenas, some of it justified., said Close.

"But using the Brown/Thompson funeral case is not relevant because it did not affect individuals, it was the state agency."

"We must be aware that it is an election year, and someone has to be the guinea pig, and councilwoman Dixon picked us," said Close.

It is the industry's view that the American public does not want to address the Deathcare issue, but he stipulated that if a consumer decides to visit a funeral establishment of their choice, all the information should be available to them.

Councilwoman Dixon is defending her stance, saying

(Continued on Page A3)

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—Jittery jurors

(Continued from Page A1)

result, the verbal questioning of each prospective panelist has been limited to five minutes.

To date, 19 potential jurors have been selected. Most among those questioned have told Judge Jackson "I'd rather not serve", during their appearance before the bench. Several respondents have stated that they believe race is a factor in the case.

Some 12 jurors, and six alternates will hear the evidence.

From Juanita Barham who said she has hypertension to Margaret Batzen who said, "all politicians are dishonest," some used excuses ranging from "sick relatives" to "out of the country trips" to avoid the possibility of serving.

Many told the AFRO that they felt they were on trial, as they faced a stern Judge Jackson and two very aggressive attorneys, who probed deeply into some of the most sensitive areas of their lives.

"You are now a prospective juror in a criminal case known as the United States v. Marion S. Barry Jr.", begins the introduction to the 69 questions contained in the 25-page document.

Prospective jurors are then grilled on a battery of questions such as possible physical impairments, marital status and their knowledge and perception of the trial thus far. "The jury will be instructed not to read, watch, or listen to any news accounts of this trial whatsoever until it is over," the questionnaire reads, "and not to talk to anyone about the case, not even to one another, until it retires to deliberate upon its verdict.

"Would you find it difficult to follow such an instruction for any reasons?"

Cynthia Adams, who is five months pregnant, was asked by Judge Jackson: "Do you need to go to the bathroom a lot?" Attorney Rebecca Burkholder, a one-time burglary victim, was asked by the judge to relive that experience. A devout church goer,she was also asked:"Would religious beliefs cloud your judgment?."

Prospective juror Larry Allen was asked to give the details surrounding his brother's participation in some gangs. He also admitted a previous arrest for a traffic violation before Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Roberts revealed that Mr. Allen had also been arrested for second degree burglary.

Another prospective juror ,Minnie Lee Anderson was asked if her judgement would be affected after reading accounts on Mr.Barry's arrest and other events of the case in *The Capitol Spotlight* — one of several Black owned publications in the city which has in prior issues, featured front page articles suggesting that the mayor is the victim of a longstanding government conspiracy —would affect her judgment.

Mary Arcure was asked about her migraine headaches. Sharisse Banks, who was arrested for cocaine possession charges, which were subsequently dropped, was asked to reveal details about the day she and her friend were arrested. Wanita Warhound was asked about her activities in the church.

Sherry Banks, an employee of the D.C. Department of Public Works seemed like a perfect juror, but that was before Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Roberts revealed that Ms. Banks failed to mention she had been arrested on possession of marijuana charge.

Ms. Banks told Judge Jackson that she believed "an individual like the mayor does have the right to privacy." Judge Jackson dismissed her Tuesday, the second day of the trial, saying that Ms. Banks may be partial to the mayor because of several jobs she has held in the D.C. government.

Larry Q. Allen, a limousine driver, had a big smile when he slipped and said he was a registered Democrat instead of the Republican he was. But his laughter turned to anguish after Mr. Roberts grilled him about failing to list a 1976 arrest for second degree burglary in 1976.

Like Sherry Banks, Mr. Allen was also dismissed on Tuesday. Among those retained as potential jurors were jurors FBI clerk Cynthia Adams and Mary Arcure, a private school art teacher who left the D.C. school system.

Judge Jackson said, "this jury will not be anonymous", indicating that the public will know their names and who they are. However, he also told the propsective jurors that if selected , they will be "sequestered," and "isolated from the news media and the public generally to insure that you will not be improperly influenced."

Mayor Barry is charged with 14 counts — 10 misdemeanor counts of possession of cocaine and 3 felony counts of lying under oath to a Grand Jury and one misdemeanor count of conspiracy to possess cocaine.

If convicted on all charges, Mr. Barry, 54, could be sentenced to 26 years in prison and fined $1.8 million.

When asked how the mayor was doing, Mr. Mundy answered, "he's doing very well.

"His spirits are high."

CORRECTION

In a recent article about the 1990 graduating class of Coppin State College, the AFRO inadvertently excluded the names of the Summa Cum Laude graduating students. Those excellent students were Adrienne Willis - Dorsey, John Musilla, Dawn Abraham and Gail Stanfield. The AFRO regrets the error.

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—Emergency lifted

(Continued from Page A1)

Mandela, after meeting French President Francois Mitterrand on the second day of a 36-hour visit to Paris, said, "We are happy it has been lifted, but do not claim it as a victory for the ANC, although everybody knew it was one of our main demands.

The state of emergency was first imposed on June 12, 1986, to curb a Black uprising in townships across the country. Its measures include detention without charges and a clamp on the media, which provoked Western nations to impose punishing trade sanctions.

It has been renewed annually by de Klerk's predecessor, Pieter W. Botha, who cited a "revolutionary climate" each time the emergency was extended.

Imposition of the state of emergency prompted Western governments to impose tough trade sanctions in 1986 that threw the economy into its most serious crisis since the National Party rose to power on a platform to safeguard minority White privilege.

By Larry Akin Banjoko
AFRO Intern

The United States government has been called upon to intervene in the present insurgency going on in Liberia, so as to bring about a peaceful settlement.

Making this call is Mr. Joseph Davies, president of the Association of Concerned Citizens of Liberia, who lives in Baltimore.

According to Mr. Davies, the U.S. government should make "a rapid acceleration to remove Samuel Doe from power."

His government he said, has failed woefully to fulfill all the promises he made when he came to power in 1980.

"He promised better economic management, a sound democratic system and to fight corruption, nepotism and tribal differences. But none of these he fulfilled.

"To make matters worse, when a general election was conducted on October 15, 1985, Doe rigged the election results to his favor. This made the Liberian citizens lose confidence in him.

"The U.S. government brought Doe to power; they've been maintaining and protecting him there, now they should remove him from power peacefully in the interest of the people of Liberia. The Liberian citizens do not want Samuel Doe anymore."

Another African residing in Baltimore, Mr. Yinka Bamidele, from Nigeria, felt that the United States government should set up a special task force to look into the situation.

"If possible," he added, "a meeting or negotiation should be set where the two parties would be able to settle their differences. This is because removing Doe and putting in Charles Taylor may not solve the problem.

"As it has been with many other African nations, when old leaders are replaced with new ones, the new ones after some time begin to commit the same blunders of their forebears.

Liberians residing in the United States have been trying frantically to lobby the U.S. government to come to the aid of the people of Liberia by taking a definite stand on the issues and removing Samuel Doe from power.

Some of these pressure groups include: Association of Concerned Citizens of Liberia, Union of Liberian Associations in the U.S., and the Association for Constitutional Democracy in Liberia.

—City bids farewell

(Continued from Page A1)

Cathedral to pay homage to the officer known by fellow officers as a "gentleman and a professional".

Bishop John H. Ricard presided over the funeral service with the assistance of Father Donald Sterling, Father Damien Nalepa, Deacon Thomas Wilson and Rev. Edgar Reid.

Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke, Commissioner Edward V. Woods and Congressman Kweisi Mfume addressed the mourning congregation offering words of encouragement to the family and loved ones of the former commissioner and praise for his accomplishments as an officer and a civic model.

Mr. Tilghman was the second Black named to the post of Police Commissioner of Maryland's largest city. He joined the force as a traffic patrolman and later was appointed Commissioner in 1987.

Mr. Tilghman died Sunday. He had valiantly fought the cancer that took his life at the age of 55. For over six months he had been seriously ill. Shortly after appointment to the commissioner's office Mr. Tilghman entered the hospital for an operation to remove a brain tumor.

Com. Edward J. Tilghman

Mr. Tilghman was a native Baltimorean who graduated from Carver Vocational-Technical Senior High School and later earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Baltimore.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine, two daughters; Diane Tilghman Salmond and Angela Tilghman; a son , Edward J. Tilghman Jr.; his mother, Viola Tilghman; three sisters, Peggy Poole Dorothy Count, and Joan Hatcher; one brother, Clarence Tilghman and a granddaughter, Jessica .

—Escapee captured

(Continued from Page A1)

noon but was captured outside the jail moments later, according to AFRO sources.

The inmate, identified as Clifton Fitzgerald, was armed with a 380 automatic pistol with a full ammunition clip. During the escape attempt, he managed to take Captain Ronald Wicks hostage.

Sources at the jail said no one was injured during the escape attempt although shots were traded by Fitzgerald and a woman guard stationed in the jail's tower, who was armed with a shotgun.

Fitzgerald managed to escape from the back of the jail and is said to have run into traffic, pursued by several jail officers, sources said.

At AFRO presstime the suspect was in the custody of the Baltimore City Police Department.

—Announcement

(Continued from Page A1)

upcoming announcement in which he will form a slate with Delegate Tony Fulton, Roland Holmes and a third team member yet to be identified.

Delegate Fulton and Holmes have both officially announced their candidacies and have filed for election at the State Board of Elections in Annapolis.

Roland Holmes has doubly filed for the positions of 40th District delegate and State Central Committee representative from the 40th District.

Delegates Ralph Hughes and Howard "Pete" Rawlings have teamed up with Morgan faculty member and longtime activist Dr. Salima Siler Marriott and Lisa B. Williams, a former administrator in the Maryland State Office for Handicapped Individuals. Ralph Hughes will lead the team as Senator elect.

The Monday June 18, deadline for change of party affiliation(unless from one county to another) is fast approaching and candidates who wish to change party affiliation after this date will have to wait until registration re-opens following the primary.

Thursday July 12, (9 p.m.) is the deadline for candidates to withdraw before the primary election (within 10 days after filing deadline). The deadline for Central Committees to fill vacancies by reason of there being no candidate filed is Tuesday July,17.

The last date for all candidates running in the primary elections to be certified by SABEL (State Aministrative Board of Election Laws) to local boards is August 13,1990.

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—Funeral

(Continued from Page A2)

that her bill is legitimate because the federal government is looking into eliminating the law requiring funeral establishments to supply this information to the public.

"How does Mr.Close think the Brown/Thompson funeral case came into being ? Relatives of the deceased called officials to tell them of the problems that were happening that led to the investigation."

"As for funding for the program, we are looking into ways of raising money from organizations such as the Able Foundation and Grants," said Dixon.

She will be calling a meeting with the funeral directors and morticians association leaders in the next few weeks to try and work out mechanisms to assist the public before the bill is passed by the next city council session.

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