—Guardian Angels

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was offered to the Guardian Angels. They were extended an offer to work closely with the police department, in hopes of a successful campaign to rid our city of crime. Our meeting went very cordial and was low key. At this point we are very optimistic and so are they."

Hill continued, "Sargent Ben Liu has been appointed as the liaison between the Angels and the Police department. Sargent Liu is assigned to the Police Community Relations Division and will be at the disposal of the group."

The current debate over which city officials support the Angel's efforts to eradicate the city's crime came to a head when 2nd District Councilman Tony Ambridge called a press conference earlier this week.

Ambridge called a press conference at the Angel's Center Street Headquarters to protest unanswered phone calls that he had repeatedly made to Guardian founder and chief, Curtis Sliwa and the group's unannounced visit to the Mayor's office.

Ambridge declared, "I made telephone calls to Sliwa on Monday when he appeared on a local T.V. show, later I called him while he was appearing on a radio show, that time I was able to reach him. We talked live on the air and he made a promise to call me by lunchtime, Wednesday. Well several lunchtimes have passed since then and I still have not received a call or been able to set a meeting with him."

On the day of the scheduled press conference Media interviewers waited outside with Ambridge and a representative from the office of councilman Carl Stokes, Jai Obey, for the arrival of Nick Scaddeferri. Scaddeferri is the only Angel member with the authority to speak for the Baltimore branch in the absence of Curtis Sliwa.

By the time Scaddaferri received the message that the press conference was being held, Ambridge had left the scene in disgust, thinking that once again his calls and appeals for dialogue with the group would not reach fruition.

Scaddaferri said that "We would rather work with the cooperation of the Mayor and City council. That would make our job that much easier. If they oppose us then we will have to fight on two fronts, and that is not the way to effectively conqueror the drugs in our neighborhoods."

Ambridge said, "The Angels claim that they tried to contact the Mayor. I don't equate dropping in the Mayor's office unexpectantly with a real try at communicating with him.

"My concerns and those of some of my fellow councilmembers center around the ability of the Angels to make citizens arrests and whether or not they can back up a lot of their machismo and bravado type talk with action that is effective and in the best interests of our citizens."

The roles assigned to the Guardian Angels, city officials and the Police Department were aid out when a meeting was finally arranged between the Angels, city officials and the Police Department on Tuesday. They reached the same conclusion voiced by Councilman Carl Stokes and many inner city residents.

Stokes said, "I don't think that we should spend a lot of time and energy fighting the Angels, we should spend that energy fighting criminals."

(Photo by Ricardo Gray)

UP ON THE ROOF—Guardian Angels (from left to right) Paul Johnson, Kevin Autry, Eric Milledge, Bernard Bevans, Melvin D. Brewer, Tops and Jonathan "Technic" Mack receive orders from District Commander Nick Scaddefferi on the roof of their Center Street headquarters building.

—Stokes introduces bill

(Continued from Page A1)

sor Carl Stokes (2nd district) earlier this week.

The bill, which has been assigned to Stokes's health committee for review, would set an 80-degree ceiling for the 47 nursing homes in Baltimore City to prevent heat complications due to extreme temperatures and humidity from June 1 to October 1.

Stokes said he introduced the bill two weeks ago, as a measure to rectify the problem, which he said caused two nursing home residents to die from heat exhaustion last year.

Donald T. Torres, the city's health department's assistant commissioner of environmental matters, said the department conducted a telephone survey last year and discovered 2/3 of the nursing homes did not have adequate air conditioners or enough fans.

Torres said the nursing homes cited were Crawford Retreat Home, Federal Hill Nursing Center, Mount Sinai Nursing Home, Melcour Nursing Home, Kenesaw Nursing Home, Key Circle Hospice, Lafayette Square Nursing Center, Garrison Nursing Home, Greenwood Acres Nursing Homes and Haven Nursing Home.

Torres said Ashburton Nursing Home, Franklin Court Nursing Center, Mount Vernon Care Center and Northwest Nursing and Convalescent Center now claim to have either installed air conditioners or will soon.

Torres said a health department team would visit the nursing centers in mid-March to verify if cooling systems have been installed.

A hearing is scheduled May 17 on the bill which has the support of 17 other council members. Councilman Martin E. Curran (3rd district) was ill when the bill was introduced April 17.

Stokes said he is waiting for the city's health commissioner and solicitor to give their opinions on the bill.

"We certainly support the bill's intent, but we need to consider if 80-degrees should be the maximum temperature," said Torres. "The bottom line is the health and welfare of the patients.

Gary D. Rodwell, organizer for Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development, said the group supports Stokes' bill. BUILD was concerned with Baltimore nursing homes last year and developed an 11-point nursing home reform initiative.

Stokes and Rodwell said it would not cost nursing homes a major expense to install air conditioners.

"The air conditioned buildings will bring more clients to the facilities, so the cost of air conditioning will be absorbed by having more clients," Stokes said.

The councilman said the current bill does not list penalties, but penalties will be added.

"We don't want to have to put a hammer over their heads ... We hope they will voluntarily get air conditioning," Stokes said.

Beginning July 1, the federal government will require all new nursing homes to be equipped with air conditioners, the BUILD director said.

Councilman Stokes said the bill was inspired by relatives of nursing home residents who complained their loved ones lived in extreme uncomfortable conditions. He is a member of BUILD's 32-member policy making board.

Stokes' bill would also require nursing homes to have adequate linens, toiletries and moving equipment.

Baltimore
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NEWSPAPER

—Oliver North guilty

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described his activities in the U.S. arms sales to Iran and the covert effort to provide supplies to the Nicaraguan rebels.

He also was convicted of destroying national security documents in November of 1986 and of accepting an illegal gratuity — a $13,800 security system.

The retired Marine lieutenant colonel, who remained free pending sentencing, faces up to 10 years in jail and $750,000 in fines.

North was acquitted of three counts of lying to Congress, three counts of obstructing Congress, and one count each of lying to the attorney general, converting more than $4,300 in traveler's checks and tax fraud.

The all black jury of nine women and three men returned the verdict after deliberating 64 hours over 12 days.

Flanked by his defense lawyer Brendan Sullivan, North, 45, stood quietly while the convictions were read by U.S. District Judge Gerhard Gesell, 78, a veteran of the Watergate and Pentagon, Papers trials.

Gesell scheduled North's sentencing for June 23.

Jury foreman Denise Anderson, 34, a hospital secretary, presented Gesell with the verdict, produced from the jurors' review of trial testimony from 50 witnesses and the presentation of 363 exhibits of about 1,300 pages. The jury was sequestered during deliberations.

There was no immediate reaction from Bush or Reagan.

—Health care workers

(Continued from Page A1)

vice Employees International Union (SEIU) 2-1 in its bid to control the hospital workers union.

Artis said he based his figures on the health union members responses to a recent telephone poll.

But Robert Moore, president of Local 1199E-DC of the hospital workers union, said he is optimistic SEIU will win the vote because union members realize SEIU better represents their causes than AFSCME.

"SEIU can help us build the strongest and largest health care workers' union in the nation," Moore said.

"With AFSCME we would become an appendage of a public employees union," Moore added.

Artis contends Moore's argument is "illogical," because half of the health care workers' union members are public workers.

"We don't dislike public workers and we don't pretend to," said Artis.

The winner of this month's mail-in referendum, which began May 1, will become the nation's largest health care workers' union. The American Association of Arbitrators mailed ballots to the health care workers and is overseeing the vote that ends May 26.

Moore said SEIU can help the hospital care workers, who are prone to health risks and escalating health care problems, build a union that is comparable to the nation's once powerful steel and auto workers unions.

"We don't have anything against AFSCME, except it is a government workers union," said Moore. He was arrested two weeks ago at a union meeting for trespassing and has since filed an unfair labor practice suit at the labor board for having "no right to remove me."

Moore goes to court May 18.

An American Arbitration Association spokeswoman refused to comment on the proceedings, only responding "we are a mutual organization".

Artis said AFSCME's proposal to guarantee $1.55 million each year for the national union's growth is better than SEIU's plan which "has not said a single dime will go to the national union for exclusive use".

"AFSCME's proposal is good for the national union and SEIU's proposal is good for SEIU," Artis charged.

According to Moore, if SEIU is the winner, its organizational budget would be $17 million and its program budget, which covers safety and health training for union members, would be $76 million for the next five years.

Seven years ago, Moore said the health care union had an opportunity to join the retailers and wholesalers union, but was "blocked from affiliation at the end".

"Now we have the opportunity and members want to take advantage of it and build a stronger union," the 1199E president said.

Both men agreed racism was not wide-spread during this merger, because many of the members are black, but Artis said white male union members were pushing for the break-up of the union more than blacks.

"There was at least some taint of racism involved," said Artis.

Artis also contends AFSCME offers more viable leadership roles to blacks and women in meaningful upper-level positions.

For example, Artis said AFSCME has a black national president and as a black woman executive director, who are not in "token or symbolic positions."

Meanwhile, Artis charged SEIU only has one black international vice president who lives in St. Louis, Mo. and he was only elected recently.

Moore, who said he wants blacks to play an important role in the new union, said, "I don't believe AFSCME will win."

BALTIMORE AFRO-AMERICAN
628 N. Eutaw Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(301) 728-8200
Circulation audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulation (ABC)

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National Advertising Representatives: Amalgamated Publishers, Inc., 45 W. 45th Street, New York, New York, 10036.

Affiliated Publications: Dawn Magazine, 295 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017, (212) 679-5152; **Washington Afro-American;** 2002 11th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 332-0080; **Richmond Afro-American,** 301 E. Clay Street, Richmond, VA 23219, (804) 649-8478.

Newsstand Rate: 1 Year (Saturday) $26.00, 2 Years $46.00, 3 Years $58.00; Checks for subscriptions should be made payable to the Afro-American Company, 628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS
News Room 728-8200
EVENINGS AND SATURDAY
728-8204

The Baltimore Afro-American (USPS 040-800) is published Saturday for $26.00 per year by the Afro-American Company of Baltimore, Inc., 628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201. Second class postage is paid at Baltimore, Maryland. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Baltimore Afro-American, 628 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201.

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400 MASONIC LEADERS met to discuss a variety of issues.

400 Masonic leaders in town

(Continued from Page A1)

sisting primarily of business, civic, scholastic and religious leaders.

"All Masons are leaders, said James T. Dorsey, past deputy grand master of the Maryland order.

"These people here really represent a major portion of our country," said Earl Mathews of the Maryland order. "Members of the Masons come from all walks of life.

"You have Mayor Bradley of Los Angeles, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Lt. Gov. Wilder of Virginia...nearly every leader, by virtue of his position must be a member of the Masons," Matthews continued. "Cong. Kweisi Mfume is even about to join. We've been pursuing him long enough."

Coming in the wake of the recent African-American Summit held recently in New Orleans, La., the conference represents the second national assembly of black leaders, in as many weeks, gathered to address the wide range of problems affecting the black community.

"Our focus is on events which effect our community," said Morris Miller, grand master of the Minnesota Jurisdiction and chairman of the conference steering committee. "We are all governed by the same principles and concerns.

"We are going to look at such things as the recent Supreme Court decision on quotas to see how it will impact other programs and then see how the universal brotherhood of Masons can play a part."

Two other Prince Hall affiliated organizations are meeting in conjunction with the Conference of Grand Masters, the 41st Conference of Grand Chapters Order of the Eastern Star and the Sixth Conference Order of the Knights of Pythagoras.

The Maryland Chapter of the Eastern Stars, headed by Grand Matron Frances Parker, the ladies arm of the Prince Hall order, convened under the theme: "Who are we, where are going, when are we going."

The Knights of the Pythagoras is the Prince Hall youth group ranging in ages from nine to twenty years old.

The group will meet through Friday, May 5, with a meeting schedule that includes addresses by Mayor Kurt Schmoke, NAACP Executive Director Benjamin Hooks, States Attorney Stuart Simms and Cong. Kweisi Mfume.

"It's an overwhelming success in terms of representation," said newly elected Maryland Grand Master, Samuel T. Daniels, retiring executive director of the Baltimore Council for Equal Business Opportunity and conference host.

The splendor and opulence of Mason attire overwhelmed the meeting rooms of the Marriott with its marble floors and grand piano.

Wearing sheepskins, aprons embroidered with gold and purple trimmings, and gold chain link collars with the large circular emblems, were the symbols of the wearer's office, such as the crossed quill pens of the grand secretary's office and the crossed keys of the grand treasurer.

Begun in 1791 by West Indian born Prince Hall in Boston, Mass., the nearly 200 year old requirements for membership in the Masonic orders are the same today: Applicants must be free men and of legal age.

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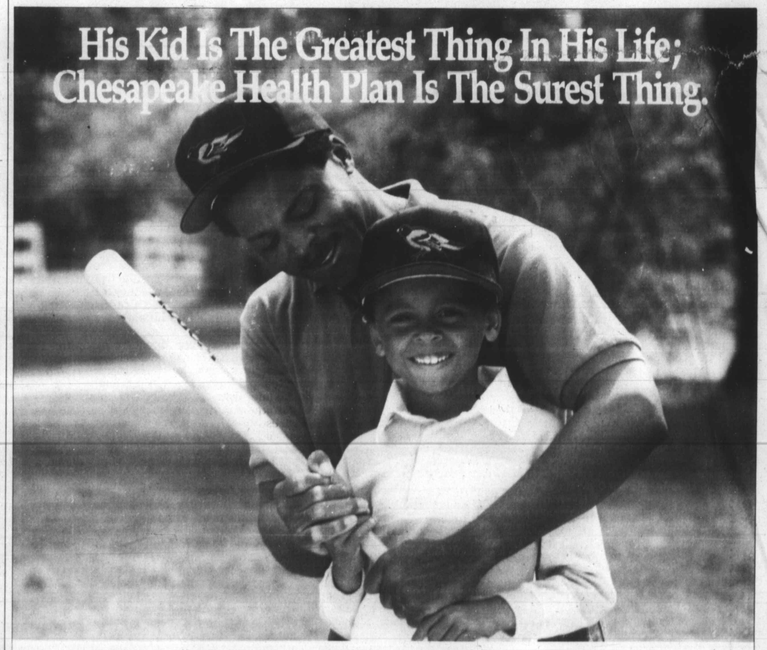

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