Otis Redding legacy continues with sons

The Reddings, Dexter Redding, Otis Jr. and Mark Locket. Inset, the late Otis Redding.

Like Otis Sr., they were all self-taught musicians who, in Mark's own words, "could relate to music naturally." During their teen years the trio would engage in long jazz jam sessions. "Yes," says Dexter, "we were really into jazz and used it as a guide to play. Later on we moved to popular music 'cause you always want to play something the people want to hear."

Dexter made his recording debut at age 12 on Capricorn Records with the single "God Bless" b-w "Love Is Bigger Than Baseball." The record did well in Europe, but this was a one shot deal and Dexter was quickly back jamming with his siblings.

Zelma Redding, the owner of a popular Macon nightspot, the New Directions, followed a hands-off policy toward their music. Mark relates that "she didn't try at all to push us in this direction. She just said 'Go for yourself and do what interests you.' When we said we were serious about music then she agreed to manage us."

Their first band was called Father's Pride, a mix of the Reddings and local musicians. It had a very inauspicious start. "Those first days were rough" Mark laughs. "Then we played New Directions the audience was super-critical, definitely letting you know what they thought. Considering the women are praising Otis, Little Richard and James Brown, the audience had reason to be discerning. "People would even stop us on the street to talk about our show. It was as if they felt a personal commitment to help make us as good as possible."

Then in 1979 they changed the group's name to The Reddings and with that came more musical assurance. Playing as far west as Oklahoma before audiences overtly aware of the offspring of Otis Redding, they won rave reviews. Even back in Macon, Dexter's bass, Otis' guitar, Mark's keyboards and their ensemble singing received well deserved praise.

Prior to pairing them with the songwriting team of Nick Mann, Bill Beard and Chet Fortune who wrote four tunes on the album, Russell Timmons, president of Believe In A Dream Records, heard tapes of The Reddings and was so impressed he signed them immediately to his label. For the last year The Reddings and Timmons have been working in the label's Washington studio on instrumentation and vocal arrangements.

Now the fruits of their labor are apparent on "The Awakening", a diverse album marked by romantic ballads, chunky dance tracks and even a fusion instrumental.

In Otis Jr.'s words, "We are proud of our heritage, but we want our own identity too. In everything we do The Reddings intend to maintain the high standard of quality our name represents. We're aware of what came before and we are looking ahead. That's what our music is all about. "The Awakening" shows that so very well.

BMA honors brothers

The Baltimore Marketing Association salutes two outstanding businessmen, Francis J. and J. Bert Tilghman, owners of the Time Printers. They will be honored at BMA'S Annual Awards Dinner on Friday, Dec. 5 at the Downtown Hilton.

The affair will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.

The Madden Family has been associated with the printing industry since 1897 when their late father, Gabriel Madden, founded the Madden Printing Company on Druid Hill Avenue. Gabriel studied under Booker T. Washington and later implemented the first printing operation at Tuskegee Institute. Frank and Al continue a fine tradition and are highly acclaimed as the largest job and commercial printers operated by blacks in the State of Maryland.

Proceeds from the Affair support the BMA Scholarship Fund.

This year's recipients are: Lillie O. Drummond, University of Maryland - Eastern Shore; Tyrone D. Moore, Morgan State University; Glenda R. White, Bowie State College; and Joyce Cates, Coppin State College. Additionally, a high school achievement award will be presented to Anastasia Parker, a student at Walbrook Senior High School.

Top Hits

Albums

1. HOTTER THAN JULY — Stevie Wonder
2. TRIUMPH — The Jacksons
3. ZAPP — Zapp
4. 70 — The Commodores
5. GIVE ME THE NIGHT — George Benson
6. ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST — Queen

Singles

1. MASTER BLASTER — Stevie Wonder
2. LOVELY ONE — The Jacksons
3. MORE BOUNCE TO THE OUNCE — Zapp
4. LOVE T.K.O. — Teddy Pendergrass
5. ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST — Queen

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Calendar

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

Fri., Nov. 28

Patterson Park Branch: Film — "The Hobbit," 3:15 p.m.

Sat., Nov. 29

Central Library: Preschool story hour, 11 a.m. Children's Department: Films — "Sons of the Desert" and "The Miracle Rider (Part 12): The Secret of X." 2 p.m., Wheeler Auditorium.

Mon., Dec. 1

Carlton Center: Film — "Hang Your Hat on the Wind." 4 p.m.

Tues., Dec. 2

Highlandtown Center: Films — "The Cricket in Times Square," "Tit for Tat," and "Sleeping Beauty, Brier Rose." 3:30 p.m.

FREE FILMS

Laurel and Hardy pretend they are going to Hawaii for Ollie's health but actually attend their lodge convention in Chicago in "Flims of the Desert," to be screened at 2 p.m. on Sat., Nov. 29, at the Central Library, 400 Cathedral St.

Admission to all film programs is free.

"The Mind of Music," a new film by Baltimore film makers Michael Lawrence and Timothy Wade, will be shown at a community meeting of distinguished musicians and music lovers with performances by Peabody faculty and students. It will be screened at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 2, at the Central Library, 400 Cathedral St.

"Make a Serious Impression," a set of two short films about the importance of a marriage interview, and "Sex Role Stereotyping," a film about sex roles, will be screened at 4 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 1, at the Pratt Library Annex Branch, 1531 Eutaw Place.

★ Music ★ Donations needed for Mitten Tree

Soprano Anna Maria Alberghetti will be the guest star at the Baltimore Symphony Pops concerts conducted by Eric Knight on Saturday, Nov. 29. The first half of the program will be devoted to orchestral selections. After intermission, Miss Alberghetti will join the Orchestra to perform selections from "The Sound of Music," "Carnival," "Jesus Christ Superstar," and other musicals. She will also be featured in an "Italian Medley" of songs from her native land. Miss Alberghetti will be accompanied by pianist Pearl Kauffman, who also presents her own arrangements and piano selections. The concert begins at 8:15 p.m.

Don't let our city's children go without mittens this year! The Mayor's Office of Special Projects is now accepting donations for the City of Baltimore's Mitten Tree. The official kick-off date is set for Tuesday, December 2, 1980 at noon in the Municipal Building There, to the tune of Christmas choirs, citizens are invited to place their mittens on the Mitten Tree.

Shortly before Christmas, the mittens will be taken to the Salvation Army where they will be distributed in time for Christmas. If you are unable to attend the Mitten TreeKick-Off please drop off your mittens to room 355 in City Hall.

For more information on the City's Mitten Tree program, please call the Mayor's Office of Special Projects at 396-4891.

Canned good drive

WWIN and Club International along with Washington Boston Restaurant is conducting a canned goods drive tonight (Friday) at Club International from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Those making contributions will receive a free album from WWIN. Larry Everett is in charge.

THE DELLS
THE SOFTONES
in concert at the LYRIC THEATRE

Admission $7.50 and $8.50

Tickets on sale at: Modern Music, Mondawmin Mall. Music Liberated, Park Ave. & Mondawmin. For The Record, Northwood & Reisterstown Road Plaza: Your Record Shop, Old Town Mall. Lyric Theatre box office... For more information call 727-2220 or 685-5050.

sun. november 30th
2 shows 7:30pm and 10:30pm

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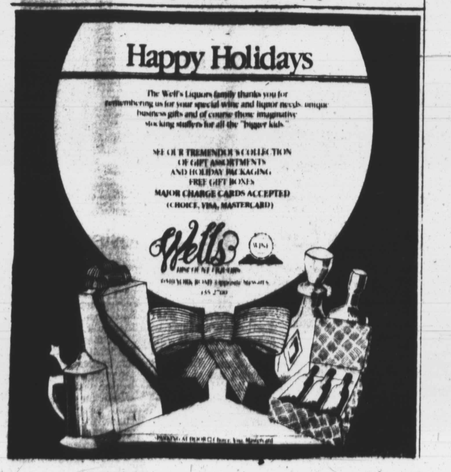

TV Watching

Beah Richards portrays the grandmother of an ambitious young man, in "A Christmas Without Snow," The new made-for-television movie about a group of choir members struggling to perform Handel's "Messiah" under the leadership of a perfectionist director will be broadcast as a special movie presentation on Tuesday, Dec. 9.

Friday

Sanford and Son: The Sanfords strike oil while filling their new garden. Redd Foxx, Demond Wilson, Bubba Smith. 7:30 p.m.-Ch. 45.

Dr. Seuss: "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is Dr. Seuss's holiday story about the Whos, whimsical creatures who like nothing better than Christmas. North of Whoville lives the Grinch, with a heart two sizes too small, and evil plan to steal Christmas. 8:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Soanso: The presence of a newly acquired official hostess further complicates the calamitous preparations for a monumental reception — capped by a lookers Katie's disappearance. Soanso: Robert Guillaume. 8:00 p.m. - Ch. 13.

Freaky the Snowman: Jimmy Durante narrates his story of Freaky for whom rising temperatures threaten a meltdown — unless he can reach the North Pole. 8:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Rockford Files: Rockford tries to clear the name of a convict (Isaac Hayes) who has already done time for a crime he claims he didn't commit. 11:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Saturday

Pid Albert: It's election time and the gang must choose a class president. 12:00 p.m. Ch. 2.

Sid Yvain: Guests: Lalo Schifrin and Gwynne Hunt ("Can't Fake the Feeling"). 12:30 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Voices to Freedom: Jazz guitarist Tom Whitfield talks about his 11 years as a member of the Hebrew Israelites, a group of black Americans who settled in Israel after the Chicago riots in the 60s. Whitfield explains why he left the group earlier this year. 2:30 p.m.-Ch. 11.

She Na Na: Guest Stephanie Mills performs "Sweet Sensation". 7:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Sanford and Son: A housing-project builder tries to buy the vote of Fred (Redd Foxx), a new appointee to the mayor's Community Relations Bureau. Demond Wilson. 7:30 p.m.-Ch. 45.

WKRP in Cincinnati: In Dayton on business, Herb is approached by a high - school classmate who has undergone a remarkable transformation. (Tim Reid). 8:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Love Boat: Isaac(Ted Lange) talks the crew into praising his Aunt Tevia (Isabel Sanford) by her acting prowess. 9:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Flip Wilson: 11:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Mean Man Connection: 1:10 a.m.-Ch. 45.

Sunday

Kids Are People Too: Actor Billy Dee Williams is guest. 10:30 a.m.-Ch. 2.

Solid Gold: Co-host Johnny Mathis performs "Chances Are". 1:00 p.m.-Ch. 45.

Afternoon Playhouse: "J.T." originally telecast in 1969, tells of a shy kleptomaniac who tries to nurse an injured alley cat back to health. Problem is played by Jeanette DuBois. 4:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Monday

John Davidson: Guests include the group Ray, Goodman and Brown. 4:30 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Bill Lane in Hollywood

The Ebony Awards television taping was held here in Hollywood with an array of talent on hand to receive honors and to do honors to Johnson Publishing's high - flying publications. Air date coming up pronto, reports are.

SINGER Kellee Patterson back from Hawaii, along with all those other people from "The Jeffersons." Kellee went at once into TV work on the local scene, and into preparation for a giant musical now in the works for her and Scherrie Payne.

LINDA Hopkins had to bow out of the "Minstrel Show" musical which first was said to be set for Broadway, a la "Sophisticated Ladies," but which at the last minute was said to be prepping for an off - Broadway opener. Hopkins said she was well past the time for being a stage hopeful, looking forward to opening near something. "I'm now used to being right on it or not in it, she told us. As soon as she got back to Hollywood she went at once into a religious concert with the Rev. Ike, at the Shrine here. And she has more TV offers than she can handle at the present.

BILL COSBY dropped into the Parisian Room here when his ace musician buddy Willie Bobo was holding forth At one point of the show Cosby clambored aboard the bandstand and played percussion with the Bobo unit, holding forth to the delight of the audience throughout the entire set. The Parisian now features the singing of Esther Phillips, making way right after her "gig" for the Earl "Fatha" Hines revue.

DENISE Nicholas took a breather from all that work now being done by her film production company, Masai Enterprises, to do a quick segment of "Different Strokes," with that mighty mite of mirth and verbal mayhem, Gary Coleman and his talented shadow, Todd Bridges.

LOUIS Farrakham is known mostly as a speaker, as a minister in the Muslim world. Few people, comparatively, know that at one time he was a singer and had a smooth and colorful club act going. Now Minister Farrakhan's brought out two singing sides on record, "Heed The Call, Y'all" and "Black Man's Hell." Both are re - issues, but are selling like brand new.

CANDY Ward's precise photos of Gary Coleman made space in People Magazine... The Commodores said to be set to make some changes having to do with management. Some say the group may end up managing itself. Anyway, their main singer, Lionel Richie, was given a vote of confidence by his fellow Commodores, showing one and all there was no malice, nor envy, about Richie's being the top draw of the group and scoring hits with songs he has been writing for other top singers. To all of which we can say Great! No blacks today can be so envious or hateful or jealous of one another to the point of obliterating success for everybody.

SAYS the outspoken black woman lawyer Flo Kennedy: "There is no need to mourn the defeat of Jimmy Carter because we really didn't have anything from the start. . . Ronald Reagan will be like shock therapy. He is the essence of America, dumb, phony and tricky."

BOB LUCAS scored a biggie. He sold a novel to one of the big publishers, and has contracted for two books a year . . . Joe Jackson's singing discovery, Leda Grace, ready with her new album on Polydor Records, the release said to be a winner surprise . . . Isaac Hayes left for Australia, to be gone until December, doing concerts. Back here he'll look forward to his movie starrer "Escape From New York."

LARRY Graham hit it with a purpose in his recent outing here at the Roxy, some of the women audience members still walking around with his singing tones in their ears of "One in a Million." And Dave Clark writes from his Malaco Records in Jackson, Miss., that his new singing discovery, Ruby Wilson, singing "Bluer than Blue" is his greatest discovery ever. We don't see how he can conjure it up, but Clark says Miss Wilson is "a combination of Billie Holiday, Dinah Washington and Big Maybelle all wrapped up into one."

GAMY Burdette Taylor, one of the stars with Bob Doqui in the PBS television series "Up and Coming," mighty happy that the series got a new lease on life. Not because she is a star in it but because it IS a grand teleseries, winning plaudits all over when it came out with its first 15 - segments.

MASAI Enterprises filming TV commercials supporting food drives for the starving peoples of Somalia, the spots featuring Valerie Harper, Cloris Leachman, Orson Welles, Muhammad Ali and Alex Haley.

BWI tour guides

BWI Tour Guide Eileen Young of Gambrills, MD. has been promoted to assistant tour coordinator of BWI Airport's guided tours program.

A tour guide for the past two and one half years, Mrs. Young will have a more active part in planning and promoting the program with tours coordinator Patricia E. Waite. The guided tours are one of the numerous functions of BWI's Office of Information and Trade Development, directed by Carroll H. Hynson, Jr. According to Mr. Hynson, "Mrs. Young's promotion recognizes her outstanding performance and contributions to the success of this important community relations activity."

BWI's tours program is conducted by a team of six uniformed tour guides as a public service offered to any interested groups of at least 15. Many clubs and organizations throughout the Baltimore - Washington region have taken the guided tours of the new BWI terminal. The number to call in the Washington area for scheduling a tour is 261-1000. In the Baltimore area, the number is 787-7026.

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—If you ask me

(Continued from Page 7)

saluting Walter F. Worrill.

He retired after 38 years of dedicated Y service, 9 years as executive director of the YM's Council, Middle Atlantic Region. He was a first.

Succeeding him is a young black woman, Yvonne Ragland, of Philadelphia.

Cuff note: Mr. Worrill, his wife, Sylvia, will be honored in this area next month. The Harvey Martinis and the Julian Bacots receive in their honor on Dec. 14, at the former's Anne Arundel County home.

Heritage altar

People are still talking about the very impressive service held a Sunday ago at Heritage United Church of Christ (3106 Liberty Heights at Denlyn Rd.)

The pastor, the Rev. Wendell Phillips, dedicated and presented to the church a communion altar containing 83 stones from the Holy Land.

Massive and impressive, the altar was designed and crafted by Heritage members, Pat Scott and Frank E. Jones.

It is made of redwood, tastefully painted with a black border. The three white, raised center panels are white.

A beveled cross, in redwood, is in the center of the structure, with the stones clustered at the lower part of the cross.

About the stones

They are in varying sizes and colors, and represent the holy places Jesus traveled during His life on earth.

Some of the stones are the gift of the pastor's father, Rev. Porter W. Phillips Sr., long pastor of Carrone Baptist Church, Pittsburgh. He visited the Holy Land in 1947.

The others were collected by the Heritage minister on his 1977 visit.

The handsome, new altar is the gift of Rev. Phillips and his wife, Dorothy, and their son, Wendell Jr., in honor of their parents, the senior Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, and Mrs. Phillips' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Harris.

The dedication ceremony included a roll call of friends and deceased Heritage members, as well as others who gave their lives for freedom.

Cuff note: Rev. Phillips is now marking his 16th year at Heritage. In addition, he is a member of the Md. House of Delegates from Baltimore City's 41st District.

More people

Charles (Chuck) Richards, the longtime radio personality, has been in and out of the hospital. Keep his spirits up.

Out of the hospital and feeling better too, is Mrs. Caroline Tutman, the amiable AFRO secretary.

Retired Teachers' Association of Baltimore City, news letter carries list of retirees, as of Oct. 17, 1980.

Among them: Margaret Armstrong, Hazel Barrett, Alma A. Adams, Audrey J. Briscoe, Alice H. Catlin, Florine A. Brown;

Also, William C. Brown, Dorothy M. Carter, Veronica L. Clark, Geraldine B. Coleman, Etta B. Davis, Pierre Davis, Elia Edemy, Elsie Hackett, Geraldine Grimes;

And, Ellen / Mims, Patricia Holtsclaw, Beatrice Bailey, Lillian Hill, Waymon Bailey, Alma V. Parker, Elizabeth Lewis, Mary C. Reed, Anethia Williams, Dorothy C. Wood and Josephine Lamey.

Thinking-of-you cards go Mr. and Mrs. Harry Henson (Faye), of Fairview Ave.

Their handsome son, Harry, born a month back, God, He was never well enough to leave the hospital.

Two deaths in the same family in two months: Arthur Sharpe, the retired AFRO collector, was given last rites in September. He was 82.

His wife, Christine, died November 11, 1980. She was 94. The family resided on Mount Street.

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