If You Ask Me

By Bettye Moss

Send this column your nominations for young people you observe on the job performing in a professional manner, or who have shown excellence in school or work.

Remember, too often we criticize young black people. Too little do we take time to pat them on the back when they do well. Hats off!

Hats off!

This week's salute to outstanding young black people doing well goes to 21 - year - old Ramon C. Wright Jr.

The reader who nominated him pointed out that young Wright was graduated from Morgan State University this summer.

While at Morgan, he was a member of the varsity football team and received a number of academic honors.

These included, the A. K. Shinka Scholarship Award in sociology.

He was in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, was on the University Dean's List, and received Outstanding Young Men in America recognition.

We called young Wright to confirm this information and learned that he and his father, Ramon C. Wright Sr., are both members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

The younger Wright is now employed by a Washington business firm and hopes to do graduate studies at the U. of Md. His mother, Mrs. Leah Wright, is a social worker.

He has a younger sister, Trina, employed by a Baltimore City department store.

Congrats to young Mr. Wright.

Carats in Ga.

Members of Baltimore chapter of Carats Inc., a national women's group, gathered recently in Macon, Ga.

Representatives were present from chapter Mates or friends of members are called Carateers.

Baltimore members there: State Senator and Mrs. Clarence Blount. (Gordine, she's president of the local group); Dr. and Mrs. Roland Smoot, Dr. and Mrs. Harvey Webb, Lil Jones, the Carl Adairs, Helen Birt, John Colthorn, the Joe Braceys, Mrs. Bracey Norma), Jean Adams and Marlene Downs, are recently installed new members of this group.

Masons here

Prince Hall Masons from far and near are gathering here this weekend for the 13th annual Grand Lodge sessions.

Due here are members from Germany, Belgium, Italy and England, who will join brothers from all over the U.S.

Highlight is the Sunday 3 p.m., Emancipation celebration at the Prince Hall Temple on Eutaw St.

Business sessions will continue through Tuesday. On the agenda, a meeting at Prince Hall - Myra Camp near Reisterstown.

Samuel T. Daniels is grand master James T. Dorsey is deputy.

B-P in Tex.

Members of the Association of Business and Professional Women's Club gathered in Houston, Tex., last week for a national meeting.

Baltimore members present included, Rosalie McGuire, president of the local group; Mary Allen, Rosemary Atkinson, Sara Smalley, Thelma Ashe, Rosa Gaskins; (who is national treasurer);

Also, Delores Thornton, Carrie Johnson, Edith Thomas, Margaret Wilson, and Gloria Wilson.

Bon voyage

Helen and Yancey Whittaker, who have been here from California visiting relatives and friends, were off this week to the mid - west and back to the West Coast.

On Thursday evening, Dr. and Mrs. Elroy Young, (Mabel), had a Bon voyage for them. It was an old-fashioned gathering where guests reminisced and chatted about glorious times they've enjoyed with old friends through the years. Very relaxing.

About were: Messrs and Mesdames Marcellus Moore, Joseph Boston, Charles Robinson, Royal Weaver, Jesse Hughes, Marvin Davis, Bruce Edemy, William Griggs;

And, Drs. and Mesdames Eugene Byrd, Raymond Gray, Erving Henry, Bruce Russell, Lionel Desbordes, Samuel Owings, Edward McDaniels, Tom Jones, Joshua Mitchell and Judge and Mrs. Harry A. Cole;

Also, Olivia Dixon, Eliza Lindsey, Jake Cox, Helen Birt and John Cothorn.

Aquarium

When Baltimore's National Aquarium opened on August 8, one of the key operators of the vast, new attractive addition to the city is James E. Taylor.

He is black, and holds the title of special assistant to the executive director, James S. Kebley.

Mr. Taylor has been on the staff for 3 years and has seen it grow from an idea to what it is today.

An experienced plant engineer, Taylor served in that capacity at City Jail for 17 years.

He is a member of several professional organizations in his field. He and his family live on Gilray Dr. in the Morgan Park section.

The Aquarium has more than passing interest for the Taylor family. Son, James E. Jr., is a security guard.

Mrs. Taylor, (Doris) a city teacher, is a volunteer at the Aquarium. She has organized a youth group to learn the AVC's of the aquarium's functions.

Other members of the family is daughter, Bonnie Lynn, a grad at the U. of Md. School of Dentistry.

Cuff notes: The Aquarium's Mr. Taylor holds a master's in business administration and management from Antioch. While he was at Coty Jail, he taught inmates the rudiments of plant management.

Also on the Aquarium staff, Van Lear Thomas, chief of plant operations, recommended by Mr. Taylor.

68 yrs. later

Over in Washington, D.C., this week, an estimated 10,000 delegates and friends gathered for the 36th national convention of Delta Sigma Theta.

The national service sorority, founded at Howard University in 1913, began as an action organization.

History records that the 22 Howard U. students first demonstrated their concerns by marching down Constitution Ave. in support of the demand for the right of women to vote.

Sixty eight years later, Delta women did it again.

On Sunday, August 1, they paraded down Constitution Ave., gathered on the Capitol grounds for an impressive ecumenical service.

It was a sight to behold. Baltimore - born, Rev. Pauli Murray, an honorary member and the first black Episcopal priest, gave the sermon.

In her sermon, Rev. Murray said: "We are perplexed and we seek God's guidance in the midst of national turmoil, confusion and uncertainty over the purposes of our country."

And, she urged her audience to join with other groups, other prophetic voices to warn against the erosion of progress in the nation."

Music for the services was magnificent. National president Mona Bailey and other participants lauded the sorority's founders and urged continuation of their ideals.

Local Deltas

In addition to Baltomore - born Rev. Murray, Baltimore was represented on the program by Baltimore - born Vashti Murphy McKenzie, who read the Scriptures.

She is granddaughter of Delta co - founder Vashti Turley Murphy

It was significant that six decades later she would march the same path her grandma did.

Members of Baltimore chapter were seen in the march, (some went by bus), and at the services which followed.

Among them chapter president, Dr. Charlene Cooper Boston and other officers including, Dr. Beryl Williams, Leah Hasty, Hazel Parks, Dr. Rebecca Carroll.

Also, Mary Demory, Gertrude Chappelle Armstead Neal, Carolyn Willis, Laura Byrd, Sara Smalley, Rosemary Atkinson, Mae Wright Peck, Sally Fletcher, Ruth Rosedom, Dorothy Marshall, Peggy Cooper, Thelma Daley, Dr. Vivian Washington . . . and many, many more.

Baltimore was well represented at this event, as well as at the workshops, business meetings and seminars, which attracted top flight speakers from all over the nation.

3 authors

Baltimore Deltas authored three books on sale during the convention. Gladys Byram Shepperd, a former national president, is author of "Mary Church Terrell, Respectable Person."

Thelma Cox et al wrote of "Great Moments In History," the chronicle of the Baltimore chapter. And, our book, "Be Strong," tells of the life of Vashti Turley Murphy, one of the co - founders.

Cuff notes: Seen at the convention: Mrs. Shepperd's daughter, Sandra, now Mrs. George Davis of St. Louis, Mo., where she is a clinical social worker, and her husband is an investment broker.

We had not seen her since she was a young child growing up on Myrtle Ave. here in Baltimore. Remember dad was the late Dr. J. Douglas Shepperd.

She has grown children of her own, Eric, 11; George, 23; Stephen, 25.

Other Shepperd offspring is J. Douglas Jr., also grown up and married.

Recently returned from an overseas assignment, he is now with the State Department's AID program in D.C. He and his wife, Billy, have three children.

After the closing banquet at the Hilton Wednesday evening, many Baltimore delegates had a celebration in their Sheraton suite which lasted until the wee hours.

Reason: - Baltimore's Sara Smalley was elected to a four - year term to the National Finance Committee.

More Delta

More faces seen at Delta convention; Mrs. Thelma Slater, who was a delegate from the Neptune, N.J. chapter. She is the wife of Paul W. Slater, the retired Army sgt. - major. She teaches choral music.

His brother and sister - in law, here in Baltimore are Edward and Lil Sla!

. . .e people met with Baltimore ties: Mrs. Simona Allen, a delegate from Winston-Salem, N.C. She confided that she and her husband, Dr. Harvey Allen Sr., are proud of their son, Harvey Jr., a junior enrolled at Johns Hopkins University here in Baltimore.

Also met, Mrs. Marthella Foree, delegate from Cincinnati, Ohio.

She recalled she and her husband resided here in Baltimore from 1963-65, when he, (Sgt. Joseph Foree), was with Morgan's ROTC staff.

They resided then on the Alameda, and she was the first black teller employed by First National Bank. Remember?

Also . . . the Loggins girl from California. We were first to tell her that her brother Bill Loggins, had left a note on our message taker that he had arrived from the West Coast for family reunion.

More people

Mrs. Jimmy Laforest is in from Port - au - Spain, Trinidad, where she has been comforting her sister - in law, Mrs. George Eric Laforest (Jurlrie), widow of the government official.

His recent death means that all 5 members of his immediate family, including, his brother, Dr. Albert Laforest, have died in the last 12 years.

Get - well cards to Good Samarian Hospital here in Baltimore. Mrs. Eloise Richardson, the Crownsville Hospital library therapist. She had hip surgery.

Wedding

One of the loveliest weddings we've seen recently was the Saturday evening ceremony which united Leda Anne Fuller and Kevin Eli Favor.

The ceremony was at St. John AME Church, with the pastor, Rev. Benjamin Foust presiding.

He was assisted by Rev. Vernon N. Dobson, Union Baptist, who read a beautiful love scripture and the Rt. Rev. Harrison J. Bryant, retired prelate.

The attendants' gowns — pink, blue, yellow and green, blended so beautifully with the bridegroomsmen's grey tux, with which they wore colorful ties.

The entire wedding party was a picture to behold. Absolutely beautiful was the singing by Linda Bethea, a member of the church choir. Her rendition of the Lord's Prayer was magnificent.

Orchids to the organist, Jackie Hardy, who gave sympathetic accompaniment and showed her real talent to improvise when the wedding was delayed by late arrival of the bridegroom.

Lovely was the reception which followed at Martin's North Point where the bride gave a special salute to her mom and the bridegroom praised his parents.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Anne Fuller. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Homer E. Favor, all of Baltimore.

Cuff note: When wedding guests arrived, they received miniature scrolls and rice in colorful coverings.

Oddity - Both Baltimoreans, the young couple did not meet until they attended a far west graduate school. Isn't love grand!

Reunion

The First Annual Reunion of the Fleming, Smith and Robinson families was held recently in Richmond. Three of the oldest members of the families were honored James Masie Fleming, 83; Mrs Lucy Smith Saunders, 81; and Mrs. Edna Robinson Barbour, 87.

More than 190 persons from cities and towns in eight states attended the reunion.

Friends honor Celia McLeod

More than 300 friends and relatives of Mrs. Celia E. McLeod recently honored her at a banquet held in the Christian Education Center of Faith Baptist Church, 833 Bond St.

Mrs. McLeod is the Grand Most Ancient Matron of Rahab Grand Court, Heroines of Jericho. Mrs. McLeod has been active in the Fraternal Order of Prince Hall Affiliation for 32 years.

Heroine Edna Davis spoke of Mrs. Mcleod's services in the Fraternal Order of Prince Hall Affiliation and Grand Worthy Matron Sister Olive Ann Evans told the guests about the honorees 43 years of Christian service as minister of music at Faith Baptist.

Heroine Edna Davis spoke of Mrs. McLeod's services in the Fraternal Order of Prince Hall Affiliation and Deaconess Barbara J. Whipple told the guests about her 43 years of Christian service as minister of music at Faith Baptist.

Remarks and presentations were given by the Fraternal Departmental Heads: G.W.M. Olive Ann Evans, G.W.P. Michael Marshall, G. Most Worthy Joshua James L. B. Ward, G. Senior Matron Elvera Richardson, M. E. High Priest Elijah Brown, Illustrious first lieutenant.

Also, Peggy Boyette, Daughters of Isis, Loyal Lady M. Rosalind Allen, Queen Ester Assembly Golden Circle, Royal Matron Emma Smith, Amaranth Court, Worthy Joshua Herbert E. McLeod.

The honoree also received a citation from Mayor William Schaefer. Others who participated on the program were G. Loyal Lady Ruler of the Willard Allen Grand Assembly, Gladys W. Felton, P. G. Matron Helen V. Benton, Naomi Grand Chapter O.E.S., R. E. Grand Commander of the Knights of Templars, Louis Alton, Worthy Matron Mildred Jefferson, Gethsemane Chapter.

The five most Ancient Matrons present were Heroine Naomi Allen, Heroine Lillie M. Askew, Heroine Mary Wilson, Heroine Delilah Holmes, Heroine Ruth Fauntleroy, Mrs. Bessie Mason, president of the Women's Auxiliary United Baptist convention of Maryland, Most Ancient Grand Matron Madelene C. Neal and Grand Most Worthy Joshua Henry Stephens of Julia A. Jackson Grand Court.

Mrs. McLeod received numerous gifts and told her friends, "To God be the glory, the Rosa J. Richardson's Court is small in number but big in heart. Many thanks to those present. Give to the world the best you have and the best will come back to you."

Minister denied debate on abortion

A Methodist minister whose invitiation to hold a public debate on abortion was turned down by moral majority leader Jerry Falwell accused Falwell of being a mercenary and trying to pervert "God's word."

"When a spokesman for Falwell says he doesn't consider it to be profitable to have a debate, I consider that to be a prophetic kind of statement," said the Rev. Spurgeon M. Dunnam III, who edits the Texas Methodist United Methodist reporter.

"I think Falwell would not engage in any kind of discussion unless there were a profit not for the public but for him."

Speaking at a news conference at the church newspaper's publication plant, Dunnam castigated the new right leader's stand on abortion, an issue over which both claim authority on the basis of the Bible.

The Dallas minister had challenged Falwell to discuss the issue at a public forum, but a spokesman for Falwell said such a debate would not "be profitable." The spokesman said the invitation was declined because "We don't think it would be good for the cause of the gospel for two clergymen to openly express views and differences together."

Dunnam said "Falwell tries to make it seem that the Bible speaks clearly and precisley about all issues. But the Bible does not speak directly to the issue of abortion and (for) Falwell to contend otherwise is perversion of God's word. For with moral dilemmas such as abortion, Biblical interpretation is a necessity.

"Despite pretentious statements to the contrary, Falwell is engaging in interpretation of God's word when he makes statements about abortion. The difference is that I acknowledge my position to be a matter of interpretation and Falwell purports to be giving us the pure, unvarnished word of God."

Expressing his disappointment over Fallwell's refusal to accept his challenge to a debate, Dunnam said, "I would much prefer to win a debate on the debate floor than by default. I do regard a refusal on his part to debate as a type of victory by forfeit for the position I represent.

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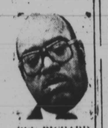
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 1981

Communion Sunday

8:00 A.M. Early Morning Worship
Sermon By
Rev. Nathaniel Johnson
Pastor, St. Phillips Baptist Church and Holy Communion
9:15 A.M. Church School
New Members Class
10:30 A.M. 7pm Heart Service
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
Sermon by
Rev. Nathaniel Johnson
and Holy Communion
3:30 P.M. — Basement Association
Anniversary
Singing by Centennial Choir



REV. RICHARD OGLE
Pastor

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Lafayette Square, Baltimore, Maryland
The Reverend Donald O. Wilson, Rector
The Rev. Hugh K. Page, Jr., Assistant
Dr. Robert T. Ford, Deacon
Maurice Murphy, organist Choirmaster
8:00 A.M. Holy Communion
10:00 A.M. Choral Eucharist Sermon
The Public is Cordially Invited To Attend

DOUGLAS COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves
MARION CURTIS BASCOM
D.D. Minister
Janice S. Hammond, M. Mus.
JUANITA HALL DAVIS
Organist

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 1981
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
MARION C. BASCOM
Preaching

8:00 — He, Watching Over Israel
Felix Mendelssohn
Give Me Jesus
W. C. Jandy, arr.
11:00
He's the Lily of the Valley
Wendell Whalum, arr.

SHOWTIME

★ On Stage ★

Bobbi Humphrey

Lonnie Liston Smith

Jean Carn

Painters Mill

Roy Ayers, Bobbie Humphrey, Lonnie Liston Smith, Jean Carn at Painter's Mill tonight (Friday) and at Atlantic City Jazz Festival Sunday.

Nancy Wilson and Ray Charles at Atlantic City Jazz Festival.

Brenda Alford

Pier 6

Baltimore's own Brenda Alford opens for Ben Vereen at Pier 6 tonight at the Inner Harbor in the Harbor Lights Festival.

Ben Vereen

Madison Avenue Festival

Michael Lee, on-of Baltimore's fastest rising male vocalist, and the Travis Winkey Modeling troupe will be appearing at the 2nd Annual Madison Avenue Festival, Saturday, August 8, in the 2200-2300 blocks of Madison Avenue.

The gala Madison Avenue Festival will feature an amazing variety of gourmet foodstuff and pastries ranging from fried chicken and barbeque to exotic concoctions from the West Indies. Plants, crafts and photographs will be on sale. Antique hunters will have the opportunity to cull through fantastic flea markets which have the possibility of yielding untold treasures that may prove to be priceless heirlooms.

The Madison Avenue Festival was started to promote neighborhood solidarity and to interest young black professionals in moving to the neighborhood. Currently, persons of the caucasion persuasion have been moving into Reservoir Hill. Streets like Eutaw Place and Park Avenue between North Avenue and Druid Park have been turning progressively white over the past five years.

Madison Avenue is viewed as one of the last strongholds of black homeowners. Sponsors of the festival want to encourage current black residents to stay on in the neighborhood rather than moving out into the Liberty Road Corridor or other suburban enclaves. Future festival plans include holding a massive cultural happening that would run the entire span of Madison Avenue from Druid Park to the point near the AFRO headquarters where Madison Avenue ends. The festival will honor prominent Madison Avenue residents such as Congressman Parren Mitchell and Delegate Lena K. Lee. It will also honor prominent Madison Avenue institutions including Douglas Memorial Church and Union Temple Baptist Church, one of Baltimore's most incredible architectural monuments.

Michael Lee

Obviously, festivals are mainly meant to be fun and there will be plenty of opportunities for children to have fun because they will be able to play safely in the street without fear of being hit by a speeding car. Operation Champ will be there to provide games for children, a dance contest will be held and music will be played throughout the day.

The 2nd Annual Madison Avenue Festival is scheduled to run from 12 Noon until 8 p.m., Saturday, August 8. The rain date is August 9. There is no admission charge, but be prepared to feast on the ample samples of cake, pies, barbequed chicken and other delicacies that will titillate your nose and taste buds the minute you come within blocks of the Madison Avenue Festival.

Festival coordinators include: Ms Virginia Carr, Ms June Gee, Mrs. Beverly Douglass, Michael Tisdale, Frederick I. Douglass and Marty Welch, LLD.

Westport Community Day

The staff of WestportMt. Winans Homes Housing Development, in conjunction with its community leaders is having a "Community Day". This event will be held on Friday, August 7, from 10:00? a.m. until 4 p.m.; the raindate is Monday, August 10. Display booths and activities will be situated on the Norfolk Street parking lot, directly behind the Community Building at 2343 Norfolk Street.

There will be booths by community service agencies, mobile health and screening units, guest speakers, food and refreshments, music and lots more.

Al Green, Grand Marshal AFRO 89th Birthday Parade, 47th Clean Block Honors Day

The Rev. Al Green, whose gospel album "The Lord Will Make A Way", has topped the charts for more than 34 weeks, will be in Baltimore next Thursday, August 13.

He will act as Grand Marshal in the AFRO's 89th Birthday Parade and 47th Annual AFRO-KOOL Clean Block Honors Day at War Memorial Plaza opposite City Hall.

Mayor William Donald Schaefer will be on hand to give him the Key to the City and award AFRO-KOOL flags to the 150 blocks showing the most improvement in the AFRO's 47th Campaign one of the oldest environmental programs in the United States.

Members of the AFRO family lead by John H. Murphy III, chairman of the board, will be cited by the Mayor for conducting the oldest chain of Newspapers on the Eastern Seaboard for 89 years of continuous publication without missing a payroll.

The AFRO Clean Block Parade will assemble at the AFRO office at 628 N. Eutaw St. at 11 a.m. and march down Centre Street to St. Paul to Lexington to War Memorial Plaza.

Units marching in the parade include the Marquis Drum and Color Guard, the Immaculate Conception Vikings and St. James' Marjorettes, Pom Pom Girls and Drum Corps.

AFRO Clean Blockers representing 395 blocks some dressed in identical outfits with their queens will also march.

DePillars shows society in his art work

By Carolyn El-Amin

"The black community must come to realize that art can have an intrinsic value, and act accordingly. Otherwise it will limit its aristis to reproducing when they could define and reveal; to dealing in the anecdotal when they could discover and express truths that go beyond temporal values. - Dr. David Driskell, Univ. of Maryland.

". . . the necessity of experiencing the rhythmical and graceful life - styles as a prelude to understanding the African aesthetic. African themes and consicous Africanisms have began to reappear in the work of black American artists and this promises to remain a continuing trend." Carroll Greene, essayist and art critic.

"Black Americans are creating an art from the depths of their own needs, actions, and reactions. They are again at long last accepting and using their own philosophies as the basis of their artistic expression." Dr. Samella Lewis, Art historian.

According to Carolyn F. Gerald, blacks see a zero image of themselves. They cannot judge themselves unless they see a continuity of themselves in other people and in things and concepts. Blacks question their very right to exist withother existences. This is why image is so important; black people living in a white world. The black man and woman sees white cultural and racial images projected . . . which accounts for the zero image they see of themselves.

The 'black artist according to Etheridge Knight has a duty to make his heart beat with same rhythm as the hearts of black folk. Unless the black artis establishes a "black aesthetic" they will have no future. The artist must create new forms, new values, and singnew songs. The motive behind the "black aethetic" is the destruction or replacement of the white ideas and white ways of looking at the world. The new aesthetic is mostly predicated on an ethics which ask the question: Whose vision of the world is finally more meaningful . . . What is the truth? or more precisely, whose truth shall we express. Larry Neal, writer.

UNCLE REMUS — This drawing by Murry N. DePillars, dean of the School of Art at Virginia Commonwealth University, uses stereotypical compositions to reverse the past influences of submissive characters by placing them in scenes in which they aggressively participate in the struggle of blacks.

Photo by Carolyn Adams El-Amin

'Real People' star likes the traveling

Since becoming a co-host of NBC's "Real People" series in September of 1979, Byron Allen has traveled to the four corners of the United States, and finds it very rewarding.

When I started on Real People, I had just graduated from high school and had not done any traveling at all. I remember my first assignment for the show was to go to Cincinnati for a convention of roller coaster people. I hadn't realized how big the country really was. I loved it."

Executive producer George Schlatter spotted Byron whose originally from Los Angeles when he made his TV debut on NBC's "The Tonight Show Starring John" ny Carson in May, 1978 and was impressed with his talent. Since then, Byron has been working hard at perfecting his craft while gaining material for his act from his travel experiences.

Superficially — says Byron — most areas are different. But when you spend time someplace, you find out that the people are the same.

You've read what's out there and yet it's strange to really see all the different places under one roof so to speak.

Since joining Real People, Allen has covered such subjects as witches in Salem, Mass., a wax museum in Los Angeles, a knife catcher in San Diego, a gum wall in Northern California, a 10-year-old disk jockey in Ohio, the Venice, Calif., police department and hot skating in Playa Del Rey, Calif.

I think it's helped me a lot," Byron continues, "to know who's out there and who I'm trying to entertain.

Recently, I interviewed three young girls who crossed the country on bicycles. They said the same things about what they saw.

BYRON ALLEN

By Bob Matthews

Night Scene Seen

Dropped into the Birdcage last Monday night, and must say, this is definitely the place to be on Mondays. Of course, the key is to get there early.

It was about 10:30 p.m. when we arrived, but by 11 o'clock people were sitting on the floor. There is a cover charge, but this includes your first drunk.

Johnny Polite, Mickey and Shirley Fields and Dennis Fisher make up the house band, but the key to Monday nights is a chance for other musicians to jam and try out material.

While we were there, Ruby Glover did a turn; spotted Lady Rebecca in the audience who would go on a bit later. Following the first intermission Dave Ross sat in on organ.

Danny Brown was on drums for the set and it was interesting to watch the reaction of the crowd. Dave went into that driving bag organists have been into for years and practically freaked everyone out.

You always pick up a bit of information at gatherings of musicians, and this was no exception.

Ruby and Shirley informed that they are planning a benefit for drummer Jimhi Johnsun on August 19 beginning at 5 p.m. It will be held at the 20 Grand Club out on Bowley's Lane.

The reason for the benefit, in case you are not informed, is that Jimhi has been diagnosed as having cancer. He had a recent sojourn at Veterans Hospital.

They sent him home, however, saying there was nothing else they could do. And so, his friends and local musicians are gearing up to honor him and to help defray some of the tremendous expenses.

You'll hear more about it as details surface, but hold the date open. Practically all of the musicians in the area will be there and perform. Ruby is coordinating the event, and Marvin Cabell is handling the music liaison.

Got a call from Van Eaton, who hastens to inform us that this weekend, O'Donel Levy will be performing in the Billie Holliday Room at Gatsby's.

O'Donel is turning into one of the busiest musicians around town; and deservedly so. In our opinion, he takes off where George Benson left it, and is equally comfortable in all music idioms.

No word on what happens at Gatsby's on Sunday nights, but Friday and Saturday are really hip.

At The Sportsmen's Club this weekend, Sonny Til is the featured artist, playing a return engagement at the club. He'll be there on Friday and Saturday night.

Sunday is still reserved for O'Donel Levy, and at press time, there was no word on who would be the lead artist at the Saturday afternoon jazz jam.

In fact, since this is the week of the Atlantic City Jazz Fesiival, wouldn't surprise me to find no jam at all.

Note to remember, there will be a Jazz Function at the Junction August 15 from 8 p.m. to midnight. Featured will be Houston Person and Etta Jones.

It will be held at the John Coltrane Auditorium at Walbrook Senior High, presented by Masjid Al-Ala.

Scott Peaker and Company will be on hand with instrumentalists Derek Brooks, Rodney Curtis, Daryl Stokes and Major Boyd, along with special guests, Paul Soroka and Don Blackman.

The Baltimore contigent has been making a trek to D.C. on Monday nights to hear Reuben Brown at the One Step Down. He, along with bassist Tommy Cecil, are scheduled to do all the Mondays in August.

Also in D.C., vocalist Joe Williams is at Blues Alley, and Art Blakey is scheduled for a free concert in Ft. Dupont Park.

Top Hits

R & B Albums

Top R & B Albums
1. Street Songs Rick James
2. It Must Be Magic Teena Marie
3. Dimples Richard "Dimples" Fields
4. Live In New Orleans Maze featuring Frankie Beverly
5. In The Pocket Commodores

R & B Singles

Top R & B Singles
1. Love On A Two Way Street Stacy Lattisaw
2. Double Dutch Bus Frankie Smith
3. I'm In Love Evelyn King
4. Square Biz Teena Marie
5. Night (Feel Like Getting Down) Billy Ocean

Jazz albums

1. The ClarkeDuke Project Stanley Clarke & George Duke
2. The Man With the Horn Miles Davis
3. As Falls Wichita, So Falls Wichita Falls Pat Metheny & Lyle Mays
4. Voyeur David Sanborn
5. "Rit" Lee Ritenour