If you ask me

By Bettye Moss

Hats off!

Our first salute of the New Year to Harry Hicks, a refrigeration technician with the Baltimore Gas and Electric Co.

We watched him perform in a professional manner early Monday morning. He entered the home, observed the faulty refrigerator, determined the trouble, and fixed it promptly.

What a joy to see a pleasant worker like Mr. Hicks!

Note: His visit was 8 a.m. on Monday, Jan. 3, first work day after the holiday. He had a pleasant "good morning," and then settled about his business. Made you proud.

Later, we learned that Mr. Hicks is a Carver High grad who joined G and E's apprentice program after graduation. He has been in his present post for the past five years.

He is a member of Shiloh Baptist and resides in the Woodlawn area.

Note to G and E: Your Mr. Harry Hicks is an excellent goodwill ambassador. Hats off to him!

Please let this column know when you observe fellow citizens, young and old, performing in an admirable manner. We seek here to use your nominations to salute them and to prove that people do take time to commend others when they do well!!

About people

It's a boy for Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gordon Wiley Jr., their first. He's Richard G. 3rd.

Mother is the former Rona Ammons. Infant weighed 5 pounds, 5 ounces when he arrived Dec. 28, at Hopkins.

Dad is the Baltimore County Hospital account manager. Mom is the psychological technician at Hopkins.

Baby is a first grand for Dr. and Mrs. Robert Ammons Jr. (Mary) of Baltimore, and for Mrs. Richard G. Wiley Sr. (Micie), and the late Mr. Wiley of Pittsburgh.

Thinking - of - you cards to Dr. Walter W. Shervington. He has been confined to Provident Hospital for the past week, remains in intensive care.

Many know Dr. Shervington as a neighborhood physician and friend. He has maintained offices at 2301 Harlem Ave., for over 30 years.

His wife, Charlotte, says your cards will reach him if addressed to the Harlem Ave. address.

Here from San Francisco for the holidays were the Shervington's son, Dr. Walter W. Shervington, the psychologist, his physician wife, Dr. Denise McFarlane Shervington, and their 9 - month - old daughter, Shanya Charlotte

Here from Rome, Ga., Mrs. Laura Weaver. She guested with her sister and brother - in - law, Mary and Aaron Ellis.

More baby news: It's a boy for the Tyrone McNeills. Baby weighed in at 7 lbs, 7 oz. Wednesday - Jan. 5, at Provident Hospital, where mother, (Michelle McNeill), is in charge of public relations.

Baby has been named Ryan Emmanuel. Happy about all this is their oldest son, five - year - old Tyrone Jr.

At Bethel

Bethel AME Church at Druid Hill and Lanvale, in west Baltimore, was packed all day Sunday.

At the 11 a.m. services, extra chairs were brought in to handle the crowd which packed the balcony and stood in the entrance hall.

They were rewarded by a moving sermon by the pastor, Rev. John R. Bryant. His topic, "Stand On Your Feet."

Excerpts: "In this New Year of 1983, we may fall to the temptation of thinking more kindly of ourselves, of thinking we're the cat's meow, the last words.

"But God is calling us today because we're liable to get beyond ourselves in this age of computers. God wants you to know you're nothing but a man, and to stand on your feet . . . it is a call from adoration to service . . ."

On crime and television, "don't go crazy, don't let it get you down, don't become enslaved by depression . . . by this garbage, this trash . . . get out and spread God's word, stand on your feet . . ."

1100 join

During the service, 25 members joined the church, including Mrs. Richard Hall, widow of the presiding elder who was former pastor of Oak St. Church.

During the past year, 1,100 new persons have joined Bethel.

At the conclusion of the 11 a.m. service, Rev. Bryant asked the men of the church to come forward. They gave additional contributions to the Baltimore NAACP.

Then, there was a balloon parade, with the men marching from the church. Two kinds of balloons were released. Some went into the air, filled with mustard seeds to spread the word of God.

Others, members were asked to deliver to friends who could not attend church. It was a sight to behold!

Jubilee Day

The morning service did not end until nearly 2 p.m., so that a large number had already gathered on the pavements for the NAACP's annual Jubilee Day Observance.

So, as soon as the congregation left, the church was packed again for this annual event. It featured keynote address by Howard U. president, Dr. James Cheek.

Douglas Memorial pastor, Dr. Marion Bascom, chaired the committee. Dr. Samuel L. Banks was co - chair. Mrs. Enolia P. McMillan is branch president.

This was the largest Jubilee Day observance seen here in recent years. Close to $15,000 was raised for the local branch, with advance contributions of $1,000 each from Douglas, Bethel, New Shiloh and Union Baptist.

This is the same event which is usually held at the Prince Hall Masonic Temple, but renovations there forced removal to Bethel.

Cuff note: Jubilee Day, held the 1st Sunday in the year, marks the Emancipation Proclamation of Jan. 1, 1863, issued by President Abraham Lincoln. — 100 years ago!

Schmoking

Just as the Sunday crowds at Bethel were large and enthusiastic, the same atmosphere prevailed at the Monday afternoon swearing - in of Kurt Schmoke, Baltimore city's first young, vibrant and black state's attorney and Saundra Banks, equally endowed, and the city's new chief clerk of the entire Circuit Court system.

The ceremony was at the War Memorial, across the square from City Hall.

We liked the invocation offered by Rev. Dr. Bascom.

Excerpts: "Bless our city, filled with institutions of learning, medicine, science and religion, but a city that still needs the touch of human kindness, grant that the time will come when our concerns will transcend brick and mortar . . ."

And, this, "May Kurt Schmoke be mindful of the nature of crime, whether it is committed by white collar, blue collar, or no collar . . . and grant him the honesty, integrity and stubbornness to do what he says he will do . . ."

Moving — the music by Morgan State University Singers.

Rev. Wise

Baltimoreans who attend the 8th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast are in for a treat.

Speaker is Rev. Dr. Dexter Wise, who grew up in northwest Baltimore. He is now minister of Shiloh Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio.

Event is this coming Friday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 a.m., at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Baltimore. Sponsors: The Baltimore YMCA and the King's Landing Women's Crew Club.

Cuff notes: Dr. Wise is second oldest of six children of C. Dexter Wises Jr. (Rev. Virginia Anderson Wise), of Baltimore.

His dad is a businessman, and his mom has her own church - New Rose of Sharon Baptist.

Family is noted for its religious worship together and its gospel singing.

In addition to her pastoral duties, Mother Wise sings and plays the organ at March Funeral Home.

Rev. Brackett

Cuff notes: Rev. Montague J. Brackett, pastor of Central Baptist Church, was the minister when young Wise joined his church at age 6, got the call to preach four years later, and was licensed to preach at age 16.

This week, Rev. Brackett called the young minister, (he's only 28), "a very talented and brilliant young man . . . he has done a great job in such a short time . . ."

More cuff: After graduating from Loyola Prep in Towson, young Wise earned degrees at the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University.

He is noted for its innovative programs with young people at churches here and in Providence, R.I., where he pastored before taking his present post in Ohio in Feb. 1982.

100 medals

In the brief 11 months he has been at the 113 - year - old Ohio church, 176 persons have joined. Congregation numbers over 1,500. Income in the last 11 months is up 50 percent, to $350,000!!

Sports note: When he was at the U. of Pa., Wise was member of the diving team, won 100 medals and 30 trophies (1969 - 71), and had numerous leading roles with the University's Mask and Wig Club.

His family: wife, the former Shirley Jean Demery; daughters, Sybil, 8; Sheri, 6; and Shonna, 3; and son, C. Dexter 4th., 15 months.

Some tickets for the breakfast are still available at $10 per. For details, call the YMCA, 235 - 9622.

Note to Rev. Dr. W L. Clayton and members of Baltimore's Macedonia Baptist: This is the same Rev. Wise who assumed pastoral duties at your church in the summer of 1976. Remember?

Bowie prexy

When Bowie State College faculty and staff returned to classes Monday, Jan. 3, there was a surprise announcement from President Rufus L. Barfield.

He was stepping down from the presidency of the Prince George's County college which he has headed since 1979. (He'll be on sabbatical until June).

Named interim is Marcelline M. Brooks, 40, who has served as Academic Affairs Vice President since 1981. No stranger to the Bowie College community, Miss Brooks has been on faculty since 1976, when she became assistant to the dean of the college.

She moved up to associate dean of the college in 1979.

The new Bowie head has had wide experience in educational institutions, private and public.

She began her career as teacher and consultant in the D.C. public schools, later was principal and chief administrator for the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C.

She is a graduate of Loyola College of Baltimore, where she earned her B.S., master's in education and did her C.A.S.E. in organization and management. She is a doctoral candidate at American University.

Honors and awards: Brooks was voted Outstanding Administrator of the Year 1978. She belongs to a number of professional organizations. Among them, American Association of University Professors, the Maryland Association for Higher Education.

Publications to her credit include evaluations and annual reports on retention and academic retention and remedial programs at Bowie.

Cuff note: Bowie presidency pays about $48,000.

More cuff: Miss Brooks' first teaching job was in a west Baltimore elementary school.

Bill Sykes

The state of Ohio gets one of Maryland's most talented and dedicated public servants in Willie G. (for Glanville) Sykes.

He is the special assistant to Maryland Governor Harry Hughes, who resigned his $42,000 post this week to become a member of the cabinet of Ohio Governor Richard Celeste. (And, you read it here in this newspaper on Tuesday).

Bill, as friends call him, flew to Columbus on Wednesday when Gov. Celeste announced his appointment.

In his $60,000 plus post, Sykes will be responsible for the over 2,500 employees in the personnel, public works, computer, equal employment, general services and fiscal departments.

Sykes, 46, has been active in a number of civic and community activities in Baltimore. He v as recently honored for his outstanding public service.

Ohio's gain is Maryland's loss.

Cuff note: With his new job go a house, car and other related fringes, but Sykes and his wife, Delores, intend to keep their home in northwest Baltimore.

More cuff: Sykes was deputy director to Gov. Celeste when he headed the Peace Corps.

Celeste, a liberal Democrat, won the Ohio governorship in November, defeating longtime GOP governor, James (Dusty) Rhoades.

When Mrs. Alice Pinderhughes assumed her post as interim superintendent of Baltimore city public schools, this week, she got a chauffeur - driven city auto, at her disposal.

That might not be a fringe benefit for a lady used to piloting her own luxury car.

Father Croll

Down Memory Lane: Father David E. Croll, 92, who will be memorialized at St. Phillips Church in Annapolis, was the oldest living priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland.

Before he assumed duties at the Annapolis church, where he retired, he was associate rector at St. James Church in west Baltimore.

St. James Church members who are over 50 will remember Father Croll and his helping hand at the W. Lafayette Ave. church.

Cuff note: Nutter Funeral home is handling arrangements, which Father Croll himself outlined eight years ago!

Sole surviving kin is a niece, Mrs. Aldine Clifford, of Pasadena, (1554 Marco Drive - phone, 255 - 6661).

Heart note

Newspapers all over the world have heralded the news about 61 - year - old Dr. Barney Clark, the dentist who is the first human to receive an artificial heart.

And much has been written about Dr. William DeVries, the surgeon who implanted the heart on Dec. 2, at the University of Utah Medical Center; and about Dr. Robert Jarvik, the artificial heart inventor.

As of this writing, Dr. Clark's new plastic heart was replaced after a valve leak and after he developed pneumonia. He is still functioning.

It is safe to presume that this first artificial heart implant will have great impact on future progress in the field of restoration of and replacement of man's vital organs.

Cuff note to teachers: As your pupils study this 1982 heart transplant, do go back to your history books and let them know that a black physician was the first to perform open heart surgery.

89 years ago

He was Dr. Daniel Hale Williams (1858 - 1931). The operation took place in 1893, at Provident Hospital in Chicago, the first interracial hospital in the nation which Dr. Williams founded.

"Dr. Dan," as Williams was fondly called, was on duty when one James Cornish arrived at the hospital with a wound in his chest. Without benefit of modern drugs and machinery, the beloved physician opened the patient's chest and repaired the damaged heart.

The Enoch Pratt public library has books on the life of Dr. Daniel Williams and the open heart surgery he performed 89 years ago.

For children, "History of the Black Man," by Earl Koger Jr., includes vital info on Dr. Daniel Williams, the heart man.

For more information about the Koger book, and other of his publications, ideal for Black History Week giving, write Earl Koger Co., P. O. Box 16411, Baltimore, 21217.

BOWIE PREXY — Miss Marcelline M. Brooks, 40, named interim president at Bowie State College. See details in If You Ask Me.

HOLIDAY VISITOR in her native Baltimore was Vernita Hairston, center, a student at Harvard University, where she is enrolled in the biochemistry and pre - med honors program. She is pictured with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alonzo P. Hairston, (Helena). He is the attorney, and she is the Baltimore city public administrator. Miss Hairston is expected to graduate in June. Her sister, Valerie, is a first year student at the Pennsylvania College of Podiatric Medicine.

Area obituaries

Ray E. Harris

Funeral services for Ray E. Harris were held Jan. 5 at Phillips Funeral Home.

Mr. Harris died Jan. 1. He was the son of Charlie and Lillie Harris and was born in Virginia on Oct. 12, 1912.

He attended school in Palmyra, Va., and was employed with Balcon Corporation until he became ill.

Mr. Harris is survived by his wife, Mrs. Bertha M. Harris; one daughter, Lucille Warrell, three sons, Wayne, Randolph and Milton Harris; seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren; three brothers, Willard Harris, Thomas Harris and Chester Harris; two sisters, Rebecca Harris and Marie Howard.

Frank Hobson

Funeral services for Frank Hobson were held Jan. 5 at Vernon R. Bailey Funeral Home.

Mr. Hobson died Jan. 1. He was the son of Frank Hobson and was born in Crewe, Va. on Dec. 16, 1892. He attended Hickory Grove School in Crewe, Va.

Mr. Hobson was employed with Sparrows Point Shipyard until he retired in 1957. He is survived by his niece Mary Dickerson.

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Lafayette Square,
Arlington & Lafayette Aves.
The Reverend Donald O. Wilson, Rector
Dr. Robert T. Ford, Deacon
Maurice Murphy, organist — Choirmaster
8 A.M. — Holy Communion
9 A.M. — Holy Eucharist
Church School
11:00 A.M. — Holy Eucharist
The Public is Cordially Invited To Attend

DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH
"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves.
Dr. Marion Curtis Bascom, Minister
James S. Hammond, Ass. Mins.
Juanita Hall Davis, Organist
Sunday, January 9, 1983
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
Marion Curtis Bascom preaching
8:00— From the Rising of the Sun — F. A. Gore Ouseley; Burden Down, Lord — Olive J. Williams, arr.
11:00— Hymn for a New Day — Robert F. Swift, arr.; I Stood By the River of Jordan — William H. Smith, arr.

Calling All Churches

Join the AFRO -AMERICAN Newspaper in its 90th anniversary special circulation promotion and earn money for your church.

We are paying a 40% ($8.00) commission on every $20.00 subscription sold by the church. If your church sells 100 subscriptions the church receives an extra bonus of $100.00 plus a very beautiful plaque.

Orders may be taken for the Tuesday and Friday AFRO at the cost of $20.00 for six months or the Tuesday or Friday for one year at $20.00

Any church selling 300 or more subscriptions will receive an additional bonus of a free full page in the Baltimore AFRO -AMERICAN. This page can be used for pictures and stories about the church, current events, special events, etc.

Listed below is a chart showing how quickly money can grow when selling subscriptions to the AFRO during this anniversary promotion.

If you or your organization want to enter your church in this promotion, fill out the coupon below and send it to the Church Promotion Dept., AFRO -AMERICAN Newspapers, Box 1857, Balto., Md. 21203

Number of Subscriptions	Commission	Bonus	Total
100	$ 800	$100	$ 900
200	$1,600	$200	$1,800
300	$2,400	$300	$2,700
400	$3,200	$400	$3,600
500	$4,000	$500	$4,500

I am interested in entering my church in the 90th anniversary special church subscription promotion. Please send me the details.

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Send to: Church Promotion Dept., AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203

William Ray, Peabody chorus in King Memorial Concert

William Ray, member of the voice faculty at Peabody Conservatory of Music will be one of soloists in "The Creation."

A performance of Haydn's "Creation" in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. will be presented by the Peabody Hopkins Chorus with the Peabody Symphony Orchestra conducted by Edward Polochick at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 23 in the Turner Auditorium of The Johns Hopkins Medical Institution at Monument and Rutland Sts. Free parking will be available in the Rutland Garage directly across from the auditorium. The concert, which will be carried live on closed circuit television throughout the hospital, is free and open to the public.

The concert marks the debut of Baltimore's newest musical ensemble the Peabody Hopkins Chorus, which draws its 125 members from all parts of The Johns Hopkins University. The five soloists for "The Creation" are Peabody faculty members Wayne Conner, Ruth Drucker and Willims Ray, who sings the roles of the archangels Uriel, Gabriel, and Raphael, and Peabody students Margaret Genovese and Mark Paris as Adam and Eve.

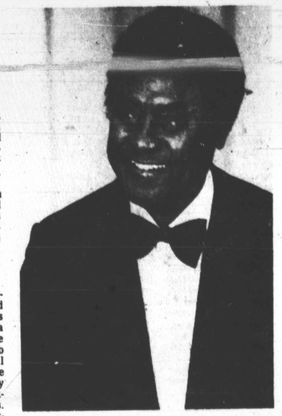
Although Wayne Conner and Ruth Drucker are well-known soloists on the Baltimore scene, the concert marks the local debut of opera star William Ray, who for the past 20 years has been a leading baritone with some of the most famous European opera houses and an actor on German stage, television and screen. William Ray, originally from a horse trainer's family in Lexington, Kentucky, took up an appointment at the Peabody Conservatory of Music last September.

"The Creation", composed in 1798, is considered Haydn's most important work for chorus and orchestra, dramatizing the story of the creation of the world as told in the Book of Genesis. It seems particularly appropiate that this magnificent choral work should be dedicated to a man, who, years after his death, is still a living, creative force in American life.

The concert is part of a dual celebration by The John Hopkins University of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. On Jan. 6, the late civil rights leader's widow, Mrs. Coretta Scott King, visited Baltimore to join in a memorial to his life, also held at Turner. Mrs. King is an honorary sponsor of the Jan. 23 event, together with U.S. Senators Paul Sarbanes and Charles McC. Mathias, Jr., Congressman Barbara Mikulski, Congressman Parren Mitchell, Governor Harry Hughes, Mayor William Donald Schaefer, the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers, John Murphy, III, and other officials. The Committee on Cultural and Social Affairs of The Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, under the chairmanship of Dr. George Udvarhelyi, hosts the concert.

The Peabody Conservatory of Music and The Johns Hopkins University extend a warm invitation to the people of Baltimore to attend this very special event. Concertgoers are advised to arrive early as seating is on a first-come-first-served basis. A special television hookup will allow any overflow audience to see and hear the concert from the concourse area adjacent to the auditorium.

In the event of bad weather, a snow date will be set for Sunday, Jan. 30, at 3 p.m. with the same arrangements



Ray is one of the most versatile singer - actors on the lyric stage and gained renown in European Opera houses.

SHOWTIME

IDA PETERS

What's Happening

Win 2 tickets to see 'The Divine Sarah'

First 1983 AFRO contest

The week AFRO What's Happening readers are writing letters in order to win two free tickets to see Miss Sassy, Sarah Vaughan, Sunday, Jan. 16, 1983 put on by Carnegie Concerts at the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall.

Faye C. Adams Writes:

Sarah Vaughan happens to be one of favorite idols. Ever since I learned how to listen and appreciate music there were only a few selections I liked.

The very first time I heard her sing "Broken Hearted Melody" and "Eternally" I went head over heels. I like the lady for not changing her style. I adore the lady, period.

Miriam L. Winborne writes:

To listen to Sarah Vaughan's beautiful singing is like listening to a melodious vocal orchestra in one human being. Sarah does this so artfully that one's realm of listening is enlarged with pleasurable strains because of her tonal ranges.

Sarah has perserved through the fads of various kinds of rock to continue to be a leader in contemporary American vocal music.

One's talent, training and respect for the audience has been shown to be a lasting attribute.

Sarah has not been unmindful of the influencing vocalists of her time, but she has not imitated them, but the influence to evolve her own style.

To enter contest, here's all you do:

1. Write a letter to the AFRO saying "Why I Like Sarah Vaughan".
2. Address letter to Mrs. Ida Peters, AFRO Entertainment Editor, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201.
3. Deadline for all letters is Jan. 10, 1983.

Sassy Sarah Vaughn in 1977 poses with second place winner backstage at the Civic Center in the AFRO's contest five years ago. She is Mrs. Richard E. Smith Jr. of Baltimore. She danced in chorus when Sarah was with Billy Eckstein's Orchestra.

100th Birthday for Eubie

Baltimore will share in the 100th Birthday Party for Eubie Blake which will be hosted by WQED-TV of Pittsburgh.

This black-tie affair will take place at the Kennedy Center, in Washington, D.C. beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Featured in the roster of celebrities commemorating this historic event are:

Billie Dee Williams, host; Cab Calloway, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, Lola Falana, Patti LaBelle, Paul Williams, Leroy Reams, Greg Burge, Anita Morris, Celeste Hyman, Eddie Mekka and the Morgan State University Choir.

The evening's entertainment will be video taped and televised on Monday, February 7, 1983 the actual date of Eubie's 100th Birthday.

Baltimore City, which is readying the Eubie Blake Cultural Center, at the Urban Services Agency's Cultural Arts Program, Gallery 409 has been invited to participate in the evening's program. Our Mayor, William Donald Schaefer, will present Mr. Blake with a symbol of the city's pride in his world famous native son. In addition, Mr. Blake has specified that Baltimore City share in the cash honorarium to be presented that evening. A portion of the monies raised will go to help complete the Cultural Center named after him.

Choice seats for the evening's entertainment on January 30 are available at $100 each. The ticket committee for Baltimore City includes: Dorothy Bronson, Karen Little, Medel Friedman, Bob Hillman, Richard Hug and Lenwood M. Ivey. Reservations can be made by calling 396-1658.

Eubie being wheeled into Baltimore School for the Arts sports a black and white piano keyboard scarf.

Highlights of 1982...things were tough!

Some times it's important to reflect on a year like 1982 when things went from bad to worse.

Hopefully things will begin to pick up in the entertainment field because there is nowhere else to go but up.

Stevie Wonder is in D.C. (Thursday) to hold a press conference at the Rayburn Office Building to promote Dr. Martin Luther Jr. Day as a national holiday.

And the 10th Annual American Music Awards to be televised Jan. 17 in a nationally televised show on ABC has nominated Stevie again for the sixth time as favorite male vocalist (Soul) against Rick James and Lionel Richie.

And Walt Disney's Great Ice Odessy is at the Civic Center and Vanessa Johnson is going and will bring you pictures of two new black stars.

July, 1982

July 3, 1982- Harry Mills, whose performing career with the famous Mills Brothers spanned 57 years and 2,246 records died June 28, 1982 in Los Angeles. He was 68.

We love you Lena! was the headline July 6, 1982 as "Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music" closed out her show at the Neaderlander Theatre in New York on her 65th Birthday. She was presented flowers by her two grandchildren, Thomas Jones, 18 and his sister Lena, 13. She then went on a nationwide tour starting at Wolf Trap in D.C. and has been a sell-out everywhere she has appeared. By Dec. 29, 1982, appearing at the Pantages in Los Angeles, she been pulling in $22,582 for one week and $352 thousand for five days in the last six weeks of 1982.

In that same week in December, "Mass Appeal" at the Mechanic only did $64,000 in Baltimore; "Show Boat", $189,000 in Detroit; and "Evita", $161,000.

Marion Gant Tyler Blake, manager, constant companion of 99-year-old Eubie Blake died of a heart attack, June 26. She was eulogized July 6 at St. Peter's Church. Eubie's back prevented him from attending the funeral. Her grandfather, Hiram S. Thomas was a celebrated chef of the 19th century and was head waiter at the Grand Union Hotel in Saratoga Springs in New York State. He was the originator of the Saratoga Chip... the old name for the potato chip. Eubie was hospitalized on July 8.

Teddy Pendergrass' new album "This One's For You" was released in July; Arthur Fryscok came to Baltimore for a free concert downtown; Jeffrey Osborne came to Baltimore for the AFRAM Festival. The former lead for LTD held a picnic in Columbia for the Maryland-Washington - Virginia press corps.

More than 1,000 AFRO Clean Blockers went to see "The Thing" a movie about 12 men going mad on an Antartic expedition. Horrible when an alien being surfaced. He fell from the sky and lay buried in the ice for 100,000 years. Clean Blockers just loved all the blood and guts.

Richard Pryor in the July issue of Ebony told Lerone Bennett he would never use the word "nigger" again.

July 24, 1982 was the historic date When Happening announced that Sammy Davis, Jr. would be coming to Baltimore.... even before the tickets were printed. And, the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall ... new million dollar home of the Baltimore Symphony got tired of answering calls for tickets and irate fans called the AFRO and were downright nasty. However, we told them the concert was coming in November and to watch the AFRO for ads. Mrs. Estelle Street and her Carnegie Productions did advertise in the AFRO and the Thanksgiving Eve black tie concert was sold out weeks in advance.

Promoters in Baltimore have been ignoring the black press and the AFRO in recent years but that many black folks paying $50 or $35 per seat have not been in downtown Baltimore in years. They've been taking bus trips to New York and Las Vegas.

And the same black promoters are coming up on Jan. 16, 1983 at 7 p.m. in the same Meyerhoff Symphony Hall with Sarah Vaughan and Count Basie. Then they will have Johnny Mathis, March 2 and Dionne Warwick April 13.

July 24, 1982 we talked with George Wallace... a new breed of comic who opened at Merriweather Post in Columbia for George Benson and later talked with Atlantic Starr coming to Painters Mill... they were stealing shows from the O'Jays.

Biggest funeral in the Baltimore - Washington area was for Edward (Sonny) Stitt at Nineteenth Baptist Church in D.C.

700 AFRO Clean Block workers went to see "Tron" the movie that was about a man caught in a computer; the next week 1,000 more youngsters went with the AFRO to see "E.T." all courtesy of J.F. Theatres. Youngsters in the inner city liked "Tron" better than "E.T." However, "E.T." made $75 million and is still going strong while "Tron" went to an early death.

August, 1982

Lou Gossett, Jr. opened in movie "An Officer and a Gentleman" which is still going strong in area theatres and has racked up $32 million since August 3. He will surely be nominated for an Academy Award. He played the foul mouthed, abusive, insulting, tough mean drill instructor Sergeant Foley who calls his young recruits "queers", "eggheads" and "dommies".

Aretha Franklin, Kool and the Gang, Maze with Frankie Beverly, Patrice Rushen and Sister Sledge

(Continued on page 14)

Harry Mills of the famous Mills Brothers died June 28.

We love you Lena says her grandchildren on her 65th Birthday. Above, Thomas Jones and his sister Lena.

Mrs. Marian Blake, wife of Eubie died in June. Here she receives roses in Baltimore, March 1982 for "giving Eubie all those wonderful years."

BOB MATTHEWS

Night Scene Seen

In the event that anyone asks, this season of the year is called "the doldrums." It's a time when people are coming down from the "up" of the holidays, and their entertainment dollars have really shrunk.

More people have a tendency to stay at home, unless there is some special event going on. One such special is the upcoming concert featuring Sarah Vaughan, Joe Williams and Count Basie and his band.

It all happens Jan. 16, and according to our source, there remain only about 300 tickets left before the event is declared a "sold out" occurrence.

On the club scene, live entertainment is few and far between. The Soul Shack is bringing in our favorite guitarist, O Donel Levy, along with his regular group.

They'll be on tap tonight (Fri.) and Saturday. The Shack continues to pursue an aggressive live music policy, and we are certainly happy to pass the word about their attractions.

Over at the Jazz Closet, one of Baltimore's young tenor sax men will be featured. Gary Thomas is his name, and we must confess that despite the protestations of many devotees of the Closet, we still have not heard this young man.

Henry Baker Sr. assures that he can really "get down" so we'll try again this weekend. The regular Jazz Closet rhythm section, Bob Butta and Billy Murphy will provide the accompaniment.

The Sportsmen's Lounge has dropped the Saturday afternoon jazz jam for the moment. Instead of live entertainment at this time, they are playing jazz albums—good ones, we might add.

The evening entertainment is led by organist Dave Ross, along with his daughter, vocalist Marlene Ross. They'll be on tap through Saturday night.

For your future planning, there will be a 100th birthday party for pianist Eubie Blake on Jan. 20. 'Tis a black tie affair, and will take place at the Kennedy Center over in D.C.

Featured celebrities taking part include: Billie Dee Williams, Cab Calloway, Joe Williams, Rosemary Clooney, Lola Falana, Pattie LaHyman, Eddie Mekka and the Morgan State University choir.

The proceedings are being taped to be televised Monday, Feb. 7, the actual date of Eubie's 100th birthday. Baltimore's Urban Services Agency is taking a key role, and choice seats for the evening are available at $100 each.

Another note on our calendar shows that the Associates will be presenting Buck Hill and his quartet, along with organist Dennis Fisher and vocalist Jennifer Jones in concert.

It is scheduled to happen at the Fire Fighters union hall, Saturday, Jan. 22.