Muslim chapter bares plan to cure social ills

The Baltimore chapter of the World Community of Al - Islam has announced a wide - ranging program including an interfaith coalition to find religious cures to rising social ills.

In view of rising crime, unemployment and general social decline, the announcement said, it is essential for religious people to come together to deal with these problems in an organized manner.

The announcement was contained in a press statement given to the press in the sect's mosque on Wilson Street Wednesday afternoon.

The Muslims had originally called a press conference at which the statement was to be read by the regional head, Imam Muhammad. However, Wasid Rashad, a member, told the AFRO the press conference had been cancelled because Imam Muhammad could not be present.

The Muslims, who now prefer to be called World Community of Al - Islam, were stunned Sunday when their leader for two - and - half years, Wallace Muhammad, announced his resignation.

Wallace Muhammad, 44, took over as the spiritual leader of the 70,000 strong sect, when his father, Elijah Muhammad, died in 1975. He said he would devote more time to evangelism.

He is credited with moderating the racial views of the Muslims.

Wallace Muhammad is scheduled to speak at Morgan State University on Sept. 27 where he is expected to expand on the statement contained in Wednesday's press release.

The statement which seeks to attack social evils on all levels lists three priorities the group intends to implement.

They include:

— Propagation of pure Quranic teaching as a solution to the basic social ills.

— Education of the people through tutorial and explorer post programs to encourage youth to enter into professions.

— Expansion of the Sister Clara Muhammad Elementary and Secondary School to include grades one to 12.

In a conciliatory mood towards the government reflective of reformist teaching of Wallace Muhammad, the Muslims plan to launch "Reconstruct the American Life Educational Crusade" Oct. 7 to teach patriotism and the need for respect for government.

Calling for Islamic socialism as a means of meeting every day economic challenges, the Muslims condemned welfare as "degrading and destructive to the role of masculinity in the society. They defined Islamic socialism as 'the "society being capitalistic and the individualism being socialistic."

Praising the government in its effort to solve unemployment problems, the announcement called on religious leaders and businesses to help eliminate joblessness and poverty.

RYALES PHOTO

ONE CANDIDATE'S FAMILY — Sisters and brothers and in-laws came from as far away as Fayetteville, N.C. to support the Rev. Olin P. Moyd in his race for membership of the Maryland House of Delegates. A prominent Baltimore minister and on the team of Sen. Verda F. Welcome and member of the House of Delegates Troy Brailey, Moyd nevertheless lost by a very small margin. From left are his wife and twin daughters, his sister, Mrs. Teenie Scott, Fayetteville; the Rev. Moyd, brothers, Warren, Christopher and George, brother-in-law and sisters-in-law and their children.

Political Advertisement

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(Authority Cephas Rawlings, treas.)

Political Advertisement

Slimnastics offered

The Central Branch YMCA, 24 W. Franklin St. is scheduling Slimnastics for Women.

Slimnastics classes concentrate on trimming up areas of the body and help promote general physical fitness.

Contact David Brock, 539 - 7350, for more information.

STOP YIELD TURN

House approves unit

WASHINGTON — The House has agreed to a five - year extension of the life of the Civil Rights Commission.

The bill, passed on a voice vote, was sent to the Senate, which has passed a different version.

Established in 1957, the commission was originally intended to wind up its work as a watchdog of civil rights laws and go out of business in the 1960s. But its life has been extended repeatedly.

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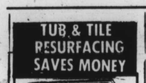

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SHOW TIME

City Fair kicks off in Inner Harbor

LOTS TO DO — This year's City Fair, beginning at noon, Friday, Sept. 15, will feature booths from 83 neighborhoods.

Entertainment, rides, neighborhood folks and lots of food are on tap this weekend at the Inner Harbor for the 1978 Baltimore City Fair.

Among the entertainment scheduled is a performance by the Arena Players on the Family Stage at 7 p.m. Saturday.

Fats Domino will be performing Saturday, Sept. 16 at 7:30 p.m. on the Main Stage.

On the opening day, Friday, Sept. 15, the Patterson Park Band and Choir will participate in the kickoff ceremony from noon to 2 p.m.

That evening at the African Dance Theater, Olufumilayo and Company will entertain fairgoers from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

At 3 p.m. Saturday, finalists in the Trash Ball Competition will vie in the final contest on the Family Stage. Ronald McDonald the clown will assist.

Sunday, the Trinidad and Tobago Steel Band of Baltimore will give two performances. One will be at the Main Stage from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and the other is at the International Stage from 8 to 9:30 p.m.

Rep. Barbara Mikulski will be starring with Maestro Sergiu Commisiona at the Baltimore Symphony's City Fair concert on Sunday, Sept. 17.

The program, which features orchestral and Broadway selections, begins at 8 p.m. and will be conducted by Andrew Schenck.

Two pops selections, from "George M!" and "Music Man" will be followed by Ms. Mikulski reciting "A Lincoln Portrait" to the music of Aaron Copland.

The program will conclude with a performance of Tchaikowsky's "1812 Overture" with real cannon provided by the National Guard.

One booth where fair visitors may sit and relax is the Mayor's Office of Special Projects Games Booth, located on Rash Field.

Fairgoers can learn to play chess or "Go", a Japanese board game of strategy for two played with stones.

Everyone who passes the Mayor's Office of Special Projects booth will receive a free Hawaiian lei.

Below is the entertainment schedule for the City Fair:

MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY

Noon - 3 p.m. — Schools
3 - 4 p.m. — Dixieland Diplomats
4 - 5 p.m. — Rhum Boogie
5 - 7:30 p.m. — Jim Zinzaro
7:30 — 9:30 p.m. — Sonny James

SATURDAY

10 - 11 a.m. — Charles Watson Singers
11 a.m. - noon — Dundalk Chapter, Sweet Adelines
Noon - 1:30 p.m. — Peabody Ragtime
1:30 - 3 p.m. — Fay Carmichael Trombones
3 - 3:10 p.m. — Trash Bash
3:30 - 5 p.m. — Peabody Chamber Ballet
5 - 7:30 p.m. — Gene Walker and His Orchestra
7:30 - 9:30 p.m. — Fats Domino

SUNDAY

10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. — Baltimore's Best
3:30 - 4:30 p.m. — Trinidad - Tobago Baltimore Steel Orchestra
4:30 - 5:30 — Eastern Opera Singers
5:30 - 9 p.m. — Towson State University Jazz Ensemble
7 - 9:30 p.m. — Baltimore Symphony

FAMILY STAGE

FRIDAY

Noon - 1 p.m. — Krazee Clowns
1 - 2 p.m. — Sam and Jennifer; dulcimers
2 - 2:30 p.m. — Towson Puppets
2:30 - 3 p.m. — Russ Somers, magic
3 - 4:0 p.m. — CTA — Theater For Young People
4 - 4:30 p.m. — "Jack and the Beanstalk" by Bob Refferty.
4:30 - 5 p.m. — Free Lance Fools, clowns, magic, puppets, etc.
5 - 6 p.m. — Pratt Library — Traveling Troubadors
6 - 7:30 p.m. — Baltimore County Youth Orchestra

SATURDAY

10 - 11 a.m. — Northwood Children's Chorus
11 - 11:45 a.m. — John Carrington, magic and puppets and balloon sculpture
11:45 a.m. - noon — Sandy and Axelrod, guitarist and rhythm instruments; children participation
Noon - 1 p.m. — Baltimore Orioles
1 - 2:30 p.m. — Studio Six Classical Repertory Theater — "The Clown Who Ran Away"
2:30 - 3 p.m. — Towson Puppets
3 - 4:30 p.m. — Trasnball Contest and Ronald McDonald
4:30 - 5:30 p.m. — Pratt Library, Traveling Troubadors
5:30 - 6 p.m. — Krazee Clowns
6 - 7 p.m. — Mount Carmel Choir
7 - 8 p.m. — Arena Players

SUNDAY

Noon - 1 p.m. — Let's All Dance
1 - 1:30 p.m. — Towson Puppets
1:30 - 3 p.m. — Studio Six Classical Repertory Theater — "The Clown Who Ran Away"
3 - 4 p.m. — Bill Burton — stage and harbor's edge - come learn to fly cast
3:30 - 4 p.m. — Free Lance Fools — clowns, magic, puppets, etc.
4 - 5 p.m. — YMCA Creative Movements
5 - 6 p.m. — A.J.C. Mime Troupe
6 - 7:30 p.m. — The Junior Young Columbians — "A Musical Tribute to America"

INTERNATIONAL STAGE

FRIDAY

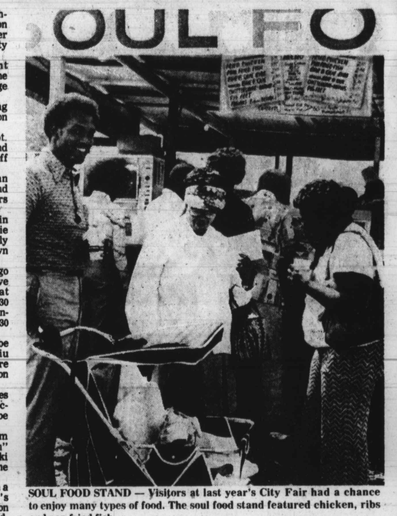
4 - 5 p.m. — Parade of Flags
5 - 6 p.m. — Shep Jeffrys and Judi Porecki
6 - 7 p.m. — Cleanannas Aor School of Irish Dancing
7 - 8 p.m. — Baltimore Scottish Country Dancers
8 - 9:30 p.m. — Olufanmilayo and Company African Dance Theater

SATURDAY

11 a.m. - noon — Obreck Polish Dancers
12:30 - 2 p.m. — Anglian Study Center
2 - 3 p.m. — Krakowiaki
3 - 4 p.m. — Cleanannas Aor School of Irish Dancing
4 - 5 p.m. — Narod, Balkan Folk Dancers
5 - 6 p.m. — Balli D'Italia
6 - 7 p.m. — Baltimore Dance Theater
7 - 8 p.m. — Troiski Dance Circle of Maryland
8 - 9:30 p.m. — Maryland Company of Middle Eastern Dancers

SUNDAY

1 - 2 p.m. — Shep Jeffrys and Judi Porecki
2 - 3 p.m. — Chinese Dragon
3 - 4 p.m. — Baltimore Concert Dancerts
4 - 5 p.m. — Narod, Balkan Folk Dancers
5 - 6 p.m. — Urban Youth Ballet
6 - 7 p.m. — Katipanan
7 - 8 p.m. — Troiski Dance Circle of Maryland
8 - 9:30 p.m. — Trinidad - Tobago, Baltimore Steel Orchestra.



SOUL FOOD STAND — Visitors at last year's City Fair had a chance to enjoy many types of food. The soul food stand featured chicken, ribs and pan fried fish.

...and all that Jazz

The Heath Brothers

Keep the music in the family

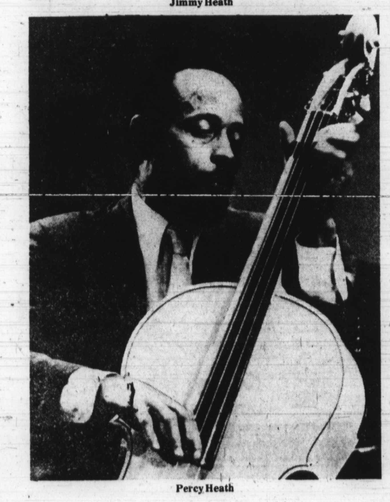
By Bob Matthews

Family acts have been a large part of the show business scene since the early days of vaudeville, and in the jazz world, a couple of family groups are really standouts.

Perhaps the best known is the Jones bunch, with Thad, Elvin, Hank and Sam — all topflight artists but all playing or leading separate groups.

Next to come to mind is the Heath brothers, Percy and Jimmy, who will be the featured artists at the Left Bank Jazz Society's set this Sunday.

Jimmy Heath



Percy Heath

Percy, is perhaps the better known, since he was a charter member of the world - famous Modern Jazz Quartet. Jimmy has been called the little man with the big sound.

Since the voluntary demise of the MJQ, Jimmy and Percy have joined forces and this will mark their third appearance in Baltimore this year.

Back in August, they played at the AFRAM Festival in the Inner Harbor, but at that time, they had a full octet, including Curtis Fuller on trombone.

There is a third Heath brother, who is also a musician, Albert (Tootie) Heath, who plays drums. He has joined up with the other two for LBJS sets in the past, but didn't want to come this time.

The official word is that he prefers staying with the high energy fusion - rock sound, which is more commercially successful these days.

So, Keith Copeland will be on drums, and Stanley Cowell on piano.

Get a bit amused when we listen to all the hoopla over Ron Carter who has been playing and recording these days on piccolo bass.

Now the piccolo bass is a scaled down version of the upright double bass, and is strung exactly the same. Albeit, the strings are not as fat as the old gut strings, sometimes wirewound, that were used on the bisacoustic bass.

So playing the piccolo bass, the musician is able to use the bass guitar, or cello - like facile manner of plucking. The major ingredient is that music for the instrument is written in the bass clef.

Oscar Petitford pioneered the use of pizzicato play on a cello in the jazz setting, which has been honoed and brought up to date by Percy Heath.

The comparison with the piccolo bass is apt, but the cello music is written in the tenor clef and the stringing is totally different than that of the bass.

Enough of the technicalities. Until you have heard Percy solo on cello, and Jimmy stretch out on that big tenor horn, you've no idea how delightful mainstream jazz can sound.

Incidentally, got interested in other family acts, and came up with a partial list that is just a trifle stunning.

There is Hubert and Ronnie Laws, Cab and Blanche Calloway, Cleo Laine and Johnny Dankworth, the Isley Brothers, The Trenier Twins, Cecil and DeeDee Bridgewater, The Pointer Sisters, Louis and Lil Armstrong, Lena Horne and Lenny Hayton, Arthur and Red Prysock, and Mickey and Shirley Fields. And that's just a few.

On the jazz scene for the weekend:

The Bandstand in Fells Point has the Terry Plumeri trio. Terry is an outstanding bassist and will play through Sunday night.

The Sportsman Lounge will have Mickey Fields and Arnold Sterling at the Saturday afternoon jazz set.

Brice's Hilltop is presenting the Chain Reaction fusion jazz group through the weekend.

King of France Tavern in Annapolis has the Tommy Flanagan trio. Tommy, who was accompanist for Ella Fitzgerald for years, has left the first lady of jazz to go out with his own trio.

In D.C., Blues Alley has the Charlie Byrd trio. D.C. Space presents Oliver Lake and One Step Down showcases Shirley Horne.

On black classical music

By Dominique de Lerma

Dr. deLerma is professor of music at Morgan State University. He also hosts a radio show, "Melodies, Notes and Lyrics," Sunday, 11 a.m. WEAA - FM.

Veronica Tyler, la diva divina

Marian Smith was Veronica Tyler's music teacher at Douglass High School, and she thought it would be a good idea if the voice faculty at Peabody could hear her student sing.

When the audition ended with an acceptance and a scholarship, Miss Tyler was surprised. After all, she grew up in a family of musicians and had not thought her talents particularly unusual.

Her plans to go into psychiatry, literature, or missionary work evaporated within her first week at Peabody. She knew then that music would be her profession.

In her third year, with only a day's notice, she entered the Met Opera auditions. As was true a few years later with the same auditions, she won, but she didn't. The Metropoditan Opera was not quite ready.

She did win a scholarship to Juilliard on the spot, when that institution's president heard her sing at Peabody's graduation ceremonies. Within weeks after arriving in New York she was already singing professionally in recitals, concerts and in opera.

In 1953 she was invited to participate in the international vocal competitions in Munich. She won first place.

Three years later she carried off the silver medal from the Tschaikovsky contest in Moscow, only a few years after Van Cliburn's career had been launched by a similar event. As she was returning to the United States, Gian - Carlo Menotti invited her to present a recital at the Spoleto Festival.

She was now engaged in a major career, but this is one soprano who has more than a fabulous voice.

Aware that she had resources not yet challenged, she was finally encouraged to add a college position to her schedule and, during her stay at the University of Florida, she trained gifted young students in the subjects needed for aspiring recitalists and opera stars, some of whom then followed her when she moved to the University of Missouri.

During the current year she has agreed to teach at the University of Michigan, which in fact has caused another student migration.

And it can now be announced that she will be teaching a select number of exceptionally talented students on the graduate level at Morgan State University, which is already causing an increase in Morgan's graduate music enrollment.

Veronica Tyler

In the past few years she had withdrawn from the intensity of the concert schedule she had been maintaining, permitting her voice to make that transition from a lyric soprano to the maturity of a full lyric - dramatic soprano.

With a charm that is intensified by her confidence, she recently stated to me that she is now starting her "second career" that she is now ready to tackle the Verdi and Puccini heroines. Because she is as gifted dramatically as she is musically, I predict that those now specializing in these roles better watch out!

Ever since Miss Tyler began singing, she established a reputation for her extraordinary dramatic intelligence in in, terpretation, and for her unusual legato singing, begin able to weave a floating melodic line seamlessly, smoothly and (seemingly) effortlessly.

It should be noted that she is a master of vocal technique, of vocal pedagogy, of interpretation, of repertoire, and that she sings perfectly in those languages all singers must master (French, German, Italian, and English).

But, moreover, she is comfortable in Spanish and Russian. She has hosted her own radio program.

She has studied ballet with Arthur Mitchell and acting with Lenka Petersen. If this isn't enough, she is an expert karate student.

The intensity of her concert schedule, plus her teaching in Ann Arbor and at Morgan, will not leave too much time for her home town to see her this year, but she will continue to serve on the board of directors at the Peabody Institute.

Let us hope that we will be able very soon to hear her in recitals, concerts and opera performances here in Baltimore.

Viva Veronica Tyler! Viva la diva divina!