Black History Calendar

1926

This week on Feb. 12, 1926, Black History Week was started by Dr. Carter G. Woodson as the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Today the nation celebrates Black History month.

14

Frederick Douglass, orator and freedom fighter was born this day in 1817 in Maryland.

Bethel A.M.E. Church, located at Druid Hill and Lanvale St. in Baltimore, Md. was founded in 1797.

Moneta Sleet, Jr., photographer, was born on this day in 1926, was winner of the 1969 Pulitzer Prize in Photography; he graduated from the School of Modern Photography in New York City.

Bishop Richard Allen, A.M.E. Founder was born this day in 1760.

15

Elias Mayes, legislator, was born this day in 1831, represented Brazos County in the 16th (1879) and 21st (1889) sessions of the Texas Legislature. He served on the Penitentiary and Education committees.

16

William S. Scarborough, linguist, born on this day in 1852, studied Hebrew and Helenistic Greek at Oberlin College. In 1886, he wrote "The Bird of Aristophanes: A Theory of Interpretation". He died in 1926.

17

Huey P. Newtown, Black Panthers Co-founder was born on this day in 1942 in Louisiana.

18

Joseph (Dede) Pierce, musician, born this day in 1904 in New Orleans, played cornet with Arnolo De Pass amd wrote the Creole folk songs, "Sallee Dame" and "Eh La Bas".

Jesse Walker's NY.

Jesse Walkers N.Y.

NEW YORK- Even though NBC-TV returned Redd Foxx to the junkyard this season in Sanford', and brought LaWanda Page back as a regular and chief insult adversary of Foxx, the networks efforts to resurrect one of its most successful situation comedies failed because of lousy ratings. It was cancelled after having aired only four episodes on its Friday night schedule.

Dont look now, but Ben Vereen, is now scheduled to perform in South Africa in April. Hell appear on a bill, April 1-May 2 with Peaches & Herb, at the Southern Sun Hotel, in Bophuthatswana, the site of the Weaver-Knoetze heavyweight fight, which was telecast internationally.

Sesame Street Live" is now touring the country, visiting 40 cities each season and bringing the successful ingredients to the TV series to the stage-imaginative comedy, lively singing and dancing, and Jim Hensons incomparable Sesame Street Muppets.

New York Harlems Suzanne DePasse is now the top black lady in the movie business. Shes just been appointed president of Motown Productions an independent, autonomous film-TV division of Motown Industries. Shes been with the company 13 years and was vice president of Motown Industries and special assistant to chairman Berry Gordy.

Sidney Poitiers "Stir Crazy" is back on top as the No. 1 film in the U.S. and Canada. This crazy film starring Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder, was the top grossing Christmas-New Years release and the second highest grossing picture released in 1980.

The Dionee Warwick-hosted "Solid Gold" is the No. 1 favorite among new TV syndicated programs introduced this season and just behind The Muppets in all first-run syndicated programming. The musical variety series featuring top superstars and their current hits, is seen in 160 U.S. markets and 21 foreign counties.

Former Times reporter Charlayne Hunter-Gault, now the third leg on that nightly top PBS-TV MacNeil-Lehrer Report will be the anchorwoman for the annual Alfred I. duPont Columbia U. Awards in broadcast journalism to be handed out in a live telecast produced for the PBS network by WNET-TV on Feb. 19 from 9-11 p.m.

Muhammad Ali, whose illustrious name is mud in many circles now that its revealed he sold his name to MAPS for $10,000 a boxing promotion, will star as himself in a remake of the 1947 boxing classic movie, "Body and Soul". The film will star Leon Issac Kennedy of "Penitentiary" fame who is also writing the screen-play based on the film classic that stared John Garfield. Kennedys wife, Jayne, the former CBS sportscaster, is also starred in the new movie.

Singer Phyllis Hyman, who is getting her first stage exposure in "Sophisticated Ladies", was due to sing the national anthem Feb. 23 in that ill-fated Madison Square Garden "Dream Card", thats now up in the air.

This is Love Month

- Send a flower or a plant to someone.
- Do something special for a senior citizen.
- Do something special for a child
- Give someone a smile.
- Tell someone you LOVE them.

Taken from the Love Month Calendar of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

African Exhibit at Gallery Ligon

Gallery Ligon, Ltd. of Columbia, Maryland presents an exhibition of traditional African art beginning February 6 through March 2, 1981.

On exhibit will be masks, textiles and other art objects from African societies.

The exhibit will be housed in the Howard Community College Art Gallery, Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, Maryland.

For further information call Gallery Ligon, Ltd. at 730-0011 (from Baltimore) or 596-0020 (from Washington). Both numbers are local in the Columbia area.

Bill Lane in Hollywood

Maurcie White and his Earth, Wind & Fire dynasty of musicmakers have since returning from their great South American tour have been setting up their giant music complex here.

American Music Awards tendered Earth, Wind & Fire its fourth favorite soul group award in four years, making the fellows tie with Stevie Wonder for winning four straight years in a row. Again the big winner was country soulist Kenny Rogers, who finds the songs written by **Lionel Richie** more country than many music critics had ever admitted. This column called Richie a country-oriented talent from the time he came out with his "Easy" song hit some years back. It is great when a guy can hit with a soul and country audience all at the same time.

News still waffing about that Richie will be getting singular new management shortly. Hollywood laden with rumors of various managers (all white) trying to sign up the golden hot Lionel Richie. Richie was said to be interested himself in signing with Suzanne DePasses company here, while hes busy writing music for Kenny Rogers next album production.

Earth, Wind & Fire members worked actively in helping to organize the big Jesus at The Roxy program for Sunday and Monday nights here at the Roxy Theatre. Its a unique happening, featuring many top entertainment artists, including music producers, writers singers and dancers, doing there spiritual thing to highlight the star of the show, Jesus.

Lou Rawls told us news was not true that his 16-year-old namesake son "ran off to live with the young mans mother, Lana, in Houston. "His mother sent him a ticket", said Rawls.

"And at his age, there sometimes is not too much a father can do but say do what you want to do, for they are going to do it anyway. He wants a car real bad, but when he passes his drivers test here and buckles down to his schoolwork like he wants to learn rather than play, things will be a lot better".

Rawls payments of alimony to his former wife ended last December, "Thankfully", said the famous singer, "after eight years".

The Vargas Circus opening here at the Hollywood Bowl, with a spectacular inter-racial cast (humans), and with animals galore. The Vargas big top will take up 30,000 square feet of space, and offer 5,000 seats for spectators at each show.

Some people piously wonder how ghetto youngsters learn to be crooks. Not from their peers, probably, but ostensibly from people in positions of high repute. Not from the bottom up, but from the top down, in all too many cases.

TV Watching

The Supremes with Diana Ross in PBS special "All You Need Is Love" Saturday, Feb. 14 at 10:15 p.m.

By Vanessa Johnson

Friday

Benson: Adding to the excitement of televising the Governor's fireside chat is the fact the Marcy is madly in love with the program's producer. Starring Robert Guillaume. 8:00-8:30 p.m. Ch. 13.

NBA Basketball: The Washington Bullets vs the 76ers of Philadelphia. 8:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 33.

Merv Griffin: Guests include Bill Cosby and others. 9:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch.5.

Fridays: Music by Kool and the Gang. 11:30-12:40 a.m.-Ch. 13.

"Different Strokes" and figure skaters Tai Babilonia and Randy Gardner. 10:30-11:30 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Paige, and Buck Leonard, included: Jackie Robinson breaking the major league color line in 1946. 9:30-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 22 & 67.

Soundstage: Tonight Dionne Warwick performs at the Park West Theatre club in Chicago. Songs include "Deja Vu", "I'll Never Love This Way Again" and many others. 10:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 22 & 67.

Tonight: Performance by Sammy Davis, Jr. 11:30-12:30 a.m.-Ch. 11.

Saturday

Pat Albert: The gang learns that cooking isnt just for girls or sports just for boys. Hosted by Bill Cosby. 12:00-12:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Soul Train: Guests are Tyrese Davis who sings "How Sweet It Is" and Teena Marie performs "I Need Your Lovin". 12:30-1:30 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Movie: "The Organization", police detective Virgil Tibbs investigates the heist of $4 million in heroin. Starring Sidney Poitier. 3:00-5 p.m.-Ch. 5.

From Jumpstreet: On New Orleans Bourbon Street, host Oscar Brown, Jr. reviews the early history of jazz. 2:00-3:30 p.m.-Ch. 22 & 67.

Romie-O and Julie-8: Robots owned by competing firms fall in love and run away together in this musical fantasy. 5:00-5:30 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Hill Street Blues: Furillo contends with yet another hostage taking perpetrated by Hector Ruiz. 10:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Sunday

Kids Are People Too: Guests include actor Todd Bridges of

Top Hits

R & B Singles

1. Born Number
   Gap Band
2. Don't Stop The Music
   Yarbrough & People
3. Fantastic Voyage
   Lakeside
4. Heartbreak Hotel
   The jacksons
5. Celebration
   Kool & The Gang

R & B Albums

1. Hotter Than July
   Stevie Wonder
2. Gap Band III
   The Gap Band
3. Fantastic Voyage
   Lakeside
4. Imagination
   The Whispers
5. Celebrate
   Kool & The Gang

Jazz Albums

1. Wieelight
   Grover Washington, Jr.
2. Carnaval
   Spyro Gyra
3. Late Night Guitar
   Earl Klugh
4. Night Passage
   Weather Report
5. Give Me The Night
   George Benson

Dionne Warwick and Irene Cara will be among the celebrity performers and presenters on the 23rd Annual Grammy Awards Show, Wed., Feb. 25 on

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Free Spirit Theater, Inc.
Free Spirit Theater dedicated to the performance of Black historical and cultural arts, presents WEDDING BAND by Alice Childress January 30th through February 22, at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturdays. Sunday Matinee February 15th, 3 p.m. While our theme is one of Black History, we are not limited to just that; we introduce new artists and original productions. We offer work shops for adults and youths, this summer we will provide a resident drama camp for 8 to 16 yrs. olds for information phone 653-3311 oe 466-8059.

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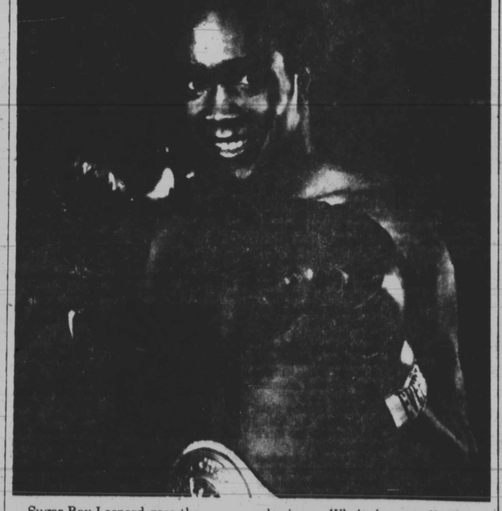

Sugar Ray Leonard goes the distance. Sixty, spectacular minutes on "Sunday Live."
His career. Who's next? His millions. Where's it going? The fight business. Who's in control? The Duran fights. Was the fix on?
Sugar pulls no punches. Be there. Close up at ringside. On "SUNDAY LIVE!"
SUGAR ON "SUNDAY LIVE!" 1PM 13 WJZ-TV

Sharon Redd

Sharon Redd

Sharon Redd, veteran singer, actress and dancer and former member of Bette Midlers backup group the Harlettes has a brand new Prelude album, "Sharon Redd" and two hot singles "You Got My Love" and "Can You Handle It".

This album teams her with the D.C. based Willie Lester/Rodney Brown team who provide typically solid, catchy material and backing.

From press raves in the trade papers, Sharon Redd is definitely the singer to watch in 1981.

Redd, born in New York City and raised in Norfolk, Va., came from such a musical family that her career choice was almost inevitable. Her father, Gene Redd Sr., was a bandleader and King Records A & R man; her stepfather played with Reuben Phillips orchestra at the Apollo theatre and backed performers ranging from Ella Fitzgerald and Benny Goodman to touring Motown acts; and her brother, Gene Redd, Jr., sang with the Fi Tones and, as producer and songwriter, was responsible for Kool & the Gangs early hits. Redd spent a lot of time at the Apollo and at King Records and also had classical voice training.

Sharon Redd a new face to watch.

Her first break came when she beat out 1,500 contestants to become the "Shaefer Beer Girl" in New York and performed with Bobby Bland, Patti LaBelle & the BlueBelles and Lou Rawls. She then spent over two years as lead in the Australian production of "Hair" and had her own TV show, Back in New York, she was contracted by Joseph Papp for a co-starring role in "The Wedding of Iphigenia" in London. She performed in New Yorks Shubert Theatres and backed Petula Clark on stage and TV appearances.

Redd then spent five years with Bette Midlers Harlettes. "We became an important part of the show", she says. "We had to move scenery as well as sing, dance and go through costume changes". She also sang with Barry Manilow and Helen Reddy, appeared in "The Wiz" and did extensive session vocalizing.

Calendar

Coppin Homecoming 1981

Bobbi Humphrey, nationally known flutist and Washington, D.C. singer Wayne Davis will headline the annual Homecoming Concert at Coppin State College Fri., Feb. 20 at 8 p.m. in the James Weldon Johnson Auditorium.

With the theme "Welcome Back Still Historically Black", the week of activities will get underway Sun., Feb. 15 with a Homecoming Baby Contest and culminate in the traditional Cabaret on Homecoming Day Saturday at 8p.m. Other highlights include a lecture saluting Maryland's historically black colleges and universities, a Greek Sing and the Homecoming Game pitting the Coppin Eagles against the fearsome five of Lincoln University.

For additional information call 383-4441.

Bobbi Humphrey

Tom Casciero, mime artist at Childen's Fair, Feb. 22, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Timonium Fair Grounds sponsored by the Children's Theatre Assoc.

Aretha Franklin at Constitution Hall in D.C. Saturday.

Towson State

Nikki Giovanni

A program by noted poet and author Nikki Giovanni will highlight the activities scheduled for Black History Month at Towson State University during February. Ms Giovanni is scheduled to lecture and give readings of her poetry on Fri., Feb. 13, at the University Union, Chesapeake Rooms, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dr. Leroy Fitts, minister of First Baptist Church, speaker today, Friday, Feb. 13 on "Black History: Role Model For Youth."

Romare Bearden's "Odysseus Leaves Circe" and "The Human Form: Interpretations" on view now thru March 2 at the Maryland Institute, College of Art.

Philippe Wynne now playing at The Ritz. He was formerly lead singer with The Spinners.

Robert Burr is Sir Thomas More in Center Stage's production of "A Man For All Seasons," a play about King Henry the Eighth's fight to overturn the Catholic Church on divorce.

Oscar Brown Jr. at Frostburg State

Oscar Brown Jr., nationally known songwriter, singer, actor and playwright will be an artist-in-residence at Frostburg State College next month to play the title role in his own musical "Kicks & Company".

This will be the premier college production of the work originally produced in Chicago in the early 60s. It was directed by Lorraine Hansberry and featured Burgess Meredith as "Kicks".

Brown will be in residence for the entire month of February to rework the play for possible future performances elsewhere in the country.

"Kicks & Company" can be seen in Compton Auditorium at the College on Feb. 26, 27 and 28, and on March 1. Frostburgs production will feature new orchestrations recently completed by Jon Bauman of the Colleges music faculty.

FSCs producer and director David R. Press said that Browns visit to the College gives the students here a unique opportunity to work with an artist of national stature. Press said he considers Brown to be an "artistic genius". "Hopefully, our work together on "Kicks & Company" will lead to a revival of national interest in an exciting show and a greater appreciation of the playwright."

Press said Browns publisher is already anticipating a national promotion based on the production at Frostburg State.

Brown describes "Kicks & Company" as "a modern day morality play with music, that swings its way through the struggles of our recent past. "The show is set in the 60s and tells a story of Mr. Kicks, the devils agent, who was desperate to corrupt and destroy the non violent sit in movement at "Freedman University for Negroes." How those students deal with the temptation put in their paths by this "hip" Doctor Faust makes memorable musical entertainment as well as for solid theatre.

Mr. Brown can currently be seen as the host of "From Jump Street; A story of Black Music," a 13 part television series appearing on PBS.

Brown is currently performing in Atlanta, after recent engagements in New York City, the Baltimore-Washington area, San Francisco and Chicago. His recordings include: "Sin and Soul," "Between Heaven and Hell," "In a New Mood," "Movin On," "Flesh," "Oscar Brown Jr. Tells It Like It Is," Mr. Oscar Brown Jr., Goes to Washington," "Finding a New Friend" (with Luiz Henriquez), the cast album of "Joy," and "Brother, Where are You."

Browns visit to Frostburg State College is being supported by the Student Artist and Lecture Series Committee, the Office of Minority Affairs, Department of Speech and Theatre, Department of Music, the Allegany Arts Council, Maryland Art Council, the Frostburg State College Foundation, and through the cooperation Marks Music Corporation of New York City.

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