

"Around About Town" For The New Year!

BY CORA SMITH

In preparation of a long evening, two high-energy divas, Shirley Leverton and Rosalind Stone, choose to chauffeur Ms. Cora "Around About Town" to celebrate with those brave enough to endure the loud clashes of drums, horns, hand-held noise makers, balloons and other special New Year's Eve events in downtown Portland.

Ms. Leverton's invitation to an early dinner was timely and an extraordinary experience. Setting the table were crystal glasses and goblets, antique place settings and sparkling shining grand brogue silverware, placed on pearlized place mats upon a beautiful glass table held in position on the shoulders of two beautiful pearlized swans.

The pace of the evening was set by the beginning of appetizers of fresh oysters and large bay scampi with Shirley's special seafood sauce. Never mind the "rack of lamb" surrounded by cranberry sauce, fresh asparagus, sauteed mushrooms, mouth watering melt-in-your-mouth butter lettuce salad, rice and a special challah bread. A wine salute and conversations about good health and wisdom for the new year followed. An exquisite silver MacClau bird vase, filled with purple orchids, added to the atmosphere and a dessert was served of tasty lemon squares with fresh organic non-fat milk.

The diva's out dressed me, I wore a black mohair and lace sweater with black pants, they however, dressed more in the glitz of the new year spirit. Shirley's son, Greg Synder, a dress designer from Paris, France, now in Orlando, Florida, wore a handsome silk pleated back, belted front fabric evening suit in olive grey and silver, highlighted by a beautiful pair of earrings from Paris. Rosalind and Shirley's guest from Seattle wore silver as well.

With no rain in sight the venture began. Locating Sangos' was easy enough, however, the parking was more difficult, it seemed all of Portland was downtown - never mind in the midst of all the traffic, was the preparation for the annual midnight new year's walk-a-thon and race. After locating an unattended parking lot, we were able, with the help of several others, to figure out how to validate the car space.

Walking a few blocks, we bumped into Brittany Parrish, an image consultant, pepped up about her upcoming fashion show. She looked radiant in black, however, it seemed to be the color of the evening.

Our first stop was "Shango's Bar and Grill" a place of peace and unity, located at 333 S.W. Park Ave., where owner Brian Tate was a perfect host. He led us to an area where a buffet of refreshments were being served. The entire wall counter was filled with a basic soul food menu. Shirley's first comment was "if you'd told me all this was available, I wouldn't have cooked." Sorry Shirley, the food was included in the package and anyway we can advance to the next entertainment location quickly. Besides, Shirley, your favorite singer Linda Hornbuckle and her band is performing. Janice Scoggins at the keyboard, prompted Linda to sing her heart out and had guests commenting that with such a fabulous voice why hasn't she made it on the national charts.

Sangos's was filled with the holiday spirit, the beautiful people were in strapless, sequin, lace, backless short exciting holiday fashion with exquisite hairdos and gorgeous make-up, notably the universal changes of predominantly mixed couples were on the scene.

As the evening continued, we reached the two-month-old French restaurant "Toulouse's" and its New

Year's Eve gala. The former site of a french bakery, the Toulouse featured the sophisticated sound of the Shirley Nanette Jazz Quartet and a full six course dinner. The French rural menu was a concept away from the Parisian french style which are smaller portions. This restaurant provides food for hungry Americans with large appetites. Chef Paul Doeg explained its food similar to what a French grandmother would make. The open pit stoves with wood fire grills made a beautiful presentation of the rotisserie Cornish chicken. The menu boasted oven roasted mussels with sun dried tomatoes, baby greens salad with house-cured salmon on lox and an entree of roasted Poussin with savory bread pudding and a red wine hunter sauce.

As usual, songress diva Shirley looked beautiful from head to toe. Seen were Dale Allin, Tracy Williams from KMHD, the Sean Cruzs', Carl and Judge Mercedes Dietz and friends Alvena and Judge Aaron Brown.

As midnight approached, everyone was armed with enough horns, hats, and noisemakers to alert the entire city. With hugs and kisses Toulouse welcomed in 1996. Shirley and Rosalind are you tired? Don't be, silly girl, let's get going.

Atwater's was still alive and well, the band of legendary Mel Brown, Leroy Vingear, Geoff Lee and Bob Hernandez was absolutely wonderful. It was dream music for dancers and they were out there having fun, plus everyone was dressed to perfection, many fashionable long dresses were seen - also this was tuxedo city. Seen was Shirley Brown, Gail Patterson, Jeanette and Ray Rook, Gail and Robert Johnson, and Nellie and Milton Flynn from Seattle. A train to old acquaintances and a broad range of exciting music even allowed

for a moment to play Happy Birthday for yours truly, Cora Smith.

Shirley and Rosalind, it's time to go home, but it's difficult to leave the beautiful ambiance of the 30th floor with the spectacular sight of the city. At a glance, it was calm, beautiful and serene as we welcomed in the new year. Happy New Year, Shirley and Rosalind, it's 1996!

Pain may be eliminated for millions

(SPECIAL) -- A new drug has been approved that is exciting researchers in the treatment of pain. This material has been formulated into a new product known as "Arthur Itis" and is being called a "Medical Miracle" by some, in the treatment of debilitating conditions such as arthritis, bursitis, rheumatism, painful muscle aches, joint aches, simple backache, bruises, and more. Although the mechanism of action is unclear, experiments indicate that Arthur Itis™ relieves pain by first selectively attracting, and then destroying the messenger chemical which carries pain sensations to the brain, thus eliminating pain in the affected area. Arthur Itis™ is an odorless, greaseless, non-staining cream and is available immediately without a prescription and is guaranteed to work.

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Education For The Next Millennium Begins Right Now

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

There may be hope. Finally, I am reaching that hard-core group of friends who were so adamant that I had launched an attack on their most cherished institution, "The Traditional Black College." I simply introduced the idea that there was a second and much larger group of youth whose urgent education needs demanded an alternative structure.

Several of these friends are graduates of UNCF schools and have known me for more years than they would have me recount here. I cannot say it any louder or any clearer than my closing statement in my article, "The Black College, III": "We have to reach" all our youth and for most it is increasingly the case that a four-year college experience may not be an option--black, white, poor or lower middle class.

And, certainly, that is not an immediately achievable goal for many, many more in these uncertain economic times. I commend those who have moved from an earlier state of uncertainty or suspicion to acceptance of the reality and survival techniques in that old maxim, "different strokes for different folks." Considering the years of dedication to structuring successful traditional and nontraditional educational processes to remedy the situation, some suggest I am due a little righteous indignation.

Be that as it may, my position was further reinforced several weeks ago by a former student who is now a senior executive out in Beaverton computer-land. The circumstance was a session on "Educating For Diversity In The Workplace", where I, the consultant, sat back while this white, middle-aged baby boomer described his own educational experience. As a freshman in 1974, he had dropped out of my Portland State University class and a little later abandoned the entire university experience. It was several years before he returned.

Now, this was a man who was still

bitter about having been "given" a high school diploma only to find that he was not adequately prepared either to enter the work force at a "cost-of-living wage", or to pursue a meaningful academic experience. Most interestingly, he detailed for his audience an almost point-to-point correspondence between this early scenario and contemporary workforce problems facing his firm and other high-tech or medium-tech corporations. I kept thinking, "I was addressing this problem over twenty years ago."

This Beaverton executive got more of the rapt attention of an audience of both personnel people and line supervisors, when looking pointedly at me, he said, "on the advice of McKinley, here, I took some rather innovative steps to further my education and to ensure a decent future." He went on to describe a modified academic structure which, combined with a series of related work experiences, permitted him to move steadily up a career ladder of his own realistic design.

Waving his copy of a handout (Oregonian article of 12/29/95, "New Learning Standards Will Get Public Scrutiny"), my fellow member of the Associated Oregon Industries continued, "Importantly, Professor Burt provided a necessary degree of flexibility with options at key points which permitted me to stay on track even when slowing the process to take seemingly non-relevant jobs. We're still talking 'upward mobility', even while accommodating a stable family structure. And we see some applications, here, to our ever-increasing family of high-school dropouts."

He closed with reference to key points of the processes I integrated in the 1970's and '80s: From tailoring work-study programs at technology firms to leasing busses to take students and "parents" to medical centers and job sites--from specific Community College courses to an eventual return to the university with an experience-based course load. Continued next week.

Local Company Makes New Park Cover

Continued from Metro

but was not interested in doing any repairs," he added with a grin. "We also completed a special, separating canopy for one of the dams on the Columbia."

Every bit of work on the Cathedral Park canopy except heat welding of some seams (more durable than sewing because it is completely waterproof) was completed on site at Waagmeester. "The old hardware and cables were in good shape," said Waagmeester. "But we have to manufacture hardware permanently installed into the old tarp."

The new cover will make its debut

on Sunday, July 28 during a special performance that will be announced later. Admission to the concert series, which continues Sunday, August 4 and ends Sunday August 11, will be free, as always, says White.

She says contributions of time, talents and funding like those of Waagmeester, Metro Central Enhancement Committee, Simpson Timber, Portland Parks & Recreation and Friends of Cathedral Park Neighborhood Association make it all possible. "With the help of local people we can continue to improve the park and to offer great local musical entertainment free of charge," White says.

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