

Entertainment



BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

A PEARL OUT OF DEEP UN- POLLUTED WATERS!

NYC: -- The electric and print media announcement of the passing of Pearl Bailey generated shock waves at home and abroad. Such a pearl rare and found only in the deepest and unpolluted of waters beyond the shores where its oyster carrier is

uncatchable. Those of us who knew, admired and called her "Soul Sister," lived with the feeling that she would perhaps live forever. "Pearlie Mae" was that rare type of person who was in love with life and the humanity which embraced it.

She was easy to know, but oh so hard to forget. Unspoiled by her rare talent, SHE WAS A DELINEATOR of quality and perhaps the best of the theatrical humorists ever spotlighted. She could make an audience pat their feet or lift the roof with belly laughter. However, her world



Pearl Bailey

calss ability never affected her "just plain folks" quality. That's why they affectionately called her "Pearlie Mae." Raised in a world of signs, "white here and colored there," she used her blessed talent to erase the emotional scars inflicted by a world of "Equal but Separate." However, there is a belief that the thing which hurt her most was the early scorn of the few of her own race who back-talked about her when she married white super drummer Louis Bellson. Little did they know that the only thing white about him was the pigmentation of his skin. She dubbed the incident "Prejudice on the Black side." This lady who has surrendered to pay life's debt was a rare human

being with a passion for helping others. This scribe recalls in fond memory how she routed my Isadorable and Sarah Chandler and me out of Harlem. She took us all to Greenwich for an ear/eye endorsement of a new singer called Tony Bennett. Hers was his initial endorsement and he has never turned back. He is just one of many "Pearlie Mae" called attention to. Though nobody lives forever, there are those whom many of us wish that they did. Pearl Bailey is among that cadre.

PARTY TIME:--Phyllis Buford, wife of banking expert Tab Buford, tossed herself a no cash spared birthday bash Saturday last to mark her 50th birthday. She neither looks it nor acts it so

no wonder she revealed it, which is rare for a lady to standup before the masses and blow out that many candles. The bash attracted friends from far and near. On the counted side were Ruby Bruce from Kansas City, KANS., Delores Talley, Raleigh, N.C., Beverly and Bob King, Stamford, Ct., and Winnie Simmons, Bridgeport, Ct. New Yorkers included Rose Morgan, who denied she's in hearing range of wedding bells, Beryl Bowser Savage, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Green, he is president of Carver Savings and Loan, and made it clear that his bank is in noway in that mess making headlines about the similar designated monied institutions around the nation that's earmarked to cost us tax payers billions. Good deal, Mr. Banker. Also enjoying the Buford's pool side lawn were Pearl Quarles, Pres., W'Chester Black Women's Political Caucus, Crystal McKenzie, the chief executive, Crystal McKenzie, Inc., Roy Hastick, president Caribbean Chamber of Commerce, and his wife Dr. Ida Harris-Hastick, Jim and Sandra Douglass, Dr. Margaret Baker Green and M/M John Smith. Also Dr. Pat and Nathan Johnson, Dr. Pat Ferdinand and Dr. Rosa Bradley. Daughter Rhea-Shaw tended the tables of assorted food including Kansas City and Ethiopian delights.

On the other side of W'Chester County daughter Alyass Godsey surprised her mom, Marie and pop, Dr. Stanley Godsey, with a 40th wedding anniversary party at the Crown Plaza, White Plains. Among those who clink the champagne glasses were Tony Blackburn, Judge and Mrs. Herbert Evans, Dr. Connie Jenkins, Dr. and Mrs. Mathew Branch, Virginia Brooker, Wilton Flippin, Evelyn Harding Holt, Dorothy and Duncan Divins. Jennie Davison and her attorney daughter Kathy, Ver-na Jones, Bart Wallace and Dr. John Maupin and my Isadorable...Napoleon Holmes and the staff at the Fabulous Palace Entertainment Complex and Night Club are now presenting Jazz Appreciation Days every Sunday afternoon, featuring some of the hottest sounds around. Guests also have

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