

TV CANDIDS

by
Terrence O'Flaherty

Lawrence Welk is as corny as Kansas in August and as high as the Flag on the Fourth of July—and I wouldn't have it any other way.

Welk celebrated his seventh anniversary on the ABC network. He has survived the most formidable kind of competition that NBC and CBS could throw against him. His musical style may not be exclusive but his enormous success with the great American viewing audience places him in the exclusive circle of television's most popular heroes.

Welk and his well-disciplined musical organization offer a kind of entertainment not found anywhere on TV today—a completely professional family of musicians which regularly plays the kind of music the nation likes best.

Welk provides viewers with a lively, wholesome and tasteful program on Saturday evenings, a time when 30 million Americans are seeking decent family entertainment—and are finding it harder and harder to locate.

In a curious way, some of Welk's popularity comes from the fact that musical snobs and finger-snapping jazz buffs used him as a target for their derision—thereby keeping his name alive in circles where he would not ordinarily be mentioned at all.

Unfortunately for his kaffeeklatsch critics, Welk's programs are more skillfully put together than any other popular musical programs on television—and most jazz and symphonette groups would do well to study his skill.

Welk shares with Ed Sullivan a questionable achievement: neither has improved his personal technique in seven years. But both he and Sullivan also have a rare virtue: they don't hog the microphone.

Happy anniversary, Mr. Welk. They say you're square—but you're a POLISHED square and I have the utmost respect for polish.

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For several years the broadcasting industry has been up in arms against Section 315 of the Federal Communications Act which states that if a radio or TV station makes air time available to one political candidate, all other candidates for the office must be offered equal time.

NBC's Robert Sarnoff expressed the industry's attitude when he said "To compel broadcasters to give as much time to the most frivolous and Quixotic fringe candidate as to each of the two major party nominees strikes me as unreasonable and lopsided."

Six bills have been introduced hoping to change certain clauses in the section for governors, senators or presidential candidates in 1964. (President Kennedy advocates suspension for House, Senate and gubernatorial candidates.) Sunday, NBC came out and advocated repeal of the whole section. Prohibition party candidates kindly note.

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Leonard Bernstein, one of the few musical giants who is equally comfortable in both short and long-hair efforts, will be renewed by the CBS network for eight telecasts next season if current negotiations are successful. Four of the hour-long concerts would come from the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the new home of the New York Philharmonic.

Family Festival Plans Now Under Way in Area

The South Bay Community is preparing for its fifth annual International Family Festival to be held at Aviation High School, Redondo Beach, on Oct. 20 and 21.

Coinciding with United Nations Week, the festival is put on to demonstrate the community's interest and regard for other national and religious customs. Booths are being planned by the festival committee to depict the cultures of different ethnic groups represented.

Mrs. Bernice Garrett of Manhattan Beach has been named festival general chairman.

OTHER FESTIVAL officers and chairmen include: Mrs. Barbara Sandini, secretary; Mrs. Donna Miller, festival director; Mrs. Joyce Bordelon, treasurer; Mrs. Carol Stewart, children's activities, and Mrs. Marguerite Rompage, world religions.

Also, Ken Harms, exhibits; Mrs. Nancy Hackett and Miss Carol Gantner, decorations

and art exhibit; Mrs. Greta Betchov, United Nations; Paul Wood, public relations; Patrick De Costa, publicity; Mrs. Walter Darby, books; David Desau, director of public relations; and Mrs. Luanne De Costa, contracts.

Co-sponsors of the festival to this date include the American Assn. of University Women, Redondo Beach and Manhattan Beach Chambers of Commerce, Welcome Wagon of Manhattan Beach, United World Federalists, Manhattan Beach Friends of the Library, and Dolphins of Manhattan Beach.

Persons interested in participating in the festival are invited to call Mrs. Bernice Garrett at 379-5653 or Mrs. Luanne De Costa at 379-6647.

Palos Verdes

Parcel Rezoned

Regional Planning Commissioners Friday approved a change of zones on a 270-acre parcel located on Crest Road between Hawthorne and Crenshaw Boulevards.

The property was rezoned from S-R-D, C-4, and R-4 to allow for single family residences and commercial development.

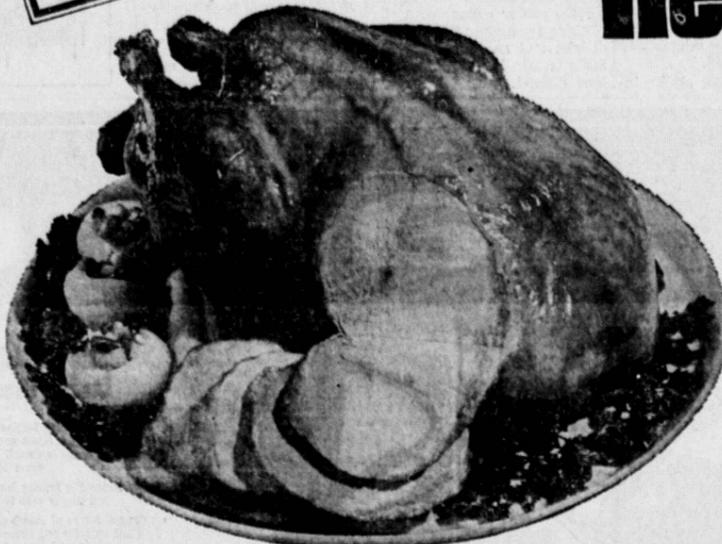
James E. Keller, utilitiesman, USN, son of Mrs. Alma L. Piere of 1048 W. 254th St., Harbor City, is serving with Detachment Golf of Mobile Construction Battalion Five, stationed at the Sangley Point Naval Station in the Philippines.

The "Seabees" are constructing housing units at the station, and slated to return to the States in December.



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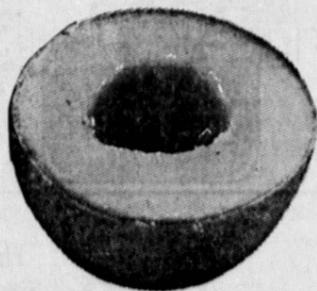
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