

★ CONCERTS
★ BALLET
★ OPERA



ENTERTAINMENT AND DINING GUIDE

AUDREY KEARNS, Editor

★ RESTAURANTS
★ THEATERS
★ NIGHT LIFE



KING SALUTES . . . As part of the Week of Dedication concerts in the Music Center's Pavilion, Nat "King" Cole heads an exciting group of entertainers on Friday, December 11. With Cole will be the Count Basie Band, Tony Bennett, Vikki Carr, Diahann Carroll, Shelly Manne and Jimmie Rodgers.

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Hollywood—MIKE'S MAIL-BAG—

Dear Mike: Why do all those cowboys on TV plunk down a silver dollar on the bar and blow the joint with a bottle of booze? I don't think a quart of whiskey ever cost less than \$1.60, even in Matt Dillon's day. Am I right? — Glen Powers, Jamaica, N.Y.

Dear Glenn: Norma Gauth, a researcher at Television City, says she be-dawg if you ain't just about on the button. A quart cost between \$1.40 and \$1.60, a single shot was 15 cents and a beer was a nickel.

Dear Sir: I'm getting sick-sick of all these sick TV shows, from all the neurotics in "Peyton Place" to all the nuts in "The Munsters." Tell those kooks to dish it out straight, will you, because some of us can take it. — Amy Delgard, Greensburg, Ind.

Dear Amy: The trend seems to have started. ABC-TV is kicking off a CLEAN new series at Desilu in mid-December. It's called "The Adventures of Frank Merriwell" and it will star Jeff Cooper as that archetype all-American Yank, Frank.

Dear Mike: I read Jean-Paul Sartre's book about playwright Jean Genet. "Saint Genet," thinking it was about a real Saint — but it AIN'T. It's disgusting. And now I heard Genet is writing a screenplay. Is that true? If so, I'll be the first in line to boycott it. — Janet Marnell, Biloxi Miss.

ROADIUM
WED. thru SAT. Dec. 2, 3, 4, 5
Ernest Borgnine in "McHale's Navy"
"He Rides Tall"
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finishing "The Loved One" for Metro, will produce and direct it.

Dear Mike: I wonder if you could find out what TV studio owns "Song o' My Heart," the movie starring that great Irish tenor, John McCormack, and get them to show it on TV. I sure would like to hear that great voice once again. I saw the picture in 1929 here in Philadelphia. — Leon Hyde, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Leon: It isn't owned by a TV studio but by 20th Century-Fox, here in Beverly Hills. Are you sure you saw it in 1929? It wasn't released until 1930. Maybe you saw a sneak preview. Anyway, you may get some action by writing to Dick Banuck, head of the studio.

Dear Mike: Anybody that says Elvis Presley's career is dead is nuts. I think he's the greatest, because he started out as a country boy and ended up as the big city King. — Elizabeth Harvell, Bloomington, Texas.

Dear Elizabeth: Thank you, and please turn in your Beatle Club card as you leave the hall.

Dear Sir: Is John Wayne as ill as I've heard he is? — Jean Peck, Union, N.J.

Dear Jean: I don't know what you've heard but Big Duke is warming up, after his recent hospital siege, to start shooting "The Sons of Katie Elder" for Hal Wallis at Paramount on Jan. 2. He could start earlier, he tells me, but wants to wait till after the holidays — "because that's when all those family Christmas dinners will be over."

Dear Mr. C.: So much is written about the Beatles who, to my taste, have nothing. Will you please tell me why this is so, especially

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WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT CALENDAR
Ambassador's Coconut Grove—Pearl Bailey.
Chapel Theatre (4164 Pacific Coast Hwy.)—"Volpone" (Stage)
Harbor Drive-In—"Good Neighbor Sam," "Devil Ship Pirates" day—Stage.
Hillcrest Players—Harbor City—"7 Nuns in Las Vegas" (Stage)
Huntington Hartford—"Filipinas Dancers"
Haines Hall, UCLA—"Ladies of Manover Tower" (Stage)
Long Beach Community Players, 3021 E. Anaheim—"Bus Stop" (Stage)
Long Beach (Magnolia Theatre)—"3 Penny Opera" (Musical)
Melodyland—"She Loves Me" (Stage)
Palos Verdes Playhouse (2514 Via Tejan)—"Period of Adjustment" (Stage)
Pavilion (Music Center)—Dedication Week
ROADIUM THEATRE—"McHale's Navy," "He Rides Tall"
Royce Hall—Alirio Diaz, Guitarist
UNITED ARTISTS (Torrance)—"Unsinkable Molly Brown"

Front Row, Center

Count yourself fortunate if you have been able to obtain seats for the Week of Dedication to the Music Center's Pavilion, starting Sunday, Dec. 6. The Dedication Concert is sold out and I understand most of the other concerts for that week are close to SRO.

ORIGINAL PUPPETS from the well loved and now lamented Turn-About Theatre on La Cienega are being used by Hank Higgins for his presentation of "Zippity Zoo" at the Hampton Theatre in Redondo Beach. If you are among the aficionados of the Turn-About you're sure to delight in "Zippity Zoo" and, in this case, so will the kiddies. The puppets will be presented starting Saturday night through Dec. 20, every Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 and 8 p.m. Reservations FR 1,6561.

Our readers have good taste: Alice Noblet tells me that the four week showing of "The Unsinkable Molly Brown" at the United Artists Theatre has been so popular that it has been held over for a fifth week! This is a delightful, gay and fun show.

SHIPSHAPE PARTIES are being given these days on the Mansion Belle, the new flagship of the Marina del Rey's pleasure fleet. Anchored at Fisherman's Wharf, the "Belle" is brassy and plush with all the flavor of a stern-wheel river boat, according to general manager Bryant Morris of the Wharf and operator of the pleasure craft. It is to be used exclusively for chartered parties.

AROUND THE WORLD—The famed Filipinas Dance Company's appearance Friday night and Saturday afternoon at Huntington Hartford Theatre in Hollywood follows appearances in West Germany, France, Scandinavia, Egypt, Scotland and Spain. The only theater repertory dance company in the Philippines, the Filipinas was chosen to represent the country's cultural achievement.

when Peter O'Toole, the greatest actor in the world, is hardly ever mentioned in newspapers and magazines? — Pat Collins, Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Pat: Peter doesn't provide much "hot copy" for the columnists because he's so happily married. And Peter, I'm sure, would be the first to say he's not as great an actor as Sir Laurence Olivier.

(Mike Connolly will try to answer your questions in his column. He gives no personal replies by mail.)

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Over the TABLE TOPS

If you're from the middle west, you call it an early supper and at a resort it is usually thought of as a late lunch, but at the Smith Bros. INDIAN VILLAGE restaurant in Torrance they refer to the early 4 to 6:30 p.m. service as Early Thunderbird Dinners. No matter what you may call it, the 10 different complete dinners, costing just \$2.50 per person, are a bargain — and the same dinners for children cost a dollar less, just \$1.50.

Remember that the Smith Bros. Indian Village actually serves the same cuisine as the former Fish Shanty, maintaining an unbroken continuity of favorite dishes. As always, the Village upholds the epicurean traditions of the Fish Shanty by featuring hearty, wholesome and flavorful American dishes and the house specialties are still those wonderful old-time Smith Bros. recipes. The family originally settled in Wisconsin from where their fishing activities grew into a famous restaurant on the lakeshore and later to the Smith Bros. Fish Shanty, now the Indian Village here, so you know their recipes are authentic.

SPEAKING OF NAMES . . . The Scandinavians call it smorgasbord, the Italian name is antipasto, in Spain it is gaspachio, in France it's known as hors d'oeuvres, the Hindu's call it dumptoke and in England it's called savoury. No matter what the name, to Americans appetizers are just that . . . and it's important to have these tiny "samples" as appetizing to the eye as to the taste.

DINING WITH CAESAR. Naturally I'm referring to CAESAR'S RESTAURANT on the Pacific Coast Highway in Torrance. I had enjoyed luncheon in the Apollo Room and the Coffee Shop at this attractive restaurant-motel, but last week was my first time for dinner in the Gourmet Room. Too often restaurants are careless in the manner of presenting their food, even when the cuisine is quite good. At Caesar's, maitre d' Andre makes sure that diners are served with real European flair—utilizing the chaffing dish for flaming service which gives the diner an added excitement. This is all to the good, particularly when the food itself is well prepared. For instance, their boneless Rainbow mountain trout dinner, Saute Colbert, with seedless grapes, Almondine is just \$3.50. Prepared with care and served in style, the meal consists of either soup salad, vegetable and potato or pasta del giorno, with beverage and dessert. The filet of tenderloin of beef a la Stroganoff, served with wild rice given the finishing touches by Andre as he serves it, flaming, right at your table. The Stroganoff dinner is \$4.25.



Perhaps one of the more delightful surprises at Caesar's for dinner is to have Andre prepare either crepes suzette or cherries jubilee for you, right at the table. For two, the crepes are \$2.00, while the Cherries Jubilee costs \$2.50 for two—what a magnificent way to conclude a delicious meal!

TIME CHANGE. So many patrons of the HING HING, where they prepare that celestial Chinese food to take home, have requested them to stay open on Wednesdays, that they are doing just that: hereafter the Hing Hing will only be closed on Mondays. Their chicken-in-foil is so

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good that I could make a do on Pacific Coast Highway you'll find such delicious and famous dishes as sauerbraten with potato pancakes and red cabbage at \$2.25 . . . Cordon Blue (a superb veal dish with ham and cheese) at \$2.50 . . . German Goulash with paprika for only \$1.85

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