

OF THE STARS' ★



for invited guests. At the bargain end of the Strip, the Hacienda offers "Fire & Ice" for \$19.85. Last year the charge was \$19.84, so this joint makes a penny a year on its New Year's customers. But the Stardust, with the perennial "Lido de Paris" show goes along New Year to New Year's Eve at the same price, \$17.50, night after night. It's no wonder the many owners through the years at this resort, after this "Lido" extravaganza was established in 1958, proclaim every night New Year's Eve.



Far be it from me after this Happy Chanukah season to mention a downer, but for the record, the 76th bank failure of 1984 broke a 47-year Depression-era record. Tell a friend...BYRON ALLEN, the gurgling comedian who graced the Golden Nugget's Theater Ballroom recently, ran this full page ad in Daily Variety: "Dear KENNY ROGERS: About two months ago, I went out on my BYRON ALLEN 1984 World Tour. And I took a young piano player along named LIONEL RICHIE. One night LIONEL came to me and said, 'MR. ALLEN, I have a friend named KENNY ROGERS who can use some work. Please keep him in mind.' Well the rest is history. And it was a pleasure using your last weekend at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas as my closing act. I'd love to have you back because I really enjoy getting to bet early"...That's "Real People," BYRON ALLEN...Watch for ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK in an upcoming edition of "The Jeffersons,"

playing himself when the JEFFERSONS have an Atlantic City romp...How to drive away in a Corvette. Do as MARION MORRISON of Oak Lawn, Illinois did. She popped 70¢ worth of nickels in a Westward Ho slot machine and drove back to Oak Lawn in her brand new Corvette...To find out what sort of work the UNLV Art Dept. faculty does, their exhibit is on now in the U.'s Fine Arts Gallery...KAREN NELSON, a.k.a. KAREN NELSON BELL, a.k.a. KELLY STEVENS, pianist and entertainer from her PAUL ANKA days to local lounges, sends a postcard from Goteborg, Sweden with greetings. "My '3 month tour' has lasted 6 months and I love it!" My last look and listen to KAREN was at TONY ROMA's on Sahara Boul...FRANK SINATRA, who submitted to a miniseries for video about his life (wheel!) as he says "Without warts," arrives at the Golden Nugget Theater Ballroom on the 27th for three nights, then his GN dates are Feb. 14-17, Mar. 15-16, April 19-20 and May 23-26...The above mentioned PAUL ANKA will be a Golden Nugget visitor in the Cabaret beginning with a fortnight Jan. 3...RIP TAYLOR is tossing his confetti with MAC DAVIS up at Harrah's Tahoe Dec. 21-27. He was a recent GN Cabaret livener with NATALIE COLE...SERGIO FRANCHI, local landowner, former Strip star graduated to musicals, Broadway and otherwise, dined with bride EVA at LIBERACE's Tivoli Gardens. He and restaurant manager FRED FAVORITE and asst. man. ROBERT DeVOYE, longtime pals co-owned land in Connecticut when all three lived there...Nevada Dance Theater's "THE NUT-

CRACKER" has final perfs this coming weekend with artistic director VASSILI SULICH's revisions, ballet mistress DENISE WARNER LIMOLI's restaging of two scenes, DAVID HEUVAL's new costumes and ELLIS PRYCE-JONES' scrumptuous sets and, most importantly, some distinguished dancing by the company worth your attendance and cheers. NDT is tossing a one-night gala fundraiser Feb. 25 with the famously funny LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO. Tix run from \$10 to \$100 for the TROCKS' satirical spoofs in UNLV's Ham Hall.



The Union Plaza's anni New Year's Eve pyrotechnics at 9 p.m. will have a prologue starting with a band playing in front of the hotel at 6:30. The rockets red glare and other pop-offs will be on ABC-TV cameras coast-to-coast. After the fireworks, favors will be handed out to everyone in the Race & Sports Book...For your Strip showshopping calendar, TONY ORLANDO follows NEIL SEDAKA & MARILYN McCOO at the Desert Inn Jan. 22; JERRY LEWIS arrives Feb. 12 with SHIRLEY JONES and on Mar. 5, SAMMY DAVIS JR. has his three weeks-plus blast...TOM CHRISTI arrived from Europe where he was opening act at the Blazer nitery in Windsor, England, to sing in the Riviera's Le Bistro lounge alternating with ANNIE & KENNY and ALLYN & DREW, plus "Search for Gold" winner DARCUS SPEED. For her reward winning "Search," DARCUS wins a week in the main showroom's "Solid Gold" next month...Patrons of JOHN & JANYCE BIGANDO's Sweet Time Confectioneria in Carriage Square (Southside Commercial Center) will note sandwiches have been dropped from the menu. Soup, salad and the famous cheese cake and special pies are left for one to gorge. JOHN is a Caesars Palace pit boss with

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Happy Chanukah

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