

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



You couldn't want for a better place to spend your money, \$35 tax deductible, than the HELP THEM WALK AGAIN fundraiser Monday night (27) in Convention Center. This is JOANNE TOADVINE's life work, caring for quadraplegics and paraplegics at the HTWA clinic on West Charleston Blvd. There was indication of how the clinic helps spinal injury patients to begin the long way back when PROFESSOR JERROLD PETROFSKY came to Las Vegas two weeks ago to show how his computerized system works. He linked his stimulation devices on several patients, who made halting progress on their feet, helped by parallel bars, but walking nevertheless. The fundraiser will help bring more of the expensive computer system to the clinic as it honors ROY WOOFER, city attorney of North

Las Vegas, and RON LURIE, city councilman and L.V. Mayor Pro-tem. ARGUS HAMILTON, one of the pros who graces MITZIE SHORE's Comedy Store at the Dunes regularly, will emcee and spring his funny routines, usually about politics and his home state, Oklahoma, and borrowed state, California. Others from the Comedy Store to dish up the ha-ha's will be KARIN BABBITT, sister of MICHELLE BABBITT of KTNV-TV-13, and JOHN CAPONERA, and possibly REX MEREDITH, all heavy weights on the talkshow circuits and night club stages. By the way, the HTWA clinic here under JOANNE TOADVINE's constant watch and tender care, is one of the few in the U.S. charging no fee for helping them walk again with electronics from PETROFSKY's National Center for Rehabilitation Engineering at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio...DICK WRIGHT (no relation to the university) of the Las Vegas Hilton confirmed that JOHN FITZGERALD who moved into the executive space left by the exiting HENRI LEWIN, will continue with even more authority and expanded activities, while DENNIS GOMES, senior vice prez in charge of casino operations, will follow his rising star in the Hilton organization, and the interim executive veep, JOHN GIOVENCO, is hard at work as top corporate liaison between the LV Hilton, Flamingo Hilton and Reno Hilton...I won't put any money down, but I'll watch the CHICAGO BEARS become unpatriotic and stomp all over the NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS Sunday.

spending over a million to refurbish rooms and add an entertainment lounge...In the Flamingo Hilton lounge, COMMAND PERFORMANCE erupts through Feb. 10.

★★★★★

Good Luck! Richard Bunker became the unprez of the Dunes to walk across the Strip into his vice-prez office of the Aladdin this week. The casino closed Tuesday midnight while owner GINJI YASUDA seeks his gaming license. Mystery of YASUDA is clearing up. He was an Olympic contender on the Korean rifle team in 1964, also a race car driver. YASUDA's Korean name is PARK SAM-KYU, according to Focus, a Japanese weekly mag. YASUDA was profiled after he sold a downtown Tokyo building, funds from which enabled him to plunk down \$54,000,000 in cash for the Aladdin. But the hot news is DON DIGILIO's move from the Dunes to his old P.R.

Imperial Palace Salutes 200 Employees



CHRISTINE WADE, a maid at the Imperial Palace, was honored as Employee of the Year. Making the presentation was RALPH ENGELSTAD, President of the Imperial Palace.

Four employees of the Imperial Palace were given 10 year pins and plaques at an awards ceremony in December. Another 196 received 5 year pins and plaques.

Highlight of the annual "Service Awards" was the announcement of Christine Wade, a maid, as Employee of the Year and Barbara Fasano (Cocktail Server) as Special Recognition Employee of the Year. Both were selected for the awards by heads of all departments in the hotel and casino. Presentation was made by Ralph Engelstad, President and owner of the Imperial Palace.

Receiving 10 year pins were Earl Camp and Herb Geng (both in Maintenance), Antonio Hernandez and Eual Whidden (both in Housekeeping).

Also invited to the Service Awards and a lavish cocktail buffet were all former recipients of 5 and 10 year awards and their guests.

The Imperial Palace is a relatively "young" hotel/casino. Employees receiving their 10 years pin in 1982 were the first to do so. Although the number of employees reaching that landmark is still small, the proportion of employees working 5-plus years at the Imperial Palace is quite high, indicating a high degree of job satisfaction.

The Imperial Palace currently employs approximately 1800 workers, a number that will swell considerably by the end of 1986. Reason for the increase is expansion of the hotel (now well underway) from 1500 rooms to 2100 by adding another 19 story tower.

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If you missed the Associated Press list of Dull People, here's the roster -- JOHN MADDEN, former Raider's coach, beer sales and sportscaster, ran off with the No. 1 spot. It wasn't very nice, however, of J. "DULL" STEWART, chairman of the bored of INTERNATIONAL DULL FOLKS UNLIMITED of Rochester (Dullsville) N.Y., to name BROOKE SHIELDS among the "10 Dullest Americans of 1985." BROOKE isn't dull, but her old lady is. At least, BROOKE can walk over live, hot coals on TV...MEL EXBER of Las Vegas Club picks four toppers at 4-1 and 7-1 in the National League to win the pennant and World Series -- St. Louis Cardinals, L.A. Dodgers, N.Y. Mets and Cincy Reds. MEL's American League picks list K.C. Royals again followed by Detroit Tigers and N.Y. Yankees, at 4-1 to win the A.L. pennant and 7-1 to top the World Series...It has been called to my attention by FRANK MAGGIO, publicity chief for Union Plaza, that "One of the funny things about 'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way To The Forum,' playing in the Union Plaza's main showroom, is that nobody ever gets to the Forum! Nobody even starts for the Forum!"...VERNE BYERS Big Band plays through Sunday at Gold Strike Inn, the other side of Boulder City on the way to the dam...After receiving applause from a gaming mag for putting JEFF KUTASH's "Splash" as "1986 Las Vegas Show of the Year," the Riviera saw fit to extend the run of the aquadancer to June 1987.

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ARNOLD SHAW, director of the POPULAR MUSIC RESEARCH CENTER, wants it to be known that the organization now has temporary headquarters in UNLV's original library building. But PMRC faces the problem of moving out some 5,000 recordings, mostly Easy Listening, male and female vocals. SHAW sez he's tried to sell the platters at a bargain price, but none of the used record salons is interested. Anyone wanna buy some records? Also, PMRC needs secretarial and clerical assistance...King 8 Hotel & Gambling Hall west of I-15 on Tropicana, is

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