

# OF THE STARS' ★

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Vegas is becoming a laugher. MITZI SHORE's success with The Comedy Store at the Dunes piques BUDD FRIEDMAN enough for him to strike a deal with the Riviera's SAM de STEFANO to open a Riviera Improv. He'll bring on his yockstars May 4 in a 350 seater on the floor below La Cage. Meanwhile MITZI goes three shows Fridays and Saturdays, 8, 10 & 11 in the Dunes main showroom. This week's quintet from her Sunset Strip funny farm include MIKE BINDER, LOUISE DUART, DANNY STONE, JOHNNY DARK and FINIS HENDERSON...Even sophisticated Vegans gagged when they read the cute little ads placed by TONY SPILOTRO after the celebrated mistrial that cost taxpayers over \$1,000,000. Addressed to lawyer OSCAR B. GOODMAN, the hearts & flowers note said: "Friends are very special, and we're very lucky to have one like you. Our heart-felt thanks for all you've done for us. Fondly, ANTHONY SPILOTRO & FAMILY." The racketeering trial may have another venue when reputed Chicago mob overseer Spilotro is tried again. He still has the Kansas City trial on charges of Argent Corp. (Stardust) skimming...The gang was all there Sunday aft for the FORREST DUKE PARTY at the Frontier with kudos for a bangup show to producer/coordinator JIM SEAGRAVE, publicity chief of the Frontier, HARRY SEYBOLD, director, aides PETE MIKLA, entertainment editor of the L.V. Review-Journal; JIM PARKER, L.V. Mirror; DON DIGILIO, Aladdin Hotel publicity and L.V. Sun columnist; CURT THOMPSON, Frontier exec. v.p. with the Beyond Belief showroom tech

crew; and AFMusicians Local 369 band led by JACK HOLLAND. It was FORREST DUKE DAY for Nevada, the county & city proclaimed by GOV. RICHARD BRYAN, County Commission Chair THALIA DONDERO and L.V. Mayor BILL BRIARE.

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All the world's battles pale beside the one in the making, the Tropicana Hotel's challenge to the Las Vegas Hilton, Flamingo Hilton, Frontier, MGM Grand and Stardust Hotels to submit a taller dancer/showgirl than the Trop's "Folies Bergere" Sonja Lubbers. "The Tall Showdown" will be held in the Trop's Tiffany Theater April 29 at 3 p.m...

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A year ago, PIA ZADORA couldn't get arrested, now she's the belle of showbiz as she opens Friday with JOAN RIVERS and JIM STAFFORD at Caesars Palace. Pianist/conductor VINCE FALCONE will be ZADORA's musical guide as usual with the augmented AL RAMSEY CP ORCH. FALCONE did return for some FRANK SINATRA conducting, but there's less tension over in the MESHULAM RIKLIS camp where TONY BARZIE calls the shots for ZADORA.

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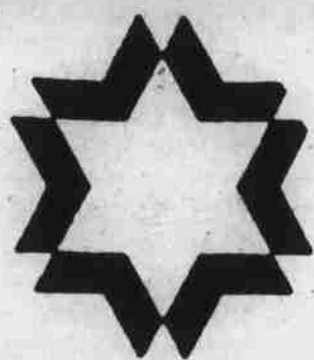
A benefit concert will honor the late FRANKIE CARR, man of 1000 faces and chief funnyman for the Novelites, who died last month while reviving his show in the Merrimint lounge of downtown

Mint Hotel. In 1975 CARR established a fund to build the Sacred Holly Mother Shrine for the Holy Family church here. The concert May 5 at Palace Station, where he was entertainment director, will help finish his uncompleted dream...KEN MIZUNO is opening his Golden Spa Mizuno in the Tropicana Thursday...NELL CARTER scrubbed from the BOBBY VINTON date at the Desert Inn May 1-21...DELLA REESE has a week at the Four Queens. She opened Tuesday to be followed by the MAMAS & PAPAS. ALAN GRANT's Monday Night Jazz brings on the duets of guitarist MUNDELL LOWE & trumpeter BILL BERRY next Monday in the French Quarter. GRANT is being profiled by the state Nevada mag for his 5th year of providing top jazz names for the Vegascene.

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Dance Theater of Harlem tour jetes into UNLV's Ham Hall on the 30th, sponsored by Vegas Chapter of Links and Allied Arts Council. On ballet night, CHARLES VANDA, founder and impresario of the Master Series of Concerts will be honored. VANDA brings in the Soviet Emigre Orch on the 28th...Call from BUDD FRIEDMAN confirms his first week's batch of comedians opening the Riviera's comedy room May 5 and on 7 nights a week -- MARSHA WARFIELD, RITCH SHYDNER, TOMMY SLEDGE & MARTY POLLIO.

ATHENS (WNS) — Greece and Israel signed a new cultural and scientific cooperation program on April 3, The Foreign Ministry announced here. The three-year program provides for exchanges in the fields of education, science, culture, the mass media, youth affairs, and sports. It was signed by Spyros Chrysospathis, the Foreign Ministry Cultural Affairs Director, and Israel's diplomatic representative in Athens Ambassador Yehezkel Barnea.



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