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JANUARY 26, 1966



Checking

Food * Fun * Frolic
By Bill Whitman

The Whale House Presents...

Utilizing all manner of nautical equipment, lighting, trappings and hangings, Ron "Rondy" Walton has at last opened his new Whale House in Torrance, full-scale. It's a 7-nite-a-week operation featuring dancing to the Frank Four plus entertainment, and also offers the smorgasbord luncheons daily.

By way of pointing out the decor features of the Whale House, know what the bar is? Well, it sits right in the middle of the main room and in order to get the thing in, they had to tear out an entire wall. Yep, it's an old whaling boat, replete with gouges and marks from many years of actual service in the operation of the whaling trade.

All they did was slap a plank all around the gunnels for elbow and service purposes, sand it down and then spread a few miles of varnish and stuff all over it, throw in a complete wet bar, and encircle the whole thing with captain's chair type stools — and voila — a whale of a bar!

The trappings, too, are authentic, having put to use some old hatch covers, (was that what Ron told us they were?!) thoroughly treated and highly polished, present-unique and authentic table tops.

The Whale House is, indeed, a unique new room for your enjoyment where you may eat, dance or drink — or all three if you wish.

It's located at the corner of Sepulveda and Main. Cruise this spot soon for something different in the way of decor.

Now then, while we're still in the nautical mood — dropped by the Galley West one nite again last week to hear The Wilder and spotted a new face among the group on stage.

He's a new guitarist by the name of Dick Shepp who re-placed Johnny Zorro and will now become a regular member of the group.

Dick has "done time" with both Freddy Martin as well as Patti Page from time to time and has to his credit the past couple of years at The Roar.

Meantime, there's still the friendly little "beer pub" at the rear of The Inn, presided over by the genial "master of the draw." Warren Deeken where you may enjoy a friendly or fierce game of darts in an enjoyable atmosphere. (Warren says he's no stiff competitor.)

This of course, in addition to the lengthy main bar up front where the selection is wide in the cocktail-highball department.

Sam Filippone's presenting



FRANKLY... This is the friendly but wild group that put out those crazy sounds nite down there at the Whale House on Sepulveda at Main in Torrance. They're The Frank Four and they grind out that stuff every nite but Wednesday. (Sure, even musicians have to have a nite off now and then.)

signals manager Virginia Haack. "The restaurant to choose is the Indian Village, whose special-priced banquet menu caters to diversified preferences."

Sitting in Dirty Ernie's at 11429 So. Crenshaw one nite last week, couldn't help but wonder if perhaps Ernie hasn't got that beer chest rigged in some way. Comes off with a sound like it was going to make the jack-pot pay-off but Ernie swears it won't do a thing but keep the beer ice-cold.

Ernie's lovely and talented wife, Evie King plays a whole bunch of piano there every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nite so if you've never visited this inglenook spot, now's a good time to give it

Say now hey—they've done beautiful things to one of the old landmarks in the general area. It's the old Embers on Western near Pacific Coast Highway.

Blood-red carpets, partitions torn out, piano-bar installed along with red leather booths... and PEOPLE! The new proprietor is Norm Finn — and you wouldn't guess the new name for this conveniently located spot — yeah, you're absolutely right — Finn's Inn. It's a natural and should do well with the proper operation. Can be a coming swinger!

The smallest deer is the pudu of Chile, which is less than one foot tall.

Hollywood Reporter

By Mike Connolly

Dear Mike: How wonderful that Eva Gabor should make such a smash success! I understand "Green Acres" is currently No. One in TV ratings, up over "Hollywood Palace." The Beverly Hills-billies and all the rest. I am a naturalized American citizen myself. As such, I know how difficult it is to learn a new language. Yes, I was also born in Budapest. So, you see, I know how difficult it is. But to become so proficient that you can land in the top TV show, speaking a new language! Now you must agree that is indeed wonderful. — Mrs. Stella Wojtkiewicz, Chicago.

Dear John: No, that was Jack Cathcart, the musical director, who was married to Judy Garland's sister, the late Susanne Gumm.

Dear M. C.: Why are they taking "The King Family" off TV? They are one of the best entertainments of all, and certainly better than "The Addams Family." — Hope Ports, Houston.

Dear Hope: The ratings were so low, the sponsors pulled out.

Dear Mike: WHERE has Adam West that handsome hunk of "Batman" on TV, been all my life? Don't tell me — I think I've seen him before. Go ahead, tell me where? — Aanna Marie Soutar, Marion, Ia.

Dear Anna Marie: On the TV commercials for a candy bar (Nestle) as a character named Captain Quik.

Dear Mike: What does Elvis Presley like most in women? Short or long hair? Red or pink lipstick? Short or tall? Smart or dumb? Sexy or in between? What color hair and eyes? A good cook, a good listener, or both? — Honey Dawson, Missouri City, Texas.

Dear Honey: He likes a red, longhaired and blonde, ed-lipstick, long-legged, smart, sexy, blue-eyed, and BOTH.

Dear Sir: How tall is Mike London, "Little Joe" of "Bonanza"? — J. Ratto, Burlingame, Calif.

Dear J.: He's 5-feet-11.

Dear Sir: Is Hollywood really going to make a movie out of that disgusting book, "Candy"? — Tina Amorelli, Chino, Calif.

Dear Tina: Metro took an option on it several months ago but has since let it drop. If it's ever filmed, I

Election Costs Cut, Coil Says

Torrance City Clerk Vernon W. Coil today said plans for the April 12 municipal election are being completed by his office.

Coil said his office is in the process of establishing polling places and naming precinct workers for the election at which the mayor, three members of the City Council, the city clerk, and the city treasurer will be elected.

As an economy measure, the city is consolidating precincts and reducing the total number from 206 to 99. Savings of \$9,000 is anticipated as a result of the consolidation. Additional savings will be realized by using 34 schools as polling places.

City crews will deliver election supplies to precincts to achieve further savings in the cost of a municipal election, Coil said.

Because of the consolidation, it will not be possible to use all persons who previously have served on election boards, the clerk added.

doubt if it will be done by a major studio because the majors still observe the rules of the Studio Production Code, even though those rules have eased up somewhat.

Dear Mike: What ever happened to that wonderful, wide-eyed, dreamy actress, Marsha Hunt? So talented, so beautiful, and yet we never see her any more! — Jim Fish, Youngwood, Pa.

Dear Jim: She's just back in Hollywood, after a year's stretch in the United Nation's War on Poverty program, to do a guest spot on "Run for Your Life."

Dear Mike: Was Arlene Francis ever married before she married Martin Gabel? — Mrs. J. P. Shanahan, Minoa, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Shanahan: She was divorced from the late Neil Agnew.

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

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