

Great Frederick fare

By Ethel Loeb

A MIRACLE is about to happen on Market Street. After years of famine, since the hotel closed, with no place in which to dine elegantly in downtown Frederick, Chez Maggy, a French restaurant, right off the Champs Elysee, is shooting for a Nov. 17 opening in the former Kresge building. Its mansard-roofed yellow front will spout greenery at the entrance, and the domed spacious dining area will carry out a bright color scheme with colorful French banners, plants, an orange carpet, a red bar lounge and blue draperies.

The cocktail lounge promises to be a favorite watering spot, as well as an oasis in which to while away any waiting time before dinner. It will be presided over by handsome Robert (pronounced Robair), son of owner and chef, Jean Leonardi, (pronounced John). Jean will cook such delectable dishes as coquille St. Jacques, vol au vent, veal cooked in all manner of delectable Provencal sauces, filet mignon, and crepes, featuring crab filling, etc. to mention a few dishes on the mouth-watering menu which will be printed in both French and English. You may start with escargots or terrine and end up with Pear St. Helene or Peche Melba, ad infinitum.

Luncheon will offer a different menu, like special salads and sandwiches. Wines will be recommended for each course, and while there will be imported wines on the menu, the Lombardis, far from turning their noses up at American wines, are enthusiastic about some of our East Coast and California vintages.

Madame Lombardi will manage the dining area, so it is a real family affair. In fact, even the head waitress is so enthusiastic about opening in Frederick, that Cherie moved here with them from St. George, Utah, where the original Chez Maggy flourished. St. George is a small town, near the Arizona border, but very "touristique."

Their former restaurant, is in striking distance of many scenic areas. It is so well-known, that Carroll Hendrickson's family in Utah raves about it. It was recently sold, so that Leonardi could venture East (the reverse of "Go West, Young Man"). His friend, John Torrez, an architect, discovered us calling

Frederick the epicenter of accessibility to so many places (like Washington, Baltimore, Hagerstown, etc.). He has been trying to get Jean to come here for the past ten years, to open a gourmet establishment.

The dream, about to become a reality, will seat 140 people. Some of the rooms are separated by open fireplaces, or fountains, with tete-a-tete tables for two lining a center hall. Beside a four-page menu of super gourmet dishes, the restaurant will use real linen tablecloths and napkins, no paper here, and the color will be a warm orange.

Individual Cafe "filtre" and tisane (camomile tea) will be available, both a must with real gourmands. There will be free VALET parking, and Hendrickson's is going to present fashion shows regularly. A schedule has not as yet been formulated, but it will be like the old days, lunch downtown in gracious surroundings, beautiful models snaking between the tables, and super food to cheer the inner man.

One suggestion! Better jog an extra mile a day, join yoga or aerobic dancing, do SOMETHING to prepare for the onslaught of extra calories that nobody will want to resist.

A NEW DEAL, a clean sweep, all new county commissioners! Three girls made it, go gals go! Helen Swanson, Mary Williams, and aren't we proud of our new Congresswoman, Beverly Byron?

Both parties got exposure at Jack Amatucci's bash in Brunswick, although it started off as a Democratic rally for Gov. Hughes and Beverly Byron, under Lee Feete's guidance. Jack, in a velvet collared loden jacket, looked as if he stepped right out of "Sound of Music," and was a gracious host.

Andrew Stancioff, who didn't make it beyond the primaries, is off to a fabulous new job (he is a geologist) to Kinshasa, Zaire, in mid Africa, next month. His wife, Mera, and their two daughters will accompany Andrew to the capital of the third largest country in Africa, which lies both north and south of the Equator.

WE GALLS WHO take a guest membership in the VFW for granted don't realize the struggle foreign correspondents like Jessie Stearns Buscher had to be recognized (because she is a woman) as a regular member. Jessie, who has been around the "Hill" for years and who played in "Advise and Consent," and Sarah McClendon were singled out for honors in their struggle for women's recognition.

YOU CAN'T GET AWAY from Frederick, even in Monaco. The International Herald Trib, at 75¢ on Friday, Oct. 20, mentioned Harold Weisberg as a Warren Commission critic. He says of the documents made available, "The Warren Commission was supposed to investigate. The one thing this proves is a determination not to investigate."

FRIENDS OF HAROLD Cahn

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honored the peripatetic and popular interior decorator and bon vivant at a party celebrating his 80th birthday. Looking half his age, surrounded by his son and daughter who wish they had Harold's formula to stay forever young, and friends who look theirs, he promised to stay around for many, many more years.

HAVE YOU VOTED for your favorite barber, and have you gotten tickets for the "Barber of Seville" at the Weinberg Center, Nov. 17? It's in English, and the American Opera Co. does a remarkable job. My barber is in the dog house; he is too busy to snip my locks, so that is why we resemble a shaggy dog. NOOOO VOTE!!!!

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