

Monday, December 20, 1982 O&E

Caneros Region grows fine grapes

The Caneros Region is perhaps the most famous of all the California microclimates and deservedly so.

It is the coolest viticultural region north of San Francisco. It is a crescent-shaped region that covers the top of San Pablo Bay, extending through southern Sonoma and Napa counties.

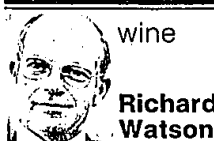
One hundred years ago the region was used to grow grapes, but the louse phylloxera invaded around the turn of the century and devastated the vines. The first 50-60 years of this century saw the land used for wheat, animals (Caneros means sheep) and fruit trees until the wine boom forced growers to again plant the area on virus-free stock.

Plant the area they did. And still do. Initial experimentation with various seeds now to be a thing of the past. Caneros is a cool region, suitable for the plant noir and chardonnay. It is today these grapes that the land is being increasingly planted.

THREE NAMES traditionally have played a significant role in the history of Caneros as a prime grape-growing region. Louis Martini in the early 1940s planted some 200 acres to zinfandel, cabernet sauvignon, merlot and more (there is more of this ignoble grape in Napa even today than the public likes to talk about), thereby opening it up again as a region.

Some 20 years later Andre Tchelistoff, then at Beaulieu, noted the parallel between the climates of Caneros and Burgundy. He planted nearly a 100 acres to pinot noir and half as much to chardonnay (then called "vinot chardonnay") to great benefit.

But it was Rene Di Rosa who brought the name Caneros to the attention of the world when, in 1965, he planted his Winery Lacy Vineyard to chardonnay. By the early 1970s California winemakers were beginning to append the name of a vineyard to select wines, an unheard-of practice up to



wine

Richard Watson

then. Such esteemed wineries as Burgess, Z.D. and Veedercrest began to use the name, and as well brought the name Caneros along in 1972.

That same year a new winery opened, one dedicated to being a pinot noir specialist, using regional grapes. The name was Caneros Creek, owned by Frank Mahoney, and still today this winery does much to banner the name across the nation.

One need travel only a few miles into this strange land of rolling, low hills and mists, devoid of trees, to sense today the tremendous vitality of the area. New vineyards are being planted at a furious pace and new wineries are entering the area.

MOST NOTABLE is Acacia Winery, known in the past for its pinot noir and chardonnay wines of high esteem. Indeed, Acacia could have found no better region to place its winery and vineyards than this Burgundy extension.

Its reputation has come in part from grapes grown in this area, even when it was housed in Sonoma. The plan is to increasingly use Caneros grapes for both of its great wines.

The other new wineries in the area are as yet untested. But Mont St. Johns seems less promising than Bouchane. Time will tell. Whatever they do, the region is secure as the most prestigious area for the select grapes it grows best.

at your leisure

DAVID BARRETT of Bloomfield Hills has a new 45 rpm release, "Lady of the Straits," backed by "Going Out of Business," for Brothers Records of Pontiac Township.

"Lady of the Straits" describes the fate of a beautiful young maiden whose ship went down during an autumn storm on the Great Lakes many years ago. She was never found, but legend says her ghost still roams the Straits of Mackinac. On stormy nights her siren song lures would-be suitors to her watery grave.

"Going Out of Business" is a personal song about Barrett's experience with the pain and frustration of divorce.

Barrett and F. Dean Mann co-wrote "Lady of the Straits." "Going Out of Business" was written by Barrett.

Among Barrett's musical influences are rock, country and classical. He started his career at age 12, primarily on keyboards. Since then he has become an accomplished guitar player.

He has worked in various situations through the years, from elaborate rock bands to trios, duos and currently as a solo.

"It's been 16 years of frustrations and rewards," Barrett said. "Thanks to support from family, friends and Solid Sound (his recording studio in Ann Arbor), I feel there has been serious advancement in my career. The hard work is beginning to pay off."

Barrett's first release was "This Song," with "Talk Dirty" on the flip side. Both are his own compositions.



David Barrett

"ASSIGNMENT Berlin," a feature-length movie produced and directed by Hyar Toukhanian in Detroit, will have its first showing for the general public at 7:30 and 9:15 p.m. Dec. 28-30 at the Redford Theatre, 17360 Lahser at Grand River, Detroit.

largest seasonal employers, will interview applicants for the 3,500 positions from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Wednesday and Dec. 27-29 in Sandusky, Ohio.

Tickets at \$3 may be purchased at the box office.

The film dramatizing Turkish-Armenian conflicts of the 1920s was shot in metropolitan Detroit on locations including Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills.

The film raises questions about the morality of genocide, assassination, international law, diplomatic affairs, the fragility of life and man's inhumanity to man. Pieces of a puzzle leading to an assassination and trial of the assassin are presented in the film.

The majority of the film's cast and crew were provided by Michigan talent. These include S. Josiah Penberthy, Jr., Judy Wright, Terry Kelley, John Niskanen, Jack Brokneza, Bernadine Vida, Marylyn Kacir, Timothy Loecker, Carol Bramston, Andre Nadjarian, Roger Jackson, Michael Carroll, Rube Weiss, Gerald Papp, Joyce Feuring, Evelyn Orbach, Ken Ford, Whit Vernon, Loreta Higgins and Hal Youngblood.

The original screenplay was written by Sona Toukhanian, and an original score was provided by Avedis Nazarian. Eddie Mekka and Val Avery play lead roles.

Toukhanian credits the Detroit-area resources with allowing him to produce the movie on a budget of well under \$1 million. Distributors are currently reviewing the film and Toukhanian is negotiating world-wide distribution.

REPRESENTATIVES for Cedar Point, one of the Midwest's

Interviews for jobs at the amusement theme park will take place at the Employee Visitor Center at the corner of First Street and the Cedar Point Causeway. No appointments are necessary.

Advance applications are available by contacting the personnel department at 419-627-2247.

Positions are available in more than 100 job classifications, including ride operations, foods, merchandise, accommodations and grounds maintenance.

"Previous Cedar Point experience is helpful but not necessary," said Larry Higgins, personnel director.

"Basically, we are looking for friendly, outgoing and energetic people who enjoy working with the public."

Higgins said there are also many openings for behind-the-scenes personnel, such as warehouse attendants and wardrobe and laundry employees. A few positions are available for applicants with special skills, such as graduate and registered nurses, Petty Farm and Ocean attendants and craft demonstrators.

"Last summer more than 100 colleges and universities were represented by our season staff," Higgins said.

Cedar Point opens May 15, with daily operation through Labor Day, plus two Bonus Weekends in September.

what's at the movies

AIRPLANE II -- THE SEQUEL (PG). A space shuttle replaces the airplane in this sequel to 1980's hit spoof. Julie Hagerty and Robert Hays reprise their heroine and hero roles supported by a bevy of stars in cameo appearances.

BEST FRIENDS (PG). When marriage comes in the door, friendship goes out the window in this romantic comedy with Burt Reynolds and Goldie Hawn as a couple of screenwriters who work well together until they get married.

THE CHOSEN (PG). Dramatization of Chaim Potok's novel about father-son relationships, the interlocking lives of two teenage friends and the faith that divides and unites them.

CREEPSHOW (R). Film of terrifying tales and creepy monsters directed by George Romero from a screenplay by Stephen King.

CHRISTIANE F (R). A look at the world of teenage prostitution and drugs, based on a true story. Starring Natja Brunckhorst and Thomas Hausstein with David Bowie, directed by Ulrich Edel.

EATING RAUL (R). Deadpan dialogue and tacky surroundings set the tone for this bizarre comedy about a stuffy couple who come up with an outrageous plan for bankrupting a restaurant.

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (PG). Second in the "Star Wars" saga, the further adventures of Luke Skywalker, Darth Vader and the rest.

E.T. THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL (PG). Steven Spielberg's best film yet, and probably the best film of the year, develops story of an alien being stranded on earth and befriended by a young boy.

FIRST BLOOD (R). Sylvester Stallone is a Vietnam vet who goes berserk when hassled by the local police and wages a guerrilla war against the sheriff's men and the state police.

48 HOURS (R). Action-drama with comic flair features Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy as a white cop and a black cop who are forced to work together to track down two killers.

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