

Hello luvs!

Can you believe that 1972 is practically here? I can't! Wow, I can still remember when it was about a century between Christmases, and summer vacation was at least five years long. I've always heard that the older you get, the faster time passes, and I'm be-

gining to believe it.

I'm not the type of person who'll sit down and make a list of the things I'm going to start doing or stop doing the next year, but the holiday season usually starts me thinking about new horizons and all that. I guess it's the changing of the year that sort of makes you think you'd better hurry up and do a few of the things you've been meaning to before it's too late. That sounds morbid, but I don't mean it that way. I just mean before it's too late to get your head into those particular areas

To me, these hopes and ideas aren't really resolutions. They're more like adventures, and you know me and adventures! (Love 'em!)

· One thing I know I'm going to do this next year is get deeper into music. I've been writing songs for a while now, and considering the way I started out (man, they were bad!) I'm really coming along. The problem is, this takes concentration, and therefore time. So if I don't have time, I'm going to make some. Song-writing is a fantastic form of selfexpression and it really turns me on. So I'm going to do more of it in '72 or else!

I also want to really study the guitar. I already play rock or pop or whatever the word for it is this week, but I'd really dig getting into flamenco and

the classical styles. I probably wouldn't do the world's greatest job, because they say the guitar is the most difficult instrument to play really well (even chording and picking isn't easy), and I really don't want to become another Segovia. But I'd like to at least try and see how well I would do. (If the neighbors start moving, I'll stop.)

After two seasons on The Partridge Family, I've learned a lot about the technical end of putting a television show together, but there's so much more to learn you wouldn't believe it. That's another area I'd like to explore. I'm a naturally curious person, and I like to know how everything works, and this next year I'm going to pay even closer attention to all the details. The crew on the show is the best encyclopedia I know of because many of them have been in the business for years! I dig asking questions, and I plan to ask a lot more.

Another adventure I have in mind happens to be gastronomical, (Huh?) I mean, I'm really fascinated by health foods and organically grown everything. Until you get interested in this, you really have no idea how many poisons are perfectly legal, and what's been injected into or sprayed onto some of the "goodies" we eat.

I have occasional fits of vegetarianism, and it's the greatest, lightest feeling! But I finally get hungry for a nice thick steak and give in. I don't suppose I'll ever really give up eating meat, but I am definitely going to stop buying food that isn't pure (or as pure as anything can get these days). Health foods are such a big

thing in Hollywood, there's practically a store in every neighborhood.

I love to just browse through these places, and wow, do they have yummies! Bread made without preservatives tastes great, and raw milk and organically grown vegetables and unsprayed fruits and well, I could keep going forever. The stuff is more expensive, but I'm going to start eating lots more of it. I prefer it, really, but I get busy and I grab whatever's handy. That I'm going to stop doing, if I have to bring an organic lunch to the studio in a baggie!

Last but not least (why does everyone always say that?), I hope to be able to get to meet more of my fans. I don't like calling you 'my fans' because it just sounds dumb. I mean I feel like a nut walking around talking about 'my fans'. I had a letter from a girl that really about knocked my head off. She was talking about how it feels to know someone so well and not have them know you at all, and I've been thinking about it a lot. I'll even include part of the letter in this column sometime if you'd like that.

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But, there must be a way to get closer together, and together, we ought to be able to think of something. Till then, happy '72!

Love,

and Sounds The Portridge Fornity © 1971 and Trademark of Columbia Pictures Industries Inc.