

Travel

Music festival highlight of holiday in Hawaii

SYNDICATED TRAVEL NEWS — Spring wakens amid sweet-scented flowers in Hawaii, to the gentle tune of temple bells and the haunting sound of an ancient conch shell as Hawaii's two major faiths, Christian and Buddhist, pay homage to the founders of their respective faiths. Flower-filled March and April are gay with song and dance as several ethnic festivals also take place throughout the Islands.

The annual CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL blooms at the top of the calendar this year from Feb. 29-April 1. Led by a beautiful queen and her court, all of Japanese ancestry, this festival draws hundreds of top-name performers and exhibitors from Japan who join Hawaii's Japanese community in a "hands across the sea" venture aimed at fostering friendship between nations in the Pacific Basin. Some of the more col-

orful events include Kabuki theater, martial arts demonstrations, tea ceremonies, a coronation ball, fashion show, craft exhibits and flower-arranging demonstrations.

Music fills the air in Honolulu March 12, as people of all ages gather at the bandstand in Kapiolani Park in Waikiki for the 28th Annual HAWAIIAN SONG FESTIVAL AND SONG COMPOSING CONTEST. Lucky winners will receive cash awards for new songs with Hawaiian titles and lyrics that have never been performed publicly.

The tempo picks up March 17 with ancient and modern Hawaiian music at the annual KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS SONG CONTEST held at Blaisdell Center in Honolulu. This leading preparatory school for young Hawaiians has developed a Pacific-wide reputation for excellent choral groups and soloists. A "hoike", a vivid presentation of ancient and modern chants and dances is also staged by students.



Local limousine service offers courteous, personal service

At a time when more and more globe-trotters are complaining of atrocious service from airport personnel and nerve-racking transportation problems enroute to the airport, a Brampton man feels his courteous personal touch does a lot to send travellers on their way in a happy mood.

Donn Reynolds operates his own limousine service to Milton airport for Brampton and Georgetown travellers, and has his eye on the Acton area as a possibility for future expansion.

Mr. Reynolds takes great pride in keeping his dark blue, late-model Cadillac in spotless condition. He wears a navy uniform and peaked cap such as chauffeurs favor. He opens doors and carries baggage for his passengers. He drives carefully. In short, when a traveller calls Reynolds Limousine to take him to the airport, he is going to be treated to the sort of service he is no longer expecting. Mr. Reynolds explains.

That service might also include a song or two, or even a yodel. And a yodel from Donn Reynolds is something special. Mr. Reynolds holds the title of

World Champion Yodeller, which he earned before a crowd of 19,000 at the Pacific National Exhibition in 1950, as well as the world record for the longest yodel, according to the Guinness Book of World Records. The seven hour, 29 minute record was set in a warehouse in Brampton on November 27, and Mr. Reynolds still beams when he talks about how proud he is to have brought the record to Canada.

Born in Winnipeg, raised in Vancouver, he has spent his life entertaining all over the world. In addition to singing and yodelling he plays several string instruments and has acted in a number of movies. He has also led his own band and has entertained in night clubs. He classes himself as an entertainer and admits that while he runs his limousine to earn a living, he hasn't quite got over his entertaining career.

"I love people," he says. "I won't retire."

have taught Mr. Reynolds how to deal with all kinds of people and he feels he has an easier time of it making his passengers feel at ease with him than a younger man would have.

"I tell a few stories, talk about whatever they want to talk about," he says. "I've been all over so we can talk about their destination too, sometimes. I just avoid politics," he grins.

Mr. Reynolds was a bus dispatcher at the airport for awhile and thus he is known by

all manner of guards and RCMP officers.

Mr. Reynolds will pick passengers up at the door anywhere in Georgetown and deliver them to their plane. He can carry a maximum of five passengers and is only allowed to pick up passengers by prior arrangement.

The airport is very strict about letting people in to collect passengers and Mr. Reynolds can't accept fares except the ones he told the authorities he was coming to collect.

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Darryl Slimm puts the finishing touches to a poster in the presentation room of Cochrane Travel Agency. The ship on the wall is the Queen Elizabeth II, which, along with Air Canada, is sponsoring special tours to England and around the world.

Films tell you what to expect

Cochrane Travel Agency has a solution for those vacationers who like to know what they're getting before they get there: a film and slide presentation, showing exactly what the trip will be like.

Ed and Jean Cochrane, owners of Cochrane Travel Agency, took their cameras aboard the Cunard ship, Queen Elizabeth II, to show prospective clients the facilities available on one of the biggest luxury ships afloat. The Queen Elizabeth II will be taking a world cruise in the near future, and is also available for a special package trip to Europe, taking the ship there, and flying back.

The film part of the presentation, which was shown to members of the public for the first time Friday night, shows the Queen Elizabeth II from stem to stern. The ship boasts a golf clinic, a miniature golf course, a small tennis court, four swimming pools, a turkish bath, two libraries with over 500,000 books, nightclubs and cabarets.

The ship itself is the size of two football fields, and is approximately 13 stories high.

The slide presentation showed the sightseeing available on the various stops made by the ship on its world cruises. Among the places included in the presentation

were the Philippine Islands, Hong Kong, Tokyo and Hawaii. Some of the slopovers are for one or two days, others for as long as five days.

Anyone interested in seeing the presentation can contact Cochrane Travel and make arrangements to view the film and slides.

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