



FROM DAVID'S DATEBOOK

Hi! Welcome to my column. I'll be writing it in each issue of TEEN LIFE to keep you up to date on whatever's happening with me and my friends on "The Partridge Family." I'll try to bring you all the news and all the latest developments, everything I think you'll be interested in reading about me and the Partridges, just as they happen. So stay tuned, okay? Okay.

AS I WRITE this, a new year has just begun. Like everyone else, I guess, I'm thinking about what the year's going to be like for me, what 1971 will bring.

It's funny that in television, the "new year" doesn't fall on the first of January. It happens around the middle of September when the TV season starts, the new shows go on and some of the old shows, hopefully "The Partridge Family," begin another year. To a lot of people who work in television, the September "new year" is really what it's all about.

Still, no matter when the working year begins, there's something about one calendar year becoming another calendar year that makes you sort-of stop and think about what you're doing and where you're going.

I really haven't started making many specific plans, but I do have an idea of what I hope will happen during the year. For one thing, I hope very much (so does everyone in the cast) that "The Partridge Family" will go into another season.

Though we've been working on the show for nearly a year now, sometimes it seems as if we've just begun. It takes longer than you may think to get everyone connected with a television show tuned in to each other. And I think it would be a shame if we stopped making the show just at the point where we were really beginning to work together smoothly.

Anyway, whatever plans I make now really depend on what happens to "The Partridge Family." If it does get renewed for another season (keep your fingers crossed!) it will continue to be about the most important part of my life. I think I'm incredibly lucky to have such a fantastic opportunity to combine acting and music—and I want to make the most of it!

On the personal side, one



thing I'm going to try to do this year is budget my time better so I have more of it to go out and see my friends, have more of a social life in general. There are times I feel I may be turning into a hermit—I come home from the studio, grab dinner, fall into bed, wake up, go back to the studio—and never have a chance to go out and enjoy friends. I definitely plan to try to change that.

Of course, I hope I meet a lot more new people this year, too. (That's something I hope for every year, actually.) It's very important to me right now to learn as much about everything as I can—and people are the very best sources of knowledge I can think of.

I've been taking scuba diving lessons, as you've probably read in TEEN LIFE already, and I want to be able to set aside enough time to go diving more regularly this year. And go water skiing, too. I got to go to Hawaii right after Christmas during a "Partridge" hiatus (which is a vacation) and I want to go again as soon as I can. Wow, all that beautiful blue water!

Did you make any New Year's resolutions? I always believed that the only reason anyone made resolutions was to have the fun of breaking them later. By now, I figure there are millions of broken resolutions scattered around the country. Mine were pretty practical: try to keep my house a little neater and redecorate (which means get some real furniture!).

The things that are really important to me didn't become New Year's resolutions... things like trying to grow as an actor, as a musician and as a person. I can't really resolve to do those things, I can just try to do them.

At any rate, I hope it'll be a good year—for you, for me and for the whole world.