

The finale of the show is a scene of the Indians dancing around a campfire while Dave Madden joins in—good ole Pinch-Face himself!—and I know the dance was not a war dance to frighten the Partridges away. In the story, the Family stays on at the reservation to help raise money for a new school for Indian children. Maybe this program will be written about in smoke signals in the sky!

Well, even though these programs have a serious side to them, funny things are bound to happen while they are being filmed. During the Indian show, Brian had to hold on to a goat that was just as determined not to be held on to as Brian was about keeping his hands on its leash. For a little while there was a bit of struggle between a butting billy goat and a brave Brian!



**WHAT COULD BE** more flattering to a girl than flowers? This beautiful bouquet was a blaze of colors with big golden daisies and lots of green ferns. Susan loves flowers!

There were other problems with animals, too. It is bad enough when people talk during the filming of a scene, but when sheep baa, goats bleat, and chickens cheep, then there's a scene from Noah's Ark, not from the Partridge Family! Once everything was quieted down, and filming started again, a rooster would crow and start everything off again. And who can threaten a chicken with the promise of not being paid for its day's work if it doesn't hold its beak? After all, it only gets—you guessed it—chicken feed!

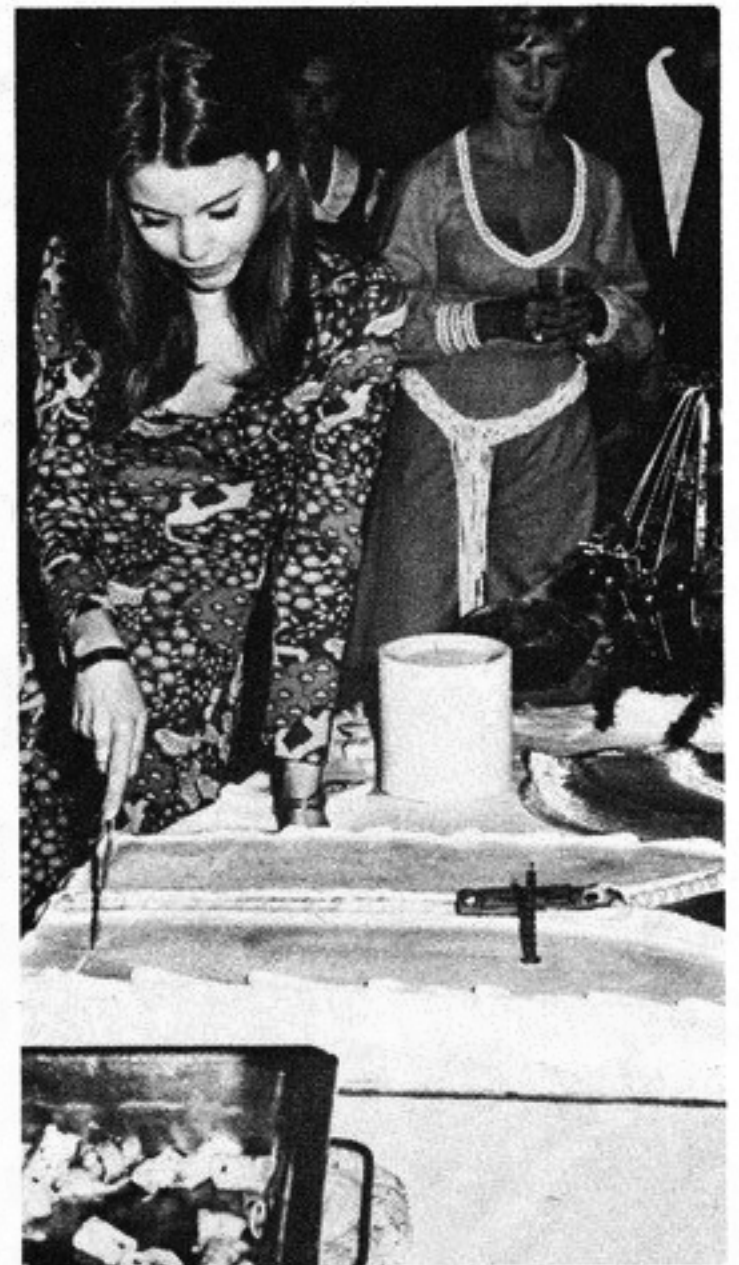
That was a pretty bad joke, so I guess I'll just drop the whole subject of chickens of the animal kind and go on to the human kind. Another show we filmed recently was a "funny" show, not a serious one, and its plot is about Laurie's trying to get back a diary that was mistakenly given to her A-Number-One enemy at school, the editor of the school newspaper.

In order to get back her diary, Laurie has to have the courage of a Mission Impossible girl, and sometimes that kind of courage just doesn't want to come out into the open. Of course we all know Laurie is brave and strong—even if she does scream about hamsters in the bathtub—but when she is faced with the tasks of having to ride a moving fire escape and crawling in a dirty air vent, then she begins to wonder where the courage went.

Actually, creeping along in the air shaft was not as dirty and not as hard a job as going up and down on the fire escape for Susan. For one thing, the air vent was made in a special



**SHIRLEY JONES ADMIRES** one of the gifts presented to Susan, a lovely piece of Jade jewelry. Susan's favorite gifts are ones that are original and most of all—feminine.



**SUSAN USUALLY ISN'T** one for sweets (as you can tell by her slim figure) but she indulged when it was time to cut and eat her birthday cake. It was her favorite—chocolate!

way that gave Susan enough room to work in comfortably. What it really looked like was a wooden tunnel with only three sides—a top, a bottom, and the rear wall.

The dust was cotten batting sprayed with gray talcum powder, and the whole vent was laid on its side on top of saw horses. So what you saw Laurie inching her way through was just a well-built, safe, and open-sided tunnel. The scene took a few minutes to film, on the stage itself, and I remember Susan saying to me that the whole scene had gone so quickly and easily that something must be wrong somewhere! But it wasn't.

However, the fire escape ride was an entirely different story. First of all, the whole sequence was filmed outside, just as the sun began to set. If you think it is always sunny and warm in California, then you have the wrong idea. In December, when the sun sets, the temperatures go down twenty or more degrees in just a few minutes. And it did that night—poor Susan had to ride up and down on the metal fire escape while various scenes from the sequence were being filmed, and when she finally was told she could come down, she was blue with cold! But that really wasn't the worst end of the deal—in the meantime, it had begun to rain, a chilly uncomfortable rain that just added to everyone's problems. Being a diary-snatcher isn't the easiest job in the world!