

The
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**Young chef
is an artist,
an innovator,
a sculptor
and.....
a good cook**



TOM MCKINNON

By LORRAINE McCLISH

A replica of the Liberty Bell, made by Farmington resident Tom McKinnon, is on its way into a culinary arts competition. Standing about three feet tall and made one-quarter the size of the actual bell, it is fashioned of tallow. It recently served as a centerpiece for a gourmet dinner.

McKinnon is assistant chef at the Great Dane, and a student at Schoolcraft College in the food services department. The bell, according to his instructor "is the largest centerpiece I think we've ever had here."

It was McKinnon's contribution to the bi-

centennial dinner, one of about four gourmet dinners prepared every year by the school's Gourmet Club as fundraisers. It can be seen next year by the public this spring when it goes into the Culinary Arts Show in the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

BEING PART ARTIST is an intrinsic part of being a chef, McKinnon said. He rattled off such things as nutrition, aroma, shopping skills, menu planning and table decorating as ingredients that are necessary for "making up the whole cuisine."

"These are just as important as the cooking end of it," he said.

McKinnon allowed himself about 10 days to mold the bell, but there was a lot of time "spent putting around," which consisted of building a frame, grinding, boiling, rinsing and straining.

The fat, he said, "works kind of like clay but I had to find my own best way to work with the media," he said.

He says the bell will last about a year before it goes rancid.

The 19-year-old student has been attracted to food preparations "ever since my mother would give me left-over dough to play with when I was a kid. I think I was about six when she gave me a Betty

Crocker baking kit, and after that it was cook books," he said.

When it was 14 his father arranged for him to work in a credit union kitchen. Not long after that he was cooking for the priests of his parish, Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church.

MCKINNON HAD just turned 16 when he got a job in Blakeney's Ranch House "washing dishes because that's where most of us start in this profession."

He moved to the position of head chef in Danny's Can Mill by the time he was 17; then spent some time as assistant to chef Stern Lade in the Savoryard Club before

coming to the Great Dane to work with chef Douglas Douglas.

With Douglas, whom he calls "not only a great chef but a great teacher," McKinnon is in charge of the saute station. "The best station in the kitchen because you're creative—well, there is just no limit."

He can use wisps, lemons and saucers to come up with something extra special."

In the culinary arts, he said, "there are millions of ways to do things, not too many rules, and your creativity is limitless."

THE YOUNG man will be leaving the area in May to take a six month apprenticeship under the Court of Ansbury, in Belgium, because part of his ambition centers around European training.

He carries a tight daily schedule now between work and school, all centered around food and food preparation. He calls food "both my hobby and my career."

The other part of his ambition is to one day own "a little out of the way restaurant, with maybe a capacity for 50 diners but where there is only exquisite everything."

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McKinnon, 25000 Ridgewood Drive, Farmington Hills.

Farmington Musicale

Music scholarship competition under way

By LORRAINE McCLISH

The Farmington Musicale is getting ready for its eighth annual competition for "Scholarships in Music," set for Saturday, April 3, in Our Lady of Mercy High School.

The competition is open to all students now in grades 7-12 who attend Farmington high schools, live in the Farmington area but attend school elsewhere, are members of the Glocksapiels, or are children of members.

When the first scholarship auditions were held, the event filled a void in the area. The response from young music students and their parents was so enthusiastic that the annual competition is the largest item in each year's musicale budget.

Within the past seven years, \$3,000 has been given in scholarships. Additional costs of the competition are gratuities to judges, tuning pianos, printing applications and general administrative costs.

THE COMPETITION divides applicants into two divisions: Junior (grades 7-9) and Senior (grades 10-12).

Junior division applicants can compete in piano, string, wind, brass or percussion categories. Senior division applicants may compete in these as well as a vocal category. Each division will have its own cash scholarship awards, which will be announced after the competition date.

Application forms have been delivered to

each school's music director from Mrs. James McElroy, chairman of the competition. Deadline for applications is March 5, when the forms must arrive at the residence of Mrs. McElroy, 22213 Valley View Circle, Farmington.

This year, as in the past, senior division winners will have the opportunity to perform their winning selections during the National Music Week Festival Concert in Harrison High School, Sunday, May 2. The

concert traditionally is the kickoff event for a week-long offering of musical concerts in schools and enclosed malls throughout the area.

The Farmington Musicale, a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs, uses the proceeds from admissions to the concert as a contribution to the Farmington school system, for use by the music department at its discretion.

The junior division winners will be invited to perform their winning selections at the May 5 annual meeting of the musicale.

FARMINGTON MUSICALE is celebrating its 10th anniversary with the theme "Let's Celebrate Together."

The club's purpose, as stated in its constitution, "shall be to develop the musical talent of its members and to stimulate musical interest in the community."

The group's efforts, from a modest beginning, were directed primarily to encourage young persons to develop their musical talents, giving them more opportunities to perform.

Devoting with the philosophy, the group became parent to the Glocksapiels, a group of music-minded youth who meet once a month on a Monday evening in University Hills Church. The musicale contributes now to a scholarship competition the Glocksapiels hold yearly for its members.

The only requirement for Glocksapiel membership is that youth in grades 7-12 have a musical talent, or interest, in music. Youth work to develop potential talent of their members, as well as aid in enriching their lives through music. The club gives an annual recital, carries out music-oriented community service projects and holds fund-raising events to support its own scholarships competition.

THE FARMINGTON Arts Council, the Farmington Community Center, the Farmington Community Band, the Oakway Symphony, the Detroit Madrigals and the Farmington Library are all recipients of the Farmington Musicale support. This year, the musicale added to its list of donors with a purchase of music stand lights for Harrison High School.

Community support of the musicale's fund-raising events make all the contributions possible. It holds a yearly rummage sale, and this year an added fund-raiser will take place—a fashion show and luncheon in March.

Offshoot groups and committees within the musicale provide "Music in Schools" where programs of vocal or instrumental music are brought into elementary classrooms. "Music in Nursing Homes" might be a sing-along or it might be a full chorus to entertain one day a month. "Music in Hospitals" is a trip to Northville State Hospital twice a month with home-baked goods, a sing-along and music by the members.

Musical representatives attend Farmington Arts Council meetings to gain information about state and community activities in the arts and to exchange ideas with members of other area community organizations.

The club's contribution to National Music Week is probably one of its most widely-known affairs, when a week-long schedule of concerts and programs by music groups throughout the area is staged to increase participation in and enjoyment of music.

It also sponsors "Creative For Strings," established to encourage and promote continued support from parents, teachers, school and community performers of string instruments, and to give string performers of all ages more opportunities to perform.

WHILE ALL THESE projects are going on, the musicale sponsors for its own members opera workshops, folk music workshop, American music workshops and, just recently, an instrumental music workshop.

The Musicale Chorus, sang three-part harmony and has a varied repertoire, ranging from Bach to the Carpenters, with emphasis on the classics. The chorus is available for performances at local club meets, luncheons or banquets. Some programs come complete with costumes and stage props.

A new post established this year is that of community programs chairman, held by Mrs. Paul Ewing. Local groups who wish to make arrangements for the chorus to perform, may contact Mrs. Ewing at 22805 Alameda, Farmington Hills.

At least once, membership in the musicale was 80, and new members are welcome. Although many members are very talented musically, the only requirements for membership are willingness to take part in club projects and activities and have an interest in music. Ages range from 18-82.

Membership chairman is Mrs. Charles Osterdale, 26400 Springland, Farmington Hills.

