

Suburban Life

Lorraine McClellan editor/477-5450



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(F3B)

Just a taste Chefs provide a gourmet treat

By Lorraine McClellan
staff writer

EATING WAS the order of the day. Eating all you could eat. Sampling every bit of food in sight.

The feast for the eyes as well as the palate spread throughout Farmington Community Center prepared by Farmington area chefs. Guests who couldn't find a chair or a table didn't seem to mind standing while they sampled shrimp provencal from Maxwell's in Holiday Inn or seafood chowder from Denison's or a cannoli from Roman Terrace.

The center's indoor and outdoor porches were filled to overflowing with the lunch-time samplers; others took advantage of the sun sparkling September day and made a picnic on the center's lawns or found themselves a picnic bench to sip their wine with re-filled plates of the gourmet fare.

The event was "A Taste of Farmington," an afternoon of gastronomical treats sponsored by the center in cooperation with Farmington-Farm-

ington Hills Chamber of Commerce that is on its way to becoming an annual tradition in town.

CHEFS WHO prepared the fare may or may not be members of the chamber. Those we talked to said much the same as Dick Blakeney, who sees the event as a way to introduce a new item on Blakeney Ranch House menu and at the same time benefit the center.

Blakeney was passing out tastes of chicken saute at the same time samplers were dipping Black Forest Bread into a spinach dip made by chef Tom Blue while Blakeney said, "We serve both of these in-house as well as for catering and I wouldn't miss the chance of letting this many people know about it."

Botsford Inn served spinach soup and corn bread, and CG's Family Dining offered meatballs in plum sauce along with seafood and chicken hors d'oeuvres to the 250 guests.

"That's the max. That's as far as we can go, as many as we can house here," said Jodi Sorenson, executive

director for the chamber who was acting as hostess for the afternoon along with Betty Paine, executive director for the center.

All of the members of the (Farmington) Exchange Club are here this afternoon. They came here in lieu of their regular meeting. And so is all of my bridge club," Sorenson said. "I think we hit on a good idea," she added moving out of the way of a guest who was sampling braciolla, an Italian stuffed steak served over pasta, that came from CJ's Fine Food & Spirits.

MARTY BIKIS, who called himself "chief cook and bottle washer" at Diggers served up cups of gazpacho with his assistant, Mark Pesseli.

"It's all vegetarian," Bikis said, of the cold soup. "We're into Lobster Mania now. But we brought our gazpacho with us today because its one of the best on our menu, introduced last month when we were serving all-Michigan grown foods."

For dessert, guests moved to one of the center's many porches where tables were filled with sweets.



Diane Risiko, manager of Roman Terrace, serves up an Italian steak sandwich to sampler Ric Tavalacci.



John Wilson, owner and manager of CJ's Fine Food and Spirits, teamed up with bartender Ann Jaeger to serve braciolla to Cary Weltzman.



Susan Gray and Marlene Theobald, both employees of Thayer Rock Funeral Home, ate their desserts picnic-style on the center's grounds. They chose ice cream from Haagen Daz and cannolis from Roman Terrace.



Guests who were lucky enough to find a chair and table left only for short times to refill their plates with another sample.



Rebecca Kopko (left) prepares more chicken and seafood salad from CG's while Karen Daniels helps herself to some meatballs simmering in plum sauce.

Staff photos
by
Randy Borst

O&E to print charity cards

Ho, ho, ho — so soon?

Yes, it's that time of year again, when the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers puts out its special page of holiday greeting cards from non-profit and non-political organizations.

The annual special promotion will appear in all 12 O&E Suburban Life sections on Thursday, Oct. 16.

Non-profit and non-political organizations are invited to submit to the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers by Thursday, Oct. 9, five copies of each card they will be selling. The

newspaper reserves the right to select one sample for publication if more than one style of card is submitted.

Cards not published Oct. 16 will be published in later issues as space permits.

Information on ordering the cards will appear with photographs of the cards to aid readers in making a selection.

As in the past, organizations are requested to include such information as:

- Price per box and number of cards per box.
- Price for larger quantities.
- Price for imprinting and deadline for imprinting.
- Where the cards can be bought.
- Telephone number, if more information is needed.

In addition to printing the cards, the O&E will continue another tradition, that of having display books of charity cards for public viewing at five of our offices: Birmingham, 1225 Bowers; Rochester, 410 N.

Main; Farmington, 33202 Grand River; Livonia, 36251 Schoolcraft; and Plymouth, 489 S. Main.

The display books will be available beginning Monday, Oct. 20.

The holiday greeting card feature was begun by the Observer & Eccentric several years ago as a public service on behalf of the many area charitable organizations that use the sale of holiday cards as a means of fund raising and for residents who want to help them by buying the cards.

Congregation honors the Rev. Carl Schultz

In honor of the Rev. Carl H. Schultz' 50 years of ministry to Salem United Church of Christ, its congregation will celebrate with an open house from 3-6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 28. The church is at 33424 Oakland, in downtown Farmington.

As a newly ordained minister and a newly married young couple, Carl and Barbara Schultz accepted the call to Salem Evangelical and Re-

formed Church in Farmington from Indiana.

The trip brought them to a church of German background. They developed the church into an English-speaking congregation and have nurtured it through several changes, both in church organization and in structure.

From an Evangelical and Reformed Church, mergers have devel-

oped the congregation into the Salem United Church of Christ.

Rev. Schultz also led the congregation through building remodeling, with the addition of several new classrooms and a new kitchen. The original parsonage was moved to another location, and the church parking lot was enlarged.

Through all of those years, the minister maintained his civic activi-

ties, and has spent 50 years of service not only to his congregation but to the Farmington area. He has always given his services when needed, and has been an inspiration to the community with his devotion to the church, its members and the community at large," said Marjorie Prisk, speaking for the congregation.

Any questions can be answered with a call to the church, 474-6880.



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