

Entertaining shortcuts focus of talk

Food writer and stylist, chef and cooking instructor Annabel Cohen will talk about "Shortcuts to Great Entertaining" at the next Food for Thought program 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 19, at Adat Shalom Synagogue.

Food for Thought is sponsored by the Jewish Federation Women's Campaign and Education Department.

Since selling her catering business, she has focused on writing, teaching and demonstrations about food, entertaining and travel. She recently taught American style cooking in Italy and visited Mexico, where she

added Mexican dishes to her cooking repertoire.

Admission fee is \$12 and continental breakfast will be served.

For reservations and information, call Toni Hayes at 248-642-4260, Ext. 183.

Winemaker from page B1

subject to the quality of the grapes they could buy. "Being able to have control of your fruit," Moore says, "takes you to the next level of winemaking."

Also, Gewurztraminer is not a wine that people will pay a lot for. The chardonnays he creates now sell for \$17-20 a bottle. The pinot noirs are regularly priced from \$22-\$28 while the Reserves, bottled in exceptional years, sell for \$35-\$45.

Still Moore is anything but a wine snob. Although he is meticulous, bordering on spiritual,

about winemaking, he advises: "Drink what tastes good to you. It shouldn't be a mystique. It shouldn't be a snooty thing. If someone wants to put ice cubes in my \$26 wine, then so be it."

The harvest is early this year, Moore says. "It's a Mother Nature thing." It means he can soon take the first day off he's had since June 15. "We've been working, bottled in exceptional years, for the past three weeks."

Although his long days at Quail Hill will taper off while the grapes ferment, soon he'll be

on the road - to Chicago, New Orleans, New York and metro Detroit - to market the wines he's making. But not before he takes his "team" of employees for a night out where they will celebrate - with beer. "There's an old saying," Moore says. "It takes a lot of good beer to make a lot of good wine."

Winemaking is in his soul, he acknowledges. "This is all I've ever done. I'll always be doing some kind of wine-making, whether it's in the garage with my kids." One day, he'd like to own his own small vineyard that he could pass on to his children Isabella, 6, and Isaac, 2. "I'd like to be cremated and sprinkled under the vines. Then I would return from vintage to vintage."

Lynmar Quail Hill Vineyard chardonnays and pinot noirs are available at Merchants Fine Wine Warehouse in Royal Oak and Dearborn. They are served at Mon Jin Lau in Troy, Emily's in Northville and Sweet Lorraines in Ann Arbor.

Chat Room from page B1

words. But perhaps they are overzealous at times. An example: I didn't expect my child to ask me the meaning of graffiti scrawled on the walls of a freeway overpass. With crystal clarity, and to the sheer delight of his older brothers, my last year first-grader Colin bellowed out "Mom, what does #1@# mean?" It wouldn't have been such an embarrassment if his aunt and grandmother weren't in the car with us.

Talking to other friends, I realize the first grade transition is an emotional adjustment for nearly everyone, but in some ways the time Matt and I spent together seemed so special, or perhaps I have just forgotten. Of all the boys, Matt is most cuddly and one of my best huggers. I enjoyed him crawling up next to me in the recliner to read books every afternoon, putting the rest of the world on hold. Then lying down together in his little bed to nap.

There is something magical about Matt. Though I struggle with a chronic pain condition, when I napped with Matt I experienced an absence of pain. As I watched with wonder the refreshment of sleep blanket him, a cozy warm feeling surrounded me. I felt in touch with the nurturing part of me frequently lost in the hectic, frenetic pace of everyday life. There I discovered true rest for a half hour of my day. Inhaling Matt's youth, his zest for life, I found a

sores needed attitude adjustment.

My children have all taken naps until they went to kindergarten. When first grade rolls around, I find they have some difficulty adjusting to an entire day at school. One evening last year my third son Colin took a nap shortly after dinner. Already pajama clad, his two brothers cooked up a rotten joke. They gently awakened him and told him he would be late for school. They actually had clothes in hand for him to wear, and the poor, half asleep kid dressed while those two convivers giggled quietly.

Imagine the kid's bewilderment when he walked into the kitchen and found me cleaning up the dinner dishes. He scratched his head, paused for a moment then asked me for some Frosted Flakes. The two big boys were rolling on the floor laughing now and though it was funny, I had to comfort poor Colin and help him save face.

There is another thing I miss this fall: Matt's infectious smile, the most awesome smile I have ever seen! From the time he was an infant, his extraordinary smile and raucous laugh turned heads. People frequently communicated their shock that a little guy could emit such a boisterous chuckle. I have learned to discern Matt's activities by the pitch, force and degree of mischief in his laugh. There are times I know he is doing some-

thing wrong. On other occasions I cannot maintain a serious facade looking at the smile that involves his entire countenance. I keep a smiling jack-o-lantern type picture of Matt taped to my cabinet. It reminds me to keep my priorities straight, to lighten up when things feel too intense. But I miss the genuine article.

I miss you, Matt. I miss the "wensel game" we played nearly every day. It was invented to draw you out, open you up, to help you deal with the sometimes crushing weight of three older brothers. Through it we pretended to meet new animal acquaintances every day, some who were friendly, some hostile. You learned to negotiate through some tough fantasy situations, using these creatures to your advantage. Through this silly game, I saw the beauty of your essence: your goodness, creativity, your altruistic self. And always the inherent clowning aspects of your nature so special to me. I learned volumes about you through this game, and you seemed to gain confidence and awareness as well.

A tear falls; I know you're fine. Mom's the one who needs time and space to adjust. I hope that smile stays intact forever, that laugh just as uninhibited and unquenchable through the challenges of life beginning with first grade.

Kathie O'Donohue is a Farmington Hills resident.

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