

14 chefs conjure up buffet for Living Centers' benefit

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

Fourteen of the Detroit area's most prestigious chefs team up again for "Splendor II," a repeat of the gourmet buffet that was last year's most successful fund raiser to benefit Community Living Centers.

James Thompson of Jacques in Southfield serves as host for the second time around from 5-7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, in the elegantly appointed restaurant at 30100 Telegraph.

"If you want to know just how prestigious we are, two of the chefs in our line up have been chosen for the 1980 American Culinary Team," said Betty Sallee of the Community Living Centers auxiliary, which is sponsoring the buffet.

Chef Sture Olof Andersson and Chef Hugler, from the Detroit Athletic Club, will be on the American team in the International Culinary Competition in Frankfurt, Germany, next year.

Andersson, chef at Jacques, will bring prune-stuffed pork loin Scandina to the gourmet table. Hugler will bring sole en papillotes.

The entire affair will be coordinated by Duglass Duglass, who very recently opened Restaurant Duglass in Southfield. His contribution is mousse au chocolat.

"DUGLASS IS our number one angel," said Millie Burns, a co-worker with Mrs. Sallee on the fund-raiser. "He chaired Splendor I for us last year when we raised \$10,000 for the centers. He also employs many of our residents."

Duglass became a benefactor of Community Living Centers through an association with Beth Campbell and their mutual love of cooking. Mrs. Campbell is the daughter of Mary Wagner, founder and executive director of the seven centers which house retarded adults.

The non-profit organization is dedicated to helping the retarded by providing, supervising and maintaining a family home environment, and encouraging the residents to help themselves physically and socially integrate into community life.

All of the residents in the family-type homes have either jobs in the community, work in sheltered workshops, or are being schooled in a training center.

Full-time house managers provide supervised guidance and have a dedicated concern for the well being of their "families."

Meanwhile, the staff provides vocational counseling, social and recreational programming and general work planning for each resident.

THE HOMES are financed by room-and-board money available to the residents who are clients of Social Service and under Supplemental Security Income.

"But," said Mrs. Sallee, "we depend heavily on private funds, membership dues, and fund raisers such as this. Our auxiliary has completely decorated the last two residences that were acquired."

"We bought freezers and hired carpenters and used a lot of paint and wallpaper to change some drab places into sunny and bright homes."

The two women speculated that this year's proceeds from the buffet would go into a general fund for maintenance just to keep afloat.

The North Farmington Women's Club is a regular contributor to Community Living Centers "who have been very good to us," Mrs. Burns said, "but we owe this to Duglass."

She rattled off names, such as Carl Benson, from Aliettes, who is contributing breads to the affair; Chef Rene from Bijou's bringing shrimp chicken creole; Chef Tom McKinnon from Claret's Cafe, who is doing the hors d'oeuvres, all of which will be donated.

"Our coffee will be donated by Cadillac Coffee Company, and they are sending Jack Gehlert to special brew it for us," Mrs. Burns said.

WHEN ASKED about growing or expanding plans for Community Living Centers, Mrs. Sallee said that was not an aim of the organization, even though there are about 380 persons now on a waiting list.

"If it gets too big, then its another institution, and that is what we certainly do not want," Mrs. Sallee said.

"We try to keep a maximum of 12 persons in each home," she continued. "The big thing now is to show what we are doing to other people in other areas so they can start homes like this elsewhere."

"In this past year Mrs. Wagner has done a lot of traveling, both in and out of the state, showing others what we are doing here and helping them get started with similar homes of their own."

Community Living Centers was founded in 1958, when the first home was opened in Farmington by a group of concerned parents and professionals who realized that the mentally retarded possessed, generally, undeveloped capabilities to become useful members of the community and lead normal, happy lives.

It now has a close relationship with many local, county and state agencies working in the field of mental health and service.

It was a pilot program in the nation. Its working relationship with educational facilities is evident in the menu.

Jon Vanderow, teacher of culinary arts at Oakland Community College, will bring his students' petit fours to the Sunday buffet.

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Chef Sture Olof Andersson, a native of Sweden who has been chosen as a team leader for the 1980 American Culinary Team in international culinary competition, prepares delicacies in Jacques' kitchen. His gold medalist is one of two he has won in past competitions for haute cuisine. The award winning chef will share the kitchen with 13 others known for their gourmet delights in the fund-raiser for Community Living Centers.



The opulent menu that makes up Splendor II gets a final check from Chef Sture Olof Andersson (at left), Millie Burns and Betty Sallee. Mrs. Burns and Mrs. Sallee head up Community Living Center Auxiliary's committee of planners for the Feb. 11 food bash.

Professionals ease trauma of divorce

By SHIRLEE IDEN

Mutual concern over how the trauma of divorce affects children has led two area women to a unique partnership.

Mary Lu Bennethum, a lawyer, and Dolorais Riklin, a social worker teach a course called "Divorce-Reality and Illusion" for area colleges and universities.

"We know that sometimes attorneys will speak in a classroom situation or a social worker will lend expertise in a similar situation, but we teach together, sharing equally," said Ms. Riklin.

The two, who have taught for Oakland Community College, Wayne State University and The University of Michigan, will begin their next class for both universities Feb. 1.

Five sessions of the UCAE (University Course in Adult Education) will take place in Southfield. The sessions are limited strictly to 20 students. Those interested can obtain information and register by calling 577-4665.

"All of this started at a little league game," Ms. Bennethum said. "We met through our sons and began talking. We found that we shared concern for the trauma that divorce presents to children."

"IF YOU don't help the adults, you can't help the children. So we decided to begin classes for adults going through the divorce situation."

Ms. Bennethum practices law in Bloomfield Township where she resides. Her father and three uncles are also attorneys.

"The drive to study the law has always been there and I had quite a realistic handle on what it would be like to be an attorney," she said.

Ms. Riklin, who is in private practice in Birmingham, has both MSW and ACSW degrees.

"My field is social work and I do family and individual counseling," she said.

Both women agreed their classes have been very well received and that each group they teach is different from every other group.

"Generally, the people who have been hurt by the breach are the ones who come to us," said Ms. Riklin. "We get those who have been left, not those who do the leaving."

Ms. Bennethum said events leading to divorce are often quite a "mish-mash" scene.

"It's common for the male to come home and say: 'I have an attorney and I'm leaving you'. For the wife, it's terrible news and a severe trauma."

The divorce sessions are not presented as a structured lecture course, but instead are designed to present real communication, interchange and sharing.

"WE WANT people to feel free to talk and really let their feelings out," Ms. Bennethum said.

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MARY LU BENNETHUM DOLORAIS RIKLIN

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