

Byrd's

by Vivian Byrd

Prepare your secretary a lunch

Think about it: What would you do without her? What's that? You don't even imagine such a situation?

Understandable, since "she" is your secretary and without her your busses day would probably fall apart.

This is National Secretaries Week, April 20-26, and you could show how much you appreciate her by preparing her lunch one day this week.

Members of one Southfield law firm considered what each of them might

Members of one Southfield law firm considered what each of them might cook if making lunch for their secre-tary this week. Tom Boyer said he would make. Tom Boyer said he would make as alad. "Tel ook up something really un-usual," he said, "that I thought might appeal to her." Alan Harnisch noted that he cooked up some mean nizzas while in law

Alan Hartsch noted that he cooked Alan Hartsch noted that he cooked Alan Hartsch noted that he cooked and his secretary, Deans Hinske, thought that was a fine idea.

"Ökay, you bring the beer," he told him, "and I'll take care of the pizza."

"You have a deal," she told him, Coes that qualify as a contract? I'm just asking.)

Harnisch then turned to Jim Davey of the same office and joked, "You would probably make mud piez."

"As a matter of fact, I would," Davey told him. "There is a restaurant in Harbor Springs that serves a dessert hey call Mud Pie. It has a choolate cracker crumb crust, dark chocolate cracker crumb crust, dark chocolate chavet in the control of the common that the control of the control o

lous!"
Phyllis Canfield, receptionist extraordinaire, thought she would like to be served wine, cheese and a good crusty French bread with maybe sweet butter on the side.
Julie Henderson, in the accounts pay-

Orient offers braising treat

Braised meats are naturals for whetting the appetite, since they're sa-vory, hearty and fill the kitchen with a delicious aroma while they're cooking.

ORIENTAL BRAISED CHICKEN

1 thsp. cornstarch
1 thsp. soy sauce
½ tsp. sail
1 large whole chicken breast, skinned,
boned and cut into 2-inch squares
2 thsp. cooking oil/ ½ lb. Ieeks or 1
bunch green onions, cut into 1-inch sections

tions 2 thsp. cooking oil

2 tbsp. cooking oil
1 cup water
1 tbsp. sherry
2 tbsp. soy sauce
1 can bamboo shoots, drained
1 tbsp. cornstarch
1 tsp. sugar
2 tbsp. cold water
2 tbsp. minced cooked ham

Combine first three ingredients. Your over chicken and stir until chick-n pieces are coated.

Combine 187s three ingredients, Pour over chicken and stir until chicken pieces are coated. Heat 2 tbsp. oil in large skillet placed over medium high heat. Add leeds and cook and stir until lightly browned. Remove and keep warm. In same pan, heat two more tbsp. oil; add chicken, cook and stir until meat turns white and opsque. Return leeks to pan; add water and bring to boil. Stir in sherry and remaining soy sauce. Reduce heat; simmer, covered, 10 minutes. Add bamboo shoots and continue simmering 20 minutes more. With slotted spoon, remove chicken and vegetables to serving platter, keep warm. Blend remaining cornstancts, sugar and water, stir into liquid in skillet heat and stir until thickened. Pour over chicken and garnish with chopped ham.

able department, remembered that last year all the secretaries received flowers and were taken out to lunch. Individual surprises, mostly amusing, also appeared on some desks during the week.

But Marv Horowitz decided to play it cagey this year. "If I tell a reporter what we have in mind, it certainly won't be a surprise, will it?"

IF, BY CHANCE, what he has in mind is organizing a "make lunch for your secretary day," or for anyone else with a little cooking skill and the same idea, here are some suggestions. Start the day off right with rolls and coffee. Croissants from Le Petit Prince if you are within easy driving distance of Birmingham. They are at 14 Mile and Pierce, and while you are there, pick up a Napoleon cake — yes, you

pered that last received floto lunch. Indiamusing, also set during the leaf and beaten together. Minmmm,

For lunch, start with a good chilled

For lunch, start with a good chilled white wine, then a cold tomato soup, a salad, rolls and the Napoleon cake or some other yumny treat for dessert. Coffee and tea, of course.

If you are not much interested in cooking, feel free to take your secretary to your favorite local and/or best residuarant for lunch. It is, after all, the thought that counts. Even if you don't obte cooking, the lunch will be enjoyed.

Or, a dell tray is always a good idea, with rye bread and lots of mustard for hearty sandwiches, fat dill pickles and very cold beer.

Or whatever your favorite secretary likes best. Below are a couple of re-cipes you might like to try, or maybe these will set your mind on a creative path toward that special plan perfect for your office staff.

TOMATO SOLIP

TOMATO SOUP
Into a blender jar put 8 medium-sized
tomatoes, silced
3 cups chicken broth
2 tsp. lemon julee
4 leaves fresh basil (or ¼ tsp. dried)
2 level tsp. sugar
2 drops garlic Juice
2 tsp. sail
¼ tsp. freshly ground pepper
2 tsp. fresh parsicy, chopped
4 small tender celery leaves

Blend the soup about 2 minutes, then strain to remove tomato seeds. Chill

thoroughly and serve topped with a thin slice of lemon and more finely chopped parsley.

MARINATED MUSHROOMS

¼ cup vinegar

½ cup oil Bay leaf 5 peppercorns ¼ tsp. thyme Chopped parsley

Parboil, drain, and cool mushrooms. Combine all other ingredients in a saucepan and bring just to a boil. Pour over the cooled mushrooms. Chill thoroughly, for a few hours or overnight.

SHRIMP-STUFFED AVOCADO

Split avocadoes in half. They should

be ripe, but not too mushy. Use one-half per serving. Heap the cavities with shrimp and arrange the halves on greens (Romaine lettuce works nicely), or on attractive plates with a simple garnish of parsley and perhaps a cherty tomato or two. Serve with Louis dressing and sprinkle with chopped-black olives.

LOUIS DRESSING

1 cup mayonnaise
1/2 cup whipped cream
1/2 cup chili sauce
1 thsp. grated onion
Pinch of cayenne

Combine all ingredients in a bowl using a wire whisk. Chill slightly.

Correspondence should be ad-dressed to Vivian Byrd, the Eccen-tric Newspapers, 1225 Bowers, Bir-mingham, MI 48012.



Fresh asparagus is one of the harbingers of spring, and here's a delicious way to welcome the vegetable and the season.

This colorful spring salad features fresh asparagus

"Fresh as Spring Salad" is a delicious way to welcome spring and enjoy the arrival of fresh asparagus. Served as a either a delightful appetizer or side dish, it's sure to become an annual springtime treat.

FRESH AS SPRING SALAD

FRESH AS S
2 envelopes unflavored gelatine
2 tbsp. sugar
1½ cups boiling water
1 cup mayonnaise
14 cup bottled Italian dressing

3 tbsp. lemon juice

cosp. temon juice cups cooked asparagus (about 1 ½ lbs.) cup chopped tomato 4 tbsp. finely chopped onion

In medium bowl, mix unflavored gelatine with sugar, add boiling water and stir until gelatine is completely dissolved. With wire whip or rotary beater, blend in mayonaise, Italian dressing and lemon juice. Chill, stirring occasionally, until mixture is consistency of unbeaten egg whites.

Fold in remaining ingredients. Turn into 9-inch round baking pan and chill until firm. Carnish, if desired, with asparagus spears and cherry tomatoes. Makes 6 servings.

Canned pasta base for hearty supper

To stretch the budget, use canned pasta as a base for hearty main dishes that can be made in minutes.

ITALIAN-STYLE PASTA SKILLET

1/4 lb. ground beef

1/2 cup sliced celery

1 can [14% oz.] canned spaghetti in tomato sauce with cheese 1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce 4 tsp. oregano leaves, crushed 4 tsp. but pepper sauce

In skillet, brown beef and cook celery until tender. Pour off fat. Add remaining ingredients except cheese. Heat; stir occasionally. Garnish with cheese. Makes 4 servings.





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