

# Richly flavored beyond compare, try morels

See Larry Jones' column on Taste front.

## ROAST CHICKEN WITH MOREL STUFFING

5 tablespoons butter  
1 pound morels, cleaned, washed, trimmed and sliced  
1-3/4 pound roasting chicken  
dash salt, cinnamon, pepper  
1/2 cup bread cubes  
1 cup chicken broth

Melt 2 tablespoons butter in a large skillet. Stir in morels and saute quickly over high heat until liquid evaporates, about 4 minutes. Chop chicken liver and heart, reserved from the roasting chicken and add to mushrooms. Cook, stirring for 1 minute. Add bread cubes, salt, cinnamon and pepper. Toss until well coated. Heat chicken broth and add 1 tablespoon butter. Pour over morel breadcrumbs and toss to

coat. Stuff cavity with stuffing. Roast remaining butter over chicken. Place bird, breast side down on a rack in an ovenproof pan. Roast for 45 minutes at 325 degrees. Turn breast side up, baste with pan drippings. Sprinkle lightly with salt and return to oven for 45 minutes at 325 degrees. Roast temperature to 400 degrees and roast chicken until golden brown for 10 minutes. Allow chicken to rest for 10 minutes before carving.

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## MOREL PIE

1 1/2 pounds morels, washed, trimmed and sliced  
1/2 cup thin sliced sweet onion  
4 tablespoons butter  
1/2 cup flour  
8 oz. cream style cottage cheese  
1/2 cup parsley  
1/2 cup dry sherry

salt and pepper to taste  
1 pastry for a 2-crust pie  
1 egg yolk  
2 tablespoons water

Saute morels and onions in butter for about 10 minutes over medium-high heat. Stir in flour, add cottage cheese, parsley, sherry salt and pepper and mix well. Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Place 1 pastry in bottom of a 9-

inch pie plate. Pour mushroom mixture into pie. Arrange top pastry on pie, or for better results, make top pastry into lattice design. Beat egg yolk with water and brush over top crust. Bake for 40-45 minutes, covering edges of pie with foil if over-browning occurs. Cool 5 minutes before slicing. Makes 6 servings as a luncheon entree or 8 servings as an accompaniment with meat or fowl.

# Eat your rhubarb, the vegetable that's used like fruit

See related story on Taste front.

## RHUBARB CRUMBLE

4 cups (about 1 1/4 pounds) diced rhubarb  
3 Granny Smith apples, peeled, cored and thinly sliced  
1 cup honey  
1/2 teaspoon cornstarch  
1/2 teaspoon ground cardamom  
Topping  
1/2 cup unleached flour  
1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
5 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut into bits  
2 tablespoons sliced almonds

Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large bowl, combine the rhubarb, apples, honey, cornstarch, and cardamom. Pour the fruit into an 8x8x2-inch baking pan and smooth the top.

To make the topping: Combine the flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, and salt in a medium bowl. Add the butter bits and stir to coat. With your fingertips, rub the butter into the mixture until coarse crumbs form. Stir in the almonds. Sprinkle the crumbs over the top of the rhubarb filling.

Bake 50 minutes, or until the topping is brown and the filling is bubbly. Serve slightly warm or at room temperature. Serves 6.

From "Vegetarian Pleasures" by Joanne Lelin, Harper-Penguin, 1992.

## RHUBARB COFFEE CAKE

1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
1 egg  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
2 1/2 cups flour  
3 cups sliced rhubarb  
1 cup light brown sugar  
1/2 cup chopped walnuts  
Topping  
1/2 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
1/2 cup light cream  
1 teaspoon vanilla

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In mixer bowl, blend together butter, sugar, egg, buttermilk, baking soda, vanilla, and salt. Gradually stir in flour. Fold in sliced rhubarb. Grease a 9x10-inch baking pan, pour in batter and sprinkle top with brown sugar and nuts. Bake for 45 minutes. To prepare topping, mix together butter, sugar, cream, and vanilla in a small saucepan. Stir over medium heat until sugar is dissolved.

When cake is done, remove from oven, pierce top with fork, then slowly pour topping over cake allowing it to sink in. Cool in pan on wire rack before cutting and serving. Serves 16-20.

From "Cranbrook Reflections, A Culinary Collection," (1991)

Cranbrook House & Garden Auxiliary.

## RHUBARB BREAD

1 1/2 cups firmly packed brown sugar  
1/2 cup oil  
1 cup buttermilk  
1 egg  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1 teaspoon salt  
2 1/2 cups all purpose flour  
1 1/2 cups chopped, uncooked fresh rhubarb  
1/2 cup chopped nuts (pecans or walnuts)  
1/2 cup sugar  
1 1/2 tablespoons grated orange peel  
1 tablespoon butter, room temperature

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease 2 9x5-inch loaf pans; line bottom and sides with waxed paper. Combine brown sugar and oil in large bowl and beat well. Mix buttermilk, egg, vanilla, baking soda and salt in small bowl. Add to brown sugar mixture and blend thoroughly. Gently fold in flour, rhubarb and nuts. Divide batter evenly between prepared loaf pans.

Combine sugar, orange peel and butter in small bowl and blend well with fork. Sprinkle over batter. Bake until tester inserted in center of loaves comes out clean, about one hour. Let cool in pans, 10 minutes, then turn out onto racks. Remove waxed paper when loaves are completely cool.

Recipe from Rita Mason.



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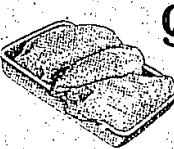
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