

Party pros help rescue you from holiday woes

By Carole Strong
Special Writer

Today's savvy party-giver knows the value of professional help. Caterers, bakers and party planners ease the way to achieving the outstanding event, so you, the host or hostess, can enjoy the occasion too.

Innovative food preparation—in a restaurant or catered setting—has been an enduring penchant for Mary Brady, co-owner with her husband of the popular Diamond Jim Brady's Bistro, Novi Town Center (380-8460). And she's the only woman in Michigan to earn the letters, C.E.C., which translate to Certified Executive Chef—in addition to winning a host of food competition awards during her 15-plus years in the food service business.

Whether your event is an intimate dinner or an open house, Mary will help with as much detail as you like. Complete service includes menu planning, food preparation (in your kitchen as needed), serving and clean-up. Plates, silver, linens and flowers can also be provided.

Whether your budget allows \$10 per person, or \$75, you'll receive the same attentive help and Mary will oversee all aspects, including delivery and service at the party site.

All menu items are made from scratch using fresh, seasonal ingredients.

A sampling of party menu suggestions:
Pasta Salad with Pesto Dressing and

For a stunning finale to your holiday party, let Lorrie's Confectionately Yours,

real butter Christmas cookies.

If you'd like some testimonials, owner Lorrie Chopra reports that almost 34,300 cookies were sold last year...and hers were the sweets that feted the Governor at a recent local dinner. Depending on your needs and budget, Chopra will work with you to customize your selection. She also specializes in standard-sized tortes, cheesecakes and pastries. You'll find her shop in the Laurel Commons Shopping Center (464-8170).

If you're a natural at entertaining, visit PartiGiant, in Roseville, Rochester, Westland, Taylor and Farmington Hills. It's the closest thing to one-stop party shopping. There's a big selection of coordinated, throw-away tableware and serving dishes, even party snacks and frozen hors d'oeuvres. Their party planners can help with a lot of details. Thanks to on-premise computerized printing, you can have the fill-in portion (date, time, etc.) printed on party invitations. In a choice of type styles and colors, for \$1.10 and up, which includes the cost of each invitation and envelope. If you bring in your own invitations, the price is less. For envelope addressing, the cost is \$.85 each; for return addresses, \$.30 each. Napkins and balloons can be monogrammed or personalized too. All of the above will be ready in one to three days!



Let the party pros make party giving virtually painless and hassle-free!

Grilled Chicken, Mozzarella Spedini, Baked Brie in Phyllo with Fresh Fruits, Sliced Tenderloin on Onion Rolls with Horseradish Sauce.

"Should you only want the bistro's signature Caesar salad to complement your own cooking, we'll have it ready when you come," assures Brady.

in Livonia, provide the sweets. Take your choice: petite pastries, prepared in the authentic French manner—eclairs, cream puffs, fresh fruit tarts, cheesecakes, mousse cups, chocolate-dipped fruits. Freshly-made chocolate candies feature truffles, hand-dipped and rolled, in a variety of delicate flavors, or wonderful and

Puttin' on the ritz

Shown right, Wild-type Mink, the ultimate in luxury and sophistication. From \$5,000. Robert Mann Furs Applegate Square, Northwestern Hwy., Southfield



Softly Sophisticated

"Luna Vest" — red and black sweater vest by "Dyed In The Wool", 90% Rayon, 10% glitter for the holidays, available in many color variations. \$225. Image Knit Applegate Square, Northwestern Hwy., Southfield



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