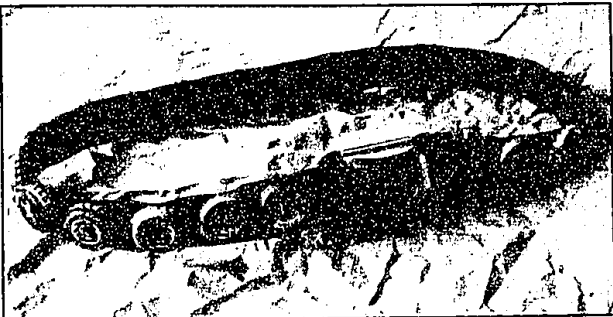


MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Little Earth Productions



Ecofriendly accessories: Hudson's is selling a line of items made from salvaged and recycled products like this "seatbelt" created from an old inner tube studded with bottle caps and finished with a chrome seat belt buckle. \$40 at Northland, Summit Place, Oakland, Briarwood, Fairlane, Twelve Oaks and Lakeside.

Cordon Bleu from page 6A

After Diestel died in the late 1930s, the school was taken over and relocated by Elizabeth Brassart who welcomed two generations of cooks from many countries, revised the curriculum, and oversaw the U.S. government-funded classes for American GIs after World War II.

By 1950s, Le Cordon Bleu represented not only the highest level of culinary training, but it became the symbol of Paris itself. When Audrey Hepburn attended a Parisian cooking school in the film *Sabrina*, the inference was to Le Cordon Bleu. In 1950, American chef Julia Child graduated from the Le Cordon Bleu and proceeded to teach her countrymen what French cooking was all about.

In 1984 Mme. Brassart (in her 80s) agreed to sell the Cordon

Bleu to Andre Cointreau, a descendant of France's most eminent families: the Cointreus and the Remy-Martins.

In 1988, Cointreau relocated Le Cordon Bleu to its present state-of-the-art headquarters on a quiet street on the Left Bank, not far from the Eiffel Tower on le rue Leon Delhomme.

In April 1991, Le Cordon Bleu opened a culinary school in the Daikanyama district of Tokyo. Following a complete renovation, Le Cordon Bleu London joined Le Cordon Bleu group in June 1991.

Presently, Le Cordon Bleu's 26 master chefs teach students the two-part "Le Cordon Bleu Method." First, they must master the fundamental skills and principles of classical French cuisine and patisserie. Second, they are taught to build upon this founda-

tion to create their own cuisine, and repertoire of recipes.

Le Cordon Bleu has joint ventures with businesses around the globe, including Royal Viking Cruise Line, world class hotel management schools, and hundreds of universities. In 1992, Le Cordon Bleu entered the private label gourmet food line selling sauces and other products in 160 specialty shops around the globe.

In July 1993, Cointreau took charge of Pierre Deux, the French country home furnishings and retail chain, based in the United States.

To commemorate its 100th anniversary, Le Cordon Bleu will unveil the "Cordon Bleu Classic French Cookbook" in October. It has also established a toll-free number 1-800-457-CHEP.

RETAIL DETAILS

Retail Details features the latest news briefs from mail and Main Street shopping centers. Mail submissions to: Retail Details, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, 48009. Or fax them to: (810) 644-1314.

■ SUPPLER SPAS AT HD

Tropical Spas, built for year-round use, indoors or out, are available through Home Depot stores locally. According to the manufacturer, an electrical outlet

must be added to operate the self-contained unit. The heater and filtration system is built-in. Three different models range in price from \$1,900 to \$2,900. Home Depot stores are located in Canton, Redford, Northville, Warren, Pontiac and Roseville.

■ SAHZA BENEFIT

Saks Fifth Avenue hosted a fashion benefit for Pontiac Light-house recently, featuring the Sahza collection for spring. Sahza is designed and produced

in Italy so the garments are cut narrower and fit closer to the body than American designs, according to Saks' sales consultants. The sportswear separates range from \$400 to \$150.

For spring, Sahza has jackets over slip skirts, jackets over cigarette pants, and fitted suits in muted glen plaids, neutral solids and pale pinstripe fabrics. Accessories like scarves, gloves and hats complemented the ensembles in matching neutrals for a monochromatic look, head to toe.

Neiman's from page 6A

Danforth discussed the latest trends in dining and entertaining, revealing that readers of Bon Appetit Magazine are "into" the Mediterranean diet requesting recipes that feature vegetables and grains. The phenomenon of casual living (precipitated by the number of women working outside the home) has led to an increase in grilling and potluck events according to Danforth.

"Kitchen remodelers tell me that new kitchens are being designed to accommodate guests around the food preparation counter," she said.

Offering guests a bit of gastronomic history, Danforth explained that the word *dessert*, comes from a combination of the French verbs *desservir* which means to clear the table, and *servir* to serve.

That was chef Martin's cue to begin the crepes suzettes and he

charmed the audience with culinary anecdotes spoken in a thick French accent.

Jean Ruppman of Bloomfield Hills and Magdalene Thirman of West Bloomfield were among the hundred guests who carefully watched Martin whisk up the eggs, flour, milk and butter, required for the crepes batter. When he generously poured Cointreau into the simmering sugar, butter, orange and lemon sauce, Thirman wondered aloud how the recipe could possibly go wrong with such rich ingredients.

Newlywed Julie Soza of Novi said she enjoyed the program and attended because "I wanted to see what to do with all my china and silver and now I know. There's so much to learn!"

The Neiman Marcus Cafe served a menu created by Le Cordon Bleu May 8-13. The Troy store was one of just two markets

in the United States to host the salute to Le Cordon Bleu.

Neiman's spokeswoman Marilyn Connor said an additional session had to be added to accommodate all the shoppers interested in the event.



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