

# Culinary Caper To Feature



Preparing to enter the home of Dennis and Cindy Rex, one of the homes on the Wernersville Culinary Caper tour on May 21 are, from left, Brian Zimmerman, chef at The American House, Stouchsburg, Cindy Rex, and Marlene Ochs, chairman of the event. Behind them is Phyllis Daniels, president of the club.

**CONNIE LEINBACH**  
Berks Co. Correspondent  
WERNERSVILLE (Berks County) — Participants in the annual Wernersville Culinary Caper not only get to see some magnificent homes—both old and new—they also get to taste specially cooked foods by some of the areas finest chefs.

The Culinary Caper will be held this year on Saturday, May 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Seven homes in the borough and surrounding townships are on the tour, which participants can take at their leisure during the time slot.

Each home's kitchen will feature a local chef offering his or her unique specialty, said Marlene Ochs, chairman of the event. To complement the chefs in each house, individual local florists will display decorative creations.

The event is a fundraising project of the Junior and Senior Woman's Clubs of Wernersville for the purpose of redecorating the Wernersville Public Library and completing improvements to Greth Memorial Park, notes Phyllis Daniels, president of the club.

On the tour this year will be the Lerch Tavern, the first stop on the tour.

Here, tour-goers can sample hors d'oeuvres made the by chef

from the Beverly Hills Tavern in Spring Township. Also there will be musicians in period costumes, playing music from the 1700s and 1800s on period instruments.

At an upscale, two-story sample home in the Reedy Run development, foods will be provided by the Junior Woman's Club of Wernersville. All the samples are creations from American Buffet, the GFWC cookbook that will be on sale during the tour.

Other homes along the route are the home of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Moore, a two-story Victorian home atop Texter Mountain; the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hummel, a two-story colonial built this year; Greystone, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Esterly, a Georgian-style home built in 1802; The American House, known as one of the oldest standing hotels in Berks County, at 737 Fritztown Road, Sinking Spring. It is now home to The Guild Shop, which is operated by members of the Reading-Berks Guild of Craftsmen who offer hand-crafted gifts and home furnishings for sale.

Floral designs in each home are provided by the following florists: Signed, Sealed & Delivered, Davis Florist, Ernst Greenhouse and

Floral Shop of West Lawn, Floral Studio, Hummel Florists, and The Nosegay of Bernville.

Recently, Brian Zimmerman, chef de cuisine at the American House in Stouchsburg, visited the home of Dennis and Cindy Rex, one of the houses on the tour, to discuss the dish he will make for the more than 200 people expected to attend the event.

Tickets for the tour may be bought in advance for \$7 each by sending a check payable to GFWC Wernersville, and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to GFWC Wernersville, 310 N. Walnut St., Wernersville, Pa 19565.

On the day of the tour, tickets are available for \$8 at the Heritage Society in Wernersville. No tickets will be sold at individual homes.

For more information, call (610) 678-7513 or (610) 678-0229.

Cream of Crab Soup, created by American House owner Michael Filzenger, is one of American House's specialties, Zimmerman noted. It is one of several Easter-style soups, or chowders, offered on the menu. It is surprisingly easy to make.

## FFA HAPPENINGS

### Solanco FFA Holds Annual Awards Banquet

The Solanco Chapter of the FFA held its annual awards banquet Friday evening, April 15, honoring several chapter members for their achievements in the many areas of agriculture.

Five chapter members received Star awards during the evening's awards ceremony. The Star Award recipients are as follows:

- The Star Greenhand Award, which is presented to a first-year member in the chapter who has excelled in the Agriculture Education Program, was presented to Justine Hill.
- The Star Chapter FFA Award, presented to a second-year member who has excelled in the classroom and project areas, was presented to Joy Young.
- The Star Red Rose FFA Production Award was given to John Kiser. He is active in swine, dairy, and beef finishing shows at the local and county levels, as well as being active in various chapter and county events.
- The Star Red Rose Agribusiness Award was presented to Donnie Ammerman. He works on the L.M. Prange farm in Kirkwood, where he is responsible for general farm work and maintenance.
- The Star Keystone Award was presented to Tim Craig. Craig conducted swine breeding, swine finishing, and beef finishing projects, and has been involved in the FFA program from committee work to chapter officer. He has competed in meats judging, placing second in the county, first in the state, and received a gold medal in the national contest.

Receiving Greenhand degrees, which are presented to first-year FFA members in agriculture education, are Sarah Strickler, Bill Absher, Jimmy Angeline, Chris Althoff, Kurt Barto, Bryan Byers, Shannon Groff, Brianne Grumbling, Roy Haldeman, Justin Harrington, Jason Hess, Justine Hill, Mike Houghton, Nate Kreider, Nick Kreider, Kolin McCauley, Cherry Mellinger, Kandy Miller, Pat Nissley, Jerry O'Donnell, Charles Pannell, Matt Perry, Jennifer Pierce, John Pownall, Mike Reinhart, Jeremy Spangler, Jeff Sweigart, David Testerman, Michael Trout, and Jeremy Welk. The Greenhand Degree recipients received a certificate and a pin, and also received either a Solanco FFA cap or T-shirt.

Chapter degrees are presented to second-year members who have received their Greenhand Degree and have completed a project book. Recipients of Chapter degrees are Jake Barr, Jennifer Burkhart, Naomi Cowart, Brian Henry, Steve Hess, Nate Hoover, Ann Keefer, Tom Kegel, Andrea Kreider, Josh Kreider, Diane Landis, Bobby Lefever, Clint Metz, Todd Pell, Jennifer Reves, Jennifer Riley, Connie Stanley, Daryl Supplee, William Trout, Gary Welk, Robert Wimer, Andy Young, and Joy Young.

Red Rose degrees are presented by the Lancaster County Red Rose FFA to only eight percent of the total county FFA membership. The degree is awarded to third-year

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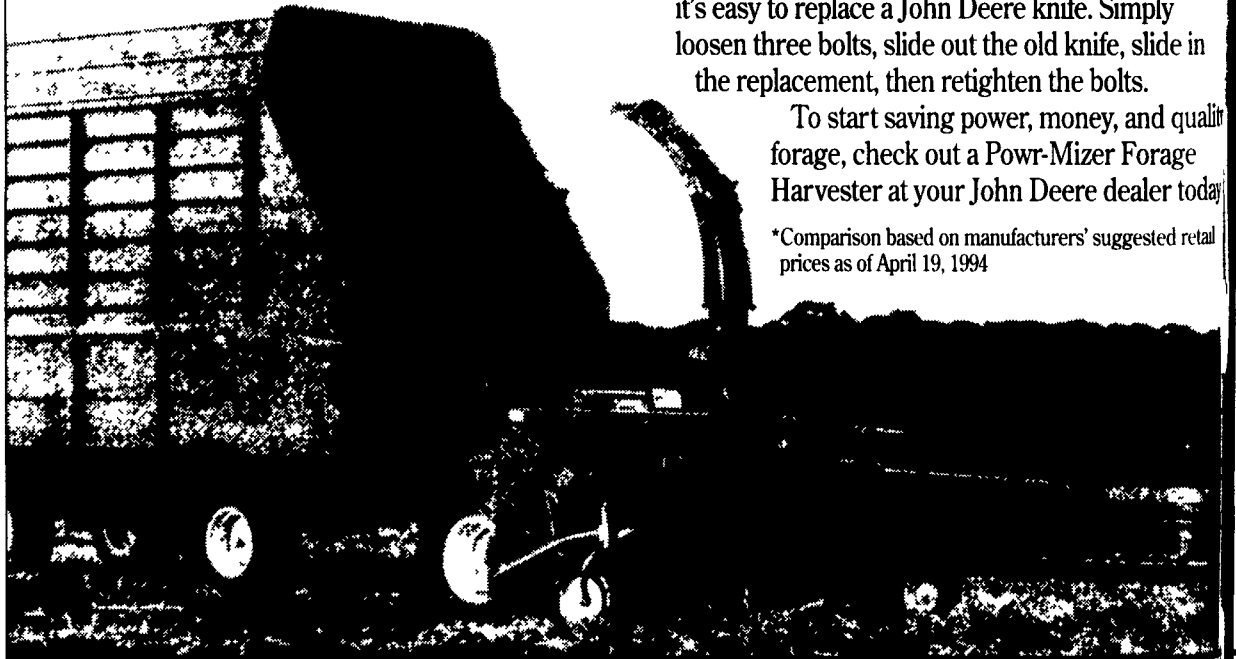
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