

The

Culture, Art & Community in the Lower Hudson Valley

HOOK

November/December 2010



Happy
Holidays

NEIGHBORHOOD



CREATIVE TOYS - TOYS FOR TOTS COLLECTION SITE IN NORTHVALE, NJ Drop off a new toy to benefit children in your area through the TOYS FOR TOTS® program. Stop by any time on Saturday, December 11, between 11 – 4 PM at Creative Design Construction & Remodeling, located at 204 Livingston Street in Northvale, NJ. Santa will distribute special goodies for children of all ages. Light refreshments will be served. For more info call 201.768.5813. Pictured above: Creative Design Staff, family, and friends gather in front of the firm's studio at last year's Collection Drive.

FAIRY HOUSES Artist John Curtis Crawford built his first Fairy House when, one warm spring evening, the garden Fairies asked for one. He selected twigs and stones and formed them into a sturdy cottage which he placed under a tree, next to the pond where he knew the Fairies liked to visit. A friend saw it and immediately begged to have one made for her. The word spread, and now over 1100 homes and gardens from New York to Hawaii, Europe to Australia, have sprouted Fairy Houses handcrafted in John's magical workshop.

Each house comes with a journal containing a deed and a story about the house and its spirit occupants, written by John's wife, shaman Bridget Wolfe.

John and Bridget's exploration of the spirits in the natural world is chronicled in the documentary film, "Gateways to Faerie," available from Playing Mantis, friendlymantis.com.



MARCELLO'S COOKING CLASSES

Marcello brings Italy to the lower Hudson Valley with individual **COOKING CLASSES** for lunch or dinner, where menus change to teach the varied cuisine of Northern Italy; also **CORPORATE TEAM BUILDING AND PRIVATE PARTIES** with group cooking classes. Cooking class gift certificates are available in time for holiday gift giving. For the ultimate taste of Italy, join Marcello on a culinary tour of Italy that includes cooking classes in Abruzzo. To book your classes, please call us at (845) 357-9108 x205 or email: info@marcellogroup.com

Procedure

- Split squash in half lengthwise and remove seeds. Peel skin from squash and cut in half-inch dice.
- In heavy pot place 2 quarts water and 2 cups sugar and bring to a boil. Add butternut squash to syrup and boil 3-4 minutes till tender. Remove squash from syrup and refresh under cold running water. Set aside.
- Bring 6 cups of chicken stock to a simmer.
- Melt 1 tablespoon of butter in 4-quart, heavy-bottom pot over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and ginger and cook till softened but not colored. About 3 minutes.
- Add rice and stir with a wooden spoon 'til rice turns opaque (about 2 minutes).
- Add white wine and stir 'til wine is absorbed.
- Begin adding stock to rice, 1 cup at a time stirring frequently and letting each addition be absorbed before the next addition until the rice is very creamy looking but still al dente (you will have left over stock).
- Add butternut squash, 2 tablespoons butter, cheese, sage and crabmeat and stir to combine.
- If necessary add a little more stock to thin risotto.
- Serve immediately.



Served with *Hudson Valley Wine Farms* wines by Wine Director, Billy Rattner.

The white: Blend No.1 Greendale white 2008. chardonnay, traminette and riesling.

The Red: Right Banks Red, Blend 0708. Cabernet franc and merlot. hudsonwinefarms.com



*Warm Thanks and
Holiday Wishes
from our family to yours.*

*Creative Design Construction & Remodeling
would like to take this time to express
our sincere gratitude to our clients for
the trust and confidence you have shown
us throughout the past 23 years.*

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