Pot pourri

BY MARIE MURPHY PHILLIPS, COOKE
(AFRO WOMEN'S EDITOR)

THIS IS the fourth in a series of articles on holiday cooking. Regardless of what you plan for Christmas dinner, make sure you have at least one soul food dish. By all means include sweet potatoes in some form or another . . . sweet potato pie . . . sweet potato pone . . . candid potatoes. Many of the recipes printed below will surely be on this winter's holiday supper table. All are finger lickin' good.

MARIE'S CANDIED YAMS

Two large yams or sweet potatoes, one-half teaspoon nutmeg, one teaspoon cinnamon, one-half cut white sugar, two tablespoons margarine or butter, two-third cup evaporated milk and one-third cup water.

Heat oven to 350 degrees F. Peel and slice raw potatoe.. Place one layer in a greased ovenproof casserole.

Mix nutmeg, cinnamon, and sugar. Sprinkle half of the mixture over the potatoes. Dot potatoes with one half of the butter. Add another layer of potatoes. Sprinkle with the remaining sugar mixture and butter. Mix milk and water. Pour over potatoes. Cover casserole. Bake 45 minutes.

Remove cover and turn oven up to 400 degrees F. Bake 10-15 minutes more or until potatoes are done and the top is delicately brown. (Serves 4).

SWEET POTATO PONE

One cup mashed cooked sweet potato (approximately 1 large potato), one-fourth cup butter, melted, one-third cup white sugar, one-third cup heated, one-third cup milk, one-half maple or corn syrup, two eggs, well teaspoon allspice, one-fourth teaspoon cloves, one-fourth teaspoon ginger, one-half teaspoon cinnamon, two tablespoons rum or bourbon (optional), one-half cup chopped walnut meats.

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9-inch shallow baking pan. 2. Mix the ingredients well. Pour into pan. Bake for 1 hour. Serve at room temperature, or cold. (Serves 4-6)

SOUL SCOOTASH

One cup dried baby lima beans, soaked overnight in refrigerator, three

Add salt and sugar. Cover. Cook cups water, one teaspoon salt, one can (No. 303) stewed tomatoes or two cups tomatoes with juice, one-fourth teaspoon thyme, two small bay leaves, one tablespoon chopped green peppers, one tablespoon bacon fat, one cup corn kernels and one tablespoon sugar.

1. Place in a large pot all of the ingredients, except the corn and sugar. Bring to a boil. Cover pot. Lower heat. Simmer 1½ hours. Add more water, if needed. Water should cover beans and vegetables throughout cooking time.

2. Add corn and sugar. Cover. Cook another 45 minutes. Correct seasoning. (Serves 4)

OKRA AND TOMATOES

One-fourth pound hot pork sausage with sage flavoring or smoked sweet sausage, one small onion, minced, two cups cut okra, fresh or frozen, one can (No. 303) stewed tomatoes or two cups tomatoes, salt and pepper to taste.

1. Fry sausage. Place other ingredients in a saucepan. When sausage is done, add it and the rendered fat to the vegetables. 2. Cover the pot. Simmer over low heat for 25 minutes. Add no water. The liquid from the canned tomatoes should be enough. (Serve 4).

Note: If frozen okra is used, cook tomatoes and onions for 15 minutes before adding okra to pot.

GREENS 'N DUMPLINGS

Instead of potatoes, try these dumplings with greens.

One-half pound slab bacon, two large onions, minced, one quarter water,

three pounds fresh collard greens, cut into small pieces, one teaspoon salt and one-fourth teaspoon black pepper.

Dumpling Batter

One cup yellow corn meal, one-fourth cup all-purpose flour, one teaspoon baking powder, one teaspoon salt, two eggs beaten, one-half cup milk, one tablespoon margarine or butter, melted.

Sift the dry ingredients together. Add the remaining ingredients and mix well.

1. Simmer the meat and onions in the water for 1 hour. 2. Add remaining ingredients. Cover and cook for 1½ hours. 3. Add teaspoonfuls of dumpling batter on top of greens. Cover and cook 15 minutes. (Serves 4)

FRIED RABBIT

Four pounds rabbit, cut up, two tablespoons vinegar, one teaspoon garlic salt, saltund pepper, one egg, slightly beaten, two tablespoons milk, flour, fat for frying.

1. Wash rabbit well. Place it in a deep bowl. Cover with water. Add vinegar and salt. Refrigerate for one hour or overnight. Drain. 2. Season rabbit with salts and pepper. 3. Mix egg and milk well. Dip rabbit pieces into egg mixture and then dredge with flour. 4. To a frying pan, add enough fat to make it 1½-2 inches in depth when melted. Heat fat until very hot.

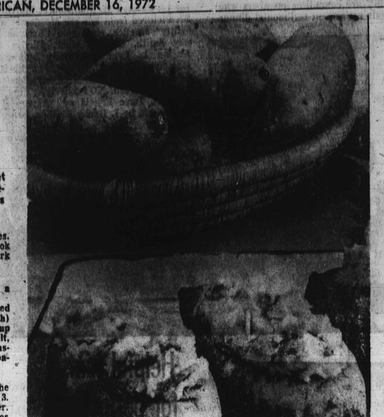
5. Quickly brown meat on all sides. Lower heat. Cover pan and cook meat 30 minutes or until meat is fork tender. (Serves 4)

SPOON BREAD

Eat this soft, moist bread with a spoon or fork.

Two cups evaporated milk mixed with water (equal amounts of both) or two cups whole milk, one-half cup white corn meal, one teaspoon salt, two tablespoons butter, one-half teaspoon baking powder, two eggs, separated.

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.
2. Boil milk. Gradually stir in the corn meal. Add salt and butter. 3. Turn off heat. Add baking powder. Add egg yolks. 4. Beat egg whites until stiff. Fold into batter.
5. Pour batter into a hot greased 2 quart casserole. Bake for 35-40 minutes. Serve hot with butter. (Serves 4-6)



IT DOESN'T MATTER how you fix 'em but make sure sweet potatoes are on your Christmas dinner table.

Lite up your home for Christmas

Christmas lighting is a fun way of extending a holiday greeting to friends and neighbors and need not be extravagant to be effective, according to Rita Harrold, residential lighting director of Westinghouse.

The decorated doorway can be the focal point for all Christmas decorating. The first step is to make certain it is adequately lighted.

Here, two floodlights spotlight the decorations and, at the same time, light the steps for safety sake. An additional white bulb is placed in the overhead fixture. The decorations are simple roping of greens with gold and red ornaments frame the doorway. White styrofoam bells are affixed to the glass of the storm door and the back of this glass is covered with a black plastic sheet to block out the view of the front door

To complete the decorations, two wreaths and two containers of greens and fake poinsettia blooms are placed on either side of the doorway.

Careful with those lights, appliances

There is no sure way to know whether an electrical appliance such as a string of Christmas tree lights is safe, but the approval of Underwriters Laboratory, Inc. is a good guide, according to Ottavio F. Grande, director of construction and buildings inspection for the Department of Housing and Community Development in Baltimore, Md.

The approval is generally indicated with a label containing the UL letters.

Purchasers of lights and other appliances intended as Christmas gifts would do well to look for this label, Mr. Grande added.

Underwriters Laboratories is a non-profit testing organization. While it provides no guarantee of safety, the label generally indicates a product which has been tested adequately for safety.

Most building codes specify that only such electrical materials appliances or equipment as are approved shall be sold or permitted to be installed.

Mr. Grande stressed the importance of care by householders during the Christmas season, when more appliances than usual are purchased and used. Unsafe Christmas tree lights can cause fires when left on for hours. Other unsafe appliances can also cause fires, serious shock, and possibly death.

"We have no way of guaranteeing safety," Mr. Grande said, "but we do know that assuring the UL label is a good precautionary measure."

Back to childhood?

NEW YORK (UPI) — In recent years, Christmas card publishers have found that there's a steadily increasing demand for Christmas cards with Santa Claus designs for grown-ups to send.

Perhaps people are nostalgic for the dimly-remembered but happy days of their own childhood, when Santa's long-awaited visit was the glorious climax to the Christmas celebration.

Don't push drinks

NEW YORK (UPI) — Don't push drinks on guests at holiday or any party time. After serving the first drink, let the guests determine when they want a refill. Another bad habit of some hosts, according to health educators: spending the evening "freshening up" drinks already in guests' hands. And the very worst habit of any host? Offering an alcoholic drink as "the one for the road."

Holiday gift ideas

When gift shopping for Christmas this year, remember that one present with a bright future is a "little leather" gift. Smart-looking small leather goods — whether for home, travel, pocket or purse — always give long and faithful service, and make an impression far exceeding their size.

You can choose to be economical or extravagant by giving one item such as a wallet or french purse, or a matching set that might also include pocket secretary, credit-card case, eyeglass case, or cigarette-pack holder.

Leather gear to brighten bar, sideboard or cocktail cabinet also makes a solid holiday hit. Among the interesting items you'll find leather ice-buckets, leather coasters and leather-encased glasses, tankards, pitchers and decanters.

The smoker will light up when he receives a rich-looking leather gift in the smoking line. Included are leather cigarette boxes, humidors, pipe racks and rests, lighters, and leather-mounted ash trays.

In both pipe and smoking accessories, the leather itself may be plain, tooled, antiqued or embossed, and might be trimmed with brass, silver or heavy leather lacing.

Leather grooming aids and travel articles make handsome and helpful gift choices for your hard-to-please giftee. Manicure sets and shoeshine kits in leather, leather-backed hair and clothes brushes, and leather jewel and stud boxes are great for home use, and some may be taken on trips.

Also, ready to tuck inside a suitcase are packable soft leather slippers, leather toilet kit, leather jewel roll, leather dress, leather-boxed playing cards, and travel alarm clock in a leather case.

Check tree lights

NEW YORK (UPI) — Check sets of electric Christmas tree lights before you decorate the tree. Look for worn insulation, broken plugs, loose bulb sockets. Replace faulty sets to avoid fires, says the National Fire Protection Association.

Long cords out

NEW YORK (UPI) — Don't buy toys with long cords for infants and very-young children, says the National Safety Council. Strings on toys attached to cribs, playpens and carriages should not be longer than 10 inches. Also avoid pacifiers with strings that go around the baby's neck.

Avoid purse pain

NEW YORK (UPI) — A holiday shopping tip from the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan New York: "Remember that what you buy now you have to pay for after the holidays. Don't bit off more than you can chew."

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Calvert County News

By MELVINA EDWARDS

The Mutual Charge Brooks Methodist United Church concluded its 4th anniversary celebration on Sunday.

The 11 a.m. sermon was by the Rt. Rev. Edgar A. Love, retired bishop.

Singing was by combined groups of Brooks Church. The Bishop was warmly greeted by the pastor and the congregation. Mrs. Love was also present.

The 3:30 p.m. sermon was by the Rev. Hilton A. Parker, [illegible] superintendent of the South Baltimore District and now pastor of Asbury Church in Annapolis.

All visitors were greeted by the Rev. and Mrs. Joseph H. Collins, officers and members.

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Continue your prayers for Dury Brook of Chesapeake Beach.

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Funeral services were held Saturday at the Herbert Nutter Funeral Home for Michael Charter, 83, who died Dec. 4. He was the son of John and Mary Charter of Washington, D. C.

The eulogy was by the Rev. Irving Moye, pastor of Ames United Methodist Church.

Mrs. Charter is survived by his wife, Mrs. Hattie Queen Charter, three sisters-in-law, Mrs. Martha C. Davis, Mrs. Lillian Hall, and Mrs. Melvina Edwards;

Two brothers-in-law, the Rev. William Edwards and Jerimiah Hall Jr. and several nieces and nephews.

• • •

Funeral Services were held at Mt. Hope United Methodist Church in Sunderland on Tuesday, for Mrs. Queenie Wills of Sunderland. Mrs. Wills 72, died Dec. 9, in Annapolis Convalescent Home.

She was the beloved wife of Charles B. Wills.

Survivors are son, Calvin E. Rawlings, two daughters, Mrs. Zelma Wills Rawlings, and Miss Mildred Wills of Friendship. Also, 23 grandchildren, 66 great, grandchildren, 3 sisters-in-law, Mrs. Ollie Coates Quill, Mrs. Mildred Quill and Mrs. Alry Wallace Quill, all of Baltimore.

Continue your prayers for the Rev. C. H. Churn, pastor of Union Temple Baptist Church, Baltimore.

He is improved at Maryland General Hospital where he underwent surgery.

Also prayers for Mrs. Laura Gould, 2331 Madison Ave., a member of the Garrison Boulevard Church.

MARRIED RECENTLY—Pretty Mrs. Nancy Brown, telephone employee, and Michael Alan Wolf, Jr., lawyer, exchanged vows two Saturdays ago in the chapel of Har Sinai Congregation. Rabbi Samuel Glasner and Father Donald O. Wilson, rector of St. James Episcopal Church, officiated at the double ring ceremony. (AFRO staff photo by I. Henry Phillips, Sr.)

Marriage Permits

BRADLEY-SAMPSON — Clifton L., 23, 3701 Woodridge; Nancy L., 23.

JONES-MYERS — Hubert R., 25, 909 Woodbourne; Lydia C., 21, 5706 Narcissus.

BRANHAM-ALLEN — Wilber T., 20, 122 N. Central; Betty M., 20, 1234 N. Broadway.

ANNELLO-FONES — Angelo J., 65, 3509 Royston; Anna, 38, 3426 Belair.

KING-CORWELL — Eugene L, 22, 1738 Linden; Tiffany, 24.

L'PSCOMB-PERKINS — Paul O, 44, 211 Garrison; Delores M., 42, 1803 Edmondson.

FINLEY-SCHULTZE — Eugene T., 42, 5723 Cedonia; Carol M., 29, 4603 Eurith.

SCOTT-ALEXANDER — David V., 26, 1808 N. Broadway; Marthurine, 25, 1500 N. Collington.

WILKINSON-WILKINSON — Guy W., 34, 45 Martin; Sharon L., 31, Paterson, N. J.

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Accessories carry out classic theme

The fall woman uses accessories to give the personal touch to all the classic and layered looks. And the most personal of all materials are the naturals . . . suedes, woods, bone, ivory, tortoise, canvas, homespun fabrics and handcrafted looks. For her new dresses, she chooses the classic elegance of pearls neat pumps, and streamlined bags. Here's the head-to-toe run-down.

HATS

Hats shape up soft with big floppy berets, rolled-back sou'wester, brims, small floppy brims and shallow fedoras. The tight close cloche or skull tight knit cap is another look. See lots of brighter colors, plaids and prints at the head of fashion.

SCARVES

Scarves are up to new tricks in vibrant plaids and paisleys, often patterned to match dresses. The oblong is the shape to watch.

Dickeys and cuffs to match are new additions. Shawls cover up the bare evening looks. The man's tie is another look with classic shirts.

JEWELRY

Jewelry goes natural in a big way. Wide dramatic bracelets set off dolman sleeves. The charm bracelet comes back with the new sweaters. Larger button earrings go with shorter hair, scads of pearls go with elegant crepes and daytime dresses; shorter pendants go with classic shirts. Sticks, stones, bones, ivory, tortoise and sculptured metal are the important materials. Needle point and stuffed fabric are novelty looks. There will be lots of color in enamels, plastics and even plaid jewelry.

BELTS

Belts go straight and narrow this fall, with emphasis on quality. The chain belt hangs on in dog chain and bicycle chain looks. Suede is the important leather. There's still lots of buckle interest via hand-crafted lock, colored buckles and hardware, although the trends is toward basic simple shapes.

GLOVES

Gloves pull together the classic look. Most are elegantly simple in casual suedes, textured looks, soft leathers. Sweater gloves in furzy and sportive racing glove looks are important.

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