

Sweetie-licious™

Sweetie News – Summer 2008



Good Food, Good Deeds Good Lives... by Linda Hundt

While growing up, my family would spend a week camping in northern Michigan overlooking Lake Michigan at a campground called "vacation valley." For our family it was indeed, a valley of vacation memories. The lake was breathtakingly beautiful, but routinely ice cold. As kids, we didn't care and frolicked in the waves from dawn until dusk. I remember all seven of us sleeping in our hot, big blue tent with sunburned cheeks and sand in our hair listening to the faint sound of the campfire sparking and the tireless waves rolling on "our beach."

The campground also had an old lodge in the woods complete with shuffleboard, ping-pong and handmade checkers tables mounted on old pickle barrels. When it rained, which it always did, we kids headed to an unsupervised day at the lodge, a welcomed change from the sunshine and sand. We played and argued and had a divine time.

One of the highlights of our week was going to Leland, a charming little village on the harbor on Lake Leelanau. We would browse the unique shops and take home fresh smoked whitefish and artisan bread and cheese. I can still smell the unique combination of fish, Colby cheese, Lake Michigan and sunshine...Oh, my!

On our way back to the campsite we would stop at a local farm-stand to pick up home-grown sweet corn, tomatoes and freshly picked blackberries. My brothers, twin sister and I were very excited about the day excursion to Leland, but couldn't wait to get back to the campground, for we knew we were in for a treat! For you see, my mother was

a master at outdoor cooking in her dutch oven where she would "bake" the most delicious blackberry cobbler ever. No meal was more anticipated. We ate smoked whitefish, fresh tomatoes, buttery fried corn and the coveted blackberry cobbler while watching Lake Michigan's sunset and the gigantic freighters pass by in the distance. This is my perfect summer memory.

I challenge all of you to dig deep into your memory cave and find that perfect summer memory. Think long and hard about your precious summers as a kid. Maybe your memory was hearing the faint melodic tune of the ice cream truck and how your heart beat faster as the tune became louder, clearly indicating that yummy, specialty ice cream was soon at your fingertips... Maybe you remember hot, hot summer nights hovering around the fan with your brothers and sisters hoping to keep cool while wailing nonsense noises into the fan's soft breeze.



Or better yet, maybe you remember endless bicycle rides with your friends and the freedom the two wheels introduced, peddling around your neighborhood, sometimes two on bike, gliding down hills, wind in your face, destination unknown. Whatever your summer memories may be, remember the fun, the food, the family and friends. Remember the simplicity of being a kid in the summer and please, please make more perfect memories.

Eat Pie & Love Life... Linda

Sweetie News

What a busy time of year for us with open houses, weddings and school events as we have been happily swamped here at the shop! Thank you for remembering us dear customers and friends and thanks to the staff at Sweetie's for working so hard to make everything as perfect as possible!

The summer is by far the best time to buy pies people! Especially with our amazing local fruit grown right here in Michigan from rhubarb, strawberries, blueberries and peaches, start planning right now to buy the best pies anywhere at Sweetie's!! People ask me often which is my favorite pie and I always say that it depends on the season. The summer is clearly the best time to buy pies. The sweet freshness of ripened fruit on the bush, tree or vine is unbeatable!

A big Congratulations to our graduating seniors at Sweetie-licious. All of them, I am sure, have wonderful plans to make our world a better place ☺. Our sweetie girls are the best of the best. I know that each of them is filled with character, honor and love and we will miss them tremendously!! Congratulations to: Kelsey Cook, Ashley Goodenough, Ellie Hundt, Shannon Ongena, Carly Palmer, Andrea Rowden and Sam Sepic!

Blackberry Cobbler

Filling...

4 1/2 C fresh or frozen blackberries

1 C sugar

1/3 C flour

1/2 tsp orange juice, fresh

1/4 tsp orange zest

Crumb Topping...

3/4 C flour

3/4 C brown sugar

1/4 C oatmeal, uncooked

1/4 tsp salt

1 stick butter, softened

Mix together all crumb topping ingredients by hand or a pastry blender until crumbly. Mix all filling ingredients in a medium size bowl. Pour into a buttered 9 or 10 inch pie pan. Sprinkle crumb topping on top. Bake 350 for 30-40 minutes until light brown on top and filling bubbles over. Yum!



Lovely July ... with the evocative murmur of honeybees on the wing and the smell of suntan cream. – Cynthia Wickham



Linda resides in a century old farmhouse with her sweet husband and two lovely teenage daughters. She is the owner of Sweetie-licious Pie Pantry in DeWitt Michigan, is a first place winner at the 2007 National Pie Championships, recipient of the 2006 SBTC Small Business of the Year, in addition to other regional and State awards. She is also the co-founder of the Downtown DeWitt Farmers Market.



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