Writers' columns filled a lot of bellies

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periences, and Gysel was happy to write.

"It took 15 years of writing until I ran out of something to say," she laughed.

The stories also reflect on the past 20 years of their lives, Gysel said, where they opened up to the community everything that was happening to them personally.

"If you look back at the columns and the recipes over the years, it follows the journey of our lives," she said. "There are times when there's lots of lowcalorie stuff because I would be on a diet. Or we would be cutting out carbs because we're on the nocarb kick. Or my son becomes a vegetarian, then he becomes a vegan. Or you got yourself a new crockpot.

"If you look back, you'll really be able to see the journey of our lives."

Earlier this year, the recipe went from being a weekly submission to a monthly submission, and the pair found they had a hard time keeping track. So after 20 years, the team decided it was time to end this chapter of their lives.

"We would not have been doing it if it were not for (our readers)," Gysel said.

"The letters we got, the comments, when you bump into someone on the street (asking for culinary help), all of that care and interest and love is why we kept on writing."

"It inspires you to want to do it," Kentner added.

"We live in the greatest town, and we have the greatest people who live here," Gysel said.

Now, the two are looking forward to the holiday season, and wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a Happy New Year, and to keep on cookin'.



After 20 years, the Independent and Free Press' What's Cookin' writers, Gerry Kentner and Lori Gysel, have decided to close the oven door on their recipe column.



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