

Woolly wonders

Lyn Steward spins wool at the Sheep Focus weekend at Markham Fairgrounds. Visitors were treated to a wide variety of sheep and wool displays, including judging events, fleece to shawl competitions, hands-on demonstrations, and fashion shows.

Photo by CHERYL JOHNSON



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YOU'LL LOVE JUNE LOBSTERFEST

When the Corner House in Stouffville opened eleven years ago, lovers of fine food were quick to appreciate their innovative menus and meticulous attention to quality and detail.

In addition to regular menu items, the Corner House also features special events throughout the year. "We've been doing a Lobster Fest in May, June, July and August since we opened and it's been our most popular special event," says Manager Jennifer Pennanen.

"As always, live lobsters will be flown in from the east coast for the next festival, which runs June 23 - June 28 and for which reservations are strongly recommended. "We sold about 200 lobsters at the last event, in addition to our regular menu items.

This is something a lot of people seem to enjoy - they particularly like the fact that it's flown in fresh and cooked here.

"We cook it four different ways: steamed, broiled or in one of two sauces.

Lobster, Bonne Femme and Lobster Thermidor." The restaurant also features periodic special events with the emphasis on international specialties including Italian, Cajun, Jamaican and Indian cuisine.

An Elizabethan feast, which is held each fall, attracts clients from a wide area. Outdoor barbecues are another customer favorite, and Pennanen and her staff will once again barbecue a giant hip of beef during this year's Strawberry Festival. "The quality of food here is always well above average and our prices are reasonable," Pennanen said.

"We have a fully stocked bar and a good selection of wines from different countries and we've just redecorated and renovated the restaurant." Rich hues of blue and plum lend a touch of European sophistication to the ambiance, without detracting from the restaurant's country house charm.

The upper level features framed posters of jazz greats, while original paintings by area artists are displayed on the walls downstairs. "We're featuring different artists every couple of months and the paintings are for sale."

Pennanen is an attentive and genial host, stopping at each table to chat to her guests, ensuring that everything is to their liking and exchanging friendly banter. "I try to make it feel as comfortable as I can because I want everyone to come back again."

To make reservations for the Lobster Festival, call 640-8494.



Manager Jennifer Pennanen shows off one of the wine features of the Corner House. Photo SJOERD WITTEVEEN