

## Traditional Holiday Coffees from the P.D. Boyd Family.

For centuries in Europe, families have delighted their holiday guests with special coffee drinks made from recipes passed down over generations.

From family to family, friend to friend, these old-world coffee recipes have become a tradition of the holidays.

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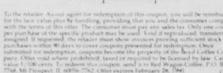


Premium roasted coffees for four generations.

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## Community\_

## Parents buck schools, prefer home education

By June Russell **Emerald Contributor** 

Every morning, like any firstgrader, six-year-old Melissa Norland gets ready for school.

But Norland is no ordinary first-grader. Unlike other children her age, she reads at a fourth-grade level, solves second-grade math problems and does not leave home to attend classes

Norland "home is schooled." Her parents are among an increasing number of families opting to teach their children at home as an alternative to expensive private schools and the public education system. More than 375 children are currently registered as home schoolers in Lane County, according to Education Service District figures.

said. "There is a group of people religiously motivated that feels the schools are a damaging place for their kids, that it might expose them to ideas or substances that might harm

'Others just want their kids at home, and others have ideas on how education should be done and how they want to do it," she said. "Some people need their kids at home to work, and some people really don't trust bureaucracies.

Sue Scott, mother of four, began home schooling in 1981 after she realized her son's allergies would label him learning disabled and a "difficult child" in the public school system.

Scott preferred an unstruc tured approach to teaching. rather than the correspondence courses some home schoolers

'They're also eager to learn and they're hard workers. They have a purpose in life. Obviously they come from families that care, or they wouldn't be home schooling.

— Debra Norland

There are some who school for religious reasons — ours are a mixture," said Pat Putnam, who has home schooled her four children since 1981. 'Some use correspondence courses, some don't.

'Many families who want school-type structures can't afford private schools." Putnam said. "Others are counter-culture and don't want any structure at all. They object to the competitiveness of public schools.

Jeannine Mercer. social worker for Eugene School District 4J. elaborated and classified home schoolers into four basic groups

"I don't know that this group is as homogenous as the group we have in school," Mercer

"We just kept doing what we'd been doing ... reading and science projects and lots of arts and crafts," Scott said. "I was there to offer structure They had plenty of free time. but I was there in contact with

'Some call themselves unstructured, but I don't know if that's right. Maybe 'informal' Scott said.

Debra Norland, Melissa's mother, opted for a structured approach, but designed her own curriculum.

"I did it last year, and it's hard and a lot of work." Norland said. "I took it very seriously. I designed my own curriculum - I went to a curricu-

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