

inside business

Mexican food home catering is offered

by CHRISTINE BIERMAN

Sandy-area residents may experience a taste of Mexico at home through a Mexican food catering business starting here soon, says owner Charles "Chuck" Loflin.

Loflin will open a business called Banditos by Sept. 1 that will feature authentic south-of-the-border food prepared to the customer's taste, along with Mexican music and storytelling.

The 39-year-old Sandy resident is entering the business with experience in the Mexican food business from both sides of the lunch counter. An Arizona native, he grew up eating Mexican food and later on, preparing it for a Mesa-based restaurant business.

More recently, he has cooked Mexican food for family, friends, organizations and church groups, some as large as 1,000 persons. One recent meal event raised \$1,000, he says.

Loflin says he can handle parties as small as one person or as large as 1,000 diners. All he asks for is at least a one-day notice, but preferably one to two weeks. There will be a minimal charge for small groups, however.

Loflin — with the help of friends — can also handle more than one party a day.

His menu — from which customers can select and choose — will include la roz con pollo, chili verde con carne, chile colorado con carne, chile

rellenos, chimichangas, sour cream, cheese and/or beef enchiladas, and taco salads.

Loflin's food will be palatable spice-wise; customers may always add hot sauce provided by him, he says.

Prices will vary by item and quantity. Cost of a combination plate delivered to a couple in their home will run \$20 to \$25. People easily spend that much dining out, Loflin says.

Loflin says that while many Portland-area Mexican restaurants offer take-out food, his will be the only firm to cater in people's homes, churches or organizations. He will serve the Sandy and Gresham area.

In most cases, Loflin will bring the



Chuck Loflin

food partially prepared and finish cooking it in the customer's home.

Loflin says that he will try to create a Mexican atmosphere through his style of dress, recorded music and tall tales of banditos (bandits). If customers so choose, Loflin will show them how to eat Mexican food using tortillas instead of utensils, as is customary south of the border. He also will provide plenty of napkins.

"We want to produce not only a good service but a memorable one," says Loflin.

He will also share recipes with his customers. "That doesn't mean they'll master them," he smiled.

Loflin learned to cook Mexican-style from Freddy Munoz, whom he described as one of Arizona's better-known chefs. Munoz kept the recipes in his head, not on paper.

"I cooked by feel," Loflin says. He worked for several years at Munoz's El Charro restaurant before becoming partner a short time with Munoz and his cousin in El Charrito, another Mesa eating establishment.

The menu devised by Loflin for E. Charrito is still in use there today, 21 years later, he says.

But Loflin has since drifted into the transportation business, first working for the railroad and now as an auditor at Consolidated Freightways in Portland. He moved to Sandy two

years ago.

Loflin plans to keep his full-time job until the business can support him, his wife, Patricia, and their seven children. Patricia will accept orders at 668-8218.

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Benj. Franklin joins ATM network

The Benj. Franklin Federal Savings and Loan Association has joined the STAR System network with over 1,900 automated teller machines (ATMs) in California, Arizona and

Nevada, according to Dale Weight, chairman of the board and chief executive officer.

Weight said the STAR System will be available to Benj. Franklin

customers in 1986. The new network will join the existing Benj. Franklin ATM system of Ben's Bankers and The Exchange network in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and British

Columbia. The combined system will give Benj. Franklin customers access to more ATMs in the West than any other financial institution, according to information provided by Benj. Franklin Savings and Loan.

Weight said the STAR System is headquartered in San Diego and links the ATMs of 94 banks, savings and loans and credit unions in California, Nevada and Arizona. The system has more than 5.8 million card holders who will now have access to Benj. Franklin's ATMs when traveling in the Pacific Northwest. Benj. Franklin customers will have access to over 1,900 ATMs throughout California, in Arizona and in Nevada, and a total of nearly 3,000 units throughout the region.

Benj. Franklin is the largest savings and loan in the Pacific Northwest with 79 offices in the states of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah. Total assets as of June 30, 1985 is \$3.8 billion.

BPW to host consultant

"Positive Discipline" and "Dealing with Difficult People" will be two of the topics discussed by Artie Trost, owner of Organizational Dynamics, at the first dinner meeting of the 1985-86 year for the Sandy Business and Professional Women's Club.

It will be held in the dining room of T.J.'s Fireside Restaurant on Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 7 p.m.

Sara Berger, membership chairman, is in charge of the program. Reservations should be phoned to

668-4985 or 668-4723 before Sept. 2.

Members of the business community are invited to attend.

Among the topics Trost will cover will include how to get employees to produce more effectively for a company, how to deal with a dissatisfied customer, and how to get along with co-workers.

Trost, of Sandy, is a consultant and trainer who specializes in organizational improvement through assessment, planned change and human

resource development training. She has presented workshops and seminars throughout the United States.

Clients include the American Hospital Association, Bonneville Power, U.S. Bancorp, Pacific Power & Light, Tektronix, Intel, Floating Point and Tri-Met.

Trost is co-author of "Gaining Momentum for Board Action," a guide for governing boards of directors and advisory committees.

Two attend business camp

A Sandy High School teacher, and a high school student from Brightwood, were among the 250 who attended Oregon Business Week 1985 on the campus of Western Oregon State College in Monmouth recently.

Barbara Haggerty, a business teacher at SUHS, and Julie White of Brightwood, a student at La Salle High School, were among the 250 who spent a week studying the free enterprise system.

Both received scholarships, which were provided by supporting businesses, organizations and in-

dividuals.

This year's sixth-annual summer event was presented jointly through the auspices of the Oregon Council on Economic Education, State Department of Education, Associated Oregon Industries Foundation and WOSC. Chairman was John Salisbury, KXL Radio, Portland.

Business Week was created to provide high school students and teachers with a practical learning experience in the various aspects of the system that sustains the American economy.

Faculty was selected on the basis of experience in day-to-day functions of business in the private sector.

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Businesses see lower rates

Commercial and industrial customers of Portland General Electric Co. will see smaller power bills the next three months due to a rate adjustment starting July 31, says spokesman Bill Babcock.

PGE cut rates by .11 cents per kilowatt hour to reflect the surplus hydroelectricity available during the second quarter of 1985, Babcock said.

The rate decrease is in effect for the third quarter of the year, starting with meter readings taken on and after July 31, he said.

Sandy Business & Professional Directory 668-5548

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