

Try A New Twist On Your Rice Dish: Delicious Herbal Sticky Rice

Rice is often the perfect and popular complement to many an entrée.

Proving equally capable as a side dish to meat or poultry, rice can ease the decision-making process when it comes time to host your next dinner party.

For those thinking outside the box, however, the same old rice likely won't suffice.

Those looking to surprise their dinner guests or even the family with a variation on an old favorite should consider "Herbal Sticky Rice in Bamboo Leaves."

Taken from Corinne Trang's "The Asian Grill" (Chronicle Books), this recipe is certain to both surprise and delight.

Herbal Sticky Rice in Bamboo Leaves

Serves 8
2 cups short-grain white sticky rice
1/2 cup yellow mung beans
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 to 1 1/2 tablespoons minced fresh ginger
2 large garlic cloves, minced
2 scallions, trimmed and sliced into 1/4-inch thick rounds (white and green parts)

1 bunch fresh cilantro, root ends removed, leaves and tender stems finely chopped
6 medium dried shiitakes, soaked in water until soft, drained, stems removed, and chopped
8 cups chicken broth (or water)

16 dried bamboo leaves, soaked until soft, about 30 minutes
1. In a large bowl, mix together the sticky rice and mung beans, add 4 cups water and soak at least 4 hours, or cover and refrigerate overnight. Drain and set aside.

2. Heat the oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir-fry the ginger, garlic and scallions until golden, 10 to 15 minutes. Add the cilantro and stir-fry until wilted,

about 1 minute. Add the herbal mixture and shiitakes to the rice and mung beans, stirring well to distribute evenly.

3. Bring the broth or water to a boil in a stockpot over high heat. Meanwhile, make the rice bundle: overlap two long, slender bamboo leaves lengthwise by 1 1/2 to 2 inches (the edge of one leaf will meet the central rib of the other).

Place 2 heaping tablespoons of the rice mixture, shaping the rice into 1 1/2-inch-by-4-inch rectangle in the center and along the length of the leaves.

Fold the side of the leaf closest to you over the rice. Fold in the opposite end toward the center. Fold in each pointy end toward the center and tie the rectangular bundle with kitchen string as you would a gift package.

Repeat with the remaining leaves and rice mixture.

4. Place the stuffed bamboo leaves in the pot. Reduce the heat to a simmer, cover the pot and cook for 1 to 2 hours.

The longer you cook the rice, the softer and more fragrant it will be. Serve bamboo leaf bundles for each diner to unwrap.

Study Club Getting Ready For Auction

Continued from front page

The Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce will provide a delicious fried chicken meal during the evening.

The silent auction offers a wide assortment of items for all ages and runs from 5 to 6:45 p.m., and then closes for the main auction.

Joe H. McCreary and Candy McCreary will be on hand to conduct the main auction starting at 7 p.m. This is always the highlight of the evening as the bidders anxiously await each item.

All proceeds from the Eagle Lake Study Club benefit the Win-

termann Library. Eagle Lake is so fortunate to have an outstanding library in our community. The library needs our support so please make plan to attend!

Pictured below are some of the items that will be up for grabs this year.



Notice Of Public Hearing On Tax Increase

The City of Eagle Lake will hold a public hearing on a proposal to increase total tax revenues from properties on the tax roll in the preceding tax year by 5.14 percent (percentage by which proposed tax rate exceeds lower of rollback tax rate or effective tax calculated under Chapter 26, Tax Code). Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property and the tax rate that is adopted.

Sept. 11, 2007 &

The public hearing will be held on Sept. 18, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Council Chambers, 100 E. Main, Eagle Lake, TX

The members of the governing body voted on the proposal to consider the tax increase as follows:

FOR: Young, Schiurring, Williams, Meldahl, and Cooper
AGAINST: NONE
PRESENT and not voting: NONE
ABSENT:

Comparison of Proposed Budget with Last Year's Budget

The applicable percentage increase or decrease (or difference) in the amount budgeted in the preceding fiscal year and the amount budgeted for the fiscal year that begins during the current tax year is indicated for each of the following expenditure categories:

Maintenance and operations	10.3443 % (increase)	or	0 % (decrease)
Debt service	1.9905 % (increase)	or	0 % (decrease)
Total expenditures	7.4280 % (increase)	or	0 % (decrease)

Total Appraised Value and Total Taxable Value as calculated under section 26.04, Tax Code

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Total appraised value* of all property	\$ 81,115,020	\$ 83,435,621
Total appraised value* of new property**	\$ 963,260	\$ 911,830
Total taxable value*** of all property	\$ 78,358,027	\$ 80,705,521
Total taxable value*** of new property**	\$ 906,140	\$ 908,830

Bonded Indebtedness

Total amount of outstanding and unpaid bonded indebtedness \$ 2,735,000

Tax Rates

Adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year \$.75491 per \$100 in value
Proposed tax rate for the current tax year \$.77829 per \$100 in value
Difference in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year \$.02338 per \$100 in value

Percentage increase or decrease in the proposed tax rate and the adopted tax rate for the preceding tax year 3.097 % Increase OR 0 % Decrease

These tax rate figures are not adjusted for changes in the taxable value of property.

Comparison of Residence Homestead Values

Average appraised and taxable values on residence homesteads are compared from the preceding tax year and the current tax year.

	Preceding Tax Year	Current Tax Year
Average residence homestead appraised value	\$ 52,475.00	\$ 53,961.00
Homestead exemption amount for the taxing unit (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$.00	\$.00
Average taxable value of a residence homestead (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled)	\$ 52,475.00	\$ 53,961.00

Comparison of Residence Homestead Taxes

The taxes that would have been imposed in the preceding tax year on a residence homestead at the average appraised value (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled) are estimated to be \$ 396.14.

The taxes that would be imposed in the current tax year on a residence homestead appraised at the average appraised value in the current tax year (excluding special exemptions for persons 65 years of age or older or disabled), if the proposed tax rate is adopted, are estimated to be \$ 419.97. The difference between the amount of taxes on the average residence homestead in the current tax year, if the proposed tax rate is adopted, and the preceding tax year would be an increase of \$ 23.83 or a decrease of \$ 0 in taxes.

Special Provisions if Applicable

Criminal Justice Mandate (use for counties, if applicable):
The _____ County Auditor certifies that _____ County has spent \$ _____ in the previous 12 months beginning _____ for the maintenance and operations cost of keeping inmates sentenced to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. _____ County Sheriff has provided information on these costs, minus the state revenues received for reimbursement of such costs.

Enhanced Indigent Health Care Expenditures (use if applicable):
The _____ spent \$ _____ from _____ to _____ on enhanced indigent health care at the increased minimum eligibility standards, less the amount of state assistance. For the current tax year, the amount of increase above last year's enhanced indigent health care expenditures is _____.

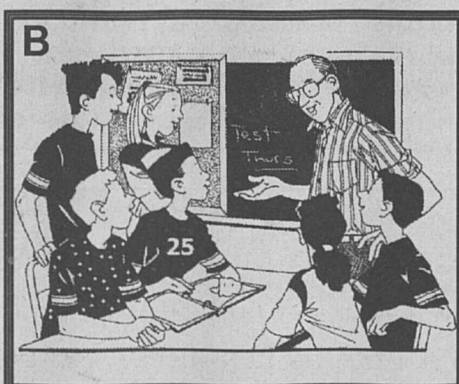
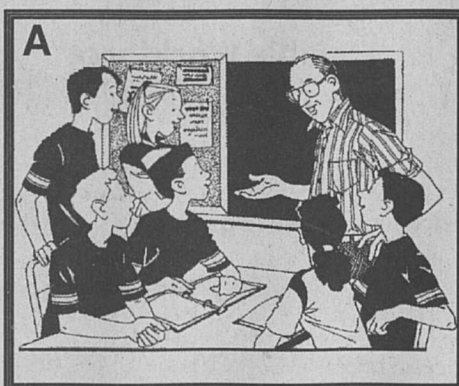
KIDS' corner

Food FACT:

WHAT FRUIT HAS CUSTOMARILY BEEN GIVEN TO TEACHERS?

ANSWER: APPLE

What's the Difference?
There are six things different between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



ANSWERS: 1. Boy standing in front of room 2. Boy sitting at desk 3. Boy at front of room 4. Paper on bulletin board is blank 5. Chalkboard says "Test" 6. Notebook in front of seated girl is missing

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1949: THE U.S.S.R. TESTED THEIR FIRST ATOMIC BOMB.
- 1966: THE BEATLES PLAYED THEIR LAST MAJOR CONCERT.
- 2005: HURRICANE KATRINA HIT THE GULF COAST OF THE UNITED STATES.

new word

semester
one half of the academic year; usually 15 weeks

How they SAY it in...

English: SCHOOL
Spanish: ESCUELA
Italian: SCUOLA
French: ÉCOLE
German: SCHULE

Did YOU KNOW?

THE NOTEBOOK WAS INVENTED IN 1920 BY AUSTRALIAN J. A. BIRCHALL, WHO STUCK PAPER TOGETHER WITH A CARDBOARD BACKING. TODAY NOTEBOOKS ARE MOST COMMONLY USED BY STUDENTS.

get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture featured here is?

ANSWER: BASKETBALL