

SMITH RANCH HOMES

Dining Services

To create a fine dining experience for residents at Smith Ranch Homes, Heidi Kraehling was hired as executive chef. Kraehling was an award-winning chef, acclaimed for her creative culinary style while at Butler's in Mill Valley.

In many ways the position at Smith Ranch Homes was a dream job for a chef. Kraehling was able to design the kitchen from the ground up and was challenged to design menus that maintained the high level of taste and flavor of California cuisine but reduced the ingredients with high levels of fat and sodium.

Kraehling served as executive chef for eight years.

Hanna Anki, who also had worked at Butler's, was hired as Food & Beverage Director.

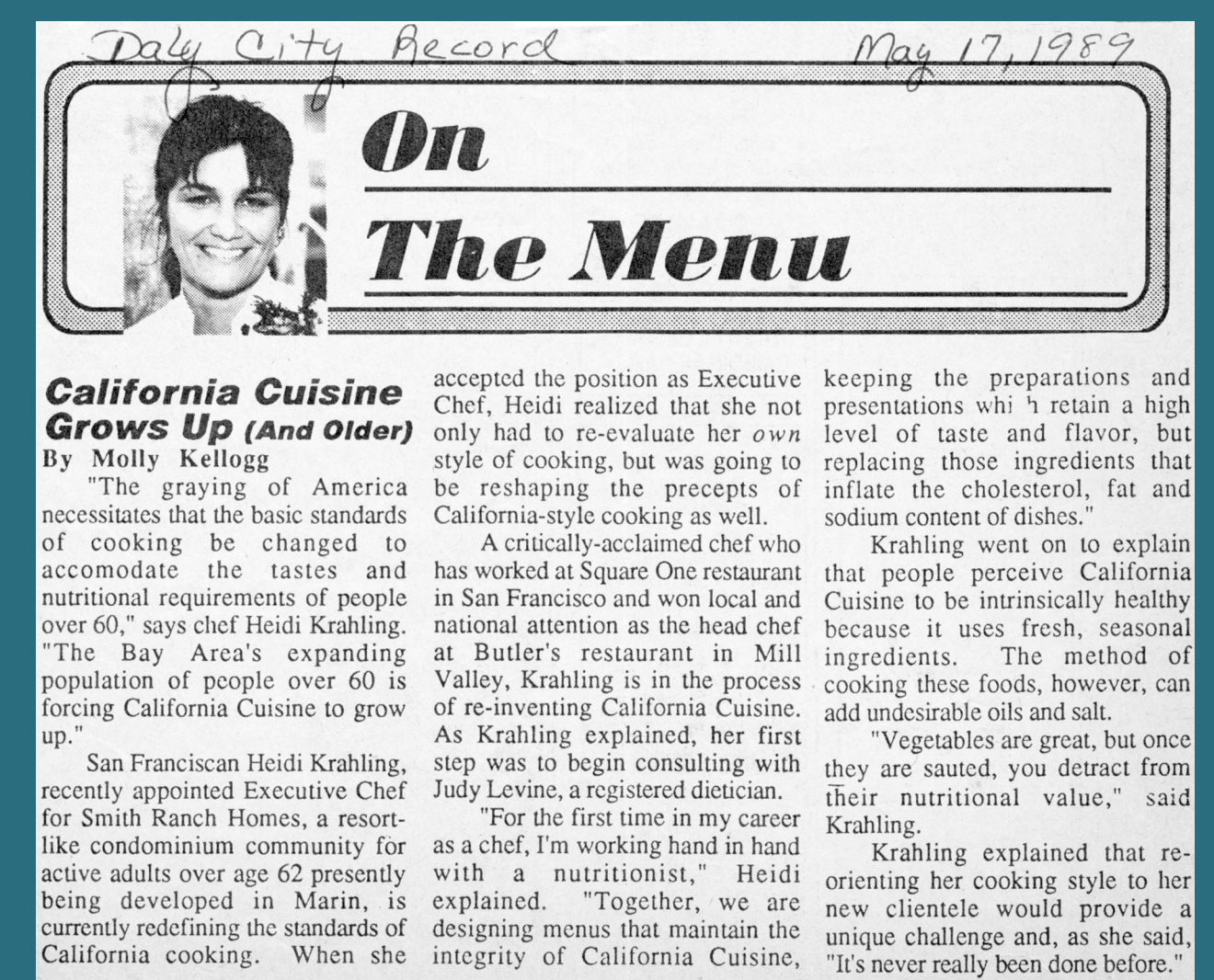


The kitchen staff with Hanna Anki standing left, General Manager John Lombardo center, and Chef Kraehling and Pastry Chef Carolyn Myers next.



Heidi Kraehling brought a high degree of quality and innovation to the restaurant at SRH.

Award-Winning Chef Smith Ranch 'Good Life' Recipe Includes Heidi Kraehling's Cuisine



Smith Ranch To Feature: 'Healthiest 4-Star Restaurant in California'



Smith Ranch Guests Get a Taste of the Future

"Heidi will be running the healthiest 4-star restaurant in California." This accolade by Dr. Grausz reflects the approach that Executive Chef Heidi Kraehling will bring to the restaurant at Smith Ranch Homes. "At this point," Kraehling said, "any good chef knows how to create a nutritional menu. What I am doing at Smith Ranch is designing healthy menus that don't sacrifice taste." Indeed, Kraehling's career has been notable for the national acclaim given to her creative and innovative culinary style. She has worked at some of the finest restaurants in the Bay Area, and looks upon her position at Smith Ranch as a challenge to re-orient her cooking style to meet the high standards of her new clientele. As Kraehling said, "California Cuisine has to adapt a little in order to meet the tastes and nutritional needs of the increasing population of older Americans. In my capacity at Smith Ranch, I will be at the forefront of the trend to reshape some of the basic precepts of cooking to the satisfaction of an emerging population."



When the Grille Room opened for weekday lunches, residents could enjoy Chef Kraehling's creations more often.



Edward and Billie Zeisler in the elegant Club Room which was decorated in shades of lavender with coordinating dinnerware.

As the population increased at Smith Ranch, dining attire became quite formal with jackets required for men, and women, in keeping with the times, wore dresses.

A group of unattached women, who called themselves "The Loose Ladies," frequently enjoyed a lively dinner together. There was also a "Breakfast Club" and a group of gentleman diners who dubbed themselves "The Grumpy Men."



Celebrating Smith Ranch style.



Libations at the bar in the Lounge.