

ing



Larry Chew and Susanne Beandieu harvest a bumper crop of zucchini in preparation for the annual Zucchini Fest.

Zucchini lovers, get ready for annual feast

It's that time of summer when the zucchini harvest overruns the house and the neighborhood. Planned Parenthood has put the abundance of Italian squash to good cause by planning a party around it.

Planned Parenthood's annual Zucchini Fest, a benefit dinner-dance with an amusing angle to it, has become a traditional late-summer event in Santa Cruz County.

This year's Zucchini Fest is scheduled for Sunday at Highlands Park near Ben Lomond, starting at 5:30 p.m.

A no-host social hour leads off the evening with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. with an array of zucchini-inspired treats in every course. Ethnic offerings from Japan and the middle-east are also promised by the husband and wife catering team of Lou Jemison and Janice Manable.

Hor d'oeuvres will be highlighted by a centerpiece Janice creates by carving a fish from a giant zucchini, using the scooped out center to hold dip for vegetables.

There will be after dinner dancing to the live music of Prodigy.

Organizers of this year's fest also promise a few surprises later in the evening. Tickets are \$35 a couple, \$18 single.

The Zucchini Fest is a fund raising event for the non-profit health agency that last year provided family planning and reproductive health care to over 10,000 women in Santa Cruz County. For reservations or information, call 425-1551.