

Csiko's, 1969-1991

Mr. and Mrs. Rainer Thuleweit opened the only Hungarian restaurant in Washington in 1969 and named it Csikos (pronounced CHEE-kos). It got outstanding reviews.

Patrons praised the restaurant's Old World feel and dark red velvet drapes, as well as the wide variety of music, which, depending on the occasion, ranged from gypsy background music and strolling violinists, to combination bands that played both popular American and traditional Hungarian music. The Thuleweits offered room service to residents they knew well; regulars kept an open tab, paying weekly.

Remembering Csikos

Rhona Hartman, #704, recalls her visit to Csikos long before she became a resident: *“To honor my husband’s Hungarian roots, Bob and I dined at Csikos around 1970, shortly after we moved to Washington. We enjoyed the elegance, soft lighting, fine service, and delicious food. Bob loved the Sour Cherry Soup, which he said was just like the one his mother used to make from the fruit tree growing in his backyard in New York.”*

Former resident Eleanor Jackson, recalled: *“I ate there almost every evening. They had an evening special for Broadmoor residents—for \$7 you could get a complete meal—soup or salad and vegetables and a main course and if you didn’t take soup or salad, you could get either ice cream or apple strudel if they had it — they didn’t have it every night. It was especially nice for me because I would get home from work...primp up a little bit, go in there, and have dinner. And there was always somebody there that I knew that I could sit with...”*



matchbook, c. 1970s or 1980s