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CONCIERGE INSIGHT

January is a terrific month to visit Chicago! Snowflakes are in abundance—nearly as much as all of our New Year's resolutions.



If getting into shape is on your agenda for 1994, why not rent a pair of skates and glide away at the city's *Skate on State* ice rink, located in the Loop at Randolph and State streets (744-3315)? It's not exactly Rockefeller Center, but it is Chicago's own.

At the new *Callanetics* exercise studio, located at 612 N. Michigan Ave. (280-8081), you will discover muscles you never knew existed. Ask your concierge for a special guest pass to an enlightening class and get hooked.

If exercise isn't one of your New Year's resolutions, but healthy dining is, there is no better place to eat than in Chicago's restaurants.

My favorite is *Le Bouchon* at 1958 N. Damen Ave. (862-6600), in Bucktown. The proprietor will personally cook you a healthy meal. Sound French? Well, it is as close as you can get to a Lyonnais style of bistro in Chicago.

If you love Italian food—well, that's a tough choice. Chicago has so many wonderful Italian places that I almost feel like all Chicagoans are of Italian descent! Visit classic places full of history, like the *Italian Village* (71 W. Monroe St., 332-7005), and the *Como Inn* (546 N. Milwaukee Ave., 421-5222). Or sample avant-garde Italian cooking at *Mezzanotte* (334 W. Chicago Ave., 943-3090) and *Mare* (400 N. Clark St., 245-9933).

The top steak may well be at *Gibsons*, (1028 N. Rush St., 266-8999), these days. But *Morton's* (1050 N. State Pkwy., 266-4820), *Eli's* (215 E. Chicago Ave., 642-1393) and *Gene & Georgetti* (500 N. Franklin St., 527-3718) also draw the crowds. For dining with a view, visit the newly revamped *Signature Room* on the 95th floor of the John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Ave. (787-9596). Watch the clouds and snowflakes drift by as you admire the grand buildings of our city.

As you can see, Chicago in the New Year is quite an exciting city. Call your concierge; we'll help you explore it all.

Olga S. Pierce, President
Concierge Unlimited, Inc.