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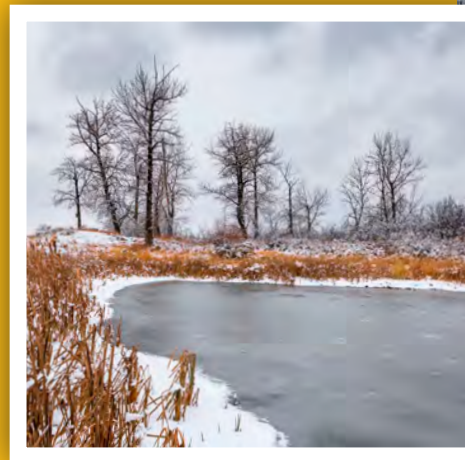
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# *Customer Newsletter*

## **JANUARY 2026 EDITION**

### *From the Owner*

As I write these words in mid-December, it's seventeen degrees outside. I drove to Ohio and back last week, and when I got up to drive home, it was seven degrees. I'd been to this particular little slice of Ohio before, in late summer or early fall. There was a golf course next to the hotel I stayed at, and the pond was filled with liquid water. Imagine, if you will, my dismay at discovering that same pond was a solid block of ice this time. I don't know why anyone would put up with that nonsense; Virginia is bad enough. If this cold doesn't cease and desist, quick, fast, and in a hurry, someone's getting a strongly worded letter. If you have any ideas about a mailing address, I'm all ears...



# Chow Time with Dave

## Rosemary Chicken and Sausage



This is a great rustic recipe for a cold winter day. Give 'er a whirl!

### You'll Need:

- EVOO
- A pack of Italian sausage links
- ~5 chicken thighs – 1 like the skin-on, bone-in, then 1 take the bone out
- S & P
- A large onion, halved and sliced
- ~1 T red pepper flakes
- 1 – 2 lb cherry tomatoes
- 1 C dry white wine
- 4 heads of garlic
- 1 – 2 T fresh rosemary leaves, chopped
- ~½ C flat-leaf Italian parsley, finely chopped

### Directions:

Cut the tops off the garlic heads, and set them aside. Heat a large oven-safe pan over medium heat, and add the EVOO. Add the sausage and brown on each side, then remove them, tent them, and set them aside. Salt and pepper both sides of the chicken thighs, and sear them, skin side down, until well browned. Flip 'em over and brown the other side for a few minutes. Add the thighs to the sausages, and chuck the onion into the pan with a sprinkle of salt; deglaze the pan and cook the onion until translucent. Add the tomatoes and cook until they begin to burst and release their liquid, then sprinkle the red pepper flakes over them, cooking for another few seconds. Turn the heat up and add the wine, deglazing again if necessary. Reduce the wine by about half, then mix in the rosemary, and kill the heat. Snuggle the chicken, skin side up, and the sausage into the pan, and set the garlic heads into the liquid, cut side up, and drizzle a little EVOO onto them. Bake at 375° for an hour or so, until the chicken is at least 185°F. Let the dish rest for a few minutes, then squeeze the roasted garlic into the sauce, and top with the parsley. Enjoy!

## Virginia Spotlight

One of the strangest battles of the Revolutionary War occurred in 1776 on the first of this month in Norfolk, Virginia – four British warships shell the city, and British soldiers row ashore and set fire to waterfront buildings. Meanwhile, American Patriots, declaring Norfolk a “nest of Tories,” attack the city, also burning buildings and looting. Kinda sucked to be Norfolk that day – not a friend in sight... Also in January, two notable Virginians were born, both at Stratford Hall in Westmoreland County – Richard Henry Lee, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and one of Virginia’s first two senators in 1732, and Robert Edward Lee in 1807. Robert’s father, “Light-Horse Harry” Lee, was Richard’s cousin.

## Blast From The Past

It's strange to contemplate the changes that my business has been through. From the very early days, when, as starving college kids, we'd often repair cars for a hot meal, to my solo days, doing any kind of car-related work to try to pay the bills, we've covered a lot of ground. This Porsche 914 was one of the most ambitious projects I'd taken on up to that point. Lots of rust, and no repair panels available, so I had to make them by hand. I acquired my first MIG welder to use on this car. I was super proud of the finished product and, happily, the owner was thrilled.



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