



By day, Greektown takes on another air. Kol Spas takes a break from playing pool to watch the shoppers winding in and out of the stores and bakeries. (Staff photo by Gary Friedman)

Hellenic hustle

It's not a dance, but Greektown shakes with activity day and night

By ETHEL SIMMONS

Greektown is a Mediterranean gem in a Detroit setting.

By day the sun casts a bright spell on both sides of the street, with its narrow sidewalks and colorful storefronts. Gift and souvenir shops, groceries and bakeries, restaurants and cafes lure city dwellers, downtown-area workers, tourists and suburbanites to Monroe Street, just west of I-75.

At night, neon signs beckon visitors to enter and enjoy the activities of this small, thriving community. The Greek heritage that has been retained makes Monroe a magnet in Detroit's downtown.

Greektown, one block from police headquarters on Beaubien, is always well-policed by officers who enjoy the vibrant street.

YOU CAN TAKE in Greektown at a glance by standing on the corner, facing Beaubien and Monroe. On the right, the first thing you see is a blue and white sign showing a Grecian facade and telling you that this is Greektown.

On the left side of the street, you can enter Delmar Foods of the World through its three-dimensional Grecian facade topped by a turquoise awning that reads "Grecian Boutique."

Inside, women shoppers browse at the souvenir jewelry counter and import clothing boutique. Greek fishermen hats of denim and braid are on sale for \$10.

At lunchtime, during the week, you can select your own Greek bread or fat rolls in the grocery section and have a sandwich made to order; meanwhile, you can eye the cheese, olives and other Greek specialties in the meat-market cases.

Back on the street, you can continue your journey down both sides, coming closer to the spires of St. Mary's Church across Monroe. In the church, noontime worshippers slip into the pews, and a jingling breaks the silence when a young mother comes in with her daughter, whose baby shoes have bells on them.

AT NOONTIME during the week, Greektown is jammed with people hurrying into such favorite restaurants as the Grecian Gardens or New Hellas Cafe, to enjoy shishkebab, souvlaki and many other Greek dishes.

Food in Greektown is plentiful and inexpensive. A meal usually begins with thick slices of Greek bread. There may be Greek wine, including retsina with a resin taste, to enhance the food. A Greek salad arrives overflowing with piquant flavors: lamb, with okra or other vegetables, is juicy and tasty.

On the sidewalk, old men and other visitors rest sitting on wood and concrete benches. You may meet a panhandler. Cars pull quickly in and out of the full-up parking-meter spaces at the curb.

Many of the signs in Greektown are in both Greek and English, lending a feeling of authenticity to the street. Most buildings, in a cooperative merchant effort, are a pinkish-red brick, and awnings are in blue, red and white.

Curious pigeons peck curbside on the sidewalk and sparrows nibble in the street.

AT LUNCH TIME, Stemma Cafe overflows with customers, many of

them businessmen, who walk away carrying small, string-tied white boxes, presumably taking baklava or other Greek pastries home for dinner.

Uniformed police officers, military servicemen and women abound in Greektown, among the many interesting people you will see here.

In the bareness of the Peloponnesos Cafe, men play pool or drink at tables, and at the Macedonia Club, pinball machines are in operation. Other businesses, such as the Litos Agency (travel service), Atlantis News Agency (imported cigars), Greek records) and Athens (books, music, gifts, printing) offer assorted wares to those who step inside.

Trapper's Alley, an historic old building that has been renovated, houses boutiques selling plants, clothes (T-shirts that say "I Love Greek Town, Greek Town Loves Me"), antiques and collectibles, candles, paintings, books and pottery. Paintings are exhibited in an alley court.

Nighttime in Greektown throbs with food, music and entertainment. The gypsy Attic Theatre at Trappers Alley, which has received critical acclaim, just opened with "The Shadow Box," a 1977 Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner.

Loose RUG CLEANING

• BRAIDED RUGS
• SHAGS
• ORIENTALS
• SCATTER RUGS
• HAND HOOKS

BRING RUGS IN AND SAVE **20%**

32485 SCHOOLCRAFT
LIVONIA, MICH.
525-1220

Terguson
CARPET CLEANERS

WE FEATURE GENUINE
Scotchgard
CARPET PROTECTOR
3M Company

ENDS SAT.

SKI EQUIPMENT SALE

DON'T MISS OUT.

Examiner Village

SKI SHOPS

SENIOR CITIZENS LUXURY LIVING

FRANKLIN CLUB APARTMENTS
an adult community

28301 Franklin Road, Southfield, Michigan

These apartments are pleasant, comfortable, secure places to live. Each resident has the complete privacy of a one or two bedroom apartment AND fine meals in an elegant restaurant. Organized activities are available. There is socializing in the lounges. Transportation and maid and linen service is furnished. A limited number of apartments now available for occupancy.

HOURS:
Daily & Sunday
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.
(313) 353-2810

\$600 PER MONTH

THE BOARDROOM

For the most interesting ways to keep up appearances.

Somerset Mall • Fairlane Towne Center
Hosato Hughes & Hache

Hickey-Freeman

CLOTHES ARE EXCLUSIVE WITH US IN DETROIT

Capper & Capper

Clothiers to Gentlemen

Somerset Mall • David Whitney Bldg.
Troy • Detroit

Custom-made draperies for just \$199.60 installed.

Custom draperies of beautiful antique satin, created to the highest standards in our own workshops. Will cover any window 72 inches wide by 56 inches long, in your choice of 22 magnificent colors and line styles. Includes in-room balance-beamer, tie-backs, all fabrications, custom rods and complete installation. All for a truly remarkable \$199.60.

LIVONIA 477-6500
(911) Macester
(Grosse Pointe) 877-1141

alan lori
Design Center

SOUTHGATE 285-8100
1800 Lovers Rd.
(Bloom & Allen Rd.)

Daily 9-9
Sunday 12-5

Come on over to our house for the

EthanAllen Summer SALE!

Michigan's Largest Ethan Allen Dealer

the Hearthside

LIVONIA UTICA SOUTHFIELD

Observer & Eccentric Classified Ads Work!

Smiley Brothers

"A TRUSTED NAME IN MUSIC"

Baldwin Hammond Allen

Birmingham • Detroit • Dearborn

GARAGE DOOR OPENERS

BY ALLIANCE
MODEL GS 450

\$16888

INSTALLED
SOLID STATE
CONTROLS

\$175.00
DIGITAL
CONTROLS

1 YEAR WARRANTY

ALADDIN "GENIE" Sales & Service
Serving Tri-County Areas

WESTLAND 722-0510
PARTS & SERVICE
PONTIAC 335-9079

ANNUAL SUMMER LAMP SALE

SAVE 10% TO 40% OFF
on all
TABLE & FLOOR LAMPS
IN STOCK

Michigan Chandelier Co.
... you'll see us in a better light

BIRMINGHAM
6568 TELEGRAPH
at Maple

ROCHESTER
435 MAIN STREET
at University

Before you buy any water conditioner...

Check all these Culligan high-performance features no other brand offers!

- Exclusive Aqua-Sensor controls-Recharges only when needed-Saves salt, water & energy.
- Widest selection of equipment-the exact type of unit that best fits your water needs, at the best-value price.
- Fully automatic dependability, proved year after year in thousands upon thousands of homes.
- Exclusive Triph-Hull tank with the strength of heavy steel, enclosing attractively molded jacket.
- Space-age solid state electronic controls, including Culligan's unique Electro-Brain timer. Custom pre-set, it automatically regulates recharge time and frequency.
- Unequaled factory-trained service by your Culligan Man. A responsible local businessman, he's your neighborhood water specialist, ready to give you immediate service. Culligan dealers coast to coast employ more than 2500 factory trained servicemen — and offer you 40 years of service experience.

Plus...the solution to almost any water problem you may have. In addition to household water conditioners, your Culligan Man offers water filters, leoders, and drinking water systems.

And Culligan Water Conditioners give you 3 ways to enjoy soft, rust-free, conditioned water

You can try soft water, most economically, with our Portable Exchange service. We install the unit, take care of everything. Or you can rent a Culligan for only pennies a day and apply your rental payments to purchase. Or buy a Culligan with all the exclusive features that have made it the quality standard throughout the world. And don't be misled—the best costs no more—often less! So go Culligan class! Call and say—

"HEY CULLIGAN MAN!"

WE ARE FACTORY OWNED AND OPERATED

Detroit Call 964-2246
Pontiac Call 982-5509

925 ORCHARD LAKE ROAD, PONTIAC
2 Blocks East of Telegraph

FREE WATER ANALYSIS **FREE ESTIMATES IN YOUR HOME**

Serving Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties

SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER

TRADE IN SPECIAL ON YOUR OLD WATER CONDITIONER UP TO \$50 ALLOWANCE