

# Sunday brunch has relaxed atmosphere

By Ethel Simmons  
staff writer

If you like Sunday brunch to be unadorned and unadorned, the newly revived offering at the Hotel Pontchartrain's Top of the Pontch may be what you seek.

The just-renovated restaurant is the attractive setting for a brunch that features not only some 30 dishes on the menu but one of Detroit's most spectacular skyline views, along with the cool strains of Larry Nozoro's jazz.

Cornell Mohoreanu, new food and beverage director at the Pontch, re-established the Sunday brunch because he believes the room and view deserve to be admired. The soft, pink-toned decor, with touches of blue, provides a pleasant backdrop for relaxing.

Saxophone star Nozoro, who is from Farmington, is on the bandstand during the hours of 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (brunch runs until 4). The performers are called Larry Nozoro and Friends because the musicians accompanying him are a changing group of jazz artists.

MOHOREANU SAID the Top of the Pontch seats 120 diners at once and will accommodate up to 400-450 brunchgoers during the entire day. But the director doesn't want the room to get overcrowded; the serene atmosphere is part of the ambience.

Brunch specials change weekly, which is one way of encouraging diners to return regularly. "This week everyone is raving about the pate. Last week it was the shrimp. Mohoreanu said. Hot dishes may include prime rib one week, roast beef another.

On the cold buffet, one recent week, were stuffed pears and

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Hotel Pontchartrain

poaches, herring in sour cream, marinated mushrooms, and pasta and bay shrimp salad, to name just a few.

Gleaming copper chafing dishes hold such hot-buffet specialties as eggs benedict, smoked tarragon chicken, cheese blintzes with blueberry sauce, broiled fish with creole sauce, broccoli pot au feu and little parsley-boiled redskin potatoes.

Desserts included traditional favorites: cheesecake, apple pie, cherry pie, fresh strawberries and romanoff sauce, and chocolate and vanilla mousse.

EVERYTHING TRIED on the brunch was very tasty. In addition to the good food, mention must be made of the impeccable service by the waiters (in this instance Leon) that is a consistent pleasure at the Top of the Pontch.

Rumanian-born Mohoreanu, who arrived at the hotel five weeks ago from Washington's Ritz-Carlton, also hopes to bring back evening dining to the Top of the Pontch.

The brunch with jazz is \$14.95 for adults (including a complimentary glass of champagne), half-price for children under 8. Three hours of free valet parking is available, too.

For reservations call 965-0200, week. were stuffed pears and

## table talk

### More cuisine

Health buffs can enjoy "work-out, take-out cuisine" at R.I.K.'s inside the One on One Athletic Club in West Bloomfield. The recently opened location is the second for R.I.K.'s, which also operates the Total Cuisine Center in the Bloomfield Plaza in Bloomfield Township.

R.I.K.'s at One on One has seating available for customers who may prefer fruit drinks, soups, salads and sandwiches. There's also carry-out food.

### Grand Prix

Joseph Callemme, maitre d' at La Fontaine in Detroit's Westin Hotel, looks forward to the Detroit Grand Prix on Sunday, June 22, with a special interest. Callemme, who speaks several languages, knows 80 percent of the drivers and speaks with them in French, Italian and Spanish.

Callemme, who was maitre d' at Southfield's Benchmark before coming to La Fontaine in 1983, was born in Aix en Provence, France.

"I came from Menton, a little town between Monte Carlo and the Italian border on the Riviera," he said. "I used to follow the Grand Prix. I used to watch every year in Monte Carlo."

### Great Station

The Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor is offering a "Charley's Bucket," one of its original house specialties, for

\$18.85 during the "Great Station Celebration" continuing through Sunday, July 6.

The Chuck Muer restaurant is housed in a renovated Michigan Central Railroad Depot, now celebrating its 100th anniversary. Each "Bucket" has a Maine lobster, steamed mussels, corn on the cob, red potatoes, salad, dessert, and coffee or beverage.

House wine, beer and nonalcoholic beverages are bargain-priced at 100 pennies during the celebration.

### Sunday sunday

Some 25 Ann Arbor restaurants and eateries will be represented, under tents, at Father's Day festivities from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, June 15, on the city's Main Street. Ann Arbor Inn, Brandy's, Lovell's, Spoonful, Paesano's, Real Seafood Company, Lord Fox, Raja Rani, Moveable Feast and Red Bull are a few of the participants. All food items will be \$2 or under. The event also will include a variety of entertainment.

### Broadway buffet

Brunch takes on show-business glitter at the Broadway Buffet, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sundays at the Troy Hilton Inn's Haymarket restaurant. Entertainer Andrea Cheolas will offer Broadway piano tunes. The buffet includes leed shrimp, prime rib, pepper steak, smoked salmon, waffle and omelette stations, cheese blintzes, bacon, hash browns, sausage, desserts and a

### Shuttle service

Showing that it has real panache, and living up to its name, the restaurant Panache in Birmingham provides a luncheon shuttle-bus service free for patrons. A call to the restaurant brings out the bus, to pick up customers at their offices and return them after the meal. The lunch menu ranges from soups and starters to salads, sandwiches, and entrees including a selection of

### Oriental food

Oriental Edibles and Accessories in Birmingham offers Oriental foods, accessories, ceramics, jewelry and home decorations. The carry-out menu, available from 11 a.m., has just seven items, ranging from noodle soup to shrimp fried rice with egg roll.

— Ethel Simmons

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