

LET'S GO! DINING

Cadillac Cafe aims to please

BY KEELY WYOGNIK
STAFF WRITER

It's hard to please everybody, but Keith Wadle, 29, owner of Cadillac Cafe and his staff are trying very hard. Wadle opened the restaurant, formerly called Johnny Magnum's, in February after extensive remodeling. Wadle grew up in Bloomfield Hills and now lives in Westland.

He brightened up the restaurant with a fresh coat of paint, knocked out walls, and opened up the ceiling to the second floor to create a more open, airy atmosphere. The color scheme is softer, but Spartan — lots of greens. Wadle is a Michigan State University grad.

The dance floor is new, along with TVs, pool tables, dart boards and pinball machines.

Outside, there's a new dock with umbrella tables, and plans are in the works to improve the landscaping. Wadle is a member of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce and a member of a beautification committee composed of business owners on Grand River between Eight Mile and Nine Mile.

"We're not a burger and fries joint, but we have a good burger. It's only \$3.99 and served with fries and all the trimmings," said Chef Greg Gattarola, 32, of Keego Harbor, a graduate of Oakland Community College's Culinary Arts program.

Everything on the menu is homemade, including the salsa, soups, desserts and bread — an Italian round flat bread baked with olive oil and fresh rosemary. "We offer generous portions, a quality meal for a realistic price, with outstanding service," said manager Maggie Hayden.

Cadillac Cafe's menu offers something for everyone — soups, salads, sandwiches, ribs, a 14 ounce New York Strip Steak marinated in bourbon and char-grilled, chicken dishes, a pasta bar, shrimp and scallop dishes, as well as daily specials.

Those watching their diets will enjoy the fresh fish special offered every day, and Heart Healthy dishes like chargrilled salmon topped with non-fat yogurt, cucumber dill sauce and served with vegetable and red skin potatoes; and chargrilled chicken served on a bed of greens with pineapple-strawberry vinaigrette and red skin potatoes.

Entrees are served with salad or cup of soup and homemade bread. If you're hungry for beef, there's a Cracked Black Pepper Tenderloin served with a mushroom, onion, cognac cream sauce and potato. For \$5.99 extra you can have surf and turf and choose from any of Cadillac Cafe's fresh seafood choices.

Chicken Florentine — sautéed chicken strips with spinach, artichokes and a lemon cream sauce that's served over pasta will appeal to lighter appetites.

Spicy Shrimp — sautéed jump shrimp with tomatoes, roasted peppers and pea pods, in a spicy wine sauce served over pasta is a house specialty.

Bring the kids along, there's a menu just for them, and the restaurant has high chairs and booster chairs for little ones.

Private dining rooms are available for large parties of up to 100 people and special occasions.

After 10 p.m. the crowd ranges in age to 25 to 45. There's live entertainment on Monday and Wednesday nights beginning at

9:30 p.m., and a DJ Thursday to Saturday, beginning at 9:30 p.m. There is no cover charge.

Opening a restaurant was the last thing on Wadle's mind when he began premed studies at MSU. During the summers he worked as a dish washer at area restaurants, and at P.T.O. Malley's in East Lansing while going to school. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in science, but after some soul searching decided his heart was in restaurants, not medicine.

"Cadillac Cafe is a combination restaurant and bar," said Wadle. "You can play pool or darts, sit down for a quiet dinner, dance or sit outside on the dock. We're planning to add a brunch. We also have a banquet room that can seat up to 100 people and a special menu. We can accommodate the customer's needs whether it's family style, a buffet, business meeting or appetizer/cocktail party."

"We want people to come here, have dinner, and stay and enjoy themselves," said Hayden. "Our waitstaff is friendly, personable, reliable, efficient and neat. The food is excellent, and the prices are reasonable for the amount you get."



Cadillac Cafe
30556 Grand River, Farmington Hills
(313) 478-2010 phone, (313) 478-7940 fax
Meat: Chicken, ribs, steak, seafood, salads, sandwiches
Appetizers, soups, salads: \$1.50 - \$2.99
Entrees: \$7.99 - \$14.25
Combination restaurants/bar, quiet dining upstairs, dock. Reservations recommended for parties of 8 or more.
Seating capacity: 220
Credit cards accepted.
Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday - Saturday, 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sunday



ASH HALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

House specialty: Maggie Hayden and Keith Wadle of Cadillac Cafe present Sautéed Jumbo Shrimp on the deck of the newly opened restaurant.

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