

You don't have to be Irish to celebrate St. Patrick's Day, and if you're Catholic here's some good

news.

According to the March 10

"Michigan Catholic." Cardinal
Adam Maida "grants his bleasing
and permission" to Catholics who
want to celebrate St. Patrick's by
eating corned beef and cabbage.
Catholics are encouraged to abstain from mest on Fridays during Lent.

Here are some places to celebreate:

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The 10th annual St. Patrick's
Day Irish Fest featuring Irish
Music Song & Dance is 4 p.m. to 1
am, Fri, March 17, the cost is 37
per person. Children free. Food
available, cash bar, at the Bonnie
Brook County Club, 19950 Telegraph Road (between 7 and 8 Mile
Road). Call (313) 537-3489 for information.

formation.

Over the past 10 years, Irish born Mick Gavin of Redford has seen the St. Patrick's Day celebration he helped organize grow from several people to a packed

house.
The celebration features tradi-tional music from Ireland, Scot-land and Cape Breton. There will be over 40 entertainers including step dancers, musicians and sing-

step dancers, musicians and sing step dancers, musicians and sing ers.

"It is not a pub type thing, it is more of a family festivity," said Gavin. "In Ireland St. Patick's Day is a holiday or holy day, It's a day we celebrate the wearing of the green. It is a tradition that the Irish started due to the oppression against them, and it is tradition today."

Some of the featured performers at the Irish Music Song & Deaver Creek, 1069 N. Wayne ers at the Irish Music Song & Deave

Dance Fest are Ed McGlinchey; Mick Gavin and John Sanda; Steve, Tom & Jim McNeil; The Kitty Helinzman Ceili Dancers; and members of the U.S. and canadian Champion City of Detroit Pipe Band.

B Farwell & Friends, 8051 Middlebelt (between Joy & Ann Arbor Trail), (313 421-6990, is bosting a St. Patty's Day Festival, Thurs., March 16 to Sun., March 19. The event features corned beef & cabbage, Mulligan stew and green been.

green beer.

Mitch Housey's St. Pat's Day Party Bash features comed beef and cabbage. Live entertainment at 8 p.m. Mitch Housey's is at 28500 Schoolcraft, Livonia, (313)

Lunchson 11 s.m. to 2 p.m. Pri., March 17, entertainment contin-ues through the evening, (810) 478-8806.

478-8866.

**Gaelic League/Iriah American
Club, 2068 Michigan Ave., Detroit. Feativities begin at noon,
Iriah entertainment, food available. Call (313) 963-885, 2-9 p.m.
Mon.-Thurs., noon to 7 p.m. Fri.Cet.

able. Call (313) 963-8895, 2-9 p.m. Mon. Thurs., noon to 7 p.m. Pri-St.

Brady's Food & Spirits, 38123
W. 10 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, feat of Haggerty, inside the Holiday Inn). St. Patrick's Day Party, 6 am. to midnight, Fri., party, 1 p.m. 1

Cafe Cortina hosts wine tasting

Cafe Cortina, 30715 W. 10
Mile Road, Farmington Hills,
(810) 474-3023, is planning an
Italian Wine Tasting, 7-10:30
p.m. Fri., April 7.
Cafe Cortina will be introducing wines from the Felluga
Winery. Diners will order off
the menu.

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Diners pledge allegiance to 'America'



restaurant
America is receiving raves
from local people

from local people who are customers.

The Royal Oak restaurant, which specializes in regional food from throughout the United States, has only been open since late Petruary but aiready has its afficionados. Serving just dinner, America explores seasonal dishes on a menu that includes a choice selection of starters, main course, salada, sides and sweets.

"I've been a follower of Matt Prentice for years," so I'm part of his evolution," declared topflight lawer Henry Baskin of Bloom-

Prentice for years," so I'm part of his evolution," declared topflight lawyer Henry Baskin of Bloomfield Hills. "Predictably, it will be a very successful place. It's a cross between Sebastian's and Morela."

His dinner companion, Susy Heintz of Novi, chairman of the Michigan Republican State Committee, said, "This is one of the best restaurants — and I eat out a lot, travelling throughout the whole state."

A counle of banquettes away

ioi, traveling throughout the whole state.

A couple of banquettes away were Evelyn and Lester Burton of Bingham Farms, who first visited America on its opening night in February. They were dining there again, with Sylvis and Herbert Jasephon of Huntington Woods. "So far everything has been perfect," Evelyn Burton said. "The waitstaff is outstanding." The four-some had just shared a mushroom compote appetiter.

Besides the food, America has a distinctive decor and building.



Housed in the same dining room that briefly was the restaurant called the Avenue Diner, it is striking with its art deco accents including inlaid oak wood and custom-designed chandeling. Theo Oreky, manager, praised the attention to detail. "We just took a beautiful restaurant am installed our menu and our people," he said. Oresky pointed out the long bar with its attractive, only top that is lighted from underneath.

In the summer, the restaurant may open its outdoor, front deck

may open its outdoor, front deck to serve both lunch and dinner, he

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All ingredients are indigenous to the United States." Oresky said. Among regional dishes representing the entire country are Texas-style barbecued ahrimp, Pacille Northwestern salmon and confit of Indiana duck.

General manager Paul Silver drew attention to the restaurant's colordu, new wall murals, which have a regional theme, by Plymouth artist Barney Judge.

America
4618 N. Woodward, south of 14 Mile Road
Royal Cek, (1910) 549-2000
Mourset 4 p.m. to midright Monday, Thorsday, coctabl hour 4-5 p.m., deniner starting
at 5 p.m., but midright Monday, Thorsday, coctabl hour 4-5 p.m., deniner starting
at 5 p.m., but Royal Ceker (1910) and 15 p.m., but closes midright 4-9 p.m. Sundays,
at 5 p.m., but Royal Ceker (1910) and 15 p.m., deniner starting at 5 p.m.
votcher closes at midright, but closes 2 a.m.
Menual Dunner only, a lis caste menu. Regional dishes, with all ingradients
indipercous to the United States. Separate children's menu. Vegetarism-friendly
Paccorr Rostaurant ceats 17 file in Conground, to treat 14. And cock cetting, wall
mutats with regional thome, and onys, lighted bar. Outdoor disning planned for
Euromer.

Costr Main dishes \$9-\$17, starters \$3-8, salads \$4-9. Sourdough bread served with

enuces
Reservations needed for parties of six or more. All credit eards except Discover.

Parkings Free valet parking (gratuities).

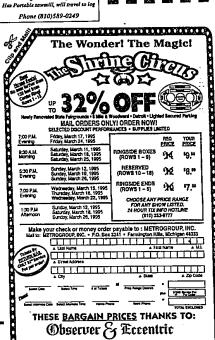
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Sensitive to customers' preferences, a veal dish originally on the menu was changed to sauteed veal medallons with a rash of wild mushrooms. "We know how to read the guesta," said Southfield native Elizabeth Sollish, who is executive chef. "We doubted the sales in veal."

For its appliationated clientele, "The menu is slightly upscale, but there's homey dishes also, said. There are specials every day, and the regulas menu is changed about every six weeks. All the Star-Spangled Sweeta, from a traditional apple brown betty to a big-selling sour lemon tart, are made in the Sourdough

Bread Factory in Pontiac, owned by Prentice's Unique Restaurant Corp.
"Matt geared the wine list," said general manager Silveri. They're all domestic, all chang-ing every two or three months. We have daily wine specials also." In addition, 14 domestic beers in-clude esoteric ones, he said, such as Pete's Wicked Ale, from a Min-nesota micro-brewery.

Send or fax recommendations for restaurants to feature in Let's Go! to: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schooleraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (3/3) 591-7279. Include a menu if possible.



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