Fun from page A1

happy hour, the crowd appeared mostly mid-20s and upscale, with lots of loosened ties, pagers and cell phones at the pool

tables.
"There's great atmosphere bere," said Tom Marcum, a Commerce Township resident who likes to bring clients to Roosevelt's. Waiting to take his next shot, he added, "They draw a big crowd, so it's not boring, but it's still comfortable."

The decor is upscale as well.

The tables are of higher quality,

said Manager Lynda Monteith, and they get new felt every year. Some of the doors and lighting are from a movie theater built in 1910. Light fixtures behind the 1910. Light fixtures behind the bar were purchased at a New Orleans antique store. A wood-carved bust of the bar's name-sake, Teddy Rossevelt, watches over the crowd from above the vestibule.

Pool costs \$8 to \$12 an hour, with computerized time-charging. Pool and dart practice time is free at lunchtime.

Coffee, anyone? The coffee bean has enjoyed surging popularity with its

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The Farmington Observer







derivative being a beverage of choice as reflected on TV's 'Frasier' and 'Friends.' Presenting that trend in Farmington is the Grand Cafe, a gournet coffee house on Grand River.

The coffee house provides a relaxed atmosphere in which people can gather to read, relax or interact. Owner Michael Vardas says customers come in to study, bring their laptop computers or enjoy the variety of magazines he keeps on hand.

"We're trying to fill a void in the Farmington market, to bring that Birmingham or Royal Oak feel," said Vardas. Specialties include cappuccine and mechas, ice cream drinks with coffee, and light foods and desserts.

But atmosphere is as much a draw as the offerings. The Grand Cafe is a smoke-free environment, no alcohol is served and said Vardas, there is no "typical" customer.

Entertainment draws a crowd

customer.

Entertainment draws a crowd on the weekends, Vardas said, ranging from blues to folk to high school jazz bands.

Weeknights are spiced up a cou-

ple times a month with Psychic Nights.
"The Grand Cafe is a great place for people to meet before and after going to the (Civic) theater," Vardas said.

theater, Vardas said.

Hungry or thirsty

No single category covers the range of local residents who find their after-work and weekend fun at O'Shucks Raw Bar and Grill, on Drake near Grand River.

"We have four shifts of customers," said general manager Dan Shechan, son of owner Larry Shechan. "We do a good lunch crowd, then at 4 p.m. we get a mix of business people and regulars for happy hour. At 6:30 the dinner shift starts coming in, and as they're leaving, the bar and as they're leaving, the bar crowd starts showing up."

O'Shucks retains the decided

U'Shucks retains the decided Irish flavor it had for several years as O'Sheehan's. A few years ago, the owner decided to remodel and expand the food offerings from the burgers they were known for to include senfood.

Farmington Observer

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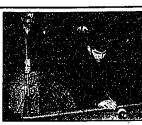
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Cued up: Paul Cosgrove shoo "9 ball" while his co-worker waits the play at Roosevelt's at Orchard Lake. The tables are a.m. to 2 p.m.

trend here.
"We have retirees and children

"We have retirees and children and we appeal to anyone who loves to read," he said. "In terms of singles, I think we are replac-ing the grocery store. People come here to meet."

Books from page A1 Borders hosts a Comedy Cafe night of improv at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, and regularly hosts programs including puppet shows for children. Still, it's a favorite of readers. "I'm a regular," said Dr. Emanuel Frisch of Farmington Hills. "I have 10 topies of interest and I go right to them. Mary Gwizdala of West Bloomfield likes to take her daughter Katie, 3, and son David, 2, to the store during the day to make reading a habit they'll pick up. "In the evening I like to go myself," she said. "Us extremely relaxing here in the evening." del Valle thinks there is a trend here. "We have retiress and children.

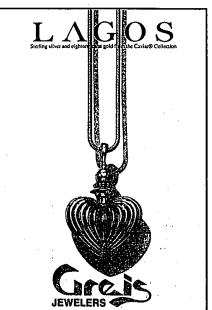
performed for about 300 people.

performed for about 300 people. It was really well received."
With a customer base that includes every age and taste, the store uses its spacious building to provide books, magazines, newspapers and music for every taste. And since many customers prefer to linger, the cafe screen caffee and more for those who care to stay awhile.
The store has had 200 or more singles meet for a singles night and regularly schedules professional story tellers and authors. Discussion groups that meet regularly include a writer's workshop, "Reol Talk" about movies, a discussion of the TV show "X Files," a spiritul group, Jewish Authors group and general literature book group.
This month, specialists on aging, nutrition, a suspense novelist (Ridley Pearson) and an expert on attention deficit disorder will appear.

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