

DINING

Visit Mr. Z's Steak House

BY KEELY WYGNONIK  
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Festive and fun, Mr. Z's Steak House in Redford is decorated for Halloween. "We change with the seasons," said Janet Nader of Farmington Hills who owns the restaurant with her cousin Betty Funk also a resident of Farmington Hills. "You should see the restaurant at Christmas. It's beautiful. Customers come in and help us decorate."

It took Janet's daughter Wendy Jamieson of West Bloomfield a couple of weeks to get all the decorations up. On Nov. 8 the Christmas decorations go up.

Mr. Z's is one of those hard-to-find family-owned neighborhood restaurants that offer good food and entertainment.

"We're not an in and out dinner place," said Nader. "We offer a casual, relaxed dining experience. We don't expect you to get in and out in an hour. We want you to make a night of it. We offer good quality, portions and prices."

Joseph Del Vecchio, who graduated from the Pennsylvania Institute of Culinary Arts, is known for his "Heavenly Pasta" and classic steak house fare.

"We're a scratch kitchen," he said. "We make our soups, stocks and sauces fresh every day. We use all fresh vegetables, nothing frozen, and I don't use a lot of oil when I sauté. Our food is excellent."

With help from assistant Jeffrey Williams of Canton, Del Vecchio and his kitchen crew create a variety of dishes, including vegetarian items, to please everyone's. If what you're looking for isn't on the menu ask Chef Del Vecchio and he will try to accommodate your request.

Lunch favorites include 1/2 Sandwich and cup of soup, omelets, a different one every day, sandwiches, and salads.

Two for one Early Bird Dinner Specials, (\$13.95) served 3-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday, feature a variety of dishes such as

**Mr. Z's Steak House**  
Where: 27331 W. Five Mile Road (corner of Inkster Road) Redford, (313) 537-5600.  
Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday-Tuesday; 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesday-Saturday; noon to 8 p.m. Sunday (kitchen open 1-8 p.m. Sundays.)  
Credit Cards: All majors accepted.  
Reservations: Accepted. Recommended for parties of 6 or more.  
Menu: Steak house fare along with pasta, ribs, and chicken. Vegetarian items and children's menu available.  
Prices: Reasonable. Lunches range from \$3.95 to \$7.95; dinners \$5.95 to \$13.95.  
Restaurant seats: 170 people.  
Carryout: Available for all items except Early Bird Dinner Special.  
Highlights:  
■ Lunch specials served 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Friday: Early Bird Dinner Specials 3-6 p.m. Monday-Saturday; Nightly dinner specials 3-10 p.m. weekdays, until midnight Friday-Saturday, 1-8 p.m. Sunday.  
■ Available for banquets and showers, 25-75 people.  
■ Entertainment - 6-10 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, physics reader; 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Swing dance lessons (minimum \$5 charge for beverage or food) followed by music for practicing; 8 p.m. to close Wednesday-Thursday, karaoke; 9 p.m. to close Friday-Saturday dancing to Top 40 with live band.

ture a variety of dishes such as Chicken Scaloppini, Beef Tips over Noodles or Rice Pilaf, Veal Parmesan with side of Spaghetti and Chicken or Beef Stir-Fry. Mr. Z's steak specialties on the regular dinner menu include New York Strip, Filet Mignon, an Aussie Steak - Center Cut Sirloin with 10 herbs and spices, seared to your liking, a New York Sirloin and Shrimp Combo, 20-ounce Strip steak, and 8-ounce Sirloin, for lighter appetites.

Choose from three different shrimp dishes, fish and chips, broiled Orange Roughy or Icelandic Haddock. Pork Chops and Veal Parmesan are popular with customers, so are the chicken dishes including King Henry Chicken - grilled boned chicken breast smothered with mushrooms, bacon, Cheddar and Monterey Jack Cheese and Guest House Chicken - breast of chicken in a rich cream sauce with mushrooms, cracked pepper and almonds.

Entrees are served with soup or salad, vegetable of the day, choice of potato or rice pilaf and bread basket. French onion

soup, baked with mozzarella cheese is a house specialty.

Try one of the heavenly pastas such as Shrimp, Escarrot, Tomatoes, Mushrooms and Onions, in a sauce of butter, white wine and garlic tossed with linguine, or Fettuccine Alfredo, also available with chicken and shrimp, lasagna and spaghetti, served with soup or salad and bread basket.

Main dish salads, sandwiches, and ground rounds, are also offered on the dinner menu too. Be sure to ask about the daily dinner specials, which aren't on the menu.

Save room for apple dumpling served with warm vanilla sauce, it's a house specialty. Other choices include New York style cheesecake, ice cream sundaes, and strawberry shortcake.

"We're like a big family," said Nader. "We try to please, and offer good service. There's always something different happening, and there aren't that many places where you can have dinner and dance."

The bar area is a cozy place



Neighborhood haunt: Janet Nader and Chef Joseph Del Vecchio present some of Mr. Z's Steak House's specialty dishes: Sherwood Forest Shrimp Pasta, Chicken Stir-Fry, Baby Back Barbecue Ribs, and 20-ounce New York Strip Steak.

STAFF PHOTO BY DEBRA MITCHELL

to watch your favorite game, and there are about 20 seats near a window where sunlight streams in.

On Friday the restaurant is hosting a fund-raiser for the Penickton Center for Blind

Children, a nonprofit facility for blind and multiply handicapped children. There will be music by the Blue Notes beginning at 9 p.m. and door prizes.

For more information about the fund-raiser, call Kristen Collins at (734) 946-7500.

The next time you're in the neighborhood, Nader hopes you'll stop by. "Don't be afraid to try something new," she said. "You'll be pleasantly surprised. We're proud of everything we do."

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