Westland eatery specializes in barbecued ribs, family atmosphere

Once or twice a week, Art Woodruff shows up at Alexander the Great for a meal. Some days, he eats alone. Other times, he shares lunch or dinner with a fumily member, friend or business

a family measure, client,
"I feel comfortable at Alexander's,"
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client, some state of the content of the content of the content of the catery for more than the friendly, family-style atmosphere. The ribs and the broasted chicken are up favorites, said Woodruff, who has sampled just about everything on the mean including the "awosome" comed beef sandwiches.

In 1977, Alexander the Great opened in Westland. This year marks the restaurant's 25th year in business.

"We specialize in barbecued ribs," said Pauline Tomovski, who is a coowner with her husband, Tom. The ribs, the most popular menu item, are trimmed, seasoned, cooked on a rotisacrie pit and then served with a "secret" sauce.

Rib dinners come with colesiaw or salad, choice of potato and garlie bread, Portions are plentfull, Choose cither a whole slab for two (\$18,95), a whole slab (\$13,95) or a snack size of five bones (\$8,95).

Be sure to cheek local newspapers for compons that offer ribiners of thomes and thomes for compons of the order of thomes for compons of the intense for compons that offer ribiners for the componition of the componit

(§8.95).

He sure to check local newspapers for coupons that offer rib dinners for two people for \$14.95.

Combinations of barbeeued ribs and chicken and/or shrimp are available. Depending on the combo, prices are either \$14.95 or \$15.95.

The Monday-through-Friday lunch crowd has an option to order from a special menu between 11 a.m. and 4

special menu between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

"People are surprised at how much food there is," said Tomovski, who updates the items on the lunch menu every few months.

A Reuben Grill, Chicken Tender Salad, Mostaccioli and Tuna Pasta are currently featured for \$4.95. The \$6.95 lunch specials are served with potatoes, colesiaw and garlie bread. Some of the choices are Fish and Chips, the Half Broasted Chicken and the BBQ Rib Snack.

Appetizers include Shrimp Cocktail, Wingdings, Fried Pickles and Onion Rings. Thore are a variety of salads, several soup choices and a Kide' Klassies menu for the 10 and under customers.

customers.

Smiley Fries are the one of the newest items on the menu. The round, smiley-faced fried potatoes are a hit



Tom Tomovski, owner of Alexander the Great in Westland offers many dishes, including barbecue ribs, fish and chips, barbecue chicken, mostaccioli, broiled orange roughly, broasted chicken and reuben sandwiches.



Barbecue ribs at Alexander the Great in

with the kids, said Tomovski. with the kids, said Tomovski.
A variety of seafood entrees, including Icelandic Cod, Breaded Shrimp,
Broiled Cod and Orange Roughy, are available anytime. Meat lovers will find strip and rib eye steaks.
The Italian dishes of yeal or chicken

parmigiana, mostaccioli and spaghetti are accompanied by salad and garlie

are accompanies of the bread.

All menu items are available for take-out. Large orders for company functions, home gatherings or holiday events are welcome.

'The customer is the most important thing. We feel that we provide that (at home) atmosphere."

Pauline Tomovski co-owner, Alexander the Great

Looking for a gift idea for a special couple? Or perhaps you and your significant other need an evening out. Then consider Alexanders Moviegoers: Special for \$29.95.

The package provides dinner and a movie for two people.

Alexanders wait staff is taught to look at the customer table and anticipate what the customer needs before he or she asks for it.

The customer is the most important thing, said Tomovski, It's like entertaining at home, she said. We

feel that we provide that (at home) atmosphere.

Employee turnover is low. The reason for this, said Tomovski, is probably because she and her husband treat their employees like family.

When the couple contemplated a name for their entery they wanted to make reference to Tom's heritage in the Macedonia region.

So, they chose Alexander the Great, naming the restaurant after a conqueror that ruled as king of Macedonia more than three centuries B.C.

Macedonia more than three centures B.C.

"We wanted to conquer the metro Detroit area appetities for barbecued ribs," said Tomovski.

Owning a restaurant came naturally to Tomovski. Her family has been involved in either the bakery or restaurant business. And, she said, her husband is a people person who likes to entertain. What better place than a restaurant (for both of us) to work."

us) to work."
The right mix of excellent food, sin-

ALEXANDER THE GREAT

Location: 34733 Warren, Westland;

Hours: 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday. Saturday; noon to 10 p.m. Sunday

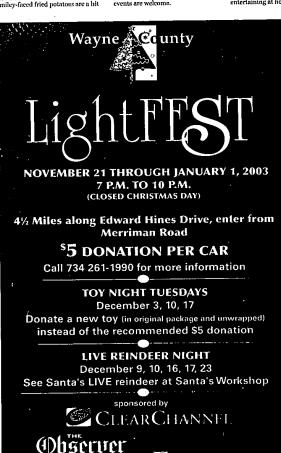
Memir Rathecised ribs are the house specialty. Barbecued combos include chicken and shrimp Appetizers, salads, soups, sandwiches, broasted chicken, seafood, steaks, meals for kids and daily luncheon specials are also featured. A full bar selection is available.

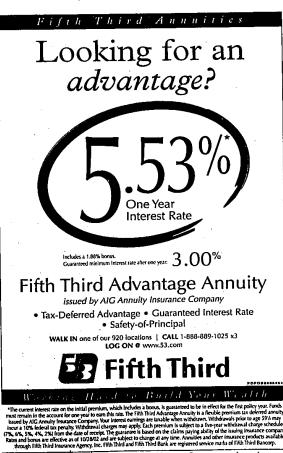
Special package: Moviegoers Special, \$29.95 includes dinner and movie for two

Reservations: Not necessary

cere service and a lot of hard work, said Tomovski, is the key to a quarter century of their success.

Mary Quinley is a Livonia resident and writes about food and travel for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. You can reach her at MQinfo@aol.com.





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