

a counting for taste

D. Gustibus

Roman Forum's food is really outstanding

Your traveling taster visits area eateries and rates them on a 100-point scale. Up to 30 points are awarded for ambience, which includes general atmosphere and service; 55 points for food; and 15 points for price/value rating. A total count of 59 points or less indicates a restaurant is not recommended; 60-74 points signify from passing to good; 75-89 points designate very good with some extraordinary features; and 90-100 points show that a very special dining experience awaits you.

ROMAN FORUM, 41601 Ford Road (just west of I-275), Canton (981-2000), offers a great dinner at very reasonable prices. The restaurant is pleasant and informal, decorated with an Italian flavor. Reservations are not taken, and there is a small, but adequate, waiting area. The atmosphere is homey. Paper place mats are used, and dress is casual. The unpretentious appearance gives no real indication of the superb food that awaits you. **General Atmosphere — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 12.**

The service was in keeping with the atmosphere, more than adequate but not outstanding. There were times when we had to ask for more water, and the same silverware was left from course to course, but on the whole, we were satisfied with the treatment we received. Our waitress was friendly and offered some suggestions including the thought that we would not be able to eat all we had ordered. In that, she was right! **Service — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 12.**

Appetizers were outstanding. The antipasto salad for two (\$5.95) was enormous and fresh and had great variety. The vegetables, cheeses and meats were cut up and mixed, the way we prefer. The lettuce was crisp, the dressing light and pleasing. The breaded mushrooms (\$2.95) were juicy with a mild sauce that allowed us to enjoy the mushroom taste. The garlic bread with cheese (\$2) was delicious but could have been served a bit warmer. Drinks were very reasonable (\$1.95 for premium brands) and full measure. **Drinks, Appetizers, Salad and Bread — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 14.**

Entrees were both delicious and bountiful. The Fettuccine Alfredo (\$6.95) was rich and cheesy. The

pasta was not overcooked, and the dish was a delight. The Veal Scallops in Marsala (\$8.95) was outstanding, with a delicate sauce over very tender veal, green peppers and mushrooms. Prime rib is also a specialty, but it was sold out by the time we ordered so we tried the New York strip steak instead. For \$9.95, we enjoyed a very large steak, cooked as ordered and full of flavor. So as not to miss the obvious, we also tried a pizza with mushrooms and pepperoni (\$5.25). The crust was soft, and the pizza was loaded with cheese and fixings. It was also top notch. The dinner entrees come with your choice of two of soup, salad and spaghetti. Our only criticism (and a minor one) was that the spaghetti was ordinary in comparison with the other delicious foods we tried. In every case, we found top quality, very fresh ingredients prepared as ordered into outstanding dishes. **Entree, Vegetables and Garnishes — 30 points maximum. Points awarded — 29.**

It was difficult to eat more, but were we happy that we tried the desserts. The homemade cannoli was wonderful, loaded with filling, and unbelievably priced at only \$1. The cheesecake (also \$1) was excellent as well. Our only regret was that we were too full to try anything else. **Dessert and Coffee — 10 points maximum. Points awarded — 10.**

Dinner for two was just over \$32 per couple with tip for one of the finest meals we have eaten at any area restaurant. Portions were extremely generous, but the food was so good that you didn't want to miss a thing. It was a real treat to have a dinner prepared with so much loving care. **Price/Value — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 15.**

A COUNTING FOR TASTE — 100 points maximum. Total points awarded: 92. The Roman Forum is a jewel of a restaurant and worth the drive to Canton from wherever you may be. You will appreciate the variety, quality and value of this fine establishment.

D. Gustibus welcomes your reactions, comments and suggestions of favorite restaurants in the Observer & Eccentric communities. Write to D. Gustibus, in care of Observer & Eccentric, Entertainment Department, P.O. Box 3503, Birmingham 48012-0503.

Hilberly stages 'Misanthrope'

"The Misanthrope," Moliere's classic comedy, makes its Hilberly Theatre stage debut Thursday, March 27, on Wayne State University's campus in Detroit. Previews will be presented Friday-Saturday, March 14-15.

Ticket information is available at the box office, phone 577-2972.

The English translation by Tony Harrison sets "The Misanthrope" in the France of Charles De Gaulle rather than that of Louis XIV. The story centers on a man who hates the web of social hypocrisy in which men and women entangle themselves. By believing himself the only honest man alive, he tells the truth until it hurts — others. Ironically, he is hopelessly in love with an unwelcome woman who represents the exact antithesis of his convictions.

This contemporary translation by Harrison was originally commissioned by the National Theatre of Great Britain for the tercentenary commemoration of Moliere's death. The play is set exactly 300 years after the first performance of "The Misanthrope."

Performances continue through Friday, May 9, in repertory with "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and later "All Over Town."

GRAND OPENING

ME & MR. C

Antiques & Collectibles
Friendly personnel will assist you as you browse through our impressive collection of furniture, glassware and collectibles. You will find a dealer in our shop with unique merchandise, and something to please all eyes.

JOIN US
MARCH 14, 15 & 16
Free drawing for dinner certificates to be held March 16.
Hours: Sat. 11-6; Fri. 10-7; Sun. 12-5
198 W. Liberty (Historic Old Village)
Plymouth 459-2222

JOE'S
Great new coffee
The Grand Avenue Cafe is a wonderful place to enjoy a cup of Joe. The menu is changing each day. Call 459-2222 for more information.

SOMERSET'S SUNDAY CONCERT SERIES



MARCH 16
Celebrate
St. Patrick's Day

PHIL MARCUS ESSER
2:00 PM to 4:00 PM
Open to the public, at no charge

SOMERSET MALL
5000 W. Grand Blvd. (at Woodward)
Sunday 12-5; Mon., Th., Fri. 10-6; Other days 10-6
The Kimball Concert Grand Piano courtesy of Smiley Brothers



Country Peddler Show

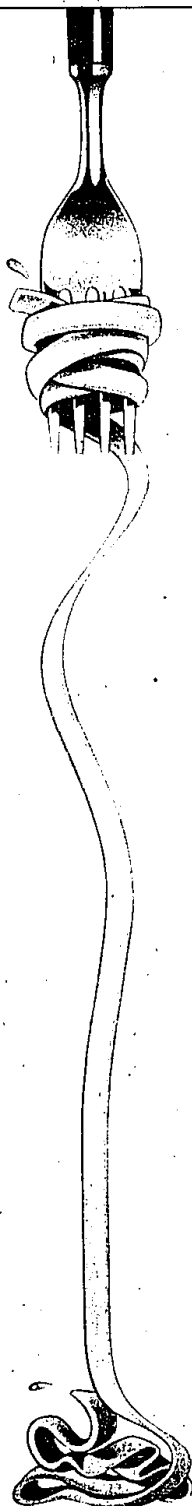
The Original Folk Art Show and Sale
Lucas County
Recreational Center
Maumee, Ohio
2901 Key Street

Friday, March 21 5-9 p.m.
Saturday, March 22 10-7 p.m.
Sunday, March 23 11-5 p.m.

75 of the nation's best artisans featuring handcrafted furniture and accessories for your home. Unique and beautiful quilts, pottery, lighting, chairs, dolls, tridles and whimsical wonderful folk art. All merchandise produced in the time honored traditions of the past. Each piece individually created by hand.

Lucas County Recreational Center
2901 Key Street in Maumee
Admission

*3.00 adults • *1.50 children • *Each Day
88140 Civic Center Road (Maumee, MI 49865)
Phone 433-5349



\$5.95

All You Can
Eat Pasta Time.
It's all you could
pastably eat!

Select two of our delicious meaty new pasta dishes and enjoy all you can eat! Try tangy three-layer lasagne, scrumptious mostaccioli with Italian sausage, spaghetti with meatballs or plump, beef-filled ravioli. A great way to pasta time away. Now thru May 3, 1986.

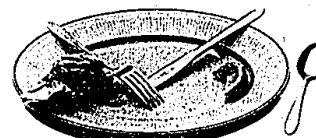
Not valid with other offers. No take-outs.
Price is per person and does not include tax or tip.



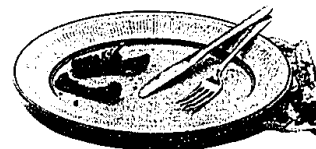
30140 Van Dyke Warren 574-9440

29244 Northwestern Hwy. Southfield 352-6330

At Bill Knapp's, we're famous for our clean plates.



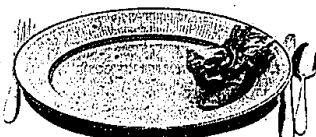
Trout Almondine
\$ 6.95



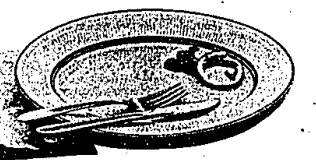
Southern Fried Chicken
\$ 4.95



Steak 'n Shrimp
\$ 8.95



Specialty Croissants
\$ 3.25



Broccoli Quiche
\$ 4.25

At Bill Knapp's, we pride ourselves on preparing and serving only one kind of food: The delicious kind.

So it's no wonder that just about everybody who comes into Bill Knapp's leaves as a member of our clean plates club.

And it's not just our main dishes that you'll love to polish off. Because our complete menu provides a lot of other shining examples, too. With tempting ice cream sundaes. And freshly baked pies and cakes.

But no matter what you order, you can always count on one thing: At Bill Knapp's we make sure everything is good — right down to our plates.

Bill Knapp's

Everything we do is in good taste.

- ANN ARBOR
- BLOOMFIELD HILLS
- DEARBORN
- FARMINGTON HILLS
- LIVONIA
- PLYMOUTH
- ROCHESTER
- SOUTHFIELD
- STERLING HEIGHTS
- WARREN
- WOODHAVEN
- YPSILANTI



SHOWCASE CINEMAS

*TUESDAY BARGAIN PRICE NOT IN EFFECT FOR "OUT OF AFRICA," "COLOR PURPLE," "PRETTY IN PINK," "GUNG HO"
PONTIAC 1-2-3-4-5 2400 SO. TELEGRAPH RD.
232-0221
BARGAIN MATINEE DAILY \$2.50 FIRST AFTERNOON SHOW ONLY
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES SAT. SUN. & HOLIDAYS
LATE SHOWS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
— EVERY TUESDAY, ALL SEATS, ALL DAYS, \$2.50 —

THE COLOR PURPLE

STARTS FRIDAY
CROSSROADS
HANNAH & HER SISTERS
WILDCATS
PRETTY IN PINK

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOW TIMES
PONTIAC 6-7-8-9-10 3405 SO. TELEGRAPH RD.
534-6777
BARGAIN MATINEE DAILY \$2.50 FIRST AFTERNOON SHOW ONLY
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES SAT. SUN. & HOLIDAYS
LATE SHOWS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY
— EVERY TUESDAY, ALL SEATS, ALL DAYS, \$2.50 —

DOWN & OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS

STARTS FRIDAY
HOUSE
HIGHLANDER
GUNG HO
OUT OF AFRICA

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOW TIMES
SUMMIT PLACE CINEMAS 682-5544
NORTH TELEGRAPH & ELIZABETH LAKE RD.
BARGAIN MATINEE DAILY \$2.50 WED. - FRI. SAT. SUN.
FIRST AFTERNOON SHOW ONLY
CONTINUOUS PERFORMANCES SAT. SUN. & HOLIDAYS
— EVERY TUESDAY, ALL SEATS, ALL SHOWS, \$2.50 —

THE NAKED CAGE

STARTS FRIDAY
F/X
MY CHAUFFEUR

CALL THEATRE FOR SHOW TIMES