

LET'S GO! DINING

Fat Willy's doesn't skimp on portions or fun

BY RENEE SKOGLUND
SPECIAL WRITER

From its plum-colored walls and chandeliers with dangling silverware to its snappy menu, Fat Willy's, Livonia's newest restaurant-bar, has personality.

"It's a place to let loose, have fun and fill up," said manager Lia Williams.

Filling up at Fat Willy's isn't difficult. Its menu reads like a declaration of war against low-fat. Items like the Gut Buster Burger, Mex-Toe Gut Suck and Bulk Hogan are bound to keep local health clubs in business for a long time.

"So many restaurants are going low-cal or new cuisine," Williams said. "This is the complete other concept. We're not skippy on the portions. Everything is big. We're doing more with the diners."

Besides mouth-watering items like barbecued ribs sauced up with Fat Willy's own and a butter-sautéed chopped airfrit, there are daily entree specials. Jim Pearson, one of five owners (who also owns several Country Skillet), was cooking up miniature meatloaves and a shrimp and pasta dish the night I dropped by.

"So far, a lot of calorie-unconscious customers have walked through Fat Willy's doors. According to Williams, after only the fourth week of operation, business has been "overwhelming." And just who are these peo-

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ple who have left their diet books at home?

"It's been anything from the 77-year-old couple who thought they would have to leave because the music might be too loud, but stayed all evening to young couples," Williams said. "We have the suits and the hardnats side by side."

Success probably has as much to do with mood as it has with menu. "That's why I was brought in," said Williams, who worked as a part-time bartender for 18 years.

"I'm kind of a mood-and-great person, make people happy." Fat Willy's is more than a sports bar. Sure, there are the proverbial pool, darts, pinball and TV's, but Fat Willy's is not just a "guy" kind of place. "The women are just as important as the men in this business," Williams said. "There are fewer and fewer places that allow men to come in with their wives. We have no Wonderbras, no G-strings. I want my female customers to feel comfortable."

Florence and Chuck Dickey, both 72 and Livonia residents for 35 years, were first-time customers. "Will this help us reduce our taxes?" quipped Chuck when asked to comment on his ham-

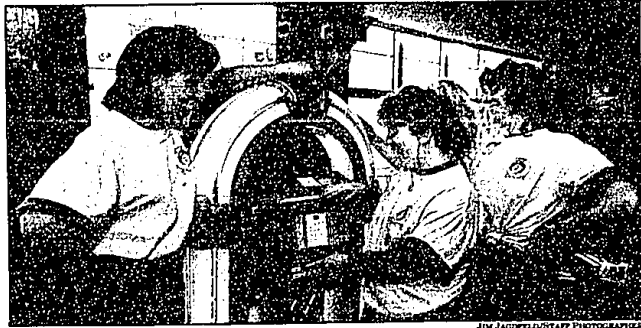
burger. "They are really delicious," Florence said. "I really mean it. I'm not a hamburger person, but I'm really enjoying this."

"The Molson Ice is excellent," said Chuck, getting right to the point. "The service has been very good," Florence added. "The girls have all been pleasant."

Florence, who had been tempted to order the "Slick to your Bar-Bo Ribs," said they would be back. Chuck agreed. "Only when our diet will let us," he said. "We'll probably bring a few people here."

Williams and Fat Willy's five owners (none of whom is especially fat or named Willy) have lots of plans to keep their customers coming back. There'll be weekly theme parties with discounts on the featured drink specials and free valet parking on weekends. They'll also accommodate private parties.

Fat Willy's claims the difference between fitness and fatness is only one little letter. It also serves a Tex-Mex burger called "Hey, Eat This." With such an attitude, it's bound to be a success.



Fun place: Christina Poeszcat (left to right), Kelly Frederick, and Lisa Williams check out the juke box, a replica which plays CDs, at Fat Willy's.



Fat Willy's 19170 Farmington Road near Sovon Mile Road, Livonia.
Phone: (810) 615-1330
Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Closed Sunday.
Decor: Ecologically hip.
Entertainment: Pool, darts, pinball and TV.
Menu: From gut-busting nachos and burgers to heaping salads and sizzling steaks.
Cost: \$2.50 to \$5.95 for appetizers; \$4.25 to \$5.75 for sandwiches; \$12.95 for entrees.
Seating capacity: 92. Smoak, but adequate non-smoking section.
Reservations: Are you kidding? Fat Willy's just packs them in.
Credit cards: All major credit cards accepted.
Extras: Gift certificates available.

Restaurant Specials

Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax (313)591-7279.

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE C-9-95, an Ordinance to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances, City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, Article VIII, Unsafe Buildings, Sections 7-251 through 7-256, of Chapter 7, Building and Building Regulations, in order to adopt by reference the 1993 Edition of the BOCA National Electrical Amendments to the said code as published by the International Electrical Council, Inc.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ORDAINS

- Section 1. Chapter 7, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article IV, Electrical Code, Sections 7-44 through 7-44, inclusive, are hereby amended to read as follows:
- Section 7-44. Adopted.
- The National Electrical Code, 1993 Edition (NFPA 70-1993) as promulgated and published by the National Fire Protection Association, is hereby adopted by reference. Printed copies of such code shall be kept in the office of the City Clerk and made available for inspection and distribution to the public during regular business hours.
- Section 7-47. References in Code.
- References in the National Electrical Code to "state" and "name of state" shall mean the State of Michigan; references to "municipalities" and "name of municipality" shall mean the City of Farmington Hills; references to the "municipal charter" shall mean the Charter of the City of Farmington Hills; and references to "local ordinances" shall mean the Code of Ordinances of the City of Farmington Hills.
- Section 7-48. Amendments.
- The following sections and subsections of the National Electrical Code are hereby amended as set forth and additional sections and subsections are added as indicated. Subsequent section numbers used in this article shall refer to like-numbered sections of the National Electrical Code.
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|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Section 1. | Repealer. | |
| Section 2. | Severability. | |
| Section 4. | Savings. | |
| Section 5. | Effective Date. | June 8, 1995 |
| Section 6. | Enactment. | May 18, 1995 |

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk
City of Farmington Hills

Pub. May 18, 1995

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE C-9-95, an Ordinance to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances, City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, Article VI, Mechanical Code, Sections 7-201 through 7-202, of Chapter 7, Building and Building Regulations, in order to adopt by reference the 1993 Edition of the BOCA National Mechanical Code.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ORDAINS

- Section 1. Chapter 7, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article VI, Mechanical Code, Sections 7-201 through 7-202, are hereby amended to read as follows:
- Section 7-201. Adopted.
- It is hereby adopted by reference as applicable within the City, the BOCA National Mechanical Code, 1993 Edition, published by the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. covering the design, installation, maintenance, alteration, and inspection of mechanical systems, including heating systems, ventilating systems, cooling systems, steam and hot water heating systems, water heaters, process piping, boilers and pressure vessels, appliances utilizing gas, liquid or solid fuel, chimneys and vents, mechanical exhaust systems, fireplaces, barbecues, incinerators, crematories, and air pollution systems. Printed copies of such code shall be kept in the office of the City Clerk and be made available for inspection by and distribution to the public during regular business hours.
- Section 7-202. References in Code.
- References in the BOCA National Mechanical Code to "Name of Jurisdiction" shall mean the City of Farmington Hills. References to "Fire Schedule" as set forth in Sections M-112.3 and 112.3 and elsewhere in the Basic Mechanical Code, shall be as established by resolution of the City Council of the City of Farmington Hills, which may be amended from time to time. References in Section M-114.4 to "Specify Offices" shall mean misdemeanor; references to "Amount" shall mean Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00); and references to "Number of Days" shall mean ninety (90) days. References in Section M-117.2 to "Amount" shall mean not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) or more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).
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|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Section 2. | Repealer. | |
| Section 3. | Severability. | |
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CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE C-7-95, an Ordinance to amend the Farmington Hills Code of Ordinances, City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, Article VII, Property Maintenance Code, Sections 7-228 through 7-228, of Chapter 7, Building and Building Regulations, in order to adopt by reference the 1993 Edition of the BOCA National Property Maintenance Code.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ORDAINS

- Section 1. Chapter 7, Buildings and Building Regulations, Article VII, Mechanical Code, Sections 7-228 through 7-228, are hereby amended to read as follows:
- Section 7-228. Adopted.
- There is hereby adopted by reference as applicable within the City, the BOCA National Property Maintenance Code, 1993 Edition, as promulgated and published by the Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc. for the purposes of establishing minimum regulations governing the conditions and maintenance of all property, buildings and structures; by providing the standards for supplied utilities and facilities and other physical things and conditions essential to ensure that structures are safe, sanitary and fit for occupation and use; and the condemnation of buildings and structures unfit for human occupancy and use and the demolition of such structures. Printed copies of such code shall be kept in the office of the city clerk and made available for inspection by the distribution and sale to the public during regular business hours.
- Section 7-227. References in Code.
- References in the BOCA National Property Maintenance Code to "Name of Jurisdiction" shall mean the City of Farmington Hills.
- Section 7-228. Amendments.
- The following sections and subsections of the National Property Maintenance Code are hereby amended or deleted as set forth and additional sections and subsections are added as indicated. Subsequent section numbers used in this article shall refer to like-numbered sections of the National Property Maintenance Code.
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|------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Section 2. | Repealer. | |
| Section 3. | Severability. | |
| Section 4. | Savings. | |
| Section 5. | Effective Date. | June 8, 1995 |
| Section 6. | Enactment. | May 18, 1995 |

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Festive events

THE ROSEWOOD TEARHOUSE
Celebrate Queen Victoria's Birthday, May 22-27, 118 W. Third Street, Rochester. Special menu in honor of the queen, oyster picnic, party favors.
(810) 622-3556

THE MORE FEAST
May 24-27 - 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 24, Tractor Breakfast (810) 305-1210. (Nov.) 7 p.m. Thursday, May 24, More's. A Michigan Bistro (810) 642-1094, (Briarcliff Farm), 7 p.m. Friday & Saturday, May 26-27, Sebastian's Grill (810) 642-6625, (Troy). Cost \$39.95 per person, wine package offered at additional cost.
FRAN O'BRIEN'S MARYLAND CRABHOUSE
Soft Shell Crabs now in season, trucked

in every Monday and Thursday from the docks of the Chesapeake Bay to the restaurant at 621 South Ophyle Road, Auburn Hills. Maryland Blue crabs are complete soon.
(810) 332-7744

Wine tastings


ELITE WINE COMPANY & RESTAURANT
The Wines of Michael Chapiro and the Cuisine of Provence, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 24 at Emily's, 505 N. Century, Northville. The cuisine of Rick Klabber will be matched with a selection of the wines of Michael Chapiro, 1991 vintage. The cost is \$85 per person, tax and gratuity inclusive.
(810) 398-0030

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NOTICE

PIVNICK FAMILY FOUNDATION
The Annual Report of The Pivnick Family Foundation for the year 1994, is now available for inspection for the next 180 days. Inspection must be made during regular office hours, and, by appointment only. Contact Mr. Pivnick at (810) 626-0870.
Pub. May 18, 1995



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OPEN HOUSE

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Join us for tours, entertainment and refreshments
May 19, 3-6 p.m.,
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(810) 489-9362.

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