

DINING

CELEBRATING
BIRTHDAYS AT RESTAURANTS

a piece
of cake



BY MARY QUINLEY
SPECIAL WRITER

Smile — it's your birthday! And to help celebrate the occasion, many local eateries offer their customers a variety of incentives for birthday dining. Here's a sampling:

SWEET AFTON TEA ROOM

450 Forest Ave., Plymouth, (734) 454-0777

"We offer a complimentary birthday shortbread wrapped in a doily with a ribbon. People are tickled and surprised when we serve it," said Cindy Belanger, co-owner. Restaurant personnel are happy to accommodate birthday patron. If requested, adds Belanger, "we will send the ladies from the kitchen to sing."

KYOTO JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE

1963 W. Big Beaver Road, Troy, (248) 646-6840; 21150 Haggerty Road, Farmington Hills, (248) 348-7900

Does a quarter slice of fresh pineapple topped with vanilla ice cream entice you? Perhaps a piece of frozen strawberry ice cream cake sounds more appealing. The choice of a complimentary dessert is yours at local Kyoto

Here's a list of some other local eateries which cater to the birthday person. Be sure to call first for specific details.

- **Bill Knapp's** (all locations)
- **Blakeney's Ranch House**, Farmington (248) 477-8545
- **Chi-Chi's** (all locations)
- **Golden Mushroom**, Southfield, (248) 559-4230
- **Hawthorne Gardens Restaurant**, Westland, (734) 422-3440
- **Max & Erma's** (all locations)
- **Mountain Jack's** (all locations)
- **Peabody's**, Birmingham, (248) 644-5222
- **Station 885**, Plymouth, (734) 459-0885

restaurants if it's your birthday.

FOX & HOUNDS

1560 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, (248) 644-4800

This 1927 landmark offers a festive birthday package which includes multi-colored helium balloons, a 6-inch "Best Wishes"

cake, and a "Congratulations" banner hung over the booth. The charge is \$20.

Looking for a little less fanfare? Then order the cake for \$10. With advance notice the cake can be personalized.

EASTSIDE MARIO'S

31630 Plymouth Road, Livonia, (734) 513-8803; 2273 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-9622; 29267 Southfield Road, Southfield, (248) 569-9454

Get ready for some silly shenanigans and lots of laughs. At a recent birthday dinner, the guest of honor was asked to stand up and hold a large green pepper in his hand (some celebrants hold an onion or a tomato) while the staff clapped and sang an upbeat version of "Happy Birthday." Complimentary dessert follows the playful performance.

MR. B'S FOOD & SPIRITS

423 Main St., Rochester, (248) 651-6534; Mr. B's Troy, 3946 Rochester Road, Troy, (248) 689-6070; Mr. B's Plymouth Grill, 1020 W. Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 459-4100; Monterey Cantina, 2601 Rochester Road, Rochester Hills, (248) 853-

6800; and Mr. B's Spectadium, 2511 Livernia, Troy, (248) 362-4030.

Birthday celebrants of all ages receive a complimentary entree priced up to \$8 at any Mr. B's eatery (there are a total of 13 restaurants in metro Detroit). Proof of birth date is required.

"Birthdays help our business because the birthday person comes in with other people," said Mark Menendez, manager Plymouth Mr. B's. "We probably get 10-15 (celebrants) a day."

BENITO'S PIZZA

8129 Middlebelt Road, Westland, (734) 458-5130; Shell Foodmart, corner of Farmington and Six Mile Roads, Livonia, (734) 425-3933; 33447 Ford Road, Garden City, (734) 427-2850; locations also in Canton, Southgate, Sumpter, Belleville, Wayne and Rockwood

Show ID (birth certificate for kids) and pick up a free small pizza with cheese and one item on the day of your birthday.

To avoid disappointment, call the restaurant before finalizing your plans, Happy Birthday!

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Check out these Thursday, Nov. 26 Thanksgiving Day dinner options available at the following restaurants. Reserving in advance is strongly advised and in some cases essential.

BOISFORD INN

2800 Grand River, Farmington Hills (248) 474-4800.

Seatings for a Thanksgiving buffet in the main dining room begin at noon and can be scheduled on the hour until 4 p.m. In the canteen house, seatings are on the hour between 1 and 4 p.m. The beautiful buffet includes salads, relishes, vegetable with dip in addition to roast turkey, savory dressing with all the trimmings, sliced roast beef with mushroom sauce, smoked cider-baked ham or baked cod fish. Cost is \$19.95 per person plus \$1.50 beverage. Children age 10 and under half price.

STEVE & ROCKY'S

43150 Grand River Avenue, Novi (248) 374-0688. Chefs Steve Allen and "Rocky" Rachwitz have

a memorable experience planned with their limited sit-down menu. Turkey with all the trimmings is \$14 and \$8 for children. In addition, 10 choices, some of them autumn favorites such as goose and venison, range \$14-22.

MARVIN'S BISTRO & PIANO BAR

15800 Middlebelt, Livonia (734) 522-5600, Thanksgiving Day Buffet, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Menu includes Roast Turkey, Honey Baked Ham, Roast Beef Au Jus, and Baked Cod Fish served with Marvin's Turkey Stuffing, Sweet Potatoes, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, pasta, vegetable stir-fry and an assortment of desserts. The cost is \$12.95 adults, \$5.95 children under age 5. Chuck Shelby plays piano 3-5 p.m.

WATER CLUB GRILL

39500 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, (734) 454-0686. Thanksgiving Buffet 1-6 p.m. Menu includes Roast Turkey, Glazed Ham, Lemon Encrusted Scrod and Pasta Primavera with a

variety of side dishes — house salad with strawberry vinaigrette, mashed potatoes and gravy, sausage and cornbread stuffing, cranberry relish, and fresh vegetables. Pumpkin pie for dessert. The cost is \$13.95 adults, \$6.95 children.

CHARLEY'S CRAB

5498 Crooks Road, Troy, next to Northfield Hilton, (248) 879-2000. From noon to 9 p.m., in addition to favorite Charley's Classics from the dinner menu, there's traditional fresh Amish roast turkey with traditional side dishes \$13.75. Children's portion is \$6.75. Also offered with fresh autumn side dishes are Canadian goose with Port wine demi-glace \$18.75; braised Colorado lamb shank with mushroom au jus \$14.50; and panko crumbed Lake Superior

whitefish over lemon butter \$19.50.

CLARKSON CAFE

18 S. Main, Clarkston (248) 625-5660. From noon to 6 p.m., the Clarkson Cafe offers a traditional turkey dinner with stuffing, yams, cranberry sauce, vegetable, mashed potatoes and gravy \$15.95. Children under five years old get a free turkey dinner with purchase of an adult entree. Other choices include, prime rib, pork loin or whitefish. Prices range \$15-20. All come with choice of soup or salad and bread basket.

EXCALIBUR

28875 Franklin Road, (corner of 12 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway), Southfield (248) 358-3355. Open for dinner 2-10 p.m. Service will be from the dinner

menu and Thanksgiving specials. Call for details.

HISTORIC HOLLY HOTEL

110 Battle Alley, Holly (248) 634-5208. From 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner along with entrees such as garlic-roasted leg of lamb, poached Norwegian salmon or grilled New York strip steak, for those wanting to skip turkey. Included are cream of butternut squash soup, harvest greens salad and an assortment of desserts. Cost is \$20 per person. Children \$9.

MERWETHER'S

25485 Telegraph Road, South-

field (248) 358-1310 from 2-8 p.m. Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings, \$16 and \$6 for kids 12 and under. Selections of seafood, pastas and steaks from the regular menu range \$14-17.

ROCHESTER CHOP HOUSE

306 North Main, Rochester (248) 651-2266. "Thanksgiving at our home" is the special theme from 12:30-6:30 p.m. Fresh Tom turkey served with buttered mashed potatoes, giblet gravy, spaghetti squash and cranberry relish is \$15. Children's portion for ages 13 and under \$6. Other dishes also available.

Mr. Z's STEAK HOUSE 537-5600
2731 Five Mile Rd. (Corner of Livonia)

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
2:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. \$7.95

Your Choice of Entree:
 • Roast Turkey w/ Savory Stuffing
 • Honey Baked Ham w/ Canned Yams
 • Baked Mostardoll w/ Muzzarella Cheese
 • London Broil w/ Mushroom Sauce
 • Chicken Neptune
 • New York Strip
 • Braided Icelandic Haddock w/ Rice Pilaf
 • Our Famous B.B.Q. Ribs Full Slab
 • 1/2 Slab

Children under 10... \$3.95
 under 16... \$5.95
 under 18... \$7.95
 11-15... \$9.95
 16-18... \$13.95
 19-25... \$17.95

Dinner includes Turkey, Noodle Soup, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Cranberry Sauce, Vegetable of the Day or Choose from our Select Thanksgiving Menu
 Dinner Includes Turkey, Noodle Soup or Salad, Bread Basket, Potatoes & Vegetables, Pumpkin Pie with Whipped Cream! *1.75

FRIDAY SPECIAL
Fish & Chips
(baked or fried)
All You Can Eat
\$9.95

The Botsford Inn
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(248) 474-4800

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MITCH HOUSEY'S
OPEN
Thanksgiving Day
Dinner 1-5:30 p.m.
1 p.m. SOLD OUT

ROAST TURKEY \$10.95 PER PERSON
Take home what you don't eat!
Whole roast turkey carved and served at your table when there is a party of 6 or more.
Complete Roast Turkey Dinner includes all the trimmings, salad, cranberry sauce, dressing, whipped potatoes, gravy, vegetables, bread, and pumpkin pie for dessert!
All checks will be totaled with 6% sales tax and 15% gratuity.

Edie Money

SATURDAY, NOV. 28 • 8PM
ALL SEATS \$10! 94.7 WBSX

Tickets available at The Palace Box Office and all **AMERICAN EXPRESS** locations.
Charge (248) 645-6666. www.palacebox.com

City of Plymouth Parks & Recreation Department
CHRISTMAS ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW
NOVEMBER 27, 28 & 29

at the
Plymouth Cultural Center
525 Farmer St. • Plymouth
SHOW TIMES
Friday 10 am-5 pm
Saturday 10 am-5 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm

FREE ADMISSION • FREE PARKING
OVER 50 DIFFERENT CRAFTERS
Sign up any time during the Show to win fabulous Door Prizes (Donated by Crafters).
Drawing held on Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
For further information on the Craft Show or the Skate with Santa, call the Recreation Dept. (734) 455-6620.

SKATE WITH SANTA
Saturday, November 28
at the
Plymouth Cultural Center
Ice Arena
Register in Advance
and Includes Lunch
at the Door

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
\$4.00
\$2.00
\$1.00