

Family's recipe for success is Pizza To Go



Baking time: Bill Haddad prepares a pepperoni pizza for the oven.

BY SUE DUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck00e@homecomm.net

Pizza To Go, 21019 Farmington Road in the Farmington Eight Mile Center is one of the area's newest businesses.

The shop opened in the former Hungry Howie's location about two months ago, and family is its focus. Livonia residents Bill and Kathy Haddad, who purchased the business, often bring their three children, Katie, 14, Katrina, 9, and Stephanie, 23 months to the store.

Bud Jenkins, a delivery driver and also a relative, prides himself on knowing street locations well and on never getting lost. Delivery range is three miles in each direction.

The family put in a new counter, flooring and new ovens during the renovations. But it's the food that draws customers back again and again.

"We would like you to try our home-made recipe pizza that has been in our family for generations," Bill said.

The homemade dough comes in different flavors, he added.

One of their more unique items is a Breakfast Pizza, made with cheese, eggs prepared any style, bacon,



Ready to go: Bill Haddad hands a pizza to frequent customer Jeremy McGaffey. At left, is Haddad's daughter Katie, at center is Bud Jenkins. Katie painted the mural on the wall in the background.

said. "They have good people. The people are friendly. Service is quick. There's service with a smile."

Jeremy McGaffey, a Farmington Hills resident, is drawn to the shop because of the product quality.

"The taste is entirely different," McGaffey said. "The dough rises a lot thicker. I've had the pita sandwiches and the ham subs. I've been happy with everything. The prices are fair. I like the family atmosphere."

"I love the cheese," added his friend, Michelle Space of Westland. "The cheese is excellent."

Pizza To Go isn't the family's first venture. The Malt Shop located in Mount Pleasant, was awarded a number one pizza rating for five years by the Central of Michigan in Mount Pleasant, the Haddads said.

Pizza To Go sells submarine, pita and chicken sandwiches, salads, chicken wings, lasagna, nachos and pizza by the slice. The family also hopes to offer tabouli, hummus and ice cream.

Store hours are 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m.-11 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m.-8 p.m. Sunday.

For more information, call (248)478-5055.

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Event nets \$31K for Special Olympics

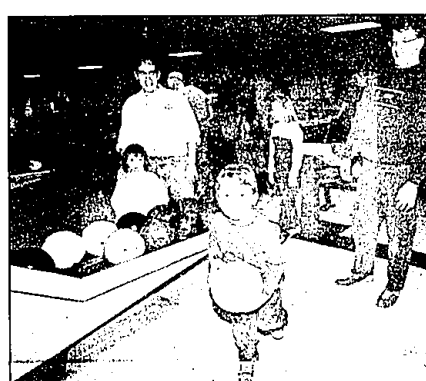
Team Farmington Special Olympics benefited to the tune of more than \$31,000 Saturday, thanks to bowlers at the 10th Annual Bowl-A-Thon held at Drake's Lanes.

"It was gratifying to see the response from not only our community, but others as well," said Mark Fisher, event chairman.

"City government personnel, police officers, firefighters, private businesses and individuals all joined together to raise money for the support of Team Farmington Special Olympics."

MetroBank and Farmington High School teams pulled in the largest contributions. Gordon Hooper from Bowne of Detroit organized eight teams; Susan Spencer from Danton Systems, Inc. of Novi provided five teams and the youth group from Antioch Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills had four teams participating.

Fisher expressed appreciation to Farmington area merchants who provided financial support and food. Team Farmington is a year-round sports training and educational program open to all athletes with mental impairments who are, or have been,



Child's play: Three-year-old John Park is ready to roll a strike. He's watched by his dad, Robert Park and Rachel and Dave Walsh.

Resources, chances for sharing discussed

BY SUE DUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck00e@homecomm.net

A variety of topics came up at a meeting Feb. 26 hosted by the Farmington School Board with the city councils of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Hills Mayor Nancy Bates asked if school district consolidation was a possible goal, given on-going education budget constraints and challenges. She wondered how small school districts like Clarenceville and Villed Lake can be maintained.

"I'm often asked why do I have a different school district when I live in Farmington Hills?" Bates said.

Superintendent Bob Maxfield said the times he has suggested consolidation in talks with Clarenceville haven't gotten a positive response.

"There's a sense of having your

own school district which is very important," Maxfield said.

Michigan school district boundaries evolved years ago, pre-dating city boundaries, he said.

Cooperation through consolidation of services is a more likely and viable option than district consolidation, with no loss of identity, Maxfield said. He noted there are school districts in Michigan which are smaller than the Clarenceville district.

With the March 1 grand re-opening of the Farmington Training Center, located at 33000 Thomas, as both a training and major conference center, Farmington city councilman Arnold Campbell said tying in promotion and exposure of the Civic Theatre on Grand River was also important. Both venues strive to bring people from outside Farmington into the city.

Farmington city councilwoman JoAnne McShane asked for an update on what's available to all school district residents. "I think it's important for people to know what services are available to the general public and our seniors," McShane said. "It makes us make us feel a little better about our tax dollar."

Maxfield cited a range of services, beginning with community education which offers enrichment classes. There are also more preschool and elementary-based programs, he said.

"The senior adult card allows seniors free access to attend a certain number of events," added Sue Zurvalke, assistant superintendent for staff and community services.

Seniors are also always encouraged to volunteer in the school district, she said.

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