

News

From Womens Lifestyle Oakland

Article published July 2008

Troy location is one of two La Shish restaurants being bought, reopened

By Lauren Maiman

In Michigan, and across the country really, economic gloom and doom is rampant. Coupled with the high gas prices, the news media would have metro Detroiters believe there isn't a shred of good news to report. However, one Oakland County business owner proves otherwise.

Fadhel Gannouni, co-owner of La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine, says business is steady at their two metro Detroit locations. The Bloomfield Hills location opened in January and has been enjoying a packed dining room, especially during the work-week lunch rush. To accommodate its growing fan base, the Farmington Hills venue-situated on Grand River Avenue just west of Drake Road-is expanding to hold 90 seats. The remodel, which will include a new outdoor patio and a space allotted for live music on the weekends, is scheduled to be complete by July.



La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine partners: Chef Adel Ahmel and Fadhel Gannouni. Moe El Neger not shown.

La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine's two current locations have received such rave reviews from patrons that Gannouni and business partners, Adal Ahmed (who is also an award-winning chef) and Moe El Neger, plan to debut a two new restaurants this July after various small renovations to both buildings. The Troy locale sits on the site of the former La Shish restaurant on Rochester Road between Big Beaver Road and Wattles Road. The other restaurant opens in Waterford at the corner of Pontiac Lake Road and Highland Road. The new businesses will bring over 30 new jobs to the area, which elates many of the La Shish employees who lost their jobs when the restaurant chain closed all of its metro Detroit locations in March 2008. "We are thinking about buying more La Shish locations, but we do not want to grow too fast, as we want to maintain the quality of the food and service," Gannouni said.

The traditional Middle Eastern menu boasts myriad vegetarian dishes, as well as classics like shish tawook, chicken shawarma and lamb. For variety, some Egyptian and Tunisian dishes are offered. Specials are featured for people who want to be adventuresome with their culinary picks.

Really fall in love with the fare? La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine offers catering options for parties of all sizes. The restaurant will work with customers' needs whether the event is a corporate retreat,

intimate birthday celebration or more elaborate family reunion.

Visit the restaurant's website (www.lamarsacuisine.com) to print money-saving coupons before stopping by. Open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine, 35558 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills; 43259 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills; 3720 Rochester Road, Troy; 4240 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford; 248-615-1900.