

La Marsa. Middle Eastern food with big flavor and a big heart



Fadhel Gannouni, owner, La Marsa Mediterranean Cuisine

by George Moses

He started his first La Marsa location almost 5 years ago and now has 6 locations: Brighton, Ann Arbor, Waterford, Troy, Bloomfield Hills and Farmington Hills.

Fadhel and his partner, Gordon Stanke opened the Brighton location about 7 months ago and it has been packed with happy diners ever since. You'll always find either Fadhel or Gordon tending to the restaurant when you arrive for a meal.

"This is very healthy food," Gannouni said. "It's the food of God. This comes from the Middle East. Ninety percent of the foods are made with olive oil. They say that if you eat Middle Eastern food, you will be very healthy. It's good for you!"

"In Brighton, not everybody knows about Middle Eastern food. I give them a lot of samples. When they try it, they love it."

Many of Gannouni's diners at his Farmington Hills store said "I wish you could come to Brighton," where many of them live. He came here in the spring and found this elegant restaurant site available for rent and worked out a deal with the landlord, Mike Corrigan. "Really, he made it easy for us."

"Brighton is class," says Fadhel. If you want to succeed you have to present yourself in a good way,



La Marsa is donating to Brighton High School. When diners bring in the school coupon, 15% of all food items sold is being donated for the students' trip to Washington D.C.

Also, through the end of 2011 La Marsa is giving 10% of all Sunday sales to Gleaners Community Food Bank and LOVE, INC, no coupon needed.

like Brighton City. Without top service and good quality you're not going to succeed. I love dealing with people. I'm doing it with my heart. When people get excited about our food, they make me feel like a king!"

"Winter is coming. Especially the older people. If you want to eat this food, we'll deliver it to your home. We have service."

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Also, through the end of 2011 La Marsa is giving 10% of all Sunday sales to Gleaners Community Food Bank and LOVE, INC. No need to bring a coupon. "I grew up poor and I know what it's like being poor." On Thanksgiving day, instead of staying home, Fadhel and his partner went to Detroit and went to the neighborhoods around 6 Mile and 7 Mile roads

and gave away 100 blankets door-to-door. They have also hosted up to 200 needy people on Christmas Day at their Farmington Hills and Troy restaurant for dinner, at no charge.

"I love doing it," says Fadhel. "Because God is good to me."

La Marsa is at 543 W. Grand River in Downtown Brighton (810) 227-0600 lamarsacuisine.com