

# Dining & Entertainment

AJC PICKS AND READER REVIEWS OF HUNDREDS OF METRO ATLANTA RESTAURANTS AT ACCESSATLANTA.COM/RESTAURANTS.



## NORTHSIDERS WEEKEND GUIDE

### ATTRACTIONS

**"Escape to Freedom" Stories.** Stories about slavery, the Underground Railroad and Harriet Tubman. For ages 8 years-adult. Reservations required. 2 p.m. Feb. 2. \$6. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Ave., Roswell. 770-992-1731. www.bullochhall.org.  
**Southeastern Railway Museum.** Eighty pieces of railway equipment. Rides on restored cabooses. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. \$7. \$5 ages 65 and older. \$4 ages 2-12. Southeastern Railway Museum, 3595 Peachtree Road, Duluth. 770-476-2013. www.srmduluth.org.  
**Telling the Story of Slavery at Bulloch Hall.** Displays throughout the house show the daily tasks and chores that were done by slaves. Part of Black History Month observance. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays. 1-3 p.m. Sundays Feb. 1-29. Tours on the hour (last tour at 3 p.m.). \$8; \$6 children. Bulloch Hall, 180 Bulloch Ave., Roswell. 770-992-1731. www.bullochhall.org.

### BOOK EVENTS

**Carolyn Porter.** Signs her latest self-help/inspirational book, "Seven Roads to Glory: Powerful Stories of Incredible Challenges and How to Become the Victor." 2 p.m. Feb. 2. Barnes & Noble Town Center, 50 Barrett Parkway, Kennesaw. 770-422-2261. www.barnesandnoble.com.  
**Deborah Johnson.** Reads and signs her novel, "The Air Between Us." 7 p.m. Feb. 1. Borders Books & Music-Buckhead, 3637 Peachtree Road N.E., Atlanta. 404-237-0707. www.bordersstores.com.

### COMEDY

**Al Ducharme.** National Lampoon produced Ducharme's hourlong DVD. Call for times. Jan. 31-Feb. 2. \$12-\$15. Funny Farm Comedy Club, 608 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell. 770-817-4242. www.funnyfarmcomedyclub.com.  
**Costaki Economopoulos.** A fellow comic once referred to Economopoulos as a "casually brilliant joke philosopher." He has performed in the Seattle Comedy Competition and at the Montreal Comedy Festival. Call for times. Jan. 30-31. \$15. The Punchline, 280 Hilderbrand Drive N.E., Sandy Springs. 404-252-5233. www.punchline.com.  
**Drive-In Prov.** B-movies get a makeover as the Basement Theatre's commentators add voices, sound effects and wry asides during the films. 9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays. \$5. Basement Theatre, 175 W. Wiecica Road N.E., Suite B3, Atlanta. 404-277-3071. www.thebasementtheatre.com.  
**The Funny Farm University Graduation.** Newly funny Atlantans hit the stage. 8:30 p.m. Feb. 4. \$10. Funny Farm Comedy Club, 608 Holcomb Bridge Road, Roswell. 770-817-4242. www.funnyfarmcomedyclub.com.

### CONCERTS

**Atlanta Opera: "Cold Sassy Tree."** An Atlanta Opera premiere of Carlisle Floyd's opera, composed in 2000. Conducted by Arthur Fagen, directed by John de Lancie. Sung in English. A production of Utah Opera. 8 p.m. Feb. 2; 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3; 8 p.m. Feb. 8; 3 p.m. Feb. 10. \$275-\$133.50. \$20 senior citizens and students (available two hours before show). Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre, 2800 Cobb Galleria Parkway, Atlanta. 770-916-2800, 404-249-6400. www.cobbenergycentre.com.  
**Experimental Piano Music of Henry Cowell.** Reinhardt College artist-in-residence George Lucktenberg plays and talks about the piano music of Henry Cowell. 3 p.m. Feb. 3. Free. Falany Performing Arts Center, 7300 Reinhardt College Circle, Waleska. 770-720-9167. www.reinhardt.edu/fpac.  
**Georgian Chamber Players.** With guest artist Robert Spano, Atlanta Symphony Orchestra conductor. 3 p.m. Feb. 3. \$35. The Galloway School, 215 W. Wiecica Road N.W., Sandy Springs. 404-252-8389.  
**Georgia Sea Island Singers.** 8 p.m. Jan. 31. \$15. \$10 senior citizens and ages 12 and younger. Falany Performing Arts Center, 7300 Reinhardt College Circle, Waleska. 770-720-9167. www.reinhardt.edu/fpac.  
**"Great American Rock and Roll Revival!"** Butch and the Buckheads, the Sock Hogs and an Elvis Presley tribute artist. 8 p.m. Jan. 31. Feb. 2; 2 p.m. Feb. 3. \$22-\$50. \$20 50 ages 60 and older; \$18-\$50 ages 12 and younger. Canton Theatre, 171 E. Main St., Canton. 770-704-0755. www.cantontheatre.com.  
**Kennesaw State University Wind Ensemble.** 8 p.m. Feb. 6. \$5. Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw. 770-423-6650. www.kennesaw.edu/arts.  
**The Return.** 9 p.m. Feb. 1. \$7. Trilogy, 4930 Davidson Road, Suite 200, Marietta. 770-971-4770. www.trilogydining.net.  
**Roswell Roots Kick-off.** A reception precedes a concert by several churches, marking the beginning of Roswell's month-long celebration of black history and culture. Reception 6:30-7:30 p.m., concert 7:30 p.m. Feb. 1. Free. Pleasant Hill Community Center, 725 Pleasant Hill St., Roswell. 770-255-0467. www.roswellgov.com.

### FUND-RAISERS

**"Black and White Winter Gala."** The Alpharetta Police Athletic/Activities League's 12th Annual Benefit and Recognition Event. Buffet dinner with live band and special entertainment. Alpha PAL provides services to Alpharetta's youth. 7:30 p.m.-midnight Feb. 1. \$75. The Metropolitan Club, 5895 Windward Parkway, Alpharetta. 678-297-6309. Officer Jim Little. www.themetropolitancub.net.  
**Kitty Valentines.** This no-kill cat shelter in Marietta will send a cat-themed valentine for every \$10 donation made. Send five and get the sixth free. Order by Feb. 3. Good Mews Animal Foundation, 736 Johnson Ferry Road, Suite A-3, Marietta. 770-499-2287. www.goodmews.org.  
**Warm Hearts and Cold Noses Valentine's Gala.** Dinner, live and silent auctions benefit Happy Tails Pet Therapy, which takes animals to healthcare, social and other facilities to ease the pain of others. 6-9 p.m. Feb. 2. \$75 or \$140 per couple. Villa Cristina Restaurant, 4000 Summit Blvd., Atlanta. 770-740-8211. www.happytailspets.org.

### HOME AND GARDEN

**"Little Beavers: Animals in Winter."** Children ages 3 and 4 sing, hike, make crafts and tell stories. Limited space. 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays or 11:15-12:30 p.m. or 2-3:15 p.m. Thursdays. Jan. 28-March 20. \$90 for eight-week session. Dunwoody Nature Center, 5343 Roberts Drive, Dunwoody. 770-394-3322. www.dunwoodynature.org.

### KIDS/FAMILY

**Arbor Day Farmfest.** Celebrating trees by letting kids climb the tree house for a bird's-eye view of Tanglewood. Visitors receive educational booklets about the benefits of trees in the community. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays. Feb. 1-29. \$9; ages 1 and younger free (includes tour and pony ride); \$5 hayride. Tanglewood Farm, 171 Tanglewood Drive, Canton. 770-667-6464. www.tanglewoodfarmminis.com.  
**"Little Beavers: Animals in Winter."** Children ages 3 and 4 sing, hike, make crafts and tell stories. Limited space. 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mondays or 11:15-12:30 p.m. or 2-3:15 p.m. Thursdays. Jan. 28-March 20. \$90 for eight-week session. Dunwoody Nature Center, 5343 Roberts Drive, Dunwoody. 770-394-3322. www.dunwoodynature.org.

### MARKETPLACE

**Georgia Bridal Show 2008.** Wedding product and service providers show their wares. Also, a bridal fashion show. Noon-5:30 p.m. Feb. 3. June 22 and Sept. 7. \$10. Gwinnett Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth. 770-736-1979. www.elitevents.com.

### PETS

**Kitty Valentines.** This no-kill cat shelter will send a cat-themed valentine for every \$10 donation made. Send five and get the sixth free. Order by Feb. 3. Good Mews Animal Foundation, 736 Johnson Ferry Road, Suite A-3, Marietta. 770-499-2287. www.goodmews.org.



ALISON CHURCH / Special

### WHAT'S YOUR FLAVOR?

Sample dishes from more than 35 restaurants at Taste of Dunwoody. Also, a silent auction, live music and a cash bar. Benefits Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. 7-10:30 p.m. Feb. 1. \$35. W Atlanta Perimeter, 111 Perimeter Center W., Atlanta. 404-785-7337. www.choa.org/tod.



ANDY SHARP / 2006 photo

### BLOOMIN' GOOD TIME

Charles Jaros, past president of the Greater Atlanta Begonia Society, will bring plants to study. 10 a.m. Feb. 2. Free. Hastings Nature & Garden Center, 3920 Peachtree Road, Atlanta. 770-907-7330.



ANDY SHARP / 2006 photo

### COME PLAY ON THE FARM

Enjoy the Arbor Day Farmfest celebrating trees by letting kids climb the treehouse for a bird's-eye view of Tanglewood. Visitors receive educational booklets about the benefits of trees in the community. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays. Feb. 1-29. \$9; ages 1 and younger free (includes tour and pony ride); \$5 hayride. Tanglewood Farm, 171 Tanglewood Drive, Canton. 770-667-6464. www.tanglewoodfarmminis.com.

### FOR YOUR LISTENING PLEASURE

Hear the Brahms Violin Concerto with Bin Huang; the Bottesini Bass Concerto No. 2 in B Minor with Mark Bernat; and Weber's Clarinet Concerto No. 2 with Ashraf Attalla when the Ludwig Symphony Orchestra performs. 8 p.m. Feb. 2. \$15; \$12 ages 65 and older; \$8 students. Roswell Cultural Arts Center, 950 Forrest St., Roswell. 770-623-8623. www.ludwigsymphony.org.

### BEAD-DAZZLED

Exhibitors at the Intergalactic Bead and Jewelry Show offer precious and semiprecious gems, pearls, silver, crystals, hand-blown and vintage beads and other components for jewelry making. Also, door prizes and a daily raffle. In Hall C. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Feb. 2-3. \$4-\$5; ages 12 and younger free. Gwinnett Convention Center, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth. 770-813-7500. 404-249-6400. www.beadshows.com.

### STRINGS ATTACHED

"Il Teatro Machiavelli" features Vincent Tortorici in a one-man puppet-theater performance based on the nefarious writings of Machiavelli. At the Howard Logan Stillwell Theater. 8 p.m. Jan. 30-Feb. 1. \$15. Kennesaw State University, 1000 Chastain Road, Kennesaw. 770-499-3223. www.kennesaw.edu/arts.

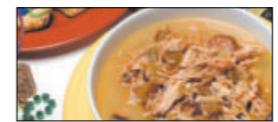
### HAWKISH ON NATURE

The Hawks of Georgia: Many different hawks that call Georgia home are explored with a naturalist. 2 p.m. Saturdays-Sundays. Feb. 2-24. \$5; \$4 senior citizens; \$3 ages 3-12; ages 2 and younger free. Chattahoochee Nature Center, 9135 Willeo Road, Roswell. 770-992-2055. www.chattnaturecenter.com.

### TOUCH THE SKY

In "Reaching for the Stars: The Story of Dr. Mae Jemison," writer-performer Joanna Maddox pays tribute to Dr. Mae Jemison, the first black female astronaut, who made history when she blasted off aboard space shuttle Endeavor on Sept. 12, 1992. On the Alley Stage. 10 a.m. Jan. 31-Feb. 1; 8 p.m. Feb. 2; 2:30 p.m. Feb. 3. \$10; \$7 children. Theatre in the Square, 11 Whitlock Ave., Marietta. 770-422-8369. www.theatreinthesquare.com.

ALSO IN TODAY'S PAPER



**Have a super bowl**  
Watch the game over a steaming cup of gumbo. In **Food & Drink**

**Bubbles and rolls**  
There's nothing faux about Saigon Basil's pho. In **accessAtlanta**

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE NEIGHBORHOOD RESTAURANT? IF IT'S NOT IN OUR ONLINE DATABASE, YOU CAN ADD IT AT ACCESSATLANTA.COM/SUBMIT.

## WHAT'S NEW



Photos by PHIL SKINNER / Staff

The almond-crusted grouper is served with wild mushroom pilaf, French green beans, mango salsa and raspberry coulis.

# Catch seafood wave at Alpharetta's Pisces

BY H.M. CAULEY  
For the Journal-Constitution

By astrological charts, the sign of the fish won't arrive until later this month. But a new Pisces has arrived in Alpharetta, a bit of ahead of schedule. This new seafood and steakhouse is the brainchild of Milton residents Debra and Raymond Jones, who quietly unveiled their new venture two weeks ago.

"Pisces' home, a sharp stone-and-glass structure on Old Milton Parkway, was vacant for more than a year after the owners of Coquette's Steakhouse departed. "But the building was beautiful," said Raymond Jones. "It looks like it was built yesterday. It was even furnished, so we took it as it was, changed the color scheme, brightened it up with white linens and purple shades."

And steak now shares top billing with an array of seafood dishes.

### Land and sea

Begin with appetizers of mussels diablo, calamari, cherrystone clams, scampi, crab cakes, shrimp ceviche or tuna tartare. One of the most requested starters is the classic oysters Rockefeller, prepared on the half shell with spinach, Parmesan, butter and parsley. There are nine main dishes, starting with almond-crusted grouper, bourbon molasses salmon, jerk swordfish, ahi tuna teriyaki, corn-crusted snapper, cioppino and scallops. Shrimp comes in island spices and a citrus sauce or in a sample of barbecued, coconut and scampi. But do-it-yourselfers will go for one of the more than 15 fresh fish options and pairings with one of the eight sauces, including Asian, bear-naise, lemon caper and citrus butter. The land options include Guinea



A snazzy barracuda is right at home as part of the oceanic decor.

### PISCES SEAFOOD AND JAZZ RESTAURANT

► Where: 4120 Old Milton Parkway, Alpharetta: 770-475-0057  
► Signature dish: the Pisces Magnificent, a platter of crab legs, clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, crab cakes, conch fritters and a 2.5-pound lobster (\$89.95)  
► Entree price range: \$14.95-\$35.95  
► Hours: 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Sunday-Thursday; 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Friday; 5 p.m.-2 a.m. Saturday  
► Reservations: yes  
► Credit cards: yes  
► Web site (coming soon): www.piscesseafoodandjazz.com

hen, chicken marsala, pan-seared duck breast and lamb chops. The steak selection features 6- and 10-ounce filets, rib-eye, Porterhouse and New York strip that can be paired with seafood sides of crab, shrimp or lobster.

A dish that faces everyone's attention when it's walked through the dining room is the Pisces Magnificent, a luscious assortment of crab legs, clams, mussels, shrimp, scallops, crab cakes, conch fritters and a 2.5-pound lobster.

(It also grabs the wallet at \$89.95.) Lunch service is expected to begin next week. Look for a buffet with a build-a-sandwich bar. Items from the regular menu will also be available. The Sunday brunch has the same focus on soups, salads and sandwiches.

### From the bar

A modest global wine list offers more than 20 selections by the glass. Beers are imported and bottled. The real treat here is the cocktail list — 16 specialty concoctions, each named for a different jazz singer. Just reading the titles and ingredients is a hoot: the "Yes, Suh!" Louis Armstrong is a mix of orange and white tea liqueurs with lemon juice; the Ella Fitzgerald "It's De Lovely" is filled with cointreau, cranberry Stoli, white cranberry juice and fresh lime juice.

### Stay up late

The late-night bar menu has burgers, wings, nachos, chicken tenders and a few seafood options. There's entertainment every night, from blues to live jazz, so there's a good reason to linger long after the dinner dishes are cleared.

TABLE TALK / H.M. CAULEY, for the Journal-Constitution

## Serving up Mardi Gras, Super Bowl fun

Before you start that fast on Ash Wednesday, fill up on all your favorite foods by attending the Taste of Dunwoody on Friday. From 7 to 10:30 p.m., some of the area's top eateries will showcase their best dishes at the W Hotel, 111 Perimeter Center West. Savor bites from Dunwoody Tavern, Fleming's Steakhouse, Garrison's, J. Alexander's, La Grotta, McCormick and Schmick's, McKendrick's, Mimi's Café, Savu, Wildfire and more. \$35; proceeds benefit Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Tickets can be purchased at www.choa.org; 404-785-7337.

► Mardi Gras and Super Bowl in the same week makes for a lot of activity on the food scene. Your first order of business: Make a reservation for your crowd so you have a seat to watch the game.

You'll find your favorite munchies and more on the menu at these TV-laden eateries. In Alpharetta, head to Mazzy's Sports Bar, 10729 Alpharetta Highway (770-645-8576), or TJ's Sports Bar at 2880 Holcomb Bridge

Road (770-552-7700). Alpharetta is also home to Marlow's Tavern, 3719 Old Alabama Road (770-475-1800), and the Champs Americana emporium, 7955 North Point Parkway (770-642-1933), where the main dining room is anchored by a bar surrounded by screens.

Fans in Sandy Springs can root for their favorites at Meehan's Public House, 227 Sandy Springs Place (404-843-8058), or North River Tavern, 8879 Roswell Road (770-552-8784). And the new Firebird Rotisserie and Sports Bar at 4719 Ashford Dunwoody Road (770-804-8288) not only has plenty of big screens, it also has individual sets at each booth where you can tune in to your favorite team.

► If your Super Bowl plans involve watching the TV in your own den, give the party a flavorful twist with food from Chipotle Mexican Grill. The restaurant, with locations in Johns Creek, Alpharetta, Roswell, Sandy Springs and Dunwoody, will do the work for you, putting together burrito boxes with

25 rolled treats stuffed with chicken, pork or beef. Order ahead online at www.chipotle.com.

More in the mood for 'cue? The folks at LowCountry Barbecue Outpost are preparing family packs for four to six sports fans. The food includes pork, chicken or beef by the pound; sides by the pint; racks of ribs; and various barbecue sauces. Place an order by calling the Outpost, 3455 Peachtree Parkway, at 678-688-7678.

► On the Fat Tuesday front, there's a party planned at Whole Foods Markets that will last through February. It kicks off Saturday. At 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., staffers at the Sandy Springs location will be decked out in Mardi Gras finery for a parade through the store. Look for Creole-themed foods, king cakes and food samples. The market is at 5930 Roswell Road; 404-236-0810; www.wholefoodsmarket.com.

Keep Table Talk lively! Send comments and questions to hm\_cauley@yahoo.com or call 678-574-6461.

