

Eatery recreates Grandma's cooking

BY SHERYL GREENSPAN
Special to the Liberal

Looks can be deceiving. You could pass this Woodbridge strip plaza restaurant a hundred times and never give it a second glance — but don't be fooled.

This restaurant may not look like much from the outside, but inside, you will be treated to a delightful array of home-cooked Italian delicacies in a comfortable, yet elegant setting.

Casauria Ristorante prides itself on recreating food true to "cucine della nonna" — or grandma's cooking.

No fancy fusion cuisine here — just fresh, traditional Italian fare prepared to perfection.

Started in 1993, this family-owned restaurant takes its name from a town in the central region of Abruzzo, Italy and is attentively run by Adamo Dilacovo and his mother-in-law, Lina Presutto.

As soon as we were seated, our server arrived with a plate for each of us containing a delicious slice of bruchetta and a few cured black olives.

This was promptly followed by a basket of warm sliced Italian bread, which was replenished throughout the meal.

As we reviewed the extensive menu, we observed a wine list was strangely absent.

When we inquired, we were told they serve primarily wines the owners import directly from Italy with a few selections from the LCBO.

The limited list was presented to us verbally.

The menu at Casauria is well laid-out and offers an excellent selection, including appetizers, pasta, pizza, meat, seafood and a few desserts — again, imported from Italy.

Overall prices are fair but portions are large, so consider sharing an appetizer or dessert and save room for the entree.

There is a good variety of appetizers (\$5.50 and up), including a mountain of mussels and clams in a slightly spicy marinara sauce and caesar salad large enough for two or even three to enjoy.

Entrées range in price from \$9.50 for a simple pasta to more than \$30 for a selection from the seafood category — a house specialty, but most entrees fall into the \$12 to \$16 range.

The food at Casauria Ristorante is fresh, abundant and served steaming hot. We were so impressed with the fresh simplicity of dishes we ordered we actually asked if "Nonna" was in the kitchen cooking.

Try Casauria when you want to enjoy a well-prepared meal in an elegant surrounding without having to fight downtown traffic.

QUICK BITES

- For great panini sandwiches try Dino Panino's on Langstaff, just west of Hwy. 400 or Panini's on the southwest corner of Hwy. 7 and Weston Road.

- The ultimate in decadent gelato (Italian ice cream) can be found at La Paloma on the northwest corner of Hwy. 7 and Weston Road.

NOTES FROM A NAPKIN

Casauria Ristorante

Location: 200 Marycroft Ave, Suite 5, Woodbridge (Hwy. 7 and Pine Valley)

Phone: 905-851-9678

Type: Fine dining, Italian

Entré Selection: Excellent variety, price range \$9.50 to \$32.50

Wine Selection: Primarily Italian, limited selection

Children's Menu: Not available but children are welcome and accommodated

Reservations: Recommended for weekends only



Pat Robinson
INC.

Trustee in Bankruptcy

Call for a free personal discussion:

- Help with creditor problems
- Proposal to creditors
- Personal & Business Bankruptcy

PAT ROBINSON - TRUSTEE

Aurora 15105 Yonge St. #201 (at Church) (905) 727-2577

Richmond Hill 9555 Yonge St. #401 (at Wedrick) (905) 508-9493

Toronto (North) 45 Sheppard Ave. E. #201 (at Yonge) (416) 410-6648

Toronto (Downtown) 150 York St. #800 (at Adelaide) (416) 410-6648

Toll Free • 1-877-727-2577

Email: Pat@PatRobinson.com

Web: www.PatRobinson.com

Join Now For Only \$0 Initiation!

The Sooner You Join The More Money You Will Save!

Expires September 30, 2002.

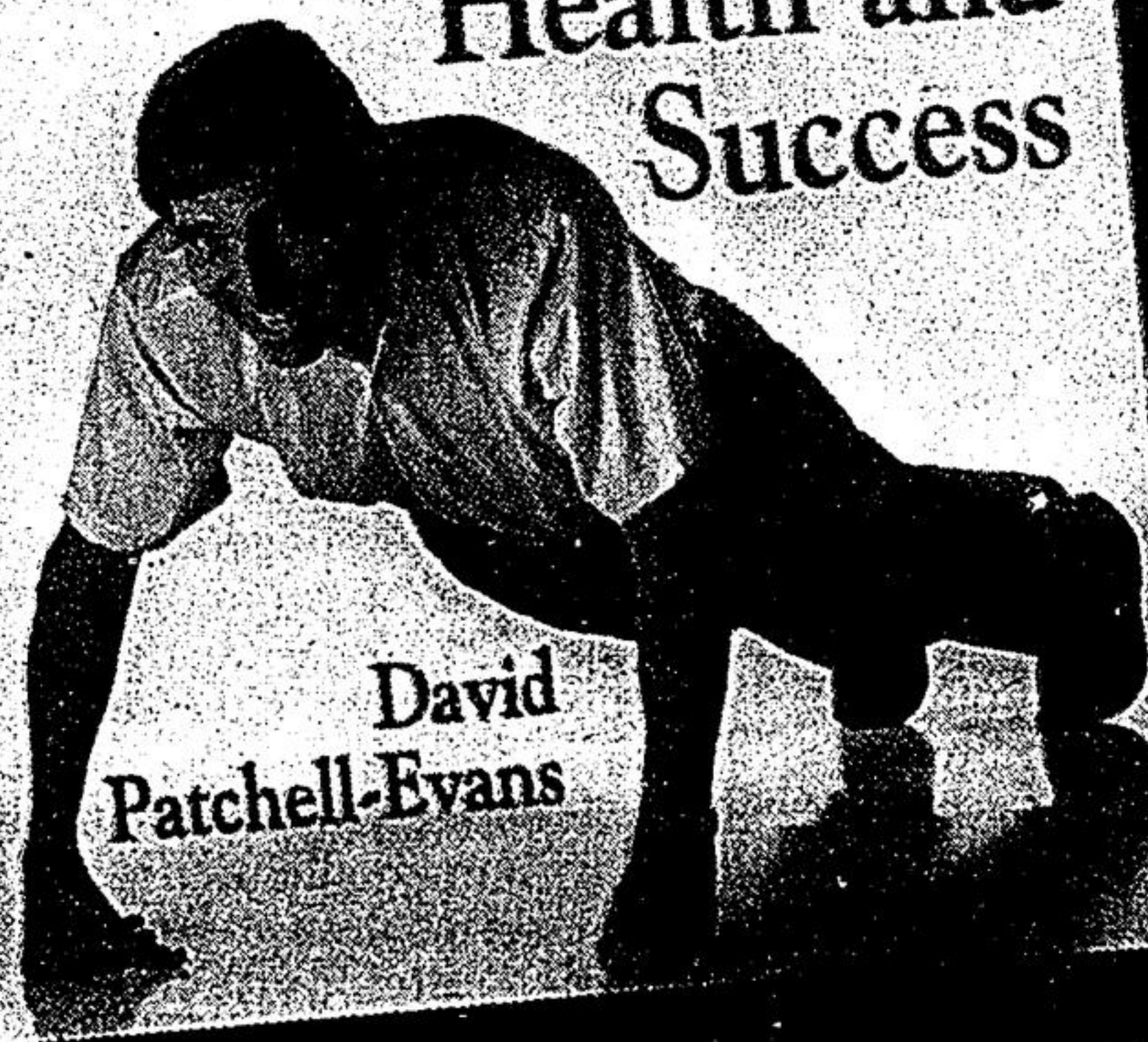
Limited to the first 100 people at this location!

FREE \$20 BOOK

Come in to discover how GoodLife can help you reach your goals. Receive a free copy of the book "Living the Good Life".

Living the Good Life

Your Guide to Health and Success



David Patchell-Evans

GoodLife

FITNESS CLUBS

(905) 479-5343 5000 Highway 7, Coed

Nominal dues and administration fees apply. Offer expires September 30, 2002.

No cuts to psychiatric beds!

S Schizophrenia Society of Ontario
1-800-449-6367
www.web.net/~sso

This message brought to you as a community service of The Economist & Sun