



# NIGHTLIFE

INSIDE DETROIT'S PARTY SCENE

## A nice place, eh?



29 Park, a new Novi nightclub, caters to a 21-and-up crowd.

BRIAN WILLIAMS/DETROIT FREE PRESS

### 29 Park nightclub, with roots in Ontario, opens in Novi

After seven years in Canada, 29 Park has made its way to the States.

"We are a club for everybody," says operations director Carol Sassine. "We are a nice place, but we are a place that caters to people who want to enjoy life."

The Novi nightclub, which held its grand opening last weekend, joins 29 Park locations in Windsor and London, Ontario. It's open Fridays and Saturdays and caters to a 21-and-up crowd.

#### ESE ESAN

"Our crowd is quite diverse," Sassine says. "We might have some 21-year-olds, but we might have some people who are 30 to 40 as well."

Music is provided by DJs who tend to stick to Top 40, and there's a large dance floor. Food, including sandwiches, fruit and water, is included in the cover prices (\$5 on Fridays and \$10 on Saturdays). Beers cost less than \$5 and cocktails start at \$5.75.

The 9,200-square-foot club is owned by the owners of the Ontario clubs, and the décor and feel are the same, Sassine says.

In addition to the spacious dance floor, 29 Park has a large lounge area with plenty of seating and three flat-screen TVs showing music videos.

9 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 43155 Main St., Novi. 248-344-2925.

**HARD LUCK CANDY LAUNCH:** There's something appealing about giving a childhood favorite an adult

twist. At least that's what the makers of Hard Luck Candy Flavored Vodka are hoping. They've given their new liquor the flavor of old-fashioned sweets.

The launch of the brand takes place tonight at the Loving Touch in Ferndale, where guests will be introduced to the Red Fish and Root Beer Barrel flavors. Both have been in development for two years.

"We will be launching one to two new flavors in the coming months," says Chris George, one of the Hard Luck founders. "As to what those flavors are, folks will just have to wait and see."

Hard Luck Candy began as a candy-infused vodka at the Hard Luck Lounge in Grosse Pointe Park. Because of its success behind the bar there, George and cofounders Mike Mouyanis (who owns the lounge) and Rob Nicholl decided to market the liquor and make it available to other venues and distributors.

An invite-only VIP event will be held at 8 tonight before doors open to the public at 10. The Loving Touch, 22634 Woodward, Ferndale. 248-546-3644. Free.



AFB, which opened near Comerica Park about 10 months ago, will go on hiatus Saturday.

**GOTH CLUB GOES TO THE BEACH:** When you think City Club, you don't normally think of beach parties. But all of that will change Saturday when the club launches Hotter Than Hell.

"We thought since the summer has been miserably hot, it would be a fun idea to have a monster bikini bash," says promoter Rebekah Niemann.

Beach gear like flip-flops, towels and bathing suits are encouraged. Event hosts will have water guns, but guests are asked to leave theirs at home to keep all the DJ equipment safe and dry.

"For those who haven't been to City Club before, I would say there's no place like it," Niemann says. "If a person hasn't been introduced to the alternative goth scene, it may come as a shock. It really is a sensory overload."

10 p.m. Saturday, Leland City Club, 400 Bagley, Detroit. 313-962-2300. \$5. 18 and up.

**AFB MOVING ON:** The 3,000-square-foot bar at the corner of Park and Henry in Detroit won't be around much longer — at least not in its present form.

The establishment, often referred to as AFB (its full name can't be printed in a family newspaper), opened quietly about 10 months ago just two blocks from Comerica Park in the former 2500 Club location. But come Saturday, it will be on "temporary hiatus," says operations director George Mugianis, thanks to a landlord who bought the bar out.

Mugianis doesn't know where AFB will go next, but he says it will remain in Detroit. He and his partners, David Lamarche and Josh Baker, are looking for a space in the area with "a cool vibe."

AFB, 2500 Park, Detroit. 313-285-8362.

■ ESE ESAN'S NIGHTLIFE COLUMN APPEARS AT METROMIX.COM ON WEDNESDAYS AND IN THE PLAY SECTION ON THURSDAYS. E-MAIL HER AT EESAN@METROMIX.COM.