

food

feedme

Restaurant openings, closings and culinary events — get the latest dish every day on our blog.

newsday.com/feedme

web special

Get a full plate of Marge Perry's 3 Simple recipes — from apples to zucchini.

newsday.com/food



PHOTO BY DONNA ALBERICO

A haystack of fried onions at Smokin' Al's in Massapequa Park and Bay Shore is enough for 4 to 6 diners.



PHOTO BY JENNIFERS ALTMAN

Carnivores open really wide for the pastrami, corned beef, roast beef and salami in Pastrami King's triple-decker sandwich.

Whoa!

How you gonna eat all that?

THESE LI RESTAURANTS SERVE HUGE PORTIONS

BY JOAN REMINICK
joan.reminick@newsday.com

Use a fork or use a forklift? That's the dilemma diners face at Long Island restaurants where individual portions are sized to feed a sumo tag team.

Before calling in the food police, though, keep in mind that nobody's forced to clean their plates. In fact, an entire family may be able to dine for days on what goes home in the doggy bag — or carton.

NASSAU

CAFE AL DENTE

2 Spring St., Oyster Bay, 516-922-2442.

THE DISH Seafood fra diavolo features a haul of shellfish (shrimp, clams and calamari) over a boatload of linguine, everything in a spicy plum tomato sauce. The dish is preceded by a big, colorful salad crowned with shredded Provolone.

BIG ENOUGH TO FEED 2 to 3
PRICE \$25

(Also check out the pork chops pizzaiola, another red sauce debauch).

CIAO BABY

5074 Sunrise Hwy., Massapequa Park, 516-799-5200 and 246 Voice Rd., Carle Place, 516-248-7600 (also in Suffolk County at 204 E. Jericho Tpke., Commack, 631-543-1400), ciaobabyrestaurant.com

THE DISH Is it a rice ball or a planetoid? The appetizer features a lightly crisped crust overlaying creamy rice and ground beef with peas. It's set in a sea of

tomato sauce, dolloped with fresh ricotta and guaranteed to knock your eyes out.

BIG ENOUGH TO FEED 3 to 5
PRICE \$14.95 (it's also an appetizer choice on the \$24.95 family supper)

CHEESECAKE FACTORY

1504 Old Country Rd., Westbury, 516-222-5500 (also in Suffolk County at 610 Smith Haven Mall #P-10, Lake Grove, 631-361-6600 and 160 Walt Whitman Rd., # 1109, Huntington Station, 631-271-8200), thecheesecakefactory.com

THE DISH Santa Fe Salad. The statement "I'll only have a salad" takes on new meaning with this virtual basin of greens topped with lime-marinated chicken, corn, black beans, cheese, tomato and tortilla strips. Get the spicy peanut-cilantro dressing on the side, and you can pack leftovers to go.

BIG ENOUGH TO FEED 2 to 4
PRICE \$13.95

PASTRAMI KING

196 Merrick Rd., Merrick, 516-377-4300, pastramiking.com.

THE DISH Pastrami King special triple-decker sandwich. It's a carnivore's dream, a cardiologist's nightmare — a towering compilation of pastrami, corned beef, roast beef and salami.

BIG ENOUGH TO FEED 2 to 4
PRICE \$14.50

SMOKIN' AL'S FAMOUS BBQ JOINT

4847 Merrick Rd., Massapequa Park, 516-799-4900. (also in Suffolk County at 19 W. Main St., Bay Shore, 631-206-3000), smokinal.com

THE DISH The ridiculously tall "haystack" of fried onions may obscure from view the person sitting opposite you. It's that big.

BIG ENOUGH TO FEED 4 to 6
PRICE \$9.99

(Also check out the 2-mile-high "challenge burger," two 10-ounce grilled burgers with toppings on an oversize sesame bun. Or the brontosaurus rack of ribs).