

Seniors enjoy Coffee Shop treatment



Susan M. Botich

Best Bets

When patrons come to the Coffee Shop at the Gold Dust West Casino in Carson City, they are treated like they are friends, says assistant manager Sandy Wages.

“We have the friendliest servers you will find,” Wages said. “Our motto for the Coffee Shop is ‘House Full of Friends.’”

Seniors especially are treated with appreciation. The Coffee Shop offers several special deals, such as the ongoing 777 Special, which is a T-bone steak, a baked potato, a salad and a roll for \$7.77.

“We are always having some kind of specials offer,” Wages said. “For example, every Monday, we have a Two-For-One Senior Day Special, which allows customers who buy the coupon to order any entrée on the menu and get the second free.”

Seniors purchase the coupons at the Players Club booth in the casino near the front entrance. The term “senior” at the Gold Dust West Casino applies to a broader age group than many restaurants allow.

“We define senior as someone who is 50 or better,” Wages said with a chuckle.

To get to the Coffee Shop, patrons walk through the front entrance of the casino and turn left past the Customer Service desk to find the Coffee Shop on the left.

The restaurant’s Nevada theme lets patrons feel right at home, from the Western motif paintings on the walls to the lantern-style lights that illuminate the dining booths. The colors are soft desert earth tones and pastels with knotty pine accents on the booths and dividers. Desert plants throughout the room add to the overall comfortable ambiance.

Tables form the center of the open dining area, while booths line the perimeter.

“Lots of family functions are held here because we can accommodate up to 25 people without reservations,” Wages said.

The restaurant is happy to accommodate much larger groups, too.

“We have three dining rooms set up to accommodate groups of up to 150,” Wages said. “Many organizations meet here. We have conventions, weddings, anniversary celebrations, etc.”

Just a few steps from the hotel front desk, the Coffee Shop offers a convenient dining option for hotel guests. The restaurant looks forward to expanding its services to that of hotel room service



John Thomas/Special to the Reno Gazette-Journal

The Coffee Shop at the Gold Dust West Casino in Carson City serves a steak entree.

in the near future. For now, hotel guests may call in their food orders “to go” and pick them up at the restaurant.

In addition to serving hotel guests, the Coffee Shop’s personnel is proud the restaurant has so many repeat customers, Wages said.

“It’s because we give them consistent quality service,” she said. “We have regulars that all our staff knows. We are on a first-name basis with a lot of our customers.”

One reason so many patrons keep coming back is the effort the Coffee Shop makes to give back to the community, Wages said. The restaurant shows its appreciation toward the community by offering a seniors luncheon special on the last Tuesday and Wednesday of every month. The meal is free for seniors from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

“They usually arrive at the restaurant at about noon,” Wages said. “Everyone is seated at one large table in the open dining room. It is a great opportunity for seniors to get to know more people and to socialize. Sometimes, we see that people make new friends this way.”

The menu for this senior luncheon is the chef’s choice. The idea for this special was created by the Coffee Shop’s general manager, Lynne Keller.

“It has been a great success,” Wages said. “It’s just another way that we can give back to the community and show our appreciation.”

Susan M. Botich is a freelance writer.