

AS SEEN IN
the

Parklander

March 2009

A Fabulous Find

By Charles Marcanetti

For the past several years I have had the privilege of reviewing many great eateries (and some clunkers) for this magazine.

Occasionally I stumble across a rare find, indeed. Though this is not a review, as I don't review dessert shops; it is a raving, glowing, screamingly positive endorsement of a place I wish I could order all of you to go to. It is called The Gelato Shoppe Petrini. Here are some landmarks—'cause I don't want you to get lost—it is on the North side

of Glades, just west of the Turnpike at 8177 Glades Road in the West Boca Place Shopping Center, near Office Depot, Party City, between Dominic's Pizza and Grill Time. (561-488-3070).

Owned by Dawn and Mauro Petrini (Dawn is from the US and met Mauro in Italy—but that is a story for another time), they both studied the science of fine gelato making for years, each getting certified as gelato chefs, before bringing their masterpieces to our area.

I love gelato. All of the gelato I have had in South Florida pales by comparison to the Gelato Shoppe's. The best gelato I have ever eaten was from a little push-cart type vendor just outside Notre Dame in Paris, France. The Petrini's are right up there. In fact, their pistachio and their cappuccino are even better than the French version.

Now, listen to this! All, not some, but ALL the ingredients are natural. ALL are hand chosen and ALL are Kosher.

They make seasonal specialties (pear, blueberry, etc.) and always have the standards. They also serve dairy-free gelato.

The place is small (way too small for the crowds they are sure to attract), but is well lit, clean and "happy." Dawn usually runs the front and, with special arrangements, Mauro will actually conduct a short class on their recipe formulation and product creation. Samples are abundant and this place will absolutely become a destination...a landmark. So, please, do yourself a favor...do a favor for your friends and loved ones...and go to The Gelato Shoppe Petrini...wow, is it ever worth it!

