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### Dining News

# Birmingham's Forte has a new executive chef

Molly Abraham / Special to The Detroit News

Stephen Jalbert has taken over as executive chef at Forte in Birmingham. Jalbert's experience includes stints at the Ritz-Carlton Grill Room in Dearborn and the now-shuttered NOMI in Northville. He'll have his hands full at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave. in downtown Birmingham, (248) 594-7300, one of the few white-tablecloth restaurants that serves breakfast, lunch and dinner every day from a contemporary American menu.

## Vinoteca celebrates with Crush

Anyone who remembers the "I Love Lucy" grape-stomping episode will probably be intrigued by the way Vinoteca celebrates its anniversary each year. The party is called Crush, and it includes old-fashioned barefoot grape crushing for anyone willing to jump into the barrel.

For those who would prefer just sipping some wine, or beer for that matter, it's included, too, along with an appetizer buffet, a cooking demonstration and a trivia contest.

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The event is Thursday, June 25, at 417 S. Main St., Royal Oak. Advance tickets are \$25. The price goes to \$35 on the day of the party. The gratuity is included in the ticket price, a nice touch. It's the fourth anniversary for the popular [wine bar](#) that has a sibling, Vinology, in Ann Arbor.

Reservations are required at (248) 544-6250.