

Music and Nightlife

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Cheers

Vodka event benefits needy

Melody Baetens / The Detroit News

Beer lovers get several festivals a year and wine aficionados can attend tasting after tasting, but what about vodka lovers?

Finally, there is a vodka-centric event for us. Vodka Vodka, taking place Friday at the Royal Oak Farmers Market, features a handful of spirits for tasting.

While you get loosened up on distilled libations, know that it's all for a good cause. Partial proceeds will benefit Forgotten Harvest, which rescues surplus food from restaurants, grocery stores, farmers and the like, and distributes it to the people who need it most.

Advertisement

"We're all about providing Metro Detroit and Forgotten Harvest with the best event possible," says Maria Stella Jewett, promotions manager of the Metro Times. "We figured most people like vodka, and since it's the middle of winter, we felt like there's no better excuse to have some fun."

Participating vodka companies include Svedka, Vodka 360, Finlandia, Valentine, Traverse City Vodka, Grey Goose, Three Olives, Zodiac and Effen.

Vodka-infused food also will be on hand from local restaurants like Bastone. Its chef, Robert Young, has created chocolate-raspberry bread pudding made with chocolate- and raspberry-flavored vodka. Other participating restaurants include Memphis Smoke, Toast, D'Amato's, Inn Season, Great Lakes Coffee and Party Cakes.

Paxahau Event Productions will provide DJs to keep the party going.

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Vodka Vodka

Vodka and food tasting

7 p.m. Friday
 Royal Oak Farmer's Market
 316 E. 11 Mile, Royal Oak
 Tickets \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door
 Visit www.ticketweb.com

Events

Michigan Beer Tasting at Champane's Wine Cellar & International Marketplace, 6-8 tonight. \$20. 7007 Chicago Road, Warren. (586) 879-5798.

Apple Cherry Hard Cider and Apple Table Wine Release Party at Robinette Cellars, 1-5 p.m. Sat. \$3. \$5 per couple. 3142 Four Mile

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