

Sophia's Italian Cafe

555 Progress Center Ave., Lawrenceville

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■ **Open since:** 2000

■ **Location:** Sophia's Italian Cafe is just off Ga. Highway 316 on Progress Center Avenue

■ **Hours:** 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday with lunch being served from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

■ **Owner:** Suwanee resident Chun Kim bought Sophia's about two months ago. She, along with original owner, Atlanta resident John Valentino, is continuing the eight-year tradition of offering homemade Italian fare.

ON THE MENU

■ Eggplant parmigiana

— Lightly breaded fresh eggplant sauteed in olive oil then baked with marinara sauce and cheese with spaghetti, served with a tossed salad and garlic bread, dinner entree \$10.95, lunch portion \$7.50

■ Chicken linguine

— All white meat sauteed with mushrooms and scallions, simmered in butter-garlic sauce with linguine noodles, served with a tossed salad and garlic bread, dinner entree \$10.95

■ Angel hair Sophia

— Shrimp, clams and alfredo sauce tossed with angel hair pasta, dinner entree \$12.95

■ **Atmosphere:** The open dining area is brightened with green accents and offers booth and table

seating. The expansive bar also seats diners.

■ **Menu:** Sophia's offers traditional Italian dishes, including dinner favorites lasagna and shrimp alfredo. Sauces are homemade and the alfredo is Valentino's family recipe. Baked spaghetti is a popular lunch item, and a variety of sandwiches — meatball parmesan, chicken parmesan and eggplant parmesan — soups and salads round out the offerings.

Sophia's serves beer and wine in addition to soft drinks, teas and coffee.

■ **Things you might not know:** Sophia's Italian Cafe is named for Valentino's 84-year-old mother who can sometimes be found cooking up Italian fare in the restaurant's kitchen.



Sophia's Cafe is located off Progress Center Avenue and Ga. Highway 316.



Staff Photos: Jason Braverman

Sophia's Cafe in Lawrenceville serves shrimp alfredo and a beef lasagna dish along with a glass of red wine.