

## Amoroma brings the Community Together at New Year's

By Linda U. Foley



Left to right: Rick Hattabaugh of Little Dogs, Hafiz Haidari and Dick Callahan toast the New Year  
Photo Linda U. Foley

Where will you be as the old year packs its bags to make room for 2008? Watching television? In bed, eating peanut butter with your champagne? Anything to avoid battling traffic and craziness? How about doing it "right" and right in your own backyard so-to-speak, at the Rheem Theatre in Moraga.

It may not be Times Square but much of life's joy comes in small packages and is often right under our connoisseur-ish noses. Amoroma restaurateurs, Michele Lavecchia, Hafiz Haidari and Noe Castro (also the

chef), bring Rheem and the community together at their first annual New Year's Eve party.

The doors open at 9 p.m. and stay open until 2 a.m. The moderate price of \$50 each includes two cocktails and covers cost of appetizers and desserts, dancing to the sound of local band Little Dogs and emceed by no other than the SMC Gael's voice, Dick Callahan. The newly refurbished facility will show New Year's celebrations across the world in three of its theatres while waiting for the champagne toast and balloon bouquets to

take flight. After a long night of good food, fun and festivities, some partygoers may wish to be taxied home by available town cars.

Within the past four-plus years of opening, Amoroma has put its indelible mark on this community. An atmosphere of conviviality, authentic and season-oriented Italian cuisine fills the golden-walled rooms night after night with diners and is a favorite of food critics.

In tune with the needs of this community, Amoroma expanded its confines to include Alimentari Amoroma a perfect venue for lunch and weekly wine tastings, and – having acquired the Rheem Theatre — introduced Tuesday movie nights alternating between French and Italian cinema, paired with appetizers and wines.

For some, Amoroma is still a well-kept secret, while for many others, it has become a favorite spot to congregate and celebrate various occasions.

Tickets are available at Amoroma (925-377-7662) and are going fast. However, doors will be kept open for late birds.

It's time to get glammed up and into the spirit! Come and celebrate with your friends and community at the Rheem Theatre and boogie together into the New Year. Bon Ano!

You can contact Linda Foley at [linalfoley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:linalfoley@sbcglobal.net).



Happy Holidays & Peace on Earth.

For the people on your list this season... there's only one place to turn...

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## Great Food Fast

By Cathy Tyson

Not only does Diablo Foods have the legendary Ed Stokes and an extensive meat counter, but now the Lafayette landmark has expanded its convenience foods department. Busy professionals take note, after a long day of work, a delicious meal can be on the table in less time than you can say, "artery-clogging, greasy french fries."

"We had been wanting to do this for some time," says Deli Manager Karen Mastorakis, now in her 20th year with the store. "The idea was to come in and get a gourmet, reasonably priced meal. We have seven chefs who prepare all of our entrees and all but two of the salads right here in the store kitchen. The cheese bar has been remodeled, and we also have a variety of homemade soups and fresh sushi-to-go."

"It's been a huge success," notes Mastorakis. The Italian pot roast and polenta is a big hit as well as the chicken piccata and mini quiche. Even their sautéed brussels sprouts have been flying out the door. Fear not, picky eaters, there's also macaroni and cheese.



Diablo Foods Deli Manager Karen Mastorakis  
Photo Cathy Tyson

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or call 925.377.0977

**Holiday Specials**

We are taking reservations for holiday parties (banquet menus available) and we are open Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

Call Petar's at 925-284-7117 for reservations.

**Petar's Restaurant**  
is located in the heart of Lafayette at 32 Lafayette Circle.

Petar's is open for lunch Monday through Saturday from 11:30 to 4:00 and open for dinner nightly.

**925-284-7117**

**NINO'S BAY**

**RESTAURANT BAR & GRILL**

2 Theatre Square #153  
**ORINDA 925-253-1327**

Mon-Sat: Lunch 11 - 2 • Dinner 4 - 10  
Sunday: noon - 9:30pm

**NINO'S Specials**  
New Year's Eve Dinner  
5-9pm

Fixed menu  
4 course meal: Salad, Calamari or Crab Cake, Entree of Fillet Minion, New York Steak, Salmon Wellington, and Dessert

By reservations only

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY Special**

**TERZETTO CUISINE**

RECEIVE A FREE ENTREE (\$12.95 MAXIMUM) AND A PIECE OF ANGEL BIRTHDAY CAKE!

1419 Moraga Way, Moraga Shopping Center  
925-376-3832

*Offer is good one time during your birthday month. Proof of birth date required.*

**EST 1947**

We moved to Asia and when we visited we came for our "Fix". We are back now and can enjoy your good food as often as we like!

Cindy Bulger

**3339 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette ☎ 925-283-2345**

!Celebrating Our 3rd Year!

**MAYA**  
Mexican Grill

Fish Tacos - Shrimp Burritos - Fajitas - Tostadas  
Enchiladas - Chicken Mole - Steak Ranchero Plates  
Pork Chili Verde - Carnitas - Chicken Ranchero - Burritos & Tacos

Vegetarian Available - Serving Beer and Wine

Dine In, Take Out, and Catering

Mon.-Sat., 11am-8pm  
74 Moraga Way, Orinda  
(925) 258-9049

Kids Menu

**Shelby's Restaurant**  
•• Theatre Square, Orinda ••  
925-254-9687

Open Daily  
Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

Make your reservation today for New Years eve dinner.

Friday and Saturday Live Music  
Saturday and Sunday Brunch

Remember us for your Holiday Parties, Private Events and Catering.

<b>LAMORINDA's Restaurants</b> •• updated November 28, 2007 ••			
<b>American</b>			
Bistro	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	
Chow Restaurant	53 Lafayette Cir, Laf	962-2469	
Hungry Hunter	3201 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	938-3938	
Quiznos	3651 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0200	
Ranch House	1012 School St, Mor	376-5127	
Terzetto Cuisine	1419 Moraga Way, Mor	376-3832	
The Cheese Steak Shop	3455 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-1234	
<b>BBQ</b>			
Bo's Barbecue	3422 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7133	
<b>Burger Joint</b>			
Flippers	960 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-1567	
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	400 Park, Mor	376-8888	
Nation's Giant Hamburgers	76 Moraga Way, Ori	254-8888	
<b>Café</b>			
Express Cafe	3732 Mt. Diablo Blvd # 170, Laf	283-7170	
Ferrari-Lucca Delicatessens	23 Lafayette Cir, Laf	299-8040	
Geppetto's cafe	87 Orinda Way, Ori	253-9894	
<b>California Cuisine</b>			
Gigi's	1005 Brown St., Laf	962-0882	
Metro Lafayette	3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-4422	
Shelby's	2 Theatre Sq, Ori	254-9687	
<b>Chinese</b>			
Asia Palace Restaurant	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	
Chef Chao Restaurant	343 Rheem Blvd, Mor	376-1740	
China Moon Restaurant	380 Park St, Mor	376-1828	
The Great Wall Restaurant	3500 Golden Gate Way, Laf	284-3500	
Hsiangs Mandarin Cuisine	1 Orinda Way # 1, Ori	253-9852	
Lily's House	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd #A, Laf	284-7569	
Mandarin Flower	581 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-7839	
Panda Express	3608 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-0288	
Szechwan Chinese Restaurant	79 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2020	
Uncle Yu's Szechuan	999 Oak Hill Rd, Laf	283-1688	
Yan's Restaurant	3444 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-2228	
<b>Coffee Shop</b>			
Millie's Kitchen	1018 Oak Hill Rd #A, Laf	283-2397	
Squirrel's Coffee Shop	998 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-7830	
Village Inn Café	290 Village Square, Ori	254-6080	
<b>Continental</b>			
Petar's Restaurant	32 Lafayette Cir, Laf	284-7117	
Vino Restaurant	3531 Plaza Way, Laf	284-1330	
Duck Club Restaurant	3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7108	
<b>Hawaiian Grill</b>			
Lava Pit	2 Theatre Square, St. 142, Ori	253-1338	
<b>Indian</b>			
India Palace	3740 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5700	
Swad Indian Cuisine	3602 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9575	
<b>Italian</b>			
Giardino	3406 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-3869	
La Finestra Ristorante	100 Lafayette Cir, St. 101, Laf	284-5282	
La Pizzeria	15 Moraga Way, Ori	253-9191	
Mangia Ristorante Pizzeria	975 Moraga Rd, Laf	284-3081	
Michael's	1375 Moraga Way, Mor	376-4300	
Mondello's	337 Rheem Blvd, Mor	376-2533	
Pizza Antica	3600 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0500	
Postino	3565 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8700	
Ristorante Amoroma	360 Park St, Mor	377-7662	
<b>Japanese</b>			
Asia Palace Sushi Bar	1460 B Moraga Rd, Mor	376-0809	
Blue Ginko	3518-A Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9020	
Kane Sushi	3474 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-9709	
Niwa Restaurant	1 Camino Sobrante # 6, Ori	254-1606	
Senika Restaurant	2 Theatre Sq # 118, Ori	254-7088	
Tamami's Japanese Restaurant	356 Park St, Mor	376-2872	
Yu Sushi	19 Moraga Way, Ori	253-8399	
<b>Jazz Dinner Club</b>			
Joe's of Lafayette	3707 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Laf	299-8807	
The Orinda House	65 Moraga Way, Ori	258-4445	
<b>Mediterranean</b>			
Alex's	2 Theatre Sq # 105, Ori	254-5290	
Nino's Bay	#2 Theater Square, Ste. 153, Ori	253-1327	
Oasis Cafe	3594 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-8822	
Per Tutti Ristorante	3576 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5225	
<b>Mexican</b>			
360 Gourmet Burrito	3655 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1270	
El Charro Mexican Dining	3339 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-2345	
El Jaro Mexican Cafe	3563 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6639	
La Cocina Mexicana	23 Orinda Way, Ori	258-9987	
Mucho wraps	1375-B Moraga Way, Mor	377-1203	
Baja Fresh Mexican Grill	3596 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8740	
Celia's Restaurant	3666 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-8288	
El Balazo	3518D Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-8700	
Maya Mexican Grill	19 Orinda Way # Ab, Ori	258-9049	
Numero Uno Taqueria	3616 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1333	
<b>Pizza</b>			
Aladino's Pizza	3614 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-6363	
Mountain Mike's Pizza	504 Center St, Mor	377-6453	
Pennini's	1375 Moraga Rd, Mor	376-1515	
Round Table Pizza	361 Rheem Blvd, Mor	376-1411	
Round Table Pizza	3637 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-0404	
Village Pizza	19 Orinda Way # Ab, Ori	254-1200	
Zamboni's Pizza	1 Camino Sobrante # 4, Ori	254-2800	
<b>Sandwiches/Deli</b>			
Bianca's Deli	1480 Moraga Rd # A, Mor	376-4400	
Europa Hofbrau Deli & Pub	64 Moraga Way, Ori	254-7202	
Gourmet Bistro Café	484 Center St, Mor	376-1551	
Kasper's Hot Dogs	103 Moraga Way, Ori	253-0766	
Noah's Bagels	3518 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-0716	
Orinda Deli	19 F Orinda Way, Ori	254-1990	
Subway	396 Park St., Mor	376-2959	
Subway	3322 Mt. Diablo Blvd #B, Laf	284-2627	
Subway	Theatre Square, Ori	258-0470	
<b>Singaporean/Malaysian</b>			
Kopitiam	3647 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1653	
<b>South American</b>			
The Patio Tapas and Restaurant	960 Moraga Road, Laf	299-6885	
<b>Steak</b>			
Casa Orinda	20 Bryant Way, Ori	254-2981	
<b>Tea</b>			
Patisserie Lafayette	71 Lafayette Cir, Laf	283-2226	
Tea Party by Appointment	107 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2206	
<b>Thai</b>			
Amarin Thai Cuisine	3555 Mt. Diablo Blvd # B, Laf	283-8883	
Baan Thai	99 Orinda Way, Ori	253-0989	
Royal Siam	512 Center St, Mor	377-0420	
Siam Orchid	23 Orinda Way # F, Ori	253-1975	

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