

# DON'T FORGET TO MAKE YOUR NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER RESERVATIONS AT ONE OF OUR LOCAL RESTAURANTS!



**Holiday Specials**

We are taking reservations for holiday parties (banquet menus available) and we are open **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 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**

**RESTAURANT BAR & GRILL**  
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Mon-Sat: Lunch 11 - 2 • Dinner 4 - 10  
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I plan to spend my 60th birthday at EC. You are my very favorite restaurant. There is nothing like it anywhere!  
Susan Wise

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For more informations check out web site at [www.amoroma.com](http://www.amoroma.com)

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•• Theatre Square, Orinda ••  
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## Can Farmers Markets Sustain Local Food Production?

By Sophie Braccini



Year-round Farmers' Market on Sunday morning in Moraga Photo Sophie Braccini

Fong Tchieng's farm has been a favorite at the Moraga Farmers' Market for more than two years. A family of expert gardeners who came from Laos in the 80's manages the 20-acre Fresno farm. The parents farm while the children study at UC Davis. Every week they bring to markets a wide variety of vegetables from the most classic to some interesting variations such as orange beets, Chinese greens or Jerusalem artichokes.

From the individual artisan, to large farms, to family businesses, merchants at farmers markets come in all shapes and flavors. With the Tchiengs, they share a passion for their trade and are not afraid of hard work. Their diversity may be what makes the year round Moraga market so successful. The market started operating once a month in the parking lot at the Moraga Center in 2004. It became a weekly summer market the following

year, and expanded to year-round operation one winter ago. According to Gayle Griver, of the California Market Association (which manages this market), what makes its success is the blend of fresh and tasty products offered year round. "We are blessed to live in an area with a lot of microclimates that provides a wide variety of crops," explains Griver.

On the opposite side of the market to the Tchiengs, Happy Boy Farm from Santa Cruz sells only organic vegetables. Greg Beccio's farm is larger, with 230 acres, 110 different produces and up to 70 employees in season. Farmers markets are a big part of his sales, about 50%, the rest being sold to restaurant or stores such as the Monterey Market in Berkeley. People who work the market can have different jobs on the farm; some are part time employees who may live in different cities.

Olivera Egg Farm is a large operation, too. The grandfather of the present

owner founded the chicken farm in San Jose in 1948. Now the South Peninsula city doesn't want to harbor 600,000 chickens within its border and the operation has moved to Stockton. Farmers' markets represent just a small percentage of Olivera's sale, "for us this is more about brand recognition."

Steve Gentry, the Orinda beekeeper, has the same marketing objective with a very different type of operation. "I sell only a small percentage of my honey at farmers' markets," says Steve, "I go there so people can put a face on my name. My objective is also educational, and I always display a hive in my stand so kids can learn about bees." Steve confesses that he works with bees out of passion; his primary source of income is his rental properties.

Greg Young, who owns two boats in Monterey, has no other source of income. "Consumers do not realize what a hard life it is," says the fisherman. He fishes all week for

salmon, tuna, halibut and cod; cuts, packages and sells at markets during the weekend with wife Edyta. "We do it out of our passion for bringing an exceptional product directly to the people," says Young. "We are a disappearing trade ourselves, within 10 years there won't be any salmon left in Northern California. Water from rivers is diverted for human needs and the fish are just vanishing." He sells to farmers' markets in San Francisco, Morgan Hill and San Jose.

Holding Farm is another example of how a local operation can find a successful outlet in local markets and restaurants. The family raises cows in the hills of Lafayette and the meat that is sold at the market comes only from their herd. For the Holding Farm, farmers' markets and restaurants are the means to keep the middle man out and the only way for a small local farming operation to stay profitable.

Farmers markets can be a great way to start a business.

Bay Bread started to sell its specialty breads in the Palo Alto farmers' market 15 years ago. Today Pascal Rigo, the French baker, operates seven bakeries, a restaurant, two manufacturing plants for wholesale of organic bread and is a partner in an organic mill in Utah.

Perhaps this will also be the destiny of Judi Welden of Terra Soap. She just started to sell her soaps at the market. She makes her cold process soaps out of lye in her Walnut Creek home. She creates crafty custom soaps with natural oils and fair trade shea butter and even teaches soap classes.

"Most merchants are farmers who sell what they grow," says Griver, "but we are allowed 20% non-farmers, so we can bring tamales, popcorn, Chinese dumplings and breads. We hope to get poultry and cheese as well." "Locavores\*" of Lamorinda rejoice!

\* a Locavor is someone who strives to eat only locally produced food

**Correction:**  
In our December 12 article entitled "Amoroma Brings the Community Together at New Year's," we inadvertently printed an incorrect phone number for Ristorante Amoroma. The correct number is **925-377-7662**. Our apologies to the kind woman with the other number!

LAMORINDA's Restaurants			
•• updated December 26, 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 Cusine	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 caffè	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, Laf	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	
Rising Loaf	3643 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste B, Laf	284-8816	
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 Piazza	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	
Serika 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 Café	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	74 Moraga Way, 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	

The Lamorinda Weekly (LW) Restaurant Guide is not paid advertising; our intent is to provide a useful reference guide. We hope that we have included all Lamorinda restaurants on this page, except those that told us they did not wish to be listed. LW is not liable for errors or omissions. In the event that we have inadvertently printed misinformation or excluded a restaurant please let us know (info@lamorindaweekly.com) so that we may correct our list for the next issue.