

Dining • Dining • Dining • Dining • Dining •

From the Kitchens of the Lamorinda Weekly

Andy and Wendy Scheck

It all started the day we discovered that we could buy organic beef bones from Holding Ranch Beef at the Moraga Farmers market. Our one-year old Golden Retriever can demolish a chew toy in a matter of minutes and we were looking for something more substantial. I decided to cook the bones first and make some broth. Once I had the broth, I figured I would try my hand at French Onion soup--something I'd wanted to do for awhile. Our dog chews the bone for the entire time the soup is cooking!

Andy's French Onion Soup

- 4 cups beef broth (see recipe on right)
- 4 large onions
- 1 cup dry white wine
- 2-3 Tbs butter
- Salt and pepper
- 4 slices of bread
- 4 slices of mozzarella cheese

Serves four



Beef Broth

- 8 cups water
- 1-2 beef soup bones
- 1 onion
- 1 celery root
- 1-2 carrots
- 1-2 bay leaves
- 3 cloves
- Salt and pepper to taste

Throw in any other vegetables you have available. I've used leeks, kohlrabi, broccoli, mushrooms, even Brussels sprouts and cauliflower.

Boil water in a large pot. Chop everything up and add to the water and cook for 2-3 hours. Strain and cool.



The Retail Success in Lafayette, How It All Happened

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"The Chamber is part of the equation and we depend on our members," explains Lifson, "We do not always agree with the city. We have supported most of the initiatives that it has proposed, but we have always fought any increase in the sales tax and do not agree on who is responsible for building more parking."

The Chamber is participating in the development of the new downtown strategic plan that will replace the 1988 version. "We are now developing a new downtown strategy for the next twenty years to come," explains Falk. The new strategy for downtown Lafayette that is in development by WRT Design aims at capturing the uniqueness of the city. "What we gathered from the public input sessions," says Jim Stickley of WRT Design, "is that residents see Lafayette as a rural community, with a strong identity and connectiveness to the natural beauty of its surroundings." Another aspect that was gathered by the consultant is the desire expressed by the people to find even greater retail diversity in their downtown.

gent if they hadn't." He recognizes that even if the plans proposed are good for business, it will be hard to finance. Ware hopes that, as with the library project, all the groups and organizations in town will work together to pull it off.

In order to succeed, the new strategic plan needs to bring in the property owners as well. "More and more of them are joining in the public sessions," explain members of the WRT Design team, "we need their input and their buy-in." Some property owners are local people, like Steve Cortese and the Bruzzone family. They actively negotiate with the city. A good example is the Mercantile where the city assisted the developer in return for the right for all to use the downstairs parking after business hours. Unfortunately, others have little tie with the city and Jay Lifson has a thick pile of returned mail in his office from a mailing he sent to all business property owners, "They have moved and have not informed us. We can't reach them," says a regretful Lifson.

Steve Ware of Ware Design is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Lamorinda Sunshine Rotary who participates in all the public sessions of the strategic planning, "It is important that the town plan for the future," says the business owner, "they would be negli-

Of course all is not always easy when private and public interest intersect. "I would compare the situation to the Reservoir," explains Steve Falk with some humor, "on the surface it looks peaceful and beautiful, but below the surface, it kicks like hell!"

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Cindy Bulger

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LAMORINDA'S Restaurants		
•• updated January 23, 2008 ••		
American		
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
BBQ		
Bo's Barbecue	3422 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-7133
Burger Joint		
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
Café		
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
Rising Loafer	3643 Mt. Diablo Blvd Ste B, Laf	284-8816
California Cuisine		
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
Chinese		
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
Coffee Shop		
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
Continental		
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
Hawaiian Grill		
Lava Pit	2 Theatre Square, St. 142, Ori	253-1338
Indian		
India Palace	3740 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5700
Swad Indian Cuisine	3602 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	962-9575
Italian		
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
Japanese		
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
Jazz Dinner Club		
Joe's of Lafayette	3707 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Laf	299-8807
The Orinda House	65 Moraga Way, Ori	258-4445
Mediterranean		
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
Par Tutti Ristorante	3576 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	284-5225
Mexican		
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
Pizza		
Mountain Mike'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 F Orinda Way # Ab, Ori	254-1200
Zamboni's Pizza	1 Camino Sobrante # 4, Ori	254-2800
Sandwiches/Deli		
Bianca's Deli	1480 Moraga Rd # A, Mor	376-4400
Europa Hofbrau Deli & Pub	64 Moraga Way, Ori	254-7202
Gourmet Bistro Cafe	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
Seafood		
Yankee Pier	3593 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	283-4100
Singaporean/Malaysian		
Kopitiam	3647 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Laf	299-1653
South American		
The Patio Tapas and Restaurant	960 Moraga Road, Laf	299-6885
Steak		
Casa Orinda	20 Bryant Way, Ori	254-2981
Tea		
Patisserie Lafayette	71 Lafayette Cir, Laf	283-2226
Tea Party by Appointment	107 Orinda Way, Ori	254-2206
Thai		
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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