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## Ristorante Amoroma opens new tap room/lounge at Rheem location

By Vera Kochan



Ristorante Amoroma adds new tap room/lounge Photo Vera Kochan

Rheem Valley Shopping Center's Ristorante Amoroma (360 Park St., Moraga) turned the restaurant's former retail space that once sold domestic wines, pastas, and glassware into a tap room/lounge.

During the summer of 2022, owner Hafiz Haidari decided to add a community engagement atmosphere to his establishment. After revamping the patio dining area, Haidari decided to sell his retail stock in order to make room for his new endeavor, which had a successful Jan. 24 soft opening. "Bringing in the Saint Mary's College kids and casually-minded people is our goal," stated his son and Floor Manager Hasib.

While nothing has changed in the restaurant itself, the taproom next door contains plenty of wooden chairs, tables, stools, and three flat-screen televisions to give the place a completely different vibe from the quiet bistro a few steps away. You can't have a taproom

without beer on tap, and Amoroma offers craft beer from local brewers such as Ghost Town Brewing and Side Gate Brewery. They also serve wine by the glass or customers can purchase a bottle to have with their meal from dozens of choices displayed on the shelves.

While enjoying beverages and TV in the new tap room, patrons can order off the restaurant menu. Eventually, an additional tap room menu will feature finger foods borrowing from Amoroma's appetizer menu and more traditional bar food offerings.

"I sit in both sides," said Steve, an Amoroma regular. "It was Chez Maurice before they moved in. It's looking nice. It looks like it's going to be a nice addition to the place. It's nice to come and watch a game on TV, and you can't beat the food," he replied while enjoying a hearty bowl of soup.

The hours of operation are 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., daily. Walk-ins are welcome in the tap room. For more information call (925) 377-7662.

"We also re-did our private room," added Hasib, "and the patio will be opening soon. Come on down!"

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