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A la Carte: Dining Out in Martinez

By Jackie Burrell
Contra Costa Times

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Dining Out in Martinez

A reader called to rave about the latest addition to Martinez' dining scene — the Lemongrass Bistro, which celebrated its grand opening just a few weeks ago. His opinion seems to be shared by rapturous reviewers on Yelp, the Wikipedia of restaurant reviews. Owners Thong, Boun, Linda and Becky Pheng call Lemongrass their "American dream." Boun, who has two decades' experience as a chef, is whipping up such Asian fusion dinner dishes as Mango Chicken (\$9), Garlic Prawns (\$12), Drunken Noodles (\$9) and a very popular grilled salmon over spicy spaghetti (\$14). Open daily 11 a.m.-3 p.m. for lunch, 5-9 p.m. for dinner. 501 Main St., Martinez, 925-387-0388, www.lemongrass-bistro.com.

Get your taste buds in gear for the Martinez Restaurant Tour from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 10. The lineup includes the new Lemongrass and cozy Arigato — a

family-run bento box/sushi/Japanese comfort food place — plus the venerable Ferry Street Station, the crowd pleasing Bulldog BBQ, and 11 other restaurants. Tickets are \$15 and proceeds go to Ohs, Ahs and Giggles, a children's series. Need more info? Call 925-372-3510, or swing by the Martinez Recreation Office at City Hall, 525 Henrietta St., or Martinez Senior Center, 818 Green St.

In other restaurant news: Back Forty's San Ramon venture has closed its doors, but you can still get Texas barbecue at the Pleasant Hill location.

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