

## *BurrellesLuce Express*

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**HEADLINE:** Napa Valley Grille Announces New Executive Chef

### Source Website

Joseph Gillard Takes the Lead at Westwood *Restaurant*

Smart Multimedia Gallery Executive Chef Joseph Gillard (Photo: Business Wire)

LOS ANGELES--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- *Napa Valley Grille*, the popular Westwood Village *restaurant* in Los Angeles, proudly announces that Joseph Gillard has recently joined the culinary team as Executive Chef.

Gillard grew up in Fremont, Michigan on a 40-acre homestead where his family raised goats, chickens, rabbits, pigs, pheasants and cows for their own sustenance which taught him the integrity and beauty of local and seasonal food products. He decided on a culinary career as a child while watching Julia Child on television.

A resident of California since 1993, Gillard is an alumnus of the Patina Group, serving as chef to Patina's catering arm as well as executive chef positions at Pinot at the Chronicle and Nick and Stef's in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. During his time with the Patina Group, Gillard had the opportunity to work closely with his manager, Paul Tilson, now the General Manager and Wine Director at *Napa Valley Grille*. When Tilson was seeking a replacement for Anne Conness, who returned full time to Long Beach, he contacted Gillard to see if there was interest in leading the kitchen. Gillard accepted, and the reunion of the two talents is a promising match. "Joseph and I have the same goals in the hospitality field. Quality of food and service go hand in hand," says Tilson. "I've always been a fan of his cooking and management approach and am looking forward to working together again."

Gillard agrees, "When I saw the type of foods that *Napa Valley Grille* was known for, and the freedom I would have in creating the menu, I was confident that we would make a great team. Paul and I are working on ideas for regularly scheduled wine dinners, off-site catering and other plans to offer more choices for our *Napa Valley Grille* guests."

The *Napa Valley Grille* menu will maintain many of the customer favorites as Chef Joseph adds new items that reflect his signature: Duo of Duroc Heritage Pork with Smokey Bacon-Flecked Farro, Sprouting Broccoli and Pink Lady Applesauce; Wild Mushroom Ravioli with Farmer's Market Broad Beans and Maitake Mushrooms; Grilled Baja Day Boat Scallops with Artichoke Hummus and Fava Bean Salad and Grilled Carr Valley Edam Grilled Cheese and Lobster "Knuckle" Sandwich with Sweet Pea Salad.

With his foundation on the farm and strong relationships with California farmers – from San Diego to Paso Robles – Gillard's signature style is a perfect complement to the Wine Country Cuisine of *Napa Valley Grille* and its extensive wine program. The *restaurant* features over thirty wines by the glass in addition to Tilson's inspired wine list specializing in selections from Northern California wineries.

*Napa Valley Grille* has received accolades from Gourmet, Bon Appetit, Los Angeles magazine, Angeleno and the Los Angeles Times . Citysearch recently listed the *restaurant* among the "Top 10 Wine Lists" in Los Angeles in 2006.

For reservations, the public can call: *Napa Valley Grille*, 310-824-3322 or visit [www.OpenTable.com](http://www.OpenTable.com). Visit

*Napa Valley Grille* on the Web at [www.napavalleygrille.com](http://www.napavalleygrille.com) .

Biography and Digital Imagery Available

Contacts

Jannis Swerman & Company

Jannis Swerman, 818-789-7747, 323-646-7981

[jannids@aol.com](mailto:jannids@aol.com)

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***Highlights: Napa Valley Grille, Restaurant, restaurant, Napa ValleyGrille***