

Dining & Entertainment



Patti Feddersen

Sweet Arleen's

I love to bake, love it, and *really* love it this time of year. The cooler weather, harvest bounty, holidays, hearth and home all call to me to get in my kitchen, roll up my sleeves and do some serious baking. And I answer—that is, when time permits I answer.

Recently I volunteered to bring dessert to a small dinner party. I looked forward to baking something special and sharing it with friends. Recipes danced in my head, and I envisioned the hostess presenting my homemade creation that would render everyone speechless with its sheer deliciousness.

Fast forward to the day of the dinner party, and things had run amuck and I had run out of time. In spite of my visions of baking bliss, I wouldn't be baking, but I was determined to bring a fabulous dessert. So I went to Sweet Arleen's Cupcakes and Bread Puddings in Westlake Village.

Sweet Arleen's is a "dream come true" story for local resident



Acorn Bits

Sweet Arleen's Cupcakes and Bread Puddings
960 S. Westlake Blvd.
Ste. 4
Westlake Village
(805) 373-7373

Open 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday through Saturday
Closed on Sunday
www.SweetArleens.com

Arleen Scavone who grew up baking with her mother and sister. Though she is a banker by profession, it was Scavone's love of baking and sharing with family and friends that inspired her to open her boutique store.

"Sweet Arleen's is just an extension of my kitchen at home—I just couldn't continue to fit our friends and family for all of the

tastings I would create, so we decided to open just a few blocks away for all to visit and enjoy," Scavone said.

Open for a little over a year, Sweet Arleen's received national recognition as the winner of the "Film Festival" episode of Food Network's "Cupcake Wars." Competing against three other bakers, Scavone took the winning title with her specialty strawberry cream cupcakes and her inventive display presentation.

For the dinner party dessert, I was inspired by the touch of fall in the air. I selected the pumpkin bread pudding with caramelized brown sugar sauce and the cinnamon apple bread pudding with cider custard sauce.

You just can't go wrong with something that starts with bread and ends with pudding. True comfort food, both puddings were delicious, unique and perfect for a cool autumn evening. Prepared as individual servings, with the sauces separate, they were easy to reheat and looked very pretty.


I knew that dessert from Sweet Arleen's wouldn't be complete without cupcakes. Thankfully, a "sampler" tray of mini-cupcakes took the pressure off choosing among traditional favorites like classic vanilla, red velvet or sweet chocolate and specialty cupcakes like mocha truffle or the now-famous strawberry cream.

My favorite cupcake was the October winner of Sweet Arleen's own Fall Cupcake Challenge. Becca Simpson's apple cinnamon cupcakes with maple cream cheese frosting delivered a piece of apple with every bite and were enhanced with the not-too-sweet, just-the-right-hint-of-maple frosting.

At the dinner party, the dessert did not render everyone speechless. Quite the opposite: The table turned into a group of vocal dessert gourmards. Cupcakes and bread puddings were sliced so everyone could have a bite of everything.

And, of course, everyone had a favorite.

Patti Feddersen can be reached at pattif@theacorn.com.

WHAT'S ON  Tune in to Channel 3 in Calabasas or to LIVE web streaming at cityofcalabasas.com

NOW PLAYING:
City Meetings - City Council Meeting Replay from 11/10 (Thurs. 11/11 12p.m.; Sat. 11/13 10a.m.). All City Council and Commission meetings are televised LIVE on CTV3, replayed the following day at noon and archived on the City's website. A full calendar of City meetings and events is also available online.

In Motion - Host Mayor Barry Groveman is at the 2010 Calabasas Pumpkin Festival providing a recap of the two-day, fun-filled event and interviewing families and organizers. (Thurs. 11:30a.m., 10p.m.; Fri. 8a.m., 3p.m.; Sat. 7:30p.m.; Sun. 8a.m., Mon. 10a.m., Wed. 7p.m.)

CTV WEB BROWSE: Watch City meetings and CTV programs on the web with the CTV Web Browsing Service. Visit cityofcalabasas.com and view any portion of any meeting or CTV program. All meetings have drop-down menus with "jump to" options built in.

Vicki Lawrence & Mama

A TWO WOMAN SHOW

DEC 4 • 8PM **DEC 10 • 8PM**

BIG BAD VOOODOO DADDY

HOLIDAY PARTY

Tickets Make Great Gifts!

Landmark house concert Nov. 20

Russ and Julie's House Concerts in Oak Park will present its 150th show at 8 p.m. Sat., Nov. 20.

The performer will be award-winning singer-songwriter Freebo.

For 30 years, Freebo played bass and tuba on recordings and toured with such artists as Bonnie Raitt, John Mayall and The Bluesbreakers, Maria Muldaur, Ringo Starr, Michelle Shocked, Neil Young, Loudon Wainwright III, Dr. John, and Crosby, Stills and Nash.

Freebo is also appeared on "Saturday Night Live," "Midnight Special," "Muppets Tonight" and in concert with Spinal Tap.



Freebo

The address will be given on confirmation. To RSVP, call (818) 707-2179 or visit www.houseconcerts.us.

THOUSAND OAKS CIVIC ARTS PLAZA
www.CivicArtsPlaza.com
ticketmaster (800) 745-3000 or ticketmaster.com

Bank of America
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
FRED KAVLI THEATRE
805-374-9950

MOVIE LISTINGS

Showtimes for November 12 - November 18

REGENCY THEATRES
2945 Agoura Road
818-707-9966

AGOURA HILLS 8
HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS - PART 1 (PG-13) The 12:05 AM UNSTOPPABLE (PG) (2:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10)
MORNING GLORY (PG) (10:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40)
DUE DATE (R) (2:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15)
MEGAMIND 3D PG (12:50, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20)

MANN Theatres
JANSS MARKETPLACE 9
251 N. Moorpark Rd.
805-374-9950

SKYLINE (PG-13) Fri to Sun: 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
UNSTOPPABLE (PG) Fri to Sat: 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
MORNING GLORY (PG) Fri to Sat: 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40