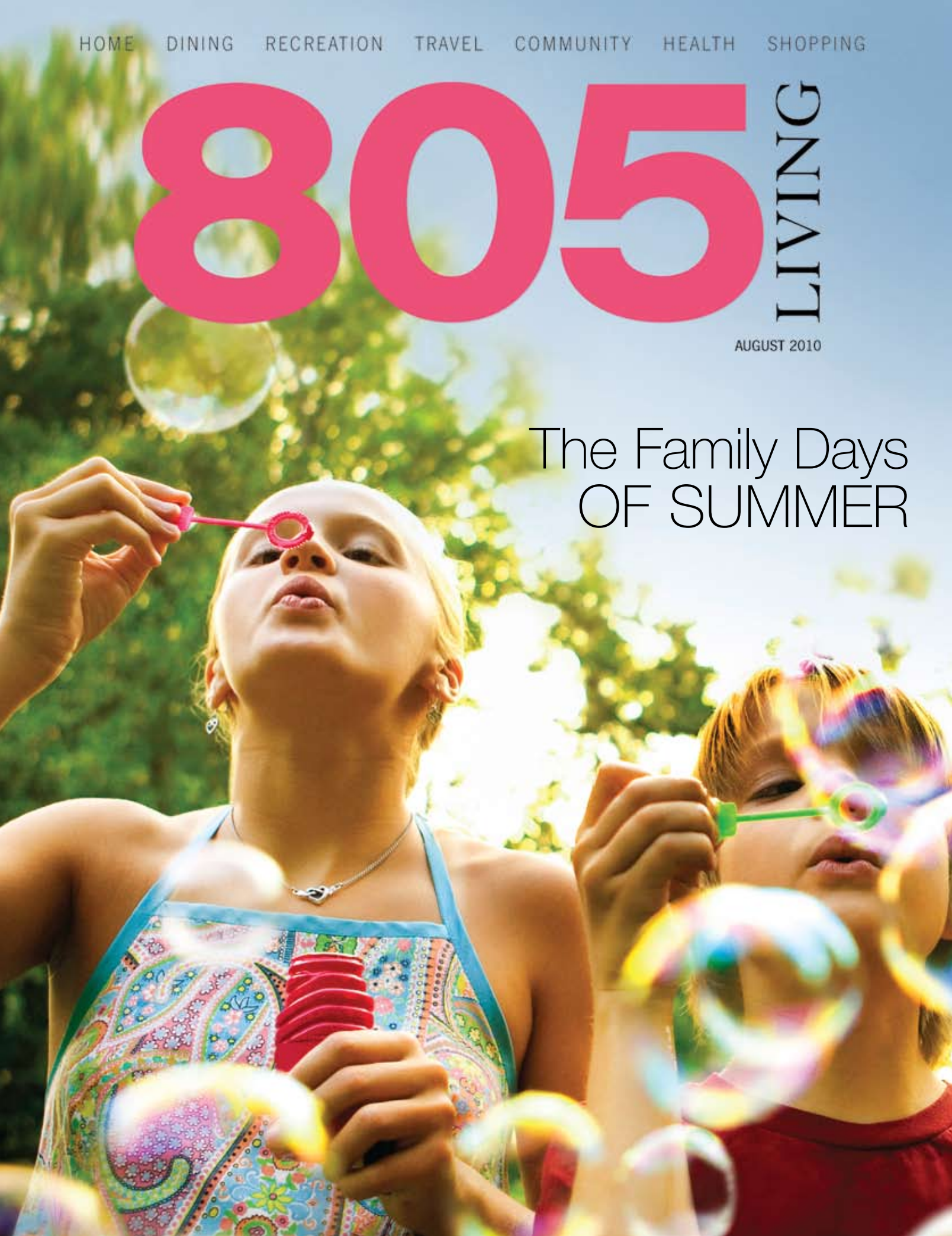


805 LIVING

AUGUST 2010

The Family Days
OF SUMMER



For more dining news, visit our blog, "Angie Eats," at blog.805living.com.

DIALED IN

News from the local dining scene.

NEW CAFÉS IN CAMARILLO

Camarillo has a new café next to Rocket Fizz, the specialty soda and candy store in Old Town. It's called **Zzyzx Café** (zzyzxcafe.com) and boasts some fun menu items like pancakes with bacon bits mixed into the batter, the Santa Barbara Benedict with artichokes and spinach, and a chile relleno omelette. The café is only open until 2:30 p.m. daily so all menu items, including breakfast, are available straight through. Lunchtime fare includes a pinot noir burger (also offered as sliders) topped with goat cheese and caramelized onions, as well as fish tacos. Salads include one topped with a crab cake as well as a curried chicken version.

Los Arroyos Mexican Restaurant & Takeout (losarroyos.net) has opened an outpost at The Promenade, the newest section of the Camarillo Premium Outlets. This counter-service café is a spin-off of the original Mexican restaurants in Santa Barbara and Montecito owned by Maria and Tony Arroyo. The Camarillo location offers items like seafood enchiladas, chicken or pork posole, and fajitas. Daily specials such as crab enchiladas are written on a small chalkboard behind the counter. Beer and wine are available at the wooden tables inside and out on the small, covered patio. Tile floors and wrought-iron chandeliers give off a nice vibe. The salsa bar offers condiments ranging from mild to extra-hot.

Have a tip for our restaurant news pages?
Email our dining editor at angela@805living.com.

Starry Night

Four Seasons Resort The Biltmore Santa Barbara (fourseasons.com/santabarbara) hosts a stargazing night on Wednesday, August 11, at 8 p.m. The Santa Barbara Astronomical Unit (sbau.org) will lead a sky-watching session (with telescopes) that covers the moon, planets, and constellations. Appetizers, beer, and wine will be served. The price is \$25 for adults; children are free with a paying adult. Call 805-565-8291 for reservations.

Kabuki Kids' Club Card

Kabuki Japanese Restaurant in Woodland Hills (kabukirestaurants.com) has introduced a loyalty program for its littlest diners. Youngsters 10 and under are issued a card to be stamped at every visit. After ordering six kids' meals, the seventh is free. The children's menu includes sesame chicken, beef *yakisoba*, and a cooked sushi combination. The meals, all under \$8, come with salad, rice, and a drink. ■

805 DINING GUIDE

The *Dining Guide* includes restaurants from Santa Barbara to Malibu. Our aim is to inform you of restaurants with great food that you might not have experienced yet. The guide is arranged not by cuisine type, but by style of restaurant. "Fine Dining" choices have an elegant atmosphere and very professional service. Restaurants included under the "Foodie" heading are heralded for their wonderful chef-driven cuisine, regardless of atmosphere. "A Good Bet" listings are just that—solid, casual, and delicious. "The Chain Gang" highlights the best of the national restaurant chains, and the "Fun, Fun, Fun" category brings you spots geared toward a good time. The "Lunch Bunch" listings are casual spots ideally suited for lunch hour. Enjoy!

KEY TO SYMBOLS:

NEW Denotes restaurants new to the *805 Living Dining Guide*.

LOOK Indicates an update to an existing listing.

Restaurant information is subject to change without notice.

We will be adding new listings to the Dining Guide each month. Please send any comments and suggestions to angela@805living.com or write to us at 805 Living, 3717 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd., Westlake Village, CA 91362, attn: Taste of the Town.

FINE DINING

These restaurants have a skilled kitchen team, a lovely dining room, and great service. Some of the spots require elegant attire, but most allow for all styles of dress, from fancy to casual.

71 PALM FRENCH & AMERICAN BRASSERIE

71 N. Palm St.
Ventura, 805-653-7222
71palm.com
French-American
Entrées \$8–\$28

Romantic

More casual than it might seem at first, this brasserie-style eatery proves very friendly through and through. For instance, there are bowls of water on the porch of this Craftsman house to welcome pets; and the patios upstairs and down are great for kids. The bar area offers beer, wine, and cocktails with its own happy-hour specials. The French-American menu from chef Didier Poirier offers addicting nibbles, like french fries with garlic aioli, black tiger shrimp cocktail, Alsatian-style pizzas, and warm duck confit salad. Main courses include steaks, a double-cut pork chop, a Kobe burger, Atlantic salmon, and New Zealand rack of lamb. Poirier teaches cooking classes each month that culminate in a three-course meal paired with wines. He also hosts occasional winemaker dinners featuring wines from the Central Coast, Napa, and Sonoma. 71 Palm is open for lunch and dinner Monday through Saturday.

BELLINI OSTERIA BAR & LOUNGE

951 S. Westlake Blvd.
Westlake Village, 805-497-8482
belliniosteria.com
Italian
Entrées \$11–\$34

Romantic

Delicious Italian food comes from the hands of chef Gianluca Sarti at this stylish trattoria. Patrons enjoy authentic pastas, osso buco, and a few fish dishes inside the main dining room or out on the patio, where black-and-white movies—mostly Italian in origin—are screened. A wine bar near the entrance has a communal table and a happy hour (4 to 7 p.m., Sunday through Friday). Service from an attractive wait staff is attentive and helpful. Bellini is open for lunch and dinner daily.