



# A Celebration of Food, Wine, & Entertainment!

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What could be more enjoyable than partaking in a delicious Italian meal, paired with the perfect glass of wine in a warm, inviting atmosphere? Whether you choose to eat indoors or dine al fresco, when you add these elements together, accompanied by live, energetic music, the sum equals Allegro Bistro, a joyful place to eat.

Owned by Santo and Nella Valenti, Allegro Bistro, entering its twelfth year, is a thriving restaurant known for its authentic Italian cuisine, outstanding entertainment and the Valenti family's active involvement. While Santo manages their sister establishment, Valenti's Ristorante & Lounge, a fixture in the Venice community for more than 30 years, Nella runs Allegro Bistro as sons Cesare and Gianni, stir up colorful cocktails behind the bars. Nella shares, "I've always dreamed of having my own restaurant. My vision was to create a place so inviting that customers want to come in, enjoy a meal, and stay for the evening. I also love music, so a huge part of this for me was to bring in some of the area's best musical talent."

Nella's dream of owning a restaurant began at an early age when she discovered her passion for cooking and baking in her family's kitchen in Sicily. She reveals, "It's important to me that the food we serve is prepared just as we would for our own families: full of love and the freshest ingredients available. For that reason, we grow our herbs, and obtain vegetables and meat from local sources." Nella also felt it was important to offer patrons options sensitive to their dietary needs, so gluten-free, vegetarian and low-carb entrees were added.

Allegro Bistro offers dinner menus full of tempting choices. Start with a salad topped with chicken or ahi tuna, or an appetizer like

*Left to right: The Valenti family: Cesare & Gianni, sons of Nella, Allegro's owner.*



*Mussels Allegro, Broccoli Rabe, Eggplant Montagna.*



the flavorful Eggplant Montagna or the Broccoli Rabe. Afterward, satisfy your appetite with a gourmet burger or one of the many filling pasta dishes.

Pizza aficionados will rejoice to discover the restaurant has a Wood Stone brick open-flame oven. "We wanted to offer our customers the most authentic pizza possible so we imported our oven from Italy," Nella states. "Taste a slice and you'll find that the flame infuses the whole pie with a rich, old-fashioned flavor."

Dinner patrons will delight in the wonderful selection of delectable dishes including the Allegro and Shrimp Scampi. The Valentis introduce new items occasionally and update the menu regularly to provide plenty of palate-pleasing offerings to the bistro's patrons. Afterward, savor a sweet dessert like the tasty tiramisu, Nella's homemade cannoli, or a frothy cappuccino.

Each night, happy hour runs from 4 to 6 p.m. as live music in the cocktail lounge sets the mood for celebration. Since the entertainment at Allegro has an active following, reservations are recommended. When you go, you might even see Nella take the mic and join in with the musicians.

Visit Allegro Bistro, where the Valentis' love for family and dining makes for a joyous Italian experience.



**Live Entertainment!**  
*Call for Schedule*

For more information about this advertorial, call 941.484.1889 or log on to [Allegro-Bistro.com](http://Allegro-Bistro.com). Located in Venice at the Villa Venezia Plaza, 1740 E. Venice Avenue, Allegro Bistro is open from 4 to 8 p.m. Tues.– Sat. Details may be subject to change.

All photos on the opp. page and the top, center, and bottom left photos on this page by Max Kelly. Top right photo on this page provided by Allegro Bistro.