

Valley VIPs Share New Year's Resolutions

Written by Written by Melissa Larsen and Shala Marks

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The clock with strike midnight before we know it; now is the time to think of New Year's resolutions. Here's a look at eight locals and what they hope to accomplish in 2011.



Erik Peterson, Peterson Architecture

"My resolution for 2011 is to look at the 'big picture' and not sweat the small stuff! I live in a great place, have a wonderful family and am doing something I love to do with a great team of architects, and sometimes it is easy to forget that. So, I am going to let everyone know to give me a knuckle punch in the arm if I get too wrapped up in the details!"

Chef Christopher Gross, Christopher's Restaurant and Crush Lounge

"New Year's resolutions are a nice thought but the best question is how many keep last year's? My New Year's resolution is, as always, keep focused, keep working out at the gym and drink more or less or better. I chose this resolution because I love to work out to stay fit so I can drink more. How I plan on accomplishing this is by putting old clothes that are now too big for me in the trash, so I'm reminded if I'm being bad. If I can't fit in my clothes and I'm not going to buy bigger ones, I guess I will have to stay home and drink."

Nina D, 97.5 FM

"My New Year's resolution is to have a more philanthropic impact in what I do. I've met so many people in this community with such great energy working toward truly deserving causes that I want to be on board. Giving back is where it's at! I think I'll accomplish this with better time management, lots of hard work and an occasional cocktail."

Ryan O'Meara, Palavela Home

"My New Year's resolution is to continue to push through this recession and stay on the course I set. I want to continue to evolve and meet new challenges every day. 2011 is going to be a great year for everyone!"

Jennifer Kaplan, Evolve Public Relations & Marketing

"As I reflect on this past year and look forward to 2011, my New Year's resolution is to do things better and different from the past in my personal and professional life. I also want to stay focused on overall health and wellness."

Chef Payton Curry, Caffe Boa and Boa Bistro

"I'm going to try every diet out there for a chosen period of time. Raw vegan to straight Atkins, all of the way through."

Steve Rosen, The Duce

"2010 was an incredibly hectic, exciting and action-packed year for me. Andi and I saw our dream (The Duce) actually come to life in May and now have a successful, exciting project that we get to love and nurture from infancy into toddler-hood. My resolution for 2011 is to learn to live in the moment. To be present and not take for granted all of the amazing people and experiences around me—my home, my community, my surroundings and, most of all, my family. My oldest son graduates from high school this year and in the fall moves out and on to college. I want to spend as much quality time with him as I can before he flies the coop!"

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Paola Embry, Christopher's Restaurant and Crush Lounge and Wrigley Mansion Club

"My New Year's resolution is to create more jobs for the year 2011. There are still many people out there that don't have jobs. Being in the hospitality industry, if we strive for excellence in what we do, it can make a difference."