

18109 Saticoy
 Reseda, CA 91335
 (corner of Lindley & Saticoy)

TELEPHONE:

818-344-5165

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 We Now Take Credit Cards



JOE'S GRILL & Comfort Food



HOURS

Mon. - Fri.
 10am - 8pm

Available
 Sat. & Sun.
 for
 private
 parties

Eat in - Take out ♦ We cater from 5 to 500 ♦ Any theme, any time, anywhere

ASK ABOUT OUR DAILY SPECIALS

SALADS

Dressing: Creamy Garlic, Tomato-Ranch,
 Blue Cheese, Lemon, & Vinaigrette (non-dairy).
 All made in house and available in home sizes.

Add the following to any salad:

- ★ Grilled Rosemary Picnic Chicken... 2.00
- ★ Tri Tip (Grilled or BBQ)... 2.00
- Smoki tuna salad... 1.75

My Blue Heaven... 4.50

Fresh romaine and radicchio tossed
 with our vinaigrette dressing, diced
 sweet red onion, mushrooms and sweet
 roma tomato topped with crumbled
 blue cheese.

Joe's Caesar... 3.75

Tossed with fresh croutons,
 parmesan cheese & tomato

Farmer's Salad... 3.75

Seasonal fresh vegetables atop
 mixed greens

SOUP (By The Pint)

Made fresh daily

- ala carte... 3.50
- W/ mini caesar... 5.50
- W/ full sandwich... 6.50

SANDWICHES

All sandwiches served w/ Cole Slaw or
 substitute mini caesar or mashed potatoes
 & gravy for 50¢

- Tri Tip, BBQ or with Onion Gravy... 5.25
- Meatloaf... 4.75
- 40- Garlic Chicken Breast... 5.25
- "Oki" Smoki Tuna Salad... 4.75
- Grilled Vegetables in a Pita... 5.00

HOUSE SPECIALTIES



Cilantro-Walnut-Pesto Quesadillas... 6.00

Your choice of chicken,
 vegetarian, BBQ tri tip, or
 onion gravy tri tip. Served
 with salad.

Turkey Sloppy Joe... 5.00

Served open faced over hot cornbread
 w/cheese & onions. Served with salad.

Homemade Kettle Chips... 1.00

Made Fresh Daily In **Pure Canola Oil**
 Topped with "sloppy" cheese & onions... 4.50

Chef's Choice Pasta served with caesar salad



PLATES

Served with "real" mashed potatoes & gravy
 or tossed salad and choice of

- Cole Slaw "No Mayo"
- Fresh Fruit

Seared Meatloaf... 5.25

Served w/ marinara sauce

Salmon Cakes... 5.75

Topped w/ lemon-dill sauce

Garlic Eggplant... 5.00

Japanese eggplant, loaded
 W/ garlic and grilled, then topped
 W/ marinara & fresh parmesan

Joe's Special of the Day... (A.Q.)

KIDS' STUFF (4 ft. & under)

Kids' Pasta of the Day... 4.00

Grilled Chicken Baloney Sandwich... 3.50

W/ salad

Kids' Sloppy Joe... 4.00

W/ salad

DRINKS

Iced Tea... .80

Iced Herbal Tea... .80

Assorted Sodas in cans... .80

We proudly serve

Fruitopia "Real Fruit Beverage"... 1.15

Coffee... 1.00

Herbal Teas... 1.00

Apple Juice... 1.75-2.75

Milk... 1.00

SIDES

Warm Cornbread... 1.00

Cole Slaw "no mayo"... .85

Daily Fruit Cup... 2.50

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy... 2.15

("The Real Thing")

Plantain Bread... 2.50

DESSERTS

Choose from our pastry... 1.75-3.00
 tray - made fresh daily

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

Country club could learn about class from Joe's Grill

The officers were on their way back to the West Valley police station after stopping by an exclusive country club up in the hills above Ventura Boulevard late last week.

"What'd they say?" Iain Hamilton asked his partner, Paul Bernal, who was still holding the two handbills he had walked into the country club with a few minutes earlier.

Bernal replied: "They said they're an exclusive country club. They don't do that sort of thing."

Both men just shook their heads. By "that sort of thing," they meant tacking up a couple of small handbills in the clubhouse to let members know about the coming West Valley Police Activity League Supporters (PALS) Golf Tournament.

All the money raised by PALS goes to help disadvantaged youths in the San Fernando Valley. The 14th annual tournament is scheduled for Sept. 26 at a different club.

Some gratitude, Hamilton and Bernal thought. When the country club had called up the officers' community relations office asking for someone to come out and sandblast graffiti from the stone marquee adorning the club's entryway, the officers gladly obliged.

It was part of their job, responding to graffiti complaints to make the Valley a more attractive and safer place to live.

Now these officers were asking the club to help them out a little by promoting a charitable police event. But the exclusive country club didn't do that sort of thing.

"I've been a Los Angeles police officer for



DENNIS MCCARTHY

22 years," Hamilton would say later. "I have seen a lot and learned a lot about human nature during those years. I thought I had seen it all and had put it all in perspective until that day.

"After leaving the country club, I started thinking about Joe Cook back at Joe's Grill in Reseda, where we'd stopped for lunch earlier," Hamilton said.

"Here was a guy who is working his tail off to make an honest living but still has a social conscience. I thought about how generous he was and then thought about the people at that country club.

"I'll take the Joe Cooks of this world over them any day," Hamilton says.

At Joe's Grill on Saticoy Street in Reseda, they do that sort of thing — put up police and community group handbills advertising charity events designed to make their community a better place to live.

When Joe needed someone to blast the graffiti off the exterior walls of his diner, Hamilton and Bernal had been there for him. Sure he'd help them promote the charity golf tournament by putting up their

handbills. Anything else — just ask.

"I'll tell you something — the police are doing a great job out here trying to keep this neighborhood clean and watching out for us," 29-year-old Joe Cook tells me when we talk Monday.

He's standing over a hot grill making a turkey sloppy Joe while his mother, Trudy, is taking more orders from customers.

It only takes a few minutes of conversation with Joe Cook to understand what Hamilton is talking about.

His young age and hip talk can fool you, because the guy's a throwback to the old days when a neighborhood business was a place to stop by and chew the fat with neighbors and workers — a place where the owner lived just around the corner and didn't want to make a quick million bucks so he could move uptown.

He was happy just where he was — in a working-class neighborhood. It was where he belonged, who he was.

"I'll get over 100 people in here every day, and at least 20 of them will ask me, 'Why are you in Reseda, Joe? Why not open a grill on Ventura Boulevard in Encino or Studio City?'" he says, flipping over his sloppy Joe and starting on orders for turkey meatloaf and tuna casserole. Comfort food, he calls it.

"My mom and I have lived in Reseda for more than 14 years, and it's who we are," he continues. "I used to work at fancy hotels and didn't like the uptight attitudes and

people always in a rush, even though they were spending a fortune on dinner.

"Mom was director of catering at a yacht club — always around highfalutin people. She got sick of that world.

"We both think you can't be a poser in life, you know what I mean?" Joe asks.

He opened his diner in a defunct Pizzaman storefront in a strip mall last year with the money he saved from running a taco stand for a few years at Corbin and Sherman Way.

The idea was simple. Give the neighborhood good food at a fair price — so the menu carries everything from meatloaf to salmon cakes and pesto tostadas.

"See that guy over there?" Joe asks, pointing to one of his customers. "He's a tire installer. The guy sitting next to him is a psychiatrist at Northridge Hospital. The girl is a student at Cal State Northridge.

"That's the makeup of people I get, people from all different walks of life. We're mingling people from Reseda with people from Ventura Boulevard coming into our hood to eat," Joe says, laughing.

When he gets a break, he walks out from behind the counter to see if there are any golfers in the crowd — pointing to the handbills he's posted for the police charity gold tournament.

At Joe's Grill in Reseda, they do that sort of thing.

Dennis McCarthy's column appears Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday.

Napkin notes

Joe's Grill in Reseda, known for its inexpensive comfort food, is going fancy on us. It is now staying open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., though still serving only on weekdays, and actually is accepting certain credit cards. . . .

Actually more noticeable at night, the tiny five-table, self-service, storefront cafe is a real find, one of those places where the appreciation of tasty, conscientiously prepared food supersedes trappings, full waiter service, tablecloths, glassware and a fancy neighborhood.

REVIEW

Joe's Grill, a gem of an eatery that's already attracted the attention of nearby residents and business people, is way too small for its potential.

■ Our rating: ★★★ for food; ★★★★ for value.

N.A. — A.C.

Bar • Grill Menus

ING BEAT

twice the
adventure

WEEKEND