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## Classy n.v. is welcome addition to downtown Napa dining scene

Tuesday, December 6, 2005 1:06 AM PST, Register Staff Writer, L. PIERCE CARSON

As wine country caterer and culinary director for the prestigious Dean & DeLuca food emporium, chef Peter Halikas has been helping shape our culinary palates for more than a decade.

Now, realizing a long-held ambition, the 33-year-old Napa Valley resident is manning the stoves at his own restaurant -- an inviting, intimate dining room and lounge in the heart of downtown Napa, called n.v. ...

Wine and sweets

[General manager Chris] Drumm and restaurant managers Rick Maupin and Traci Steuteville (who also served as interior designer for n.v.) have put together a very attractive wine list that contains the usual wine country suspects as well as some attractive imports -- such as a Spanish garnacha, a choice of spicy Gigondas, a pair of Austrian gruner veltliners, a Soave from Inama and an Alsatian pinot blanc.

Making one's wine decision a bit of a head scratcher, the choice of **exciting reds** includes a meritage from Conn Valley Vineyards (Right Bank), a Home Ranch merlot from Ed Sbragia's Family Vineyards, a sangiovese from Showket, a Thomas Michael syrah from **Suisun Valley**, plus juicy cabernets from Buoncristiani and Ahnfeldt.