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Kathleen Hill: Glorious Bites, SV Crush and more

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Copia adds Chef Polly Lappetito

The CIA at Copia just announced that they have a new Director of Restaurants and Executive Chef: Dolly Lappetito. She was formerly executive chef at Ciccio Napa Valley, working with Chef Waldy Malouf, the CIA's senior director of food and beverage operations. Under her direction Ciccio was named one of the "Top 100 Bay Area Restaurants" by the San Francisco Chronicle.

Lappetito said, "The Culinary Institute of America gave me my start in my culinary career and holds a special place in my heart. I hope to continue its tradition of creating memorable dishes that convey the spirit of Napa Valley." She also served as executive chef at the CIA's Wine Spectator Greystone Restaurant in St. Helena (now closed) and worked as a commercial fisher in Alaska.

The CIA at Copia has been through several chefs since it re-opened in downtown Napa nearly a year ago in October, 2016. Located in what used to be called Julia's Kitchen (no connection to Julia Child) that restaurant closed when Copia sank into bankruptcy.

Since the purchase and re-opening by the CIA, executive chefs have included Christophe Gerard and Victor Scargle. Scargle left to join Jean-Charles Boisset and replace Chef Michel Cornu, whose fabulous French cuisine many Sonomans enjoyed at Buena Vista Winery. "Michu" retired, and Scargle now oversees all food services for Boisset properties in California, including Buena Vista.