THE DISH!

The hottest chefs, coolest new restaurants and top tastes in Newport Beach and O.C. BY KEDRIC FRANCIS | PHOTOGRAPHY BY EDWARD DUARTE



NEWPORT'S NEW GUARD

Laguna got all the glory this summer with the opening of a surfeit of spectacular dining spots including **Katsuya**, **Asada**, **Starfish**, **Common Table** and **Broadway by Amar Santana**, but Newport's got next. **CrowBurger** is incredible; Fashion Island's Rustica just had a remarkable makeover into **Great Maple**; and **Pizzeria Mozza** is opening like, now, giving **Pizzeria Ortica** a run for best pizza in O.C. And, in what

we hope is a continued philosophic about-face, The Irvine Co. is adding some choice spots to its previously corporate chain-heavy restaurant lineup with both an upscale import (**Tamarind of London**) and a favorite locals-only spot (**Bear Flag Fish Co.**) coming to Crystal Court. And **Whole Foods** will be joining forces with A Market, Bristol Farms and Gelson's to give Newport Beach a gourmet grocery brigade that's the equal of any anywhere.