

Dante's on Hwy. 50 becomes restaurant from hell for couple

By Carlos Alcalá, Sacramento Bee

Kevin and Nancy Cairns moved to El Dorado County hoping for a piece of heaven on the American River.

They got a taste of hell.

They opened Dante's on the River seven years ago on an isolated stretch of Highway 50, east of Pollock Pines.

"It's a beautiful piece of property," Kevin Cairns said.

But since they opened, they say they've been besieged by people who violently demand to use the restaurant bathroom or just do their excretory business in the parking lot. Other motorists pull over to vomit and move on.

"Nobody's ever offered to clean it up," said his wife.

As a consequence, Cairns has taken to asking people to leave the lot unless it's an emergency or they're coming to the restaurant.

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