

# Guests rock to Caribbean tunes during Morning Star's Havana Nights

POSTED ON NOVEMBER 1, 2019 BY [EDITOR RIVERSIDE, AVONDALE, ORTEGA, MURRAY HILL, SAN JOSE, SAN MARCO, ST. NICHOLAS, SOCIAL EVENTS](#)



Ricky Ricardo would have been right at home during Havana Nights, Morning Star School's 8th Annual Gala and Auction Sept. 28 at the Haskell Building in Riverside.

The event, which boasted Cuban-inspired cuisine, mojitos, open bar, casino games, a cigar lounge, and dancing to Caribbean tunes, helped to raise money for the school that services children with learning differences and intellectual disabilities.

Casino Tropical, which was sponsored by Jenny and Mike Lehman, featured craps and blackjack tables, while Julio "JC" Cordero, a master Cuban cigar roller, manned the cigar lounge, which was sponsored by Swisher International. Cordero worked in the family tobacco harvesting business in Cuba and learned the art of cigar rolling, which guests found fascinating and fun to watch. His tobacco leaves were grown in Ecuador, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic from Cuban seeds.