

AT THE TABLE

# 4 Italian deals, buffet fundraiser, 2 Boca Raton farmers markets, more

**Diana Biederman**  
Palm Beach Post  
USA TODAY NETWORK

This week’s headliner is all about deals, but if you keep reading, we have a recap of a recent student competition focusing on hospitality careers.

That was me back in high school when my first-choice college was Cornell University’s hospitality division. My now 92-year-old dad, still my biggest cheerleader, did the 10-hour round-trip drive for the interview because he believed in me.

The school did not: A rejection letter was in my mailbox days later, as if they mailed it moments after we left Ithaca.

But some things can't be taught. In the restaurant business, I believe success is more about attitude and aptitude, and it's great that local kids are getting hands-on knowledge.

It seems as if every week this season has seen new restaurants opening, and post-pandemic staffing remains problematic. Maybe this new program will help solve the issue.

Elsewhere, good news from Boca Raton’s green market and a few fun foodie things to do.

The secret word is deal

Josie’s has a slew of summer food and drink deals. My favorite is the \$16 Chicken Parmesan with a small garden salad and garlic knots. If that’s not your jam, a \$40+ spend at lunch Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. earns a comped bottle of house wine. On Tuesdays, ordering take-out and delivery scores 25% off entrees when using the code “TAKEOUT” at checkout. On Thursdays, ordering take-out and delivery means 50% off a second entrée when using the code “BOGO” at checkout.

Details: 650 E. Woolbright Road,

Boynton Beach, 561-364-9601, josiesristorante.com

To market we go

The original Boca Green Market is serving two locations in east and west Boca Raton through summer. On Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., head to Piccadilly Square at 8221 Glades Road. On Sundays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., the destination is Royal Palm Place at 201-299 Via De Palmas.

The markets partner with Loxahatchee Co-Op which specializes in regenerative organic farming with products encompassing organic seasonal fruits and vegetables and raw dairy from pasture-raised animals to free-range pasture-raised poultry and so much more.

Reusable bags are strongly encouraged. For more information, visit bocagreenmarket.com.

Tasting tours and more

Oceana Coffee's Culinary Crossroads venue celebrates its official grand opening from May 29 to June 1. All events are open to the public. Highlights include:

- Taste of Culinary Studio on May 30 from 5 to 7 p.m., a facility tour with craft beverages and small bites included.
- Brunch with live music on May 31 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Oceana's cafe.
- Two coffee seminars on June 1 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. include tastings of single-origin brews and a presentation on brewing techniques.

Details: 130110th St., Lake Park

Small bite bash

The 29th annual Culinary Creations fundraiser is slated for June 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Wycliffe Golf & Country Club in Wellington. Proceeds benefit Quantum House, a medical hospitality experience



Josie’s \$16 chicken parm deal launches this week. PROVIDED BY JOSIE’S

for families facing serious medical crises whose children are receiving treatment in Palm Beach County.

The evening includes tastings and cocktail stations, plus an entire room dedicated to desserts. This year’s top toque is The Breakers’ executive chef of banquets Jeff Simms. Other participating chefs include Ozzie Vasquez of Banyan Golf Club, Josef Morera of Echo Palm Beach, Dominick Laudia of Delray Dunes Golf & Country Club, Christopher Park of Wycliffe Golf & Country Club, Jacques Larsen of The Crane Club at Tesoro (Lessings), Javier Laurie of Stonebridge Country Club, Mariel Lopez of Breakers West Country Club and Jerome Nicolas of The Club at Ibis.

Tickets are \$295 per person. To purchase and for more information, visit quantumhouse.org/culinary-creations.

Teen top chefs

On May 3 in Delray Beach, Community Classroom Project in partnership with the Palm Beach County School District held Dish It Out!, an Olympiad-style event for teens who want to become chefs and hospitality professionals.

From knife skills tests to order-tak-

ing roleplay, the competition was designed to train and identify the next generation of restaurant industry leaders.

Judges included chefs Blake Malatesta of Wine & Spirits Kitchen and Driftwood’s Jimmy Everett. Participating students represented Atlantic High, Santaluces High, Boca Raton High, SouthTech Prep and Space of Mind.

All participants went home as winners with full scholarships to the organization’s Kitchen Restaurant Workforce Training Program, which launches this summer. All in a day’s work: restaurant bootcamps, workshops, apprenticeships and job placement opportunities with CCP’s partners including SubCulture Restaurant Group, most famous for Howley’s, Kapow and Sassafras.

The program is free to select students through merit- and need-based scholarships. If you know a teen who might benefit from this program, visit yourccp.org/dish-it-out or call 561-229-1111.

Diana Biederman is the Palm Beach Post's new food & restaurant writer. Care to share news tips about the local dining scene? Please send them to dbiederman@pbpost.com. Help support our journalism. Subscribe today.



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