NEWS RELEASE

Maggiano's Updates Menu For The First Time Since Inception - Introduces Brunch

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As experts in special occasions, #MaggBrunch gives Guests an excuse to celebrate every weekend

DALLAS, Feb. 28, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Maggiano's Little Italy® is a go-to, Guest favorite for special occasions ranging from birthdays and anniversaries to weddings and graduations. In 2016, the restaurant was host to more than 535,000 celebrations. Today, Maggiano's will add another reason for Guests to celebrate weekly: Brunch. The restaurant, known for its made-from-scratch Italian-American cuisine, will introduce 12 new menu items created from a labor of love by its culinary trained chefs.

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"Brunch is not just a meal. It's a celebration. And, that's what we specialize in – creating memorable events in our dining and banquet rooms," said Steve Provost, president of Maggiano's Little Italy. "It is a natural next step for Maggiano's chefs to introduce our authentic and indulgent culinary twist on this beloved weekly celebration."

The new menu focuses on classic brunch items and infuses Maggiano's Italian roots.

"We were very purposeful in approaching this new brunch menu," said Larry Konecny, vice president of innovation and restaurant support for Maggiano's Little Italy. "We looked at our Guest's favorite menu items – such as our meatballs and crab cakes and thought, 'How can we enhance traditional brunch dishes by adding our own Maggiano's Italian-American twist?"

From there, Maggiano's expanded a few favorite menu items with brunch in mind.

The core of the new menu centers around five Italian translations of the 100-year-old U.S. classic, eggs benedict. The end result includes:

- The Meatball Benedict featuring an English muffin, poached eggs, oven-dried roma tomatoes and hollandaise sauce
- Crab Cake Benedict featuring Maggiano's favorite jumbo lump crab cakes, English muffin, poached eggs and hollandaise sauce
- Nueske's Smoked Ham Benedict featuring an English muffin, poached eggs and hollandaise sauce
- Smoked Salmon and Spinach Benedict featuring an English muffin, poached eggs and hollandaise sauce
- Chicken Francese Benedict featuring an English muffin, arugula, poached eggs and hollandaise sauce

Other classic brunch dishes that infuse our Italian-American culinary twist include:

- Lemon Ricotta Pancakes made fresh daily in-house and are served with whipped cream, maple syrup and blueberries
- Crème Brûlée French Toast made with cranberry raisin focaccia and served with maple syrup and fresh strawberries

Brunch is offered seven days a week from 10:30 or 11 a.m. – depending on the market – to 3 p.m. at all 52 restaurants across the country. On Saturday's and Sunday's, Guests can choose from the full 12 dish decadent menu and Monday through Friday, Guests can choose from the restaurant's top five favorite brunch dishes to satisfy their taste buds.

To view the full menu and learn more about Maggiano's brunch, visit **www.maggianos.com/brunch**.

About Maggiano's Little Italy

Maggiano's Little Italy® specializes in Italian-American cuisine served in a warm and friendly atmosphere. Maggiano's menu features both classic and contemporary recipes – authentic pastas, signature salads, prime steaks, fresh seafood, regular chef specials and specialty desserts. Maggiano's 52 restaurants nationwide offer lunch, dinner and brunch, delivery, carryout service and banquet spaces for special occasions. Maggiano's is owned and operated by Brinker International, Inc. (NYSE: EAT), one of the world's leading casual dining restaurant companies, serving more than one million guests daily. Brinker owns or franchises more than 1,600 restaurants in 32 countries and two territories. In addition to Maggiano's, Brinker owns and operates Chili's® Grill & Bar.

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Maggiano's Little Italy, Media Relations, media.requests@brinker.com, (800) 775-7290