



## **PRESS RELEASE**

Bella Basile Hospitality Group Acquires Beloved Italian Restaurant Bella Cucina in Southport, NC

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Bella Basile Hospitality Group, led by Maria Basile Moore, a seasoned restaurateur and former Chief Marketing Officer, is thrilled to announce the acquisition of [Bella Cucina](#), a cherished Italian restaurant in Southport, NC. For over 20 years, Bella Cucina has been a staple in the community, renowned for its handmade and fresh ingredients, warm hospitality, and authentic Tuscan-style cooking.

### **Preserving Legacy, Embracing Innovation**

Under the new ownership, Bella Cucina will continue to honor the legacy started by the DeMeo family, whose recipes have been passed down through generations, including Grandma Fanny's (Felicia) favorites. Chef John Turner, the Executive Chef at Bella Cucina since 2018, will continue to be an integral part of our team. The new management team is committed to preserving the restaurant's traditions while introducing innovative dishes and experiences to cater to the growing population in Brunswick County.

### **Maria Basile Moore's Vision**

As a restaurateur with over 10 years of experience and a background as a Chief Marketing Officer, Maria Basile Moore brings a unique perspective to the table. Her expertise in social media, event marketing, and digital advertising will help expand Bella Cucina's customer base, while maintaining its reputation for exceptional customer service and quality cuisine. "We are thrilled to become part of the Southport community and take the reins of this beloved institution," said Maria Basile Moore CEO of Bella Basile Hospitality Group and now owner of Bella Cucina. "Our goal is to build upon the foundation laid by both Papa Tom McAndrews and Tom McAndrews III while introducing fresh ideas and flavors to excite both loyal customers and newcomers alike."

### **About Bella Cucina**

Bella Cucina is a family-friendly Italian restaurant offering a range of dishes, from fine dining to hand-tossed pizzas, using the freshest local ingredients. The restaurant has received numerous accolades, including "Best Pizza," "Best Italian Restaurant," and "Best Seafood Restaurant" awards.

### **Transaction Details**

The acquisition was facilitated by Kennan Espy from [Momentum Companies](#) and Joan Loch from [Resource Business Brokerage](#), both out of Wilmington, NC.

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