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MEDIA-ONLY EVENT!

Gigliotti's Grand Opening & Cuisine Tasting 1325 State Street, Erie

**October 2, 2014
10:30 a.m.**

Downtown Erie's newest restaurant, Gigliotti's, opens to the public for dinner October 2, 2014, and the Erie Downtown Partnership and chef and proprietor John Gigliotti invite you to a media-only event:

- ❖ Capture the restaurant's official ribbon cutting with owners John Gigliotti and Roman Stefanelli and Erie Downtown Partnership CEO John Buchna
- ❖ Interview Chef Gigliotti as he anticipates opening night
- ❖ Get behind-the-scenes shots of the house and kitchen
- ❖ Taste a sampling of Chef's specially prepared appetizers and desserts
- ❖ Interview Erie Downtown Partnership CEO John Buchna about Gigliotti's impact on Downtown

About Gigliotti's

Gigliotti's is a family-friendly fine-dining Italian restaurant featuring home-cooked Italian dishes and a variety of fresh seafood. Independently owned by Erie natives John Gigliotti and Roman Stefanelli, the restaurant officially opens October 2 and serves dinner Monday-Saturday. Hours and a menu can be found at Facebook/Gigliotti's Italian Restaurant; reservations can be made by calling 814-528-5209.

Gigliotti said, "Our menu features traditional Italian plates plus a high accent of seafood dishes to provide our customers with a dining experience not found in other communities. We want to be a destination restaurant where food lovers from across Erie County and the region come downtown to dine."

Erie Downtown Partnership CEO John Buchna said, “The EDP has been waiting for a restaurant like Gigliotti’s to complement our current locally owned downtown restaurants. We’re thrilled to welcome Roman and John to State Street.”

Buchna said, “With ongoing residential development in downtown, business owners like Roman and John are wise to invest downtown. Their business will not only help boost tourism, but cater to the entertainment needs of a new demographic of professionals soon to be working and living in the neighborhood.”

While substantial updates have been made to Gigliotti’s interior, owners made a conscious effort to repurpose historical pieces, such as booths and light fixtures, recovered from a variety of local historical venues.

Gigliotti said, “We’ve worked to create a unique atmosphere that offers both traditional and contemporary interior design. No matter where you sit, you’ll enjoy great sights, sounds, and smells.”

Buchna said, “Earlier this week, we gave out \$23,615 in façade grants. Three of those grantees were business owners who, just like John and Roman, purchased their downtown businesses within the past 12 months. I’m inspired to see so many new businesses opening downtown and the great level of care taken by our current and new downtown business owners to update their properties while protecting historic features.”

Buchna said, “If you haven’t been downtown lately for a show, a meal, or even just for a walk, now is the time to come.”

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The Erie Downtown Partnership is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the revitalization of downtown Erie by improving its image, business climate, physical environment, and design. Learn more at www.eriedowntown.com.