

Neighborhood Italian. Redefined.





## Welcome

At Matthew's Italian Restaurant classy and comfort collide on a daily basis. Each day the doors open for business customers are transported back to a time when high quality cuisine did not require lengthy car-rides or several subway stops.

Upon entering Matthew's a bright and inviting interior dining area marked by simple yet, refined decor, offers a welcoming environment whether guests are entertaining business clients for lunch or accommodating significant others to a romantic dinner.

The dining room comes to life each night and epitomizes the cozy feel of a rustic Italian eatery, allowing patrons to feel comfortable and "at home" as they enjoy the fine food, conversation and company at their table.

At Matthew's, their superior service is highlighted by its rustic menu of superb Italian classics. The extensive selection is not confined to its lunch and dinner menus, however, as guests may also choose from a fine wine list as well as a broad collection imported beers, spirits or desserts to accent their meal.

Open seven days a week, the establishment serves up bestselling dishes like its seafood salad, stuffed artichokes, zuppa di clams, linguini marechiara as well as a filet mignon which puts many steakhouses to shame. Rife with bold flavors, each dish is also punctuated by a flawless, elegant presentation.

Unique, robust specials are also available each day, including dishes such as osso bucco with Chianti sauce, pork medallion served alongside polenta, bronzini orzo, gazpacho with goat cheese or prosciutto wrapped salmon accompanied by artichoke hearts and a balsamic reduction.

In addition, the full bar located in the rear of the restaurant is an inviting area when busier nights provides a short wait time during which guests can enjoy a cocktail of their choosing.

Located in the "City that Cares" it's no wonder Matthew's has fit in so well. And, thanks to a convenient location on the City's south side, the restaurant is easily accessible to patrons from around the area via Route 3.



Mouthwatering entrees aside, the renowned service provided by an experienced and attentive waitstaff may serve as the restaurant's hallmark, a commitment inspired by Matthew's tireless owner. Day or night, owner Matthew Tyahla is not only an everpresent fixture at the restaurant but is also accessible and thoroughly involved with every aspect of the food and services his business offers.

Matthew's is also just two blocks from local thoroughfare Allwood Road as well as the Styertowne Shopping Center.

Matthew's is open 11:30am-11:00pm daily. Full take-out and catering menus are also available for parties or other special occasions. American Express, Visa, Mastercard, and Discover cards are accepted.



## **Appetizers**

SHRIMP COCKTAIL 16

four jumbos, spicy cocktail sauce & lemon

LITTLE NECK CLAMS 12

six raw clams, spicy cocktail sauce & lemon

CRISPY CALAMARI 18

with tomato sauce

**CLAMS OREGANATA 12** 

six baked clams, bread crumbs, herb sauce

MEATBALLS 12

with tomato sauce, curled parmesan, fresh basil

STUFFED ARTICHOKE 14

garlic butter, herbs, parmesan, bread crumbs

ZUPPA di CLAMS or di MUSSELS 22 / 18

STUFFED MUSHROOMS 12

smoked bacon, peppers, onions,

fresh bread crumbs

MOZZARELLA CAROZZA 12

ham, mozzarella, tomato sauce

EGGPLANT ROLLATINI 12

ricotta, basil, tomato sauce

## Antipasto

"A little bit of this .... A little bit of that"

HOT 23

stuffed shrimp, stuffed mushrooms, zucchini friti, eggplant rollatini, clams & mussels

COLD 23

fresh mozzarella, provolone, roasted red peppers, oil cured olives, dry salami, prosciutto

## Soups

TORTELLINI IN BRODO 10

STRACCIATELLA ROMANO 10

PASTA FAGIOLI 10

ESCAROLE & BEAN 8

## Salads

SEAFOOD SALAD 23 – shrimp, calamari, mussels, scungilli, lemon vinaigrette

CAPRESE 15 – fresh mozzarella, beefsteak tomatoes, basil, house vinaigrette

CLASSIC CAESAR 12 – romaine lettuce parmesan, garlic croutons

ARUGULA 14 – parmesan-reggiano, tomato, onion, lemon vinaigrette

HOUSE 8 – baby mixed greens, grape tomatoes, shredded carrots, cucumbers, red onion, house vinaigrette



### Pasta

MANICOTTI 24

ricotta filled, tomato basil

SPAGHETTI 22

with puttanesca

LINGUINI 29

with white clam sauce

RIGATONI & VODKA 24

fresh pasta, peas, pancetta, onion

TORTELLINI ALLA PANNA 24

fresh cheese tortellini pasta, pancetta, peas, mushrooms, cream sauce RAVIOLI 20

with ricotta cheese

PENNE 18

with tomato sauce

FRESH RIGATONI 24

with creamy meat sauce, topped with ricotta

CAVATELLI & BROCCOLI 22

fresh pasta, broccoli, garlic cream sauce

FETTUCCINI ALFREDO 22

fresh pasta, butter cheese sauce

\* Gluten Free & Whole Wheat pasta also are available upon request

## Sunday Sauce 29

(Available On Sundays)

slow simmered country-style ribs, braciole, spicy sausage and meatballs served over fresh rigatoni pasta with a side of ricotta & basil

\* pine-nuts are used making this entrée \*

### Fish

SOLE - broiled, franchese, almondine 29

CALAMARI – marinara or fra diavolo 29

SEA-SCALLOPS – lemon white-wine sauce 36

STUFFED SOLE – seafood stuffing 29

SCUNGILLI - marinara or fra diavolo 29

TWIN LOBSTER TAILS - lemon, white-wine sauce 48

SHRIMP FRANCESE 29

lemon butter sauce

SHRIMP SCAMPI 29

lemon, garlic, white wine

SAUTE SHRIMP (marinara or fra diavolo) 29

(fra diavolo is garnished with clams and mussels)

SHRIMP PARMIGIANA – mozzarella, marinara 30

STUFFED SHRIMP – seafood stuffing 32

SNAPPER MARICHIARA – little neck clams, mussels, light red sauce 30

BROILED SEAFOOD PLATE - shrimp, scallops, sole, clams, calamari, lobster tail, light seafood broth 46

RED SNAPPER – oreganata bread crumbs with fresh herbs, lemon butter sauce 28

ZUPPA di PESCE – shrimp, scallops, sole, snapper, scungilli, calamari, clams, mussels, lobster tail 48

LINGUINI FRUTTI DI MARE – calamari, clams, mussels, shrimp, scungilli 34

SPAGHETTI MALA FEMIMINA – lobster, clams, shrimp, white wine sauce 34

### Chicken

PARMIGIANA 24 mozzarella, tomato sauce

CONCETTA 27 breast or bone in potatoes, lemon herb sauce

CACCIATORE 27 breast or bone in mushrooms, pepper, onion, tomato

GIAMBOTTA 29 breast or bone in mushrooms, sausage, peppers, potatoes FRANCESE 25
lemon butter sauce

SCAMPI 27
lemon, white wine, garlic

OREGANATA 26
broiled with seasoned bread crumbs and lemon

MARSALA 26

Veal

PARMIGIANA 28 mozzarella, tomato sauce

SALTIMBOCCA 32 spinach, prosciutto, salami

MILANESE 28 lightly breaded pan fried over mix greens

SORRENTO 30 eggplant, mushrooms, mozzarella

PIZZAIOLA 29 peppers, onion, basil, marinara PICATTA 29

capers, lemon butter sauce

CAPRICCIOSA 29 provolone, tomato, onion, capers

mushrooms, brown sauce

ROLLATINI 30 mozzarella, salami, ham, sausage, mushrooms

MARSALA 29 mushrooms, brown sauce

FRANCESE 29 lemon butter sauce

VALENTINO 32 ham, swiss, mushrooms

## Steak

FILET MIGNON – roasted potatoes, string beans, red wine sauce 48

NEW YORK STRIP – wilted spinach, house cut fries, herb butter, red wine sauce 42

HANGER STEAK – broccoli rabe, Italian long hot peppers and potatoes 40

## Sides

ITALIAN LONG HOTS & POTATOES 15
BROCCOLI RABE 10
SAUTE MUSHROOMS 10
ESCAROLE & BEANS 10

SAUTE SPINACH 10 BROCCOLI OREGANATA 10 STRING BEANS OREGANATA 10 RISOTTO 10

### Lunch Menu

## Salads

CHICKEN CAESAR SALAD – chicken breast, romaine lettuce, parmesan, garlic croutons 18

HARVEST – bibb lettuce, candied cashews, granny smith apple, gorgonzola, in a balsamic glaze 16

COBB - chicken, romaine, bacon & avocado, ham, swiss, egg, tomato, bleu cheese in a house vinaigrette 16

PASTA – penne, fresh mozzarella, tomato, onion, basil, olive with a balsamic vinaigrette 15

CHOP-CHOP – mixed greens chic peas, olive, tomato, onion, cucumber in a house vinaigrette 14

VEGETABLE – baby greens, warm mixed grilled vegetables, fresh mozzarella, balsamic glaze 15

STRING BEAN – potato, tomato & red onion in a lemon vinaigrette 15

### Top Your Salad With:

Chicken \$6 Shrimp \$4pp

## Paninis & Sandwiches

(choice of mixed greens or house cut fries)

POLLO PRONTO – chicken, provolone, arugula, onion, sundried tomato with pesto 16

VEGETARIAN – grilled mixed vegetables, mozzarella, basil mayo 16

CAPRI – prosciutto, mozzarella, tomato, mixed greens, basil olive oil 18

BISTECCA VERDE – filet mignon, fresh mozzarella & broccoli rabe 19

CHICKEN PARM – breaded chicken cutlet, mozzarella and tomato sauce 16

MEATBALL PARM – Italian style meatballs with tomato sauce and mozzarella 16

EGGPLANT PARM – sliced eggplant, mozzarella and tomato sauce 16

SAUSAGE and PEPPERS – sliced sausage and peppers sauteed to perfection 16

### Desserts 10

### MIXED BERRIES & WHIPPED CREAM

Assortment of seasonal mixed berries

### **TARTUFO**

A chocolate shell consisting of chocolate and vanilla ice cream, centered with cherries and nuts, topped with chocolate syrup, whipped cream

#### PANNA COTTA

Homemade Italian style custard served with mixed berries

### CHOCOLATE BIRTHDAY CAKE

Homemade chocolate torte layered with apricot and chocolate mousse, with a chocolate ganache, whipped cream and a raspberry sauce

### **TIRAMISU**

Homemade Italian dessert prepared with mascarpone, espresso, ladyfingers topped with sliced coco blankets, powdered sugar and whipped cream

### THE CANNOLI

Sweetened ricotta with chocolate chips in a crisp shell sprinkled with powdered sugar

### PEACH MELBA

A poached peach with vanilla gelato, mix berries, whipped cream and a raspberry sauce

### ITALIAN STYLE CHEESECAKE

ricotta cheese, strawberry sauce and whipped cream

### BANANA FOSTER

Baked banana wrapped in phyllo with a side chocolate sauce & a side of vanilla gelato

### SEASONAL SORBET

Frozen sweetened fruit with whipped cream

## Matthew's Business Menu (off premise)

## Business Breakfast – \$22 per person

(minimum of 18 guests)

French Toast "Suzette Style" with fresh sliced oranges • Seasonal Fruit Salad • Spinach & Egg Frittata's
Yogurt & Granola • Assorted Pastries • Orange Juice & Bottled Water

Includes all standard paper & plastic products

Optional: 20 cup Box of Coffee with necessities @ \$25 per box

## Lunch Box - \$24 Per Person (minimum of 18 guests)

Caesar Salad and Mixed Green Salad Assortment of Baguette Sandwiches *(choose 3)* 

Chicken Oreganata – with roasted peppers & mozzarella
Chicken Parmesan – mozzarella, tomato sauce & basil
Eggplant Parmesan – thinly sliced eggplant, tomato sauce
& mozzarella
Smoked Turkey – tomato, bacon and herb mayo

Vegetarian – grilled mixed vegetables, mozzarella, basil mayo Bistecca Verde – filet mignon, fresh mozzarella & broccoli rabe Italian Style – fresh sliced cold cuts, Italian vinaigrette Meatball Parmesan – Italian style meatballs, mozzarella, tomato basil

Seasonal Fruit Salad Cannoli

Bottled Water & Soft Beverages

Includes all standard paper & plastic products



## Private Event

## Pre-Set Menus

(requires a minimum of 40 guests)

## Brunch Time - \$40 per person

French Toast "Suzette Style" with fresh sliced oranges Seasonal Fruit platters Faro Salad with a pesto dressing Grilled Vegetable Sandwiches Spinach & Egg Frittata's Italian Pastries & Chocolate Covered Strawberries Fresh Squeezed Orange Juice Coffee & Tea

## Family Style – \$46 per person

### Course I

Crispy Calamari – tomato sauce

Stuffed Mushrooms – fresh herbs, bacon, peppers, bread crumbs

Mixed Green Salad – baby mixed greens, grape tomatoes, cucumbers & shredded carrots

#### Course II

Chicken Oreganata – seasoned chicken served over roasted peppers

Fresh Rigatoni – tomato basil sauce, crispy eggplant & pancetta

Broiled Salmon – seasoned with fresh herbs, white wine & lemon served with seasonal vegetables

### Course III

Seasonal Fruit with Cannoli, Coffee & Tea

## THE Italian Dinner - \$65 per person

### Course I

"Family Style"

Crispy Calamari – tomato sauce

Eggplant Rollatini – ricotta with tomato basil sauce Stuffed Mushrooms – fresh herbs, bacon, peppers, bread crumbs

#### Course II

Arugula Salad – parmesan-reggiano, tomato, onion, lemon vinaigrette

#### Course III

"Choice"

Chicken Concetta – lemon herb sauce with roasted potatoes
Fresh Rigatoni Vodka Sauce – pancetta, peas, red onion
Filet Mignon – roasted potatoes, string beans, red wine sauce
Red Snapper Oreganata – seasoned with fresh herbs,
white wine & lemon served with risotto
Veal Saltimbocca – served over spinach with prosciutto

#### Course IV

Seasonal Fruit with Cannoli, Coffee & Tea

# Matthew's Catering – By the Tray (Small Tray 8-10 Guests / Large Tray 16-20 guests)

Appetizers	Small Tray	/ Large Tray
Cold Antipasto – fresh mozzarella, provolone, dry salami, prosciutto, roasted red peppers, artichoke hearts & olives	60	120
Mixed Green Salad – baby mixed greens, grape tomatoes, cucumbers, shredded carrots	40	75
Caprese Salad – sliced mozzarella and tomato with extra virgin olive oil, black pepper and fresh herbs	60	120
String Bean Salad – roasted potatoes, tomato & red onion in a lemon vinaigrette	50	100
Mussels Marinara (Prince Edward Island)	42	80
Eggplant Rollatini – thinly sliced eggplant stuffed with ricotta cheese in a tomato basil sauce	50	100
Meatballs Tomato Basil	50	100
Clams Oreganata – seasoned bread crumbs, white wine, lemon sauce	60	120
Stuffed Mushrooms – smoked bacon, peppers, onions, bread crumbs	50	100
Bruschetta – chopped mozzarella, tomatoes, basil with crostini	45	90
Pasta		
Penne Vodka – peas, pancetta red onion	50	100
Orecchiette – broccoli rabe, crumbled sausage and hot cherry peppers	60	120
Cavatelli & Broccoli – garlic, cream sauce	50	100
Rigatoni – tomato & basil sauce with crispy eggplant and pancetta	50	100
Penne Pomodoro – tomato basil sauce	40	80
Baked Ziti – with parmesan	50	100
Sunday Sauce! (serves 12 guests / includes a large tray of mixed green salad) –	-	250
slowly simmered country style ribs, braciole, spicy sausage and meatballs		
served over fresh rigatoni pasta with a side of ricotta and basil		
Chicken	(0	100
Francese – lemon, lemon butter sauce	60	120
Piccata – capers, cream, white wine	60	120
Concetta – lemon herb sauce with roasted potatoes	60	120
Marsala – mushroom wine sauce	60	120
Parmesan – mozzarella, tomato & basil	60	120
Giambotta – mushrooms, sausage, peppers & potatoes	75	150
Veal		
Rollatini – mozzarella, salami, ham	65	130
Francese – <i>lemon butter sauce</i>	65	130
Saltimbocca – spinach, prosciutto, salami	70	140
Pizzaiola – peppers, onion, basil, marinara	70	140
Parmesan – mozzarella, tomato & basil	70	145
Seafood		
Seafood Salad – shrimp, calamari mussels, scungilli, lemon vinaigrette	80	160
Baked Salmon – fresh herbs, lemon, white wine, over ristotto	85	170
Stuffed Sole – with seafood stuffing	90	180
Sauteed Shrimp – (francese, scampi, or marinara)	85	
Sauceca Shinip - (Jrancese, scampi, or marmara)	0)	170

## Matthew's Catering – By the Tray

(Large Tray 16-20 guests)

Assortment of Italian Sandwiches (Choose 3)	Small	Large Tray
Chicken Oreganata – with roasted peppers & mozzarella Chicken Parmesan – mozzarella, tomato sauce & basil Eggplant Parmesan – thinly sliced eggplant, tomato sauce & mozzarella Smoked Turkey – tomato, bacon and herb mayo Vegetarian – grilled mixed vegetables, mozzarella, basil mayo Bistecca Verde – filet mignon, fresh mozzarella & broccoli rabe Italian Style – fresh sliced cold cuts, Italian vinaigrette Meatball Parm – Italian style meatballs, mozzarella, tomato basil		120
Side Dishes		
Green Beans – (almondine, balsamic or oreganata)	35	70
Risotto – (vegetable, parmesan or artichoke)	50	100
Italian Long Hot Peppers & Potatoes	50	100
Whipped Potatoes	45	90
Vegetable Medley	45	90
Stuffed Artichokes	45	90
Dinner Rolls – \$8 per dozen		
Sauces	Pint	Quart
Veal Bolognese Sauce	12	24
Vodka Sauce	10	20
Tomato Basil Sauce	6	12
Marinara Sauce	6	12
Meat Sauce	9	18

## Additional Options

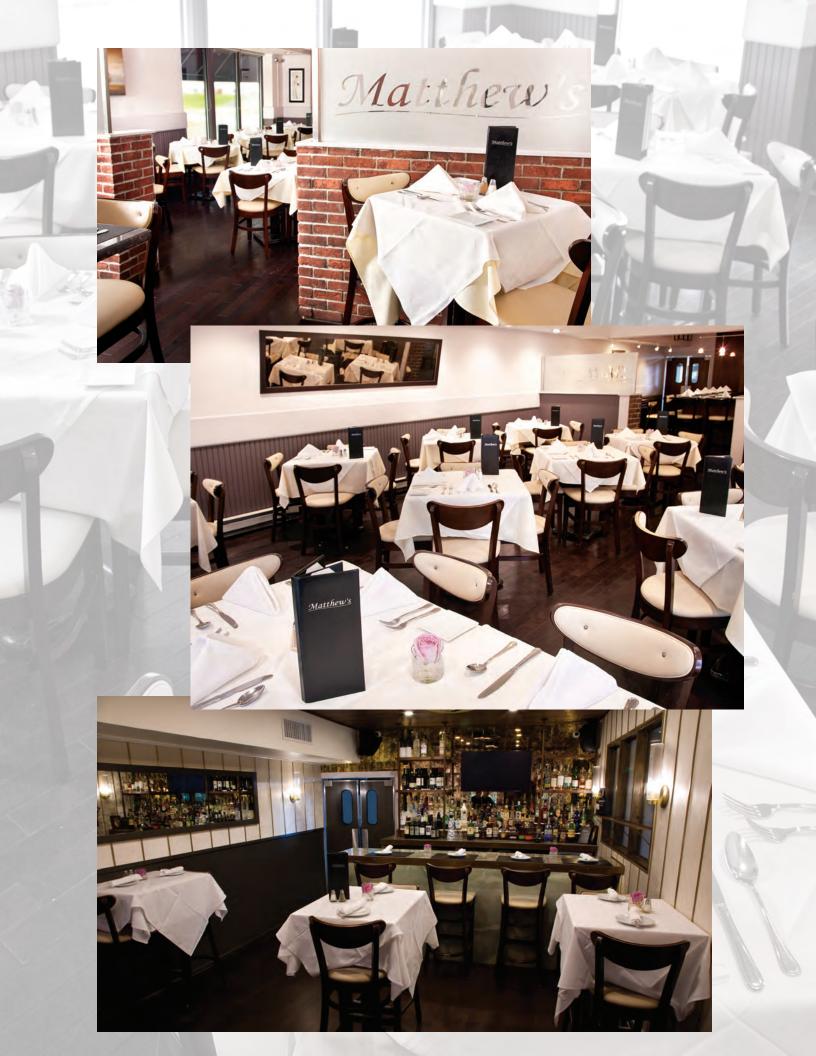
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Spicy Sausage Bolognese

Buffet Kit Setup (chaffing racks, sternos & serving utensils) \$14 per station

Delivery
Minimum \$250 order (within a ten mile radius)
\$25

Premium Plastic & Paper Products (utensils, plates, cups, napkins) \$6 per person



## Taking a chance on a dream

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2011 BY TONY GICAS STAFF WRITER CLIFTON JOURNAL

CLIFTON – It's an entrepreneurial tale of dishrags to riches, of a busboy becoming a businessman.

Matthew Tyahla's career in the food service industry began humbly at La Finestra, an Italian restaurant located a stone's throw from his home on Vincent Drive.

After repeatedly bugging the restaurant's owner to see if he was hiring, Tyahla finally got his way and, at 14 years old, landed his first job serving as a food-runner and busboy on the weekends.

"I fell in love with the business from day one," he said.

Tyahla stayed at the restaurant for the next two years until it closed in 2000. His job search did not last long and he began again as a food-runner at the Bloomfield Avenue establishment Bella Napoli which later became Cafe d' Amici.

After becoming a busboy, Tyahla later joined the waitstaff, working diligently through high school and college up until the last table cleared when Cafe d' Amici closed last August.

Through good and bad times, his co-workers said the enterprising Clifton native remained a reliable stalwart for staff and customers to lean on.

Amy Barklow, 34, worked with Tyahla for several years and was an experienced waitress when he first began working at the restaurant as a teenager.

"Now Matt is like a little brother to me, but he's also always been mature beyond his years," Barklow said. "An old soul in a young kid."

With a decade spent at the eatery, Tyahla had not only learned the restaurant business from the inside out but was also armed with a degree in business communications from Ramapo College.

Although just 26 years old, Tyahla said he had been saving up his money since he was 5 years old and saw the closure of Cafe d' Amici as a potential once-in-a-lifetime break.



"I'd been waiting a long time for an opportunity like this to come along and when it did I put everything on the line," he said. "I reacted very quickly [because] my dream always was to have a restaurant of my own."

While aware of the risk and challenges which punctuated the decision, Tyahla did not seek financial backing from family or friends and instead sought to acquire the restaurant himself.

He said the restaurant's future lay entirely on his shoulders and, as its sole owner, so did the risk.

Over the next 100 days Tyahla sifted through a seemingly endless collection of permits, applications, registrations, fees and contracts.

"There was a lot of work, which was at times a bit overwhelming, especially because the initial process was something that was never taught during my formal education," Tyahla said. "I actually think the hardest part is when you officially sign and get on board because you have to pick out every single thing."

From the type of salt and pepper shakers to the color of the dining room's floor to the font style used on the menus, he was responsible for every aspect of the business.

With a new decor Tyahla called "chic, clean, sophisticated yet comfortable" accompanied by a revamped lunch menu and entirely new wine list, Matthew's Italian Restaurant officially opened its doors on Dec. 14, 2010.

Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner, the establishment serves up some of Tyahla's favorites including seafood salad, stuffed artichoke, zuppa di clams, linguini marechiara as well as a filet mignon he says is "off the charts."

Though she had left Cafe d' Amici two years before it closed, Barklow said she gave Tyahla "a resounding yes" when he asked her to return as a waitress and bartender.

"I very much look forward to going to work now and I find that the atmosphere that we work in is professional and yet laid back and enjoyable," she said. "Because he's such a great person and we know what he expects, his age has never been a problem."

Although skeptical Matthew's would succeed so quickly, Barklow was not the least bit surprised to see her friend become a business owner.

"Matthew was always destined to be the owner of a restaurant," Barklow said. "In fact I would often encourage him to look into it when he was on the waitstaff."

Cliftonite John Resciniti, one of Tyahla's closest friends since childhood, also said he was initially concerned about his friend's decision but has since come away "totally impressed" by the restaurant's success and quality. "He put everything on the line to do it and it's doing great," Resciniti said. "I can't tell you one person I've sent there that hasn't raved about it. I'm a real picky [eater] and I'm blunt but I haven't been able to find anything to complain about."

Barklow echoed Resciniti's sentiments, going a step further because the restaurant's success has come from clientele wordof-mouth considering Tyahla has done very little advertising.

Also hearing nothing but positive feedback from Matthew's patrons Barklow said she can't remember a time when anyone was happier than Tyahla is now.

It turns out she couldn't have been more right.

"The past eight weeks have been the happiest eight weeks of my life," Tyahla said. "It's a dream that became a reality.

I'm confident in this place, this location, the food and myself to make this work.

I truly enjoy coming to work to the point where I don't even think of this as work. It's a true passion."

## Matthews is pleased to host your special events. Our specialties include, but are not limited to:

- Corporate Luncheons
  - Repast Luncheons
- Social Gathering Events
- Full Catering Services (on/off premise available)





# Matthew's ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Neighborhood Italian. Redefined.

### www.MatthewsItalianRestaurant.com

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@MatthewsItalianRestaurant