



## **LAROSA'S FAMILY PIZZERIA TO OPEN IN DUBLIN'S AVERY SQUARE**

### *Restaurant First In Company's Central Ohio Expansion*

COLUMBUS, OH –April 22, 2014- After a year-long, exhaustive search-and-discovery for a Central Ohio franchise partner, LaRosa's Family Pizzeria, the 60-year-old, Cincinnati-born pizza company is counting on a native son to introduce its family pizzerias to Columbus. Brandon Salamone, 32, Cincinnati-native and resident of Columbus, and his Columbus-based management group have signed a franchise agreement to bring the pizzeria famous for its family recipe pizza and lively menu of other Italian food to Dublin's Avery Square in 2014.

"While Columbus is now my home, I was born and raised in Cincinnati. As a kid, I fell in love with LaRosa's pizza. Buddy LaRosa was an idol to me," Salamone said of LaRosa's founder. Salamone is already a successful food service veteran, as a franchisee of the J. Gumbo's chain. He was named a Small Business "Person of the Year" by the Small Business Administration Economic & Community Institute of Columbus in 2010.

"We announced over a year ago that we were looking to find a franchise partner who could bring our brand to Central Ohio," said Michael LaRosa, CEO of LaRosa's, Inc. "We met with so many great folks, but it was difficult to find the individual with just the right combination of experience, energy and understanding of what we do. We've definitely found that person in Brandon," he said.

Salamone continues, "When you're a kid in Cincinnati, LaRosa's is as much a part of your life as the Reds and Bengals. I drive my friends and neighbors in Columbus crazy talking about how good LaRosa's pizza is. I'm just so excited to be a part of bringing LaRosa's to Central Ohio," he said.

LaRosa's diverse menu of over 40 selections is available in the dining room, as well as for pick-up or delivery. Along with its famous pizza (still made from a beloved LaRosa aunt's recipe), the menu includes calzones, hoagys, pasta, appetizers, salads, desserts and special kids meals. A selection of beer and wine is also available.

"LaRosa's menu offers something that every member of the family can enjoy," Salamone said. "It's one of the reasons I know people in Columbus will love it- it's a great, affordable meal. Where else can a family actually sit down and be pleasantly served a great pizza together? Mom and Dad can have a cold beer or a nice glass of wine, and our kids' menu is phenomenal

for the little ones,” he said. “And, if you can’t make it in for a visit, that’s okay. You can pick up your meal or we’ll deliver it to your door,” he concluded.

Located just north of Columbus in Dublin, Ohio, the LaRosa’s Family Pizzeria in Dublin’s Avery Square will be built in a space formerly occupied by Cici’s Pizza. It will include a traditional dining room with seating for up to 140 guests, as well as “Buddy’s Room” (named for founder Buddy LaRosa) with seating for groups and parties. It will also include a number of patio tables to accommodate pizza ‘al fresco.’

For pick-up or delivery orders, Guests can order online, via mobile phone or tablet at [www.larosas.com](http://www.larosas.com), or, call LaRosa’s at 877-347-1111. LaRosa’s also offers catering for meetings and parties through the Catering Builder at [larosas.com](http://www.larosas.com).

An exact opening date has yet to be confirmed. Employment opportunities and contact details will be announced later in the year for the LaRosa’s Dublin location.

### **About LaRosa’s**

LaRosa’s was founded in 1954 on Cincinnati’s west side by Buddy LaRosa. It is now a \$138 million restaurant company with 64 pizzerias serving neighborhoods throughout Greater Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky, Southeastern Indiana and the Miami Valley. To learn more about LaRosa’s, go to <http://www.larosas.com>

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