



BOHLSEN RESTAURANT GROUP

## **BRG Rolls Out High-Tech Indoor Air Filtration System, Providing Safe Indoor Dining Environment.**

Islip, NY – September 8, 2020 – BRG announced today that they are making an estimated 100k investment in new high-tech air filtration systems and a plan for conditioned exterior spaces for all their properties, including Prime in LI and CT, Tellers, H2O Smithtown and The Harbor Club at Prime, creating a healthier, safer indoor dining experience for patrons and employees.

BRG is installing the Merv 13 filtration system, a widely trusted and certified filter that can effectively capture up to 85% of coronavirus particles indoors. MERV filters are rated on how efficiently they remove particles in a specific size range from the air. Governor Coumo has recognized Merv 11 filters as the minimum acceptable level for malls and large buildings in NY but has not mandated them for restaurants. BRG made the decision to go above and beyond the suggested safety requirements for their restaurants and are even considering adding UV lighting to make their indoor environments the safest available. Prime Huntington and Verace filters are installed now. The remaining Merv filters are expected to be in place by Oct 1.

Making these updates was a decision the team considered for several months. During the shutdown, the BRG team created a war room environment, researching how best to address safe indoor dining protocols, with the goal of keeping patrons and staff healthy, maintaining their business model and delivering the same high quality experience they are known for.

“We wanted to do more than just provide the standard healthy environment. We are known for the high-quality dining experience we have provided our guests for generations. We want to continue to deliver that promise while establishing as healthy an environment as possible for today’s new normal. “say co-owners Kurt and Michael Bohlsen. “We chose Merv 13 because it creates the best healthy balance we could ask for. The Merv 13 removes 85% of Covid particles, while maintaining an appropriate amount of airflow. This system is the best option to maintain a safe and healthy indoor environment and provide our guests the experience they expect from us. Customers who were skeptical about indoor dining can now feel comfortable knowing we have the maximum filtrations systems in place for them.”

Creating an environment of health and safety is paramount for the group. At their waterfront Prime Huntington and Stamford locations, high-tech HVAC systems are in place, creating an enclosed alfresco dining space to provide those not fully comfortable inside with a superior and comfortable outdoor dining experience. These new systems utilize integrated retractable and electronic clear walls that keep warmth in and protect patrons from winds of up to 50 miles an hour in the event of rain. In Huntington, this space includes radiant floor heating and heated lamps, creating a cozy experience even into traditionally chillier months. At Prime in Stamford, the installation allows for an additional 50 guests to sit in a safe, warm and inviting alfresco dining room that is enclosed to cold and wind. The team spent considerable time evaluating the indoor dining space of all of their properties and placed tables in a configuration that allows guests to be seated in the most popular areas, maintaining a great view and

experience. High quality crystal plexiglass has been installed and delicately hung from the ceiling to ensure waterfront views were not compromised for any guest.

In Smithtown, the pre-existing Pergola has been upgraded with the same HVAC system, creating an enclosed alfresco dining room with infrared heaters and a fan to keep heat in. The new configuration provides 25 additional warm seats for those not fully comfortable inside, despite the new MERV filters. A new marquee tent attaches to the building, covering guests as they enter the space and the building. Construction is expected to be complete by October.

Tellers, one of Long Islands most recognized steak houses will be expanding its indoor dining space with the addition of the interior of sister restaurant Verace, where both properties have the MERV system in place. The new combo indoor area provides an additional 30 healthy and safe seats. Outdoor patio seating is still available on the Verace and Tellers patios while the weather stays warm.

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