CITYCENTER
LEHIGH VALLEY

OWNERS OF GRAIN AND THE BAYOU ANNOUNCE NAME AND CHEF FOR NEW BARBECUE RESTAURANT AND BAR ON ARTSWALK IN DOWNTOWN ALLENTOWN

Queen City BBQ Will Open in September with Executive Chef Fred Grant, Formerly of ArtsQuest, Emeril's Chop House and BAM, Heading the Kitchen

Allentown, PA, August 23, 2016 – The owners of grain. and The Bayou announced today that their coming barbecue restaurant and bar on the ArtsWalk at City Center in downtown Allentown will be named Queen City BBQ. The new restaurant, which will offer dine-in and carry-out options, will open in September 2016.

Owners Morris Taylor and Cristian Duarte say their latest casual eatery will offer high-quality authentic barbecue smoked on site. They are creating a homey atmosphere, complete with reclaimed barn wood, that will appeal to families as well as to adults seeking a fun bar scene. The new restaurant will seat around 150 and will provide outdoor seating and a fire pit on the ArtsWalk. An indoor/outdoor bar will offer 20 craft beers on tap and several frozen drink specialties. The restaurant's interior will feature two shuffleboard tables, a jukebox and several TVs.

"We saw an opportunity to create a high-energy place with great food at an affordable price point for the neighborhood and the city," Taylor said. "We chose the name Queen City BBQ to reflect that this will be a hometown place. We are a local company, and are opening this restaurant to help further the progress of Allentown's redevelopment. We want to see all of the new and existing businesses succeed downtown. We are in it for Allentown and can't wait to bring a new concept to market."

Fred Grant will serve as executive chef at Queen City BBQ. Grant previously worked at Emeril's Chop House and BAM, both at Sands Bethlehem, before becoming sous chef and later executive chef at the ArtsQuest Center in Bethlehem.

"Our menu will meld traditional barbecue with our Pennsylvania Dutch culinary heritage – think sweet potato rolls and pierogis – to create something that doesn't exist, our own PA-style barbecue," said General Manager Jerry Straub. "The food we serve will be just like what we smoke and eat in our own backyards."

In September 2015, Taylor and Duarte opened grain. in the former Federal Grill space on Hamilton Street in downtown Allentown, offering American contemporary dishes with culinary flairs from around the world and 24 beers on tap in a polished casual environment. Shortly after opening, grain. was named 2015's Top Rated New Hot Spot in Pennsylvania by Yelp and Nightclub & Bar magazine.

Learn more about Queen City BBQ at www.QCityQ.com and on social media at:

Twitter: @qcityq

Instagram: @qcityq

Facebook: fb.com/qcityq

About City Center Lehigh Valley:
City Center Lehigh Valley is a major mixed-use development that is helping transform downtown Allentown, Pennsylvania, into one of America's most vibrant urban communities and a regional center of excellence for business, culture and metropolitan living. With Allentown's new arena, PPL Center, at its core, City Center includes three Class A office towers, the Renaissance Allentown Hotel, STRATA Flats and The Shops at City Center along with upscale restaurant space and coworking space called Velocity. City Center's total investment in downtown Allentown is $400 million, with additional development of office, residential, retail and green space planned.

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