

For Immediate Release

Contact: Ashley Gliniak

Marketing and Development Manager

agliniak@mealsonwheelsde.org

302-250-4231



**"TOP LOCAL AND NATIONAL CHEFS COME TOGETHER FOR THE 19TH ANNUAL CELEBRITY CHEFS' BRUNCH.
A CULINARY EVENT FOR MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE SUPPORTING HOMEBOUND SENIORS"**

February 3, 2016– Meals On Wheels Delaware, joined by Marquee Sponsors Capital One, DuPont and Marquee Communications Sponsors, Delaware Today and Main Line Today, along with Lead and Notable Sponsor Diamond State Party Rentals, are excited to announce the lineup for the 19th Annual *Celebrity Chefs' Brunch*. The brunch will take place Sunday, April 17, 2016 at Hercules Plaza in Wilmington, Delaware from 11:00 AM -2:00 PM. The *Celebrity Chefs' Brunch* will feature an array of culinary delicacies from 27 acclaimed chefs, signature brunch cocktails, live entertainment, a silent auction, and culinary fun!

The *Celebrity Chefs' Brunch* has been a celebrated event since 1997 showcasing chefs from across the country, region, and world. Chefs will come together to indulge guests by sharing culinary brunch tastings to support Meals On Wheels Delaware and our mission to end senior hunger. This year the chef line features award winning and acclaimed chefs ready to present their culinary masterpieces and help raise funds to support homebound seniors.

A preview of the culinary talents participating include: Three-time James Beard "Best Southwest Chef" semifinalist and "Top Chef" contestant Chef John Tesar. Chef Tesar is known for his stylish, modern American cuisine prepared with classic European techniques. His innovative culinary perspective and no-nonsense personality have garnered much acclaim throughout his 20+ years in the restaurant industry, including national nods from *Esquire*, *Food & Wine*, and *New York Magazine*. Thomas J. Delle Donne, who attended Johnson & Wales University Providence Campus College of Culinary Arts, in 2006, he was awarded Best Young Chef in the Northeast region by the Chaine des Rotisseurs, where he now sits on the board as their Conseiller Culinaire. He has cooked at the famed James Beard House and for President George H.W. Bush's 90th birthday. Also joining the event this year is local favorite, Chef Dwain Kalup. Dwain is a 2004 graduate of the culinary program at the Art Institute of Philadelphia. As a young chef he earned the Best Youth Culinarian Award and the Rising Star Chef Award. Another local favorite returning this year is Hari Cameron. Hari's restaurant a(MUSE.), was recently voted Best Restaurant in Delaware by *Business Insider*. Hari's accomplishments include recognition as a semifinalist for the James Beard Rising Star Chef Of The Year as well as being recognized as a semifinalist for the James Beard Best Chef: Mid – Atlantic Region. For additional chef photos, chef facts, and chef bio's please visit: www.pinterest.com/mealsonwheelsde/2016-celebrity-chefs-brunch/

Participating Chefs include:

Justin Baade • Waterbar • San Francisco, CA
Paul Bachand • Recipe- A Neighborhood Kitchen • Newberg, OR
Michael Blackie • NeXT • Stittsville, ON
Daniel Butler • Piccolina Toscana • Wilmington, DE
Hari Cameron • a(MUSE.) • Rehoboth Beach, DE
Joy Crump • FOODE • Fredericksburg, VA
Patrick D'Amico • Metro Pub & Grill • Middletown, DE

-More-

Thomas J. Delle Donne • Johnson & Wales University • Providence, RI
Donald Drake • Magnolias • Charleston, SC
William Hoffman • The House of William & Merry • Hockessin, DE
Eric Huntley • Platinum Dining Group- RedFire Grill & Steakhouse • Hockessin, DE
Lee Gregory • The Roosevelt • Richmond, VA
Dwain Kalup • Domaine Hudson • Wilmington, DE
Mark Levy • Magdalena at The Ivy Hotel Baltimore • Baltimore, MD
Clifford Lyness • Perspectives Restaurant at Brookstreet Hotel • Ottawa, ON
Harold Marmulstein • Salty Sow • Austin, TX
Jeff Matyger • Platinum Dining Group- Capers & Lemons • Wilmington, DE
Bruce Moffett • Barrington's Restaurant • Charlotte, NC
Lamar Moore • Hotel Chicago • Chicago, IL
Deb Paquette • Etch • Nashville, TN
Larry Schreiber • Good Food on Montford • Charlotte, NC
Bryan Sikora • La Fia • Wilmington, DE
Joe Sparatta • Heritage & Southbound • Richmond, VA
John Tesar • Knife • Dallas, TX
Parke Ulrich • Waterbar & EPIC Steak • San Francisco, CA
Thomas Van Lente • White Oak Tavern & Inn • Chicago, IL
Cassy Vires • Companion Baking Co. • St. Louis, MO

Brunch Beverage Purveyors

Collier's of Centerville

Breakthru Beverage Delaware

“We are grateful to have the support of so many talented chefs, the community, dedicated volunteers and our generous sponsors,” said Regina Dodds, Director of Events for Meals On Wheels Delaware. “With the tremendous support we receive from our community, we are able to make a daily impact on the nearly 4,000 homebound seniors who rely on Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels programs provide a hot meal and a friendly hello to help lift the spirits of our elderly neighbors.”

Tickets are \$125 per person. Tickets allow guests the ability to enjoy unique tastings by nationally acclaimed chefs, signature brunch cocktails, live entertainment, and a silent auction. For the first time this year, Meals on Wheels Delaware is introducing a “Young Professionals Ticket” for guests ages 21-40 for \$75. For additional event information or to purchase tickets please visit: <http://mealsonwheelsde.org/celebrity-chefs-brunch/>

ABOUT MEALS ON WHEELS DELAWARE:

The mission of Meals On Wheels Delaware is to ensure – through the provision of financial and human resources – that every eligible senior in the State of Delaware receives a hot, nutritious meal in their home.

A nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, Meals On Wheels Delaware is a public/ private partnership between the federal government, the State of Delaware, five meal-providing agencies and thousands of volunteers from corporations, civic, religious and community groups. Additional financial and volunteer resources are made available for agency providers, to ensure that no senior in Delaware is on a waiting list for a hot meal delivered to their home.

Last year, meals on wheels volunteers delivered nearly 635,000 hot, nutritious meals to nearly 4,000 homebound seniors statewide, along with a gift of health, independence and companionship.