

# (201) Food. Fun. Sports.

## Where Family Dining Is a Team Sport



American comfort food, like chicken and meatball parm sliders, shares the menu with exotic sushi choices at (201) Food. Fun. Sports.

**BY BOB PROBERT**

SPECIAL TO SPRING DINE OUT GUIDE

With its 50 TVs, selection of 20 beers on tap and murals of sports figures on the walls, don't make the mistake of thinking that (201) Food. Fun. Sports. is a sports bar — at least in the traditional sense. "We like to think of it as a family restaurant with a sports theme," said chef/owner Antonio Trovato. "We want to cover all bases and appeal to a broad clientele — young and old, families, singles and groups — everybody."

Antonio and fellow chef/owner (and brother) Pasquale Trovato, who also operate Trovato's Due in Oakland and Fratelli's Coal Burning Pizza in Elmwood Park, spearhead an ownership group that has done some great things with the former ((Boom)) Burger location on West Passaic Street in Rochelle Park. It's a big, handsome space with two bars and seating for over 300 patrons. The extensive renovations the brothers have done include the addition of a sushi bar, new lighting and seating and, of course, the aforementioned televisions, strategically placed so that the game is easily viewed from any seat in the house. "When you visit," said Tony, "you'll feel like you're walking into the stadium."

**(201)  
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375 W. PASSAIC ST.  
ROCHELLE PARK  
(201) 843-1500  
201FOODFUNSPORTS.COM

"So much more than bar food," the website exclaims, boasting a menu that offers a combination of what Trovato calls "American comfort food," Italian specialties and sushi, the latter available at your table and the sushi bar where you can enjoy sake or Japanese beer on tap and in bottles. All of the food choices are cleverly organized into sections that reinforce the something-for-everyone theme. From the "Pre-Game" section, start with a taste tantalizer from a choice of over 15 appetizers including

Philly cheesesteak rolls, buffalo calamari, pork pot stickers and fried pickles. There are also four popular salads available and the sure-to-be-popular "201 Wings" are served "naked," parmesan, barbecue, mild, hot or "unbearable."

In the "J-12 Tailgate" section (named after one of the partner's tailgating section at Giants Stadium), you'll find an assortment of burgers and sandwiches made with Pat LaFrieda meats. One of the highlights, the "Crazy Chicken Cutlet Sandwich," adds a fried egg, bacon, cheese and cherry peppers.

The "Game Time" area features a selection of entrees that includes a NY strip steak for \$18.99 (the most expensive item on the menu), chicken parmigiana over penne, fish & chips, and fish tacos. There's also a vegan option — penne marinara with zucchini,