

## SENATOR KLEIN HOSTS FIRST ANNUAL 'TASTE OF MORRIS PARK'

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Nearly 500 Bronxites come out to enjoy Morris Park's culinary delights

BRONX, NY - State Senator Jeff Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester), together with the Morris Park Community Association (MPCA), hosted the first annual 'Taste of Morris Park' food festival on Sunday. The event brought together the local business community and families to celebrate and showcase the best of Morris Park.

Senator Klein said: "The first annual 'Taste of Morris Park' is a real treat for everyone – supporting our local businesses and bringing together the community to enjoy all the great food we have to offer. I've lived in Morris Park all my life and I think this festival is a great way to spread the word and celebrate some of our hidden treasures with family and friends. I'm proud to host the 'Taste of Morris Park' in partnership with the MPCA, and I look forward to working together to improve the quality of life and lift up local residents for many years to come."

Tony Signorile, president of the Morris Park Community Association, said: "I'm excited to host the first annual 'Taste of Morris Park.' This event is a continuation of Italian Heritage Month, and in the next few years, we hope to build it up to be as big as the Columbus Day Parade. Thank you Senator Jeff Klein for working hard to make this happen. I know myself, and so many Bronx families, are already looking forward to the next Morris Park food festival."

Rocky Miano, owner of Burger Time, said: "There's no better way to celebrate all that Morris Park has to offer than sharing a bite with friends and family. I'm proud to participate in the first ever 'Taste of Morris Park' and I'm thrilled all the local merchants joined together to make it such a successful event. Thanks to Senator Jeff Klein for hosting the first annual 'Taste of Morris Park.'"

**Savitri McCrea, owner of Lotus Flame Restaurant, said:** "The 'Taste of Morris Park' brought together the best of The Bronx. This is a wonderful event that allowed us to enjoy each other's company and sample some great food. Lotus Flame was thrilled to participate in the community's first food festival and we look forward to many more coming up in the future."

The festival was held at Loreto Park from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Nearly a dozen local merchants participated in the event, including:

- · Patricia's
- · Patsy's Pizzeria
- · Enzo's Italian Restaurant
- · Lotus Flame Restaurant
- · G & R Italian Deli
- · Burger Time
- · Pasta Pasta
- · The Pine
- · Good to Go Restaurant

Throughout the day, restaurants sold and sampled tantalizing treats and homestyle favorites like fried ravioli, Italian meatballs, hamburgers, pizza, rice balls and chicken scarpariello. An array of West Indian delicacies were also available from Lotus Flame Restaurant.

"Just Us" provided live music. Children also enjoyed face painting, games, popcorn and cotton candy.