



LongHorn Steakhouse Brings the Spirit of the West to Wisconsin

New Restaurant to Bring Western-Style Food and Hospitality to Green Bay Area

ORLANDO, Fla., Sept 08, 2009 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- LongHorn Steakhouse, part of the Darden family of restaurants, today announced the opening of its first location in Wisconsin. The restaurant, best known for its atmosphere and flavor of the American West, is located at 2475 S. Oneida St. in Green Bay. As part of its pre-opening training period, the restaurant recently hosted a Friends and Family night which helped raise more than \$1,400 for the Ashwaubenon Historical Society.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20090223/FL74289LOGO>)

The 8,000 square foot restaurant will employ up to 80 team members and seat more than 250 guests. Jim Kasprzak, a restaurant industry veteran of 15 years, will serve as managing partner.

"LongHorn Steakhouse has been looking to bring its tradition of Western hospitality to Wisconsin for some time and we are excited about the warm welcome we have received from the Green Bay community," said Kasprzak. "We look forward to helping our guests relax and unwind in an inviting atmosphere while savoring a great steakhouse meal served with genuine western hospitality. We're also pleased we could help support the Ashwaubenon Historical Society and look forward to making more contributions to the local community for many years to come."

LongHorn opened its first restaurant in Atlanta 28 years ago and has grown steadily - becoming known for its passion for grilling fresh, tender, juicy steaks served in a relaxed, comfortable steakhouse atmosphere. But that first restaurant almost didn't survive its initial year in business until good fortune fell from the sky in the form of a freak snowstorm in Atlanta. After stranded motorists (including a local restaurant critic) sought refuge inside word quickly spread about the delicious steaks and genuine western hospitality.

LongHorn grill masters love to grill fresh, never frozen, fish and chicken in addition to steak. Items such as LongHorn Salmon, a fresh, hand-cut salmon fillet seasoned with a bourbon marinade, and fall-off-the-bone tender Baby Back Ribs are just some of the other specialties guests will find on the menu.

The restaurant opens daily at 11 AM for lunch. It is open until 10 PM Sunday through Thursday and until 11 PM on Friday and Saturday.

ABOUT LONGHORN STEAKHOUSE

More than 25 years after opening its first restaurant in Atlanta, today LongHorn Steakhouse operates more than 300 restaurants in 29 states. LongHorn is a division of Darden Restaurants, Inc. (NYSE: DRI), the world's largest full-service restaurant operating company. For more information about LongHorn, please visit www.longhornsteakhouse.com.

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