



**For Immediate Release**  
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**News Talk 630 WPRO-AM and 99.7 FM announces the debut of the “WPRO Debate Series” with “Food Fight”**

**East Providence, RI** – On March 13, 2013 from 7pm to 8pm at the Culinary Arts Museum at Johnson and Wales WPRO-AM will hold the inaugural event of the year long “WPRO Debate Series” focusing on important local discussions. The first debate, entitled “Food Fight,” will be a discussion between city restaurant owners and food truck owners. WPRO-AM’s Tara Granahan will moderate the discussion. “Food Fight” will be streamed live on-line at [630wpro.com](http://630wpro.com) and will become the center piece of a WPRO Special Report airing during the WPRO Morning News with Gene Valicenti the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. The entire discussion will also be available as a podcast following the event at [630wpro.com](http://630wpro.com).

A four member panel including prominent Rhode Island business owners has been assembled to provide insight, input and feedback on the growing tension between the traditional restaurants and the new school food trucks. The panel also features business owners that see the potential of both avenues and have sought to capture both markets. Panelists scheduled to appear:

**Theo Spyridis** is the General Manager of Paragon Viva and Spats on Thayer Street in Providence.

**Brian Oakley** is a partner and the General Manager of Julian’s Restaurant and the “Omnibus.” This double decker food bus and catering vehicle hit the streets in 2010 and is complete with a fully operational kitchen.

**Bill Dessel** is the owner of Billy’s Restaurant Barrington. After the success of the restaurant Bill opened Little Billy’s; a food truck aimed at bringing fresh, gourmet food to the streets.

**Tim Silva** is the owner of The Radish food truck. The Radish was the creation of JWU, RISD, and Brown students looking to promote healthy eating and creativity.

The debate will be aimed at addressing the new issues that have emerged with this new style of street food, discussing the benefits to consumers and the Rhode Island economy, and to look for potential solutions moving forward.

**ABOUT CUMULUS MEDIA**

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