

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE COZY TABERNA AND CLINK! FORM NEW RESTAURANT GROUP TO ELEVATE WILLAMETTE VALLEY DINING

Clink! and The Cozy Taberna today announced the formation of a new restaurant group focused on strengthening both establishments and helping position Salem and the Willamette Valley as a premier destination for exceptional food, wine, and hospitality.

The partnership unites two of Salem's most respected restaurants: Clink!, known for its French-American cuisine and elegant yet welcoming atmosphere, and The Cozy Taberna, the Spanish-inspired shared-plate restaurant recognized for its culinary program, craft cocktails, and relationships throughout Oregon's wine community.

Both restaurants will retain their distinct concepts, identities, and guest experiences while benefiting from shared operational experience, expanded resources, and a broader vision for long-term growth.

Bill Pugh, owner of The Cozy Taberna, will lead operations for the newly formed group.

"This partnership represents an exciting new chapter for Clink!," said Sheena Nash, co-owner of Clink! with her husband, AJ Nash. "By joining forces with Bill and The Cozy Taberna, we can build on what our team has created while gaining the operational support and resources to make Clink! even stronger. Each restaurant will remain true to itself, but both will benefit from what we can accomplish together."

Pugh added, “Clink! and Cozy are established restaurants with distinct personalities, loyal guests, and talented teams. Our goal is to support the continued growth of each restaurant, create meaningful opportunities for connection, and continue raising the standard of hospitality and culinary excellence in Salem.”

The formation of the group creates significant momentum by bringing together the strengths, talent, and regional relationships of two successful standalone restaurants. The group will focus on refining the guest experience, strengthening internal systems, expanding relationships with local growers and winemakers, and creating new opportunities for employees across both organizations.

“This is a significant and intentional investment in two standalone restaurants and in the future of fine dining in our community,” Pugh said. “I believe Salem wants - and deserves - restaurants that can grow, endure, and bring greater attention to the extraordinary people, food, and wine produced here in the Willamette Valley.”

Clink! will conclude service on Wednesday, July 29, to allow its team time to prepare for the transition. The restaurant will reopen for service on Wednesday, August 5. The Cozy Taberna will continue operating on its regular schedule.

Guests can expect Clink! to return with the familiar character of the restaurant, supported by renewed energy, strengthened operations, and the shared resources of the new group.

For more information, visit clinksalem.com or thecozytaberna.com.

