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The Lighthouse Inn Hires New Executive Chef and Restaurant Manager

Palm Room Restaurant Heats Things Up In the New Year

ROCKPORT, Texas (February 14, 2005) — The Lighthouse Inn at Aransas Bay, a Victorian-style boutique hotel on the Texas Gulf Coast, announces the addition of Resz'ney Skinner as the new executive chef and Mark Lauer as the new restaurant manager for the Palm Room Restaurant.

Chef Rez comes to the Inn most recently from the Austin International Airport Hilton Hotel where she was Executive Chef. A gold medal winner at the 1996 Berlin Culinary Olympics, Skinner has trained at the Culinary Institute of America and most recently served as Executive Chef at the Austin International Airport Hilton Hotel.

"I joined The Lighthouse Inn because I love the idea of cooking in a luxury boutique hotel," said Skinner. "I am looking forward to sharing my signature dishes with hotel guests and local diners."

Originally from New Orleans, she has also served as executive banquet sous chef at the Driskill Hotel in Austin and was one of 20 chefs representing the U.S. Armed Forces Culinary Arts Team. In addition, she is a member of the American Culinary Federation and Women Chefs and Restaurateurs Association.

As a result of her southern upbringing some of her specialty items include crawfish and shrimp eoutoffe. In addition, she plans on taking advantage of daily caught local seafood to prepare a few of her signature dishes such as seared Black Drum served over Texas goat cheese risotto and pecan crusted Amberjack with chipotle-honey cream sauce.

Mark Lauer comes to the Inn with 22 years of experience in operational management. In his position Lauer will be responsible for managing the Palm Room Restaurant. Before joining the Inn, he was assistant general manager for Ruby's Diner in San Diego.

"I am looking forward to applying my restaurant management experience to help maintain the hotel's existing high level of customer service at the Palm Room," said Lauer.

Lauer has also served as food and beverage controller at Morton's of Chicago in Houston. Prior to that he owned his own successful restaurant, the Plaza Café, in downtown New Braunfels, Texas.

Rockport is between the Copano and Aransas bays, and The Lighthouse Inn is at 200 S. Fulton Beach Road, six blocks east of State Highway 35. For information and reservations call 866-790-VIEW (8439); visit www.lighthouse texas.com, or contact your travel agent.

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Media Contact

Jennifer Green / Cherie Schulman
Michael A. Burns & Associates / Public Relations
Phone: 214-521-8596
Email: jgreen@mbapr.com, cschulman@mbapr.com