

UPTOWN UPDATE

RDG AND CHEF ROBERT DEL GRANDE TAKE CENTER STAGE

Chef Robert Del Grande and his restaurant **RDG + Bar Annie**, located at 1800 Post Oak Boulevard, have had quite a start to the new year! Almost a year after opening its doors, RDG + Bar Annie was named one of the top 10 new restaurants in the United States according to **Gayot.com** – The Guide to the Good Life. Additionally, RDG + Bar Annie was featured in the February issue of *Texas Monthly* as the number one new restaurant in the state!

But wait, there's more...In late February, Chef Del Grande was named a semi-finalist for the esteemed James Beard Award, the most prestigious award for food professionals. Finalists will be announced at the end of March. Good luck to Chef Del Grande!



MARKET NEWS

As 2010 gets underway, Uptown Houston's **Office Market** continues to hold strong in this unpredictable economic climate. At the beginning of March, the office market showed a healthy **88 percent occupancy rate**...New stores and restaurants continue to open, resulting in Uptown's **Retail Market** maintaining its impressive **98 percent occupancy rate** at the beginning of March. In addition, the latest information indicates that Uptown's **Hotel Market** continues to lead the city in revenue per available room (RevPAR) with a steady **\$87.46** for the month of November 2009, and has an occupancy rate almost **10 percent higher than the rest of the city**.



SHOPPING SAFELY

Uptown Houston is a mecca of the finest stores, restaurants and businesses. Next time you're out shopping, stay safe and remember these tips:

- **Secure Your Stuff** – If you have to leave shopping bags or belongings in your car, make sure to hide them from sight. Visible shopping bags attract unwanted eyes.
- **Be Aware** – Check your surroundings and be aware of suspicious persons.
- **Lock Your Car** – Always double check to make sure you lock your car before leaving the parking lot.

NEW HOT SPOTS IN UPTOWN!

The highly anticipated new store, **Nordstrom Rack**,



Rack, opened at the Centre on Post Oak on Feb. 25 to an enthusiastic crowd lined up outside the door!

Now shoppers can enjoy high-fashion at a great value! Learn more at shop.nordstrom.com.

Uptown will soon be home to **5 Guys Burgers and Fries!** This quickly spreading burger chain will



make its home at Post Oak Plaza – stop in soon and taste what everyone's been talking about. Learn

more at www.fiveguys.com.

Decorated Houston chef, **Philippe Schmit** of bistro moderne, is at it again and will open his new restaurant, **PHILIPPE Restaurant & Lounge**, at **BLVD Place** this summer. Schmit says the food will "employ classic French techniques presented in unique and unexpected ways," and will be affordable and designed to appeal to diners across the spectrum.



PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS POPPING UP

Have you noticed the new pedestrian lights, wider sidewalks and new landscaping on the streets around Uptown? The Uptown Houston District is in the midst of a pedestrian improvement program which will add more than 700 pedestrian lights, new wider sidewalks and more than 300 new trees to every street in Uptown. As more and more people call Uptown home, along with the thousands of shoppers, workers and visitors it is vital that our streets and sidewalks are well lit and safe for pedestrians. Ambassador Way and Garretson have already been completed. Currently under construction are San Felipe, Post Oak Lane, McCue, Skylark and shortly, Uptown Park Boulevard. All remaining streets will be completed in the coming months.



HOUSTONIAN TOPS TRIPADVISOR

Not only does Uptown Houston lead the city in hotel occupancy, but we are topping the charts around the country as well! **The Houstonian Hotel, Club & Spa** ranked in the top 10 on TripAdvisor's list of the **Top 25 hotels in the United States** for 2009. This award is determined by reviews provided by users. Need a quick get-away? Check out the luxurious spa and beautiful property at the Houstonian, located at 111 N. Post Oak Lane. Learn more at www.houstonian.com.

www.uptown-houston.com

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