



KENT RATHBUN

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**CHEF KENT RATHBUN PROUDLY ANNOUNCES HIS LATEST CULINARY
VENTURE: RATHBUN'S BLUE PLATE KITCHEN**

*Executive Chef and Partner of Highly Acclaimed Abacus and Jasper's Restaurants Opens New
Casual Eatery*

DALLAS (February 11, 2009)—With restaurant powerhouses Abacus and Jasper's on his resume, "Iron Chef America" winner Kent Rathbun has announced the opening of a new culinary destination to further enhance the Dallas area dining scene. Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen, set to open on Monday, February 23, is sure to become the Mecca of casual, affordable cuisine.

"After exploring several concept ideas over the years, I decided that Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen would best compliment my existing restaurants by adding a whole new dimension to the food I prepare for my guests," said Executive Chef and Partner Kent Rathbun. "Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen is a reflection of the kinds of dishes I enjoy cooking for my family at home as well as dishes I remember eating growing up, so it is very exciting for me to finally have a new conduit in food preparation and service."

Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen relies heavily on the freshest, regionally-grown wine and produce from local purveyors. This commitment to the "roots" of cooking is reflected in an array of innovative dishes such as the Whole Wheat Texas Pecan Waffle with Lattie Da Goat Cheese and Round Rock Honey. Rathbun also puts a sophisticated spin on classic southern cooking with the Pan Fried Pork Chop with Sawmill Mustard Gravy and MawMaw's Buttermilk Pie with Raspberry Jam. Whether it's a field green salad or Chicken Fried Texas Quail with Heirloom

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Corn-Chipotle Spoonbread, the creative menu selections showcase the best quality ingredients from local growers and the influence of generations of Rathbun family traditions.

Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen will join the elite Rathbun family of highly-esteemed restaurants, including one of *Esquire Magazine's* Top 20 Best New Restaurants in America and *Texas Monthly's* 10 Best New Restaurants in Texas, Jasper's, and the consistently Five-Star rated Abacus.

Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen is located at 6130 Luther Lane in Dallas, TX. To make a reservation, please call 214-890-1103 and for more information about Kent Rathbun, Abacus, Jasper's and Rathbun's Blue Plate Kitchen, please visit his website at www.kentrathbun.com.

ABOUT KENT RATHBUN

By creating an astounding culinary legacy in Texas, Rathbun has thrived in the national scene. He has cooked at the James Beard House in New York on several occasions and was nominated as the James Beard Foundation's Best Chef: Southwest in 1999, 2002, 2003 and 2004. He has repeatedly appeared on a number of TV shows, including the Food Network's "Chef du Jour", Cooking Live with Sara Moulton, "Ready Set Cook", the CBS Early Show, the Rosie O'Donnell Show and NBC's Today Show. Most recently, Kent appeared on Food Network's "Iron Chef America" and defeated Bobby Flay. Rathbun has been featured in *Esquire Magazine*, *Better Homes and Gardens*, *Rosie Magazine*, *Bon Appetit*, *Southern Living Magazine*, *Nation's Restaurant News*, *Elle*, *Veranda Magazine*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The New York Times*. He was honored to be one of the featured chefs for the Bush 2001 Inaugural Ball and has participated in the Pre-SuperBowl Event, "Taste of the NFL" for the past five years. Passionate about charitable organizations, Rathbun is actively involved in the American Cancer Society, March of Dimes, Zoo to Do, the North Texas Food Bank and the American Heart Association.

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