

IN THIS ISSUE

4, 6 POP. CULTURE. GOSSIP.

8 Party: Clear skies and cocktails at Hermann Park Conservancy's Evening in the Park

10 Party: The goings-on chez Thrash with Derek Blasberg, Amanda Brooks and Christos Garkinos

14 Watches: Color-by-number timepieces

24 Fashion: Rural Chic — tilling in trench coats and plowing in plaid

26

JEWELS: ARTIST JIMMIE HENSLEE'S STORYBOOK TALE OF ROOSTERS, ROYALS AND RUBIES, OH DEAR!



David Norman Costello ring

PaperCity House

33 Style: PC primer on all things Duchess of Devonshire

40 House: The divine domain of designer Martha Baxter Finger and Richard Finger

52 Art: An exclusive sneak peek at Catherine D. Anson's *Texas Artists Today*

Special Section: The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens

Special Section: Fashion Houston Presented by Audi: *PaperCity's* style guide of where to be and what to see, October 11 — 14.

- Loco Logo
- The Wild Wild Web
- InterNet



- SEO: "Search Engine Optimization" and "See Everyone Order"

See it all at theoldstate.com/digitalstate

THIS JUST IN! Restoration Hardware is scooting across

Westheimer in **Highland Village Shopping Center** to a larger Restoration Hardware Gallery concept store, where a complete re-conceptualization takes place. Co-CEO Gary Friedman has taken Picasso's words as a mantra — "Every act of creation is first of all an act of destruction" — and was inspired to rethink and retrofit to become curators of exciting historical design. You'll see this liberated concept in the catalog and the present store, but its full glory unfolds in the new immense gallery setting, filled with faithful reproductions of one-of-a-kind pieces, such as a five-foot-French tower clock, antique barn-door hardware fashioned into a cast iron trolley and a balustrading table of planks from a 19th-century Lyon courtyard. It takes restoration to a new level. Opening next year.

POP. CULTURE. GOSSIP.

C RestaurantBUZZ

Chef **Greg Lowry** is now firmly ensconced at the helm of **Hotel Icon's Voice Restaurant**. He's revamped the menu with such playful additions as Coca Cola-braised Kobe beef cheek and house-made charcuterie, as well as the "Voice Box" which allows you to select four small bites or two large ones for \$24 ... Ciao, baby! The **32nd Festa Italiana** takes place October 15 through 17, at the **University of St. Thomas**. Information houstonitalianfestival.com ... Meanwhile, our city's top chefs compete in the **Eighth Annual International Risotto Festival** at the **Houston Design Center** on Sunday, October, 17, from 2 to 6 pm. Details risottofestival.com ... **Landmark Houston Hospitality Group**, whose mission is to reclaim and redevelop significant architectural spaces in Houston, is creating **Scouts Square**, a multi-use project in Midtown in the 1950s-era Boy Scouts of America building. Phase one, which just broke ground, will be 50,000 square feet of retail and office space, as well

as the new **Moor's Restaurant** (Moroccan themed, of course) and **Black Finn Saloon** ... **Crave Cupcakes** has opened at a second location at 5600 Kirby. Check out the debut of three new cupcake flavors, including our fave, dulce de leche ... **Ryan Pera**, chef at the downtown restaurant **The Gero**, is departing to open **Revival Market**. This market and deli will be Pera and **Morgan Weber's** (owner of **Revival Meats**) take on a traditional grocer's market with locally grown fare and artisanal products. Watch for an opening later this year ... **Benji Levit** is freshening up his original namesake restaurant, **Benji's in the Village** — spiffing up with a punch list of all sorts of stylish updates. The restaurant will temporarily close October 20 through 23 as designer **Joel Mozersky** oversees the revamp — its first in 15 years ... Be sweet: to the pups Sunday, October 17, at Beyond Sweet, **Lucky Dog Rescue's** seven-course dessert fundraiser with Le Cordon Bleu grad **Rebecca Masson** and friends: Reserve a spot with a \$75 donation at luckydogrescue.org. For more Restaurant Buzz, go online to papercitymag.com. *Laurann Claridge*

RISTORANTE CAVOUR AT HOTEL GRANDUCA

What's Cooking: We've always loved the charming Hotel Granduca — a 123-room boutique hotel tucked into the Uptown Park shopping and residential area that articulates the vision of old-world comfort, service and style held by its Italian-born owner, Giorgio Borlenghi, president of The Interfin Companies. Now the hotel's Ristorante Cavour (named for Italy's first prime minister, the Count of Cavour) has become the chic, low-key meeting place for those who wheel, deal and socialize on an international scale. Next exec: chef Renato De Piro's Tuscan-inspired menu is steeped with classical favorites, such as pillow-light homemade gnocchis nappo with a tomato, basil and ricotta sauce (\$14) and lobster rosti with zucchini enriched with lobster bisque (\$22). De Piro, a native of Tuscany, headed off to culinary school at age 16 and worked under the European apprentice tradition for Gemaro Villa — one of Italy's most noteworthy chefs, a gentleman who collaborated with restaurateur Sirio Maccioni of Le Cirque when he conceptualized Osteria del Carlo. When Maccioni brought the Circo concept to Las Vegas' Bellagio Hotel, he tapped De Piro as executive chef. To taste De Piro's exceptional cuisine, be sure to book ahead; Cavour's 18 tables are snapped up quickly. *Laurann Claridge*

Keys to the Door:

Owner Giorgio Borlenghi; exec chef Renato De Piro.



Chef Renato De Piro
Giorgio Borlenghi

1080 UPTOWN PARK BLVD.
713.418.1000
granducahouston.com