

Benchmark Hospitality Appoints Brian Schack Executive Chef for French Lick Resort Casino
2007-09-13

Benchmark Hospitality International has announced the appointment of Brian Schack as executive chef for French Lick Resort Casino, located in French Lick, Indiana. Jerry Gleason, vice president hospitality, made the announcement.

'It is with great pleasure that I welcome Brian to French Lick Resort Casino,' said Mr. Gleason. 'He is an accomplished, talented chef who brings important expertise in operating multiple outlets simultaneously to his new role at our revitalized resort complex.'

A 1991 graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, Brian Schack's career has taken him across the United States, with executive chef positions in Tunica, Mississippi, at Sam's Town Hotel & Gaming Hall, and at Jackpot Junction Casino in Morton, Minnesota.

Mr. Schack has been located in southern Indiana since 1999, most recently as the director of food operations at Caesar's Indiana of Elizabeth.

Charged with leading the French Lick Resort Casino culinary team, Schack is responsible for the resort's 14 dining outlets. These include 1875: The Steakhouse, Grand Colonnade Buffet, Hagen's, Diamond Jim's Trattoria, Nosh, Scoops Coffee and Creamery, Spring No. 8, Power Plant, Pluto's Pizzeria, Sinclair's, Café at Sinclair's, Ballard's, Xanadu, and Sprudel's Snack Shop, as well as in-room dining.

Chef Schack's is responsible for training and mentoring the culinary staff at both of the resort's historic hotels: French Lick Springs Hotel and West Baden Springs Hotel. He oversees a team of 80 employees and a 24-hour food & beverage operation. Schack's intent is to preserve the heritage of both signature properties. French Lick Springs Hotel lays claim to first serving tomato juice as a morning refreshment.

Chef Schack is perfect for his new role in ways beyond the obvious - he enjoys performing magic tricks and playing cards. In fact, he has a patent pending for a poker game. A native of Chicago, he has relocated to French Lick with his family.

French Lick Resort Casino is a \$382 million historic restoration and casino development project that includes the French Lick Springs Hotel, the new French Lick Casino and the West Baden Springs Hotel. This premier resort and casino destination features 689 guest rooms and suites, 42,000-square-foot, single-level casino, 18-holes of golf at the fully restored 1917-designed Donald Ross Course at French Lick with a new, 18-hole Pete Dye Course in development (opening 2008), two full-service spas with a combined 36 treatment rooms totaling 41,000 square feet, and an array of dining and entertainment options.

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