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## **Shoop Retires - Passing Toque to Creehan and Seering**



**Destin, Florida (February 5, 2006)** – Destin’s only Certified Master Chef, Jack Shoop, Chef/Owner of Bianco and Cava Blue is retiring after forty years of passion for his profession. Bianco, Destin’s unique Mediterranean restaurant, bakery and entertainment lounge

featuring culinary delights from Spain, France and Italy is well known for its creative, handcrafted menu as well as voted “Best Locally Owned Restaurant in 2005” by *Emerald Coast Magazine*.

Shoop along with John David Sullivan opened Bianco in June 2004, fusing South Beach energy with a Manhattan style. After a year and a half, Shoop has decided to retire his chef toque to pursue a simpler lifestyle that will include family and his second love, teaching. With numerous awards and accolades under his belt, Shoop certainly is leaving his profession in style with a good taste on the palette of his customers. Passing the award winning restaurant on to the Emerald Coast’s Best Chef, Timothy Creehan and the Emerald Coast’s Best Entertainer, David Seering, will make Shoop’s retirement easier than initially expected. From one award winning chef to another, Shoop’s legacy will continue to thrive at Bianco in everything from the design and architecture of the restaurant to his talented professional staff and unmatched cuisine.

“I am extremely proud to hand over my “pride and joy” to two of Destin’s finest. Creehan’s restaurateur experience and culinary talent is unrivaled on the Emerald Coast

and Seering's ability to command the piano and sing make his performances truly outstanding. Tim and David have been friends of mine as well as patrons of Bianco for years and I could not have found a more natural fit. I envision these two taking Bianco to the next level – a fine-dining restaurant and a unique piano bar.”

Creehan and Seering's ultimate goal for years was to create a partnership consisting of the merger of both of their talents. “Finally,” Creehan states, “our dream has come true. David and I have been actively pursuing a new venue for our fine dining and entertainment concept. Jack Shoop's Bianco is the perfect location. The restaurant is absolutely beautiful inside and out, the ambiance and clientele is the exact niche in the market we are pursuing and his staff is extremely professional. He has done all of the hard work for us!”

Creehan is certainly no stranger to recognition on the Emerald Coast or on a national level. Beach Walk Crystal Beach, Tim's flagship restaurant, Destin's only fine-dining on the Gulf of Mexico, received numerous awards in 2005 including *Florida Trend's* Top 25 Restaurants in Florida, Best Chef on the Emerald Coast – *Emerald Coast Magazine*, DiRoNA – Distinguished Restaurant of North America and Wine Spectator Award of Excellence. Recently, Beach Walk was named the number one restaurant in Destin by the *NW Florida Daily News*.

David Seering's music and showmanship have also earned him celebrity recognition and awards as well as honorable personal performance invites by Presidents George W. Bush, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. David's lively and energetic sets range from Frank Sinatra to Harry Connick Jr. to Elton John. He has worked with entertainment greats such as Robert Goulet, Helen Reddy, Phyllis Diller, Mickey Gilley, BJ Thomas, Mickey Rooney and Gloria Loring.

Over the next month, Creehan and his team will work side by side with Shoop and his staff to create a smooth transition with the new ownership. The menu will continue to focus on Shoop's most sought after creations and will eventually reveal a flair of Creehan's award winning cuisine. The new restaurant will continue to provide exceptional events such as banquets, wine dinners, private parties, weddings and receptions. For additional information on exceptional events at Bianco or Beach Walk Crystal Beach, please call 850.650.7100.

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