

## Another Renowned Spanish Chef for DC

**F**ranc Ruta will be cooking near his former place of employment when he opens Mirabelle at 16th & I Streets, NW, near the White House. This French-focused restaurant will open for lunch only for the first two weeks, with dinner service following. Pastry chef Aggie Chin, who worked with Frank at Palena and the Grill Room at Capella, will join him at Mirabelle. Owner Hakan Ilhan expands his restaurant empire with Mirabelle. He also owns Al Dente on New Mexico Ave., NW, Ottoman Taverna, and French bistro, L'Hommage in the 'hood at Mount Vernon Triangle. Jennifer Knowles



will be the wine & service director. She previously worked at the Inn at Little Washington and The Jefferson Hotel.

David Fritsche and Silvan Kraemer, Swiss chefs who recently worked together at The Dupont Circle Hotel, will open Stable at 1324 H Street, NE, featuring classic Swiss dishes as well as influences from Northern Italy, France, and Germany. They are targeting this spring to open.

### Quick Hits

Haidar Karoum, formerly of Proof, Doi Moi, and Estadio will open Chloe in Capitol Riverfront in Arris

Building at 1331 4th Street, SE. The 104-seat restaurant will focus on seafood & Mediterranean cuisine. A summer opening is planned ... Pandora Seafood Restaurant & Bar will open this summer at Rockville Town Square where American Tap Room used to be. Owners are Chris Zhu and George Cheung who also own China Garden restaurant in Rosslyn ... Shake Shack opened at Logan Circle, 1400 14th Street, NW, and will also open at 50 M Street, NE in the Capitol Riverfront, along with Cava Grill ... Andrew Harris and Dan Koslow plan to open Farmbird at 625 H Street, NE. Think slow-roasted, grilled chicken, think brick. They are incubating at Union Kitchen. The plan is to be open by summer ... Lupo Verde

will open its second location on MacArthur Blvd near the Exxon station with chef Matteo Venini, formerly of Tosca, at the kitchen helm.

Austin, Texas-based Verts Mediterranean, fast-casual chain, is slated to open at 1001 Connecticut Ave., NW at the corner of Connecticut & K Streets. This fast-casual concept is based on the Chipotle model. Verts has 20 restaurants in Texas and is expanding on the East Coast. The goal is two to five more stores in the DC metro area.

### C-C-Changes

Panache on DeSales Street, NW

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