



MOONRISE HOTEL

6177 Delmar in The Loop
St. Louis, Missouri 63112
(314) 721-1111 Front Desk
(877) 872-1122 Toll Free
(314) 721-1222 Fax

PRESS INQUIRIES

Kathleen Duda, KVD Communications
419 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10003
(646) 723-4338
kathleen@kvdc.com

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Photo by Jo Ann Vatcha

The "moon" about to be raised to the top of the Moonrise Hotel.

Moon Rises over Delmar

By Jo Ann Vatcha

On Friday, April 17, 2009, the beautiful new Moonrise Hotel at 6177 Delmar will open its doors for business. Once again, Loop Entrepreneur Joe Edwards is pulling out all the stops with a 125-room hotel being marketed to visitors to the Pageant and Loop, as well as university visitors and business travelers who want to stay in the entertainment district at night and have ready access to downtown and the entire region for business during the day. With its easy access to MetroLink and all the restaurants and music attractions of the Loop, the new Moonrise Hotel fits the bill. The hotel has been designed for complete accessibility, with a luxurious lobby with dramatic angled staircase. Ten "Walk of Fame" suites have been created.

The front facade of the building has incorporated the lovely features of the historic Alexander and Sons building, which was carefully removed for structural integrity and reintroduced to the new building with all its architectural detail. The color of the stone and other materials has also been carefully matched to the historic building it now encases.

The hotel's upscale restaurant

"Eclipse", which is located in the historic facade of the hotel, also opens for business on April 17. Joe Edwards is excited about the "creative cosmic cuisine" he has planned there, with executive chef Maurice Reed II. Certified sommelier Chad George will bring an excellent wine selection to augment the great collection of beers that Edwards' other restaurant, Blueberry Hill, is known for.

The hotel's rooftop terrace bar will open later this spring, featuring incomparable views of the Loop, the Skinker-DeBaliviere Neighborhood, and Forest Park, as well as the downtown skyline to the East. Joe hopes the neighborhood will come to regard the restaurant and terrace bar as one of their special places.

The rooftop terrace will also feature a spectacular 10 foot diameter rotating moon. Painted to simulate the phases of the moon, this lighted feature will definitely be a new landmark in St. Louis, brought to Skinker-DeBaliviere and the Loop by Joe Edwards, who invites all to "experience the sublime in a setting that is out of this world." For more information, visit www.moonrisehotel.com or call 721-1111.