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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Ringo opens this week in Shops at West End

**MINNEAPOLIS (April 12, 2010)** –This week, Jim and Stefanie Ringo are opening Ringo, their first of two restaurants to debut this month. Last year, the pair formed Ringo Restaurants, Inc. and began planning for Ringo in a site at the Shops at West End development in St. Louis Park, and Forum Restaurant in the former Goodfellows space in City Center in Minneapolis. The Ringos are working with Shea, Inc., a Minneapolis-based marketing and design firm, and Rich Bros. Construction on the design and construction of both restaurants. Ringo is slated to open to the public on Tuesday, April 13.

The Ringo concept is summed up with its tagline, “World Flavors, Local Comfort.” One third of the menu will include classic dishes from around the world, including paella from Spain and Osso Bucco from Italy. Another third of the menu will feature “local comforts” such as fresh walleye fillet, caramel apple pork chop and meatloaf sliders. The final third is what Ringo calls the “destination menu,” and it features the cuisine of a different part of the world every month. The restaurant will debut this month featuring foods from Seoul, South Korea, including Kimchi, Korean pork BBQ ribs and a spicy black cod stew. Upcoming destinations include Brussels, Belgium in June, Capetown, South Africa in July and Buenos Aires, Argentina in August. The executive chef behind the ambitious menu is Ryan Aberle, formerly of North Coast.

Shea's design of the roughly 8,000 square foot space also focuses on local comfort with an international flair. The palette is influenced by spices of the world and the rich reds, golds and yellows are used in fabrics and textures throughout. The space is appointed with a dramatic wine wall, Thai woodcarvings, ceremonial masks, custom light fixtures, a colorful wall of framed travel photographs and a theatrical custom fabric ceiling fixture inspired by Nomadic tents. Seating accommodates small or large parties with a variety of options, including banquettes and tables of various heights, private dining areas, a large outdoor patio and private 'kissing booths' in the bar area. Moveable glass doors bring the outside in on nice days and fireplaces throughout the space keep it ambient and warm on cooler days. A large display kitchen features a charcoal-fired Japanese robata grill which, due to the ability to easily control the temperature, handles many types of food on multiple levels. The menu and the space all contribute to Ringo's celebration of food.

Ringo Restaurants, Inc. is currently working with Shea and Rich Bros. Construction on the final touches for the Forum restaurant, which is also slated to open this month.

Ringo, Shops at West End, 5331 W. 16th Street, St. Louis Park, MN 55416; (952) 303-5574;  
Hours: Mon-Thurs, 11am--1am; Fri-Sat, 11am--2am; Sun, 11am--10 pm.

Shea, Inc. is a marketing and design firm integrating expertise in marketing, architecture and interior design. Shea blends diverse perspectives, skills, cultures and knowledge into solid creative strategy for clients. Shea's client list includes Macy's, TCF National Bank, Morton's The Steakhouse, Wells Fargo and Midcontinent Communications. For more information on Shea,

please contact Andy McDermott at 612.594.4245 or visit our Web site at [www.shealink.com](http://www.shealink.com) or our blog at [www.sheaanything.blogspot.com](http://www.sheaanything.blogspot.com).