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# Praying Monk in Scottsdale to be replaced by Bootleggers



Praying Monk in downtown Scottsdale.

Jeremiah Toller/Special for azcentral.com

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By Jennifer McClellan The Republic | azcentral.com Tue Oct 8, 2013 5:18 PM

Praying Monk in downtown Scottsdale will close on Wednesday, Oct. 9. But the space won't be vacant for long. In November, Rick Phillips will open a second branch of his well-received north Phoenix restaurant, Bootleggers.

"We love it, we're proud of it and we are grateful to all our customers. But when Rick, who is a long-time friend, presented the idea, it was an advantageous step for LTB to take," chef Aaron May in a statement. May is a partner in Praying Monk's parent company, LTB Concepts.

Among the items on Bootleggers' extensive menu are rock shrimp and grits; house-smoked turkey; hickory-smoked brisket; St. Louis-style ribs; grilled cauliflower; and slow-braised kale with country ham, peanuts, brown butter and raisins.

Phillips runs the Eater AZ blog and co-owns Affordable Food Festivals, which presents events such as the Arizona Taco Festival, Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 19-20, at Salt River Fields at Talking Stick on the Salt River Reservation.

LTB Concepts operates a large restaurant portfolio including Over Easy (four locations in metro Phoenix); the Lodge (Scottsdale); the Lodge Sasquatch Kitchen (Tucson, Sierra Vista and soon opening in Fort Collins, Colo.); Taverna Greek Grill (Flagstaff and Fort Collins); May's Counter Chicken & Waffles (Tucson); and the newest concept the Heist, a pizzeria in Tucson.

Details: Bootleggers, 3375 E. Shea Blvd., Phoenix. 602-996-4228, bootleggersaz.com.

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