



July 19, 2007

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa  
To celebrate 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a resort**

Santa Fe, NM – Special celebrations are planned throughout 2008 to commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa's transition from a private estate to New Mexico's first resort retreat in 1918. As Santa Fe's only true resort, Bishop's Lodge has hosted celebrities, politicians and generations of families over the past 90 years.

In 1918, Denver industrialist James R. Thorpe and his family purchased the 450 acres that is now Bishop's Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa. Prior to the acquisition, the property was briefly owned by the Pulitzer family of St. Louis, and before that it was the private retreat of New Mexico's first bishop, Jean-Baptiste Lamy.

In 1851, Bishop Lamy came to Santa Fe and bought a parcel of land in the Tesuque Valley, just 3 miles from the Santa Fe Plaza, to make his country retreat. He cultivated gardens and entertained visitors for the next 36 years during his busy and productive years as bishop of the Southwest Diocese when was organizing to build St. Francis Cathedral, starting St. Vincent's Hospital, and Santa Fe's first orphanage and school.

Knowing the property's history, Mr. Thorpe named his resort "Bishop's Lodge" and went on to create a traditional ranch resort for families and visitors to spend long periods and enjoy the enchanting western landscape and the charm of Santa Fe.

The 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary year will include exciting events, promotions, competitions, and publications.

A sampling of the year's upcoming activities:

- A kick-off party and reception
- The restoration of the historic Lamy Chapel
- Hosting 4 special events to celebrate the history of Bishop's Lodge (art event, opera event, golf event, culminating with a New Year's Eve event.)
- Publishing a 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the Bishop's Lodge history booklet, "From Retreat to Resort"

- “A Piece of History” campaign will invite past visitors to share their stories, photos and memorabilia of Bishop’s Lodge
- A special display of historic photos, guest photos and memorabilia
- A photography contest

Colorful reminders of nearly four centuries of Spanish, Native American and Southwestern cultures endure at Bishop’s Lodge. The award-winning SháNah Spa & Wellness Center honors its spiritual predecessors with Native American influenced treatments and techniques and Las Fuentes Restaurant & Bar serves creative American cuisine with indigenous influences.

Ranked by **Travel & Leisure magazine** as one of America's premier retreats, the Bishop’s Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa offers resort-style family vacations, weddings, and conference facilities.

Bishop’s Lodge Ranch Resort & Spa is managed by Prism Hotels & Resorts whose clients also include Marriott, Hilton, Radisson, Doubletree, and Holiday Inn. To make a resort or spa reservation, call 800-732-2240 or visit [bishopslodge.com](http://bishopslodge.com).

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