

# ESR™

40 Under 40

Dining  
Etiquette in  
a Digital Age

Fire and Ice  
in Cocktails

Native  
American  
Cuisine

## Stars on the Rise

Sommelier **Cappie Peete Chapman** is director of beverage and education for Neighborhood Dining Group.



40 Under 40

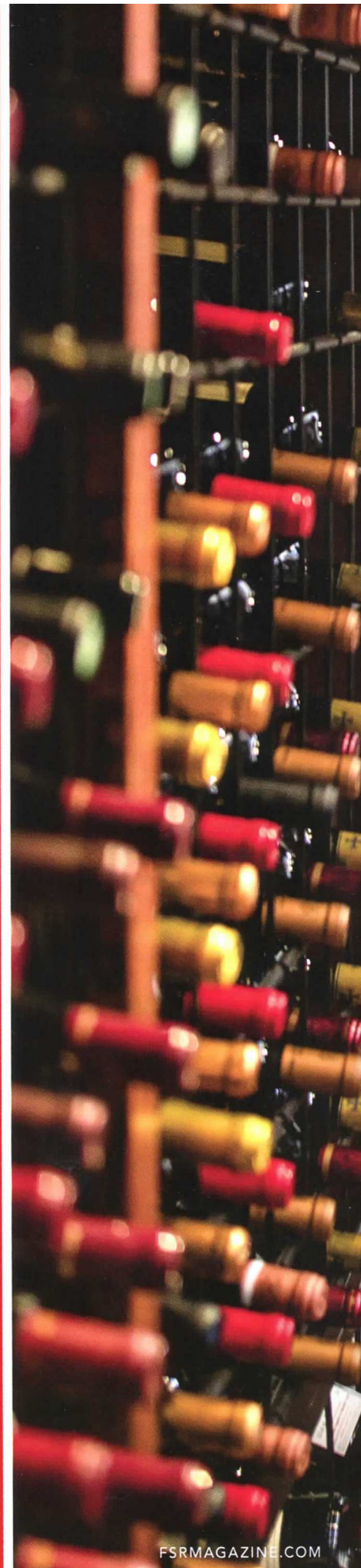
# RISING STARS

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Raise a glass to 40 professionals, under the age of 40, who are helping to define new expectations for dining experiences across all spectra of restaurant environments, from Michelin-starred white-tablecloth settings to eclectic independent concepts to dynamic multi-unit brands.

Largely reader-nominated, and always restaurant-proven, the *FSR* rising stars may already be making a name for themselves in their own towns—and in some instances, in cities far and wide. However, for some, their stellar contributions may be overshadowed by the prestige of the restaurant itself or by other celebrities in their midst. It is our pleasure to include a diverse group of stars, some who have reached an impressive pinnacle and others who are just beginning their rise. Representing all walks of restaurant life, these rising stars include entrepreneurial restaurateurs, chef owners, culinary award winners, executive visionaries, and beverage directors.

We'll lead with Cappie Peete Chapman, barely 29 as this issue comes off the press, and making her mark as director of beverage and education across the Neighborhood Dining Group portfolio, where she delights in "keeping everyone in the restaurants interested and excited about what we do on a daily basis."



# RISING STARS

## ZACHARY MONTGOMERY

*General Manager*

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Ocean Prime New York

NEW YORK CITY

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**AGE** Cameron Mitchell Restaurants' decision to take its popular concept Ocean Prime to the Big Apple in October was no small thing. The Columbus, Ohio-based company waited seven years to enter the New York City market, and saw the 11th opening of the seafood and steakhouse concept as a necessary benchmark in national viability. With that in mind, handing Zach Montgomery the reins was an equally calculated decision. The 31-year-old has been with the company since 2005, holding various roles from server to beverage director. He was promoted to general manager at the age of 25, and had already led operations at Ocean Prime locations in Tampa, Atlanta, and Denver. Montgomery is charged with overseeing a staff of 127 at the massive 250-seat property in Midtown.

"The team at Cameron Mitchell Restaurants has always taken such good care of me over the past 10 years, and thus I am inspired to take care of my Ocean Prime New York team and the guests we see every day," he says. "We're a restaurant, so of course we serve great food and drink, but if we can make people feel good from the minute they walk in the door to the minute they leave, that's what really matters."