

Great Sedona Chili Cook-Off

**In honor of
ROD ABBOTT and RON LARSON**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Exceptional Panel of Judges Selected to Pick the 2016 Chili Cook-Off Winning Restaurant

Participants in this year's Chili Cook-Off are the Most Diverse and Talented Group Ever.

May 7 is the date! Rotary Club of Sedona is presenting the Sixth Annual Great Sedona Chili Cook-Off at renowned Tlaquepaque Arts and Crafts Village as part of their Cinco de Mayo Fiesta weekend.

Participation in the 2016 Great Sedona Chili Cook-Off is the most diverse and talented group of competitors ever. Two cities, two Fire Districts and nine of the Sedona area's finest restaurants are working to make this the greatest chili event ever. Three widely recognized chili judges have agreed to serve in the challenging task of selecting the restaurant with the best chili and the discerning visitors will crown People's Choice Awards.

This year's competing restaurants include L' Auberge, 89 Agave, Vino de Sedona, Hideaway House, Timo, Paleo Brio, Verde Brewing, The Hudson, and Garlands. All are fearless in their willingness to put their creation up against their creative counterparts.

To select the winning restaurant, this year's panel of judges include Robert McGrath, Chris Bavasi and Tony Inglese. Robert McGrath is host of Arizona PBS' popular restaurant review series *Check, Please! Arizona* and winner of the prestigious James Beard "Best Chef in America: Southwest". Chris Bavasi is a member of the Federal Senior Executive Service and Executive Director of the Office of Navajo and Hopi Indian Relocation and winner of Arizona Board of

Regents Outstanding Service to Higher Education Award. Tony Inglese, who with his wife, are members of the International Chili Society (ICS) and have qualified to cook in the World Championships and he has been invited to judge at the ICS World Championships five different times.

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Plan on attending this year's Great Sedona Chili Cook-Off on May 7 from 11am to 4pm. Entrance is \$15 with no charge for children under twelve. Beer and wine are available as well as great entertainment throughout Tlaquepaque Arts and Crafts Village.

Each year the proceeds collected from the Chili Cook-Off are used to fund Rotary charitable programs and activities. The primary local charity benefiting from the proceeds goes to the IMAGINATION LIBRARY which provides free books monthly to children ages 0 to 5 residing in the greater Sedona area. In addition, proceeds will continue to support scholarships and various international programs AS well as Rotary International's signature project, END POLIO, NOW, the eradication of polio worldwide. To date polio has been eradicated in all countries except Afghanistan and Pakistan.

