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AZ Firefighter's Chili Cook Off & Pie Auction to Help the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

The public enjoys day of fun for the whole family while supporting efforts for a cure

Prescott, AZ---The Groom Creek Firefighter's Association is stepping up once again to help the AZ Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The *AZ Firefighter's Chili Cook Off and Pie Auction* (<http://www.chiliaz.com>) is happening on Saturday, October 19 2013 in Prescott, AZ.

Cystic fibrosis is an inherited chronic disease that affects the lungs and digestive system of about 30,000 children and adults in the United States (70,000 worldwide). A defective gene and its protein product cause the body to produce unusually thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs and leads to life-threatening lung infections, and obstructs the pancreas and stops natural enzymes from helping the body break down and absorb food. More information can be found at <http://www.cff.org/chapters/arizona/>.

In order to support research and development of a cure for Cystic Fibrosis, the Groom Creek Firefighter's Foundation decided to dedicate this event to the cause. The AZ Firefighter's Chili Cook Off is an event designed to provide fun for the entire family. Besides helping a worthy organization and getting the opportunity to taste some of Prescott's best chili, families can come out and enjoy a nice afternoon in the tall pines of Prescott, AZ. General admission is free, and concessions are very affordable, and there are activities for the kids. Barrett Propane, the primary event sponsor, will be providing free grilled hot dogs at the event.

Matt Fay, the event organizer, explains that the competition is open to the general public. Matt says "This year, we made the competition very casual and non-intimidating for the cooks. In the past, we used true chili competition rules, whereas the cooks had to do full preparation on-site and stick with traditional red chili." Matt adds "This year, we are allowing cooks to bring any kind of chili they wish. We feel it will make the competition more interesting, and bring in a wider variety of flavors. Also, cooks are allowed to cook at home and bring the chili in already prepared." Though Matt finishes off by saying "However, bonus judging points are awarded to those who go through the extra effort of cooking on-site."

In order to make this interesting for the cooks, the event is paying out cash prizes for first through third place, and to the winner of the People's Choice award. Cooks can compete individually or as a team. "Have fun with it," Matt suggests.

In addition to chili, there will be two pie auctions held that will raise additional funds for the cause. The Pie Auction portion of the event will feature pies donated by local bakeries as well as homemade pies donated by the public. "We still need more pies for the auction," says Matt. If anyone would like to donate pies, you may visit our website or call 642-0100 to make

arrangements. “We will make sure anyone who donates gets the recognition to go along with the donation.”

“Last year, we raised over \$2,000 for the AZ Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and the Groom Creek Firefighter’s Association, and we hope to make this year an even more successful event,” Matt says.

Matt finishes by adding, “We hope to get more business involvement this year. Business can sponsor this event, which really helps us out with expenses while at the same time providing great visibility for the business. Businesses can also choose to enter a team into the competition. This is a great visibility opportunity for restaurants, bakeries, grocers, and really any business regardless of whether or not it’s food related.”

More information about AZ Firefighter’s Chili Cook Off and Pie Auction can be found at: <http://www.chiliaz.com>.

About The Groom Creek Firefighter’s Foundation

The Groom Creek Firefighter’s Foundation (GCFFA) is a volunteer organization made up of firefighters from the Groom Creek Fire District and community volunteers. The primary goals of the GCFFA are to raise funds intended for the emergency support of Groom Creek firefighters and their families in the event of a line of duty death or injury, to provide support for other area fire departments in times of need, to support and financial assistance to National and local non-profit organizations, and to promote community cohesion by creating & hosting community-centered events and activities.

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