



1100 Napa Valley Drive • Little Rock, AR 72211
GreekFoodFest.com

NEWS

For Immediate Release

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International Greek Food Festival Set for May 15-17

Festival Continues to Serve Community after 25 Years

LITTLE ROCK (May 14, 2009) – The International Greek Food Festival, the largest ethnic festival in Arkansas, has been serving food, friends and the community for the past 25 years.

In its 25 years, the festival has donated half a million dollars to more than 20 charities that serve children, families and communities throughout central Arkansas. Proceeds from this year’s festival will benefit the Annunciation Scholarship Foundation and the Annunciation Building Fund, as well as these nonprofit organizations:

- CARTI (Central Arkansas Radiation Therapy Institute), which provides care for every patient referred for treatment regardless of ability to pay (carti.com)
- Centers for Youth & Families, a behavioral healthcare provider for children, adolescents and their families (YouthAndFamilies.org)
- Easter Seals Arkansas, which provides services to children and adults with disabilities and special needs (ar.EasterSeals.com)
- Love Truth Care Ministries, a Christian community-development organization (LoveTruthCare.org)
- March of Dimes Arkansas, which supports research, community service and education to improve the health of babies (MarchofDimes.com/Arkansas)
- Miracle League of Arkansas, which provides children with disabilities the opportunity to play baseball in a safe environment (MiracleLeaguear.com)
- Youth Home, which provides individual, group and family therapy for adolescents and their families (YouthHome.org)

“Supporting charities has never tasted so good,” according to festival co-chairman Wayne Alley. “We are grateful that we can support our community and share our culture simultaneously. I encourage central Arkansans to support these deserving charities by enjoying a weekend of food and fun at the 25th annual International Greek Food Festival.”

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church is hosting the festival Friday and Saturday, May 15 and May 16, from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday, May 17, 12 – 6 p.m.

The festival features a scrumptious medley of Greek and Mediterranean menu favorites, including baklava, calamari, gyros, pastitso, sourota, and much more. The mouthwatering cuisine can be enjoyed at the festival or picked up at the drive thru.

In addition to the Greek and Mediterranean flavors, festivalgoers can learn more about these fascinating cultures through a variety of dancing and entertainment featured all weekend.

“This year’s entertainment includes the Greek-American Folk Dance Society, Dubkeh Middle Eastern Dancers, McCafferty Irish Dancers and ENLACE Folkloric & Flamenco Dancers,” said festival co-chairwoman Christina Martin. Other local entertainment, including Disney’s Rockin’ Road Show, will perform during the festival. A complete entertainment schedule is available at GreekFoodFest.com.

The Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, located at 1100 Napa Valley Drive, will be open for tours so that festivalgoers can learn about the rich history and tradition of the Orthodox Christian faith and view the iconography and hand-carved icon screen spanning the width of the altar. Church tours will be guided by the Rev. Dr. Nicholas Verdaris and iconographer and gilder Vivian Karayiannis. A schedule of church tours is available at GreekFoodFest.com.

The festival will also feature the popular Old World Market, offering specialty foods such as falafel, Greek olive oil, humus, dolmathes (stuffed grape leaves), cheeses and the popular “secret” salad dressing that is handmade and bottled at the church. Frozen dinners to go, pastries, Russian collectibles and Stavriana jewelry will also be available in the Old World Market.

Admission and parking and trolley services to the International Greek Food Festival are free. The festival is Friday and Saturday, May 15 and May 16, from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Sunday, May 17, 12 – 6 p.m. For more information about this year’s festival and the benefiting charities, visit GreekFoodFest.com.