



OFFICE OF THE
CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

915 I STREET
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95814-2998

Media Advisory

**Sacramento's Top Restaurants Help Feed Homeless Men,
Women, and Children by Participating in Turkey Cook-Off:
Monday, November 24th**

Sacramento, California, November 19, 2008—Councilmember Rob Fong is again bringing together Sacramento's top restaurants to create delicious turkey meals that will help Loaves & Fishes provide Thanksgiving meals to the city's hungry and homeless population. Councilmember Fong established the Annual Turkey Cook-Off last year so that those who are unable to afford a meal can also share in the spirit of Thanksgiving. This year, the cook-off will help feed more than one thousand (1,000) people. The **2nd Annual Turkey Cook-Off** will take place on **Monday, November 24th**, from **2 p.m. – 4 p.m.** at **1901 S Street**.

Loaves & Fishes is a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. Each year, its goal is to secure two-hundred (200) cooked turkeys for its Thanksgiving meal. Through the cook-off, local restaurants are able to help the organization to achieve this goal.

During the cook-off, restaurants cook two signature turkeys using their top-secret recipes and techniques. Celebrity judges then taste a small portion of one of the turkeys to judge tenderness and flavor. The most tender and flavorful turkeys will be recognized with 1st, 2nd, and 3rd - place awards. After the cook-off, all turkeys will be donated to Loaves & Fishes.

"I want to thank all of the local restaurateurs who will participate in this year's 2nd Annual Turkey Cook-Off," said Councilmember Fong. "Loaves & Fishes has to prepare meals 365 days-a-year for the hungry and homeless. Through this cook-off and the efforts of local restaurants, Loaves & Fishes will get the help it needs during Thanksgiving."

All restaurants that participate will not only have a chance to be recognized for having Sacramento's top-three turkey recipes; most important, they will help Loaves & Fishes to share the blessings of food, warmth, and family that many of the city's hungry and homeless go without during the holidays.

"For many of our folks, this is the only Thanksgiving meal and we are their only family," said Sister Libby Fernandez, executive director of Loaves & Fishes. "A heartfelt thank you goes out to Councilmember Fong and area restaurants for reaching out to our poor and homeless."



Councilmember Rob Fong's 2nd Annual Turkey Cook Off



Join Councilmember Fong and our panel of community judges on **Monday, November 24th** from 2:00-4:00 p.m. at 1901 S Street, Sacramento, CA.

What are we looking for? Restaurants who are interested in making a difference by giving back to the community.

Participating restaurants are asked to cook and carve two of their own turkeys accompanied with a jar of drippings. A small portion of one of the turkeys will be tasted and judged on flavor and tenderness. Awards will be presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Last years bragging rights for best turkey went to **Jaime's Bar & Grill** but come November 24th the bragging rights will be up for grabs.

Why Participate? Loaves & Fishes needs 200 turkeys to be able feed those in need. By participating, your restaurant can help provide a nice Thanksgiving meal to 1,000+ homeless men, women, and children.



This years' program will include turkey sampling, media coverage, and a special surprise for Loaves & Fishes.

All participating restaurants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation from the City of Sacramento.

For more information please contact Jessica Equihua at 808-5241 or 214-5883.

Restaurants that will participate in this year's cook-off include *Jamie's Bar & Grill, Bali Wine Bar & Grill, Hangar 17 Bar & Grill, Mulvaney's B & L, Plaza Hof Brau, Taylor's Market, The Water Boy, Zocalo, Cosmo Café, Selland's Market, Aioli, Fox & Goose, Center Court with C-Webb, Old Soul Company, Buckhorn Grill, and Riverside Club House*. **There is still time for additional restaurants to participate. Interested restaurants can contact Jessica Equihua at (916) 808-5241 for more information.**

Media-related inquiries can be forwarded to Hindolo Brima, Media and Communications Specialist, Department of Parks and Recreation, at (916) 808-5972.

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