

Prove it
at
Ribfest

So, how good
are your
RIBS?

Best Ribs
Competition
&
The New
Kalamazoo
Cook-off



August 5-7, 2010



2010 Kalamazoo Rib Cook-off

What is Ribfest and why two cook-offs?

Ribfest is a major fundraising event for Community Advocates for Persons with Developmental Disabilities. Since its inception, Ribfest has raised over \$850,000 to support programs for people right here in our community. Specifically, the money raised through this event enables the agency to continue working to realize its vision that each person with a developmental disability participate fully in all aspects of community and determine his or her own future.

The 3-day event is hosted at the Arcadia Creek Festival Place in Downtown Kalamazoo. The event features eight national and local rib vendors who serve up some of the best ribs. There are two competitions as part of Ribfest. Individuals interested in participating may select one of the events to enter, but may not participate in both.

The Best Ribs in Kalamazoo is exclusively for restaurants located in Kalamazoo County. It was started nearly 11 years ago as a way to encourage local restaurants and catering companies to "show their ribs" and help the community understand that great ribs are available all year in the Kalamazoo area. This is exclusive to Kalamazoo County.



The second and very new competition is for anyone who wants to compete. There are two categories including backyard (amateur) and professional. If you sell any one of the components (sauce or the ribs) you are considered a professional. There is a fee for participation and cash prizes for the top two winners.

Winners also qualify for purchasing a one year vendor booth spot. The booth rental cost is reduced as part of the benefits of winning the competition.

Local vendor booths do become available and if businesses are interested, they are encouraged to call for more information.

Ribfest is sponsored by:



Ribfest Contact Information

Community Advocates Ribfest
814 S. Westnedge
Kalamazoo, MI 49008
communityadvocates.org for agency information

Deborah Droppers, Event Coordinator
269/388-2830 phone 269/388-3083 fax
deb@eventkalamazoo.com
ribfestkalamazoo.com | Facebook - Ribfest Kalamazoo

Community Advocates
814 S. Westnedge Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49008



Event Rules and Regulations

Best Ribs in Kalamazoo County Restaurant/Catering Competition

Date: Thursday, August 5 at 8 p.m.
Fee: Free
Note: Limited to restaurants and catering businesses in Kalamazoo County

Judges: The National Rib Vendors (6 of them) along with two food critics comprise the panel of "judges." The judges, in a blind taste test, rate the ribs based on tenderness, texture, flavors, meat tenderness and the sauce richness. They also review the penetration of the sauce and how it complements the meat. Scoring is conducted on a scale of 1-5 and the overall top winner is determined by the number of points received.

Contestant Process: Contestants are asked to arrive at 7:30 p.m. to begin check in and receive review of rules and regulations. The following are the basic guidelines:

- 1 Bring a prepared full rack of ribs - you will need to bring your own chaffing dishes to keep your product to temperature.
- 2 The ribs can be served on your own plater as long as there is no reference to your company. Each judge will be served one rib (12 judges)
- 4 Judges will rate the ribs on a variety of factors - as indicated above.
- 5 Contestants are asked to arrive by 7:30 p.m.

Benefits: Contestants will be promoted on site on signage promoting the event on Thursday. WRKR promotes the event and they will highlight the participants of the event on the radio. On Friday they will announce the winners.

❖ Winners receive a trophy and are highlighted throughout the festival weekend.

Kalamazoo Ribfest Cook-Off Competition

Professional and Amateur Divisions

Date: Saturday, August 7 at Judging at 5 p.m.
Fee: \$50 for professional/\$25 Backyard payable to Community Advocates

Judges: The National Rib Vendors together with representatives from the Southwest Michigan American Culinary Federation and the Ribbers are the judges.

Backyard Division Winnings:
 First Place receives \$100
 Second Place receives \$50

Professional Division Winnings:
 First Place receives \$200
 Second Place receives \$100

Entry Instructions:

- 1 This event is limited to the first 20 entries.
- 2 Participants bring their own cookers, meat, supplies, and serving tools and are limited to a 10 by 10 space.

Rules - Complete rules will be sent, but the event process includes:
 Raw Meat Inspection -- Start at check-in with cold, untreated, raw meat. Pre-cooking, soaking, marinating, brining etc. prior to check in will not be allowed.

Check in starts at 10 a.m. and meat must be ready for judging by 5 p.m. Contestants may come at any time before noon. Cooking must include the use of the grill. Judging will be based on meat texture, sauce, and presentation. Judging will be based on a blind taste test. Must provide 24 samples.

Participants may decorate their booth area but cannot extend outside their 10 by 10 area.

Please note that a complete set of rules, event location, and procedures will be sent to participating teams. For more information, please contact Deb Droppers at 269/388-2830 or email at: deb@eventkalamazoo.com.

2010 Rib Cook-off Sign-Up Form



Please return this form by July 31, 2010
 (Kalamazoo Cook off spots are limited)

814 S. Westnedge, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
 Fax to: 269/388-3083 or e-mail to: deb@eventkalamazoo.com

<input type="checkbox"/>	Best Ribs in Kalamazoo Kalamazoo Co. Restaurants/Catering Co. Free to participate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	Kalamazoo Ribfest Cook-off _____ Professional Division \$50.00 Participant sells/markets ribs and/or Sauce. _____ Backyard Division \$25.00 Participant does not sell ribs and/or sauce.
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Name _____ Cell Phone _____
 Business _____ Work Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____
 Fax _____ E-mail Address _____

List Team Members, if applicable:

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Name _____ Phone _____
 Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

WAIVER of LIABILITY: In consideration of your acceptance of this entry form and fee, I, the undersigned intending to be legally bound, do hereby for myself, my heirs, executors and administrators, waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Community Advocates, and their agents, successors and assigns for any and all injuries suffered to me in this event. I further grant permission to Community Advocates and/or agents authorized by them to use any photographs, videotapes or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

Contestant agrees to subscribe to Community Advocats Ribfest rules and judging procedures.



Signed: _____ Name Written _____ Date: _____