

## Tri Kappa presents culinary-themed event



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There will soon be something delicious cooking in Crown Point.

The Crown Point Gamma Theta Chapter of Tri Kappa will present its Kitchen Tour and Tasting Oct. 14 throughout the city. Eight homes with stellar kitchens will be in the spotlight as 11 chefs work their culinary magic on the premises of each property.

"This is only our second one. We're grateful for the volunteers who have agreed to show their homes and for the chefs who are (cooking in the homes)," said Sue Reitan, co-chairwoman of the event. Other event co-chairs are Mandy Merkel, Terri Williams and Mary Rhee.

Tri Kappa, serving Crown Point since 1922, regularly presents community events for charitable, educational and fundraising ventures.

Reitan said the idea for the first tour, held in 2010, was sparked by Tri Kappa member Mary Rhee, who attended a kitchen tour in Michigan several years ago. Rhee thought Crown Point would be the perfect locale for a similar event.

The Kitchen Tour this year will benefit Lake Court House Foundation and Northwest Indiana Chapter of the American Culinary Federation's culinary scholarship fund. (As of press time, tickets to the Kitchen Tour are sold out.)

Reitan said homes showcased in the tour will include a mix of modern, classic and retro decor. The event will include properties in Old Crown Point as well as areas such as Ellendale Farms, White Hawk, West Crown Point and Morningside.

Chefs featured on the premises will serve up samples of eclectic cuisine from some of the region's hottest restaurants. Culinary professionals/chefs in the spotlight will be Patrick Scholz of Lucrezia Ristorante; Thomas Forbes of White Hawk Country Club; Tammy Pham of Asparagus; Tim Merkel of Youche Country Club; Joseph Gaal of Sage Restaurant; Tony Sanfilippo of Svatati Ristorante; Northwest Indiana Chapter of ACF president Cheryl Molenda, also of Inn at Aberdeen; Jack Mix of Comfort's Catering; Billie Ross of The Roasted Tomato; Mohammed "Sid" Siddiqui of Sedexo USA for Porter Regional; and Steve Coppolillo of Carmine's Restaurant in Chicago.

"We'll have a wine tasting at one of the homes in White Hawk," Reitan said. Guests may taste up to six wines in a garden setting at that home. Debby White of Indiana Wholesale

Wine and Liquors will be on hand to lead the tasting, being presented in conjunction with DeLock's Liquors.

"People can start the tour anywhere," Reitan said, adding they can visit all of the homes or just a few if they prefer.

She said based on the responses the committee received from the first tour, people love the "uniqueness" of the event.

"And everyone loves to talk about food. It's an exciting and also a relaxing afternoon," she said.

## **For your information**

In conjunction with the Kitchen Tour will be a special raffle of a neo-impressionist print of Julia Child, by artist and Crown Point native James-Paul Brown. The art work was donated by Marty Wheeler, president of the Lake Court House Foundation. While tickets to the home tour are officially sold out now, raffle tickets for the painting can be purchased by calling (219) 662-1115. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the Lake Court House Foundation.