

INSIGHT: Chefs of Northwest Indiana cook up a storm for charity



Courtesy of Teddy Flores Many of the great American Culinary Federation Chefs Northwest Indiana members who cooked up a storm at last year's Northwest Indiana Adult Guardianship Services' "Adventures in International Cuisine" will return for this year's event Jan. 27

Plan to put that new year's diet on hold Jan. 27 when the American Federation of Chefs of Northwest Indiana team up with Northwest Indiana Adult Guardianship Services for a repeat of last year's "Adventures in International Cuisine" from 6 to 10 p.m. at Avalon Manor, 3550 E. U.S. 30, Hobart.

What shakes off the winter blahs better than an evening of gourmet dishes from around the world, celebrating the diversity of the adults that NIAGS serves and prepared by some of the best chefs in Northwest Indiana? That would have to be the music of the talented Billy Foster Trio.

As we go to press, chefs lined up for the event include Jack Mix of Comfort's Catering in St. John, Tim Merkel of Giovanni's in Munster, Terry Zych and Elida Abeyta of Ivy Tech State College, Jim Galligan of Valparaiso University, Polo Sanchez and Peter Kaiafas of Avalon Manor, Cheryl Molenda of The Inn at Aberdeen, and Scott Farrell and Harry Karahalious of Briar Ridge Country Club. (For a complete list of the chefs, visit my blog at <http://www.my.nwi.com/insight>.)

The NIAGS organization utilizes a mix of community volunteers, attorneys and professional staff to offer a full array of programs and services that include providing legal and case management services to facilitate the appointment and administration of court-appointed adult guardians for a person and estate.

Teddy Flores, NIAGS's executive director, and the chefs are asking for sponsors, raffle or auction items, and program book donors. To purchase tickets and for information on becoming a sponsor, call (219) 985-6566.

Speaking of chefs

The American Culinary Federation, Chefs of Northwest Indiana, will gather for the "Chef of the Year" Appreciation Dinner Reception at 5 p.m. Monday at Banquets at St. George by H & R Catering (www.batsg.com.) Tickets are \$25 and reservations are required by phone or e-mail by contacting Chef Rueben Calvo at (219) 864-1458 or ruben@batsg.com.