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Celebration scheduled

By Kasia Michalik

The Stockyards Steakhouse in Phoenix is collecting recipes and planning the menu to feed hungry Arizonans and visitors celebrating the upcoming Feb. 14, 2012 Arizona Centennial.

“One of the things The Stockyards is doing is the Taste of Centennial, which encourages people to provide recipes that will have the chance to be on the centennial menu,” said Karen Churchard, director of the Arizona Centennial Commission and the Centennial Foundation.

The recipes do not have to be specific to one genre, they can be from a restaurant to mom’s secret sweet potato casserole, desserts, ethnic foods - all are welcome.

“We think we are a perfect fit to hold this event,” said Gary Lasko, co-owner and managing partner of The Stockyards. “We are Arizona’s original steakhouse, we’ve been here over 60 years, and we feel that one of the things that the restaurant represents is the history of Arizona.”

The state is known for the 5 C’s - cotton, copper, cattle, climate and citrus.

“This restaurant really embraces the 5 C’s, tries to keep them alive,” Lasko said.

“We have copper doors, we have items on the menu that use citrus, the restaurant used to be surrounded by cattle. The reason we feel like we are the correct restaurant to house the centennial menu is because we are historic.”

In addition to the recipe, a brief background is requested with every entry.

“A woman sent me a recipe that her great grandma used to make who was born in 1878 and it’s still a favorite recipe in Arizona and it’s a chocolate cake that is made with potatoes,” Lasko said.

The Centennial menu will run from February 2011 to Feb. 14, 2012.

“We might come up with a few menus, or seasonal menus like a summer one and a fall one,” Lasko said.

Interested participants can log onto www.stockyardssteakhouse.com to submit their recipes.