

Administration

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Smokin' hot Flagler County chili wins money for 2 local charities

March 20, 2019 – When the flames and embers have all been attended to, Flagler County Fire Rescue Chief Don Petito – and his sous chef Chet Lagana – heat things up in the kitchen with their smokin' hot chili recipe that has won the Flagler Woman's Club Annual Chili Challenge for the past two years.

The big winners, though, are the Flagler Free Clinic and the Family Life Center – the two charities that will split the proceeds. Petito will present each with a check for \$542 at the April 1 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

“Of course it's great to have bragging rights and the traveling trophy for the year, but being able to select the charities that get to benefit from this was the real reward,” Petito said. “The Free Clinic and the Family Life Center do great things for the community.”

The same can be said of the Flagler Woman's Club – a civic organization founded in 1946 – that raises thousands of dollars each year for scholarships and for financial support of other local philanthropic organizations through events like the Chili Challenge.

“We are always looking to expand what we do,” said Mary Louk, the club's co-second vice-president. “We changed things this year to be a guns-and-hoses event to honor all of our first responders, because they face what we fear.”

The event, which was held in January at Veterans Park in Flagler Beach, raised \$1,082 (net) through the sale of wristbands for those who wanted to taste each of 15 unique chili recipes and a 50-50 raffle.

Flagler County Board of County Commissioners meeting will be held at 9 a.m. April 1 in the Commission Chambers of the Government Services Building, 1769 E. Moody Boulevard, building 2, Bunnell.

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