

HOWDY, STRANGER: A MOVIE GEM AT 50

SEDONA MONTHLY

ARIZONA'S MAGAZINE WITH THE GREAT VIEW

A New You!

GET AN INSIDE
LOOK AT **7**
SEDONA
SPA
TREATMENTS

WORKS OF HEART

THE
POINTILLIST
BUDDHAS
OF
SHERAB
KHANDRO

KIDDIE DECOR
LOCALS STYLE FOUR
ROOMS FOR TYKES

**ANCIENT
AMERICAN
GRAFFITI**
HIKING TO THE
V-BAR-V
PETROGLYPHS

BE THERE!
THE LUMINARIA,
GALLERY EVENTS, AND
MORE AROUND TOWN

DECEMBER 2005 \$3.95 (CANADA \$4.95)



TV chef gives the nation a taste of Sedona

When lifestyle and culinary guru George Hirsch launched a new TV series spotlighting some of the world's most beautiful locations, Sedona was one of the tasty visits on his plate. The nationally syndicated *George Hirsch Living It UP!* began airing Sept. 3; George and his entourage spent several days in town in October, taping an episode scheduled to air at the beginning of December on 130 channels – in Arizona on Phoenix stations KKAX-LP (ch. 36), K24FW (ch. 47), KCFG (ch. 9), and in Yuma-El Centro on K23BJ (ch. 23). Each 30-minute episode begins and ends with George cooking in his home in the Hamptons, N.Y., but the bulk of the program follows him in the featured locations. On his Sedona visit, George gallery-hopped in Tlaquepaque, watched the sunrise from a hot-air balloon, and took a Jeep tour. He also spent time at Sedona Rouge Hotel and Spa talking about food with Chef Kyle Evans at **Reds**, the resort's restaurant.

"I love Sedona," George said before heading into Reds' open kitchen to watch Chef Kyle in action.



"I first came here 20 years ago and I feel I am drawn to places where time seems to have stopped or stood still. I like natural stimulation, and that's Sedona."

George has been a staple on public-broadcasting stations for 14 years with four previous cooking/lifestyle series. He graduated from the Culinary Institute of America with high honors, and holds the titles of certified executive chef and certified culinary educator. He

developed the Culinary Arts Center program at the New York Institute of Technology.

George says he tries to visit Sedona once a year and believes Sedona cuisine can take the heat when compared to restaurants in big cities. One of his favorite places to eat when he's in town? He named Cucina Rustica in the Village of Oak Creek, because it takes him back to his "Italian roots." – *Erika Ayn Finch*

Celebrate the holidays old-school style

Experience a turn-of-the-century Christmas at the **Riordan Mansion** in Flagstaff (409 W. Riordan Mansion Road). Take a holiday tour of the state historic park this month and marvel at the towering Christmas tree trimmed with old-fashioned ornaments while getting a glimpse of holiday traditions from yesteryear. Tours cost \$6 for adults and \$2.50 for children ages 7 to 13. Reservations are recommended.

If you are looking for an activity everyone in the family will enjoy, check out the mansion's Christmas Party and Crafts on December 10 from 9 to 11 a.m. Santa will be on hand to pass out candy while Mrs. Claus entertains guests with Christmas stories. Admission is free and children can create crafts to take home. Call 928-779-4395 for information.

Wi-Fi in Uptown

A Wi-Fi network is now on the menu at **Canyon Breeze Restaurant & Bar** (300 N. Hwy 89A). Visitors with Wi-Fi-equipped laptop computers can check e-mail, do a Google search, or perform any other Internet activity from anywhere in the restaurant and surrounding areas. All of Sedona Center is now "plugged in" – including Sinagua Plaza and Canyon Portal shopping centers, Vista Cantina restaurant, and Amara Creekside Resort and its Gallery on Oak Creek restaurant.

Poetry Corner

Area poets have a new forum to present their work. **Izzy's Place** (355 Jordan Rd.) hosts open mic night every Thursday at 8 p.m. The event, sponsored by NORAZ poets, is hosted by Christopher Fox, Graham and Erik John Karpf. For details, call 928-282-0064.



Oak Creek trout are biting, but not for eating

Tempted to hang the Gone Fishin' sign on your office door and play "hooky" for the day? **The Hook Up**, a Phoenix-based fishing outfitter and guide service, will take care of all the logistics, and Oak Creek Canyon happens to be one of its most popular fishin' holes. Wearing waders and boots and standing waist-deep in crisp water, owner Ben Koller (pictured at right) says fly fishing in Oak Creek can satisfy all anglers, from the veteran to the novice: "It has easy access and open streams for those who are inexperienced, yet there are small pools that require precision for more advanced fishers," he explains.

For between \$350 and \$550 (including transportation and lunch), a guide will take you and a companion on an all-day excursion in Oak Creek Canyon or other popular spots in the state. The company provides rods, reels, waders, boots and even an Arizona fishing license.

All fish caught are released back into Oak Creek. "We encourage conservation," he says. "Some trout in the creek are descendents of the trout stocked by [*The Call of the Canyon* author] Zane Grey. They are a piece of history and you'd hate to see them taken home for the table." The largest rainbow trout ever caught on a Hook Up trip in Oak Creek Canyon was 28 inches long and close to 10 lbs., Ben says.



The outfitters staff an average of one guide per couple and fly fishing in Oak Creek Canyon is a year-round sport. Canyon trips typically begin at Grasshopper Point and wind up in West Fork. Ben says the company usually leads canyon excursions five days a week.

"It's our No. 1 location for fly fishing and it's a beautiful area," he says, his faithful chocolate Labrador Stormy splashing by his side. "And there's usually always fish."

For information, call 888-899-HOOK UP or visit www.TheHookUpOutfitters.com. – EAF

