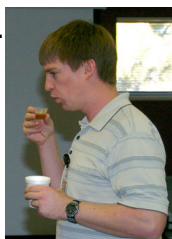




By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

Nothing can boost the spirits like a steaming hot bowl of soup—unless it's a bowl of hot, thick, tasty chili.

The morale committee at Perkins County Health Services accomplished that boost last week when they invited personnel to taste test several varieties of homemade chili in an official Chili Cook Off on Friday, Jan 28.



The purpose for the cook off was to do something fun for the employees and to kick off the new year with a new event, said Candace Van Velson, one of the six organizers from the morale committee.

Fifty votes were cast by those who tasted the chili entered by 12 employees with varieties that fell into categories of original, white, spicy and sweet.

The top two favorites were recipes of Bonita Ogier and Dianna Dorsey. Each received a gift bag consisting of a blanket, gloves, socks, coffee mug with hot chocolate, a movie ticket and a candy bar.

Winner of the employee tasting was Carol Drake who also received a gift bag.

Van Velson said the morale committee appreciates all of the employees who submitted chili entries and those who took time to participate in the taste testing, making it a successful event.

“We all had a good time and plan to do it again next year,” she said.

Morale committee member Shari VanBeber said the committee tries to do something every month for the employees—ranging from something small and simple to a more elaborate occasion such as the chili cookoff.

“Employees are already anticipating what’s coming next year for the chili cookoff!” she said.

In the meantime, more events are being planned by the committee—such as a Valentine’s Day

celebration coming up soon.