

VEGGIES

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plain odd winners. The likeness category is for vegetables that resemble someone or something.

"Vegetables take on their own personalities sometimes," said Donna Cupinski, chairperson of the new contests.

Everyone attending the festival will have an opportunity to vote for the vegetables in the oddities category. First, second and third place ribbons will be awarded for each category in the following three divisions: amateur under age 18, amateur age 18 and older, and professional growers.

Each participant must be a resident of either the Dallas or Lake-Lehman School Districts. All vegetables must have been grown by the person entering them. Vegetables must be clean, dry and free of any extra material that

may add to weight. No props are allowed.

Cupinski says no cash prizes will be awarded for the Harvest Vegetable Contest because there are 24 categories, which would become too costly. But she's quick to point out that ribbons matter, too. As a child, Cupinski's art teacher entered one of her paintings into a contest and she won a ribbon.

"There was no greater feeling than to know what I was doing won a ribbon," she said. "You just never know when you're going to touch a life like that."

Grandma's homemade chili is delicious, but is it worth \$50? Grandma and anyone else who thinks he or she makes the best chili in the Back Mountain are invited to enter the Amateur Chili Contest. Though a chili contest at a harvest festival may seem odd to some, Cupinski says chili cook-offs are popular across the country.

"There's just something about chili," she said. "There are so many varia-

tions on it. People love to test it, try it. It's just a fun thing."

All chili entries must be made from scratch and a recipe or list of ingredients must accompany all submissions. The chili can be different due to variations. For example, Cupinski says some people use ground beef and others cubed beef, beans may or may not be included and chili can be red or white. Cupinski encourages applicants to be creative.

The chili will be judged by Back Mountain "celebrities" on sensory qualities, consistence, appearance and ingredient compatibility. The prizes for the Amateur Chili Contest are as follows: first place, \$50; second place, \$25; third place, \$15. Only one entry per person is allowed and contestants must be a resident of either the Dallas or Lake-Lehman School Districts.

Setting up shop on the sidewalk

"Sidewalk Sales" is an added feature to this year's Dallas Harvest Festival and gives borough businesses the opportunity to showcase their wares outside for festival-goers to admire and, hopefully, purchase.

Businesses throughout the borough of Dallas are encouraged to participate in Sidewalk Sales which will be held both Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15 and 16, during Dallas Days. The Dallas Harvest Festival will be held from 1 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 16, on Main Street in Dallas.

The following businesses have already committed to participating in this year's Sidewalk Sales:


AJ's Beer Beverages, A's Cutting Crew, Blue Hydrangea, C.H. Waltz, Dallas Hardware, Earthfully Yours, Green Dog Pottery, Just Judy, King Neptune Seafood.

Also, Movie Gallery, Ochman Jewelers, Picketts Charge, Ranch Wagon, Really Cooking Café & Catering, Snooty Fox, The Heritage Shop.

Also, The Paw Spa, Valentine's Jewelry, Wayne's World, Wild Birds Unlimited and Ye Olde Clock & Gift Shoppe.

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Donna Cupinski
Contest chairperson



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