



Perris News

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Chili Cook-off this Saturday at American Legion Post 595

Beef and pork. Chicken and turkey.
Maybe even goat and buffalo.

Contestants in Saturday's chili cook-off at American Legion Post 595 in Perris have been known to spice up their creations with all sorts of everyday and exotic meats. Organizers say they expect master and wannabe chefs to come to Perris from throughout California and Nevada to try their recipes.

The winner gets \$400 and an invitation to the World Chili Cook-Off in Las Vegas later this year.

Visitors get to sample the fare, take a look at classic cars on display as part of the show and contribute to a good cause. The American Legion gets badly needed funds for its community programs.

"It's a great chance to help the kids of Perris, who we support," said Post Commander Bernie Foley, who served in the Navy during the Korean War. "We hope the weather remains so we'll get a lot of entries."

Foley said the post supports a Little League Team, a Boy Scout Troop and sends four high-school students to Sacramento every year, where they meet legislators, visit the state capital and get a first-hand look at the workings of government.

Foley said that under rules of the International Chili Society, which is sanctioning Saturday's cook-off, contestants must bring all their ingredients—meats, onions, beans and spices—and prepare them on site. It's the eighth year the Perris Legion Post has sponsored the cook-off. In previous years, as many as 30 teams took part.

Foley said the quality of the chili can vary widely, as can its overall spiciness. Some of it is five-alarm stuff. Other batches might just as well be labeled false alarms.

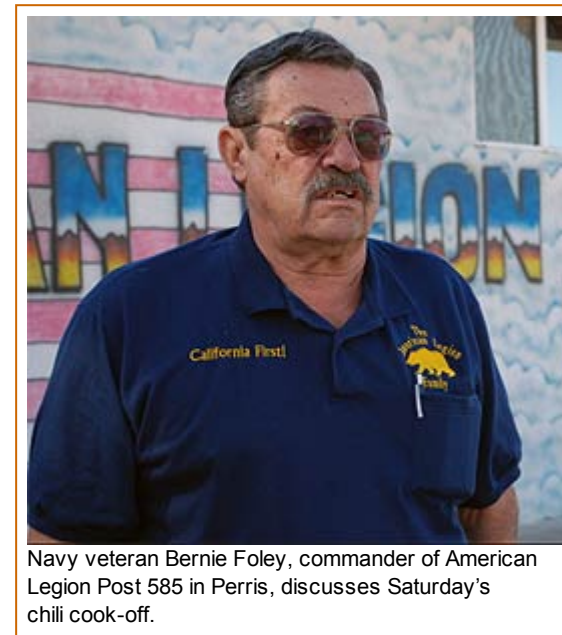
This year's festivities also include the appearance of up to 25 classic cars, a musical performance by a country/western band. Vendors selling everything from clothing to jewelry to leather goods also will be on hand.

The chili cook-off runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Legion Post, 600 South D Street. Perris City Councilwoman Joanne Evans, a longtime member of Post 595, said breakfast will be served prior to the chili. Breakfast burritos or biscuits and gravy will be served from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Cost of a burrito or biscuits and gravy is \$3 each, \$5 for both.

A \$3 donation will buy samples of the various chili concoctions.

"This is a great chance to show your support for the youth of Perris," Evans said.

For more information, call: 951-657-6275.



Navy veteran Bernie Foley, commander of American Legion Post 585 in Perris, discusses Saturday's chili cook-off.