

Valley Regional picks its best chili

Valley Regional Hospital held its own chili cookoff Monday afternoon to determine which of its departments had the best chili and would represent the hospital in Claremont's Fall Festival Chili Cookoff on Oct. 4.

Ten departments in the hospital submitted entries with names such as "Is There a Fireman in the House?," "Under Construction Chili," and "Volunteers Spice Things Up."

The judges were Charlestown Police Chief Ed Smith, Sullivan County Administrator Greg Chanis, Newport Chamber Director Ella Casey, Greater Claremont Chamber of Commerce Director Shelly Hudson, Claremont's Assistant Mayor Andy Austin and Ladies Union Aid Society President



COURTESY PHOTO BY KELLY MURPHY.

Ella Casey and Greg Chanis record their choices for the best chili at the Valley Regional Chili Cookoff Monday.

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Lisa Richmond. The judges chose the winning entries based on aroma, appearance, consistency, taste and after-taste.

The rehabilitation/physical

therapy department won first place for its entry, "Kirby's Famous Mountain Man Chili." The department will represent the hospital at the Fall Festival Chili Cookoff, and it received a

\$50 Ramunto's gift certificate. Eight gallons of Mountain Man Chili will be prepared in advance and served at the Fall Festival.

Second place of Claremont Cinema movie passes was presented to Leslie Collins in the philanthropy department for her entry of "Cowboy Jim's Viagra Chili," and third place of an ice cream sundae party

was awarded to the Adult Day Out Program at Connecticut Valley Home Care for its entry, "Many Hands Day Out Chili." Jennifer Martin in the medical surgical department was

awarded as having the most creative recipe name: "Half-Ass Donkey Farm Chili." Martin won a \$50 gas card compliments of Crown Point Cabinetry.