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## Perris Website is the Big Winner

The City of Perris' website, used to assist residents in paying utility bills, reporting code violations and keeping abreast of the latest community developments, took first-prize in a regional competition of municipal websites.

The Perris website was named Governmental Media Outlet of the Year for 2014-15 by the American Advertising Federation. The Perris website beat out several other entries, including those from Riverside, Corona and Upland, which were judged by a series of media professionals from out-of-state with no connection to the Inland Empire. The municipal websites were judged on their service to the individual communities.

Perris Information Technology Manager Arturo Cervantes, Administrative Assistant Monica Martinez, Assistant Director of Administrative Services Isabel Carlos and Public Information Officer Joe Vargo accept the award for best governmental website Oct. 15 at the American Advertising Federation's awards banquet.

A team of representatives from the City took home the award Oct. 15 during a ceremony at the Mission Inn in Riverside.

"The City of Perris website aims at keeping residents up to date on all pertinent matters and events," said IT Manager Arturo Cervantes. "What separates us from other municipal websites is that we update our webpage almost daily with new photos, videos, press releases and announcements. In addition, this year we successfully launched a Spanish version of the website and have linked our webpages with our Facebook pages, "Perris Today" and "Hoy en Perris."

Cervantes said the City's websites keep residents informed about program like "Live Well Perris," which has touched the lives of thousands of people since 2013 by promoting wellness fairs, a local version of "The Biggest Loser" competition, weekend and winter workouts, its chef-in-the-classroom outreach to elementary school children and other programs.



The logo for the City of Perris flashes on a big screen prior to the announcement of the municipal website winning honors from the American Advertising Federation.

Award presenters noted the website's support of the Live Well Perris initiative during comments made at the banquet, which was attended by hundreds of media professionals from print, radio, television and web-based productions.

Assistant City Manager Ron Carr said Perris municipal workers are committed to keeping the public informed and engaged.

"I'm very happy about the award, but not surprised," Carr said. "Our Information Technology and Public Information staff do an outstanding job, and this award is well-deserved recognition of that fact."

Cervantes and Assistant Director of Administrative Services Isabel Carlos, Administrative Assistant Monica Martinez and Public Information Officer Joe Vargo accepted the award on behalf of the City.



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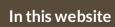
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