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Valentine's After Party: February 15

The City's Youth Advisory Committee is wrapping up work on its first major project—a "Valentine's After Party" at the Perris Teen Center on Feb. 15.

The event takes place from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Teen Center at 100 North D Street and features a disc jockey, photo booth, refreshments and food. The event is open to teen-agers between 13 and 18.

"We wanted to introduce ourselves to the community and let them know we exist," said Shaeera Ahmed, 16, a member of the Youth Advisory Committee who attends Rancho Verde High School.

The commission was created in October to serve as liaison between the high-school set, City administrators and elected officials. The commission is charged with engaging young people about their concerns and seeking their input as they created plans and programs to address them. The City created the Youth Advisory Committee as a way of empowering youth and enabling them to make a direct impact on the youth community.

Youth Advisory Committee Members have been working with City development services staff to plan the upcoming dance. Members of the committee also will be taking part in upcoming Live Well Perris health-initiative events, including a pet expo in March and community health fair in April.

Ahmed and other committee members have been meeting regularly for the last few months and say their jobs have been hectic but rewarding.

"It's been a lot of work and a lot of fun," she said.

Victoria Mac, 16, who attends Rancho Verde High School, said the committee hopes more than 100 Perris teens will attend. They are spreading the word through social media portals like Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

"It's going to be a party, it's going to be free food, what more fun can you have?" she said.

Recreation Leader Paulnesha Magee, the City's liaison with the teen committee, said she has been impressed with their hard work and dedication, calling them "enterprising, innovative, creative and interested in getting Perris teen-agers involved in City activities."

"I could not be more proud of them," Magee said.

Pre-sale tickets are \$3 for one and \$5 for two. Door-sales are \$3.50 per ticket. Tickets prior to the event are available at the Teen Center. For more information, contact Magee at pmagee@cityofperris.org or 951-943-6603, ext. 247.

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