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## City Supports Historical Association Fundraising Bazaar

The third annual fundraising bazaar to support the Perris Valley Historical and Museum Association takes place Saturday, May 10, at the historic Depot Building, site of the Victorian-era train station that connected Perris with the outside world.

The event takes place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the restored Depot at 120 West Fourth Street and features live music, tours of the structure and the museum inside, gold-panning exhibitions and the appearance of 10 race cars from the Perris Auto Speedway. The cars will parade down D Street to Mercado Park before returning to the Depot where they will be on display.

Antiques and collectables, including dolls, jewelry, kitchenware, books and vinyl records, will be available for sale. Tickets will be given away for the Perris Valley Skydiving Center, Big League Dreams sports complex, Drop Zone aquatics center, Orange Empire Railway Museum and Perris Auto Speedway.



Perris Mayor Daryl Busch presents a check from the City to the Perris Valley Historical and Museum Association, represented by Cindy Chambers, Midgie Parker and Katie Keyes.

This year's annual bazaar takes place as the museum association celebrates its 50th anniversary, when history-minded volunteers began collecting personal items and memorabilia from Perris pioneers and the family for whom the City is named—Fred T. Perris, chief engineer for the California Southern Railroad. Perris laid out much of the street patterns in the City, surveyed rail routes throughout Southern California and oversaw construction of the stretch of the transcontinental railroad from Barstow to Los Angeles. Items from the Perris family now part of the museum collection include his personalized surveying stakes, eyeglasses, pipes, photographs and a dress from his wife.

In the 1980s, the Perris Valley Historical and Museum Association began hosting the annual Fred T. Perris Day, which celebrated the contributions of a pioneer family. The pioneer-family celebration takes place during the Rods and Rails Festival at the Orange Empire Railway Museum. The museum association celebrated a major milestone in 2009, when the Depot reopened after years of renovations.

Midgie Parker, a longtime member of the museum who is helping plan the upcoming bazaar, said a major goal of the event is to raise the profile of the Depot as a historical building and the home of the Perris Valley Museum. The museum relates the history of the region over the last several hundred years.

Members of the museum appeared at a recent City Council meeting, where Mayor Daryl Busch presented them with a check to support their activities.

"We want to call attention to the museum," she said. "It's a great museum and people who want to know more about the history of their city and region can learn a great deal by visiting it. It really is a jewel of the Perris Valley."

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