



Perris Press Release

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Council Thanks Joanne Evans for Her Service

Perris City Council members said goodbye this week to their colleague Joanne Evans, presenting the longtime resident with a plaque and a statuette of an eagle commemorating her service to the community.

Mayor Daryl Busch briefly adjourned Tuesday's meeting in honor of Evans, inviting City staff and friends to join her for cake and punch outside council chambers.

"We're happy to do this and we're sad to do this," Busch said. "We're happy for the person but were sad to see her go."

Evans, a 40-year-resident of Perris, was defeated for re-election to a second four-year term on the City Council. Even before her stint in politics, Evans was well-known throughout the Perris community, having served as a spokesman for Cal/Fire Riverside County and as an untiring advocate for veterans' issues on behalf of the American Legion. She also served with the Marines.

During her tenure on the council, the City experienced many triumphs. Those include the restoration and reopening of the Victorian-era Depot Building, the renovation of the Bank of Perris as a City archive, D Street beautifications, the opening of the affordable-housing Mercado Apartments, a new fire station/emergency operations center and new teen/senior center. Construction was completed on the new Interstate 215/Fourth Street interchange which created a new gateway to Downtown Perris and is wrapping up at I-215 and Ramona Expressway.

The City attracted several new businesses, such as Rio Ranch Market and Stretch Forming Corp., completed its Big League Dreams sports complex, broke ground on a new aquatics center and reopened Bob Long Park after extensive renovations. The City also snagged regional, state and national awards for excellence for its outreach effort and construction of a new sewer system in Perris' disadvantaged Enchanted Heights community. Evans was part of the Perris team that accepted the award on the City's behalf. She also served a Mayor Pro-Tem in 2011, the City's Centennial year.

Evans said she was overwhelmed by the farewell sentiments and grateful to have served as a Perris policy maker.

"I've loved every minute of it," she said. "Perris has grown so much in the last four years and I am so proud to be part of that. I will treasure my time on the City Council for the rest of my life."

Evans promised to remain active in Perris civic affairs, including parades and other special events. She also will continue working with the American Legion, where her efforts have garnered state and national acclaim.

Council colleagues praised Evans' diligence, determination and demeanor while on City business. She addressed constituent concerns conscientiously, conducted herself as a complete professional and contributed to the cohesiveness for which the Perris City Council is known.

"You demonstrated leadership with just your presence," said City Councilman Mark Yarbrough. "It's people like you who keep this City moving forward. You served because you cared, saw needs in the community and wanted to address them."

Mayor Pro-Tem Al Landers said simply: "You've been a great colleague. You've done a great job."

Mayor Busch said he is glad Evans will play a key role in the City in the future as a volunteer.

"We'll miss your presence on the dais, not in the City" he said.



Perris Mayor Daryl Busch presents a statuette of an eagle to outgoing City Councilwoman Joanne Evans at the Nov. 27 City Council meeting.



Perris City Councilwoman Joanne Evans holds the statuette presented to her by colleagues: "I will treasure my time on the City Council for the rest of my life."



Perris City Councilwoman Joanne Evans cuts the cake presented to her by colleagues at the Nov. 27 City Council meeting.



The cake presented to outgoing Perris City Councilwoman Joanne Evans.