



Perris News

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Residents Celebrate Annual Snow Day in Perris

Try telling the 400 children who took part in Perris' annual Snow Day that all the fuss was just about frozen water.

The City trucked in 21 tons of snow for the event and staff from the Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments turned Foss Park into a winter wonderland, constructed a small hill for youngsters to sled down and arena to frolic in the snow.

Many of the youngsters had never seen snow before and they made snowball, snow angels and snow mounds with gusto.

"I love this City," said Leneisha Jackson, who brought her husband, mother-in-law and five youngsters to Snow Day. "The kids are really enjoying themselves. They only see snow on mountaintops so it's great when they can play in it and roll around in it. I enjoy seeing them smile and laugh."

Christi Alfaro came to Snow Day with her daughter, Samantha, 5, and son, Armando, 3.

"Perris does a lot for its residents," Alfaro said. "It's really great to live in Perris and be able to take part in events like this."

Samantha Alfaro said she enjoyed playing in the snow.

"The sled went downhill really fast," she said.

Recreation Supervisor Maria Mathey called Snow Day 2011 "another great in Perris." City sponsored events are always well attended in Perris, whether it is Movie Night in the Park, the annual Fall Fling or the Spring Ice Cream Social.

"This is a great opportunity to stay in town, let the kids play in the snow and get some great quality pictures," Mathey said.

Mathey saved a special shout-out to Dickie Harrison of Dan's Feed & Seed in Perris, who supplied the hay that bordered the snow-playing area.

"It's the best hay in the City," she said.

Dozens of people were waiting in line well before the event began, having come to previous Snow Days and wanting to minimize their waiting time. Some came wearing gloves, scarves and hats while the heartier dressed in shirt sleeves. It seemed that dozens of smiling parents used still and movie cameras and even cell phones to capture the good time.

Wally Rodriguez came to Snow Day with three children in tow—Michael, 9, David, 8 and Jayla, 5. Rodriguez said he knows of no other cities that sponsor a similar event.

"It's a fun time for the kids and family," Rodriguez said. "I am glad that Perris takes time for its kids and community." Angelica Stephens said she came to Snow Day with her grandparents as a kid. Now she is passing on the family tradition by bringing her son, Tyran Stewart, 3, to the annual event.

"He wanted to come out and make a snowman and throw snowballs like he sees on television," Stephens said. Perris City employees who helped make Snow Day 2011 a success included Erica Tello, Stacie Dain, Rachel Pinedo, Eddie Gutierrez, Ignacio Alvarez and Maria Mathey.



Perris Parks and Recreation employee Rachel Pinedo tests the sled run set up for the annual Snow Day funfest and pronounces it kid-ready.



Gola Long attended Snow Day with her great-grandson, Tryan Stewart, and his mom, Angelica Stephens.



These two young men make snowballs.



The smile says it all—this youngster enjoys taking a ride down the sled run.