



Perris Press Release

Contact: Joe Vargo, Perris Public Information Officer
Phone: 951-956-2120
jvargo@cityofperris.org

Perris Seniors Feel the Love at Valentine's Day Luncheon

Valentine's Day arrived early for 100 Perris senior citizens who were treated to lunch, music, raffle prizes and entertainment courtesy of the City of Perris.

The City maintains a wide range of programs—bingo, dancing, drawing, painting, knitting and sewing—for residents in their golden years. Every year around Valentine's Day, the City's commitment to its seniors expresses itself in an afternoon of good food, friendship and fun.

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans said the Valentine's Day shindig is the City's way of thanking people who have given so much to their community and country.

"These folks have worked their entire lives and now many of them are lonely and don't have much to do," she said. "We need to show our seniors that we love them. If we don't show it, who will?"

The guests of honor were served a lunch of chicken, rice, salad, rolls and punch, prepared by volunteers from Angel Food, a non-profit ministry that provide low-cost boxes of food to senior citizens, the underprivileged and others.

Alicia Casares said she takes advantage of the Senior Center to get out of the house and keep her mind active.

"It's great to get out and see my friends and see people who don't come out every day," Casares said. "Perris is a great City. Where else can you celebrate Valentine's Day with all your friends?"

Linda Perales said seniors who take part in the activities enjoy the camaraderie.

"You're not lonely anymore," she said. "It gives you something to look forward to."

Cynthia Quintero, who works at the Senior Center, said the City hosts the annual Valentine's Day lunch to show its appreciation for the decades of hard work and contributions made by Perris seniors. It's a small reward for the many gifts they have made to Perris families, churches, schools and community.

"It's great for the seniors," she said. "They love getting out for the fellowship."



Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans is flanked by Senior Center workers Cynthia Quintero and Erica Tello.



Perris residents Alicia Casares and Linda Perales enjoy the Valentine's Day luncheon.



Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans chats with a resident at this week's appreciation luncheon.