



Perris Press Release

Contact: Joe Vargo, Perris Public Information Officer

Phone: 951-956-2120

jvargo@cityofperris.org

Perris Chamber of Commerce Centennial Gala

The 100th Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce Centennial Gala promises to have all the glitz and glamour of a Hollywood premiere. Discount tickets remain on sale through Thursday, Feb. 24, for the Installation and Awards Program, in which a new president and other Chamber of Commerce board members will begin their terms and outgoing directors will exit the stage.

The March 5 gala takes place in the newly restored art deco Perris Theatre, so the event also gives the public its first chance to take in the new renovations undertaken in recent months with the help of City redevelopment funds. The proceedings kick off at 5:30 p.m.

The Centennial Gala marks a major celebration in a year of festivities marking Perris' 100th anniversary as an incorporated City and the 100th anniversary of the Perris Valley Chamber of Commerce.

"You only get one shot do your Centennial right," said Michael McDermott, Perris Redevelopment and Economic Development Manager. "It will be pretty glamorous and upscale. Some cities never make it to 100 years old. We did, and we're proud of that."

The black-tie gala includes photographers snapping pictures of all the guests as they arrive, valet parking, a stroll down a red carpet, catered dinner and dancing. The menu includes Beef Wellington, Chicken Cordon Bleu and Encrusted Salmon. The emcee for the night's events is comedian and magician Rocky Osborn. McDermott has called in party planners whose previous experience includes working Grammy Awards ceremonies and Oprah Winfrey's 50th birthday bash.

Tickets may be purchased at reduced rates until 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 24. Those rates are \$75 per person; \$130 per couple and \$500 for a table of eight. Tickets may be purchased after that time for \$85 per person and \$150 per couple. No group sales will take place after Feb. 24.

Although the theme for much of the night's activities centers around elegance, the Chamber of Commerce gala does include some business. Grant Bennett, Director of Pupil Services for the Perris Union High School District, will be sworn in as the Chamber's new president, replacing Vince Agnifili, Manager of the Southern California Fair.

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch will deliver the Centennial Keynote Address.

Chamber of Commerce board member Judy Haughney said excitement is building for the big gala.

"This event celebrates the 100-year relationship between the City of Perris and its Chamber of Commerce," she said.

"Nobody wants to miss it. It will be an event like no other in Perris. There may not be another one like it."

Additional information about the Chamber Gala is available by visiting www.perrischamber.net.

To order tickets, contact the Chamber of Commerce business office at 951-657-3555.

