



Perris Press Release

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Yarby Entertains Perris Kids at the Library

Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough often spends his evenings attending to municipal business or representing the City at the county, regional, state or national level.

But this week Yarbrough came to the Perris Public Library and met with a different type of audience—Perris children 3 to 10 years old.

He brought with him a hand puppet named “Yarby,” one that his mother made for him when he was a teen-ager. The pair entertained about 30 youngsters with a message that included the importance of reading and studying judiciously in school, making friends and being a friend, learning and having fun.

“I think about the most important thing we can do is learn.”



Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough display “Yarby” to an audience of children at the Perris Public Library.



Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough and “Yarby” listen while librarian Janis Carrera reads a story.

Yarbrough told the group of children and their parents. “Keep reading, keep learning.”

Yarbrough said he has been fascinated with puppets since watching Edgar Bergen and his alter-ego, Charlie McCarthy, as a kid. He also grew up watching the classic television series “Beany and Cecil,” which featured a sea-serpent puppet. He said he asked his mother to make him a puppet and she came up with Yarby, a purple puppet that resembles a monkey. Yarbrough said his appearance at the Perris Library was the first time Yarby ever entertained an audience.

Yarby provided the facial expressions while librarian Janis Carrera read several short stories geared for children. The books focused on the adventures of several characters, who managed to get themselves in and out of trouble before discovering their happy endings.

Carrera said she was pleased someone from City Hall would invest some time in Perris children. His message reinforced the sentiments of City librarians who spend much of their time encouraging youngsters to read and learn.

“We appreciate the support of our City Council,” Carrera said. “It’s always good for kids to see another adult give them good advice.”

Nora Baraja said she recently moved to Perris from Torrance and was looking for a family activity to take her 5-year-old grandson, Devin. The reading and puppet show fit the bill perfectly.

“This is exactly what we’re trying to do to have fun in the summer,” she said. “We’re very happy we moved to Perris.”



Making new friends at the Perris Public Library.