



Perris News

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Fun and Friendship Fills the Air During Annual Fall Fling

Chilly temperatures couldn't dampen the spirit of camaraderie and community that permeated the annual Fall Fling at Morgan Park.

More than 200 suitably attired children and adults came to watch the movie "Princess and the Frog" and take part in fun and games provided by the City's Parks and Recreation Department. City employees roasted hot dogs for the crowd. There were hula hoops to twirl, sack races to run and hop-scotch courses to navigate.

Recreation Supervisor Maria Mathey said Fall Fling is always a big deal.

"It's been great right from the start," she said. "People enjoy coming to community events in the City of Perris."

She said the event is a good way for parents and their kids to get away from the TV and the computer games and enjoy the outdoors.

"We don't have high tech games here," Mathey said. "It's good old fashion sack race and they've never done it before!" she said.

Mathey said the City holds movie nights several times each summer, always taking care to host the show in various neighborhoods throughout Perris.

"We have a following," she said. "People come to every movie."

Phyllis Thompson is one Perris resident who takes part in many community events. She attended the Fall Fling with her great grand-daughter, Taylor, 3. The pair came well prepared. They brought pillows, cookies, chips and a Scooby Doo blanket to keep warm.

"I enjoy the community," Phyllis Thompson said. "I get to meet people I would normally not meet. I am really pleased with the way Perris is doing so much for its residents. It's amazing how much they have done."

Former Los Angeles resident Nancy Aleman attended the Fall Fling with her son, James, 5.

"I am new to Perris and am really surprised at the way they treat people," she said. "I love it here. Nothing like this goes on in LA."

Other Perris residents were equally enthused.

"It's free, it's kid-friendly, it's something you can enjoy with the whole family," said Joanna Correa, a Perris resident who attended the Fall Fling with her daughter, sister and mother.

"Since he's the only child, this is his chance to meet and play with other kids," said Kaye Lau who took her 6-year-old son, Justin, to the event.

Jeremy Johnson, who took his 2-year-old son, Julius, to the Fall Fling said the event is a good way to become involved in the community. "They've got good games for the kids and free hotdogs for us adults," he said. "This is also a great day to meet the neighbors."



Phyllis Thompson with her 3-year-old great granddaughter, Taylor. "I enjoy the community," Phyllis Thompson says.



James Aleman, 5, takes part in a sack race.



Recreation Supervisor Maria Mathey hands out a prize during the Fall Fling.



These Fall Fling visitors came appropriately dressed for the chilly weather.