



Perris News

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

Senior Volunteers Honored

It was the day to say thank you for all those volunteers who help make the golden years golden.

The Perris Senior Center earlier this month threw a lunch and awarded Certificates of Acknowledgement for the people who work at local food banks, teach arts and crafts, provide paralegal services and call bingo games—some of the easily forgotten services that make life a little more enjoyable.

About 60 senior citizens took part in the luncheon, which also featured a raffle of prizes.

“Everyone wants to be acknowledged for the good work they do,” said Yavonne Sims, Senior Center Coordinator. “None of these folks get paid. They do what they do out of the goodness of their hearts.”

Among the honorees was Daphne Williams, who received a certificate for her 15 years work with the Brown Bag Food Bank. The volunteer group gathers, sorts and bags excess produce and grocery commodities for distribution to the less fortunate. Twice a month, volunteers gather at the Perris Senior Center for this important work.

Williams, a native of Australia, came to the U.S. as a young woman during World War II. She said she brought the values she learned at home to the U.S., values that have served her well for many years.

“I was raised with the attitude that if you can’t help other people, you are just taking up space,” she said. Williams said she looks forward to working with her fellow volunteers.

“You could not find a better group of people in the world,” she said. “I would say that 99 percent of the people we serve are extremely nice and appreciative. Once in a while one might have a grouchy day, but who doesn’t?”

Williams said the staff members at the Senior Center, particularly Sims and her assistant, Cynthia Quintero, make the work enjoyable.

“I love them like my granddaughters,” she said. “Every time I come here, you see them greeting people with a big welcoming smile. They make you feel so special.”



Perris resident Daphne Williams was honored for her work at a local food bank. Standing next to her is Perris Senior Center Coordinator Yavonne Sims.