



Perris News

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Fall Fling Delights Perris Residents

Another Perris community event, another night of fun, festivities, frolicking and food for City residents.

More than 300 people turned out Friday for the City's annual Fall Fling at Monument Ranch Park, an event that featured free barbecue hotdogs, chips and sodas along with prize raffles, sack races and hula hooping. A showing of the Academy Award winning movie "Wall-E" topped off the evening.

Despite the tough economic times, the City remains committed to providing family events for residents. Community events help neighbors connect with one another while allowing families to spend quality time together without having to dig into their wallets.

In the fiscally frugal City of Perris, all services—from police and fire protection to parks and recreation to graffiti removal and street maintenance—cost residents approximately \$1 a day.

Several residents said they welcomed they appreciated the City's commitment to improving to their quality of life.

"This is a great thing," said Brian Murray, who brought his children to Monument Ranch Park. "It's definitely a positive thing for the taxes we pay. Perris is a neat little town and this is one of the reasons why. This is the first time we've come to a community event like this. We will definitely be back."

Prior to the start of the movie, families and teen-agers mingled from one of the park to the other, some munching on hot dogs, others gyrated with hula hoops around their waists. Ally Vasquez, 15, a student at Heritage High School, talked on her cell phone and texted all while twisting with a hula hoop.

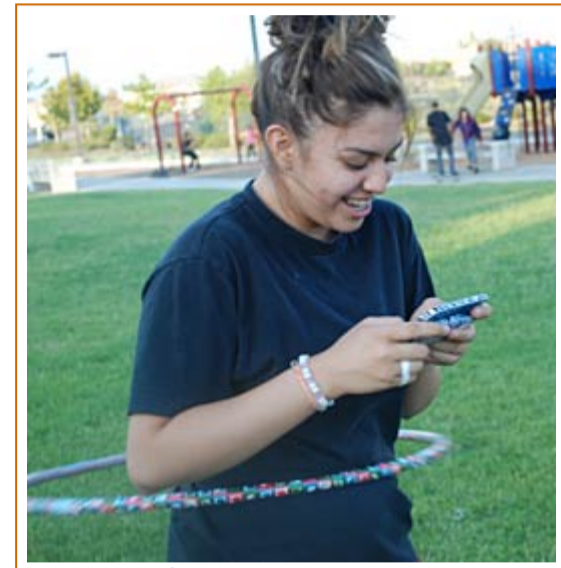
"This is what I do!" she said.

Vasquez said she can text up to 200 words per minute. By the looks of her fingers as they flew over the keyboard on her cell phone, Vasquez appeared she could back up her statement. Fellow Heritage High School student Arianne Murphy, 15, said she came to Monument Park for the camaraderie.

"This is fun," she said. "It gets the community together. It's nice to take part in these sorts of community events."

Lupe Santillan said she came to spend some family time with her three children, ages 10, 15, and 16. She said she was grateful the City sponsors events like the Fall Fling, because they allow her to "get to know the neighbors you never knew before."

"I'm shocked to see how many teen-agers are here," she said. "This is fun, fun, fun."



Heritage High School student Ally Vasquez, 15, shows her prowess at texting while hula hooping. Vasquez was one of 300 people who came to Monument Ranch Park to take part in the Fall Fling.



Parks and Recreation Department employee Rachel Rodriguez conducts a raffle for prizes at the Fall Fling.



These energetic youngsters took part in a sack race prior to the showing of the movie "Wall-E."