



Perris News

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

Seniors Enjoy Annual Christmas Luncheon

The City of Perris rolled out the red carpet for its senior citizens Friday, throwing an early holiday feast that included dinner, dancing and raffle prizes.

The Senior Center takes the opportunity every year to thank the volunteers who helped out and those residents who take advantage of the programs offered by the City—from providing a cool zone during hot summer months to helping run nutrition programs for needy seniors.

About 90 residents took part in the Fourth Annual Holiday Luncheon.

City Councilwoman Rita Rogers praised Perris seniors for their contributions to the community.



Perris City Councilwoman Rita Rogers greets visitors during the annual Holiday Luncheon at the Perris Senior Center.



Yavonne Sims, Perris Senior Center Coordinator, meets Herman Giles, 94. "Perris could be the end of your rainbow," he said.

"We celebrate their longevity, their wisdom and their experience," Rogers said. "They are a stabilizing force in our community."

Rogers said many seniors on limited incomes rely on the Senior Center and its multitudes of programs to survive. In particular, the cool zone provides a place where frail elderly residents can spend the hottest part of the day in air-conditioned comfort and share camaraderie with their peers.

"That's really a life saver," she said. "We love our seniors. We appreciate them. We thank them."

City Councilman Al Landers also praised the Senior Center staff for its commitment to Perris' longtime residents.

"Seniors are treasures and I am proud to be part of a City that takes such good care of them," Landers said.

The guests of honor dined on turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing and pie.

One of the most senior seniors, Herman Giles, said he loves coming to the Perris center. He's 94 years old and first came to the City in 1929 when land sold for \$50 an acre.

"This is a wonderful, accommodating community," Giles said. "I appreciate spending time here. Perris could be the end of your rainbow."

Elle Baker, 90, and her husband, Johnny L. Baker, 88, remain active in Second Harvest Food Bank, which distributes basic commodities to seniors in need.

"I've been coming here for more than 20 years and I absolutely love it," Elle Baker said.

Her husband concurred.

"It's a great place," he said.



The guests of honor line up for turkey and all the trimmings.