



Perris News

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Santa's Lap Still the Hot Ticket in Town

Guitar hero and Wiis.

Legos. Star Wars and dolls.

The kids who lined up to see Santa at the Perris Senior Center offered plenty of choices to fill their Christmas wish list, from new-fangled gadgets to old standbys.

About 100 youngsters took advantage of the City-sponsored event, a visit their parents said gave the family a chance to meet St. Nick without having to endure the crush of seeing mall Santas. Many got photos with Santa and all let him know what they wanted to find under the tree on Christmas morning.

"This is a very homelike and likable setting," said Alison Grayson, who brought five children to the show. "This usually starts our Christmas season. It's the only event we do. It has a small town flavor. I asked the kids if they wanted to go to see Santa at a mall this year and they said no. They wanted to come here."

Her youngsters, 19, 7, 5 and two 3-year-olds, wanted scooters, video games and hot items like Guitar Hero. Legos too.

"Legos never die," she said.

Katie Acosta, another parents, said she liked coming to the Perris Senior Center and it's no-stress environment.

"Perris is a nice little town," she said.

Diana and Jose Arredondo brought their two children, Anthony, 4, and Mia, 1. The family ate breakfast before visiting Santa and Mrs. Claus, who handed out candy canes to all comers.

"It's a very nice event all the way around," said Diana Arredondo. "It's very nice for the kids."

Specials thanks go to Arthur and Helen Hemingway for standing in for Santa. Several City employees from the Community Services Department also pitched in to make the annual visit a success.



Jose and Diana Arredondo bring their children, Anthony, 4, and Mia, 1, to visit Santa.

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Close this Page

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