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Almost 1,000 Take Part in the Annual 5K/Fun Run



Throng of runners take off from the starting line at the beginning of the annual 5-K Fun Run, which kicked off the City of Perris' Health Fair April 21.

The early-morning risers who took part in the annual Fun Run at the City of Perris April 21 came out for a variety of reasons.

Hard-core runners had their eyes on turning in a fast time and prepped accordingly, stretching and loosening muscles, fine tuning them so that when the race began they were more than ready.

Casual joggers enjoyed the energy and atmosphere generated by the large and enthusiastic turnout, which numbered closed to 1,000.

Those who walked enjoyed taking the course nice and easy.

But in the end, all shared one sentiment: supporting of an active lifestyle.

On the day of the City's 6th Annual Health Fair, an event that included health-screenings, numerous fitness demonstrations and lots of prize giveaways, the Fun Run remained one of the most anticipated events as wave after wave of runners tackled the 5-kilometer, 3.2-mile course which began at the newly widened Perris Boulevard and San Jacinto Boulevard intersection.

Mayor Pro-Tem Malcolm Corona, who has experience as a cross-country coach and avid runner David Starr Rabb led the contingent of elected Perris representatives. Both finished the course in about 25 minutes.



Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Malcolm Corona (left) and City Councilman David Starr Rabb (right) with other competitors who finished the 5-K Fun Run on April 21.

Mayor Michael Vargas commented on how excited the City was to partner with the Perris Elementary School District on the Fun Run. It was another great example of community engagement, he said. And Vargas stressed on the importance of healthy eating and exercise for all Perris residents.

Perris resident Marta Maya is one of those health-conscious folks. Maya has taken part in a series of hikes sponsored by the City prior to the Health Fair and so her presence at the Fun Run was a given.

"I like to run and I like the socialization of events like the Fun Run," she said.

Crossing the finish line first was a family of teen-agers who attend Perris High School.

Diego Sanchez, 14, crossed the finish line first in a time of 18-minutes 17-seconds. Following right behind in second place was David Sanchez, 17, and in third, Bryan Becerra, 17, crossed the line.

Becerra summed up the motive his family took part: "We come to these events to represent the City as runners."

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