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**Visitors** 

 $Eighty-five\ entries, hundreds\ of\ participants, classic\ cars\ carrying\ dignitaries, throngs\ of\ onlookers, sun-drenched$ 

Perris Mayor Michael Vargas took to foot during the annual Christmas Parade, greeting residents and visitors while walking down D Street with members of his family.

weather conditions and an abundance of good cheer made for another memorable City of Perris Holiday Parade. The 29th annual parade December 9 made its way along D Street, turning the historic avenue into a cornucopia of color, sound and pageantry, capped off by the appearance of Santa Claus riding in the last float. There were marching

bands, some as far away as Norwalk and Pomona, belting out holiday classics while processing in cadence. The parade featured Perris elected representatives walking and roller-skating the route, chatting with the crowd and

exchanging holiday greetings. Church groups urged the audience to remember the religious aspects of the season and attend church services. About 20 Mexican "charros" and their dancing horses pranced their way down the parade, drawing cheers of appreciation from the onlookers.



Perris Mayor Michael Vargas called the festivities another great example of community engagement.

"It's awesome to keep this great tradition going," Vargas said. "We've got families with kids and we're getting bands from all over this region to take part in our parade. The word is getting out about Perris. There are so many adults and kids watching and taking part in this parade. It's a great time. Everybody's young at heart at Christmas!"

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem continued his holiday tradition by roller-skating the route of the City's 29th annual Christmas Parade.

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem David Starr Rabb continued his tradition of navigating the parade route on roller skates.

"This is the signature event for the City and one I look forward to every year," he said. "Everybody in our City comes out to take part. People from all walks of life are here. This parade showcases our City."



City Councilwoman Tonya Burke hailed the parade as an event that "brings people from all religious and cultural backgrounds together."

"One of our main goals is to make sure we engage our community," Burke said. "We as a City Council are always supportive of events that bring the community together. Having a place to come to celebrate the season with others is what makes me most proud."

Family fun

City Councilman Malcolm Corona attended with his wife, Mila, and 2-year-old son, Malcolm, and family dog, Marty.

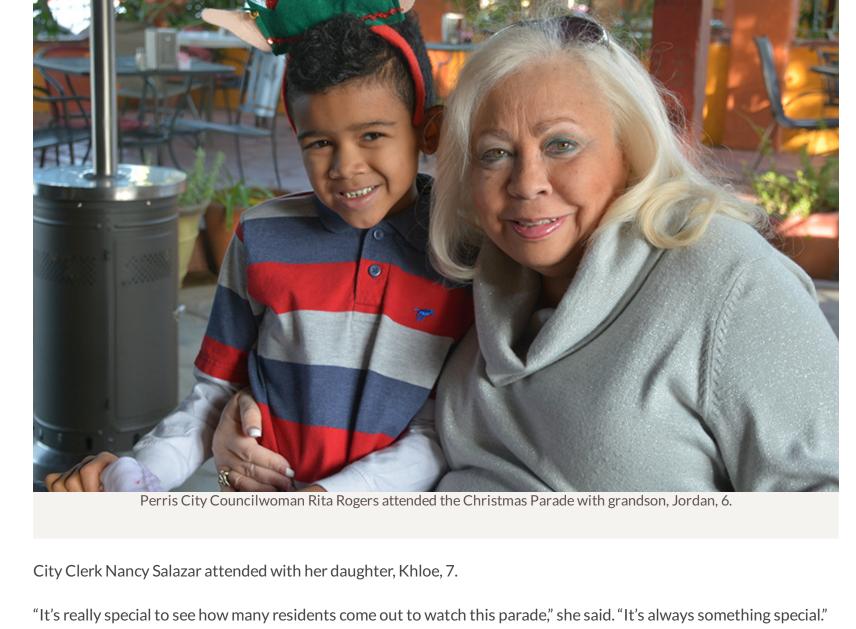


 $the \, veterans' \, groups, the \, Charros-they're \, all \, here. \, The \, weather \, is \, perfect. \, The \, City \, gets \, to \, show \, off \, the \, best \, of \, what \, constant \, cons$ we have to offer. It's great entertainment for our families." City Councilwoman Rita Rogers attended with her grandson, Jordan.

"It's a great day for a parade and a great time to be here with my family," Corona said. "The bands, the marching groups,

"It's always great to have the community come out and support our Christmas Parade," she said. "The City take pride in inviting bands, floats and other entries to participate. We're looking forward to a wonderful celebration in the

Christmas spirit."



Asked what she liked most about the event, Salazar said: "Seeing all the excitement with the kids and the schools that participate."



said. "I like the small-town feel of Perris. I like the hospitality."



This year's event, for example, drew participants from Los Angeles County, Moreno Valley, Menifee, Nuevo, Romoland and Lake Elsinore. "This is a wonderful event that keeps getting better every year," Ashley said. "It's wonderful to come to Perris to

called the Christmas parade a milestone event for Perris and one that keeps getting bigger and better every year.

celebrate the holidays."



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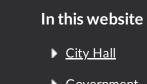
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