



Report to the People

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Commerce resident Connie Garcia talks to a potential employer at the Citadel-EBDC Job Fair.

CITADEL OUTLETS, COMMERCE EBDC HOST JOB FAIR

To connect job seekers with local employers, the Citadel Outlets and the City of Commerce Employment and Business Development Center (EBDC) hosted a job fair which drew nearly 5,000 people to the Citadel on Sept. 21.

Job seekers like 19-year-old Tony Garcia walked the length of the Citadel's thoroughfares to apply for jobs with some of the 75 participating employers, which included on site retail stores, such as Guess and Nike. "My goal is to get a job to get experience and better myself for the future," said Garcia, who attended the fair with two of his friends, all recent graduates of area high schools.

Other job seekers like Commerce resident Connie Garcia, who has an extensive back-

ground in human resources, were looking for long term employment opportunities. "I'm handing out resumes and seeing what's available," she said.

Participating organizations ranged from public sector employers including the Los Angeles County Clerk's Office and Sheriff's Department to businesses such as Housewares International and Penske Motor Group.

Amongst the diverse employers there was also a wide range of opportunities. "We have more to offer than just sales positions. We have entry level valet and cashier jobs, as well as openings in information technology and accounting," said Penske's Human Resources Manager Jill Brooks.

The Citadel, who cospon-

sored the event, hired 10 people on the spot for jobs that included customer service, custodians, security officers and maintenance workers. "We participated in this job fair because many of our stores need employees but we also love partnering with the City. It's a win-win situation because everyone benefits," said Susan Jennrich, General Manager of the Citadel Outlets.

Joe Diaz who is a case manager for the City of Los Angeles Community Development Department brought a group of young adults from the Boyle Heights Technology Center, which helps youth reach their education, employment, and personal development goals.

"These young people have a

See **Job Fair** page 8

CITY COUNCIL HONORS RETIREES

The City Council honored City employees--including one with more than 39 years of service, who retired in September under an early retirement incentive plan. "They are all wonderful men and women who worked hard in public service for the benefit of residents and workers here in the community," said City Administrator Jorge Rifa, at the Sept. 20 Council meeting.

As Rifa praised the services of Jim "JJ" Jimenez, Sandra Enriquez, Robert Chavez, Mark Cutting, Brian Wolfson and Evelyn Fullmore, the mayor presented each with a plaque and council members offered their congratulations. Martha Philippoff, Carol Ann Eula and Martha Urrea, who also opted for early retirement, were unable to attend.

All of the retirees contributed to making the City a better place to live and work.

A 39-year City employee and 55-year resident, Jimenez began as a part-time locker attendant in 1972. He moved up the ladder to become the director of Parks and Recreation in 1998. Commerce was inducted to the International Swimming Hall of Fame, earned numerous championships and created Olympic champions under his leadership.

Eula, like Jimenez, has been a Commerce resident her entire life. A 34-year employee, she was first hired as a part-time clerk in 1977 and eventually worked her way up to library data specialist. She had a genuine enthusiasm for the job and was known to arrive to work early and rarely call out sick.

Enriquez, a 30-year employee, grew up in Commerce. First hired as a seasonal recreation leader, she eventually became a community center supervisor in 1991. Known for her creativity, she was the force behind backdrops used in more than a decade of preschool graduation ceremonies.

Chavez is yet another hometown success story. A 26-year employee, Chavez was hired as a social services coordinator in

See **Retirees** page 8

BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS PRESENTED TO HOME, INDUSTRY OF THE YEAR



Commerce's 2011 Home of the Year.

Ricardo and Rosalba Reyes earned the Commerce Home of the Year award, while Zemarc Corporation received the Industry of the Year title.

"I'm very happy," said Rosalba Reyes. This is the first time she and her husband received the honor.

"Keeping the house clean is the most important thing," she

said. She hopes other residents will follow her example. Tim Pritchard, director of Operations for Zemarc, was also delighted.

"We're pretty excited. It's a big deal around here," he said. This is the second time Zemarc received the award.

He said that beautifying property not only helps the value go up, it encourages other busi-

nesses to follow suit.

The Reyes family received a \$100 gift certificate and a plaque at the Sept. 20 City Council meeting. Zemarc Corporation received a plaque and large plant.

The Home and Industry of the Year contests are sponsored by the Community Development Department.

As Thanksgiving Day approaches, we are reminded of all the things we should be thankful for, such as our families, our friends, our homes, our health and the opportunities and freedom we enjoy as Americans.

We are also grateful to be living and working in the wonderful City of Commerce. It's a close-knit community with a strong sense of pride and family. It is a City, where residents and businesses work together for the common good. It's a service-oriented City, with a wide variety of programs and services tailored to the needs of the community. It is also a City with an abundance of talented, hardworking and dedicated individuals who make a difference in the lives of others.

The City Council recently honored Commerce resident and City employee Landon Cadenas who rescued a woman trapped in a burning vehicle during an accident that occurred in August. If you followed the story in the news, you know that Landon pulled a woman from an SUV engulfed in flames. It was a selfless act that he performed at great risk and danger to himself. We are all proud of Landon. He is a Commerce hero.

Congratulations to the nine City employees who retired in September. They are Jim Jimenez, Carol Ann Eula, Sandra Enriquez, Martha Urrea, Robert Chavez, Mark Cutting, Brian Wolfson, Evelyn Fullmore and Martha Philippoff. They have worked for Commerce from 5 to 39 years. Each one contributed to making Commerce a better place to live and work and we appreciate the dedication and service they provided. We wish them a happy retirement.

I am also pleased to announce that the following employees have been appointed and assigned interim duties and responsibilities: Loretta Gutierrez, Interim Director of Community Services; Beatriz Sarmiento, Interim Director of Libraries; Scott Wasserman, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation; Fernando Mendoza, Interim Public Information Officer and Mark Cutting, Interim Code Enforcement Supervisor/Community Safety Specialist Supervisor.

Join us in honoring our U.S. military personnel and veterans at a Veterans Day Ceremony at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 11, at Veterans Memorial Park. All local veterans and those currently serving our country are invited to stand up and be recognized. Let's show our veterans and active military personnel how much we appreciate their sacrifice and service. City Hall and libraries will be closed that day.

The Community Services Department is accepting donations for its Holiday Cheer Program. Donors can contribute food, funds, clothing, toys, gift certificates and/or pledge to sponsor families. The deadline for Thanksgiving donations is Nov. 15 and the deadline for Christmas donations is Dec. 9.

Seniors 50 years and older or individuals with chronic illnesses can receive free flu shots at the Senior Center starting at 9 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 9. The flu shots are provided by the LA County Health Department Flu Shot Clinic.

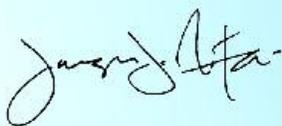
November is American Diabetes Month and the American Diabetes Association is encouraging Americans to help stop diabetes by learning about its prevention and control. Nearly 26 million children and adults are afflicted with the disease in the U.S., according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Latinos have a greater risk for diabetes. Visit the American Diabetes Association website at www.diabetes.org for more information.

Daylight Saving Time ends on Nov. 6. Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour.

City Hall and libraries will be closed on November 24 and 25 in commemoration of the Thanksgiving holiday.

On behalf of the Commerce City Council and all of your City employees, we wish you a safe and Happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Jorge Rifá




MUNICIPAL NOTES

FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYERS CONGRATULATED



Commerce First-Time Home Buyer program participant Myrna Escobar is pictured here with her children and Housing Program representatives Viviana Molinar (l.) and Zoe Urrutia (r.).

New homeowners, who were able to purchase their first home through the Commerce First-Time Homebuyer Program, were acknowledged by the City Council on Sept. 20.

Myrna and Daniel Escobar, Luis Manuel Mendez, Mario Colonel and Laura Miranda who were selected to receive up to \$150,000 in down payment assistance through a First-Time Homebuyer Program lottery, were publicly congratulated on their new status as homeowners.

Myrna Escobar grinned from ear-to-ear as she accepted a house warming plant from the City Council and posed for photos with her family.

The Mendez, Miranda and Coronel families were unable to attend, but Coronel thanked the City through an email, which was read by City Clerk Linda Kay Olivieri.

"My parents and I have been residents for 48 years. Now to have my own home in this great City is an overwhelming joy. What a great opportunity for local residents. I hope this program continues so that other residents can achieve the American dream of home ownership," he wrote in the email.

The Escobar's purchased a home in The Village neighborhood, Mendez and Coronel purchased homes in Rosewood Park, and Miranda purchased a home in the Rosini neighborhood.

The First-Time Homebuyer Program was approved by the City Council in 2010 to assist low-to-moderate income families with purchasing a new home.



COUNCIL ACTIONS

Regular Meeting of September 20

- Donated the Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) System to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.
- Approved a request for proposal for the interior and exterior painting of the Commerce Transportation Service Center.
- Approved a request for proposal for installation of security cameras at Bristow Park.
- Approved revisions to the City's policy and procedures for installation of on-street physically challenged accessible spaces as they relate to curbside handicapped parking permits.
- Approved a recognized obligation payment to the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller under the AB 27 Voluntary Alternative Program in order to permit the continued existence and operation of the Commerce Community Development Commission.
- Adopted a resolution approving a representation and fee agreement letter with the law firm of Rutan and Tucker, LLP as it relates to AB26 and AB27 requiring that each redevelopment agency in the state be dissolved unless the community that created it enacts an ordinance committing to payments.
- Adopted a resolution amending Resolution No. 93-7 and the Personnel Policies and Procedures relating to absenteeism and job abandonment.
- Approved an agreement with Bob's Tow Company for the collection of vehicle impound service fees for vehicles impounded within City limits.
- Adopted a resolution authorizing the City Clerk to set the time, date and place for a public hearing regarding the vacation of a portion of Sheila Street.
- Adopted a resolution approving the second amendment to the City of Commerce Public Agency Retirement Services Supplemental Retirement Plan.
- Approved a 3-year agreement with Nationwide Environmental Services of Norwalk, CA in the amount of \$121,206.24 annually for street sweeping services.
- Approved plans and specifications for the Safe Route to School Improvements and to authorize the Community Development Department to advertise for bids.
- Directed staff to convene a workshop between the City Council, Planning Commission, Environmental Justice Advisory Task Force and the Commerce Industrial Council on a Green Policy/Green Zone concept.
- Adjourned in memory of Elaine Kirchner, longtime member of the Montebello-Commerce YMCA Board of Managers; Olga Flores, longtime Commerce resident and former City employee; Maria Del Carmen Duarte, mother of City employee Samuel Duarte; Janis Ann Leyden, mother of City

employee Darryl Leyden; Manuel Alvarez, father-in-law of City employee Martha Alvarez; Mike Mace, brother of City employee Brendan Mace; and Henry Harkema, former City of Paramount Councilmember and former Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board Member.

Regular Meeting of October 4

- Honored Commerce Assistant Water Polo Coach Jennie Jacobsen-Huse in recognition of her induction into the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame.
- Proclaimed October 2011 as Crime Prevention Month in the City of Commerce.
- Approved a formal letter of support for the continued operation of the State of California Youth Authority Norwalk Facility.
- Adopted a resolution approving a professional services agreement with Wells Fargo Insurance Services USA, Inc. in the amount of \$4,000 to provide advisement to the City regarding implementation of the City's retiree health care programs and to develop a plan to address active employee and retiree needs.
- Adopted a resolution approving the first amendment to the agreement of purchase and sale between the City of Commerce and Vons REIT, Inc.
- Adopted a resolution approving a grant of easement between Southern California Edison and the City of Commerce.
- Approved a street closure of Stevens Place and a portion of the alley directly behind Steven's Steakhouse for the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Substation's Annual Benefit Ride for Fallen Officers.
- Adopted a resolution approving an agreement with Municipal Revenue Advisors for revenue enhancement consulting services.

Report to the People

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Please call (323) 887-4453 or (323) 887-4447 or visit us online at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.

LOCAL HERO HONORED

LONGTIME RESIDENT SAVES LIFE OF ACCIDENT VICTIM



Commerce hero Landon Cadenas is pictured here with Miss Galaxy Natalie Contreras at Community Galaxy Night.

Longtime Commerce resident and City employee Landon Cadenas, 28, was honored by the Commerce City Council on Oct. 4 for his heroic actions that saved the life of a woman involved in a car accident.

When exiting the Santa Ana Freeway in Buena Park on the evening of Aug. 8 he saw a Ford Excursion

sport utility vehicle turned on its side, which had caught fire. Cadenas immediately pulled over and investigated. He learned from a bystander that a woman was in the car so he sprinted to the vehicle.

Once there he found the woman trapped in the vehicle by her seatbelt. While the vehicle burned, Cadenas worked to disentangle her from the seatbelt. According to Cadenas, it took him about a minute to free her after which he lifted her through the window and moved her to a safe location.

Cadenas said within seconds of moving her away from the vehicle it began to make noises that sounded like gun shots and then it burst into flames. Cadenas said he later learned that of the five victims in the accident only two survived, one of which was the woman that Cadenas rescued.

Cadenas, who is a part-time recreation leader for the City, was also honored at Commerce Community Galaxy Night on Sept. 17 in front of a crowd of 23,000 people. The City of Commerce is extremely proud of Landon and commends him for his heroic actions.



For Safety's Sake

Holiday Shopping Safety Tips
from the L.A. County Sheriff's Department

The following are a few extra precautions you can take during the holiday season to help ensure that you have the safe celebration you deserve:

Shopping Safety Tips:

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, park in a well lighted area, go with a friend or family member and ensure that you tell someone where you are going and when you intend to return.
- Try to shop when it is less crowded.
- Dress casually and comfortably. Reducing stress during shopping can increase your awareness and safety.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry if possible. Save it for your family gathering.
- Don't carry a purse or wallet if it can be avoided.
- Always carry your California Driver License or an Identification Card.
- Stay alert to your surroundings and always be ready to provide your location.
- Always carry a cell phone and have local emergency numbers available.
- Keep cash or wallets in your front pocket.
- Keep your credit account information and phone numbers in a safe place and immediately report any lost, stolen or misused cards.
- Make sure you keep an eye on your credit card when it is being processed and make sure you get it back after the transaction.
- ALWAYS keep an eye on your children or if possible leave them at home with a responsible adult. If you must bring them, have another adult with you who can watch them while you are conducting a transaction.
- Teach children to stay by you and what to do if they lose sight of you.
- Be prepared to provide complete information about your children to law enforcement in the event of an emergency.
- Immediately report any suspicious activity.

Getting Money:

While using an ATM machine during the holidays you should be extra alert:

- Use them during daylight hours if possible. If not, pick a well lighted and populated area.
- Have a friend or family member with you.
- Protect your personal identification number (PIN).
- Be aware of your surroundings and look around for anyone acting suspiciously at or near the machine before you use it.
- Never help others at an ATM machine.
- Be prepared to make your transaction. Do not stand at the machine figuring out deposits.

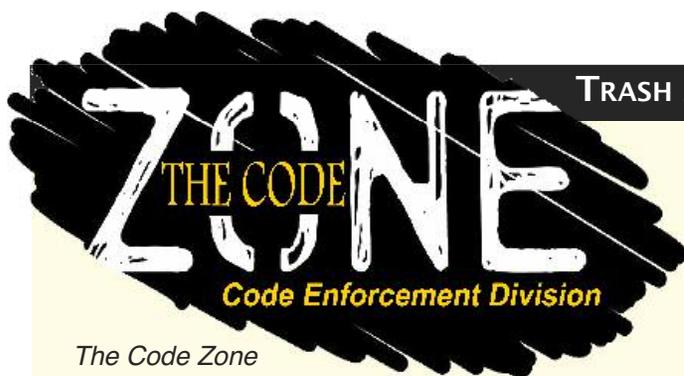
Parking:

- Park in well lighted areas and as close to the establishment as possible.
- Make note of where you parked your vehicle.
- Walk with a friend or relative.
- Leave with large "friendly" groups.
- Lock your vehicle.
- Keep all valuables, including items you just purchased, out of view. Use your trunk if possible.

Parties or Social Gatherings:

- Plan carefully and well in advance.
- Celebrate responsibly.
- If you drink alcoholic beverages - Always have a designated driver or make arrangements to stay where you are at.
- Avoid celebrating with gunfire at anytime.

For more information on holiday or neighborhood safety, contact Crime Prevention Coordinator Laura Tilley at (323) 887-4460. To report crime call the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station at (323) 264-4151. In an emer-



TRASH AND RECYCLING CONTAINERS

out in public view and states these containers may only be left out for scheduled waste collection.

To Comply with the Code:

- Place waste and recycling waste cans and containers out no earlier than the evening before a scheduled collection day.
- Bring waste and recycling cans and containers in the evening on the day of the scheduled collection day.

In addition, when garbage cans, waste containers, and recycling containers are stored, every attempt should be made to remove them from public view. There are of course reasonable exceptions, such as a corner lot with a chain link fence which does not offer any sort of backyard screening.

Storing waste containers in the driveway, or in most cases, anywhere in the front or side yard is not acceptable. Storing waste containers on the street to save a parking space is never acceptable.

Municipal code and ordinance violations are misdemeanor offenses that are punishable by costly fines and other serious sanctions, such as jail and probation. Codes and ordinances are designed to protect the public welfare and maintain the beauty of the community. So be a good neighbor, follow the code, and help keep Commerce beautiful.

The Code Zone is a new column that reports on zoning and municipal code issues brought to you by the Code Enforcement Division as part of the 'Keep Commerce Beautiful Initiative.' This section is designed to educate the community in an effort to improve and maintain clean, attractive neighborhoods in the City of Commerce.

The Commerce Code Enforcement Division regularly receives complaints of trash cans left out in public view and on the public right of ways such as sidewalks, parkways, and streets for periods longer than necessary for scheduled waste collection.

Leaving waste cans and recycling containers out for more than 24 hours before or after a scheduled collection detracts from the appearance of the community and is a violation of the City Code. The Commerce Municipal Code section 9.32.040(a) (15) addresses waste containers, and recycling containers



TIS THE SEASON TO THINK GREEN

The holidays are a time to give thanks for all that we have and cherish. This time of year also provides an opportunity to reduce, reuse and recycle all those extra things we use during the holidays. Here are a few tips on how to help our environment during the holiday season:

Holiday Parties

- Cook the Thanksgiving turkey and all the side dishes in reusable cookware.
- Recycle all food containers such as glass jars, tin cans, and drink containers.
- Use re-usable table linens, plates and utensils instead of disposable items.

- Set out recycling containers for all bottles and cans during parties.

Holiday Shopping

- Buy Christmas gifts, wrapping and cards that have recycled content.
- Take canvas tote bags to stores to use as shopping bags.
- Plan your shopping trips. Combine as many errands as possible. Cars turned off for over an hour emit about 5 times more pollution than a warm car.
- Clean out your closets and donate reusable items to charity.

LIBRARY NEWS

COLLEGE FAIR MOTIVATES AND SUPPORTS LOCAL STUDENTS



50th District Assemblyman Ricardo Lara at the Commerce to College Fair.

"Si se puede!" said Assemblyman Ricardo Lara of the 50th District to a packed gymnasium of more than 800 students and their family members at the 6th Annual Commerce to College Fair held at Veterans Park on Sept. 17.

"Only in America can the son of a seamstress go to college, rise up through the system and become an assemblyman representing more than half a million people," said Lara who encouraged the students to prepare for college and success. As the 50th District Assemblyman, Lara represents nine cities, which includes the City of Commerce.

Adding to the "Si se puede" or the "Yes I can" theme that resonated throughout the four-hour event, this year's fair featured academic support services available from the Commerce Public Library, free workshops for students and their families and representatives from 34 colleges and universities who were present along with representatives of the U.S. Army, Navy and other organizations offering opportunities for college-bound students.

College representatives provided free workshops for students preparing to go to college with information about financial aid, the California State University admission process, opportunities for undocumented students, and information for adults interested in attending college.

Commerce Library Director Evelyn Fullmore, who retired in September said, "It is important for local families to have access to college information. Their child may be the first person in their family to go to college, like our keynote speaker this year, Veronica Garcia, who is now a senior engineer at Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne."

Garcia, who holds mechanical engineering degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and Stanford works to get astronauts into space more safely. She talked about the many challenges she faced, including growing up in an overprotective family and how she overcame the fear she felt when she was accepted to MIT, where she went on to graduate.

Garcia shared her story and closed by encouraging students to go to college, overcome obstacles and to set the bar high. "Set the tone for the rest of the day and the rest your life. Don't underestimate what you're capable of. Surround yourself with people that have goals and care about you! Take action! Today is the day!"

The first 100 families who attended the fair received a free tote bag and the first 100 students received a "Commerce to College" t-shirt. Lunch was provided by the Library who also furnished several raffle prizes, which included backpacks with school supplies, graphing calculators, a Leapfrog Leapster computer learning system, an iPod Nano and Costco gift cards.

High school students who visited 15 college booths and attended a workshop were entered into a raffle for more backpacks with school supplies, and other prizes, which included a Samsung Galaxy tablet computer, gift cards and three netbook computers.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Laura Perez donated gift cards in gift bags with stuffed animals, which were raffled as well. Starbucks provided coffee and Commerce based Otis Spunkmeyer Bakeries provided muffins for the college representatives in the morning.

The Commerce to College Fair is sponsored every year by the Commerce Public Library System.



These students were excited to receive information about local university Cal State LA at the Commerce to College Fair.

LIBRARY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

College Guidance at the Commerce Library

The Commerce Public Library System is offering college guidance and assistance to Commerce residents through Commerce resident and volunteer Evelyn Diaz, a Counselor at Alliance College Ready Public Schools.

Diaz can assist students and their families in the following areas:

- Basic College Information
- Financial Aid
- FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- College Application

For more information or to make an appointment, call (323) 722-7323 ext. 2823.

In 'N Out Burger 'Cover to Cover Club'

Children can register for the In 'N Out Burger "Cover to Cover Club" Reading Program which continues until November 19 at all Commerce libraries.

To participate in the program, children register at their local library and receive a reading log. The child or parent writes the titles of books the child has read or an adult has read to them in their reading logs.

Once the child has read five books, the parent or guardian signs the reading log. When the reading log is turned in at the library the child receives a reading certificate and a coupon for a free hamburger or cheeseburger from In 'N Out Burger.

Each child can read up to fifteen books and receive three free coupons. The last day to register is Nov. 18 and the last day to report is Saturday, Nov. 19.

Curious George Pajama Storytimes

The Commerce Public Library System is giving young readers an opportunity to meet Curious George at this month's Pajama Storytimes.

Children and families are invited to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed animal to meet Curious George at the Commerce libraries for Pajama Storytimes at 6 p.m. on the following days:

Mon., Nov. 7 at Central; Tues., Nov. 8 at Atlantic; Wed., Nov. 9 at Greenwood & Thu., Nov. 10 at Bristow.

After each Storytime program, children can meet and take pictures with Curious George. Light refreshments will be served after each program.

'Santa's New Sleigh' Puppet Show

The 2011 Library Children's Holiday Program will feature "Santa's New Sleigh," a puppet show performed by the Franklin Haynes Marionettes at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 in the City Council Chambers.

After the show, children will visit with Santa Claus and be invited to enjoy a boxed lunch, courtesy of the Commerce Casino. The program is free, but advance tickets are recommended for this popular annual program.

Tickets will be available beginning at 1 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28 at all Commerce libraries. There is a limit of four tickets per family.

For more information on these and other Commerce Public Library System programs and services call your local Library.

City of Commerce

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS CONTEST

Categories for judging will be:

Best Use of Animation

(Live performances do not count toward scoring)

Most Creative/Original

Best Christmas Theme

Best Use of Lights

There will be one winner in each of the four categories and the winners will each receive a \$100 gift certificate.

Deadline for applications is Monday, December 19, at 6 p.m.

Date for judging is Thursday, December 22 rain or shine

All judging will be done by Beautification Committee members ONLY.

Judging will consist of decorations, lights, etc. on the outside of the residence. Judges will not enter the premises.

Applications will be available at City Hall after December 1

The contest is hosted by the Beautification Committee in conjunction with the Code Enforcement Division.

For more information, residents may call Vivian Kelley at (323) 722-4805 ext. 2838.



SWIMOUTLET.COM AWARD

COMMERCE WATER POLO PLAYER SELECTED ATHLETE OF THE MONTH



Commerce water polo player Steven Casas, 10, was selected SwimOutlet.com's Athlete of the Month for September 2011.

He is the first Commerce athlete to win the award according to Commerce Men's Water Polo Head Coach Bobby Contreras.

Contreras nominated Steven for his role on the 2011 SwimOutlet.com

Commerce resident Steven Casas, 10, was named SwimOutlet.com's Athlete of the Month by USA Water Polo.

/USA Water Polo Junior Olympics, where the Commerce 10 & under team earned a silver medal.

"He was a key factor in why they won that tournament," said Contreras. "He was holding up his end of

the deal."

Steven said he felt happy and excited about winning the award. He was also surprised because he had no idea he had been nominated.

Steven has assisted the Commerce 10 & under team in earning silver medals in the 2011 California Cup League, California Cup State Finals, US Club Championships and San Diego Cup; and gold medals in the Marc Rauchwarger Memorial Cup, Winterfest, and Coastal Zone Regional Championships.

Contreras believes that Steven will have a bright future ahead of him.

Steven's mom, Lupe Casas, said she didn't have the words to express how happy she was that her son was selected.

"I was proud, thankful, honored," said Casas.

The family has been involved with Commerce water polo for five years and Casas said she couldn't be happier with the program.

"I love it," said Casas. "Everything is great—the coaches, coaching staff. The program is awesome."

COMMERCE COACH FEATURED ON FINA WEBSITE

WOMEN'S WATER POLO COACH GABRIEL MARTINEZ RECOGNIZED



Gabriel Martinez.

which covers International swimming and water polo competition and news.

Commerce Women's Water Polo Coach Gabriel Martinez who is also the coach of the Fullerton College Women's Water Polo Team and Mexico's National Women's Water Polo Team was featured in an article on the Federation Internationale de Natation's (FINA) website,

When FINA asked Martinez what ignites his passion, he said, "Every year we (Commerce Women's Water Polo) compete in our national championships and we would enter the same age groups, and every year we would finish sixth or better at every age group. Some of the standout players I have worked with include Brenda Villa, Patty Cardenas, Jessica Lopez, Priscilla Orozco and Mary Ann Campos. I have worked with some very successful athletes, but what I am most proud of is in the last 10 years I have had 100% attend a college or university and the girls have graduated on time."

Martinez also talked about his experience coaching Mexican American players and his goals for the Mexican National Team, which features seven players from the City of Commerce. To read the article visit FINA's website at www.fina.org.

'GIRLOLOGY' GIRLS CLUB AT THE TEEN CENTER

NEW CLUB FOR PRE-TEEN AND TEEN GIRLS



The Teen Center's new GirlOlogy Club gives teen and preteen girls an opportunity to participate in activities, cultural excursions and volunteer efforts to help people in need.

GirlOlogy is a new club at the Teen Center where pre-teen and teen girls can meet new friends in a positive environment that includes cultural excursions and activities, as well as volunteer projects to help people and improve the environment.

GirlOlogy volunteer projects include the Year Round Project which benefits the Ronald McDonald House Charities to help families have a home away from home when their children are in the hospital.

They also have the 'Cozie Tosies' Volunteer Project in which club members are collecting sweaters, socks, scarves, hats, gloves and other clothing to donate to local family shelters.

Upcoming events and activities include:

- November 18-Teen and Pre Teen Thanksgiving Midnight Dinner
- November 19-Pre Teen Pershing Square ice skating trip
- November 30-Teen excursion to see "The Crucible" at the La Mirada Performing Arts Theater
- December 3-Teen Disneyland trip
- December 17-Pre Teen roller skating trip

Transportation is available for teens and preteens interested in joining GirlOlogy.

For more information, call (323) 264-4665 or come visit the Teen Center to check out what they have to offer.

CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



November 2011 Featured Highlights

AWARD WINNING CABLECASTS OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. (Live every 1st and 3rd Tues.), Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Thursdays at 5 p.m. & Saturdays at 9 a.m.

COMMERCE TURKEY TROT HIGHLIGHTS (AIRING 11-23-11)

Monday 10 a.m., Tuesday 3 p.m., Wednesday 5:30 p.m., Thursday 9:15 a.m., Friday 4:30 p.m., Saturday 6:15 p.m. & Sunday 5:30 p.m.

COMMERCE CITY NEWS

Commerce to College fair, Community Galaxy night, and the Citadel Job Fair

Monday 9 a.m. & 7 p.m., Tuesday 2 p.m. & 6 p.m. Wednesday 1 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m. & 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. & 1 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. & Sunday 9 a.m. & 5 p.m.

BELL GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Monday 2 p.m., Tuesday 4 p.m., Wednesday 4 p.m., Thursday 6 p.m., Friday 4 p.m., Saturday 3 p.m. & Sunday 1 p.m.

STEP AEROBICS CLASS

Monday 8 a.m., Tuesday 8 a.m., Wednesday 8 a.m., Thursday 10 a.m., Friday 8 a.m., Saturday 12 p.m. & Sunday 8 a.m.

"IN A COUNCIL MINUTE"

Featuring previous City Council meeting highlights Monday 5 p.m., Tuesday 10 a.m., Wednesday 9 a.m., Thursday 2 p.m., Friday 2:43 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. & Sunday 8 p.m.

TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES

"ANA TIJOUX"

Monday 12:30 p.m., Tuesday 11 a.m., Wednesday 12 p.m., Thursday 7 p.m., Friday 3 p.m., Saturday 1 p.m. & Sunday 11:43 a.m.

Commerce City Channel 3 offers DVD copies of local programs broadcast on channel 3 & 32 for \$10. Original shows include City Council Meetings, Public Affairs, Commerce City News, Commerce Park Concerts, Commerce Teen Plays and more. See the city channel replay schedule or go to www.ci.commerce.ca.us for more information.

Report to the People **COMMERCE GALLERY**

RETIRES HONORED



City employees who officially retired on Sep. 29 were honored by the City Council. From l. to r. are Brian Wolfson, Robert Chavez, Mark Cutting, Evelyn Fullmore, Sandie Enriquez and Jim Jimenez.

BRENDA VILLA ESPN PHOTO SHOOT



ESPN The Magazine came to the Aquatorium in October for a photo shoot of Commerce Olympian Brenda Villa for an upcoming feature titled, '6 Things You Didn't Know About Water Polo.'

INDUSTRIAL COUNCIL TRADE SHOW



Local businesses like The Citadel and Steven's Steak House participated in the Industrial Council's Annual Trade Show at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Pictured here is Joe Zarrahy of the Crowne Plaza.

FUTURE COLLEGIANS



Christian Hernandez and Brian Santis enjoying the Commerce to College Fair.

COMMERCE TO COLLEGE



More than 800 people attended the Commerce to College Fair.

COMMUNITY GALAXY NIGHT



Miss Galaxy Natalie Contreras poses for a picture at Commerce Community Galaxy Night held on Sept. 17 at the Home Depot Center in Carson.

BEAUTIFIED BUSINESS



The Beautification Committee selected Zemarc Corporation as the 2011 City of Commerce Industry of the Year for their property enhancements.

COLLEGE BOUND WINNERS



These Commerce to College Fair attendees won computers that will help them on their road to college.

CITADEL-COMMERCE JOB FAIR



The Citadel co-hosted the job fair and hired 10 people on the spot for security, custodian, customer service and maintenance positions.

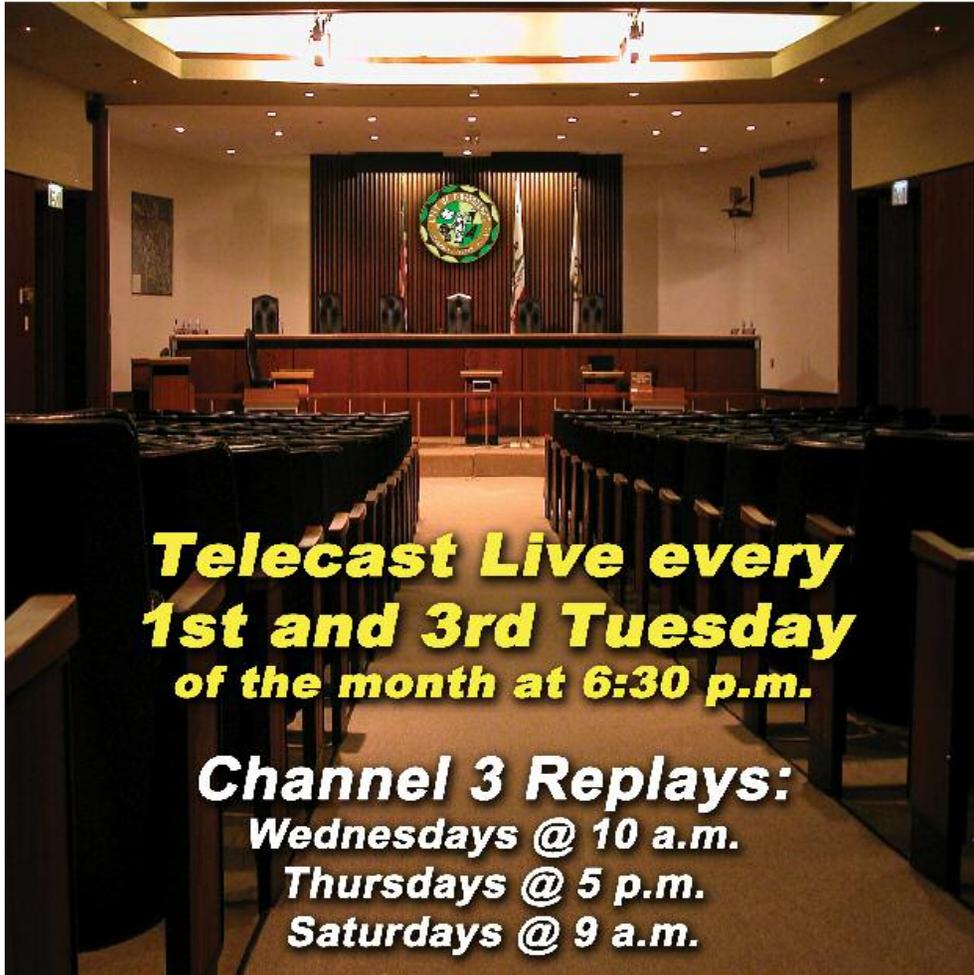
JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Nearly 5,000 job seekers came to the Citadel-Commerce job fair.

The City of Commerce Public Information Office-Cable Television Division
presents

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS



**Telecast Live every
1st and 3rd Tuesday
of the month at 6:30 p.m.**

**Channel 3 Replays:
Wednesdays @ 10 a.m.
Thursdays @ 5 p.m.
Saturdays @ 9 a.m.**

DVD copies of Commerce City Council Meetings can be checked out for free at your local Commerce Public Library. To purchase a DVD Copy for \$10, call the Public Information Office at (323) 887-4453.

THE CITY OF COMMERCE · DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL

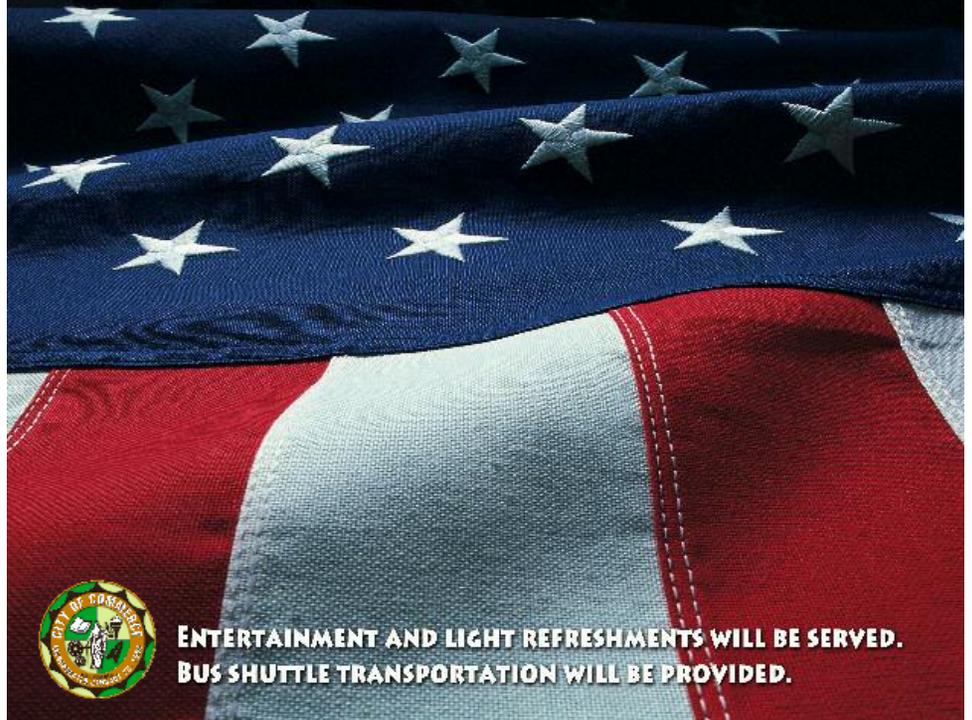
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

11.11.11

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2011

10:00 A.M.

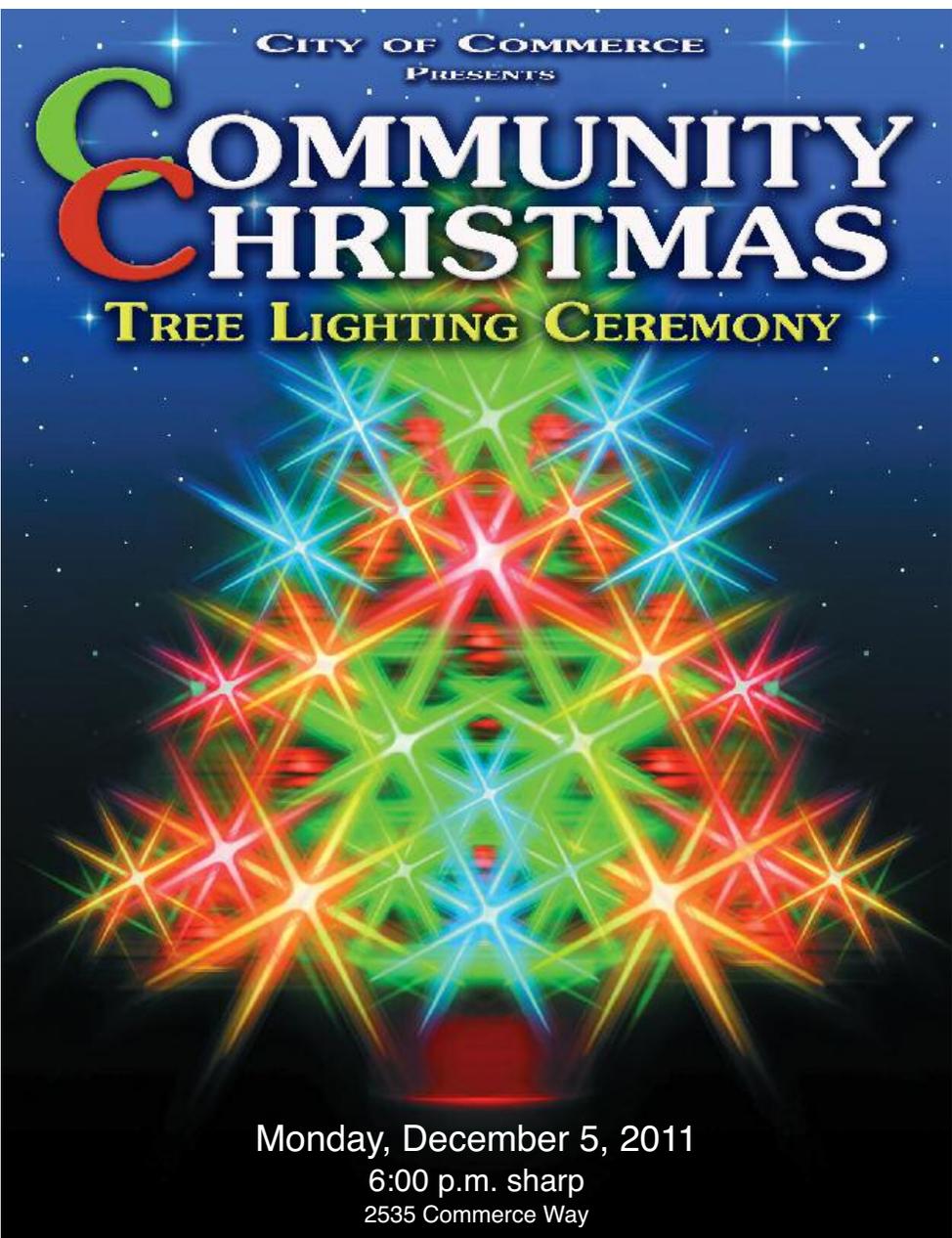
VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK
6364 ZINDELL AVE, COMMERCE



ENTERTAINMENT AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.
BUS SHUTTLE TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED.

CITY OF COMMERCE
PRESENTS

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY



Monday, December 5, 2011
6:00 p.m. sharp
2535 Commerce Way

Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition

The City of Commerce Department of Parks and Recreation
presents



2011 TURKEY TROT

Established 1991

Saturday, November 19

5K Run begins at 8:00 a.m. SHARP!

5K Course goes through the residential area of Rosewood Park
Awards for winners of each age group in the Men's and Women's Divisions.
Souvenir T- Shirts are available for a nominal fee.
Applications available at your local park or City Hall.

For more information, call the Sports Office at (323) 887-4432.

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COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



Joe Aguilar, Mayor
 Tina Baca Del Rio, Mayor Pro Tem
 Robert C. Fierro, Councilmember
 Lilia R. Leon, Councilmember
 Denise M. Robles, Councilmember



The Public Information Office welcomes your story ideas, suggestions, and opinions. Deadline for submission is the first of each month for publication the following month. For more information, call 323-887-4447

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JOB FAIR

CONT. FROM PAGE 1



A job seeker at the Citadel, Commerce Job Fair gets interviewed by Univision.

"These young people have a better chance of getting jobs by talking to employers and competing for opportunities in person at this Fair than staying at home and looking for jobs on the Internet," he said.

The Job Fair received media coverage from television and radio stations includ-

ing KPPC 89.3, KTTV Channel 11, Univision Channel 34 and KTLA Channel 5 that interviewed jobseekers, employers and City staff. "We have more jobs available for job seekers than we did last year, which is a real plus. That just shows me that the economy is getting a little better," said EBDC Representative Juan Muniz in an interview with KPPC. According to staff, employers filled about 250 jobs that day and many planned to hire people they made contact with at the event.

If you missed the fair, the Employment Business and Development Center can still help. In addition to job referral services, the EBDC also provides job preparation workshops, resume help, computer classes and much more. For more information, call the EBDC at (323) 887-4461.

RETIREES

CONT. FROM PAGE 1

social services coordinator in 1985 and moved up the ranks to become Community Services director. Chavez was instrumental in establishing programs to benefit youth and increase public safety including, the Commerce Scholarship Program, the Youth Diversion Program and the Community Task Force.

Urrea was a 36-year employee who started as a part-time library clerk and worked her way up to full-time branch library supervisor. Known for her dedication and cordialness, Urrea was instrumental to many library programs including Story Time, the Summer Reading Program and after school tutoring.

Cutting, a 14-year employee, was hired as a part-time Community Safety Specialist in 1996. His "can do" attitude and personal touch dealing with the community earned him the title of public safety supervisor in 1998. He will continue to work for the City as a part-time public

safety supervisor.

Wolfson was Commerce's public information officer for 12 years, overseeing the Public Information Office, Graphics Division and Cable TV Division. He established the broadcasting of Council meetings and the Commerce City News program and oversaw the Report to the People community newsletter.

As director of Library Services, Fullmore worked to provide a service and community-driven library. During her five years of service, internet access was made available at all Commerce libraries, online homework help usage increased, book clubs were established and Homework Help Centers became a permanent service.

Philippoff served as senior librarian for more than five years. In addition to helping patrons locate reference materials, she implemented the Commerce to College Fair, the SAT Workshop, the Digital Camera Workshop and Teen Biblioteca.



NOVEMBER DATES TO NOTE

1
 Day of the Dead Teen Program, Atlantic Library, 5 p.m.
City Council/CDC, 6:30 p.m.

2
 Senior Citizens Commission, 12:30 p.m.
 Teen Book Club, Greenwood Library, 4:30 p.m.
 Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.

3
 Parks and Recreation Commission, 6 p.m.

6
Daylight Saving Time Ends (turn clocks back one hour)

7
 Pajama Storytime, Central Library, 6 p.m.
 English Book Club, 6 p.m.
 Youth Advisory Commission, 7 p.m.

8
 Consolidated Election
 Beautification Committee, 3:30 p.m.
 Pajama Storytime, Atlantic Library, 6 p.m.
 I-710 Local Advisory Committee, 6:30 p.m.

9
 Community Task Force, 3 p.m.
 Teen Book Club, Bristow Park Library, 4:30 p.m.
 Pajama Storytime, Greenwood Library, 6 p.m.

10
 Community Services Commission, 6 p.m.
 Pajama Storytime, Bristow Park Library, 6 p.m.

11
Veterans Day, City Hall and Libraries Closed
 Veterans Day Ceremony, Veterans Park, 10 a.m.

14
 Education Commission, 6 p.m.

15
 Library Embajadores, 6 p.m.
City Council/CDC, 6:30 p.m.

16
 Employment Task Force, 1 p.m.
 Teen Book Club, Atlantic Library, 4:30 p.m.

19
 5K Turkey Trot, Rosewood Park, 8 a.m.

22
 Library Commission, 5:30 p.m.
 Teen Book Club, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.
 I-710 Local Advisory Committee, 6:30 p.m.

23
 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

24
Thanksgiving Day, City Hall and Libraries Closed

25
Thanksgiving Day Holiday, City Hall and Libraries Closed

28
 Winter Day Camp Registration begins
 Adult Computer Class, 5:30 p.m.
 Spanish Book Club, 6 p.m.

RTTP Artículos en Español

Si le interesa recibir la versión en Español de algún artículo, por favor llame a la Oficina de Información Pública al (800) 887-4442.

Cuando llame, indique el título del artículo, la fecha y la dirección de su domicilio o correo electrónico. La versión traducida se le mandará.

Happy Thanksgiving