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**Proud to Be an American** ACME made in America employees pose in front of a mural memorializing the victims of the 9/11 attacks, during a tribute held at their Commerce facility on Sept. 12. ACME made in America Founder and CEO Frank Di Grado commissioned the mural to honor the fallen 9/11 heroes and victims and to celebrate American liberty, freedom and pride.

## COMMERCE STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

### Mayor Addresses Business Community

While the national economy continues to struggle, Commerce continues to fare better than most other communities and officials are determined that the City remains strong and resilient, said the Mayor during the annual State of City Address to local businesses at the monthly Industrial Council Buy And Sell In Commerce (BASIC) Luncheon on Aug. 16.

"Commerce is maintaining its economic base better than most but we are still reducing expenditures," said the Mayor. "During the last three years we have cut the City's general fund by \$5 million and our revenues this fiscal year are about equal to the revenues in fiscal year 2006/2007." Because of the nation's slug-

gish recovery, the Mayor said he believed Commerce would run a deficit budget for the next few years which would result in continued reductions and adjustments. However, he said, City staff would make certain the City continues to provide the high quality programs and services residents and businesses have come to expect.

To close the budget gap this year, the City Council adopted a \$48.5 million budget and made a number of significant reductions. "These measures will help secure the financial viability of our City, now and into the future," said the Mayor.

One cost-saving measure was changing the reception area at City Hall to a self-service desk. "This is an example of the City Council using technology in

ways that enable City employees to retain their jobs and become more productive in other departments," he said.

The Mayor said that as the City continues to make steady progress, it will focus its efforts on improving its infrastructure, growing its economy, reducing blight and building relationships with the business community.

The Mayor also discussed the State's financial woes and its impact on local cities. He said the City's financial situation was hurt when Governor Brown signed AB1X26 and AB1X27 into law.

AB 1X26 eliminates redevelopment. AB 1X27 allows agencies to continue if they participate in a State Redevelopment Program and agree to pay the State \$1.7

See **State of the City** page 8

## NEW THREE-TIER RESIDENT CARD OPTIONS

To keep recreation programs affordable, the City Council authorized the creation of a three-tiered resident card that will allow residents to pay a one-time, flat fee that corresponds to their level of participation. In many cases the one-time flat fee is all that's needed to register for specific programs without additional fees.

The Basic Resident Card is \$10 and includes the use of park facilities like the Aquatorium and Veterans Park Fitness Rooms, participation in Teen Center and Senior Center classes and activities, park programs such as arts and crafts, board games, Halloween and Easter activities, adult golf program and weekend tournaments and after school activities. Residents with Basic Cards are on a "pay as you go" plan, which will require them to pay individual program fees as required.

The Plus Resident Card is \$35 and includes the above activities, admission to the Adult Holiday Fair, adult arts and crafts, ceramics, macramé, scrapbooking, Senior Center crafts, Aquatics water exercise, exercise classes at all parks, Preschool and Tiny Tots, Senior Center paid programming activities, City-wide special events, recreational sports and Teen Center paid programming activities.

The Premier Resident Card is \$60 and includes the same activities as the Plus card, and competitive sports teams, such as water polo and swim team, baseball, volleyball, basketball, soccer, boxing, dance, and karate.

Additional fees will continue to be charged for Kids Club, Day Camp, youth and adult excursions, youth and adult swim lessons, recreational swim, Camp Commerce, table and chair rentals and meeting rooms.

A payment plan is available for patrons wishing to pay with a credit card over a period of less than six months.

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at (323) 887-4434.

## KEEP COMMERCE BEAUTIFUL ENCOURAGES CIVIC PRIDE

The Keep Commerce Beautiful Committee is working to find creative ways to beautify the community and encourage volunteers to make Commerce more attractive.

Longtime resident Mary Gibson cares about keeping Commerce beautiful. "It leaves a good impression and lets people know you care," she said.

Her concern for beautification motivated her to volunteer for a cleanup organized by the Citadel Outlets in August. She joined a group of volunteers, City officials and business volunteers who gathered at dawn to pick up trash, aluminum cans, weeds and debris near a vacant office building on Telegraph Road between the

Citadel Outlets and the Commerce Casino/Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Gibson said she was happy to help and that, "It looked really good."

"If you want to keep something beautiful, you have to get it that way first," said Gibson.

She added that an easy way to keep the City clean is to pick

up the trash one generates. "If you drop, pick it up and put it in the trash," said Gibson.

The City received its Keep America Beautiful membership certification in January.

As a KAB affiliate, Commerce joins a large network of cities that are working together with volunteers to improve their communities.

City council members and I had the pleasure of attending a 9/11 tribute held in September at ACME made in America, a design and build company based in Commerce. During the tribute, a spectacular 50 foot by 20 foot mural memorializing the victims of the September 11 attacks was unveiled. The mural was painted by Danny Alvarado and featured the American flag and American eagle, with the World Trade Center twin towers in the background. "Remember the Past, Honor the Future" and "Proudly Made in America" are among the phrases painted on the mural. (See photo on page 1) ACME made in America founder and CEO Frank DiGrado commissioned the mural to honor the fallen victims and heroes of 9/11 and also to remind us to uphold and appreciate the values that Americans hold dear. All in attendance were moved by Mr. DiGrado's patriotism and his praise of America. On behalf of the City Council, we thank ACME made in America for allowing us to join them in commemorating 9/11 with this special mural.

The fate of redevelopment agencies is still on hold. The California Supreme Court is set to decide in January the constitutionality of AB1X26 and AB1X27, two bills passed as part of the State budget in June which will severely cripple or eliminate redevelopment. Commerce will participate in the State's Voluntary Redevelopment Program so that our redevelopment agency can keep operating. Redevelopment has helped Commerce generate more than 10,000 jobs by attracting businesses like The Citadel Retail Outlets, Costco, Home Depot, Smart and Final, and the Crowne Plaza Hotel. We have also used redevelopment funds to improve the City's infrastructure and facilities. The Citadel Outlets is an example of how redevelopment funds turned an abandoned manufacturing plant into a major shopping center which generates thousands of jobs and millions in revenue. The Vista del Rio neighborhood shows how redevelopment can be used to transform a blighted site into a thriving residential community. Redevelopment is vital to our City and we will continue to fight to preserve it.

Our Commerce to College Fair, held in September was a tremendous success and we were pleased to see the interest our students at all grade levels show for attaining a college education. We hope local students gained the information and encouragement needed to take action and go to college.

Just a reminder that the City has switched to a three-tier Resident Activity Card system. Residents now have the option of choosing either a Basic, Plus or Premier Resident Activity Card based on their level of participation. The City Council approved the three-tier system in June to make sure recreation programs were available at an affordable cost. For more information, call the Department of Parks and Recreation at (323) 887-4434.

Just a reminder that residents needing assistance during the holidays may register for the annual Holiday Cheer Program beginning Oct. 6 at the Community Services Department. Please call the department at 323/887-4460 for more details.

Also, trick or treaters can participate in the Halloween Costume Parades held at all parks on Halloween Oct. 31. Have a safe and fun Halloween.

Sincerely,  
 Jorge Rifa



## MUNICIPAL NOTES

### RESIDENTS NEEDED

Residents interested in serving on a City committee or commission should check the public notice board located outside of the entrance to the Council Cham-

ber foyer. Committee and commission vacancies are posted as they occur. For more information, call the City Clerk's Office at (323) 722-4805.

### COUNCIL APPROVES SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLAN

To reduce labor costs and reduce the impact on the City's budget during the current financial recession, the City Council approved a Supplementary Retirement Plan at their regular meeting on August 6.

The plan, similar in scope to one approved last year, was approved with a total of nine participating employees in good standing. They are Community Services Director Robert Chavez, Community Safety Supervisor Mark Cutting, Library Director Evelyn Fullmore, Senior Librarian Martha Phillippoff, Branch Library Supervisor Martha Urrea, Library Database Specialist Carol Ann Eula, Parks and Recreation Director Jim Jimenez, Recreation Center Supervisor

Sandie Diaz and Public Information Officer Brian Wolfson.

City staff has projected an annual savings of \$670,000 after adjustments for a payout of accumulated leave is subtracted this year.

As part of the plan the City Council also approved a transition plan, which is being phased in to minimize disruption in delivery of programs and services to residents.

The City would like to commend these retiring employees for their dedicated service to the City of Commerce and wish them well in their future endeavors.

### COUNCIL ACTIONS

#### Regular Meeting of August 1

- Commended Former Paramount Councilmember Henry Harkema on his 100th birthday.
- Authorized staff to request proposals for consulting services to develop affordable housing guidelines.
- Authorized staff to request proposals for consulting services to assist with new case tracking software and data for the City's code enforcement program.
- Adopted the updated program application and guidelines for the City's Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant Program.
- Approved a resolution adopting the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program participation goals for submission to the Federal Transit Administration.
- Received and filed a report from the I-710 Project Team including Alternative M and made recommendations to ensure that issues and concerns of the industrial/business community and residents are addressed.
- Approved the Council workshop on electronic displays.
- Received and filed a report on an upcoming City Council Code Enforcement Workshop.
- Awarded a street sweeping contract to Dickson Co., Inc. of Downey.
- Amended the City's three-tiered resident card program and the camp Commerce senior citizens sessions and fees.
- Appointed committee and commission members.
- Approved an ordinance complying with the State's Voluntary Alternative Redevelopment Program to keep the Commerce Redevelopment Agency operating.
- Approved a resolution authorizing the purchase and sale agreement for a portion of Boxford Avenue north of Slauson Avenue and for joint Escrow instructions with Vons Companies.
- Adjourned in memory of Guadalupe Ortega, mother of City employee Marco Ortega. Also in memory of Reggie Rodriguez, son of City employee Maryanne Perez, brother-in-law of City employee Marie Rodriguez and cousin of City employee Anthony Aguilar. Also in memory of Andres Robles father-in-law of Council member Denise Robles and grandfather to City employees Angela Sandoval and Joe Sandoval.

- Approved a commendation for Landon Cadenas for an act of heroism for saving individuals from a burning vehicle.
- Approved a resolution finding the City to be in conformance with the Congestion Management Program and adopting the CMP Local Development Report in accordance with California Government Code Section 65089.
- Approved an assignment agreement between CWS Utility Services and the California Water Service Company regarding the City Water Lease Agreement.
- Approved scheduling a presentation on the California PACE Program for business energy and water efficiency updates.
- Appointed commission and committee members.
- Adopted an ordinance complying with the State's Voluntary Alternative Redevelopment Program.
- Approved for first reading an amendment to the Commerce Municipal Code's procedure for impounding dangerous animals. Appeals to impoundment will be made to the City Administrator instead of the City Council.
- Awarded a professional services agreement for construction management services to Swinteron Management and Consulting.
- Approved a resolution awarding a contract to Ron's Maintenance, Inc. for the maintenance and repair of the City's catch basin screen inserts.
- Appointed Claude McFerguson director of Transportation.

#### Regular Meeting of August 16

- Commended the participants of the Citadel Clean Up event including Steve Craig of Craig Realty Group and owner of the Citadel.

## Report to the People

*Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents by the Commerce Public Information Office*

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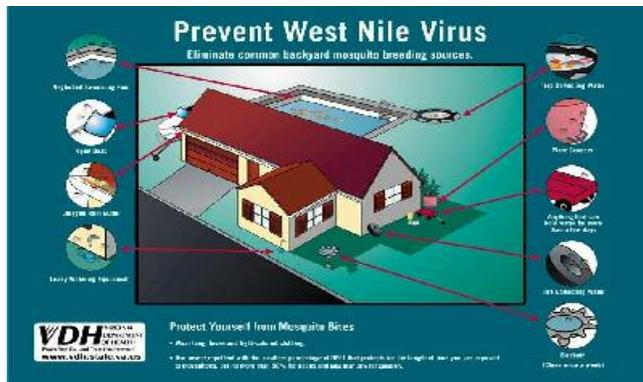
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# WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON WEST NILE VIRUS



Los Angeles, CA - West Nile virus (WNV) activity has reached epidemic levels throughout Greater Los Angeles County. High levels of WNV activity in mosquito and bird populations increase the risk of disease transmission to humans. In response to this serious public health threat, the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) is planning to launch its second door-to-door public outreach and mosquito control campaign. The campaign seeks to raise awareness and extend control and surveillance operations in order to safeguard residents against mosquito bites and virus transmission.

This campaign will target what District scientists have identified as 'hotspots' of West Nile virus activity. Diamond Bar, Hacienda Heights, Reseda and Van Nuys have been carefully selected based on their high mosquito infection rates. Staff members will be notifying residents of the West Nile virus activity in their area, providing them with instructive brochures, and offering to conduct yard inspections for mosquito breeding

sources. Bilingual Spanish/English door hangers will be left at homes where in-person contact cannot be made.

While community education and outreach is being escalated in areas of heightened activity, operational staff continue to deploy available resources and strategies to target mosquito populations below ground, in the underground storm drains, and above ground across the District's diverse urban landscape.

"We hope our efforts will help increase awareness in the areas at highest risk for West Nile virus transmission. But, we also want to emphasize that virus activity is prevalent all throughout the County, so residents everywhere should take proper precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites this summer," says Director of Community Affairs Truc Dever.

The District had similar levels of high virus activity in the epidemic years of 2004 and 2008, which correlated to a high number of recorded human cases. The District hopes outreach and control efforts this year will help reduce the number of human cases of West Nile virus. The campaign is not only meant to alert residents to this year's serious West Nile virus threat, but is also a call-to-arms for people to apply insect repellent and eliminate mosquito breeding sources around their homes.

For more information, please contact Public Information Officer Crystal Brown at the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 x511 or visit [www.glacvcd.org](http://www.glacvcd.org) for further vector control and West Nile virus information.

## GREENWOOD LIBRARY SPONSORS BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

### EVENT HELPS FAMILIES PREPARE FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR

The City of Commerce Public Library sponsored a fun-filled Back to School Night on August 24 at the Greenwood Library for Commerce school children and their families.

To help the children prepare for a successful school year the Library distributed 200 backpacks filled with school supplies donated by the city and World Vision. World Vision also donated pencils, color pencils, crayons, rulers, ruled paper, pens, erasers, highlighters, folders and binders.

"We know the children can accomplish anything if they work hard, stay out of trouble and do well in school," said Commerce Library Director Evelyn Fullmore. "Going back to school with a new backpack, pencils, pens and a binder helps them get started on the right foot."

The event featured a concert by guitarist Brother Yusef who performed "Celebrating the Blues." The popular musician is a regular at Downtown Disney and best known for his live shows and original blues. For Back to School Night he performed a series of children's songs including "Three Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed," "Miss Mary Mack," "This Old Man" and "This Little Light of Mine," all in a blues style reminiscent of Blue legend Robert Johnson.

"Everyone thinks that blues is a sad style of music, but actually it's not," said Yusef who encouraged the kids to clap along as he played.

The musician donated copies of his children's CD, "Kids Get the Blues Too/Blues for Beginners" to the Commerce libraries.

The Commerce Teen Center sponsored a craft booth, a Nintendo Wii video game tournament and a race car game on the library computers.

Members of Miss Commerce's Royal Court Miss Galaxy Natalie Contreras, Miss Dodgers Shanese Perea and Miss Cinco de Mayo Janet Garcia assisted

Library staff with the raffles, the Teen Center's craft booth and signed autographs for children at the event.

Library staff provided information about the Homework Centers and other library programs and services. In addition, they registered eight patrons for new library cards and replaced lost library cards for others.

Community Safety Coordinator Laura Tilley and the Comcats took charge of crowd control and helped get people safely across the street from the Greenwood Community Church parking lot to the Greenwood Library for the event. They also had the Comcat vehicle on display and a booth where they distributed safety information.

Throughout the event children enjoyed cookies and juice while their parents snacked on muffins with Starbucks coffee. Everyone in attendance also received a free gift of either a lanyard or a library card holder provided by the Commerce Public Library. Library Commissioners Ernie Vela, Josie Betancourt and Daniel Larios assisted Library staff at the booths and helped pass out backpacks and free gifts.

Lucky raffle winners won Costco gift cards provided by the Library, \$50 Target gift cards, a school supply gift basket, bicycle helmets and locks, as well as large backpacks filled with school equipment including calculators, memory drives, and other supplies.

The Library wants to thank World Vision, the Teen Center, and the Community Services Department for their raffle prize donations. The City would also like to thank the City of Commerce Employees Association AF-SCME Local #773 which contributed \$500 that was used to purchase snacks and Target gift cards.

The Greenwood Library Back to School Night was coordinated by the Library Department Staff under the supervision of Library Director Evelyn Fullmore.

For pictures see the Commerce Gallery on page 6.



# Back To School

# Tips

Whether you are using paper bags for book covers or walking your children to school instead of driving, you can send your loved ones off to school and find a way to protect the environment. Here are some helpful tips that you can do to help:

1. Use reusable lunchboxes.
2. Use reusable food and drink containers instead of plastic disposal bags.
3. Use reusable tote bags for all those extra items children take to and from school.
4. Buy school supplies such as backpacks, binders, pencils, pens, and paper made with recycled content.
5. Use pencils with replaceable lead.
6. Recycle all used paper.
7. Donate outgrown school clothes and shoes in good condition.
8. If you are replacing computers, printers, calculators or other electronics, consider donating or recycling them. Many organizations will accept donations of working electronics.

Back-to-school season is a great time to talk to your kids about the importance of waste reduction and recycling. Talk to your child about how to reduce the amount of waste they create, reuse what they can and recycle the rest, and why this is important.

## LIBRARY NEWS

### ■ HOMEWORK CENTERS AT THE COMMERCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYS-



With the start of a new school year Homework Centers are available after school at all four Commerce Libraries.

To provide students of all ages the tools they need to help them achieve their academic goals the Commerce Public Library System offers Homework Centers at all four of the City's public libraries, Central Library, as well

as the Atlantic, Bristow and Greenwood Branch Libraries.

The program features trained homework helpers, computers with Internet access, as well as word processing and educational programs in a supervised area.

Homework assistants are available Monday through Friday from 3 pm to 6 pm each weekday at Central Library.

Atlantic Branch Library offers the service Monday through Thursday from 3 pm to 6 pm and from 11 am to 3 pm on Saturdays.

Bristow Branch Library's hours are Monday through Thursday from 3 pm to 6 pm, Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm and Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm.

Greenwood Branch Library's hours are Monday through Thursday from 3 pm to 6 pm and Friday from 3 pm to 5 pm.

The Library also has Live Online Homework Help to assist students with internet access at home on a wide range of subjects from 4th grade all the way up to college level.

For more information on these and other Library programs, call (323) 722-6660.

## PLAY IT SAFE ON HALLOWEEN

### ■ POINTERS FOR PARENTS

Halloween may be a fun holiday for kids, but for parents, trick-or-treat time can be a little scary. Concerns about children's safety—whether they are out in the neighborhood or back at home with bountiful bags of goodies—can cast a spell on the evening's festivities. But not to worry! Following a few safety tips will ensure that Halloween will be a "howling" good time for all.

#### **Preparing Ghosts and Goblins for Their Tricks and Treats**

- Make sure older kids go out with friends. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult. If you live in a rural area, offer all kids a ride in the car.
- Set a time limit for children to trick or treat. Together, map out a safe route so you know where they'll be. Remind them not to take shortcuts through backyards, alleys, or playing fields.
- Remind kids not to enter a strange house or car.
- Try to get kids to trick-or-treat while it is still light out. If it is dark, make sure the children are carrying flashlights that work.

#### **Pranks That Can Be a Little Tricky**

Halloween is notoriously a night of pranks—toilet papering a house or filling mailboxes with shaving cream are not unusual. Try to get a handle on your children's plans before they go out. Explain to them that while you want them to have a good time, some tricks could hurt other people or vandalize property. Emphasize that you disapprove of vandalism.

#### **Eating the Treats**

- Kids need to know not to eat their treats until they get home. One way to keep trick or treaters from digging in while they're still out is to feed them a meal or substantial snack beforehand.
- Check out all treats at home in a well lit place. What to eat? Only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers.

Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious. By all means, remind kids not to eat everything at once or they'll be feeling pretty ghoulish for a while.

#### **"Unhaunting" Your House and Neighborhood**

- Welcome trick-or-treaters at home by turning on your exterior lights.
- Remove objects from your yard that might present a hazard to visitors.
- Ask your Neighborhood Watch or citizens' group to patrol the community.

- Involve students from a local college or university to be "witch's helpers." These students help trick-or-treaters cross busy streets and watch out for ghoulish behavior.
- Drive slowly all evening—you never know what creature may suddenly cross your path.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to your local police or Sheriff's department.
- Try makeup instead of a mask. Masks can be hot and uncomfortable and, more importantly, they can obstruct a child's vision—a dangerous thing when kids are crossing streets and going up and down steps.
- Make sure kids wear light colors or put reflective tape on their costumes.

#### **Dressed Up and Dangerous?**

Halloween blood and gore are harmless stuff for the most part. But sometimes dressing up as a superhero, a scary monster, or a slimy alien from outer space—coupled with the excitement of Halloween—brings out aggressive behavior. Even fake knives, swords, and guns can accidentally hurt people. If these objects are part of a child's costume, make sure they are made from cardboard or other flexible materials. Better yet, challenge kids to create costumes that don't need "weapons" to be scary and fun.

#### **Making Safe Costumes**

- Check that costumes are flame-retardant so the little ones aren't in danger near candlelit jack-o-lanterns and other fire hazards.
- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls, and other bumps in the night.
- Encourage kids to wear comfortable shoes.

#### **Consider This**

Parents and kids can avoid trick-or-treating troubles entirely by organizing a Halloween costume party with treats, games, contests, music, scary stories, and much more. Make your Halloween party the place to be! Schools, fire stations, libraries, even malls in many communities organize "haunted houses" and other festivities for families.

**Crime Prevention Tips From National Crime Prevention Council**  
2345 Crystal Drive, Suite 500  
Arlington, VA 22202  
[www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)

## Haunt Your House for the Halloween Decorations Contest

To find out who has the scariest home in Commerce, the Beautification Committee will be holding the Annual Halloween Decorations Contest this month.

Homes in each of Commerce's neighborhoods will be judged by the Beautification Committee who will select one winner from each residential area of the City. Each winner will receive a \$75 gift certificate.

The judging will only be based on decorations on the outside of the house. Live performances will not count towards your overall score.

Applications are available now at Commerce City Hall. For more information, call Vivian Kelley at (323) 722-4805 ext. 2329.

# 'LITTLE BROADCASTERS'

■ YOUTH PROGRAMMING COMES TO CHANNEL 3



The Little Broadcasters, ages 8-12 learned basic camera and audio skills, as well as studio operations such as stage managers, switchers, and on air talent.

To give Commerce kids ages 8 to 12 an opportunity to learn about the inner workings of the Commerce Cable TV Division, the City held 'Little Broadcasters' classes in which this group of kids created and produced two commercials and a spoof news program named, "So Random News."

"So Random News" and the two commercials, "Brain Freeze," which is an ICEE commercial for the Snack Bar, and "No Fun in the Sun," a commercial for the Commerce Aquatorium and swimming pool will be airing together as one show on Commerce Cable Channel 3 this month.

The 'Little Broadcasters' classes focused on teaching the kids basic camera skills, basic audio operations including proper microphone use, as well as studio operations as stage managers, switchers, and on air talent. In addition, they were guided through the creative process itself and came up with the ideas for the programs on their own.

"What these kids learned is not an easy task and only having an hour and a half to complete the task

they did great," said Commerce Cable TV Producer Joe Sandoval who taught the class.

Much of what the kids did in the 'Little Broadcasters' classes translates into practical skills such as shooting home video and taking pictures. The kids were also in an environment of different opinions and ideas where they learned to work together as a team toward the common goal of creating a show.

While kids in this age group might not yet be on career paths, it can spark interest for them in a future of television production, pre-production, and on air talent.

The program was initiated by Recreation Center Supervisor Adolfo Marquez and Recreation Leader Steve Campos from the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The "Little Broadcasters" show will be airing this month on Cable Channel 3. Check the City of Commerce Channel 3 Guide on page 5 of this issue of RTTP for dates and times.

## HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

### ■ HALLOWEEN CRAFTS, EXCURSIONS AND COSTUME CONTESTS

The City of Commerce Department of Parks and Recreation has a wide variety of programs and activities for Commerce residents to enjoy and celebrate Halloween.

This year's first event is the Dia de Los Muertos Celebration, billed as the Nation's largest and most authentic Day of the Dead celebration being held at the historical Hollywood Forever Cemetery on Saturday, October 22nd. This great family event will feature performances by performer Astrid Hadad best known as "La Tequilera" and Ruben Albarran, the lead singer of Café Tacuba.

Hadad will be presenting the show "Sobre una Tumba una Rumba" a two hour set in honor of la Muerte rumbera and Albarran will be performing with an ensemble that includes a sitar and guitar player from Chile, and a violinist from New York. Together they will recite contemporary pieces from Latin American composers plus a posthumous homage to legendary singer Rockdrigo Gonzalez known as "The Nopal Prophet."

For residents ages 6 to 12, all four parks will be holding the "Something's Brewing" program on Wednesday, October 26 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. where these brave young souls will have to sign up to

come and see what's cooking in the cauldron.

On Thursday, October 27 from 3:30 to 5 pm will be the "Creepy Craft" program at all four parks where participants will have an opportunity to make a 'spooktacular' craft. This program is also for children ages 6-12. Space is limited so sign up early.

'Family Fright Night' will feature the movie "Monster House" at Veterans Park on Friday, October 28 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Popcorn and lemonade will be provided at this all ages event.

As every year, the grand finale will be the Halloween Parade and games at all four parks starting at 6 p.m. sharp on Monday, October 31. All ages are welcome and trophies will be awarded to various age groups and a pet category (dogs must be on a leash). This event will also feature a pumpkin carving contest and plenty of games and activities for the whole family.

Also don't forget to sign your young trick or treaters up for the Goblin Giveaway Contest, which rewards kids with prizes for being home on time to receive a call from Commerce Gift Goblin at 8:30 p.m.

For more information on these Halloween programs and activities, call your local park or the Department of Parks and Recreation at (323) 887-4434.

## CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



October 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 CONCERT IN THE PARK: FREDDIE RAVEL

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, Commerce, 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.

### COMMERCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

#### "PRESCHOOL PROGRAM"

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.

### 'LITTLE BROADCASTERS'

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 the Latest City Council Meeting Actions Mon-  
day 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

#### 'MIKE FARRIS'

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 copies of local programs broadcast on the channel 3 & 32 for \$10.00. 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](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us) for more information.

# Report to the People **COMMERCE GALLERY**

## VOLUNTEERISM REWARDED



Volunteers from the Commerce Boy's Water Polo Team, Saint Marcellinus Church and the Teen Center were presented with contribution checks from The Citadel Outlets towards their programs as thanks for their participation in a community clean up in August.

## CHARTER BUSINESS



Charter Communications has expanded to provide high speed internet access and other services to local businesses. Charter reps are pictured at the Commerce Industrial Council/Chamber of Commerce's monthly BASIC (Buy And Sell In Commerce) Luncheon in August.

## TOURISM IN COMMERCE



Steve Craig, CEO of Craig Realty, which owns and operates The Citadel Outlets, talked to the Commerce Industrial Council Chamber of Commerce about promoting tourism in Commerce at their monthly BASIC Luncheon.

## ARTIST HONORS 9/11 HEROES, VICTIMS



Artist Danny Alvarado painted a wall sized mural (see pg.1) to honor the fallen 9/11 victims and heroes. He is pictured here with Commerce business ACME made In America's Founder/CEO Frank DiGrado who commissioned the painting.

## BACK TO SCHOOL 'BLUES'



Children's musician Brother Yusef entertained the crowd at Greenwood Library's Back to School Night with his upbeat "Celebrating the Blues" show.

## PARK COMMUNITY ROOMS



Elias De Dios with his daughters Savannah and Angelyn at City Hall to reserve a community room at one of the City's four parks.

## GAME TOURNAMENT



The Greenwood Library Back to School Night Nintendo Wii tournament for the teens was a big draw.

## LUCKY WINNERS



These students at Greenwood Library's Back to School Night were lucky winners of backpacks filled with school supplies.

## DEDICATED COMMISSIONERS



From l. to r. Library Commissioners Ernie Vela, Josie Betancourt and Daniel Larios are pictured here with Library Assistant Matthew Tabizon (center), assisted Library staff passing out backpacks, lanyards and library card holders at Back to School Night.

## RECREATIONAL SOCCER



Commerce youth practicing at Rosewood Park in the City's recreational soccer program.

CITY OF COMMERCE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION PRESENTS

# HALLWEEEND! ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, October 26 – Sunday, October 31, 2011  
Registration open for park activities begins Monday October 24, 2011 at your local park.

**Something's Brewing** – Wednesday, October 26, 2011  
Come see what we have cooking in the caldron 3:30-5:00 p.m. Ages 6-12 at all Parks

**Creepy Craft** – Thursday, October 27, 2011  
We will be making a Spooktacular craft – space is limited. 3:30-5:00 p.m. Ages 6-12 at all Parks

**Family Fright Night at Veterans Park** – Friday, October 28, 2011  
Bring the family to see the movie "Monster House" Popcorn and lemonade will be provided.  
7:30 – 9:30 p.m. All ages invited

## Halloween Parade and Games at All Parks

Monday, Oct. 31, 2011 Our parade & games begins @ 6:00pm sharp!  
All ages are welcomed; Trophies awarded to various age groups & Pet category (dogs must be on a leash)....we will also be awarding 1st, 2nd & 3rd for the best carved Pumpkin, one entry per family (awards for pets and pumpkin carving category will begin promptly at 6:00 p.m.).

## Goblin Give-Away

Registration begins Monday, Oct. 24, 2011 Names will be drawn and Goblin will make calls at 8:30 p.m. answer his call and get a special prize. Prizes will be ready for pick up on Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2011 at your Park

## Dia de Los Muertos Celebration

Saturday, October 22, 2011 6:00-10:00 p.m.  
12th Annual "Dia de los Muertos Celebration" will be held at The Hollywood Forever. Register at City Hall  
Registration Fee \$2.00 Entrance fee \$10.00 pay at door.

For more information contact the Department of Parks & Recreation (323) 887-4434.



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 will be given to winners who place at the top of each age group in the Men's and Women's Divisions.

Souvenir T- Shirts will be 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.

Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition

# Reading Day at Starbucks

Please join us as we partner with the **City of Commerce Public Library** for a morning of reading and fun!



## Saturday

October 8, 2011  
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Your Favorite Starbucks Atlantic &

Washington Boulevard  
City of Commerce, CA 90040



Starbucks will provide free coffee samples for adults, free non-coffee drinks for children, and pastry samples for everyone.



Please visit us at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org) or call 323-722-6660

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

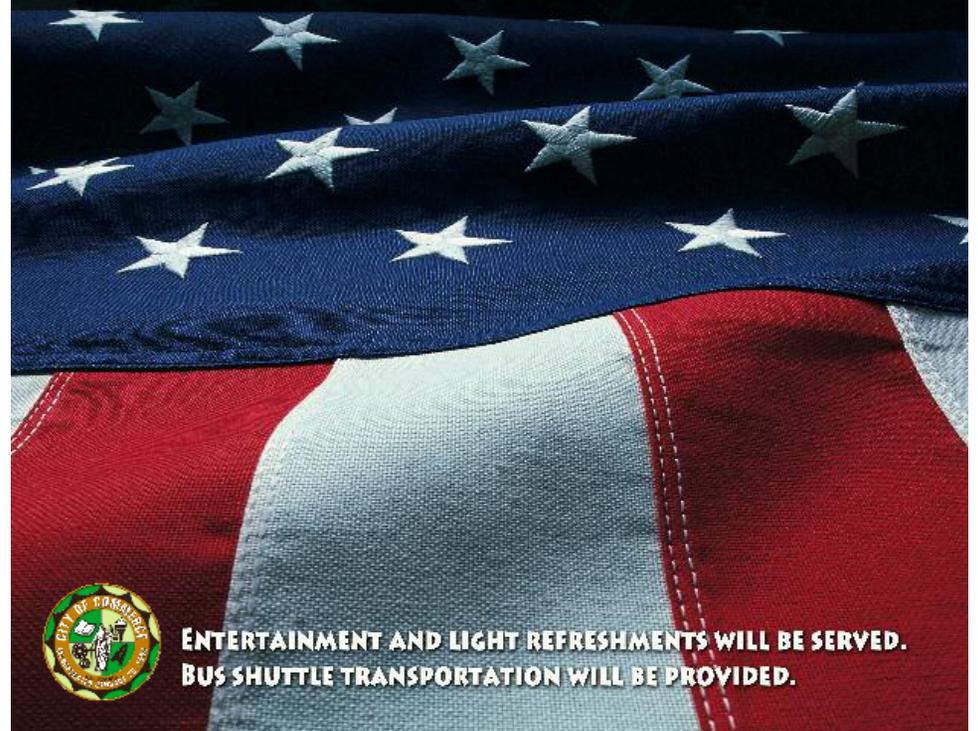
# VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

# 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.

## 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 - [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us)

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### RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

## STATE OF THE CITY

### CONT. FROM PAGE 1

and agree to pay the State \$1.7 billion this year and \$400 million each year thereafter.

He said that Commerce is supporting a lawsuit filed by the League of California Cities and the California Redevelopment Association challenging the constitutionality of the legislation.

"We think the State's action violates Proposition 22 and should be overturned by the State Supreme Court," said the Mayor.

Until the court makes a decision, the City will participate in the Voluntary State Redevelopment Program and make the required \$4.6 million payment to the State this year and a \$1.15 million payment every year thereafter so that its redevelopment agency can continue to operate, the Mayor said.

The Mayor then spoke on behalf of redevelopment asserting that it was invaluable to Commerce-- generating more than 10,000 jobs and attracting busi-

nesses like The Citadel Outlets, Costco, Home Depot, Smart and Final, and the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Redevelopment transformed a blighted site into the thriving residential community of Vista del Rio and a manufacturing plant into the jobs and money-generating Citadel Outlets, he said.

The Mayor also updated business leaders on a number of projects including the Washington Boulevard Project, the I-710 Freeway Improvement Project, the natural gas fueling station, the City's move toward cleaner-fuel vehicles, the Commerce Scholarship program, the reopening of the Aquatorium, and improvements to Camp Commerce and City parks.

He reiterated the City's commitment to reducing crime in industrial areas and reported a decrease in auto thefts, cargo thefts and property crimes during the first six months of 2011.

He also praised volunteers who participated in a recent summer cleanup event

sponsored by the City Council and Steve Craig at The Citadel Outlets. Volunteers from the Commerce Boy's Water Polo Team; the Teen Center; Saint Marcellinus Church; and several Council members and Commissioners picked up trash and debris in the area bordered by Camfield, Flotilla, Smithway, Tubeway, and Telegraph Road beginning at 6 a.m. on Aug. 6. Local businesses, agencies and City staff also contributed generously to the cleanup effort including Bruin Painting, Ben's Asphalt, CalMet Services and the Commerce Graffiti Crew.

"Although we started pretty early in the morning, everyone had a good time and we got a lot done," said the Mayor. "I heard from many of the volunteers who said it was a great experience. I want to thank Steve Craig and his staff for their initiative.

The Mayor concluded his remarks by recognizing contributions from local businesses to the community.

"Today's event is a great time to give special acknowledgment to the Commerce Casino and the many businesses who contribute to City programs throughout the year," said the Mayor.

"The generosity of your philanthropy does not go unnoticed and is deeply appreciated by everyone. On behalf of the City Council and the residents of the City of Commerce, thank you so much.

"I will leave you with this. Let's keep working together to keep Commerce the Model City. Despite the economy and other challenges facing us, Commerce is a remarkable City. It is a great place to operate a business and to live. It is a City of caring and hard working people. It is a hub for manufacturing and industry. I am confident that Commerce will continue to prosper, and to be safe, strong and attractive for generations to come."



## OCTOBER DATES TO NOTE

**3**  
 Halloween Decorations Contest Applications accepted  
 English Book Club, 6 p.m.  
 Youth Advisory Commission, 7 p.m.

**4**  
 City Council/CDC/Council Chambers, 6:30 p.m.

**5**  
 Senior Citizens Commission, 12:30 p.m.  
 Teen Book Club, Greenwood Library, 4:30 p.m.  
 Housing Committee, 5 p.m.  
 Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.

**6**  
 Holiday Cheer Program Registration Begins, 8 a.m.  
 Parks and Recreation Commission, 6 p.m.

**8**  
 Yom Kippur  
 Starbucks Read-In, Atlantic & Washington Blvd., 10 a.m.

**10**  
 Education Commission, 6 p.m.

**11**  
 Beautification Committee, 3:30 p.m.  
 I-710 Local Advisory Committee, 6:30 p.m.

**12**  
 Community Task Force, 3 p.m.  
 Teen Book Club, Bristow Park Library, 4:30 p.m.

**13**  
 Community Services Commission, 6 p.m.

**15**  
 Adult Holiday Faire, Bandini Park, noon

**16**  
 Teen Read Week Begins

**18**  
 Library Embajadores, 6 p.m.  
 City Council/CDC, Council Chamber, 6:30 p.m.

**19**  
 Employment Task Force, 1 p.m.  
 Teen Book Club, Atlantic Library, 4:30 p.m.

**24**  
 Halloween Decorations Contest Applications due  
 Spanish Book Club, 6 p.m.

**25**  
 Teen Book Club, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.  
 Library Commission, 5:30 p.m.  
 I-710 Local Advisory Committee, 6:30 p.m.

**26**  
 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

**27**  
 Red Ribbon Day, 8 a.m.  
 Halloween Decorations Contest Judging

**31**  
 Halloween  
 Halloween Costume Parade, All Parks, 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.