



# Report to the People

Where Quality Service  
Is Our Tradition

Volume 52 No.1 January 2012

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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*Santa Claus at the Tree Lighting Ceremony with Miss Commerce Lesly Mendez and Young Man of the Year Julian Casillas. From l. to r. are Miss Fourth of July/Miss Friendship Rocío Ulloa, Miss Dodgers Shanese Perea, Casillas, Santa, Mendez, Miss Galaxy Natalie Contreras and Miss Cinco de Mayo Janet Garcia.*

## Community Celebrates Holidays at Tree Lighting

More than a thousand residents gathered in front of City Hall to enjoy warm drinks, entertainment and holiday cheer at the City's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 5.

This community event drew residents of all ages who were welcomed by Master of Ceremonies Adolfo Marquez. Marquez then introduced the Commerce Dance Team who performed a choreographed dance number to the holiday classic "Jingle Bells."

Marquez then recognized City officials, as well as Boy Scout Troop #473, Cub Scout Pack #473 and Girl Scout Troop #13591 who performed the Presentation of Colors.

Following the National Anthem, Marquez retook the stage and introduced Miss Commerce 2011 Lesly Mendez and 2011

Young Man of the Year Julian Casillas. Miss Commerce and Casillas assisted with the 'Name that Song' contest where kids won holiday balloons by guessing what songs guest flutist Erik Herrera played. The final contestant also won an opportunity to open a special door on stage through which none other than Santa Claus stepped through.

From the stage Santa wished the crowd happy holidays then introduced a longtime resident and employee who has a special place on Santa's 'nice' list this year. This young man was local hero Landon Cadenas who saved the life of a woman trapped inside a burning vehicle late last year. Cadenas was joined on stage by his daughter Brooklyn and niece Kelise Jackson.

Marquez then directed the crowd's attention to the steps of City Hall where the City Council was joined by the Young Man of the Year, Miss Commerce and her Royal Court at the City's Christmas tree for the event highlight. A hushed silence fell over the crowd as Marquez counted down to the lighting of the tree, which once lit sparkled with lights and decorations.

The appreciative crowd cheered, with warm churros in hand as the rest of the entertainment program got started. In addition to the Commerce Dance Team there were performances from the City's Tap and Ballet, Folkloricó and Recreation Jazz dance programs, as well as the Teen Center's 'On Cue' Performing

See **Tree Lighting** page 8

## Library Spreads Holiday Cheer

Families lined up at the Council Chamber entrance as early as 9 a.m. on Dec. 3 to get a good seat at the Commerce Public Library's Children's Holiday Program. The popular event fills the Council Chamber every year, but this year's attendance was especially high with a total of 341 children and family members in attendance.

"With the economic downturn affecting nearly everyone these days, more and more people are realizing that the Commerce Library provides wonderful programs that they can enjoy with their children for free," said Sigrid Hudson, Children's Services Senior Librarian.

The stars of the event were puppeteer Franklin Haynes, and, of course, Santa Claus. Haynes engaged children and adults alike in a one-man show entitled "Santa's New Sleigh."

The bilingual show featured marionettes which Haynes manipulated to drive, dance, juggle and skate. Throughout his performance, he invited the children to participate by asking them questions such as "Does that sound good?" or "Would you like to see her fly?" To which the kids responded with an enthusiastic "yeah!"

After the puppet show (see photos on Page 4), children lined up to pose for pictures with Santa, who handed them candy canes and a coupon to receive a free book from the library.

The program concluded with the serving of box lunches provided courtesy of the Commerce Casino.

Hudson said she was grateful to the Library Embajadores and Library staff that helped put the program together. She also thanked the families for their participation.

"All of the parents and children were patient throughout the event, which made it flow smoothly," said Hudson "Thanks to them the program was a great success."

## Commerce Honors Veterans, Active Duty Military



*Keynote Speaker Major Patrick Caukin with members of the Royal Court.*

To honor veterans and active duty members of the United States Armed Forces, Commerce hosted the Annual Veterans Day Celebration on Nov. 11, 2011 at Veterans Memorial Park in front of the Veterans Monument, which was dedicated 35 years to the day on Nov. 11, 1976.

Master of Ceremonies Howard Hernandez, US Army

Veteran, Bronze Medal recipient and commander of Commerce service organization the American G.I. Forum, introduced City officials, City founder Val Basset of the original Citizens Committee for Incorporation, and local dignitaries, which included 34th District Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard.

The program began with the Processional Veterans Day

March. All of the veterans in attendance marched to the staging area led by the honor guard of Boy Scout Troop #473 and Cub Scout Pack #473 while the Joseph Sapia Concert Band played patriotic music.

Keynote Speaker Major Patrick Caukin of the US Army then took the podium. "Today is a day we remember those who

See **Veterans Day** page 8

On behalf of the City Council, I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! We hope 2012 will be a great year for us all. Shoppers who drove to The Citadel during the holidays probably noticed marked improvements to Telegraph Road.

In November, the City entered into a public/private partnership with The Craig Realty Group Citadel, LLC for improvements to Telegraph in the general vicinity of the shopping center. Urgent repairs were needed, especially since an estimated 10 million shoppers visit the outlets annually. Telegraph Road is essential to our City because it's the main arterial route to revenue generating businesses such as Hyundai, AltaMed, The Citadel, The Double Tree Hotel and the Commerce Casino. The Citadel alone generates close to \$3 million a year in sales tax revenue. The shopping center has helped to keep the City afloat during these recessionary times. Craig Realty paid for the improvements up front and the City will reimburse them for a portion of the work. It was a win-win partnership which benefited commuters, residents and local businesses.

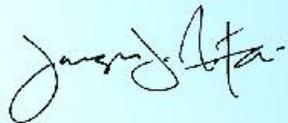
The City Council Chamber is undergoing improvements to make it accessible and usable to individuals with disabilities. The Council Chambers ADA Improvement Project is expected to be completed in April. Until then, the concurrent regular meetings of the City Council and the Commerce Community Development Commission will be held at the Commerce Senior Center, located next to City Hall at 2555 Commerce Way. Meetings begin at 6:30, every first and third Tuesday of the month.

The California Supreme Court is considering the legality of State legislation eliminating redevelopment agencies or requiring them to participate in a voluntary program which allows them to continue if they make payments to the State. Redevelopment funds are vital to Commerce. They are used to develop low income housing, fight blight, and attract businesses that produce jobs and revenue for the City. The Court is expected to decide later this month. We will update you when we get more information.

Commerce residents enrolled in college or who will be attending college this fall, are invited to apply for a 2012 City of Commerce Scholarship. Last year the City awarded 53 students scholarships in amounts ranging from \$250 to \$5000. Applications will be available starting Jan. 6--online only, via the Commerce Library's website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org) or the Library section of the City's website [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us).

City Hall and Libraries will be closed on Jan. 2 in observance of New Year's Day and on Jan. 16 in commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

January 28 marks the 52nd anniversary of Commerce's Incorporation. While the City won't be hosting an official community celebration this year, I want to take a moment to remember and appreciate our City's history and the pioneers who gave Commerce its start. Commerce was incorporated on January 28, 1960, thanks to the visionary efforts of citizens who wanted to create a city where families could enjoy unprecedented opportunities and services and where industry would thrive. One of those citizens was long-time resident Valentina Bassett, who was a member of the Citizens Committee for Incorporation. Through the hard work and determination of people like Val, Commerce became a city. We honor all those who played a role in creating the Model City--from the Citizens Committee for Incorporation, who collected signatures to place incorporation on the ballot, to the Industrial Council, who worked alongside them. Happy Anniversary, City of Commerce.




## Council Actions

### Regular Meeting Reports

#### Regular Meeting of October 18

- Presented Certificates of Achievement to 2011 Cable TV graduates.
- Proclaimed the week of October 16-22 as National Health Education Week
- Approved a City plaque in recognition of the 436th Anniversary of the Commerce's Sister City, Aguascalientes, Mexico.
- Authorized the use of Commission-owned properties located on Telegraph Road, Travers Avenue and Gaspar Avenue for customer and/or employee parking for The Citadel's special and holiday events.
- Approved an Agreement with Municipal Revenue Advisors for revenue enhancement consulting services. Approved the execution of the Program Supplement Agreement No. N011 to the Administrating Agency-State Agreement for Federal-AID Projects No. 07-5362R for state funded projects covering all phases of work for Washington Boulevard west of Indiana Street to the I-5 Freeway at Telegraph Road.
- Approved the Second Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding – Washington Boulevard Widening and Reconstruction Project between the City of Commerce and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency.
- Approved the plans and specifications for the Central Library, City Hall and Senior Plaza Improvements Project.
- Received and filed a report on a Commercial Recycling Program and directed staff to prepare an Ordinance to adopt such a program, as mandated by the State.
- Approved a recommendation to designate one parking space at the front of City Hall for the Customer Service Employee of the Quarter.
- Approved an amendment to the Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan establishing a new job classification and salary range for Deputy City Administrator.
- Denied approval for the second reading of an ordinance that would have given the City the ability to require a Conditional Use Permit for most warehouse projects.
- Approved a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Management Services with Swinerton Management and Consulting.
- Adjourned in memory of Jose Gallo, father-in-law of City employee Heriberto Valdez.

#### Regular Meeting of November 1

- Commended the Montebello-Commerce YMCA on the occasion of its 100 Anniversary.
- Approved a letter in support of the Soledad Canyon High Desert, California Public Lands Conservation and Management Act of 2011.
- Approved a resolution requesting that the California State Joint Legislative Audit Committee identify the Central Basin Municipal Water District as a high-risk Government Agency and direct the State auditor to conduct an audit of the agency's practices.
- Approved an agreement with CALTEC Corporation of Westminster for Council Chambers ADA Improvements.
- Approved and ratified an agreement with Willdan Engineering and Oxy USA, Inc. for special construction and inspection services.
- Approved a first amendment to the professional services agreement with Onward Engineering for the Rosini and Rosewood Neighborhood Project Areas I and II and Bristow Park Neighborhood Rehabilitation Project.
- Adjourned in memory of Joan Guzman, long-time Commerce resident, and Rosaura J. Yriate, long-time resident.

#### Regular Meeting of November 15

- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with mid-management and non-management full-time employees.
- Approved a resolution fixing the employer's contribution under the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act.
- Approved a resolution revising medical health benefits and implementing a CalPERS pre-retirement death benefit option to the City's full-time, non-represented management employees.
- Approved a resolution to participate in the Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium.
- Approved a resolution authorizing membership in the Statewide Stormwater Coalition.
- Approved a resolution for a subordination agreement with the California Credit Union for a Regulatory Agreement, Covenant and Deed of Trust entered into between the Commission and Manuel and Cecilia Macias regarding real property located at 2316 Hepworth Avenue.
- Approved a Reimbursement Agreement with Craig Realty Group Citadel for the paving and the restriping of Telegraph Road.
- Adopted a resolution ordering the vacation of a portion of Sheila Street.
- Approved a recommendation to establish a Community Day of Service and other clean up, home improvement and green activities as part of the Keep Commerce Beautiful Campaign.
- Approved a resolution accepting the work performed by the CST Construction Company for improvements to the Rosewood Park Aquatorium.



Commerce Boy's Water Polo players, shown at the Council meeting Dec. 6, thanked the City for helping to fund their participation in the USA Water Polo Holiday Camp held at the Olympic Development Center in Colorado Springs in December.

## Report to the People

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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

#### RTTP Artículos en Español

Si le interesa recibir la versión en Español de algun 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.

# Sheriff's 2011 Year End Report

## Part I Crimes Down for Second Consecutive Year



Dedicated Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department personnel assigned to the City of Commerce.

In 2011, the Sheriff's Department had great success in continuing to provide high quality law enforcement and public safety services to the City of Commerce. Below are some of this year's highlights that have helped reduce crime in Commerce.

### ELA Detectives Disrupt Car Theft Ring

In 2011, the East Los Angeles Station Detective Bureau concentrated extra time and resources in Commerce that resulted in disrupting a car theft ring operated by gang members from the city of Los Angeles.

At the beginning of the year, the Sheriff's Department identified a 46% increase in auto thefts in comparison to the 2010 numbers. The bulk of these incidents occurred in two large parking lots adjacent to retail centers.

Through information gathering the Detective Bureau learned that a sophisticated crew of gang members was responsible for the majority of these auto thefts.

Sheriff's personnel met with management and security from the affected local businesses to review their security measures and to provide recommendations to reduce auto thefts, graffiti and burglaries.

The East LA Detectives and Commerce Special Problems Team coordinated with the Taskforce for Regional Auto Theft Prevention (TRAP), and Station Reserves to conduct several auto theft operations in Commerce.

These operations netted multiple arrests for auto burglary and vandalism and helped gather important intelligence. Detectives were ultimately able to arrest several gang members for auto theft and other felony offenses.

This comprehensive effort addressed a rapidly evolving problem by negatively impacting this gang related car theft ring's illicit activities and reduced the City's crime rate.

### New Look for Commerce Patrol Vehicles

Sheriff's patrol vehicles assigned to the City of Commerce have a fresh new look at no cost.

The change was proposed in January to reflect the service of vehicles dedicated to Commerce.

After reviewing various options a new design was approved, which incorporates the LA County Sheriff's Department and City of Commerce logos. The new decals are placed on Sheriff's vehicles at no cost to the City.

### Rapid Response Deters Gang Activity

While overall crime rates decreased in 2011 Commerce experienced a marginal increase in gang activity centered in an area of Commerce. Due to the increase, additional patrols were implemented by the Commerce Special Problems Team, the LA County

Safe Streets Bureau and the Gang Enforcement Detail from the East Los Angeles Station.

The intervention of these specialized units reduced gang activity over the past several months and resulted in the identification of several new gang members who were added to the City of Commerce's existing gang injunction.

### Motor Units Enforcing Traffic Safety

The LA County Sheriff's Department motor officers (motorcycle units) continue to maintain high visibility in the community enforcing the speed laws in school zones and industrial areas with the highest concentration of traffic.

This continued effort by the City through the Sheriff's Department continues to promote traffic safety in conjunction with the Red Flex photo enforcement program.

During the first 10-months of 2011 the L.A. County Sheriff's Department recorded the following traffic statistics:

- 6897 Red light camera citations
- 4018 General Traffic Citations
- 417 Traffic collisions

### Part I Crimes Down for Second Consecutive Year

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's continued efforts have resulted in a decrease in Part I Crimes in the City of Commerce for the second consecutive year.

Part I Crimes, which were down 6.1% in 2010, were down 7% in 2011. Part I Crimes include homicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, grand theft auto and arson.

This success was possible due to the station's weekly monitoring of crime trends and activity in Commerce. When a spike in crime is identified in a specific area the Sheriff's are proactive in concentrating greater resources to address these issues.

While the LA County Sheriff's Department is dedicated to public safety, keeping your neighborhood safe and free from crime is your responsibility too. The City and the Sheriff's Department encourage residents to get involved by joining Neighborhood Watch. For more information, call the Public Safety Division at (323) 887-4460.

To report a crime call the East L.A. Sheriff's Station at (323) 264-4151. To report crime anonymously, call the Sheriff's Anonymous Crime Tip Line at (323) 838-4258 or email [commercecrimetips@lasd.org](mailto:commercecrimetips@lasd.org). In an emergency always call 911.



## ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# Recycle Your Christmas Tree

CalMet Services will be picking up Christmas trees on regular waste collection days through January 14 for recycling.

Remember to remove all decorations, tinsel and electrical lights before setting it out at the curb on trash day. Remove metal, plastic or wood tree stands.

Trees taller than four feet must be cut in half. Do not wrap trees or place trees in plastic.

Flocked trees will be accepted.

For more information, call CalMet Services at (800) 990-6387.



# Commerce Scholarship Applications Now Available



Commerce residents enrolled in college or who will be attending college in fall 2012 are invited to apply for a 2012 City of Commerce Scholarship. Applications are now available online only via the Commerce Library's website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org) or the Library section of the City's website [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us).

## To be eligible, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current resident of the City of Commerce for at least one year
- 12 or more units (full-time status)
- Proof of college or university acceptance and establish financial need
- Have an overall grade point average of 2.0 if attending a junior college, or 2.5 if attending a university or four-year college
- Be available for an oral interview
- Submit the application packet by the deadline

Early submissions are encouraged.

For more information, visit the Commerce Public Library System website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org), or call the Library's Literacy Center at (323) 722-7323.



## Library News

### Library Children's Holiday Program Highlights



This young library patron is ready to have lunch at the Library's Children's Holiday Party. Lunch was generously provided by the Commerce Casino.



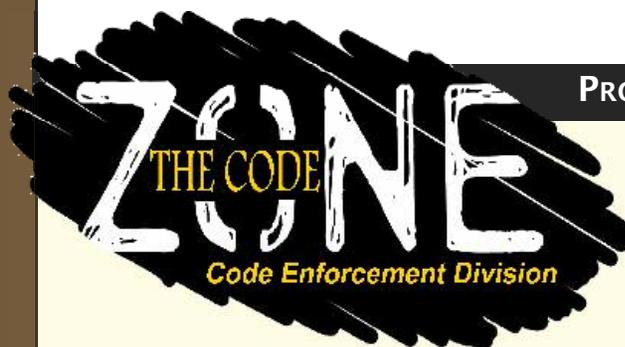
Puppeteer Franklin Haynes, Santa Claus and Rudi the reindeer greet children at the Commerce Public Library's Children's Holiday Party in December.

### Wireless Netbooks Available at Commerce Library

There are 13 available netbooks that can be borrowed from the City of Commerce Public Library's Circulation desk at Central and its branches. These netbooks will be available for library patrons for in-building use only while patrons visit the Library and will

provide additional access for library patrons to use the Internet.

For more information, visit the Library's website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org) or call the Central Library at (323) 722-6660.



### PROPER REPORTING OF CODE VIOLATIONS

Code Enforcement Division, but should be reported to our Sheriff's Station include:

**Illegal Dumping** – A violation of Section 347.3 of the California Penal Code: If you witness suspected illegal dumping in progress, call the East L. A. Sheriff's station or 911 immediately and relay as much detailed information as possible. Give the location, street name and address. Describe the number of suspects, sex of the suspects, and clothing worn. Also, relay any related vehicle description such as make and model, color and plate number. These details strengthen the potential of an arrest. Even if illegal dumping has occurred without the actions being witnessed, a call should be placed to the Sheriff's Station. Reported crimes help to direct patrol efforts. Furthermore, persons convicted of illegal dumping may be held accountable for the clean-up.

**Trespassing** – A violation of Section 602 of the California Penal Code: If you witness suspected trespassing, call and report it to the Sheriff's Station immediately. Again, give as much detail as possible; who, what, when, and where. Trespassing is often a prelude to other crimes such as burglary and vandalism. Guiding Sheriff's deputies to the right place at the right time leads to catching a criminal in the act.

As a final note, we recognize that problem locations often have compound issues that call for the attention of any combination of the "Crime Fighting" team. Please prioritize the importance of each issue you suspect or witness and report them to the proper authorities.

Crimes against persons or property warrant an immediate call to 911 or the East L. A. Sheriff's Station. To report ongoing criminal activities such as possible drug or gang activity call the East L. A. Sheriff's Station at (323) 264-4151, or the Commerce Sheriff's Special Problems Team Hotline at (323) 838-4258. To report Commerce Municipal Code and Zoning Ordinance violations call (323) 722-4805 ext. 2329 or 2293.

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

In an effort to improve and maintain a clean, attractive City, we encourage everyone to report suspected violations of our City Codes and Ordinances that pertain to private property. A Code Enforcement Officer will investigate your complaint and, when warranted, issue a notice of violation, or citation to the responsible party. In most cases, the violating conditions must be visible, in plain view from the public right of way. Once the responsible party has been notified, every effort is made to gain code compliance as soon as possible.

If you've attended recent Neighborhood Watch meetings you've heard the Code Enforcement Division introduced as part of the "Crime Fighting" team. Although we are members of the team, we are not police officers so we do not respond to domestic or business disputes, crimes against persons, or crimes against property. We also do not arrest people. Frequently, the Code Enforcement Division receives calls or reports regarding matters that should be reported to the local police, which in our City is the LA County Sheriff's Department. In the business of crime fighting, timing is everything. The quicker information is relayed to the proper authorities, the quicker the response, and the greater the chance of a crime fighting victory.

Some "arrestable" crimes that are often reported to

# Activities for Teens

## FUN FOR TEENS AND PRE TEENS IN GIRLOLOGY AND THE ADVENTURE CLUB



Forty-two Commerce teens and pre teens, accompanied by staff and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Laura Perez participated in the City of Hope "Walk for Hope" fund raiser to benefit research to cure women's cancers.

Starting January 12 all teens and pre teens that go to Rosewood School are invited to come to the Teen

Center for 'Early Thursdays.' We will be opening at 1 p.m. They can watch movies, relax, do homework, play games and use our computers.

### Adventure Club

The Adventure Club meets once a month to plan upcoming outdoor adventures and plan fundraisers for upcoming trips. The next meeting is January 13 at 6 p.m at the Teen Center.

### GirlOlogy

GirlOlogy is a club for young diverse teens and pre-teens who are positive, want to make a difference and prepare for the future.

GirlOlogy members practice a healthy lifestyle, participate in trips and cultural excursions, and participate in volunteer projects.

GirlOlogy teens meet Tuesdays at 6 and GirlOlogy pre teens meet Thursdays at 6.

For more information on clubs, programs or activities at the Teen Center, come visit or call us at (323) 264-4665.

# Senior Center News

## TRIPS, ACTIVITIES AND LOW COST LUNCHES

This year promises to be another great one at the Senior Center. Our classes for bowling, chi gong, yoga, arthritis exercise, cooking, crocheting, stamping, salsa dancing and other activities will continue as scheduled. For dates and times pick up the recently redesigned Senior Center Newsletter.

The Senior Center also hosts Weight Watchers meetings every Tuesday evening at 5:30pm.

In addition to these programs and activities we serve low cost senior lunches for \$2.50 Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m.

Active Commerce seniors can also take advantage

of the many trips the City sponsors just for seniors. Transportation to these trips is provided by the City. Upcoming trips include a visit to Universal City Walk, lunch and a movie at the Long Beach Town Center, a trip to the San Diego Japanese Gardens and High Tea, Santa Anita Race Track and the Knott's Berry Farm Chicken Dinner restaurant.

All of us here at the Center look forward to serving the needs of our seniors and hope that we will meet many new seniors in the upcoming year. For more information, drop in to visit us at the Senior Center or call us at (323) 887-4430.

# Annual 5K Turkey Trot

## YOUTH PARTICIPATION HIGHLIGHTS HOLIDAY RUN

More than 300 runners and walkers from Commerce, local schools and all over Southern California participated in the City's Annual Turkey Trot 5k Run on Nov. 19.

Participants ran or walked the 3.5 mile course, which wound through the Rosewood Park neighborhood to burn off some pre Thanksgiving dinner calories.

For some runners it was a family affair with parents,

children and even the family dog taking part. Congratulations to the men's overall winner Juan Valencia with a time of 16:39 and the women's overall winner Veronica Alaniz with a time of 20:19.

Congratulations to all of the participants, but especially to the oldest male runner 70-year-old Mauro Rodriguez and the oldest female runner 67-year-old Elba Sanchez who are young at heart.



Students from Rosewood School had strong group participation in the Turkey Trot.



These girls received medals for placing at the top of their age division.

# CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



## January 2012 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.

### "IN A COUNCIL MINUTE" A ONE MINUTE RECAP OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Mondays at 4 p.m., Tuesdays at 9 a.m., Wednesdays at 1 p.m., Thursdays at 4 p.m., Fridays at 3 p.m., Saturdays at 11 a.m. & Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

### COMMERCE PUBLIC SAFETY SHOW HELPFUL TIPS

Mondays at 3 p.m., Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m., Wednesdays at 9 a.m., Thursdays at 7 p.m., Fridays at 3:30 p.m., Saturdays at 7 p.m. & Sundays at 9 a.m. & 6 p.m.

### COMMERCE CITY NEWS

Mondays at 9 a.m., Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday at 3 p.m., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Friday at 5:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. & Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

### CALIFORNIA'S WATER (HUELL HOWSER)

Mondays at 2 p.m., Tuesdays at 11 a.m., Wednesdays at 6 p.m., Thursdays at 8 p.m., Fridays at 2 p.m., Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. & Sundays at 6:30 p.m.

### Aquatorium of the Pacific Documentary

Mondays at 10 a.m., Tuesdays at 12 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 a.m., Thursdays at 3 p.m., Fridays at 6 p.m., Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. & Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

### PORT OF LONG BEACH "PULSE OF THE PORT: REMEMBERING 100 YEARS"

Mondays at 5 p.m., Tuesdays at 6 p.m., Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Thursdays at 2 p.m., Fridays at 8 a.m., Saturdays at 12 p.m. & Sundays at 8 p.m.

### VINTAGE VEHICLE SHOW SHOWS INCLUDE:

"Joe's Garage" Tuesdays at 3 p.m.  
 "Kent's Corvairs" Wednesdays at 6 p.m.  
 "Aquafest Car Show" Thursdays at 8 a.m.  
 "LeMay Car Show" Saturdays at 8 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](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us) for more information.



# Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future

## Accomplished Veteran



Major Patrick Caukin of the US Army was the Keynote Speaker at the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony. Caukin served three tours of duty in Iraq and is the commander of the San Gabriel Valley Army Recruiting Company.

## Patriotic Congresswoman



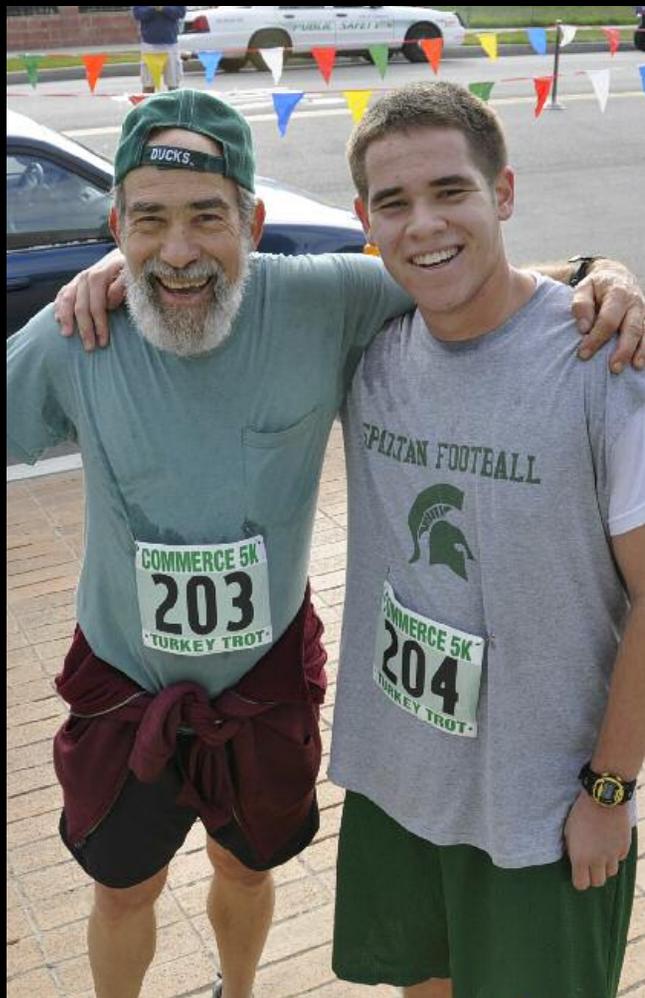
Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard of the 34th District, which includes Commerce, spoke at the Veterans Day Ceremony.

## Oldest Veteran Recognition



The oldest resident military veteran in attendance was 91-year-old Herbert Aldrete of the US Army who is pictured here with Master of Ceremonies Howard Hernandez.

## Father and Son Team



Gene Jacobs and son Leon pose for a photo after the Turkey Trot.

## The Home Stretch



A stream of runners travel the length of Jardine Street as they near the finish line around the block on Commerce Way at the Turkey Trot 5K Run.

## Nike at the Turkey Trot



Nike employee volunteers are pictured here with City staff. Nike was kind enough to provide bottles of Gatorade Fit to help Turkey Trot participants replenish their electrolytes.

## Day Camp Gets Cooking at The Citadel



Commerce Day Camp kids visited cookware store Le Creuset at the Citadel where they helped make fruit salad kabobs and enjoyed hot chocolate provided by Starbucks.

## Commerce Teens Visit LACMA



Youth from the Teen Center's teen, pre-teen and GirlOlogy clubs visited the Los Angeles County Museum of Art to see the Tim Burton exhibit.

## Community Academy Grads



A new group of residents has graduated from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Community Academy, which educates members on how to interact more effectively with law enforcement to make their communities safer.

## A Great Read



City employee Jesse Guerrero enjoyed the Report to the People so much that even the lovely ladies of the Commerce Employee's Choir had trouble distracting him during a rendition of 'Santa Baby' at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

## Holiday Wishes



Miss Commerce Lesly Mendez, pictured here wished everyone a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

CITY OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT PRESENT

# FREE CHILD

## FINGERPRINTING

Saturday  
January 28th  
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Commerce McDonald's**

The child's fingerprinting service will be provided **FREE** by the City of Commerce ComCat Volunteers.



Parents will receive a **FREE** Child Safety Booklet and copy of their child's fingerprints. Operation Kid Identification will be at the Commerce McDonald's parking lot at 6350 E. Washington Boulevard.

For more information call Commerce Community Services at (323) 887-4460.



52ND ANNUAL

# MISS COMMERCE PAGEANT LIVE



Saturday,  
February 25, 2012  
5:00 p.m.



On the Commerce  
Cable Channel 3  
& [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us)

# Blackboard connect



Register for Important City Emergency and Notification Information

### Immediate Notification on:

- City Emergency Information
- Time-sensitive Notifications
- Community Outreach
- Event Information

This service gives the City the ability to reach residents with crucial information in minutes.

Registration is easy and takes less than a minute. Residents can choose to be reached via voice, text, email or social networks.

The Commerce Emergency Preparedness Office encourages all Commerce residents to register with the City's Blackboard Connect service.

To register, call Assistant Emergency Preparedness Officer Miguel Romero at (323) 887-4460 ext. 2809.



## COMMERCE TRANSIT

# BLUE ROUTE RIDER ALERT

### Blue Bus Has New Stops at Citadel, Commerce Casino

To provide the best service possible to residents the Commerce Blue Bus Line now has stops at the Citadel Outlet Stores and the Commerce Casino from the Bristow and Bandin Park areas.

For a complete schedule of the City's five bus routes visit the City's website at [www.ci.commerce.ca.us/](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us/)



For more information, call the Transportation Department at (323) 887-4419

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## COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



Joe Aguilar, Mayor  
Tina Baca Del Rio, Mayor Pro Tem  
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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

2535 Commerce Way · Commerce, CA 90040

### Residential Customer

## Tree Lighting

■ Cont. from Pg. 1



The Commerce Tap and Ballet Program performed to the delight of the crowd at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Center's 'On Cue' Performing Arts Program.

The Commerce Employees Choir also

performed classic holiday songs including a theatrical rendition of 'Santa Baby' that prompted smiles and laughter from the audience. The Choir was led by Michael Pyles, professional recording artist and LA County Senior Environmental Engineer assigned to Commerce.

Community Christmas Carolers Isabel Morin-Holmberg, Lillian Dominguez, and William Reyes also sang holiday songs as children visited with Santa next to the City Christmas tree to share their holiday wishes.

The City would like to thank the Commerce Del Taco for donating a gift card for the raffle, as well as the Commerce City Employees Association AFSCME Local #773 for donating \$250 in raffle prizes.

## Veterans Day

■ Cont. from Pg. 1

a day we remember those who have served and are still serving," said Caukin, who served three tours of duty in the Iraq War and is now the commander of the San Gabriel Valley Army Recruiting Company located in Los Angeles.

Caukin talked about the importance of service and touched on the many places across the globe where members of the military have served throughout our Country's history. He also spoke with pride of the resilience of the brave men and women of the US Armed Forces, many of whom continue leading successful lives despite sustaining life changing injuries during their service.

Congresswoman Allard also addressed the assembly. "We can never fully repay our debt to our veterans or the selfless patriotism of their families," she said. During her speech she also pledged to fight to ensure our Country's veterans receive all the

benefits they have earned and deserve.

The City Council presented veterans and active duty members of the five branches of military service with ribbons.

Also honored were the oldest resident military veteran 91-year-old Herbert Aldrete of the US Army and the oldest non-resident military veteran 92-year-old Jessie Casanova also of the US Army.

The official ceremonies were followed by a concert in the park accompanied by a fried chicken lunch provided by the City with desert provided by the Los Angeles-Commerce DoubleTree Hotel.

The City would like to thank the Double-Tree for desert, the US Army B Battery 1st/144 Field Artillery National Guard unit for providing the Humvee static display, and the Girl Scouts for their assistance.

## January Dates to Note

1  
New Year's

2  
City Hall and  
Libraries Closed

3  
City Council/CDC, 6:30 p.m.  
Youth Advisory Commission,  
7 p.m.

4  
Senior Citizens Commission,  
12:30 p.m.  
Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.

5  
Parks and Recreation Commis-  
sion, 6 p.m.

6  
Commerce Scholarship  
applications available

9  
Community Services Commis-  
sion, 6 p.m.  
Education Commission,  
6 p.m.  
English Book Club, 6 p.m.

10  
Beautification Committee,  
3:30 p.m.  
I-710 Local Advisory Committee,  
6:30 p.m.

16  
Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
City Hall and Libraries Closed

17  
City Council/CDC  
Library Embajadores

23  
Lunar New Year  
Adult Computer Class, 5:30 p.m.

24  
Library Commission,  
5:30 p.m.  
I-710 Local Advisory Commis-  
sion

25  
Planning Commission,  
6:30 p.m.

28  
Commerce's 52nd Birthday  
City Incorporation

30  
Spanish Book Club, 6 p.m.