



# Report to the People

Where Quality Service  
Is Our Tradition

Volume 52 No.8 August 2012

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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Miss Fourth of July Jannine Mancilla poses for a photo before the Patriotic March with Miss Commerce, the Royal Court and Captain America. From l. to r. are Captain America, Miss Dodgers Alyssa Rubio, Mancilla, Miss Commerce Unique Hernandez, Miss Galaxy Karely Ramirez, and Miss Friendship Jennifer Mendoza.

## COMMERCE CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

Thousands of Commerce patriots gathered together to celebrate the founding of their country and enjoy an amazing fireworks show at the City's Annual Independence Day celebration on July 4 at Rosewood Park.

The festivities kicked off with the annual 5K Freedom Run in the Rosewood Park area. Approximately 416 runners of all ages participated in the 3.2 mile mini-marathon.

The women's overall winner was Rosa Del Toro with a time of 17 minutes and 35 seconds. The women's division runner up was Lizzy Nelson with 20 minutes and 56 seconds.

The men's overall winner was

Rico Gutierrez with a time of 16 minutes and 4 seconds. The men's division runner-up was Oswaldo Hurtado with 16 minutes and 11 seconds.

In the 8 & Under Division Alicia Naranjo and Jack Resado finished first, while Louise Baragan and Bullet Bales both grabbed first place in the over 66 division. The oldest female and male runners were Martha Torres and Choe Hoe at 73 and 74, respectively.

The official ceremonies started with a welcome and introductions by master of ceremonies Steve Campos from Parks and Recreation and Miss 4th of July Jannine Mancilla.

Joining them onstage were

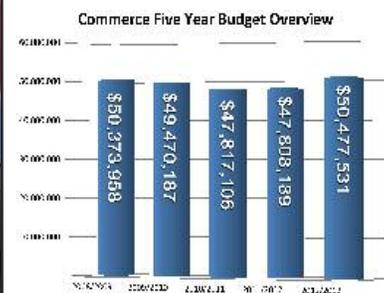
members of the Royal Court, the Parks and Recreation Commission, and the City Council.

Attendees enjoyed a wide variety of entertainment and activities. Residents participated in an "Old Fashioned Wagon Decorating Contest" and the annual "Firecracker 500," which featured games that delighted the crowd. They were also treated to performances from the City's dance programs, which included Tap and Ballet, Jazz, and Folklorico.

Park staff organized a Patriotic March, featuring Boy Scout Troop #473, Cub Scout Pack #473, LA County Sheriff's

Independence Day Page 8

## 2012-2013 BUDGET APPROVED



The City Council approved a \$50,477,531 operating budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 on June 19, closing a budget gap of approximately \$4 million and ending up with a small surplus of \$5,000.

Councilmembers closed the budget gap by approving approximately \$1.5 million in reductions to department budgets, programs and staff and using \$500,000 from the City's reserves. The deficit was further reduced by a higher than initially projected sales tax and franchise fee revenues totaling \$1,678,530; a cost adjustment in Sheriff's Department services, which was \$66,514 less than projected; and the sale of water production rights to the City of Whittier, which generated \$345,000 in revenues.

Even amid cuts and reductions, the council gave consideration to seniors dependent on rent-subsidized housing and voted to fund the Senior Rent Subsidy Program for one year, using \$90,000 from the general fund.

Redevelopment's dissolution eliminated the moderate housing funds used to pay for the program, essentially eliminating it. The council's action provides renters 12 months to seek alternative sources of funding. Additionally, the council approved health care costs increases for employees and extending health coverage to six employees who were laid off due to the elimination of redevelopment.

There were no changes in

Budget Approved Page 4

## PREVENT THE SPREAD OF TIGER MOSQUITOES

Commerce residents should take precautions against mosquitoes because mosquito season is here. Invasive and potentially dangerous Asian tiger mosquitoes not only survived the winter, but are growing in number and spreading.

Asian tiger mosquitoes were discovered in Northridge, Silver Lake, South El Monte, Whittier and Winnetka. To prevent these day-biting mosquitoes from spreading to other properties

and neighborhoods localized control measures are being taken.

The mosquitoes can be distinguished from native mosquitoes by their aggressive daytime biting habits, small size and black and white stripes. The mosquitoes also do well in even the smallest amounts of water.

With the potential threat of spreading West Nile virus by these mosquitoes, the Los An-

geles County Vector Control District is encouraging residents to eliminate places water can collect, such as the water dishes that sit below potted plants, buckets, containers and old tires.

The mosquitoes can even breed in the drops of water that collect in the crevices of plants, so residents are encouraged to water their yards at ground level. If residents notice the appearance of black and white

striped mosquitoes or are bitten by mosquitoes during the day, they are encouraged to contact the Vector Control District.

For more information or to report the appearance of black and white striped mosquitoes, contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 or visit their website at [www.glacvcd.org](http://www.glacvcd.org).

We invite residents to participate in our 29th Annual National Night Out event on Tuesday, Aug. 7. Everyone is welcome to attend one of the barbecue-style block parties hosted by Neighborhood Watch block captains being held throughout the City. Sheriff's deputies, firefighters, community safety specialists and city officials will visit the block parties to provide safety materials and listen to your concerns. Meet our crime prevention team and take a stand against crime by joining us at National Night Out.

Just a reminder that the City Council meeting has been rescheduled to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 6 to enable the City Council to participate in National Night Out activities.

Congratulations to the 2012 Commerce Scholarship recipients. This year 65 scholarships, totaling \$86,042, were awarded. We thank all the students who participated and all the generous donors whose contributions make it possible for students to pursue a college education.

I also want to congratulate Margo Miranda and Brenda Villa for their recent achievements in the sport of Women's Water Polo. Both of these women are international water polo stars. They got their start in the Commerce Women's Water Polo program. Miranda, a women's water polo pioneer credited with putting Commerce Water Polo on the map, was recently inducted into the USA Women's Water Polo Hall of Fame (story on page 5). Villa is a three-time Olympic water polo medalist, who is currently competing in her fourth Olympic Games in London. The most decorated women's water polo player in the world, Villa, is captain of the United States Olympic women's water polo team. We congratulate both of these women for the honor and distinction they have brought to our City. They are an inspiration to all.

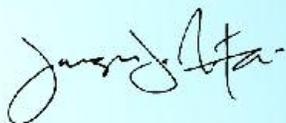
I am happy to report that the City Council adopted a balanced 2012/2013 fiscal year general fund operating budget of \$50,477,531 in July and ended up with a \$5,000 surplus. Council members were given the difficult task of closing a deficit originally projected at \$4 million. The demise of redevelopment, coupled with a slow economic recovery, added to the challenge. Meeting the needs and concerns of residents, employees and the business community is always at the forefront of the Council's decision making. While tough decisions were made, Council was able to balance the budget with minimal impacts to the community.

The Senior Rent Subsidy program was extended for one-year, using \$90,000 from the general fund. The program was a casualty of redevelopment's demise. Council members were concerned for residents dependent on the program and sought ways to ease the transition. The City Council voted to fund the program so that renters would be given time to seek alternative sources of funding.

The 2012/2013 Capital Improvement Budget was also approved and residents will begin to see many projects in motion including, reconstruction of streets in the Bristow and Rosini residential areas, improvements to Washington Blvd. and renovation of the Central Library. We have a busy year ahead of us.

I hope you and your family are having a wonderful summer. See you at National Night Out.

Sincerely,  
Jorge Rifá




## MUNICIPAL NOTES

### CRAIG REALTY, CITY PARTNER TO IMPROVE TELEGRAPH ROAD

Marked improvements were made to Telegraph Road at The Citadel thanks in large part to The Craig Realty Group. Last November, the City entered into a public/private partnership with The Craig Realty Group Citadel, LLC to install a double-left turn at Citadel Drive, and repave and restripe a portion of the roadway between Camfield Avenue and Gaspar Avenue.

Urgent repairs were needed, especially since an estimated 10 million shoppers visit the outlets annually. Telegraph Road is essential to the City because it is the main arterial route to revenue generating businesses such as

Hyundai, The Citadel, The Double Tree Hotel and the Commerce Casino. The Citadel alone generates close to \$3 million a year in sales tax revenue.

Craig Realty paid for \$200,000 in road improvements in advance and was reimbursed for about \$163,000 (\$137,000 from sales tax generation from three new stores and \$26,000 from the City). The remaining balance of \$37,000 was paid by Craig Realty. The partnership helped beautify the City and benefited the entire community. The City would like to commend Steve Craig for his partnership and support to beautify Commerce.

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM BUDGET APPROVED

The City Council approved a 2012-2013 Capital Improvement Program budget in July, totaling approximately \$6.6 million. Projects approved for funding included the street reconstruction in the Bristow and Rosini neighborhoods, the Safe Route to School program, Washington Blvd. improvements, Emergency Operations Center construction and the Central Library renovation.

Other projects and items approved were: Garfield Avenue street improvements (from Telegraph to Malt), the Washington Blvd. median construction, improvements to stop signs city wide, replacement of a bus washer, im-

provements to the Commerce Metrolink Station and Teen Center, a geotechnical analysis of the Camp Commerce snow fall drop area, improvements to the Camp Commerce water line and driveway, a City Hall emergency system upgrade and an emergency dispenser/fuel line in the Transportation Department.

In total, 18 capital improvement projects were approved. State and federal funding will pay for approximately \$2.6 million of the costs, with the remainder being paid out of the City's general fund. State and federal funded projects have completion deadlines, which have been incorporated into the project schedules.

## COUNCIL ACTIONS

### REGULAR MEETING REPORTS

#### Regular Meeting of June 19

- Honored Rod Gallegos for receiving the Older American Recognition Award from the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging.



City Council honored the World Boxing Organization on June 19 for donating equipment to the Commerce Boxing Program, whose participants are pictured here with WBO Executive Director Mark E. Reels.

- Directed staff to explore options for constructing a retaining wall at Camp Commerce.
- Approved contracts with the LA County Fire Department and Sheriff's Departments for law enforcement services for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.
- Approved an agreement with Transtech Engineering (Walnut, CA) for public works inspection and material testing services for the Safe Route to School Project and Bus Shelter Installation Project.
- Approved the purchase of an upgraded gate access control system for the Transportation Center.
- Approved a request for proposals for the I-710 Freeway Improvement Project Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement review.
- Approved an Agreement with Hogle-Ireland, Inc. for preparation of digital billboard standards.
- Received and filed a report on the re-design of the Central Library Renovation Project.
- Received and filed a status report on public safety issues.
- Received and filed a report on art in public places.
- Approved a revision to Commerce Municipal Code Section 2.10 providing for an increase in the Commerce campaign contribution limit from \$500 to \$1,000 per candidate per contributor per year.
- Received and filed a report from staff on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel.
- Received and filed a report updating the official City of Commerce Handbook for Commissions and Committees.
- Approved an agreement for design and engineering serv-

ices for the Washington Boulevard Widening and Reconstruction Project with RBF Consulting.

- Adjourned in memory of Janie Longoria Sapien, grandmother of City employee Rebecca-Lee Longoria; and in memory of Stephanie Perez Almada, family member of City employee Maggie Aguilar.

#### Regular Meeting of July 3

- Approved an agreement with the LA County Metropolitan Transit Authority to provide guidelines for the installation, operations and maintenance of Countywide signal priority to support Metro Operations.
- Approved the MOU with the City's mid-management and non-management full time employees.
- Approved the MOU with the City's full-time non-represented management full time employees.
- Approved an agreement with LA County to provide message establishment inspection services.
- Approved an agreement with the International Institute of Los Angeles for participation in the Immediate Needs Transportation Program.
- Approved Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program Participation Goals for federal fiscal years 2012-2015.
- Approved a lease agreement between Structural Materials Co. and Beacon Sales Acquisition, Inc.
- Approved a lease agreement with American International Industries for the property located at 5901 E. Telegraph Rd.
- Approved a lease agreement with American International Industries for the property located at 2366 Travers Avenue.
- Received and filed a report on the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel.
- Approved use of the City's fitness facilities by the spouses or significant others of City retirees.
- Appointed Sandy Cornejo to the Senior Citizens Commission.

## Report to the People

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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Please call (323) 887-4453 or (323) 887-4447  
Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
or visit us online at [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us).

# VEHICLE BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS

FROM THE LA COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT



“Although crime rates in Commerce have decreased over the last year, we have seen a rise in some specific categories, primarily vehicle

burglaries,” said Commerce’s Dedicated Sergeant Rich Haley of the LA County Sheriff’s Department.

**To prevent vehicle burglaries, Sergeant Haley recommends the following tips:**

•Park your vehicle in a well lighted and well traveled area whenever possible to discourage would be

thieves.

•Keep all valuables, such as cell phones, computers, purses/wallets, or items you just purchased, out of view. Use your trunk if possible. All of these items are bait to a thief.

•Don’t leave spare change exposed in your car. Loose change can represent “big dollars” to a thief.

•If you must store valuable items in your vehicle, place them in the trunk.

•Always lock your vehicle.

For more suggestions on how to keep yourself and your property safe, 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 emergency always call 911.

## YOUTH INVITED TO COMMERCE CLEAN UP

CITADEL FOUNDER PLEDGES \$100 TO PROGRAMS FOR EVERY YOUTH VOLUNTEER

Steve Craig, President and CEO of Craig Realty, which owns and operates the Citadel Retail Outlets, attended a recent Commerce City Council meeting to invite volunteers 12 and over to help clean up the area in and around the former Frazee Paint Building located on the 5400 block of Telegraph Road next to the Citadel on Saturday, August 11 from 6:30 am to 1 pm.

For each youth volunteer who volunteers at the Commerce Clean Up, Craig pledged to donate \$100 to a program of their choice, just as he did last year for volunteers from the Commerce Boy’s Water Polo Team, the Commerce Teen Center, and St. Marcellinus Church.

Last year’s Commerce Clean Up resulted in cleaning up and beautifying the Telegraph Road Corridor section of the City, an effort that filled 14 roll off trash bins provided by Waste Management. “We were sweeping the streets and picking up the trash together, making the area look better so that when visitors come here they feel the pride that we have and they want to come

back and be a part of it,” said Craig, explaining the reason for last year’s clean up.

“You may recall that this kind of came out of a report the State of California did on blight in Commerce and we said, ‘We’re going to change that,’ and I think we have to a large degree turned it around. But we want to keep that going, keep the involvement going and the enthusiasm for it. Anyone that’s willing to work is on my team,” added Craig.

At the meeting, Craig presented a list of projects that included planting bougainvillea, a climbing plant with colorful flowers, on the Northwest embankment of the Interstate 5 overpass. He also stated that Craig Realty has set aside \$50,000 to help cover material and equipment costs and that they are asking vendors they do business with for assistance in the Commerce Cleanup neighborhood improvement effort.

## HOME ENERGY UPGRADES

LA COUNTY ENERGY UPGRADE PROGRAM

The Los Angeles County Energy Upgrade California program helps you make home improvements that can

save energy and make your home more comfortable. Energy

Upgrade California provides you with the opportunity to receive up to \$8,000 in rebates from your utility and city or county. Rebates vary by city, county and utility provider.

These rebates reward you for addressing your home energy efficiency needs as a system--insulation, air ducts, windows, furnace and air-conditioning that work together, instead of piece by piece. An energy upgrade makes sure that each piece functions well, so your whole house is more efficient.

**An energy upgrade can help you...**

- Save energy and money by lowering your bills
- Make your home more comfortable in all seasons
- Improve the air quality inside your home
- Conserve resources and reduce greenhouse gases

Visit the Los Angeles County Energy Upgrade California website at <https://energyupgradeca.org> for a “one-stop shop” guide to giving your home an energy upgrade. Once you are logged on:

1. Select an upgrade package that suits your needs

2. Decide whether or not to pursue a Whole-House Home Energy Rating
3. Find a participating contractor to complete your upgrade and maximize your savings
4. Get rebates, incentives and financing to help pay for your upgrade

### Upgrade Packages

There are two upgrade packages: Basic and Advanced. Each offers different rebates and incentives. You choose the one that works best for your goals and budget. You can add Enhanced Options to either upgrade, including eco-friendly building solutions or solar panels.

### Home Energy Professionals Contractors and Raters

Energy Upgrade California connects you with home energy professionals, including participating contractors and Whole-House Home Energy Raters, who are trained to make your home as efficient as possible.

### Rebates, Incentives and Financing

Get up to \$4,000 back on your upgrade through your local utility, plus additional rebates in select cities and counties and financing options to help you pay for your project.

### Who may participate?

Eligibility varies depending on your utility provider. Contact a contractor or rater to find out more.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

# USED TIRE RECYCLING



It’s illegal to stockpile waste tires on residential property not permitted for tire storage and it’s illegal to dispose of them in public right-of-ways.

Waste tire stockpiles pose a threat to public health, safety and the environment. They can cause fires and can collect water, becoming a breeding ground for mosquitoes (See story on page 1).

**WASTE TIRES CAN BE RECYCLED** and turned into playground covers, floor mats, drain pipe, mulch, office supplies, and roadway material.

Residents can recycle waste tires (for a nominal fee), used motor oil and filters, and car batteries at:

### Walmart Tire & Lube Express

8500 Washington Blvd.

Pico Rivera

(562) 801-2413

THE CITY OF COMMERCE  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE  
CABLE TV DIVISION

PRESENTS

# COMMERCE MEN'S WATER POLO



REPLAYS FROM  
THE JUNE 30 LEFT COAST  
INTERNATIONAL WATER POLO TOURNA-  
MENT  
ON COMMERCE CABLE  
CHANNEL 3

## SCHEDULE:

MONDAY 10 A.M.  
TUESDAY 3 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY 5:30 P.M.  
THURSDAY 9 A.M.  
FRIDAY 4:30 P.M.  
SATURDAY 7 P.M.  
SUNDAY 5:30 P.M.

**DVD COPIES OF THE  
COMMERCE TEAM GAMES**  
ARE AVAILABLE FOR \$10  
AND COPIES OF ALL GAMES  
PLAYED THAT DAY ARE  
AVAILABLE FOR \$15 FROM  
THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CALL PIO AT (323) 887-4453

## LIBRARY NEWS

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM ENDING PARTY

#### Summer Reading Program Ending Party

The City of Commerce Public Library will end their summer long reading program with a bang. The Commerce Library's Children's Summer Reading Program Ending Celebration this year is a big dance party for children and their families. Children and their families can "Dream Big – Dance!" to music provided by a live DJ.

The family dance will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, August 9 in the Veterans Park Gym. Cookies and juice will be served after the program. Everyone is welcome to attend. Free bus service will be provided to and from Bristow, Atlantic and Central libraries. Bus space is limited. To sign up for bus transportation call your local Commerce library.

#### TEEN PROGRAMS

##### College Fair

The City of Commerce Public Library and the Education Commission will host the 7th Annual Commerce to College Fair at Veterans Park on Saturday, September 15 from 10 a.m to 2 p.m.

This year's theme is "I'm Going to College." This year's guest speaker is Jaime Rojas, Jr., Founder of Rojas Communications. Everyone is invited to participate in college workshops, meet with college representatives and participate in a raffle for a computer.

##### Teen Summer Reading Program

The Teen Summer Reading program will soon be coming to a close, but you may still have time to complete it! The last

chance to report will be on Saturday, August 4. Those who complete the program will have a chance to win our grand prize—a computer that teens worked together to build during the week of July 23. All teens that entered our Summer Reading Program are invited to attend our closing party on Wednesday, August 8 at 5 p.m in the Emergency Operations Center.

##### Teen Book Club

The Teen Book Club will be meeting on August 22 at 5:30 p.m at the Central Library. The meeting's focus will be on John Green's *The Fault in our Stars*.

#### ADULT PROGRAMS

##### Adult Summer Reading Program

The last day to report for the Adult Summer Reading Program is Saturday, August 4. Raffles will take place on Wednesday, August 8 at Central Library at 4 p.m.

##### Library Computer Classes

The Library will be offering monthly computer classes. All classes will meet in the Central Library. Sign up forms will be provided at the Central Library. Only 10 students can be accommodated per session. For more information or to sign up, visit the Central Library reference desk or call at (323) 722-6660 x2275 or visit the Library website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org). All session will start at 5:30 p.m and will end at 7:30 p.m.

## 2012-2013 BUDGET

### CONT. FROM PG. 1

employee wages and no additional layoffs. The City also approved funding of much needed capital outlay items totaling \$154,453 such as, computer equipment, vehicles, desks and park equipment that had been on hold due to budget constraints.

The City has faced four consecutive fiscal years of budget challenges, including an operating budget that has been reduced by \$6 million over

the last four budget cycles. Despite a severe economic recession, lackluster economic recovery and the elimination of redevelopment by the governor and State legislators, council members have forged through a difficult and frustrating process to achieve a balanced budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 with minimal impacts to the community and workforce.

## COMMERCE RELAY FOR LIFE

### GET INVOLVED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER



The City of Commerce and the American Cancer Society are giving the community an opportunity to join in the fight against cancer with the Relay for

Life, which is a 24-hour walking event to increase cancer awareness while raising much needed funds for cancer research. The event is being held on Friday, August 3 at the Veterans Park field starting at noon and will continue until Saturday, August 4 at noon.

The event will consist of teams of 10 to 15 people who will walk or run around a track in shifts. Teams can be made up of friends, family, local business establishments, and other organizations. Each team is asked to keep one member on the track at all times. The team registration fee is \$150 and each team member is encouraged to raise at

least \$100. In addition to walking, participants have the chance to camp out and enjoy music, entertainment and refreshments as well as build team spirit in the fight against cancer.

Commerce resident cancer survivors are invited to walk the opening Survivor Lap and inspire everyone through their courageous participation. We also urge those who have lost a loved one to this terrible illness to come out and participate in their memory. An evening vigil, called the Luminaria Ceremony, will be held in honor and memorial to those who lost their lives in the battle against cancer. Relay for Life allows our community to grieve for those we have lost to cancer and to celebrate the lives of those who have successfully survived. It also builds our community by rallying around a common cause.

Residents are asked to participate, sponsor or volunteer for this event. If you or someone you know would like to contribute to this important event, please call Francine Ayala of Popular Community Bank at (323) 724-8801, Pat Monroy at the Commerce Industrial Council at (323) 728-2222 or by visiting the American Cancer Society's website at [www.relayforlife.org/commerce.ca](http://www.relayforlife.org/commerce.ca).

# MARGO MIRANDA INDUCTED TO HALL OF FAME

## USA WATER POLO RECOGNIZES MARGO'S ACHIEVEMENTS



Margo Miranda at the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony (photo provided courtesy of USA Water Polo).

The City of Commerce is now the proud hometown of a Hall of Famer. Commerce Water Polo alumnus Margo Miranda was inducted into the USA Water Polo Hall of Fame at the 2012 USA Water Polo Olympic Send-Off Party and Hall of Fame Induction Dinner on July 7 at the InterContinental Hotel in Century City.

Margo was honored by members of the City Council at the ceremony for her career accomplishments and

in acknowledgment of her legacy in the sport and the City's Water Polo program. An early member of the Commerce Water Polo program, Margo was a pioneer in the sport of women's water polo who helped pave the way for the successes of future women's water polo athletes, including Commerce Olympians Patty Cardenas and Brenda Villa.

Not the most physically imposing athlete, Margo made up for a lack of size with pin point accuracy on the offensive end and a knack for converting power plays. A member of the Women's Senior National Team from 1983-1992, Margo helped the team to Bronze at the 1986 and 1991 World Championships. Margo was also part of the Silver Medal winning squad at the 1983, 1984, and 1989 World Cups, and the Bronze Medal winning team at the 1991 World Cup.

Margo competed at a time when the status of both the sport and women playing it received less support and official recognition. She did it for the love of the sport, often having to sacrifice so much in order to keep playing. Having to sleep on floors and in churches, she is one of the pioneers of the game and helped make women's water polo popular in the City of Commerce and the United States.

# COMMERCE WOMEN'S WATER POLO CLUB CHAMPIONS

## 14 & UNDER TEAM BRINGS HOME GOLD

The City of Commerce Women's Water Polo teams brought their A game to the 2012 United States Club Water Polo Championships in San Diego held July 5-8.

The City's 14 and under girls water polo team took home their division's gold medal, beating out a number of tough teams, such as Laguna and Santa Barbara. The 18 and under girl's water polo team took 4th place and the 16 and under girl's team took 7th place.

Coach Gabriel Martinez was proud of his teams. "With the conditions, having to commute everyday, their performance and determination was exceptional. I am very happy with the 14 and under team and how they played."

For more information about the Commerce Water Polo Team, go to [www.CommerceAquatics.org](http://www.CommerceAquatics.org) or contact Head Women's Water Polo Coach Gabriel Martinez at (323) 887-4404.

# COMMERCE MEN'S WATER POLO TOURNAMENT

## 12 & UNDER TEAM TAKES 1ST IN THEIR DIVISION



The Commerce Men's 12 & Under Team hold their first place trophy aloft at the Los Altos High School pool in Hacienda Heights.

The Commerce Men's Water Polo teams turned in strong performances with strong finishes in the Left Coast Water Polo International Tournament held at seven different locations, including the pools at the Commerce Aquatorium and Mt. San Antonio College over two weekends, June 23-24 and June 29-July 1.

The City's 12 and under Men's water polo team took 1st place for their division, beating out 13 other competitors from all over the Southern California area. The most valuable player was Carlos Herredia and the most valuable goalie was Erik Villapondo. Based on

their performance at the tournament, Men's Water Polo Head Coach Bobby Contreras had a positive outlook for the team's future. "We're looking to go to the Junior Olympics this year and I think we have a shot at a medal."

The 10 and under mixed water polo team took 2nd place for their division, making the fight for first a tough one for the rest of the field. "This is their best finish all year. They're a very inexperienced team so this is huge for them to walk out with medals. They're very excited so I want them to come back and get the community excited," said Contreras.

The 14 and under boys water polo team took 4th place in their division, out of 27 teams, while the 16 and under and the 18 and under boys water polo teams each ranked in the top 50th percentile for their respective divisions.

The competitiveness of Commerce's water polo teams is a testament to the success of the City's water polo program, which has had tremendous support from the City. The program has produced a number of Olympic athletes, making the Commerce Water Polo Program renowned nationwide.

For more information about the Commerce Water Polo Team, go to [www.commerceAquatics.org](http://www.commerceAquatics.org) or contact Head Men's Water Polo Coach Bobby Contreras at (323) 887-4404 ext. 2804.

# CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



## August 2012 Featured Highlights

### AWARD WINNING CABLECASTS OF THE 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 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.

### COMMERCE MEN'S WATER POLO TOURNAMENT

Monday 10 a.m., Tuesday 3 p.m., Wednesday 5:30 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m., Friday 4:30 p.m., Saturday 7 p.m. & Sunday 5:30 p.m.

### COMMERCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SHOW "CAMP COMMERCE"

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

### TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES "OLIO" SANTA MONICA PIER CONCERT

Monday 1 p.m., Tuesday 12 p.m., Wednesday 8 a.m., Thursday 7 p.m., Friday 6 p.m., Saturday 4 p.m. & Sunday 8 a.m.

### CHEAP EATS FEATURING: KIM CHUY, EMPRESS PAVILION, PHOENIX INN

Monday 8 a.m., Tuesday 8 a.m., Wednesday 9 a.m., Thursday 10 a.m., Friday 8 a.m., Saturday 12 p.m. & Sunday 9 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.

# Report to the People **COMMERCE GALLERY**

## Giving Back to the Community



Commerce Olympian and Silver Medalist Brenda Villa spoke, participated in a shootout, posed for pictures, and signed autographs for young athletes in July. Brenda is competing in her fourth Olympics this month with the USA Women's Olympic Water Polo Team. For game dates and times go to [www.nbcolympics.com](http://www.nbcolympics.com).

## Keeping Commerce Beautiful



The Commerce Community Development Department's Public Services Division staff recently conducted a clean-up effort in the Veterans Park area to keep the City looking clean and attractive.

## Commissioner Honored



Outgoing Youth Advisory Commissioner Joseph Alvarado was recently honored by the Youth Advisory Commission for his service to the community.

## Home Depot Children's Safety Fair



Miss Commerce Unique Hernandez, members of the Royal Court and City officials attended Home Depot's Children's Safety Fair in June that featured popcorn, refreshments, vendors, safety information, and craft activities for children.

## The Basics of Home Improvement



Commerce residents Angelina and Isabella Leon learned the basics of doing it yourself in one of the craft activities at the Home Depot Children's Safety Fair held on June 30.

## Crushing the Competition



The Commerce Crush Volleyball 14-1 team beat the top seeded team and finished in 16th place out of 120 teams at the 2012 Volleyball Festival held in Phoenix, AZ from June 26-July 1.

## Commerce Optometry



The Commerce Industrial Council/Chamber of Commerce, Miss Commerce and City officials welcomed Commerce Center Optometry to the City with a ribbon cutting ceremony on July 13.

## Commerce 5K Freedom Run



A favorite event of recreational and serious runners in Commerce and throughout the region, the Annual 5K Freedom Run held on July 4 drew more than 400 participants.

## Library Serving Families



The Acero family enjoys the Central Library's book collection, as well as arts and crafts activities.

## YES Program In Action



Commerce YES Program volunteers are ready to help children choose books for this year's Summer Reading Program.

CITY OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



**TUESDAY, AUGUST 7, 2012**

**JOIN US FOR OUR 29TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT!**

Your Neighborhood Watch Block Captain will be hosting a barbecue-style block party and YOU'RE INVITED!

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

is a fun, family event that promotes safety and crime prevention. Deputy Sheriffs, firefighters, Community Safety Specialists and City officials will visit each party to provide safety information and listen to your concerns.

The City provides hot dogs, safety materials, giveaways and safety presentations at each party.

**NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

is a Commerce tradition. Join our crime fighting efforts, enjoy a barbecue and meet our CRIME PREVENTION TEAM.

**YOUR BLOCK CAPTAIN WILL CONTACT YOU ABOUT THE STARTING TIME AND LOCATION OF YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY**

For additional information, contact Laura Tilley at (323) 887-4460 ext.2870.



CITY OF COMMERCE LIBRARY SERVICES

# 2012 COMMERCIAL COLLEGE FAIR

**SATURDAY**  
SEPTEMBER 15, 2012  
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.  
VETERANS PARK

**FREE ADMISSION**

SHUTTLE BUS WILL RUN FROM CITY PARKS TO EVENT.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 323-722-6660  
OR VISIT [WWW.COCPL.ORG](http://WWW.COCPL.ORG).

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

**"I'M GOING TO COLLEGE"**

## American Cancer Society and City of Commerce



**August 3 and 4, 2012**  
**12:00 pm to 12:00 pm**

Veterans Memorial Park  
6364 Zindell Avenue  
Commerce 90040

**Looking for:**

- Sponsors ·Fundraising teams ·Volunteers
- Cancer survivors to honor as a symbol of progress in the fight against cancer.

Get involved by calling Francine Ayala at (323) 724-8801, Pat Monroy at (323) 728-7222 or by visiting the website at [www.relayforlife.org/commerce.ca](http://www.relayforlife.org/commerce.ca)

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**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

the **YMCA** **FREE TO LOW COST PRESCHOOL**

THIS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED FOR FAMILIES WHO ARE WORKING, SEEKING EMPLOYMENT, OR GOING TO SCHOOL FULLTIME. QUALIFYING FAMILIES MUST SHOW PROOF OF INCOME AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS APPLY. CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT. SPACE IS LIMITED.

**AGES**

3.5 & 4 YEARS OLD  
CHILD MUST BE POTTY TRAINED

**WHEN**

STARTS JULY 1  
MONDAY-FRIDAY 7:00AM-6:00PM

**WHERE**

MONTEBELLO-COMMERCE PRESCHOOL & CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
2353 S. COMMERCE WAY,  
COMMERCE CA. 90040

**CONTACT**

ANTOINETTE DURAN 323 728 7380  
ANTOINETTEDURAN@YMCALA.ORG

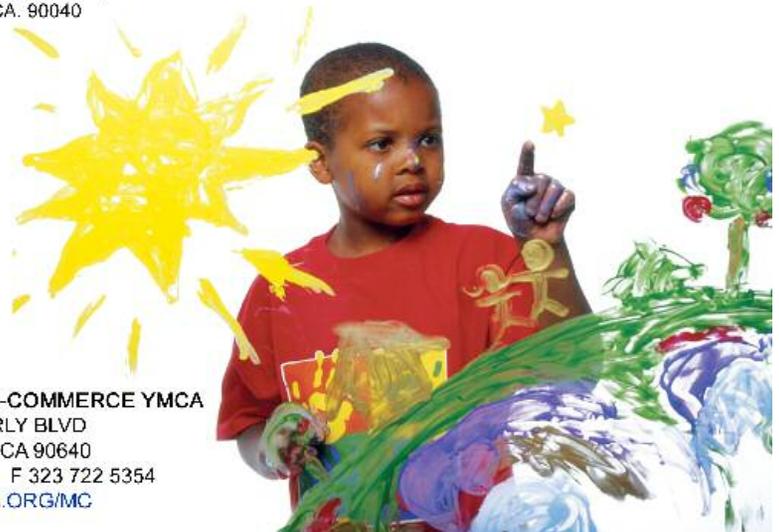
**COST**

FREE TO LOW COST FOR QUALIFYING FAMILIES

**ADDITIONAL INFO**

A HEALTHY SNACK IS PROVIDED DAILY.

MONTEBELLO-COMMERCE YMCA  
2000 W. BEVERLY BLVD  
MONTEBELLO CA 90640  
P 323 887 9622 F 323 722 5354  
[WWW.YMCALA.ORG/MC](http://WWW.YMCALA.ORG/MC)



## COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



Lilia R. Leon, Mayor  
 Tina Baca Del Rio, Mayor Pro Tem  
 Joe Aguilar, Councilmember  
 Ivan Altamirano, 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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# INDEPENDENCE DAY

CONT. FROM PG. 1



The City hosted a four day carnival complete with rides, food, and games for all ages as part of the Independence Day Celebration.

Scout Troop #473, Cub Scout Pack #473, LA County Sheriff's Deputies, the

Royal Court, and members of the city council.

One of the day's main attractions was the 'Commerce's Got Talent' show, which featured participants from the community showing off their particular talents. Special surprise guest judges included Uncle Sam (Dance Instructor Anthony Gutierrez), Betsy Ross (Senior Citizens Commissioner Sharon Rowe), the Statue of Liberty (Dance Instructor Jessica La Cheminant), and newcomer Captain America (Recreation Leader Raymond Zamora, Jr.).

Local talent included singers, dancers, and other exciting performers, including a double jointed dancer who amazed the crowd with his unorthodox dance moves and a theatrical performance from Dorothy and the Wicked Witch from The Wizard of Oz, who were actually Commerce teens Mariah Pino and Marena Castillo. Everyone who participated in the contest was declared

a winner by the esteemed and patriotic panel of judges.

The food and refreshments featured a wide selection of delicious American and ethnic food. Some of the dishes being served by the City's civic and service organizations included ceviche, kettle corn, tacos and green chicken enchiladas. Raffles included great prizes, including a bicycle donated by Martin's Bike Shop in East Los Angeles.

The event was highlighted by the 4th of July carnival. Children of all ages enjoyed the attractions, like the Ferris wheel, carnival games, and a funhouse. The celebration also featured face painting, balloon animals, and raffle prizes.

Live music was provided by R&B/classic rock band Boxcar 7 and funk/R&B band The Reel Band, whose musical stylings brought residents on the dance floor, where they grooved the day away. In the evening, music was provided by DJ Boogie Night Entertainment.

The day culminated in a visually stunning fireworks show provided by Pyro Spectaculars. The spectacle ran for nearly 30 minutes, with patriotic music in the background enhancing the sights and sounds of the pyrotechnic display. Colorful explosions of red, white, blue, and other colors filled the night sky.

This year's celebration was made possible through sponsorships from the Commerce Casino, which contributed \$15,000 and the .99 Cents Only Stores, which donated \$4,999.99 to the event. The City would like to thank the Commerce Casino and .99 Cents Only Stores for their generous donations.

The Annual Independence Day Celebration was coordinated by the Department of Parks and Recreation and televised on Channel 3 by the City's Cable TV staff and volunteers.

## AUGUST DATES TO NOTE

<p><b>1</b> Senior Citizens Commission, 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Youth Advisory Commission, 7 p.m.</p> <p>English Book Club, EOC Room, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>17</b> Movie Night: "Dr. Seuss Horton Hears A Who!", Bandini Park, 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>27</b> Spanish Book Club, EOC room, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Adult Computer Classes, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>2</b> Parks and Recreation Commission, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Library Movie Night Central Library, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>7</b> <b>National Night Out, 6 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>I-710 Public Hearing, Rosewood Park 4 pm to 8 pm</b></p>	<p><b>28</b> Library Commission 5:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>3</b> Movie Night: "E.T." Bristow Park, 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>9</b> Community Services Commission, 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>21</b> <b>City Council/Successor Agency, 6:30 p.m.</b></p> <p>Library Embajadores Meeting, EOC room, 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>I-710 Local Advisory Committee (Ad Hoc), 6:30 p.m.</b></p>
<p><b>6</b> <b>City Council/Successor Agency, 6:30 p.m.</b> (To be held in place of the 8/7 adjourned regular meeting due to National Night Out activities)</p>	<p><b>10</b> Movie Night: "Puss in Boots", Bandini Park, 8 p.m.</p> <p><b>13</b> Education Commission, 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>14</b> I-710 Local Advisory Committee (Ad Hoc), 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>22</b> Teen Book Club, Central Library, 7 p.m.</p> <p><b>24</b> Movie Night: "Lo Mejor del Chavo del 8," Rosewood Park, 8 p.m.</p>	<p><b>29</b> Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>31</b> Summer End Celebration, Rosewood Park 7:30-10:30 p.m.</p>