

Report to the People

Where Quality Service
Is Our Tradition

Volume 52 No.10 October 2012

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Commerce Teens



Brenda Villa with friends, family and coaches. From l. to r. are 2012 Olympic Women's Water Polo Coach Adam Krikorian, Edgar Villa, Isabella Villa, Rosario Villa, Gino Medina, Brenda, Ines Villa, Uriel Villa, Miss Commerce Unique Hernandez, and former Olympic Coach Guy Baker.

AQUATORIUM RENAMED 'BRENDA VILLA AQUATIC CENTER' IN HONOR OF COMMERCE GOLD MEDALIST

After leading the US Olympic Women's Water Polo Team to a Gold Medal in the 2012 Summer Olympics on Aug. 9 in London, England, four-time Commerce Olympian Brenda Villa was welcomed back to Commerce for a ribbon cutting ceremony at Rosewood Park to dedicate the newly renamed 'Brenda Villa Aquatic Center' in her honor on Aug. 26.

At the ceremony, Brenda who joined the Commerce Aquatics Program at the age of six, shared her feelings. "It's a bit overwhelming. I was listening to the National Anthem and the tears just started welling up in my eyes. I dreamt of this mo-

ment for 12 years and standing on the podium with my teammates, I thought that I would cry, but I didn't. But how fitting it is for me to cry here in the City of Commerce where it all started," said the 32-year-old before a crowd of more than 1,000 fans that included past and present employees, members of the business community, residents, elected officials and other well wishers.

50th District Assembly Member Ricardo Lara, who represents Commerce and grew up in nearby East Los Angeles, was among them. "Your accomplishment means a lot to all of us, not only as Latinos, but

as Americans and Californians. Thank you for serving as a role model to our women and our youth," said Lara.

The newly renamed Brenda Villa Aquatic Center first opened in Feb. of 2001 as the Commerce Aquatorium, which replaced the Original Aquatorium built in 1961. It was in the Original Aquatorium where Brenda's love for the sport and the proud tradition of Commerce Water Polo began. In addition to Brenda, former Commerce Water Polo alumni include her 2008 Olympic teammate Patty Cardenas and recent USA

Villa Brings Home Gold Page 8

STATE BUDGET DECISIONS ARE DEVASTATING TO THE CITY'S FINANCIAL FUTURE

The November 6 election will give us the opportunity to vote for crucial national, state and local matters. The City of Commerce voters are being asked to vote on a very important ordinance, referred to as "Measure AA", which will affect the quality of services the residents and businesses receive and the financial well-being of our City for years to come.

Based on a public opinion poll and recommendation by the City's Blue Ribbon Committee, a committee of residents, City employees and business leaders selected by the City Council to study different City revenue options, the City Council voted unanimously to place Measure AA before the Commerce voters in the upcoming November 6 election. If passed by the voters in accordance with California law, Measure AA will impose a 1/2 cent local sales tax for every retail dollar spent in the City, which equates to fifty cents on every one hundred dollars, and provide much needed revenue for the City.

The approval of Measure AA will allow the City to generate an estimated \$4.5 to \$5 million annually for the City's general fund. This estimated revenue will help us maintain and improve a wide range of services to residents and businesses, including fixing streets, maintaining parks, libraries and local facilities, restoring public safety, and other vital city services.

We would like to take this opportunity to provide you with the basic facts regarding this ordinance (Measure AA):

- An estimated \$4.5 to \$5 million will be generated annually.
- The sales tax will only be 1/2 of a cent for every dollar of retail sales made in the City to non-residents and residents alike.
- The City has had declining revenues that have so far been addressed by \$6 million in service reduction cuts at li-



Page 7 Town Hall Meetings: State of the City

STATE OF THE CITY PRESENTED TO BUSINESS COMMUNITY



Eddie Tafoya of the Industrial Council introduces the Mayor at the State of the City address.

Economic uncertainty caused by the recession and the elimination of redevelopment continue to pose a challenge, but Commerce is well positioned to not only survive economic disasters but to progress, said the Mayor during the annual State of the City Address to local businesses held Aug. 21 at Steven's Steak House.

"This has been an eventful year, part of a terrible four year economic cycle that has had a

tremendous impact on the community from a standpoint of providing programs and services," said the Mayor.

"My focus here today is to discuss where we have been, how we plan to forge ahead, and most importantly how it affects you," she said.

Before continuing, she took a few moments to acknowledge women's water polo Olympic gold medalist Brenda Villa.

"Her success is a result of

dedication and an unflinching work ethic to focus, improve, and succeed. Whether it was in the Commerce Aquatorium, at Stanford University or the Olympic games, she has worked hard and then worked some more to achieve success," the mayor said.

The mayor commended the City's commitment to fiscal responsibility which resulted in Council members closing a \$4

State of the City Page 8

Tax Measure Page 5

If you've attended the City Council meetings last month or the recent I-710 public hearings, you know that the proposed freeway expansion will impact our community. The City hired PCR Services Corporation consultants to review the I-710 freeway improvement project's draft Environmental Impact Report and draft Environmental Impact Statement. The City will use PCR's findings and public input to prepare a comment letter to Caltrans, expressing the community's concerns about the project.

The consultants have reported that construction of the freeway, which Caltrans estimates would take four years and perhaps longer, would significantly impact Commerce. Air and noise pollution, increased traffic, sales tax loss, property tax loss, residential and nonresidential relocation and displacement of local business employees are some of the issues Commerce will have to address if and when the project proceeds. Although the project may be at least 15 years from the start of construction and 20 years from completion, the City Council has to carefully review and document its viewpoint on the project-related impacts.

As the Report to the People went to press, PCR consultants were in the process of completing their review of the draft EIR/EIS and creating a draft comment letter for Council's review. Look for updates on this project in upcoming issues of the Report to the People.

Next month, City of Commerce residents will vote on Measure AA, a local general tax measure which will be appearing on the November 6 General Election ballot. If passed by Commerce voters, the local sales tax would increase by 1/2 cent for every retail dollar spent in our community. The measure is expected to generate \$4.5 to \$5 million annually, which would be used to fund projects and services to our business and residential communities. The revenues gained from this tax measure will be used to repair local facilities, fix streets, restore public safety, and provide important City services all through local control and accountability. This measure will play a critical difference in the City's ability to meet the future needs of our residential and business communities.

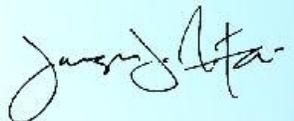
It can sometimes be difficult to find parking in your neighborhood. While it's tempting to park illegally, it's not worth the risk of getting a parking citation or having your car towed. On page 3 of this month's RTTP, we've listed some of the most common parking violations. Remember, parking regulations are designed to improve public safety and efficient traffic flow.

Halloween is celebrated this month and the Department of Parks and Recreation has several activities planned including a Costume Parade that begins at 6 p.m. sharp, at all parks, on Oct. 31. For more information, call the department at (323) 887-4434. If you or family members are going trick or treating this year, be sure to read our Halloween safety tips on page 3.

The Department of Community Services/ Social Services Division is collecting donations for this year's Holiday Cheer program. Donations of funds, food, new toys, gift certificates, or family sponsoring should be received by November 1 for Thanksgiving. For more information or to make a donation, please contact the Community Services Department at (323) 887-4460.

It's "Back to School" time and we should all be just a tad more careful with kids crossing the streets.

Sincerely,
 Jorge Rifá




MUNICIPAL NOTES

AQUATICS TEAMS RECOGNIZED



The Commerce Women's Water Polo Team and Coaches. The 14 & Under Team took first place at the Junior Olympics.

In August, the Commerce City Council honored the Commerce Aquatics Program for the success of the swimming and water polo teams that participated in the 2012 Junior Olympics (JOs).

Gabriel Martinez, Head Coach for the Women's Water Polo teams, reported on the women's teams at the J.Os in Palo Alto, CA, August 2 – 5. The 14 and under team took the gold for 1st place. The City's 16 and under team finished 2nd in the nation and the 12 and under team took 7th, while the 18 and under took 11th in the country.

Bobby Contreras, Head Coach for the Men's Water Polo teams, reported the results from the National Junior Olympics in Palo Alto, California held July 27-31. The 18 and under Boys Water Polo team earned 1st in the Challenge Tournament in the silver division for the 49th overall ranking. The 16 and under team gained 3rd place in the gold division; the 12 and under team got 7th place in the platinum division; the 10 and under co-ed team took 10th place in the platinum division; and the 14 and under team earned 21st place in the platinum division.

Kevin Larsen, Head Coach for the swimming program reported on Commerce swimmers Jesse Barragan and Carlos Herredia, who competed at the Southern California JOs in Thousand Oaks, CA, July 25-29. Barragan earned championships in the 50m Breast and the 100m Breast, which set new team records and ranked him in the top 100 nationally. Herredia ranked 8th overall in Southern California in the 100m Fly.

For more information about the Commerce Swimming or Water Polo Teams, go to www.CommerceAquatics.org or contact Head Swimming Coach Kevin Larsen, Head Men's Water Polo Coach Bobby Contreras, or Head Women's Water Polo Coach Gabriel Martinez at (323) 887-4404.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

REGULAR MEETING REPORTS

Regular Meeting of August 21

- Honored the Commerce Boy's and Girl's Swimming and Water Polo Teams for their participation in the Junior Olympics.
- Received a presentation from the Commerce Sister City Association President Javier Vazquez honoring the City for the contribution of surplus City vehicles to Commerce's Sister City of Aguascalientes. The Sister Cities Association presented Stephanie Neri with the Sister Cities Scholarship.
- Approved a Request for Proposals for a replacement bus wash system at the Commerce Transportation Services Center.
- Received and filed a report on the City's Commercial Manufacturing (C/M1) Zone.
- Approved the inclusion of a new hazardous materials booklet with the City's safety manual.
- Adopted a resolution finding the City to be in conformance with the Congestion Management Program in accordance with California Government Code 65809.
- Approved an agreement with the LA County Metropolitan Transit Authority to receive Proposition C discretionary funds for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.
- Renewed a contract for the Prevention and Intervention Program (PIP) from the LA County Probation Department.
- Received and filed a report on the I-710 Freeway Improvement Project draft EIR/EIS Comment letter and gave direction to staff.
- Approved the renaming of the Commerce Aquatorium and establishing the Hall of Champions.
- Received and filed a report on Citywide street parking regulations and gave direction to staff.
- Approved having the City join the Rio Hondo-Vernon Rotary Club.
- Appointed Carmen Marquez Cooper to the Education Commission.
- Approved an agreement with Trimming Land Co. Inc. for Tree Maintenance Services.
- Adjourned in memory of Patsy De La Rosa, mother of City employee Margaret De La Rosa.

Regular Meeting of September 4

- Recognized Steve Craig, Craig Realty Group-Citadel Outlets, City staff, participating businesses, and youth volunteers that participated in the Commerce Cleanup.
- Recognized the volunteers, City staff, and City Council

- who participated in the inaugural Commerce Relay for Life event on August 3-4, 2012.
- Proclaimed September 9-15, 2012 as Suicide Prevention Week.
- Received a letter of recognition from the Office of the President of the United States for Commerce Olympic Gold Medalist Brenda Villa.
- Agreed to use Successor Agency owned real properties for parking for The Citadel's Special and Holiday Events.
- Approved the construction of a New Emergency Operations Center for the City of Commerce project. Denied claim for damages by the Mayans Development Inc./Los Jardines, LLC
- Received and filed an update on the Capital Improvement Program for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.
- Declared five City vehicles as surplus and authorized the sale of said vehicles.
- Approved a reimbursement agreement with the National Forest Association and authorized staff to obtain proposals for contractors to trim trees at Camp Commerce.
- Approved an agreement with C.T. Georgiou Painting Company to paint the Transportation Service Center Garage and Maintenance Area.
- Approved an exchange of Prop. A Funds with the City of West Covina.
- Approved an agreement with Block Environmental for well abandonment services.
- Appointed Ed Miles to the Education Commission.
- Adjourned in memory of Carmen Rivera Luna, wife of former City employee Marcos Luna.

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.

BE SAFE, BE SEEN ON HALLOWEEN!

SAFETY IS THE KEY TO A SAFE HALLOWEEN



Halloween is a fun holiday, but it can also be dangerous. Families need to take precautions to keep trick-or-treaters safe.

"Be safe and seen on Halloween," said Laura Tilley, interim public safety supervisor.

Tilley offers these Halloween Safety tips:

- Kids should carry flashlights or mark their costumes with reflective tape so motorists can see them.
- If kids go trick or treating without an adult, they should travel in large numbers and only go to familiar households.
- Kids should never go inside someone's home and should only go to houses with the porch light on.
- Parents should check all treats thoroughly before kids eat them.

"We also want to remind parents that all Commerce Parks have a wonderful and safe Halloween Program,"

said Tilley. See page 5 of this issue of Report to the People for Parks and Recreation Halloween activities. Here are some additional tips offered by the National Crime Prevention Council:

- Make sure older kids go out with friends. Younger children should be accompanied by an adult.
- 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.
- 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.
- Eat only unopened candies and other treats that are in original wrappers.
- Don't forget to inspect fruit and homemade goodies for anything suspicious.
- 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.

Following a few safety tips will ensure that Halloween will be a "howling" good time for all.

DID YOU KNOW?

PARKING VIOLATIONS ARE PREVENTABLE



Finding a parking spot in your neighborhood can be a challenge. Some older homes don't have enough space for larger cars and some households

have multiple car owners. As a result, there are more cars than parking spaces. Street sweeping is particularly challenging because cars can only park on one side of the street.

While it's tempting to park illegally, it's unsafe and violators risk receiving a parking citation.

Parking on public streets in Commerce is regulated by the California Vehicle Code and the Commerce Municipal Code. Below we've provided information on common parking violations so residents know what to do to prevent being cited.

Blocking a Sidewalk (22500 CVC-SIDEWALKS): Cars parked in driveways cannot extend more than 10 inches over the length of the driveway onto the sidewalk. Parking halfway out of a driveway and onto a sidewalk creates an obstruction to pedestrians. If having your car extended onto the sidewalk causes an accident, you would be liable.

Blocking a Driveway (22500 CVC-SIDEWALKS): Most homeowners assume that their driveway extends

through the apron section--the sloping part between the sidewalk and street. The driveway apron and sidewalk are in the public right-of-way. Parking in the apron section is considered blocking a driveway. Technically, you can even be cited for blocking your own driveway.

Parallel Parking Distance (22502(a) CVC PARALLEL PARKING): Vehicles should be parked within 18 inches of the curb line in the direction of travel. So, not only do you have to be near the curb, you need to be faced in the right direction. This applies even in a cul de sac, where many drivers like to park nose into the curb.

Overnight Parking Time Limits (10:44.170 CMC): Certain streets have restrictions on overnight parking. Pay attention to restrictions and avoid getting cited.

Parking Restrictions- City Parking Lots (10.44.050 & 10.44.150 CMC): No Parking Between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Vehicles may be Towed/Stored per section 22658 CVC (California Vehicle Code).

Parking of Vehicles for Sale- Prohibited (10.44.060 CMC): No person shall park a vehicle upon any city street for the purpose of displaying or advertising for sale.

Also remember not to park in front of red curbs, fire lanes or fire hydrants. For more information, call the Community Services Department's Public Safety Division at (323) 887-4460.

BACK TO SCHOOL BASICS FOR A GREEN COMMUNITY

RETHINK, REUSE AND RECYCLE DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

Protect our environment and go Green by using:

- 1.Reusable lunchboxes, as well as reusable food and drink containers instead of plastic disposable bags.
- 2.Tote bags for all those extra items children take to and from school.
- 3.School supplies such as backpacks, binders, pencils, pens, and paper made with recycled

content.
4. Pencils with replaceable lead.
Remember to recycle all used paper and donate outgrown school clothes and shoes in good condition. Visit the City's Environmental Services Division at www.ci.commerce.ca.us for more information.

CITY OF COMMERCE

YES!

LEADERSHIP & MENTORING PROGRAM

INVEST IN YOURSELF



YES worker Vania Amezcua

YES Program Gives Teens Valuable Work Experience

This summer, 85 Commerce youth gained real world work experience by volunteering in the City of Commerce Youth Education and Service (YES) program.

"The YES program was such a wonderful experience for me. I had the opportunity of working at the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station. I was welcomed as one of their own. I appreciate this program and want to thank the City for this wonderful opportunity," said YES worker Vania Amezcua, 17. She said the program helped her gain valuable work experience. Because of her participation, she is optimistic about employment opportunities for the future.

The Youth Education and Service (YES) Program was developed to enhance the self-confidence, skills, knowledge, and abilities of Commerce youth by providing training and education in a structured work setting in various City departments, as well as agencies contracted by the City.

Commerce residents, ages 14-19 are eligible for a maximum of two years of participation in the program, which has been held every summer since the program was established in 1996. Participants that complete the program's 200 hours received a \$500 stipend.

The YES program has helped hundreds of Commerce residents enhance their work skills and find employment, many of them with the City. Congratulations to all 85 youth on completing the program.

CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



October 2012 Featured Highlights

AWARD WINNING CABLECASTS OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. (Live every 1st and 3rd Tues.),
Wednesday 10:00 a.m., Thursday 5:00 p.m. & Saturday 9:00 a.m.

"IN A COUNCIL MINUTE" FEATURING THE PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 4:00 p.m., Tuesday 9:00 a.m., Wednesday 1:30 p.m.,
Thursday 4:30 p.m., Friday 3:00 p.m., Saturday 11:30 a.m. &
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

COMMERCE CITY NEWS

Monday 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m., Tuesday 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.,
Wednesday 1:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., Thursday 9:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m.,
Friday 9:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.,
& Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

"BRENDA VILLA AQUATIC CENTER DEDICATION CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS"

Monday 2:00 p.m., Tuesday 4:00 p.m., Wednesdays 4:00 p.m.,
Thursday 6:00 p.m., Friday 4:00 p.m.
Saturday 3:00 p.m. & Sunday 1:00 p.m.

COMMERCE MEN'S WATER POLO TOURNAMENT - BELL GARDENS VS. CARLSBAD

Monday 10:00 a.m., Tuesday 3:00 p.m., Wednesday 5:30 p.m.,
Thursday 11:00 a.m., Friday 4:30 p.m., Saturday 7:00 p.m. &
Sunday 5:30 p.m.

COMMERCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS "CREDIT CARD FRAUD"

Monday 11:00 a.m., Tuesday 5:00 p.m., Wednesday 3:00 p.m.,
Thursday 8:00 a.m., Friday 2:00 p.m., Saturday 8:00 a.m. &
Sunday 4:00 p.m.

TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES "KIM CHURCHILL" SANTA MONICA PIER CONCERT

Monday 1:00 p.m., Tuesday 12:00 p.m., Wednesday 8:00 a.m.,
Thursday 7:00 p.m., Friday 6:00 p.m., Saturday 4:00 p.m.
& Sunday 8:00 a.m.

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

Election Information

ELECTION RULES ANNOUNCED

Linda Kay Olivieri, Commerce City Clerk, recently announced the rules governing municipal elections for general law cities in the State of California. The Commerce election for three (3) Council seats is set for Tuesday, March 5, 2013. The term of office for each of the three seats is four years.

The following calendar of events outlines the election process for the City of Commerce:

VOTER REGISTRATION – In order to vote at the March 5, 2013, election, voters must be registered in Commerce by February 18, 2013. Registration forms may be picked up at the City Clerk's Office.

CANDIDATES' NOMINATION – Filing of nomination papers will begin November 12, 2012, and end December 7, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.

If an incumbent does not file by 6:00 p.m. on December 7, 2012, voters shall have until 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 12, 2012, to nominate other candidates, other than the incumbent who did not file by December 7, 2012.

It is recommended that you schedule an appointment with the City Clerk's Office if you plan to take out nomination papers in order to provide sufficient time to review the information.

CAMPAIGN STATEMENTS – A minimum of three campaign statements is required. The first, a Pre-

election Statement, is due January 24, 2013; the second, a Pre-election Statement, is due February 21, 2013, and the third, a Semi-annual Statement is due July 31, 2013. A Semi-annual Statement is also due January 31, 2013.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES – The filing period for any person desiring his or her name as written on the ballot counted for a particular office to file a statement of write-in candidacy and nomination papers is January 7, 2013, to February 19, 2013.

SAMPLE BALLOTS AND POLLING PLACE NOTICES – The City Clerk will mail to each registered voter a sample ballot and polling place notice showing the location of the precinct polling place of the voter by February 12, 2013.

VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS – Between February 4, 2013, and February 26, 2013, a voter may file his or her written application with the City Clerk for a vote-by-mail ballot.

Requests for further information regarding the 2013 General Municipal Election should be directed to City Clerk Olivieri at (323) 722-4805, ext. 2252.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN WORKING ON A PRECINCT BOARD FOR THE UPCOMING ELECTION OR UTILIZING THEIR HOME AS A PRECINCT POLLING PLACE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AT (323) 722-4805, EXT. 2252.

NORMAS ELECTORALES ANUNCIADAS

Linda Kay Olivieri, Actuaría Municipal de la Ciudad de Commerce, recientemente anunció las normas que rigen las elecciones municipales para ciudades que se conforman al derecho general en el Estado de California. La elección de Commerce para tres (3) escaños del Concilio esta fijada para el martes, 5 de marzo del 2013. El plazo del cargo para tres escaños es de cuatro años.

El siguiente calendario de eventos resume el proceso electoral para la Ciudad de Commerce:

INSCRIPCION AL REGISTRO DE VOTANTES – Para poder votar en la elección del 5 de marzo del 2013, votantes deben de inscribirse en Commerce a no más tardar del 18 de febrero del 2013. Formularios de inscripción pueden ser recogidos en la oficina de la Actuaría Municipal.

NOMBRAMIENTO DE CANDIDATOS – La presentación de documentos de nombramiento va a empezar el 12 de noviembre del 2012 y concluye el 7 de diciembre del 2012 a las 6:00 p.m.

Si un titular del cargo no presenta sus documentos de nombramiento para el 7 de diciembre del 2012, los votantes tendrán hasta las 6:00 p.m. del miércoles, 12 de diciembre del 2012 para nombrar otros candidatos, además del titular que no se presentó para de 7 de diciembre del 2012.

Es recomendable programar una cita con la Oficina de la Actuaría Municipal si planean sacar documentos de nombramiento para poder tener suficiente tiempo para estudiar la información.

DECLARACIONES DE CAMPAÑA – Se requiere un mínimo de tres declaraciones de campaña. La primera, una Declaración Pre-elección se requiere el

24 de enero del 2013; la segunda, una Declaración Pre-elección, se requiere el 21 de febrero del 2013, y la tercera, una Declaración Semestral se requiere el 31 de julio del 2013. Una Declaración Semestral también se requiere el 31 de enero del 2013.

CANDIDATOS CUYOS NOMBRES NO ESTAN IMPRESOS EN LA BOLETA ("Write-in") – El plazo de presentación de candidatura para toda persona que desea que su nombre sea escrito en la boleta para un cargo en particular debe de presentar una declaración de candidatura como un "write-in" y documentos de nombramiento es del 7 de enero del 2013 hasta el 19 de febrero del 2013.

BOLETAS DE MUESTRA Y NOTIFICACIONES DE CENTROS ELECTORALES - A no más tardar del 12 de febrero del 2013, la Actuaría Municipal va a mandar por correo a todo votante registrado una boleta de muestra y la notificación de centros electorales indicando la ubicación del centro electoral del votante.

BOLETAS DE VOTAR POR CORREO – Entre el 4 de febrero del 2013 y el 26 de febrero del 2013 un votante puede presentar su solicitud de boleta de votar por correo con la Actuaría Municipal.

Solicitudes para más información sobre la Elección Municipal General de 2013 deben de ser dirigidas a la Actuaría Municipal Olivieri al (323) 722-4805, ext. 2252.

ALGUIEN INTERESADO EN TRABAJAR EN UNA MESA DE UN DISTRITO ELECTORAL PARA LA PRÓXIMA ELECCIÓN O SI SE PUEDE UTILIZAR SU HOGAR PARA UNA MESA DE UN DISTRITO ELECTORAL, FAVOR DE COMUNICARSE CON LA OFICINA DE LA ACTUARÍA MUNICIPAL AL (323) 722-4805, EXT. 2252.

ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO UPDATE

DAY BITING MOSQUITOES POSE CONTINUED RISK FOR WNV

Even though mosquito season has ended, tiger mosquitoes still pose a problem because unlike most mosquitoes that are active in the evening, they are active throughout the day. At present, this dangerous species of mosquito has been limited to the San Gabriel Valley, specifically the cities of El Monte and South El Monte. However, Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District officials urge residents throughout LA County to report suspected sightings of black and white striped, day-biting mosquitoes.

Residents should take increased precautions during times of extreme heat in guarding against the West Nile virus (WNV), particularly because higher temper-

atures allows the virus to replicate faster within infected mosquitoes. The increased West Nile virus cases throughout California show that the disease continues to be a public health problem. Residents are encouraged to take precautions to prevent mosquito bites and remove standing water around their property to prevent mosquito breeding.

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

SRP ENDING PARTY/ UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Reading Program Ending Party

The 2012 Summer Reading Program Ending Party was held in the Veterans Park Gym on August 9. More than 260 children, parents and family members attended the "Dream Big – DANCE! Family Dance Party."

The top readers from all four Commerce libraries were honored and received a backpack with school supplies at the program. The Top Readers were Claudia Torres (Atlantic), Jessen Cruz and Jonathan Cruz (Bristow), George Fernandez (Central) and Jasmyn Viveros (Greenwood).

Children and their families enjoyed familiar dances such as the Macarena and the limbo to popular songs and children's music provided by a live DJ. Library staff and volunteers gave away glow necklaces and bracelets to the children. After the program everyone enjoyed cookies and juice and children received a coupon for a free taco, courtesy of the Commerce Del Taco.

This year 1,170 children registered for the Summer Reading Program at the Commerce libraries with 598 children completing the program and earning a t-shirt, and 310 children continuing to read over the summer to earn a trophy.

Starbucks Puppet Show and Storytime READ-IN

Starbucks and the Library will be co-sponsoring the Starbucks "READ-IN" program at the Starbucks on Atlantic and Washington Boulevards from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 6. Library staff will perform a puppet show and read stories for children. Starbucks will provide free refreshments for everyone.

In N Out Burger "Cover to Cover" Club

Children ages 4-12 are invited to read five books to earn a free hamburger or cheeseburger during the In

'N Out Burger "Cover to Cover Club" Reading Program. Registration for the program begins October 8 at all four Commerce libraries. When a child registers, they will receive a reading log to keep track of the books they read. Once they have read five books, they can return to the library and receive a reading certificate and a coupon for a free hamburger or cheeseburger from In 'N Out Burger. Children may read up to 15 books and receive three coupons. The program ends November 17.

Hispanic History Month Film Festival

The City of Commerce Public Library invites you to participate in the continuing month long Spanish Film Festival celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, now through Oct. 15. Some movies may contain English subtitles. Dates, times and locations are as follows:

Central Library

October 2 and 11. Events start at 6:00 p.m.

Atlantic Library

Pedro Infante Film Festival

October 5 5:00 p.m.

October 6 3:00 p.m.

October 11 6:00 p.m.

October 12 5:00 p.m.

October 13 3:00 p.m.

Bristow Park Library

Every Friday through October 12, at 5:00 p.m.

Greenwood Library

Every Friday through October 12, at 5:00 p.m.

For more information please call the Library at (323) 722-6660 or visit www.cocpl.org.

VOTERS TO DECIDE ON SALES TAX MEASURE

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service reduction cuts at libraries, City parks, Camp Commerce, the Senior Center, the Teen Center, and for police services, as well as an increase in fees for recreational and sports programs.

•The City's revenue shortfalls were caused by the economic downturn and the elimination by the State Legislature and the Governor of redevelopment programs, the City's most important economic tool for economic development and funding for police and fire services, infrastructure repairs and other vital services. The state has taken tens of millions of dollars away from the City and our residents that will never be returned.

•The City also faces an estimated \$30 million in short term unfunded costs required to maintain and make badly needed repairs to our streets and roads due to the impacts caused by large trucks driving through our industrial City.

•The spending of funds generated by Measure AA will be overseen by an oversight board made up of City residents and business representatives who will provide local control and accountability for the use of the funds by advisory recommendations to the City Council.

We are very interested in hearing your opinion on the proposed local sales tax and strongly encourage you to attend one of the upcoming community information meetings (dates, times and locations on page 7) where you will have an opportunity to ask questions and express your concerns.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on Measure AA or the community information meetings, please contact the City Administrator's Office at (323) 722-4805, extension 2215, or come to an upcoming City Council meeting.



Halloween Activities for 2012

Registration for Halloween park activities begins Monday, October 22 at your local park

Itsy Bitsy Halloween

Friday, October 26, 2012

6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Veterans Park

Cost: \$2.00 per child Ages: 2-5

Join us for Halloween activities for the little ones!

No costumes please. Adult supervision

is required. Space is limited.

Family Fright Night

Friday, October 26, 2012

7:30 – 9:30 p.m. Veterans Memorial Park

Bring the family to see the movie "Casper"

on the big screen.

13th Annual "Dia de Los Muertos Celebration"

Saturday, October 27, 2012

5:00-10:00 p.m.

Hollywood Forever Cemetery

\$2.00 registration fee. \$10.00 event entrance

fee.

Something's Brewing

Monday, October 29, 2012

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Come see what we have cooking in the

cauldron! Space is limited.

Creepy Craft

Tuesday, October 30, 2012

3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

We will be making a Spooktacular craft!

Space is limited.

Halloween Parade and Games All Parks

Wednesday, October 31, 2012

Parade and games begin @ 6 p.m.

All ages are welcome and trophies awarded

to various age groups.

Goblin Give-Away

Wed. October 31, 2012

8:30 p.m All Parks

Ages 3-12 years

Names will be drawn and children who are home

by 8:30 p.m. if the 'Commerce Goblin' calls on

Halloween night, Wed., Oct. 31, will receive a

special prize. Goblin winners may pick up their

prize on Thursday, November 1 between 10:00

a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

For more information, call the Department of Parks and Recreation (323) 887-4434.

Report to the People **COMMERCE GALLERY**

'Commerce Clean Up' Volunteers Rewarded



At the Sept. 4 Council Meeting Commerce Clean Up volunteers from Commerce Soccer, Boxing, Baseball and Crush Volleyball were presented with donations by Steve Craig of Craig Realty Group for their volunteer work to helping keep Commerce beautiful in August.

Adventure Club Explores Central California



The Teen Center Adventure Club, pictured here in San Simeon, recently went on a five-day adventure that included horseback riding, kayaking and visits to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Morro Bay.

Commerce's Number One Athlete



Commerce Olympian Brenda Villa shows off her Gold Medal with 50th District Assembly Member Ricardo Lara. Lara presented her with a commendation from the State of California at the Brenda Villa Aquatic Center ribbon cutting and dedication.

Gold Medal Memories



Brenda Villa with mom Rosario and dad Ines, show off a commemorative collage of her water polo career presented to her by The City Council.

Suicide Prevention



The City Council proclaimed Sept. 9-15 Suicide Prevention Week. Pictured with the Proclamation are Social Services Coordinator Moyra Garcia and Gina Found of the Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services Suicide Prevention Center.

SRP End of Summer Celebration



L. to R. YES Workers Kathryn Grijalva and Anna Espinoza, Sr. Library Page Melissa Garcia and Sr. Library Assistant Josue Martinez gave glow sticks to children at the Summer Reading Program End Party in August.

Teens Raising Funds for Charity



Commerce Teens are collecting pennies and aluminum can tabs to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House Charity. To assist with dropping off pennies or tabs, contact the Teen Center at (323) 838-4246.

Residents Join the Fight Against Cancer



Commerce resident Vilma Moran registers her team at the Relay for Life event held at Veterans Park in August. The event raised more than \$10,000 for the fight against cancer.

Relay for Life Organizers Honored



The Council honored organizers of the Commerce Relay for Life, which was sponsored by the City, the Industrial Council and the American Cancer Society. From l. to r. are Larry Sandoval of the American Cancer Society, Event Chair Francine Ayala of Popular Community Bank, Joe Zarahy of the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Eddie Tafoya of the Industrial Council.

CITY OF COMMERCE

Holiday Cheer Program

Providing Help for Commerce Families this Holiday Season

Residents can register for the Annual Holiday Cheer Program which includes holiday parties, food donations, holiday gifts and more.

Eligibility based on income requirements. Applicants must have a valid City Resident Card(s) and proof of household income. Program runs from November to December.

Registration begins Oct. 4

Assistance provided by donations from local businesses, organizations and individual contributors.

If you would like to contribute to the Holiday Cheer Program, please call Community Services at (323) 887-4460.



VETERANS DAY

Ceremony

Sunday,
November 11, 2012
10 a.m.

Veterans Memorial Park
6364 Zindell Ave., Commerce



Light Refreshments will be served
Bus Shuttle Transportation will be provided

The Department of Parks and Recreation Presents



TURKEY TROT

Established 1991

Saturday, November 17

Check-in: 6:30 – 7:45 a.m.
5K Run begins at 8:00 a.m.

Members of the public of all ages are invited to participate in the City of Commerce Annual 5K Turkey Trot run through the residential area of Rosewood Park.

Souvenir T-Shirts on sale for a nominal fee.

Registration begins Oct. 29

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

CITY OF COMMERCE

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

THE MAYOR WILL DISCUSS THE STATE OF THE CITY AND FUTURE PLANS FOR THE CITY OF COMMERCE

DATES, TIMES AND LOCATIONS:

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11 AT 6:30 P.M.
BRISTOW PARK COMMUNITY CENTER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 6:30 P.M.
RUBEN C. BATRES COMMUNITY CENTER @ BANDINI PARK

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18 AT 6:30 P.M.
COMMERCE SENIOR CENTER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25 AT 6:30 P.M.
VETERANS PARK MEETING ROOM

REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AT (323) 887-4453.



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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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Residential Customer

STATE OF THE CITY PRESENTED TO BUSINESS COMMUNITY

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responsibility which resulted in Council members closing a \$4 million budget deficit.

“Through a combination of budget reductions, a lease of water rights to the City of Whittier, the use of reserves and improvement in our local economic picture, we were able to close that gap and approve a \$50 million dollar operating budget,” said the mayor. “In addition to approving a balanced budget, we have also been able to remain committed to high quality public safety services from the Los Angeles County Fire and Sheriff’s Departments.”

She added that the City’s Public Safety Division would continue the successful Business Watch program which offers local businesses safety presentations, extra patrol, crime prevention tips and security evaluations.

The mayor went on to describe the many transportation, parks and recreation, library and employment services

the City provides businesses and residents.

Throughout her speech, she thanked local businesses, organizations and agencies that contributed to the City including, the Commerce Casino, the Industrial Council and the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s and Fire departments.

She discussed the upcoming general tax measure that will be placed before the voters of Commerce in the upcoming Nov. 6 ballot

“If passed by Commerce voters, the local sales tax measure would increase by one-half cent for every retail dollar spent,” said the mayor. “The measure is expected to generate \$4.5 to \$5 million annually that could be used to repair local facilities, fix streets, restore public safety, and provide important City services.”

The mayor concluded by sharing goals that the City hoped to accomplish over the next few years including staff

development, revenue growth, improved infrastructure, the development of environmental mitigation and strategic communication plans.

Carried out successfully, this strategic plan can enhance quality of life for business and community residents in a healthier and more prosperous City.

These efforts can spur the economic growth that will create new job opportunities and revenues in a vibrant, business-friendly environment.

“What these goals have in common is that they require innovation, dedication and hard work. Our City Council, staff, residents and businesses possess these qualities and we are making the commitment to you that we are going to move the City of Commerce forward,” the mayor said.

BRENDA VILLA

■ CONT. FROM PG. 1

mate Patty Cardenas and recent USA Water Polo Hall of Fame inductee Margot Miranda.

A two-time captain of the US Olympic Women’s Water Polo Team, Brenda has also earned three other Olympic medals; a Bronze in 2004 and Silver in 2000 and 2008. Referred to by former coaches as the “Wayne Gretzky” and the “Magic Johnson” of her sport, she is the most decorated women’s water polo player in the world and was named the FINA Aquatics World Magazine Female Water Polo Player of the Decade in 2010.

Throughout her storied career Brenda has remained thankful to the City of Commerce. “I can’t even put into words what it means to finally have this wrapped around my neck. The journey has been unbelievable and I don’t think it would have been what it was without the City of Commerce.”

OCTOBER DATES TO NOTE

 <p>1 English Book Club, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Advisory Commission Meeting 7 p.m.</p> <p>2 City Council/Successor Agency Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>3 Senior Citizens Commission Meeting, 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>4 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.</p> <p>6 Starbucks Read-in, Starbucks Atlantic & Washington 10 a.m.</p>	<p>8 Education Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.</p> <p>9 I-710 Local Advisory Committee (Ad Hoc) Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Traffic Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>10 Community Task Force Meeting, 3 p.m.</p> <p>11 Community Services Commission Meeting, 6 p.m.</p> <p>16 City Council/Successor Agency Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Library Embajadores Meeting, EOC 6 p.m.</p>	<p>22 Adult Computer Class, Central Library 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Library Commission Meeting, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>22-26 Red Ribbon Week</p> <p>23 I-710 Local Advisory Committee (Ad Hoc) Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>24 Teen Book Club, 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Planning Commission Meeting, 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>29 Spanish Book Club, 6 p.m. - EOC</p>	<p>31 Halloween Parade at all parks, 6 p.m.</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">November</h2>  <p>6 General Election</p> </div> <p>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 (323) 887-4447. Cuando llame, indique el título del artículo, la fecha y la dirección de su domicilio o correo electrónico. La versión traducida se le mandará.</p>
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