



Report to the People

Where Quality Service
Is Our Tradition

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www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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NEW *March Calendar of Events*



Commerce residents, businesses and city staff helped with the clean up in the Bristow Park area at the Community Day of Service on January 19. The event was cosponsored by the United Family of Bristow.

COMMERCE COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE

To beautify the Bristow Park neighborhood, 61 community volunteers spent a Saturday morning in January cleaning up the streets of Bristow Park, joining millions of Americans across the country in volunteer service to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Volunteers and staff spent the morning cleaning tree wells, weeding, repainting red curbs and removing graffiti. They also assisted residents with disposal of bulky items into dumpsters provided by CalMet Services. Bulky items disposed of included old bicycles, statuary, decorations, and old electronics.

Joining the volunteers in their effort were staff from various City departments, including Administration, Community Development, Community Services,

the Library and Parks and Recreation.

Bristow Park Resident Adrian Guiza participated in the event to help his community. "This day is important because it saves our community money and gets people to beautify the City." He also said he enjoyed the camaraderie and the closeness that the event brings to the community. "We get to know our neighbors, which is important for those times when we need help from the people around us. This improves community unity."

No stranger to volunteering, Joe Lozano, a member of the volunteer Commerce Community Assistance Team (a.k.a. the ComCATs) and President of Commerce civic organization United Family of Bristow, was

happy to see so many people coming together to help beautify the Bristow area. "It's very important to Bristow because we get everyone here to help us out. We see a lot of happy faces and it motivates people to keep our City clean."

Businesses also contributed to the beautification effort. David Kim from the E-Waste Center, a business located near the Citadel, was happy to help out. "We're here to help Commerce with their electronic waste and help residents clean out their garages and homes to make Commerce better."

The City would like to thank CalMet for their services as well as the United Family of Bristow for helping organize the event.

New EOC Page 8

COMMERCE SUPPORTS I-710 COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVE 7

To reduce environmental impacts, preserve resources and local jobs, as well as to improve mobility through public transit and other transportation enhancements, Commerce became the first City to approve a resolution in support of studying Community Alternative 7 for the I-710 Corridor Project during a special City Council Meeting on January 31.

Community Alternative 7 (CA7) was developed by Commerce based environmental group East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (EYCEJ) and the Coalition for Environmental Health and Justice. CA7 was presented to the Council during the January 15 Commerce City Council meeting by Angelo Logan, Executive Director of EYCEJ.

As an alternative plan for the I-710 Corridor Project, CA7 proposes to enact environmentally friendly transit policies and specifications including a zero emission freight corridor that uses an electric system to eliminate diesel pollution in a dedicated lane and mitigates traffic and safety impacts.

The alternative plan also has an emphasis on preserving homes and businesses that would be displaced by the widening of the freeway. CA7's primary means of protecting residential and business properties would be to eliminate widening of the I-710 freeway thereby protecting many properties from acquisition by the State.

In addition, CA7 has a number of other core elements including a comprehensive public transit element, a public-private partnership for an employer operated freight system, improvements to the

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GET UPDATES ON CITY WEBSITE, FACEBOOK AND TWITTER PAGES



Get up to the minute updates on various City events, news, and programs all from the comfort of your phone, laptop or

desktop computer. Commerce residents can go online to the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us, as well as the City's social media pages on Facebook and Twitter.

The City's website features news flashes, employment opportunities, contact information for local utilities, photo galleries, a City wide events calendar, a live online stream of the City's award winning Cable

Channels 3 and 32, bus schedule information, including the new Citadel Outlets Express and much more.

The City's Facebook page features ads publicizing the live broadcast of the Miss Commerce Pageant, the Community Day of Service, and sports try outs. The page also has pictures of what's going on in the City, such as the new Emergency Operations Center,

which is under construction. The page also shares videos, such as Commerce Olympic Gold Medalist Brenda Villa's recent interview with Fox Sports West.

The City's Twitter page is also full of information about City activities, programs and events.

To 'Like' and follow us on Facebook and Twitter you can

Commerce Online Page 8

Commerce recently became the first city in the I-710 freeway corridor to adopt a resolution in support of Community Alternative 7, a community based proposal that would address many of the negative impacts of the I-710 Corridor Project in communities located along the freeway.

The alternative proposal developed by Commerce based environmental group East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice and the Coalition for Environmental Health, supports environmentally friendly transit policies, including a zero emission truck freight corridor and no additional freeway vehicle lanes. In calling for no additional traffic lanes, Alternative 7 will call for design changes preserving freeway adjacent homes and businesses.

I'm happy to report that Caltrans has elected to re-circulate the I-710 Environmental Impact Report to consider additional approaches, including Community Alternative 7, thanks in part to the City Council's leadership. For more on this story see the article on page 1.

Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the community for their patience during the recent street construction projects in the Rosewood and Rosini neighborhoods, which are now complete. During construction, additional public safety personnel were scheduled to keep everyone safe and minimize traffic impacts. We are pleased to report that this goal was achieved with no reported incidents or injuries.

The next round of street improvements is scheduled to begin construction in the Bristow neighborhood this Spring and Summer. The scope of the repairs and improvements will be similar to the work in the Rosewood and Rosini areas. This is just one scheduled street improvement project among many throughout Commerce, which also include Telegraph Road, Washington Boulevard and Garfield Avenue.

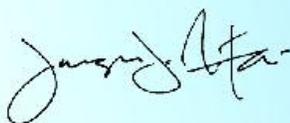
On behalf of the City Council, I want to thank all of the volunteers who participated in our Community Volunteer Day of Service on January 19 as well as the united Family of Bristow. The response was tremendous! The volunteers did an outstanding job of cleaning and beautifying the Bristow Park neighborhood. If you have a chance, visit the Bristow area and take a look.

This month, we will be hosting the 53rd annual Miss Commerce Pageant on March 23. Sixteen young women have entered the pageant and will have the opportunity to represent Commerce as the City's Queen. The Miss Commerce Pageant provides these young ladies an opportunity to make friends, create cherished memories, and grow from a wonderful once in a lifetime experience. Residents can contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (323) 887-4434 to purchase tickets to the pageant being held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. If you are unable to attend, we encourage you to watch the pageant live on Commerce Cable Channel 3 or online at www.ci.commerce.ca.us. Good luck to all the participants!

During the Pageant, the City will also select its Young Man of the Year for 2013. The Young Man of the Year award is a way to recognize young men who are active in their community and are among the best and brightest of their peers. Just as Miss Commerce serves as a positive role model for our girls and young ladies, the Young Man of the Year is a positive role model for the next generation of young men in Commerce.

Have a wonderful March!

Sincerely,
Jorge Rifá




I-710 PROJECT

CONT. FROM PG. 1

improvements to the Los Angeles River, comprehensive pedestrian and bicycle elements, expanded open space and other community improvements.

"Our proposal is not completely foreign. It's all information CalTrans has put together," Logan said, "We just reconfigured it and justified it with

experts to make it feasible and realistic," said Logan.

Following approval of the resolution, Caltrans is re-circulating the Environmental Impact Report to consider additional approaches, which will include Community Alternative 7. The RTTP will continue to keep Commerce residents up to date on this important community issue.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

REGULAR MEETING REPORTS

Regular Meeting of January 15

- Approved plans for Bristow neighborhood street rehabilitation project.
- Approved a Project Programming Request for the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund Project Baseline Agreement.
- Amended the professional services agreement with TMAD Taylor and Gaines for improving the Commerce Metrolink Station.
- Extended an agreement with South Coast Air Quality Management District for funding for the construction of the LNG-LCNG Fueling Station to Dec. 31, 2015.
- Approved the purchase of maintenance spare parts for the City's transit fleet.
- Approved agreements with the State Board of Equalization required for the implementation of Measure AA.
- Received a presentation from East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice with respect to Community Alternative 7 for the I-710 Freeway Improvement Project.
- Directed city staff to draft a resolution in support for the Community Alternative 7 for the I-710 Freeway Improvement Project.
- Authorized staff to negotiate terms for an exclusive franchise agreement with CalMet Services, Inc.
- Appointed Vanessa Gonzalez to the Youth Advisory Committee.
- Received and filed an update on the fiscal year 2012/2013 Capital Improvement Program.
- Adjourned in memory of Robert Galindo, stepfather of City employee Kevin Torres; Maria Barragan, grandmother of City employees Christian Flores, Luis Flores and Patty Macias Borunda; Fidel Machuca, father of City employee Cynthia Machuca and grandfather to Cable TV Volunteer Justin Machuca; Robert S. Boone, father of City employee Yolanda Boone; Gilbert Jaurigue, father of City employee Martha Gomez, long-time resident Luis Garcia, and Lucille Bessera Roybal, mother of Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard.

Regular Meeting of January 22

- Recognized Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Deputies Daniel A. Cabrera, Ignacio Placencia, and Daniel Estrella for their outstanding work and dedication to the community.
- Received and filed the financial report through November 30, 2012.
- Allocated \$9,000 for the Annual Service Awards Program for City employees, with the option for business sponsorship.
- Amended the minimum qualifications for the Branch Library Supervisor, Library Technical Services Supervisor and Senior Librarian Classifications.
- Authorized the City Administrator to execute a California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Pension Plan Certification of Memorandum of Understanding Impairment.
- Approved the agreement between the City and CTG Construction Inc.
- Approved changes to the policy for the Investment of City funds.
- Approved an agreement with Environmental Science Associates for the Housing Element Update Project. Approved the waiving of fees associated with the 2nd Annual Relay For Life Commerce Event.

- Approved a request that the City record and televise a candidates' forum in the Council Chambers on Monday, February 11, at 6 p.m.
- Adjourned in memory of Tony Passaretti, Uncle to city employee Victoria Maria Alexander, and Charles Hawkins, Uncle to city employee Alex Hamilton.



Community Services Commissioner Sandra Jimenez and LA County Sheriff's Department Captain James Wolak helped to honor Deputies Ignacio Placencia, Daniel Estrella, and Daniel A. Cabrera for their service.

Regular Meeting of February 5

- Approved a resolution declaring that weeds, brush, rubbish and refuse upon or in front of specified property in the City are a seasonal and recurrent public nuisance.
- Approved an amendment to the contract with E. Avico, Inc. for the construction of a new Emergency Operations Center.
- Allocated Community Development Block Grant Funds for Fiscal Year 2013/2014
- Received and filed an update on the fiscal year 2012/2013 Capital Improvement Program.
- Adjourned in memory of Jennifer Kuhn Grosso, sister-in-law of City employee Rebecca Kuhn, and Hector Miranda, husband of City employee Clara Miranda, and father of City employees Anthony Miranda and Marco Miranda.

Report to the People

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Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.
or visit us online at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.

MISS COMMERCE PAGEANT

Miss Commerce 2012 Unique Hernandez

A Year of Cherished Memories

The evening of February 25, 2012 proved to be a magical one, as well as a night during which a dream came true for Unique Hernandez, when she was named Miss Commerce 2012.

"I've wanted to be Miss Commerce since I was a little girl and at that moment I was so nervous and excited, I didn't even realize that the number they called was mine until they mentioned my name. I was speechless. It was almost too hard to believe!" said Unique.

For Unique, serving her community as Miss Commerce was a rewarding experience that provided her with new perspective. "Sometimes we don't realize the value and the importance of a positive role model until you become one. It was a responsibility that I was honored to accept."

In addition to widening her horizons, being Miss Commerce changed her in other ways. "It helped me to become a better speaker and communicator. Just as importantly, it taught me to cherish every moment of every day because that's what memories are made of," said Unique. One of the highlights of Unique's reign was the trip to Aguascalientes, Mexico. "Viva Aguascalientes! My trip there was truly heartfelt. The warmth and love I felt the entire time I was there made my stay feel like I was home in Commerce." While there she attended numerous events but the most rewarding part of the trip was her visit to the orphanage. "The children were so excited you could see it in their eyes. My time with them really touched my heart and I wish I could've brought them home with me! I commend our Sister City Association for the work they do for the people in Aguascalientes."

According to Unique, she was a part of many wonderful events but there were two that stood out. "I am most fond of participating in the Huntington Park



Miss Commerce 2012 Unique Hernandez shows her trademark royal smile.

Holiday Parade and the Royal Tea Party," said Unique. "Riding on a float in a parade was like a dream come true! I used to imagine what that would be like and now I know firsthand. It was so awesome!"

The other event was the Royal Tea Party, an idea Unique shared with Pageant Coordinator Adolfo Marquez

who worked with her to plan it out. "Wow! What an amazing event that turned out to be. The event was for girls 3 to 12 years of age and featured Miss Commerce and the Court dressed as Disney Princesses. "We had tea, dessert, story time, crafts, and the girls took a souvenir photo with us. The purpose of this event was to give them the opportunity to get to know the Queen and Court by spending time together. It was a success and we all had a wonderful time."

Unique also had warm words for her royal court. "What started out as a court blossomed into an everlasting friendship. These ladies made my reign truly memorable. They're always fun to be with and we have tons of pictures to prove it!" she said. "They are always there for me and I can honestly say that when our reign is over the bond that we share will remain the same. It was an honor for me to serve our City with this Court. I'm so proud of them and the commitment they kept to our City as the Royal Court. I love them and wish them all the best in their future endeavors."

With her reign coming to an end, Unique plans to go back to school and pursue her passion for baking and cake

decorating. "I plan to attend a culinary arts school and eventually achieve another dream of mine, which is to open up my own bakery!" She leaves the 2013 participants with these words of advice: "Be yourself and have fun. Regardless of the outcome of the pageant, it doesn't define who you are. Remember you are all winners and I wish you all the best of luck!"



Miss Commerce 2012 Unique Hernandez just after being crowned.

who worked with her to plan it out. "Wow! What an amazing event that turned out to be. The event was for girls 3 to 12 years of





2013 Pageant Participants

DANIELA GOMEZ

Daughter of Quintin Mora Haro & Patricia Mora
21 Years of age
Cerritos College
5 ft. 7 inches tall
Brown hair
Brown eyes



Daniela Gomez is passionate about animals, especially man's best friend. "I grew up with animals and would always bring home strays to ask my mother if I could keep them." A sophomore at Cerritos College, majoring in Animal Biology, her dream is to become a Veterinarian and open her own business, which would be a 'no-kill' animal shelter/veterinary clinic. "Last April, my dog was attacked and had to go into surgery. Unfortunately, he didn't make it. That experience inspired me to become a veterinarian that cares more about her patients than money," she said. Gomez currently works as a cashier/accountant for the Haralambos Beverage Co. "It's been great learning how to balance and budget money. I've also learned other practical skills I can use to open my own business." Her hobbies include playing softball, photography, and baking. "I started baking with my mother, learning how to make different kinds of things she used to make when I was growing up. Now, I bake cupcakes with my friends and sell them to anyone who appreciates good desserts."

LESLIE ISABEL MEDINA

Daughter of Jaime & Martha Medina
20 years of age
California State Univ. Channel Islands
5 ft. 2 inches tall
Light Brown hair
Brown eyes



One of **Leslie Isabel Medina's** goals is to attend and graduate from law school and become a prosecutor. "When I was in elementary school I would always stand up for this small little boy who was always getting picked on. I was the only one to do anything. I want to stand up for those who have trouble standing up for themselves and help victims find closure, which is why I want to become the District Attorney for Los Angeles County." Medina attends California State University Channel Islands, where she studies communications with an emphasis on business and non-profit. When not in school or at work in the Cosmetics Department at Macy's, Medina enjoys helping first graders at Belvedere Elementary with reading, writing and arithmetic. "It's so much fun and I just fell in love with the kids. It's turned out to be a very rewarding experience in my life." Medina likes to travel and when time permits, to spend time with her family. "With school, work and volunteering, it's sometimes nice to just sit and relax with my family."

ROSEMARY MARAVILLA

Daughter of Hector Jesus & Ramona Maravilla
18 years of age
National Polytechnic College
4 ft. 11 inches tall
Brown hair
Brown eyes



Rosemary Maravilla is a freshman at National Polytechnic College in Commerce, where she is studying to become a Certified Medical Assistant. Once she becomes a medical assistant, she hopes that it can help her get her foot in the door towards her goal of becoming a cardiologist. "Not only do I want to help people, I want to help society. I enjoy it because it gives me a feeling of accomplishment and I just love helping people." Maravilla has lived in Commerce her whole life and participated in many of the City's parks and recreation programs, including the Commerce Competitive Dance Team, which she was a member of for eight years. "I had the best time of my life when I was in dance because it's something I love and that I'm good at. Being in the dance team helped me become focused and confident," said Maravilla. She is motivated by her grandmother. "My grandmother has always helped people and that's what I want to be like. She is my role model." Maravilla enjoys dancing, working out, spending time with her family, and reading, mostly historical and biographical books about women's struggles.

ALEXANDRIA MALDONADO

Daughter of Johnny Maldonado & Evangeline Perez
19 years of age
University of California, Irvine
5 ft. 2 inches tall
Brown hair
Dark Brown eyes



Alexandria Maldonado played in the City's Crush volleyball program for five years and credits the experience with making her the young woman she is today. "It was like a big happy family for me. It taught me so much and it made me very disciplined. I learned the value of punctuality and cooperation and it helped me become more of a grown up. Crush made me become a better person." Having recently attended the University of California Irvine, Maldonado plans to attend National Polytechnic College here in Commerce and hopes to one day become a Radiation/MRI Technician. "I started researching careers and decided that I wanted to help others during their challenging times. Cancer takes away so many lives and affects so many families. I would be thrilled to give relief to people as they go through that long journey." Maldonado currently works at McDonald's to help her pay for school, but hopes to one day open up a family-style bakery. She enjoys exercising, playing sports, and being outdoors. "I'm more of a nature person than someone who goes to the mall. I enjoy being outside and staying active."

ADRIANA TORRES

Daughter of Felix & Olga Torres
21 years of age
East Los Angeles College
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Dark Brown hair
Dark Brown eyes



Adriana Torres is determined to be a middle school teacher. "Growing up, I had friends who had trouble learning. They were in Intermediate school and still couldn't read. I want to make a difference and give them the opportunity to better their lives and unlock their potential," said Torres, who is majoring in Child Development at East Los Angeles College. Torres volunteers at Bell Gardens High School as a teacher's assistant. She also volunteers with the City's Commerce Community Assistance or 'COMcat' program. "I love being a ComCat volunteer because I meet new people, have new experiences, and get to know the community better. I enjoy talking with the kids and I love being involved in my community." Torres also volunteers for local outreach campaigns to inform the public about the issues in and around the City. Her hobby is painting landscapes. "I love to go to the park and just paint whatever I see, like trees, ducks and people. It's really relaxing and fun."

JUSTINE CHEYANNE SANCHEZ

Daughter of Arthur Sanchez, Jr. & Christy Ann Sanchez
18 years of age
Schurr High School
5ft. 2 inches tall
Dark Brown hair
Hazel eyes



Justine Cheyanne Sanchez is a senior at Schurr High School whose main passion is writing. "I love writing because it's all you. Everything you write, whether it's a class essay, a short story, or a poem, it's a reflection of yourself and you are in control of what goes on, who goes where, and what happens in your own world. It's a little bit of an escape. To put it quite simply, it's like dreaming but on paper." Sanchez started her love of writing in second grade. "I wrote a story in class and my teacher loved it. She encouraged me to continue writing and I have." Sanchez likes to write short stories and a little bit of poetry, citing J.K Rowling and Nicholas Sparks among her favorite authors. She plans to attend Rio Hondo College and transfer to a four-year university, with the University of Minnesota among her top choices. Her hobbies include baseball and soccer.

2013 Pageant Participants



Daisy Torres is versatile young lady who has many interests. Currently studying liberal arts at East Los Angeles College, Torres is considering careers in fields such as social work, teaching, photography, the culinary arts, and human resources. Because she is career driven, education is very important to her. "I hope to finish this school year and transfer to a four-year university," said Torres, who hopes to attend San Francisco State University, a California State University or one of the University of California schools." Daisy currently works at Jack in the Box. When not at school or work she enjoys spending time with her family, as well as photography and scrap booking. "I like pictures because they capture moments and memories. Scrapbooking allows me to add a little bit of myself to them, with colors and dates to personalize my memories."



DAISY TORRES

Daughter of Felix & Olga Torres
19 Years of age
East Los Angeles College
5 ft. 8 inches
Black hair
Dark Brown eyes

Karla Miranda has always loved to run. Her interest in running benefited her in another endeavor she loves: Playing soccer, which she has now done on her high school team for three years. "When I was little, I would run all the time because I liked it. One day, my friends and I started playing soccer, which involved a lot of running so I knew right away that I'd be good at it. That first time I played, I fell in love with the sport." A freshman at East Los Angeles College, Miranda is double majoring in criminology and automotive technology that represent two other things she's passionate about: law enforcement and car repair. She first became interested in becoming a police officer while in high school. "During my freshman year I took a class that exposed me to law enforcement and I really got into it. It was something different, something new. I'd love to work my way up towards being a detective one day," said Miranda. She became interested in cars after an unforeseen event. While with a group of friends their car broke down and no one knew how to fix it. "I was determined never to let that happen again, so I took an automotive class in high school and it just felt natural to me." Miranda currently works at Lucky Guy's Burgers in Commerce to help her pay for school.



KARLA MIRANDA

Daughter of Damian Garcia & Maria Robles
18 years of age
East Los Angeles College
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Black hair
Dark Brown eyes

Carina Rodarte has wanted to become a nurse ever since she was a child, pretending to take care of her grandmother and her imaginary ailments. "I would pretend to take care of people and would always tell everyone I was going to be a nurse when I grew up," she said. Now that she's older she still has the same goal. "When I see my family getting sick, I want to know why and how to help them." A junior in Bell Gardens High School, Rodarte hopes to graduate and attend the University of California in San Diego to major in nursing. She is in her 3rd year on the school's volleyball team, as well as her third year of participating in the AVID program. She likes going to the gym, shopping, and spending time with her friends and family. Rodarte is competing in the pageant in order to better herself as a person. "I think it will be a really good experience, not only to participate, but to also discover more things about myself. I look forward to building my confidence, self esteem, and wonderful memories."



CARINA RODARTE

Daughter of Raul & Candida Rodarte
17 years of age
Bell Gardens High School
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Dark Brown hair
Brown eyes

Ashley Paez is currently setting her sights on a career in law enforcement, specifically as a police officer. As soon as she turns 21, Paez plans to attend the Police Academy. "I believe it will empower me as a female and strengthen my academic and leadership potential. I am determined to do what it takes to follow my dreams." Paez is currently working on her Associates Degree in Child Development at East Los Angeles College and plans to transfer to USC to get her Bachelor's degree in Psychology. She is a member of MAMI a psychology club that provides support to those who need it. Paez also works at Ross and spends her time volunteering at recovery centers and various institutions, including General Hospital, the Los Angeles County Probation Department at the Superior Court. Her hobbies include dancing, hiking, camping, sports, and horseback riding. "Whenever I go out and ride, I feel the stress melt away. I like to be out in the open, taking in the nature around me, collecting my thoughts, and just get out of the city for a little while."



ASHLEY PAEZ

Daughter of Joel Paez & Sylvia Mendoza
20 Years of age
East Los Angeles College
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Dark Brown hair
Brown eyes

Anissa Solano is passionate about motivating and supporting others and aspires to be a drug counselor. Motivated by a family member, she wants to help and support people to overcome alcohol and substance abuse. "I want to help transform and touch people's lives. To do that, it's important to get the tools I need to reach out and help the people who need it the most," said Solano. Solano is currently involved with a leadership program that enables her to serve her community, while developing her own skills. She entered the Miss Commerce Pageant for the experience and to do something positive. "I want to inspire people and give back to this City that has given me so much. Before, I didn't have the self confidence and courage to compete. Now, I have the ability to prove something to myself and to make a difference to the people of Commerce by reaching out to them and showing them that they are loved." Solano currently works at the Billabong store at the Citadel Outlets.



ANISSA SOLANO

Daughter of Jerry & Lisa Perez and Ivan Altamirano
21 Years of age
5 ft. 2 inches tall
Brown hair
Brown eyes

Kimberly Jimenez is currently a senior attending Bell Gardens High School and wants to work with kids as a school counselor. "I like working with kids. When I was in the ROP child care program, I gained an appreciation for the skills it required and grew to love the kids I was working with. My counselor motivated me and was always there. That's something I want to pass that on to others." Jimenez is active in school as a member of the Future Educators Club on campus, which includes field trips to college campuses, guidance to expand their understanding of education and interacting with kids. "We gain the tools to be effective teachers in the future," said Jimenez who is currently working at Tilly's located at the Citadel Outlets. In her free time, she enjoys swimming and going to the gym, which isn't surprising since Jimenez was a member of the Commerce Aquatics program while growing up. "I enjoyed competing in different cities. My last competition was at La Jolla, which was challenging and a little nerve racking because it was my first time swimming at the beach," said Jimenez who said she plans to take on many other challenges in the future.



KIMBERLY JIMENEZ

Daughter of Santiago Meza & Ana de Anda
18 years of age
Bell Gardens High School
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Black hair
Brown eyes



2013 Pageant Participants

DENISE RODRIGUEZ

Daughter of Juan Manuel & Rosa Maria Rodriguez
16 Years of age
Bell Gardens High School
5 ft. 3 inches tall
Black hair
Brown eyes



Denise Rodriguez is a junior attending Bell Gardens High School where she is a member of the Drill Team. Since, joining the team in her sophomore year, she has learned a lot about herself and others through the experience. "I learned techniques to memorize movements, drills and I developed other skills like teamwork. The great thing about drill is that I get to bond with my teammates when we travel to competitions. It really boosted my confidence. Now when I go out to compete, I show off what I can do and what I learned." Her goal is to study criminal justice after graduating from high school, with the intention of joining law enforcement and one day becoming a detective. "My godmother's husband and a close friend inspired me to follow this path. I want to investigate crime scenes to find out what happened. I'm naturally very curious." In her free time, Rodriguez likes to listen to music, spend time with her friends, and write poetry.

SHANESE SHAWNTAE PEREA

Daughter of Martin & Doreen Perea
19 years of age
Napoleon Perdis Makeup Academy
5 ft. 4 inches tall
Black hair
Brown eyes



Shanese Shawntae Perea graduated from Napoleon Perdis Makeup Academy, where she currently works as a makeup artist. "It's my dream job, but it's also a stepping stone to a life that I really want. I want my job to lead to my own business, an excellent list of clients, and one day having my own makeup line." As a makeup artist, Perea has worked in a number of fashion shows, expos, and photo shoots for magazines; her work was featured in The L.A. Fashion Magazine this past October. She has also traveled to San Antonio, Texas as part of her work to participate in the People en Espanol festival. "I'm not only doing what I love, but I learn a lot and it keeps me busy. I wouldn't have it any other way." Perea also enjoys music. "I love all kinds of music, especially the kind that stirs up emotion and is about experiences similar to my own," said Perea. In her spare time, she likes to work out, spend time with her family, and study fashion magazines for new designs and looks. "If you're doing makeup, you have to know the new fashion trends so that when a designer asks you for a certain look, you instantly know what to do."

BRIGIT K. ESCOBAR

Daughter of Daniel & Teresa Escobar
19 years of age
Cerritos College
5 ft. 6 inches tall
Brown hair
Brown eyes



Brigit Escobar plans to become a high school guidance counselor, hoping to help provide students the inspiration, motivation and guidance they need to be successful. "It comes from seeing my nieces and nephews and all the advice and guidance they get from their older relatives. That has motivated me to share my experience with the generations to come and bring out the best in every student." Escobar currently works as a tutor for the AVID program tutor at Bell Gardens Intermediate, helping kids with their homework, class work, and giving them insight into the college admissions process and succeeding once they are there. "I grew up in an incredible household surrounded by an incredible family. Seeing kids with little support and resources trying to make it to college so they can make something out of themselves motivates me to become a better person. It really enhanced my perspective." In her free time, Escobar likes to go hiking and play basketball with her former teammates from her high school basketball team.

ALYSSA JADE RUBIO

Daughter of Randy & Denise Castro
16 years of age
Bell Gardens High School
5 ft. 2 inches tall
Dark Brown hair
Brown eyes



Alyssa Jade Rubio has been a performer ever since she was three, when she joined the City's Tap and Ballet program. She went on to compete under the tutelage of the City's Competitive Dance Team for a number of years. This led to her joining a dance studio in Whittier. "When I'm performing, I feel happy, nervous, and excited. I enjoy the rush of emotion while I'm out there, entertaining the audience." Rubio is a junior at Bell Gardens High School, where she is using her dance skills as a part of the school's cheerleading squad. "I'm just happy and cheerful all the time, so it's natural for me to be a cheerleader." After finishing high school, Rubio plans to attend college and study to become a crime scene investigator. "I'm the kind of person that likes to figure things out. I find programs like CSI and Law and Order fascinating because you see all the different aspects of law enforcement working together to solve crimes." In her spare time, she enjoys roller skating, sports, and spending time with her family and friends.

Live on Commerce Municipal Cable Channel 3, 32 and on www.ci.commerce.ca.us



53RD ANNUAL

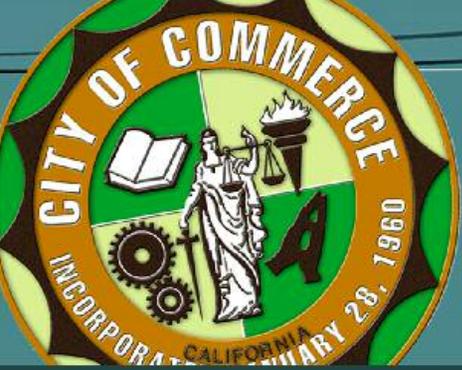
MISS COMMERCE Pageant

Saturday, March 23, 2013

LIVE TELECAST

From The Commerce Hotel and Casino





MARCH 2013

COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

 <p>Join the Fight! RELAY FOR LIFE OF COMMERCE April 6 - 7, 2013, 9 a.m. - 9 a.m. Veterans Memorial Park 6364 Zindell Ave. Open to the Public Call Francine Ayala at (323) 724-8801 or visit www.relayforlife.org/CommerceCA</p>	<p>April 2013</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr> <tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					<p>May 2013</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<p>1</p> <p>Family Weekend at Camp Commerce.</p>	<p>2</p>
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<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>English Book Club, EOC room, 6 p.m. Youth Advisory Commission, 7 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>General Municipal Election</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>Senior Citizens Commission, 12:30 p.m. Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Commission, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Queens' Breakfast, Steven's Steak House, 9:00 a.m. Pala Mesa Resort Golf Tournament, 10 a.m.</p> 																																																																																			
<p>10</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time Begins.</p> 	<p>11</p> <p>March 11-16 Library Teen Tech Week. Education Commission, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Community Task Force Meeting, City Hall EOC, 3 p.m.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Community Services Commission, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Senior's San Antonio Winery Visit, 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Solvang Family Excursion, 9 a.m.</p>																																																																																			
<p>17</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day.</p> 	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Library Embajadores Meeting, EOC Room, 6 p.m. City Council/Successor Agency, 6:30 p.m.</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Senior's Dinner at the Center, 4 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Downtown San Luis Obispo Excursion, 9 a.m.</p>  <p>53rd Annual Miss Commerce Pageant & Queen's Ball, 5 p.m.</p>																																																																																			
<p>24</p> <p>Boxing Show, Veterans Park, 1 p.m.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>March 25-28 Youth Week (8-12) at Camp Commerce. Spanish Book Club, EOC Room, 6 p.m.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Passover Kids Are Cute sign ups, all parks, 10 a.m. Library Commission 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Tiny Hopping in the Night, Veterans Park, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt, Veterans Park, 11 a.m.</p>																																																																																			
<p>31</p> <p>Easter Sunday</p> 																																																																																									

Report to the People 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.

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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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Use this volunteer experience on your resumé or college applications!

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March 5, 7, 12, & 14
 6:30 pm — 9:30 pm

*Must be able to attend all session dates.

**TUTOR TRAINING IS OFF SITE,
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For more information,
 please contact:
**City of Commerce
 Literacy Center**
 5855 Jillson St.
 Commerce, CA 90040
 (323) 722-7323

FREE



Commerce Evening Lion's Club

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 10, 2013
 8 a.m. to noon

Rosewood Park Community Center
 5600 Harbor Street
 Commerce, CA 90040



For tickets or more information,
 call Carlos Vasquez
 (323) 405-5599

SAVE THE DATE

Fun and Educational Activities for All Ages

Earth Day 2013

FREE FAMILY FUN SATURDAY April 13, 2013 10a.m - 2p.m.

- Over 50 green exhibitors
- Earth-friendly arts and crafts
- Water reclamation plant tours and landfill tours
- Eco-puppet show
- Face painting
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 Whittier, California, 90601

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 please visit www.ecsd.org or contact 1-621-909-4283, ext. 2305

COMMUNITY DAY OF SERVICE

CONT. FROM PG. 1



Community Services Commissioner Mike Alvarado and Commerce youth spent the morning cleaning up and beautifying Bristow Park sidewalks.

for helping organize the event. Most importantly, the City wishes to thank the volunteers who sacrificed

their Saturday morning in order to beautify their community.

The Keep Commerce Beautiful Program was established by the City

Council to ensure that beautifying and maintaining a clean, attractive community remains a top priority.

COMMERCE ONLINE

CONT. FROM PG. 1

To 'Like' and follow us on Facebook and Twitter you can visit the City website's main page and click on the Facebook and Twitter icons in the lower right hand corner or visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Commerce/123903054365151 and our Twitter page @CityofCommerce or twitter.com/CityOfCommerce.

