



Report to the People

Where Quality Service
Is Our Tradition

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Join the Fight
Against Cancer

Volume 53 No. 4 April 2013

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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The new EOC, which is one of many projects underway, is approximately 25% complete. The facility will be resistant to fire and structural damage and will provide a secure operations center for emergency first responders in the event of a disaster.



Infrastructure Projects Move Commerce Forward

The City has continued to move Commerce forward with new major infrastructure projects including the Commerce Emergency Operations Center, which is approximately 25% complete, and the soon to commence Bristow Area Street Improvement Project.

"We're pleased to have these projects moving forward following the recent completion of the Rosewood/Rosini area street improvements," said Assistant Director of Public Works Danilo Batson.

The dedicated Emergency Operations Center, which broke ground in December, offers tremendous benefits to the community. The cutting edge facility gives emergency first responders made up of City staff and Los Angeles County Fire and Sheriff's Department personnel the ability to respond efficiently and effectively to natural disasters and other emergencies.

The facility is secure and resistant to fire and structural damage. In addition, it features a fully integrated audio/visual

system allowing staff to track progress on incidents, as well as EOC functions, including planning, finance, logistics, operations and public information. The EOC is also self-contained with a proposed backup generator that will ensure the facility continues to function even during power outages.

The Bristow Area Street Improvement Project will commence this month. This project is expected to be complete by June. Once finished this project will improve the appearance of

Infrastructure Page 8

SCE Smart Phone App Makes it Easy to Report Outages



Power outages are an unfortunate inconvenience so Southern California Edison has made it easier for utility users to report outages, view outage locations and find out when service will be restored in their areas, with the introduction of a new smart phone app, which is a free download for iPhone and Android devices.

With this new easy to download app, users can report power outages and view an interactive outage map specifically designed to fit web-enabled mobile phone displays. This will make it easier to figure out which areas are and/or will be affected by power outages.

Remember to keep your smart phone charged as it may be the only available means of communication in an emergency during possible power outages.

While the quickest and easiest way to report power outages and other electric utility issues is online, if you do not have a smart phone and are experiencing problems with your power for more than a few minutes, you can report those issues by calling Edison at (800) 611-1911.

For more information about the SCE app, please visit their website at www.sce.com and type 'mobile app' into the search bar. The app is also free to download on the iTunes and Google Play app stores.

March 5 Election Results, Council Reorganization

Councilmembers Lilia R. Leon and Tina Baca Del Rio were re-elected and incumbent Councilmember Altamirano, who was appointed to the City Council in March of last year to fill an unexpired term, was elected to the Commerce City Council according to the final vote count conducted on March 11 at the Commerce City Council Chamber. The official results showed

Baca Del Rio being elected with 686 votes or 19.33% of all votes, followed by Altamirano with 635 or 17.89% and Leon with 623 or 17.55%.

The election results were certified at the March 19 Commerce City Council Meeting, during which time the Council also reorganized as is their tradition every March.

The Council named twice elected Councilmember and

retired City employee Joe Aguilar to serve as mayor and Leon to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

Voter turnout for the City Council Election included a total of 1,337 voters out of 6,271 total registered voters in Commerce for a turnout of 21.32%.

A breakdown of the results by precinct are available on the City Clerk's page under election 'information' via the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.



Beginning April 1, Measure AA, the half cent sales tax increase that Commerce voters approved last November, will go into effect. The funds collected from Measure AA will be used to protect vital city services and fund major infrastructure projects to improve quality of life for Commerce residents.

Our feature story this month (page 1) provides an update regarding ongoing projects, as well as a look ahead at projects that will be breaking ground in the near future. The number of projects planned, as well as those already underway, send a clear message that Commerce is a City on the move.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Commerce 2013 and her Royal Court, as well as the 2013 Young Man of the Year. While we did not have the names of the winners as the Report to the People went to press, we will have a full story next month to introduce them. In case you missed the 2013 Miss Commerce Pageant, it will be replayed throughout the month on Commerce Cable Channel 3 and via the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us. Check the Cable TV listing on page 4 for dates and times.

Commerce graduate and undergraduate students should be aware that the 2013 Commerce Scholarship application deadline is Thursday, April 25 at 5 p.m. Interested residents can apply online only via the Commerce Library's website at www.cocpl.org or the Library section of the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.

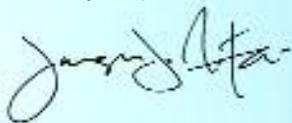
I also want to congratulate two Commerce athletes who are making their mark and this community so proud; Commerce Water Polo players Laura Jimenez and Stephanie Contreras. Read more on page 5.

The 2nd Annual Commerce Relay for Life will be held starting at 9 a.m. on April 6 and going until 9 a.m. on April 7. This 24 hour event, cosponsored by the City and the Commerce Industrial Council is asking individuals and organizations to volunteer or contribute in the fight against cancer. Last year the event raised more than \$10,000. For more information check out the ad on the back cover of this issue of RTTP or visit www.relayforlife.org/commerceca.

The Code Enforcement Division will be coordinating the Spring Clean Up on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. so residents can dispose of bulky items for free. This year, Safeshred and E-Waste Center, two Commerce businesses, will be participating on site at Veterans Park so residents can safely and securely dispose of personal documents and electronic waste. To volunteer, contact Code Enforcement at (323) 722-4805 ext. 2812.

Don't forget to join us on Saturday, May 4 at Rosewood Park for the City's annual Cinco de Mayo celebration. Once again, this year's Cinco de Mayo celebration will include the "Kids are Cute Baby Pageant," the Annual Garden Show and the Commerce Boxing Exhibition, as well as traditional Mexican food, mariachis, dancing, sports and game booths. Make sure to bring the whole family to this celebration that commemorates the Battle of Puebla in 1862.

Last but not least, don't forget to file your taxes. April 15 is the IRS deadline for your patriotic contribution or refund!




MUNICIPAL NOTES

EMPLOYEES HONORED; 40 YEAR RECIPIENT CLARA MIRANDA



Clara Miranda was acknowledged for 40 years of service to Commerce residents. Miranda is pictured with her son Anthony Miranda who is also a City employee

Two retirees and 119 other Commerce City employees were honored at the 2013 Employee Service Awards Dinner at Stevens Steak and Seafood House in March.

The honorees included retirees Robert Zarilli who served the City as the Director of Community Development and Custodian Willie Williams a 21-year employee, as well as longtime Commerce resident and City Recreation Leader Clara Miranda, who received a plaque acknowledging her 40 years of service to the City.

Miranda, who works at the Commerce Senior Center, said she enjoys her work and that it doesn't really seem like a job at all. "It feels like it was yesterday that I started working for the City. I love working at the Senior Center with the seniors, most of whom are dear friends of mine," said Miranda.

Another longtime employee is former Commerce resident and 35 years of service award recipient Alfredo Vela, who is the City's information technology manager. Vela started his career with the City as a page in the Library Department and after completing

his degree, was hired in the Finance Department where he has been ever since.

Also honored were 30 year recipients Recreation Leader Marco Armienta, Central Stores Assistant James Mojica, Business License Officer Maria Villaseñor and Administrative Assistant Linda Wright. Twenty-Five year recipients were Community Safety Dispatcher Maggie Aguilar, Custodian Steve Aragon, Library Section Supervisor Yolanda Cardenas-Parra, Senior Employment Services Representative Elizabeth Chavez.

Twenty year recipients were Bus Operator II Jaime Cervantes, Service Worker John Chavez, Jr., Receptionist Carmelinda Galvan, Public Services Maintenance Supervisor Larry Garcia, Bus Operator II Mary Jacquez, Senior Library Assistant Hector Magallon, Water Polo Coach Gabriel Martinez, Lead Painter Leonard Mendoza, Park Maintenance Worker Marcos Ortega, Bus Operator II Christopher Pasillas, Class Instructor Mary Ann Perez, Bus Operator II Jesus Ramirez, Cashier Veronica Rubalcava and Senior Office Assistant Sylvia Vilhauer.

The City would like to commend and congratulate all of these employees for their years of service to the residents and other stakeholders of the City of Commerce.



Valentina Bassett of the 1959 Commerce Incorporating Committee was in attendance to celebrate her grandson Carlos Grajeda's 15 year service award.

COUNCIL ACTIONS

REGULAR MEETING REPORTS

Regular Meeting of February 19

- Honored David Hill for his dedicated service to the City of Commerce as the Interim Director of Human Resources.



David Hill, pictured here with Human Resources employees Evelyn Gutierrez & Ruby Romo, was commended by the City Council.

- Approved the Abatement Order directing the L.A. County Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures to abate the public nuisance of weeds, brush, rubbish and refuse upon or in front of specified properties in the City.
- Issued a Request for Proposal to conduct an organizational assessment of the Community Development Department.
- Approved the 2013 City of Commerce Civic and Service Organizations.

- Approved an agreement between the Commerce Public Library and SirsiDynix for cloud hosting and maintenance of the Library's Integrated Library System.
- Authorized City staff to apply for grant funding for Capital and Operating Assistance on behalf of the City for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.
- Received and filed a presentation on the feasibility of the PLUS Resident Activity Card.
- Received and filed an update on the fiscal year 2012/2013 Capital Improvement Program.
- Adjourned in memory of James Groves, longtime Commerce resident; Tillie Chacon, former Commerce resident and mother of retired City employee Yolanda Gallardo, and Gerardo "Lalo" Valdez, brother of City employee Albert Valdez.

Report to the People

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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.

PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST WEST NILE VIRUS

WATCH FOR THE ASIAN TIGER MOSQUITO

The Asian tiger mosquito has been identified in the City of South El Monte. This aggressive, day-biting mosquito is approximately 1/4 inch with distinctive black and white banding. If you have seen this mosquito or have been bitten by a mosquito during the day, please report the situation to help the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) address this threat.

The Asian tiger mosquito survives near humans, which they target as a food source, and lay eggs in water-filled containers. The following safety precautions from the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District advise the public to follow the 5 Ds:

1. Drain- Reduce the amount of standing water in or near your property by draining or removing it. Mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water.
2. Deny- Deny entry by mosquito-proofing your home with tight fitting screens on windows and doors.

3. Dawn & Dusk- When possible, avoid spending time outside at dawn and dusk.

4. Dress- Wear shoes, socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt when outdoors for long periods of time when mosquitoes are most active. Clothing should be light colored and made of tightly woven materials to keep mosquitoes away from the skin.

5. DEET- For additional protection from mosquitoes, use an insect repellent containing DEET (N,N-Diethyl-meta-toluamide). When using DEET or any repellent, be sure to read and follow all instructions on the label. In most circumstances, products with 25 to 35 percent DEET provide adequate protection for conditions experienced in normal urban and rural settings.

For more information, contact the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District at (562) 944-9656 or visit their website at www.glacvcd.org.

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

One of the most effective way to help make your neighborhood a safer place is to become a member of the City of Commerce Neighborhood Watch program.

Anyone interested in improving their neighborhood can join. Members learn a variety of techniques to make their homes more secure, prevent crimes and how to report suspicious activities to the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station.

Neighborhood Watch members serve as the extra eyes and ears of the City by reporting crime. Neighborhood Watch also helps build community pride and provides a forum for neighbors to share and address their public safety concerns.

What to Look For

There are a lot of things to watch for to keep your community safe. Here are some specifics:

- Calls for help.
- Suspicious activity like people looking into windows and parked cars.
- Property being taken out of houses when no one is home.
- Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination.

- Anyone being forced into a vehicle.
- A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to children.
- Abandoned vehicles.

How to Report

- Call the Sheriff's department at (323) 264-4151.
- Briefly describe the event--what happened, when, where, and who was involved.
- Describe the suspect: sex and race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, distinctive characteristics such a beard, mustache, scars, accent, etc.
- Describe the vehicle if one was involved: color, make, model, year, license plate, and special features such as stickers, dents, or decals.
- You may give your name and address, but it is not required. You can report crimes anonymously.
- In case of emergency always call 9-1-1.

For more information about Neighborhood Watch contact Interim Public Safety Supervisor Laura Tilley at (323) 887-4460 ext. 2870.

APRIL IS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a "spectrum disorder" that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees. There is no known single cause of autism, but increased awareness and funding can help families today.

Knowing the signs is important because early identification of autism in children can change their lives. Autism is treatable. While children do not "outgrow" autism, studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes.

Symptoms include a lack of or delay in spoken language; repetitive use of language

and/or motor mannerisms (e.g., hand-flapping, twirling objects); little or no eye contact; lack of interest in peer relationships; lack of spontaneous or make-believe play; and persistent fixation on parts of objects.

Diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) can be difficult since there is no medical test, like a blood test, to diagnose the disorders. Doctors look at the child's behavior and development to make a diagnosis. ASDs can sometimes be detected at 18 months or younger. By age two, a diagnosis by an experienced professional can be considered very reliable.

ASDs begin before the age of three and last throughout a person's life, although symptoms may improve over time. Some children with an ASD show hints of future problems in the first few months of life. In others, symptoms might not show up until 24 months or later. Some children with an ASD seem to develop normally until around 18 to 24 months of age and then they stop gaining new skills, or they lose the skills they once had.

For more information on autism, visit www.autism-society.org or www.autismspeaks.org.

Report to the People

2013 Cinco De Mayo Celebration



Saturday

May 4, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Rosewood Park

5600 Harbor Blvd.

Food and Game Booths

Kids are Cute

Baby Show - 10 a.m

Garden Show - 12 p.m.

Boxing Exhibition - 1 p.m.

Hot Shot T Ball

Exhibition- 1:30 PM

Commerce Folklorico Dancers

& Commerce Talent

Raffle Prizes

Entertainment

Live Band

Entertainment-3:30 p.m.- 5 p.m

CITY OF COMMERCE CHANNEL 3



April 2013 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 recap of the City Council Meeting in One Minute

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 11:05 a.m.,
Sundays at 5:30 p.m.

53rd Annual Miss Commerce Pageant-Live Coverage on March 23rd

Mondays at 12 p.m., Tuesdays at 10 p.m.,
Wednesdays at 4 p.m., Thursdays at 9 p.m.,
Fridays at 9 a.m., Saturdays at 6 p.m.,
Sundays at 8 p.m.

Commerce City News

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

California's Gold with Huell Howser

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

Twilight Dance Music Concert Series "Brother"

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

Vintage Vehicle Show - Shows include:

The Vintage Vehicle Show

"Lynnwood Rotary Car Show"

Tuesdays at 3 p.m.

"Santa Monica Shelby Show"

Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.

"Fenders on the Street Car Show"

Thursdays at 8 a.m.

The Vintage Vehicle Show

"Barry Hilbert Collection" Saturdays at 8 a.m.

K9 Corner

Mondays at 5 p.m., Tuesdays at 1 p.m.,
Wednesdays at 8 p.m., Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.,
Fridays at 8 a.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m.,
Sundays at 8 p.m.

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

COMMERCE ATHLETE BREAKS CIF RECORD

Commerce Aquatics Alumni Scores 622 Career Goals



Commerce athlete Stephanie Contreras broke the CIF record for scoring 622 career goals as a member of the Los Altos High School Girls Water Polo Team.

Commerce athlete and Los Altos High School Girls Water Polo player Stephanie Contreras has broken the California Interscholastic Federation record for career goals on February 1.

Contreras became the CIF-Southern Section career goals leader in a game against Temescal Canyon High School in a non-league game, scoring four points to raise her grand total to 622 career goals in a tight 9-8 victory.

Contreras, who honed her skills as a member of the Commerce Water Polo Team broke the old record set by La Salle High school's Kara-Leigh Huse (daughter of Commerce employee Jennie Jacobsen Huse) from 2005-08.

"It was kind of crazy, because after I scored I had to come out of the pool," Contreras said in an interview with the San Gabriel Valley Tribune. "Everyone was hugging me. We had a pretty good turnout, so it was good."

Contreras is no stranger to breaking records. She set the single-season scoring record with 188 goals during her freshman season in 2010. "The single season was out of the blue just before playoffs, but this was more of a build up. It definitely feels better," said Contreras.

The City would like to congratulate Stephanie Contreras on her record breaking achievement and look forward to seeing what she accomplishes in the future.

LIBRARY NEWS

Commerce Celebrates National Library Week

The City of Commerce Public Library System will be celebrating National Library week during the week of April 15-20. Each Commerce Library will be hosting an event on a different day of that week, culminating in an excursion to the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books on April 20 at USC. The schedule is as follows:

April 15 @ Central Library, 6 p.m.
April 16 @ Atlantic Library, 6 p.m.
April 17 @ Greenwood Library, 6 p.m.
April 18 @ Bristow Library, 6 p.m.

For more information on the event, contact the Commerce Central Library at (323) 722-6660 or visit the library website at www.cocpl.org.

Commerce Scholarship Deadline is April 25

The Commerce Scholarship application deadline is April 25 at 5 p.m. Applications are available only on the Commerce Library's website at www.cocpl.org or the Library section of the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.

The application requires two letters of recommendation, an autobiographical essay, financial need analysis, school transcripts, a Commerce resident card, and proof of admission to an approved college, university or trade school. Interviews will be scheduled for June.

Library's 2013 Essay Contest "My Dream Library"

Have you ever thought about what the perfect library would be like? Does it include three floors filled to the brim with books? Does it have a café to drink coffee or hot chocolate with your favorite book? Does it put the latest technology right at your fingertips?

The City of Commerce Public Library and the Com-

merce Education Commission are sponsoring their Annual Essay Contest. The deadline for entries is Saturday, April 13. The theme of the contests is "My Dream Library."

The Essay Contest is open to students in grades 4-12, with a winner being chosen from each of the following categories: Grades 4 to 5, Grades 6 to 8, and Grades 9 to 12. The prize for first place for each category will be a \$50 Target gift card with second and third place being awarded backpacks with school supplies.

Essays should address the theme with correct spelling, punctuation and grammar according to the entrant's best ability. One entry per person must be submitted with a completed entry form. Entries must be solely the work of the entrant and may be submitted at any Commerce library. All entries become the property of the Library. Entries should be typewritten and double-spaced in English on 8 1/2" by 11" paper. Word limit on essays is as follows: Grades 4 to 5 should be 350 words or less; Grades 6 to 8: 450 words or less; Grades 9 to 12: 600 words or less.

For more information, call the Commerce Central Library at (323) 722-6660.

Teen Literature Day

April 18 @ Central Library, 6 p.m.

This year we celebrate the importance and excitement of teen literature, with a visit from teacher and young adult author Alan Sitomer.

Sitomer is California's 2007 Teacher of the Year; it is his dedication to his students that inspired him to become a writer. Join us as Mr. Sitomer discusses his books and work with teens.

Queen's Breakfast

Commerce Olympian Brenda Villa Serves as Keynote Speaker



Former Queens took center stage at the Queen's Breakfast on March 9 at Stevens Steak and Seafood House.

Participants in the 2013 Miss Commerce Pageant and their mothers were invited to share breakfast with the Commerce Queen Unique Hernandez and her Royal Court at the Queen's Breakfast held on March 9 at Stevens Steak and Seafood House.

The breakfast has been a Commerce tradition since the 1970s and is a unique opportunity for the participants to meet community leaders and to bond as a group.

This year's keynote speaker was none other than Olympic Gold Medalist and Commerce icon, Brenda Villa. Villa shared her inspiring story in which she discussed the challenges that she faced being a woman playing water polo, which during that time was widely considered a "male sport."

"One of the obstacles I faced was playing on the boys Water Polo team at Bell Gardens High. The guys in my team respected me as an athlete. However, the boys on the opposing team were a different story. They always threw extra kicks and shoves my way. Through my accomplishment I taught those who didn't appreciate me being a girl in a male sport that I am their equal" said Villa.

Villa also praised the City of Commerce and the various programs and activities that the City provides. "I know this sounds cliché but when I was at the top of that podium (to receive the Olympic gold medal), I was thinking about my City and all the support I got from friends, family, and everyone in Commerce who was rooting for me," said Villa. "The great thing about

Commerce is that everyone knows everyone. There is one degree separation between all of us. The City provides a great family community and has a lot of resources to give. Take advantage, because if you don't, it's a lost opportunity."

Villa concluded her speech by urging the participants to follow their dreams. "Whatever you're passionate about, do it while you're young. Don't let anyone try to dissuade you from doing what you want to do. I was tested every step of the way and I passed that test."

The Queen's Breakfast also featured the presentation of the pageant participants, the Pageant Steering Committee and the 2012 Queen and her Royal Court. Past queens were asked to come on stage and offer participants advice for pageant night. Advice ranged from encouraging participants to be themselves to making a great first impression.

The breakfast ended with a fashion show provided by L & M Fashions and Accessories, Hollywood Proper, which featured the 2012 Queen and Court, their mothers, and members of the Pageant Steering Committee as models.

Young Man of the Year, Ernesto Covarrubias was also in attendance. Covarrubias took a brief stroll down the catwalk during the fashion show, much to the delight of the crowd.

The Queen's Breakfast was sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department and coordinated by Pageant Director Adolfo Marquez.

Senior Citizens Update

Exercise Classes and Upcoming Excursions

Are you retired? Need to stay active? Want to make new friends with interesting and exciting people? Well, look no further than the Commerce Senior Center, where there are a variety of fun clubs, activities, and trips being held year around.

April will be a quiet month but activity will pick up in May. In the meantime seniors can get in shape with free and low cost exercise classes offered at the Senior Center every Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

The Zumba Gold class is on Mondays at 9 a.m. followed by Chi-Gong at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday features arthritis exercise classes at 9 a.m.

Also on Tuesdays and Thursdays are beginning yoga classes are offered at 10 a.m. to help with breathing and flexibility with Thursday classes being added by popular demand. On Tuesday evenings seniors can break loose with salsa classes at 5 p.m.

Upcoming trips include a visit to the famous battleship, the USS Iowa, on April 23, 2013. Built in

1940, the USS IOWA served our country for over 50 years. Designated the "World's Greatest Naval Ship" due to its big guns, heavy armor, fast speed, longevity and modernization, it kept pace with technology for more than 50 years. This trip will be first come, first served and requires a \$5 refundable deposit.

Also, Senior Center Supervisor Ann Cruz Berroteran is coordinating the Women's Fitness Weekend at Camp Commerce April 26-28. This is a weekend of fun and fitness for women ages 18 and older. The cost is \$50 for residents and \$100 for Industrial residents. The weekend includes yoga, aerobics, manicures and pedicures, water aerobics, crafts, and many other activities.

For more information on these and other activities at the Senior Center, call (323) 887-4430 or feel free to visit the Center at 2555 Commerce Way. You are always welcome!

Report to the People

Commerce Water Polo Player Featured as Athlete of the Week



Laura Jimenez was named Telemundo's Athlete of the Week.

Commerce athlete Laura Jimenez was recognized in February by Telemundo Channel 52 as their 'Athlete of the Week.'

A member of the Commerce Womens Water Polo Team, Jimenez enjoys competing in the physically challenging sport despite her medical condition; she was born premature with a perforated lung. This obstacle did not stop her from becoming one of the top players in both the Commerce Water Polo program and on the Montebello High School Water Polo Team.

During her interview with Telemundo, Jimenez described the first time she was ever in the water. "My first memory was my family members carrying me in the water, which, in the beginning was to have me experience the water. Afterwards, they started showing me how to swim and I've never stopped."

Jimenez's main focus is her education, a priority instilled into her by her parents, who are active in their community as well as with their children. "My parents have taught me that academics and education are number 1 always and that sports come second. This often leads to me having to finish my homework at the Commerce Aquatics Club," said Jimenez.

To check out the feature from Univision, visit the City's Facebook page or go to www.telemundo52.com/deportes/Atleta-de-la-semana-192611531.html?vid=a.

Commerce Swim Meet



The City of Commerce hosted a swim meet on March 16. Pictured are members of the Commerce Swim Team showing off a trophy earned for their team's performance that day.

Brenda Villa at the Queen's Breakfast



Olympic Gold Medalist and Commerce icon Brenda Villa was the keynote speaker for the annual Queen's Breakfast. Villa is pictured here with attendee Martha Castillo and past Queen Nancy Valencia.

A Commerce Valentine's Day



Commerce Preschooler Brooklyn Cadenas shows off her valentine box made during class at Rosewood Park to celebrate Valentine's Day.

'The Blue Brick Road to Anti-Bullying'



Community Services Coordinator Eduardo Saucedo (left) with Bandini Elementary staff and the Student Council who put on a theatrical presentation titled "Take the Blue Brick Road to Anti-Bullying" as part of Anti-Bullying Week.

Retiring Superintendent Honored



Now retired MUSD Superintendent Robert "Bo" Henke was honored by the Education Commission for his service to the community. From l. to r. are Vice Chair Marco Herrera, Henke, Chairperson Ed Miles, and Commissioners Carmen Marquez Cooper and Libby Stokes.

Congresswoman's New HQ



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard talked to Commerce City News about her new District Office at the Citadel Outlets. See page 8 for more information.

Resident Awarded Purple Heart



Veteran and longtime resident Lorenzo Cardoza (front row, seated), pictured here with his family, belatedly received the Purple Heart from the US Armed Forces for wounds received in combat as a US Army Private First Class in 1952 during the Korean War.

Read Across America



The City's libraries (Central Library pictured) celebrated Read across America to promote reading and honor the legacy and birthday of Theodor Geisel, also known as Dr. Seuss.



APRIL 2013

COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																											
	<p>1</p> <p>English Book Club EOC room 6 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Advisory Commission 7 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Senior Citizens Commission 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Student Government Day Council Chambers 8 a.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Family Weekend at Camp Commerce</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Relay for Life Veterans Park, 9 a.m.</p>																																																																																											
<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Education Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Community Services Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>																																																																																											
<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>National Library Week Central Library 6 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>National Library Week Atlantic Library, 6 p.m.</p> <p>Library Embajadores Meeting, EOC Room, 6 p.m.</p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency, 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>National Library Week Greenwood Library 6 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>National Library Week Bristow Library 6 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Los Angeles Times Festival of Books 10 a.m.</p>																																																																																											
<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Senior's USS Iowa Tour 9 a.m.</p> <p>Library Commission 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Commerce Scholarship Applications Due</p>	<p>26</p> <p>April 26-28 Women's Fitness Weekend at Camp Commerce</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Calico Ghost Town & Route 66 Excursion 10 a.m.</p>																																																																																											
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Dia de Los Ninos Program Central Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Spanish Book Club EOC Room 6 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p>			<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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td></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>June 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></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td></td><td></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						
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COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



Joe Aguilar, Mayor
Lilia R. Leon, Mayor Pro Tem
Ivan Altamirano, Councilmember
Tina Baca Del Rio, Councilmember
Denise M. Robles, Councilmember



The Public Information Office welcomes your story ideas, suggestions, and opinions. Deadline for submission is the first of each month for publication the following month. For more information, call 323•887•4447

2535 Commerce Way · Commerce, CA 90040

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

SAVE THE DATE
Fun and Educational Activities for All Ages

Earth Day 2013

FREE FAMILY FUN
Over 50 green exhibitors
Earth-friendly arts and crafts
Water reclamation plant tours and landfill tours
Eco-puppet show
Face painting
Performances, Workshops, Speakers and More

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

SANITATION DISTRICTS PARKING LOT 1
1955 Workman Mill Road
Whittier, California, 90601

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Join the Fight! RELAY FOR LIFE OF COMMERCE



24
Hour Event

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

NEW CITADEL OUTLETS EXPRESS
Bus Line
Free 7 days a week

CITADEL OUTLETS
LA'S CHOICE FOR OUTLET SHOPPING

Express Service from Downtown LA to Commerce

City of Commerce Bus Schedule info:
(323) 887-4419 or www.ci.commerce.ca.us

Infrastructure Projects Move Commerce Forward

CONT. FROM PG. 1



Commerce Way was one of the streets repaved as part of the Rosewood/Rosini street improvements.

the area and provide safe and reliable roads and sidewalks that will serve Commerce residents and visitors for years to come.

The Safe Routes to School Project,

near Rosewood Park School and Bandini School will also be starting soon. Improvements include lit crosswalks, speed feedback signs, sidewalk repairs, minor street repairs, new stop signs, and road striping. The goal of

the project is to increase the safety of children and nearby residents.

Finally, there are two additional projects already planned, which are the Central Library Renovation Project and the Washington Boulevard Reconstruction Project, scheduled to begin in the coming months.

The City also anticipates additional project planning in 2013 and 2014 based on the Measure AA half cent sales tax revenue that will start being collected as of this month. Measure AA was passed by 68% of Commerce voters in the November 2012 election, and is projected to generate \$4-5 million a year. The funds from this Measure will protect City programs and services and provide needed funding for \$34 million in projected infrastructure costs for streets, roads and City facilities in the coming years.

CONGRESSWOMAN'S

NEW COMMERCE OFFICE

Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard recently moved her district office to the third floor of the 500 office building at the Citadel Outlets here in Commerce.

Roybal-Allard said she's enthusiastic about the move and the benefits her office can provide to constituents.

"We can provide help on Federal issues including Medicare, Veterans benefits, and Social Security, as well as immigration and passport issues."

The Congresswoman's office can also provide information on fellowships and opportunities for students.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, contact the Congresswoman's district office at (323) 721-8790 or visit her website at roybal-allard.house.gov.