



# Report to the People

Where Quality Service  
Is Our Tradition

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AQMD  
Public Notice

Volume 53 No. 6 June 2013

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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The Safe Routes to School Project includes repaired sidewalks, digital speed limit feedback signs, and lit crosswalks to make it safer for students walking to and from school.

## SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM UNDERWAY

As part of the new Safe Routes to School Project, the City is implementing numerous infrastructure enhancements to create a safer environment for students and pedestrians.

According to the California Department of Transportation, in 1969, about 60% of all students walked or bicycled to school. Today, fewer than 15% of all school trips are made by walking or bicycling, 25% are made on a school bus, and over half of all children arrive at school in private automobiles.

This decline in walking and bicycling has had a negative effect on traffic congestion and air quality around schools.

Additionally, safety issues are a major concern for parents, who consistently cite traffic danger as

a reason why they drive their children to school.

The Safe Routes to School Project is designed to address these issues by improving safety to encourage students to walk or bicycle to school.

The enhancements include sidewalk repair; digital speed limit feedback signs to discourage unsafe speeds in residential areas near schools and parks; and lit crosswalks to enhance motorist visibility of children and other pedestrians.

"By enabling students to travel to school in a safer environment they can learn the value of independence, as well as the benefit of engaging in healthier life habits like walking or bicycling. We want our students arriving to school energized and ready to

learn," said Interim Public Safety Supervisor Laura Tilley.

Completed improvements include installation of an embedded lit crosswalk on Harbor Boulevard near Commerce Way; speed feedback signs on Harbor Street near Commerce Way, Eastern Ave near Harbor Street, and Courts Avenue near Jillson Street; and Sidewalk repairs near Rosewood School and Bandini Elementary School.

Additional improvements planned include American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalk ramps and thermoplastic painting of ladder crosswalks.

The Safe Routes to School Project is paid through State funding and City bond monies.



**Page 7**  
Calendar of Events

## CINCO DE MAYO: A CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURE



The community came together to celebrate the victory of the Mexican Army over the French in the 1862 Battle of Puebla at the Commerce Cinco de Mayo celebration on May 4 at Rosewood Park.

The event was hosted by the City of Commerce with financial support from Union Pacific and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

The celebration featured a number of activities including the Kids are Cute Baby Show, a boxing showcase, Hot Shots

opening day and the Commerce Garden Show.

"We hold the Garden Show every year to generate interest in cultivating plants and gardens, which bring beauty to our homes and our neighborhoods," said Jose Zambrano, President of the Commerce Garden Club. "It's also an opportunity to recruit new Garden Club members."

Opening ceremonies kicked off the event with introductions from emcees Miss Cinco de Mayo Kimberly Jimenez and Parks and Recreation employee Oralia Re-

bollo. The ceremony included the presentation of colors by the Cub Scouts Pack #473, Commerce Girl Scouts, and Boy Scout Troop #473, a rendition of the National Anthem by City employee Brandi Alvarez, and the introduction of dignitaries, including resident Val Basset, a member of the 1960 Commerce Incorporating Committee. Those in attendance also entered numerous raffle drawings for prizes, gift certificates and candy filled piñatas.

## MARAVILLA FOUNDATION: NO COST ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES

Commerce is not only home to more than 1,800 businesses, but also to many charitable non-profit organizations like the Maravilla Foundation.

The Maravilla Foundation is a non-profit community based organization founded in 1967 dedicated to providing comprehensive, no-cost social services to low and moderate income families and individuals. Their goal is to help constituents improve their quality of life, become self-sufficient, and break the cycle of poverty.

While the Maravilla Foundation serves communities throughout southern California, the roots of this agency remain where it began.

"All of us here at the Maravilla Foundation are from this community," said Tristen Sotomayor, Chief Operating Officer of the Foundation. "Just because someone is low income doesn't mean that they aren't entitled to the most basic needs. That's why we provide as many services as we can to as many working families as we can."

The Maravilla Foundation's services include direct assistance in paying utility bills, as well as appliance repair and replacement.

One of their most successful programs is their no-cost weatherization program for eligible renters and homeowners.

"We provide these services through Southern California Edison and the Gas Company," said Gil Malijen, Outreach Manager for the Foundation. "We go to homes and make them energy efficient, in order to lower monthly utility bills. We weather strip the exterior of the doors, shoot insulation in the attic, provide new shower heads and aerators, replace any

Maravilla Page 8

Commerce has continued to move forward on a number of infrastructure projects to enhance the local economy and improve the quality of life for everyone who lives, works or invests in the City.

Recently, we've reported on residential street improvements and a new Emergency Operations Center, which is nearing completion, as well as a number of other projects. This month we are proud to report on the Safe Routes to School project in our feature story on page 1. This project provides enhancements to improve safety for students and other pedestrians. It also has great potential to reduce pollution and traffic congestion while promoting healthy activities by encouraging children to walk or ride their bicycles to school.

New in the RTTP this month, we are introducing a column called Veterans Corner. This column will be published on a regular basis to connect veterans in Commerce to programs and services that will benefit them.

One such program being highlighted in this issue of RTTP is the Inside Wireman Apprenticeship program. It is offered by the Electrical Training Institute via the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers facility, which is located here in Commerce. This is an excellent on the job training and education opportunity available to the public, as well as honorably discharged veterans. See Veterans Corner on page 4 and the ad on page 8 for more information.

Residents can also contact the newly opened Slawson Southeast Occupational Center in the City of Bell. This new school offers training in fields including automotive, pharmacy tech, construction, baking, forensic science, child care and many others. For more information, call them at (213) 241-3150.

This month I am pleased to welcome new Human Resources Director Michael Casalou to the City of Commerce. Michael has extensive experience in local government that will be an asset to our Human Resources Department.

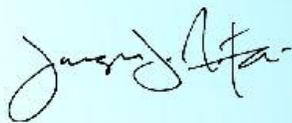
June marks the beginning of summer and the City has a full schedule of events, trips and programs for everyone in your family. For more information check out the Summer Brochure. If you did not receive the Summer Brochure, visit City Hall to pick up your copy today.

With summer comes warmer weather so it's important to stay cool and hydrated. Residents can beat the heat by visiting air conditioned City facilities like our parks, libraries, the Senior Center and Teen Center. Residents can also enjoy the pool at the Brenda Villa Aquatics Center or take the children to the spray pools at each park, which will be in operation from June 29 through September 2. For more tips, see our story on page 3.

The Commerce Library's Summer Reading Program begins Monday, June 24. The SRP is designed to help children and teens retain and improve their reading skills over the summer break. The Summer Reading Program is free. To register, visit your local Commerce Public Library or their website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org) for more details.

Don't forget, Father's Day is June 16. Finally, I want to wish everyone a fun, safe and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,  
 Jorge Rifa




# COUNCIL ACTIONS

## REGULAR MEETING REPORTS

### Regular Meeting of March 20

- Approved a commendation for Alfred A. Plamann, Chief Executive Officer of Unified Grocers, upon the occasion of his retirement.
- Proclaimed Wednesday, April 24, as Arbor Day in the City of Commerce.
- Proclaimed the month of April 2013 as DMV/Donate Life California Month.
- Approved the revisions to the medical and/or pregnancy disability leave policy and sick and vacation leave conversion plan policy.
- Approved an agreement between the City and Pyro Spectaculars, Inc. for the Independence Day Celebration pyrotechnic display at Rosewood Park.
- Approved an agreement between the City and Raymond Leefe, dba Candyland Amusements for Carnival Services for the 4th of July Celebration at Rosewood Park.
- Amended the Joint Powers Agreement with regards to the appointment of a Treasurer.
- Passed a resolution in support of AB 750 that would extend to general law cities the power to utilize economic incentives to stimulate economic development and insulate them from the "gift of public funds" challenge.
- Approved a resolution in support of AB 741 to add Section 98.3 to the California Revenue and Taxation Code.
- Approved a resolution in opposition to SB 620 that would remove a cap on Water Replenishment District's reserve funds.
- Received and filed a presentation on the South Coast Air Quality Management District's report on Exide Technologies health risk assessment.
- Appointed Ernesto Gonzalez to the Community Services Commission.
- Appointed Kathy Duarte to the Traffic Commission.
- Appointed Augustine Perez to the I-710 Advisory Committee.
- Approved various professional services associated with the valuation of 4545 Washington Blvd, with respect to the Washington Blvd Widening and Reconstruction Project.
- Received and filed an update on the FY 2012/13 Capital Improvement Program.
- Adjourned in memory of Roberto A. Raigosa, longtime Commerce resident.

### Regular Meeting of April 2

- Received and filed a presentation by the Commerce Relay for Life committee and the American Cancer Society.



From l. to r. are Industrial Council Executive Director Eddie Tafoya, City employee/team leader Denise Diaz Barajas, resident and team leader Esther Zavala, Relay for Life Chairperson Francine Ayala of Popular Community Bank, Diana Herrera of Vernon Commerce Federal Credit Union and Larry Sandoval of the American Cancer Society.

- Proclaimed the week of May 12-18 as National Transportation week.
- Proclaimed the week of May 19-25 as National Public Works week.
- Approved a letter in support of the LA County Community Development Commissions' request for highest possible level of funding for the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and related agencies subcommittee.
- Amended the Classification and Compensation Plan to include a proposed job classification and salary schedule for Special Assistant to the City Administrator.
- Received and filed an update report on the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Capital Improvement Program.
- Approved a standard contract with BR Tree Service for Forest Care Project at Camp Commerce.
- Approved an agreement between the Successor Agency and Costco Wholesale Corporation.
- Approved funding for street repairs required on Canning Street between Garfield Avenue and Malt Avenue.
- Approved an agreement with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority (LACMTA) for the exchange of Surface Transportation Program Local Funds (STP-L FUNDS).
- Approved contracts for the Home Preservation Program.
- Approved an agreement between the Successor Agency and Craig-Realty Group-Citadel LLC, for the use of Successor Agency-owned property for parking purposes for weekdays and weekends throughout the remainder of 2013, and for the first part of 2014.
- Approved an agreement between the Successor Agency and Tubeway Properties, LLC, for the use of Successor Agency-owned property for parking purposes.
- Authorized the examination of transactions and use tax records.
- Approved a Water Right Lease and Agreement with the City of Whittier for fiscal year 2013-2014.
- Conducted a public hearing on a discussion and presentation with respect to the 2014-2021 Housing Element Update.
- Received and filed a presentation from Captain James Wolak of the LAC Sheriff's Department on the 2012 Crime Statistics Report.
- Received and filed a presentation from the Slawson Southeast Occupational Center, pertaining to Job Preparation Opportunities and Current Transportation Challenges.
- Approved and adopted recommended donation levels for the annual Cinco de Mayo and Independence Day events.
- Appointed Adelita Zepeda to the Senior Citizens Commission.
- Established the composition of the Advisory Committee provided for by Measure AA, setting the terms of office of the Committee Members, and defining the scope of the Committee's responsibilities.

## Report to the People

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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# 95 DEGREE RULE

## GET RELIEF FROM SUMMER HEAT



Kids can cool off at the spray pools located at each park. The spray pools will be in operation from June 29 through September 2.

Summer's high temperatures can pose health risks, especially to individuals who do not have access to air conditioning or other cooling resources.

The City of Commerce reminds residents that air-conditioned City facilities can provide much needed relief from the scorching days of summer.

**Here are some tips to help with the summertime heat:**

- Residents can cool off at Commerce community centers, libraries, the Aquatorium, swim pools and spray pools during regular business hours.
- Pay attention to your hydration status and be sure to drink plenty of fluids.
- Avoid hot, enclosed places, such as cars. Never leave children or pets unattended in a car parked in the sun.
- Use a fan, if available.
- Stay on the lowest floor of your building.
- Eat well-balanced, light and regular meals.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight and light-colored clothing.
- Cover windows that receive a significant amount of sun with drapes or shades to help keep your

house cool.

•Weather stripping and proper insulation will keep cool air inside your home.

**The Parks and Recreation Department will also initiate the following procedures:**

1. The age limit of 11 years and younger for the park spray pools with the exception of the Aquatorium will be waived for individuals over the age of 11 that need immediate cooling measures.
2. Park Spray Pools will remain open from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
3. The Parks will be playing family movies during operational hours and providing chilled water.
4. Sports Programming and outdoor activities will be curtailed to early morning or early evening times when the weather is below 95 degrees. Additionally, the Department curtails sports and outdoor activities when the air quality exceeds the moderate level.

View the hours of operation for Commerce facilities on the City's website at:

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

## FOR SAFETY'S SAKE

### SENIOR SCAM STOPPERS

There are plenty of scam artists out there and lots of people too willing to trust them. Seniors are often the target of these scams. The older generation is thought to be more trusting - raised to believe that a man's word is his bond. And many have built up a nice nest egg from years of saving and investing. But by knowing what to look for and what not to fall for, you can keep your money and your belongings safe from greedy hands.

**Here are some tips from the Contractors State License Board and the Federal Bureau of Investigation to help protect you from falling victim to scam artists and fraud:**

- When dealing with contractors, ask to see a license. The license is a simple white laminated card with the Contractors State License Board logo on it. Also ask for a written estimate and referrals from past customers.
- To avoid mail theft, avoid having checks mailed to your home. If you receive any checks on a regular basis, such as Social Security or Disability, have those checks deposited directly into your bank account.
- Telemarketing scams often involve offers of free prizes, low-cost vitamins, health care products and inexpensive vacations. To avoid this situation, you can reduce the number of telemarketer calls you receive by registering with the federal government's "Do Not Call Registry." You can register your land line phone

or cell phone by calling 1-888-382-1222.

- Medicare drug discount cards are offered by a number of companies and they can save you money. The best way to enroll for a Medicare-approved discount card is by contacting Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 and asking for a list of approved companies. Medicare drug discount cards cannot be sold by phone or through door-to-door sales. In addition, you should not need to provide proof of income because Medicare can access your records from the IRS. If you are asked to provide proof of income, including bank accounts, you may be dealing with a fraudulent company.
- Research a product thoroughly before buying it. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't be afraid to ask questions about the product.
- Be sure to talk over big investments offered by telephone salespeople with a trusted friend, family member or financial advisor. Never respond to an offer you don't understand thoroughly.
- Never send money or give out personal information, such as credit card numbers and expiration dates, bank account numbers, dates of birth or social security numbers to unfamiliar companies or unknown persons.
- If you have information about a fraud, report it to state, local or federal law enforcement agencies.

## Exide Technologies

# PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE



**AQMD**

**Thursday,  
May 30, 2013**

**Huntington Park  
Community Center**

6925 Salt Lake Avenue  
Huntington Park, CA 90255

Three Sessions:  
10 a.m., 2 p.m. & 6 p.m.

**Saturday,  
June 1, 2013**

**Doubletree Hotel**

Grand Tree Ballroom  
5757 Telegraph Road  
Commerce, CA 90040

Three Sessions:  
8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

For more information, call or write the SCAQMD at:  
SCAQMD - AB 2588 Section  
21865 Copley Dr.  
Diamond Bar, CA 91765  
(909) 396-3149

**For more information about Exide Technologies' activities, call or write:**

Mr. John Hogarth  
Exide Technologies  
2700 S. Indiana St  
Vernon, CA 90058  
(323) 262-1101, extension 275



*June 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 11:00 a.m., Sundays at 5:30 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 “Jose Feliciano”**

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  
“Mustangs” Tuesdays at 3 p.m.  
The Vintage Vehicle Show  
“Chevy” Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.  
The Vintage Vehicle Show  
“Corvairs” Thursdays at 8 a.m.

**The Vintage Vehicle Show**

“Street Rod Visions” Saturdays at 8 a.m.

**K 9 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.

**Cheap Eats**

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 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](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us) for more information.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**Summer Reading Program Starts June 24**



Participants at the Library’s Comic Book Day event held at the Central Library on May 4.

**“Reading is So Delicious!” 2013 Children’s Summer Reading Programs**

The Commerce Library’s Summer Reading Program is a fun way to help your children retain or improve their reading skills over the summer – and it’s completely free! Children who participate in the program can earn prizes for reading and attend great programs at all Commerce libraries.

Registration for the Summer Reading Program begins Monday, June 24. Participants can register at any Commerce library. Once registered children can earn prizes for reading. The first day for reporting is Monday, July 1. The Children’s Summer Reading Program is free and open to children from the age of four through fifth grade. The “Tiny Tots” Reading Program is for children from birth to three years old.

**Comic Book Day**

To celebrate Free Comic Book Day and comic book culture, the Commerce Central Library hosted its first ever “Comic Book Day” on Saturday, May 4. Free Comic Book Day is the first Saturday of every May where comic book shops give away special edition comic books to patrons.

The event drew dozens of kids and families, many of whom dressed up as their favorite comic book superheroes. Activities included an Avengers fighting game on the Xbox Kinect, Captain America’s Shield Toss,

Hawkeye’s Archery Challenge, and a Superhero-themed Loteria/Bingo.

After activities, Bat-Sigrig (Children’s Librarian Sigrig Hudson), Wonder Cynthia (Librarian Cynthia Bautista) and SuperErik (Young Adult Librarian Erik Jackiw) gathered all attendees together for a costume contest, with first place and a Spiderman DVD set going to participant Sarah Hernandez, who was dressed up as Batgirl. After the contest, they raffled off a number of action figures, comic books, and a Superman art piece created and donated by local artist Maestro Drake. They also gave away free comic books donated by Silver Comics.

**Special Programs & Storytimes**

All children are invited to the library’s special programs during the summer, which are free and open to the public.

For the Reading Program Kick-Off, “Mr. Grant: Substitute Rock Star” will perform his high-energy “rock ‘n’ roll” style show that includes music, puppets and audience participation at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 29 in the Council Chambers. Tickets for the Kick-Off program are free and will be available beginning at 1:00 p.m. on June 24 at all Commerce libraries. (Limit 4 tickets per family.)

**Teen Summer Reading Program**

The Teen Summer Reading Program returns for another exciting year. Join us for a summer of reading, crafts, movies, and other activities. Registration begins June 24 and reporting begins on July 1.

**“The Brick People” Documentary**

On Saturday, June 1, the Library will be showing a 30 minute documentary titled ‘The Brick People’ at 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The Brick People tells the story of the people of Simons Brickyard, which was a company town located in what is today Commerce and Montebello. The Brickyard housed the workers of Simons Brickyard No.3 that existed from approximately 1905 to 1955. After the screening, there will be a Q&A panel consisting of producer Art Kirsch, author of the book The Brick People Alejandro Morales, screenwriter Alessandra Morales-Gunz and director Mike Kirsch.

**VETERAN’S CORNER**

**Resources and Information for Veterans**

**Special Tax Considerations for Veterans**

According to the Internal Revenue Service, disabled veterans may be eligible to claim a federal tax refund under two provisions. 1) If the Department of Veterans Affairs increased the veteran’s percentage of disability (which may include a retroactive determination) or 2) if after an award for Concurrent Retirement and Disability, the combat-disabled veteran applied for and was granted Combat-Related Special Compensation.

If you or someone you know qualifies for this special tax consideration, there are a few steps to follow. The disabled veteran will need to file the amended return (Form 1040X, Amended US Individual Income Tax Return) to correct a previously filed Form 1040, 1040A or 1040 EZ. Please note an amended return must be filed as a paper return and cannot be e-filed. Disabled veterans should include all documents from the Department of Veterans Affairs and any information received from the Defense Finance and Accounting Services explaining proper tax treatment for the current year.

If needed, veterans should seek assistance from a tax professional before filing amended returns based on a disability determination. This information was collected from the IRS website and for further information, please

visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

**Training/Employment Opportunity for Vets from the IBEW**

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 11 Los Angeles Electrical Training Institute located here in Commerce provides on the job training and education for people interested in careers in the electrical construction and telecommunications industry. The next test will be held on June 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., however the test may be waived for Veterans with an honorable discharge. The program includes 8,000 hours of on the job training and 10 semesters of classroom study. For more information, call the IBEW Electrical Training Institute at (323) 221-5881 or visit their website at [www.laett.com](http://www.laett.com).

**Get Involved**

Veterans interested in joining the American GI Forum, the City’s only veterans service organization, or to obtain information about veteran services, contact Howard Hernandez at (213) 305-0009.

# ARBOR DAY

■ “Celebrating the importance of trees”



Smokey the Bear, Miss Commerce Shanese Perea and Miss Clippers Alyssa Rubio hand out tree saplings to students at Bandini Elementary School.

Commerce celebrated Arbor Day on April 24 by hosting assemblies at Bandini Elementary and Rosewood schools to teach students about trees and the history of Arbor Day.

City Staff, 2013 Miss Commerce Shanese Perea and members of her Royal Court, and representatives of the Los Angeles County Forestry Division visited Rosewood and Bandini Elementary to explain why trees are important to people and the environment.

Miss Commerce and the Royal Court talked about the history of Arbor Day, acknowledging J. Sterling Morton who founded Arbor Day in 1872 in Nebraska.

Commerce Tree and Street Maintenance Supervisor Hector Orozco explained photosynthesis and discussed how trees are used to grow food and make a

variety of products from furniture to pencils. He showed students fruit he had picked from trees planted in his own yard and shared ideas on how trees could be enjoyed by everyone.

Los Angeles County Fire Department Deputy Forester Jon Baker instructed students on planting trees. To encourage the planting and maintenance of trees, the Forestry Division gave each student a sapling.

Part of the program included the presentation of awards to students who won a City sponsored Arbor Day Poster Contest.

The Arbor Day Program was planned and coordinated by the Community Development Department.

## SENIOR CENTER COOKING CLASSES

■ Learn to Make Exciting, New Dishes

If you're tired of fast food and takeout, come join the foodies at the Senior Center for the weekly Cooking Class, which meets on Wednesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Participants will learn to cook many multi-ethnic dishes, from main entrees to salads and desserts. The classes are reserved for 10 people per class.

Registration opens one week prior to each class. The cost is \$5 per class, per person and needs to be paid at the time of registration. The fee includes all the ingredients for the projects. The last Wednesday of every month will feature an excursion to a local market or restaurant.

### Class dates and times:

June 5, 19, 26. Excursion will be on June 26 to Downtown Farmers Market.

July 3, 17, 24 and 31. Excursion will be on July 31 to Fresh and Easy Market in Pico Rivera.

August 7, 21, 28. Excursion will be on Aug. 28 to Mother's Market in Brea.

September 4, 18, 25. Excursion will be on Sept. 25 to Mit-suwa Market place Downtown Los Angeles.

Remember to come in and register at the Senior Center to reserve your spot. For more information, please call (323) 887-4430.

## COMPASSION & UNDERSTANDING GUIDE NEW DIRECTOR

■ Mike Casalou Brings 26 Years of Experience to Human Resources



department.

“I started in Parks and Recreation in Santa Fe

Mike Casalou may be the newest Department Director at City Hall but he's no novice to city government.

Casalou took over the Human Resources Department in March and brings with him 26 years of municipal experience. The Santa Fe Springs native jokes that he has worked in almost every city

Springs,” said Casalou. “I've also worked for four other cities in the City Administrator's Office, Finance and Human Resources departments.”

Casalou received his Bachelors Degree in Business from Whittier College and his Masters in Public Administration from California State University, Long Beach. The die-hard Dodgers fan has been married to his wife Christina for 20 years and is the father of three: Olivia, Jacob and Joel. His son Joel is a senior in high school and also has Cerebral Palsy and Autism. Casalou says his son's special needs have definitely shaped the way he works.

“I have this exposure to disabled people, it might give me a different outlook and more compassion to a different segment of our society,” said Casalou. “We try to solve what we may see as a problem... but if you just ask the disabled person how they're going to do it they usually have the answers.”

# Report to the People

## Commerce Golden Girl Sets Sights on Olympics Pauline Viesca



Pauline Viesca after her victory at the Cinco de Mayo festival boxing showcase.

Don't let Pauline Viesca's long flowing hair, sweet smile and freckles fool you. In the boxing ring, you only see her wicked punch. At 13 years old, Viesca is a rising star in the City's Boxing program, which has produced outstanding boxers like Olympians Javier and Oscar Molina.

Viesca is currently the USA Boxing regional, district and state champion for 12-13 year old girls at 95 pounds and in July will be travelling to Florida to fight for the National title. Boxing seems to fit Viesca like a glove and she said she doesn't mind the sacrifices that go with it.

“My family had to cancel our annual trip to Arizona to see the Dodgers in spring training because I had a competition,” said Viesca. “But I love boxing. I love the friends I've made and I love the feeling I get when I punch and when I win.”

Viesca has shown incredible progress in her brief career. Her boxing coach, Andy Silva, remembers the pretty girl who walked into the gym three years ago. “I thought she would last two weeks at the most,” said Silva. “But then I saw in her eyes how much she loved boxing and she definitely has the skills. She's smart, dedicated and disciplined.”

The petite slugger is not only formidable in the ring but also in academics. She maintains a 4.0 grade point average and plans to attend college. In addition to her educational goals, Viesca has another one and it involves gold.

“I definitely want to compete in the Olympics,” said Viesca. “And I want to win the gold.”

For more information on the City's boxing program, contact (323) 887-4434.

# Report to the People **COMMERCE GALLERY**

## HOLDING COURT AT CINCO DE MAYO



Miss Commerce Shanese Shawntae Perea and her Royal court and this year's Young Man of the Year Armando Valencia, during the Cinco de Mayo opening ceremonies.

## KINGS OF THE RING



Boxers from as far as Hollenbeck and Hesperia traveled to compete against the outstanding young talent in Commerce. All five Commerce boxers won their bouts.

## IN BLOOM



Mary Suarez, Vice-President of the City's Garden Club was also a blue ribbon winner.

## ADORABLE RESIDENTS AT 'KIDS ARE CUTE' BABY PAGEANT



Commerce's most adorable residents participated in the 'Kids Are Cute' Baby Pageant at the Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

## FOOT RACE



Two players scramble to field a grounder headed their way during the Hot Shots season opener at the Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

## MEXICAN DELIGHTS



Food vendors worked non-stop to feed the hungry crowd at the Cinco de Mayo Celebration.

## A GENEROUS DONATION



Community partner, Smart & Final made a \$1,000 contribution to the City's youth soccer and basketball programs.

## ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN-UP



Residents disposed of 3,200 lbs. of E-Waste and other unwanted items, and shredded 25 boxes of documents with help from Commerce businesses e-Waste Center and SafeShred.

## MOMENT OF ANTICIPATION



A couple of Girl Scouts take in all the excitement at the Cinco de Mayo Celebration.



# JUNE 2013

## COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

July 2013

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			

August 2013

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

**RABIES & LICENSING CLINIC**  
 ROSEWOOD PARK, 2535 COMMERCE WAY  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**JUNE 5, 2013 6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

RABIES VACCINATION \$5.00  
 (No cats please)

LICENSE FEES: SPAYED OR NEUTERED DOGS \$15.00,  
 UNALTERED DOGS \$ 25.00 & SENIOR CITIZENS' DOGS \$7.50

CITY OF COMMERCE ANIMAL CONTROL DIVISION (323) 887-4460

1	Camp Commerce Registration, Council Chambers, 8 a.m.
	Mount Woodson Country Club Golf Tournament, 9:30 a.m.
	"Brick People" Screening, Council Chambers, 2 p.m.
	Preschool Graduation, Veterans Park, 5 p.m.

2	
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3	English Book Club, EOC room, 6 p.m.  Youth Advisory Commission 7 p.m.
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4	Statewide & School Districts Elections  City Council/Successor Agency 6:30 p.m.
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5	Senior Citizens Commission 12:30 p.m.  Traffic Commission 6:30 p.m.
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6	Parks & Recreation Commission 6 p.m.
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7	June 7-9 Senior Weekend at Camp Commerce
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8	Swim Lesson Registration, Rosewood Park meeting room, 8 a.m.
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10	Education Commission 6 p.m.
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11	Introduction to Microsoft Publisher Computer Class, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.
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12	
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13	Fathers Day Craft Program, All parks, 4 p.m.  Community Services Commission 6 p.m.
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14	Flag Day  Senior Center Lunch Time Summer Kick-Off, 11 a.m.
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15	
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16	Father's Day
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17	
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18	Library Embajadores Meeting, EOC Room, 6 p.m.  City Council/Successor Agency 6:30 p.m.
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19	
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20	
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21	
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22	
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23	
30	

24	Summer Reading Program Registration Begins  Introduction to Microsoft Powerpoint, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.  Spanish Book Club, EOC Room, 6 p.m.
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25	Library Commission 5:30 p.m.
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26	Teen Book Club, Central Library, 5:30 p.m.  Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.
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27	
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28	
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29	Summer Reading Program Kick Off, Council Chambers, 10 a.m.  Spray Pools open for the summer, all parks.
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**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.

## 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

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## RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

City of Commerce, Department of Parks and Recreation

# Independence Day Celebration

Rosewood Park, 1400 Harbor Street, Commerce

Thursday, July 4, 2013  
2:00 – 10:30 p.m.

Meet Miss Fourth of July **Daniela Gomez**

Fireworks Display 9 p.m.

5K Freedom Run 8:00 a.m.  
Official Ceremony 3:00 p.m.  
Children's Entertainment  
Delicious Food Booths  
D.J. Boogie Night Entertainment  
Carnival-Thursday, July 4 through Sunday, July 7  
Live on Stage: "Boxcar 7" & "Tease"

For more information, call Parks and Recreation at (323) 887-4434

Join

ASSEMBLY MEMBER  
**CRISTINA GARCIA**

For her Monthly  
Community Walk & Talk  
Saturday, June 1st at 8:00 a.m.

Rosewood Park  
2535 Commerce Way  
Commerce, CA 90040  
(Commerce Way parking lot)

The Office of Assemblymember Cristina Garcia will be accepting donations of new, unused underclothes, socks and travel sized toiletries (toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps, etc.) to distribute to the homeless.

Please bring any donations with you to the walk.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL ASSEMBLY MEMBER GARCIA'S DISTRICT OFFICE AT (662) 402-4889.

City of Commerce, Department of Parks and Recreation

# Independence Day Celebration

Thursday, July 4, 2013 Rosewood Park 2:00 – 10:30 p.m.

## Shelters & BBQ Area

RESERVATIONS FOR ROSEWOOD PARK JULY 4, 2013

- \*Shelters & BBQ areas will be available for reservations
- \*Reservations at the Department of Parks and Recreation, beginning Wednesday, June 13, 2013 at 8:00 a.m.
- \*The fee for BBQ areas for Commerce residents
- \*\$1000 fee for shelters (shelters are split in half)
- \*Current Reservations and any cancellations required at time of reservation
- \*One reservation per household
- \*Unreserved spots will be made available to non-residents on the morning of 4th or July for a \$25,000 fee. Reservations for unreserved spots will be taken at the Independence Day Celebration information booth beginning at 2:00 p.m.

### Old Fashion Wagon Decorating Contest

Fun for the whole family

Take your family to the wagon out of the garage and let it go at our Old Fashion Wagon decorating contest.

As long as it has wheels and a pull handle, we want to see it!

Reservations and registration information: Show up at the wagon at 10:00 a.m. at the 4th of July Celebration.

Sign up at the Department of Parks and Recreation now or on site in the information booth.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION AT (323) 887-4434.

## CINCO DE MAYO

CONT. FROM PG. 1



Hot Shots tee ball players from all four parks line up on the Rosewood Park baseball diamond for opening day.

filled piñatas.

Following the opening ceremonies, the athletic competitions commenced. Commerce Hot Shots Tee Ball teams from all four parks played in their season opener and the Commerce Boxing Exhibition attracted a large crowd that cheered on hometown athletes.

Those that were not in the sports stands were watching the young performers from Commerce's Folklorico, Tap and Ballet, Recreation Jazz and competitive

Dance Teams. Other activities and entertainment included piñata breaks, the Susie Hansen Latin Band, and a Mariachi performance.

Not only were community members entertained, but they were also well fed. Several Commerce civic organizations offered a variety of delicious Mexican food and refreshments. Some of the fare included red chili cheese and green chili chicken enchiladas, taquitos, guacamole, tacos, burritos and churros.

Residents also stopped by booths to

learn more about local organizations like the Mount Wilson Girl Scout Pack #473 and Commerce-based environmental group East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice.

The City would like to thank UP and BNSF Railroads for their support of this annual celebration. The event was coordinated by the Department of Parks and Recreation under the supervision of Director Scott Wasserman.

## MARAVILLA

CONT. FROM PG. 1

vide new shower heads and aerators, replace any broken windows, replace exterior doors, install or repair furnaces, and provide refrigerators for families, and we do it all at no cost," said Malijen.

The Maravilla Foundation's after-school program for at risk youth is the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program that includes tutoring, educational courses, career counseling, leadership training, summer employment opportunities, and much more.

"The program promotes academic enrichment and work experience," said Case Manager Ruben Limon. "Our goal is for our clients to achieve at least one of three possible outcomes: get their high school diploma; reach post-secondary opportunities like college or a vocational school; or gain employment opportunities. Our mission is to help them become successful adults," said Limon.

For more information on free and low cost services from the Maravilla Foundation, call (323) 728-1585, or visit their website at [www.maravilla.org](http://www.maravilla.org).