



Report to the People

2011 Miss Commerce Pageant page 6

Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition

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Miss Commerce and her Royal Court were part of the City's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. L. to r. are Miss 4th of July Amanda Alvarado, Miss Dodgers McCall Cadenas, Miss Commerce Andrea Ordaz, Miss Galaxy Selenia Ramirez, Miss Cinco de Mayo Heaven Lee Hernandez and Miss Friendship Jennifer Mendoza.

Commerce Tree Lighting Kicks Off Holidays

More than a thousand residents showed up to see the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, which shook up the traditional program by featuring greater participation from Commerce residents, including 2010 Young Man of the Year (YMOTY) Art Navarro and Miss Commerce 2010 Andrea Ordaz, as well as everyone's favorite resident of the North Pole, Santa Claus.

Amidst, clear but cold weather the celebration opened up with Master of Ceremonies Adolfo Marquez who introduced the Commerce Dance Team who performed a holiday dance routine to a holiday favorite, "Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow."

As the crowd enjoyed warm drinks to fend off the cold they watched the opening act fol-

lowed by the welcoming ceremonies. The ceremonies included the Presentation of Colors by Boy Scout Troop #473 and Cub Scout Pack #473, the National Anthem, and official introductions of dignitaries and special guests.

Entertainment featured game show themed contests in which residents won prizes. There was also an impromptu gathering of the first ever Community Christmas Choir, who sang "Jingle Bells." The members of the group were awarded helium filled Christmas tree balloons and because of the audiences' positive reaction, Marquez said Parks and Recreation hopes to assemble a Community Choir for the 2011 Tree Lighting Ceremony.

"This year during the planning stages Parks and Recreation staff focused on fellowship with the community and Christmas cheer," said Marquez of the Department's efforts to heighten audience participation.

Through much of the celebration Marquez kept YMOTY Art Navarro and Miss Commerce active on stage, much to the delight of the audience. Also, Miss Commerce, who has studied dance for many years, performed to the "Sugar Plum Fairy" from the Nutcracker.

Other exciting performances included the Commerce Tap and Ballet Class, Teen Club, Dance Club, Folklorico Dancers, Recreation Jazz, and the Per-

See **Tree Lighting** page 8

Commerce Honors Military Veterans

The City of Commerce honored US Military Veterans, as well as active duty members of the US Armed Forces at this year's Annual Veterans Day Ceremony held at Veterans Park on a sunny and beautiful November 11.

In addition to holding the event outdoors in front of the memorial plaque located at the base of the US Flag in the center of Veterans Park, this year's event featured speeches from Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard and Guest Speaker USMC retired Sergeant Jake Alarid who served in the Korean War.

"We need to make sure we take care of our Veterans and that they get the services they deserve. We need to make sure the help, support and services are there for them and their families once they get home, not just on Veterans Day, but all year long," said Roybal-Allard.

The event also featured the City Council's dedication of the Perpetual Plaque of Commerce Veterans and Active Duty Service Members, which bears the names of 357 Commerce Veterans and active duty soldiers who have served or are serving in the United States Armed Forces. City officials said they will continue to add names to the plaque over time and encouraged residents to submit the names of any Commerce Veterans or active duty soldiers who serve or served in the US Armed Forces.

In addition, the Processional Veterans Day March took place honoring Veterans of all five branches of service: US Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines and Navy. The March was led by Boy Scout Troop #473 and Cub Scout Pack #473 backed by patriotic music performed by the Joseph Sapia Concert Band.

In their honor, Pastor Sam Wright from the Greenwood Community Church said a word of thanks for those serving in the military today and for those who have given their lives defending freedom and democracy. "We are

See **Veterans** page 8

Brenda Villa Honored At USAS Convention



Commerce's Three-time Olympian Brenda Villa was re-

cently honored by USA Water Polo at the recent USAS Convention held in Texas in September.

The convention brings together members of all the aquatic sports in the United States and Villa was on hand to be recognized by USA Water Polo CEO Christopher Ramsey as FINA Magazine's Women's Water Polo Player of the

Decade.

"It was an honor to receive this award on behalf of all the teammates I have played with the last ten years, as well as the women who played before us and didn't get the opportunity to play on the world stage, the Olympics. This award is also a tribute to USA Water Polo and the people behind the scenes that have built our pipeline and continue to do

so. We have come a long way and we have the expectation to continue the legacy that Guy Baker left behind," said Villa.

Villa and the rest of Team USA recently completed their summer competition season that saw Gold Medals at the FINA World League Super Final and FINA World Cup.

2010 is over and we are beginning a new year. The national economy is expected to improve in 2011. Nonetheless, the pace and intensity of the recovery continues to be uncertain and fragile. It's a promising sign that the local economy is recovering in certain sectors. We will continue to watch what takes place at the national, state, and regional levels. Ultimately, our local economic recovery is connected to these larger economic forces. And, if they do not improve, the local Commerce economy will ultimately be pulled back.

Due to last year's budget adjustments, we will not be hosting a community birthday celebration this year. To help keep costs down, we will be celebrating every five years instead of every year. But we encourage residents and our business associates to take a moment on Jan. 28 to remember our 51st birthday and think about those who played an integral role in establishing this City. Commerce is a wonderful City for families and businesses and there is much to be grateful for.

In December, we held a reception at the Citadel for our Calendar Art Contest participants. We thank all the children and teens who participated and congratulate the 24 young artists whose artwork was selected for our 2011 City Calendar. Don't forget that you can pick up a City calendar at City Hall or any of the City libraries while supplies last. The participants' artwork is on the City website and channel 3.

In November, the Council received an update on the proposed California High Speed Rail Project. Part of the proposed plans for phase one was to have a segment of the rail line go from Anaheim to Los Angeles Union Station and through a number of cities, including Commerce. The City Council was apprehensive of the plan because the economic viability was uncertain and the timing of the project construction would create a significant disruptive and chaotic environment for people who live and work here. That said, the Federal Railway Administration has decided to concentrate on the Central Valley segment of the project for now, giving us more time to review and evaluate the environmental impacts of the plan. We will keep you posted.

Just a reminder that the Aquatorium swimming pool and saunas are closed while the restrooms and lockers rooms are being renovated. Renovation is expected to be completed in June. Only water polo and swim teams and those taking swimming lessons will be allowed to use the pool. The Fitness Room is still open; however, patrons won't be able to use the showers. We apologize for the inconvenience and have expanded the hours at the Veterans Park gym.

City hall and libraries will be closed on January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Please remember to keep our nation's military and public safety personnel serving throughout the world in your thoughts and prayers.

The Mayor, City Council and City employees wish you and your loved ones a Happy New Year! See you next month.

Sincerely,
 Jorge Rifa



Council Actions

Regular Meeting Reports

Regular Meeting of October 19

- Presented the Commerce Library staff with a Certificate or Recognition for earning a STAR rating by Library Journal.
- Approved a \$3,000 contribution to the 18th Annual Congressional District Student Art Competition chaired by Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard.
- Approved revisions to the employee Tardiness Policy, Full-time and Part-Time Tuition Reimbursement Policy and Part-Time Medical Reimbursement Policy. Authorized staff to declare a diesel bus as surplus and to sell it at a public auction. The diesel bus does not meet current emissions regulations and has exceeded its useful life.
- Approved a Citadel Outlet request to use Commerce Redevelopment Commission-owned property for Citadel Outlet parking during the holiday shopping season.
- Approved an amendment to the Community Development Commission's lease with Commerce Hyundai for a temporary reduction in monthly rent.
- Approved a negotiation agreement between the Commerce Community Development Commission and Morley Justman and Russell Justman for the redevelopment of property at 6300 Telegraph.
- Approved a resolution awarding a City website redesign contract to CivicPlus.
- Approved a resolution amending the stipulation that settled the eminent domain action between the Community Development Commission and Morely Justman and Catherine Justman of Justman Packaging & Display.
- Approved a professional services agreement with Adrian-Gaus Architects, Inc. to make required ADA improvements to the Commerce Council Chamber.
- Approved the work performed by Tafoya & Associates Inc., for the removal of underground storage tanks in the Transportation Service Center and authorized staff to file a "Notice of Completion."
- Approved an ordinance regulating canopy structures and established a canopy structure permit fee.
- Received a report on a City webpage redesign. Plans are to include a service tracking program and online registration for City programs for residents.
- Approved a recommendation to retain the services of Transtech Engineers, Inc. to provide engineering services for street infrastructure assessment.
- Discussed establishment of an educational campaign to educate the community about unauthorized bicycling, skateboarding, scooter riding, skating and other activities at all City parks and City facilities.
- Revised the guidelines for the issuance of Resident Activity Cards to children who reside part-time in the City of Commerce.
- Approved a selection procedure for establishing a foursome to participate in charity golf tournaments.
- Authorized City staff to advertise in Spanish and English that the Senior Center is open on Sundays.
- Received and filed a report on a proposed ordinance limiting the number of terms and/or total years a City Council member can serve. The measure will be placed on the March 8, 2011 General Municipal Election Ballot.
- Rejected a bid for the Playground Resurfacing Project and authorized City staff to re-advertise for bids. Appointed Josie Betancourt to the Library Commission, Alisa Matas and Joseph Alvarado to the Youth Advisory Commission and Loretta Griego to the Pageant Steering Committee.

Regular Meeting of November 2

- Approved temporary closure of the Commerce Libraries for installation of new carpeting.
- Approved and adopted a resolution extending the lease agreement to build and operate the LNG/LCNG Fueling Station for six years.
- Adopted a resolution to purchase four buses from A-Z Bus Sales to replace the four existing Medi-ride vehicles purchased in 2002, which have reached their useful life according to the Federal Transportation Administration.
- Approved a resolution extending the terms of a loan between the Community Development Commission and the City for the payment of project expenses for Project Area IV.
- Approved a resolution to amend the Commerce Fee Schedule to include fees for Activity Cards for employee family members and non-resident grandchildren.
- Approved a resolution authorizing City staff to apply for grant funding for capital and operating assistance.
- Approved an agreement for consulting services with Transtech Engineers, Inc. for infrastructure valuation.
- Adopted a resolution of the Commerce Community Development Commission approving the execution of an Estoppel Certificate for Craig Realty Group. The certificate is required by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company for an additional loan to Craig Realty for property improvements the realtor is making to The Citadel.
- Introduced the new assistant Emergency Preparedness Officer Miguel Romero and received a report on the Emergency Preparedness Division's plan of action and current projects.
- Received and filed a staff report about strategies to address membership and participation in the I-710 Local Advisory Committee.
- Authorized City staff to temporarily remove an option agreement on property in the Vista Del Rio neighborhood. The owners wanted to refinance and the lender would only issue the loan if the Option Agreement was removed. The option agreement restricts the sale of the unit until 2012.
- Approved for first reading a Cost Recovery Abatement Ordinance to address loud, out of control parties in the City. The ordinance defines the process and steps that law enforcement will take in response to loud parties, disturbances or events and places the cost of law enforcement response on the person responsible for the party.
- Approved a resolution awarding USA Shade and Fabric Structures, Inc. a contract to improve the shade structures at Rosewood Park Playground.

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.

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 (800) 887-4442. Cuando llame, indique el título del artículo, la fecha y la dirección de su domicilio o correo electrónico. La versión traducida se le mandará.

Council Actions

Regular Meeting Reports

Regular Meeting of November 16

- Approved the purchase and installation of a burglar alarm software system and staff training in the use of the system.
- Rejected bids to perform street sweeping services for the City.
- Received and filed a report on Los Angeles Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich's proposal that Commerce annex the city of Vernon.
- Approved an agreement with HdI Software, LLC to design software to assist in managing the City's burglary and alarm permits.
- Approved an engagement letter with the law firm Of Burhenn & Gest to represent the City in seeking reimbursement on an unfunded state mandate which required installation of trash receptacles at bus stops.
- Approved awarding a contract for the Aquatorium locker room renovation to CST Construction Company of Long Beach.
- Approved a resolution amending the Trade Corridor Improvement Fund Project Baseline Agreement between the City and the California Transportation Commission and the California Department of Transportation.
- Received and filed a report on the proposed California High Speed Rail Project –Los Angeles Union Station to Anaheim segment.
- Approved a request to install planters and speed cushions on the public right-of-way adjacent to their property on Washington Boulevard.
- Authorized staff to request proposals for tree maintenance services.
- Approved and adopted an ordinance which permits the City to recover cost related to law enforcement response to loud parties, disturbances or events.
- Received and filed a report on the 2010 state ballot measures.

Regular Meeting of December 7

- Recognized the Commerce Karate Team's success in the Annual American Nippon Kempo Federation Tournament.
- Recognized the Commerce Boys and Girls 14 and Under Water Polo Teams success at the USA Water Polo 14 & Under Champions Cup.
- Commended the Commerce Finance Department on earning the "Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting."
- Approved the list of 2011 Commerce civic and service organizations.
- Approved a Memorandum of Understanding with the American Red Cross to provide sheltering services during a large scale emergency and to train staff to serve in shelters.
- Approved a request for a design and engineering services proposal for the city of Commerce Washington Boulevard Project.
- Approved a reallocation of \$20,000 from the Playground Rubberized Resurfacing Project to the park Maintenance Division for the purchase of a two vacuum sweeper.
- Received a report on a request to add provisions to the Commerce Municipal Code relating to animal noise abatement (barking dogs).
- Approved the installation of above ground fuel tanks at the Provisor Building by Tafoya & Associates, Inc. Authorized the City Administrator to sign an agreement with SAMBA Holdings, Inc. for an online electronic pull notice system that will allow online access to employees' driver records.
- Approved a resolution awarding a contract for the rubberized resurfacing of all four City parks to Great

Western Park & Playground.

- Approved a resolution to extend loan agreements between Los Angeles County, Dedeaux Properties, LLC and the City of Commerce on a HUD Section 108 Loan Guarantee.
- Approved the "Resolution of Support for Business Friendly Principles" proposed by the Southern California Association of Governments.
- Approved a Certificate of Completion for Phase II and Phase III property improvements performed by Craig Realty, LLC on the Citadel.
- Approved a resolution ratifying the first implementation agreement regarding the disposition and development agreement with Craig Realty Group for property improvements at the Citadel.
- Approved a resolution between the Commerce Community Development Commission and Block Environmental, to conduct a Phase II Site Assessment on a portion of the Citadel owned property formerly known as Pacific Tube Company Site at 5710 Smithway.
- Approved a resolution ratifying a retainer letter with the law firm of Atkinson, Adelson, Loya, Romo & Rudd for legal services in connection with investigation services for certain personnel matters.
- Received and filed a report on the Rosini and Rosewood Street Improvement Project repairs.
- Authorized City staff to change the proposed Emergency Operations Center site from the Old Fire Station 27 to a proposed room addition at City Hall. Additionally, directed staff to formally notify the California Emergency Management Agency and re-submit the grant application forms for the new proposed site.
- Approved the 2010 Engineering and Traffic Survey for Greenwood Avenue and the recommendations for the intersection at Greenwood Avenue at Watcher. The traffic survey studies updated traffic counts, speed measurements and updated collision history to determine whether the posted speed limit should change or remain the same.
- Approved the reestablishment of the I-710 Local Advisory Committee (LAC) as a Council sub-committee, with Councilmember Aguilar appointed to serve as an ex-officio member and as the chairperson.
- Appointed Eddie Tafoya as industrial representative and United Family of Bristow Park as the community based organization representative to the I-710 Local Advisory.
- Adopted an ordinance prohibiting any dog or other animal that is noisy, vicious or exhibits behavior from City parks.
- An ordinance amending the Commerce Municipal Code to prohibit bicycling, skateboarding, and similar activities in certain areas of the City.
- Received and filed a report on the outcome of State ballot measures considered on the Nov. 2, 2010 General Election.
- Adjourned in memory of Agnes Zarrahy, mother of Joe Zarrahy, General Manager of the Crown Plaza Hotel and Leopoldo "Polo" Marquez, retired City employee.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Christmas Trees Collected Through January 17

CalMet Services will be collecting Christmas trees for recycling beginning Monday, Dec. 27 through Monday, Jan. 17. Residents who wish to have their trees picked up, should leave them at curbside by 6 a.m. on their regular trash day. There is no need to schedule a pickup. The service is free.

Before placing trees on the curb, residents need to remove tinsel, lights, stands and ornaments and cut the tree down so it measures four to five feet in length. Flocked trees will be accepted. Trees should not be placed in plastic bags.

For information, call (562) 259-1239.





CHANGE YOUR OWN OIL?

Get a **FREE** Drainer Container at City Hall (limit one per household, proof of residency required)

The problem...

Pollution. One gallon of used motor oil can contaminate a million gallons of drinking water. Used motor oil accounts for more than 40% of the total pollution of our nation's harbors and waterways. Do not pour motor oil down storm drains – they lead straight to the ocean and it's illegal.

The solution...



Recycle. Get paid .40 cents per gallon for recycling used motor oil at the following locations. The limit is five gallons per visit. Call for hours of operation.

Commerce Lube Center

2432 S. Indiana St.
(323) 261-5100

Zippy Lube-A-Truck #1

4164 E. Washington Blvd.
(323) 265-2703

Collection centers will not accept used oil mixed with other fluids. Take contaminated oil to a FREE L.A. County roundup on Saturdays. Call 1-888-CLEAN LA or visit www.CleanLA.com or S.A.F.E. Center located at 2649 E. Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, Friday – Sunday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Funded by a grant from the Department of Resources, Recycling and Recovery (Cal-Recycle)

Councilmember Resigns

Council to Discuss Vacancy in January

Commerce Councilmember Hugo Argumedo announced his resignation effective Dec. 21. On December 20, Mr. Argumedo pled guilty to a misdemeanor count of obstructing justice on and was ordered by a Los Angeles Superior Court judge to resign from his City Council position and not seek public office for the next three years.

As Report to the People went to press, the Council was expected to discuss the vacant position at its

regular meeting on Jan. 4 and decide to either fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term by appointment or leave the seat vacant until filled in the March 8, 2011, General Municipal Election.

Mr. Argumedo was first elected in a special election on November 5, 1996 to fill the unexpired term of Ruben C. Batres who passed away on February 27, 1996. He was seated on December 3, 1996 and re-elected in 1997, 1999, 2003 and 2007.

Save Energy and Money

With Free Programs and Services from TELACU and the Gas Co.

The Southern California Gas Company offers no-cost energy-saving home improvements and furnace repair or replacement services for qualified limited-income renters and homeowners.

The services offered include attic insulation, door weather-stripping, caulking, low flow shower heads and faucet aerators, water heater blankets, evaporative cooler and A/C covers, switch and outlet gaskets and covers, pipe insulation, minor repairs to doors and windows and furnace and water heater repair or replacements.

"In addition to our money and energy saving services the other part is the health and safety issues that come along with what we do," said Senior Vice President of TELACU Weatherization Richard Villasenor. If TELACU weatherization identifies health and safety issues when they assess a qualifying household for improvements they fix them. According to Villasenor, many people are not even aware they have safety issues, such as doors or windows not closing, or unsafe furnaces.

There are two ways to qualify: Meeting household income guidelines based on family size or if someone in the household receives benefits from any of the following programs: Medicaid/Medi-Cal, Healthy Families Categories A & B, Women, Infants, and Children Program (WIC), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), National School Lunch Program (NSLP), or Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance (BIAGA).

The DAP Maximum Household Income guidelines are as follows: \$31,300 for a one to two person family, \$36,800 for a three person family, \$44,400 for a four person family, \$52,000 for a five person family, and \$59,600 for a family of six. For each additional person in your household add \$7,600.

For more information on these free weatherization programs or to sign up residents can visit the So. Cal Gas Company website at www.socalgas.com, or call (800) 331-7593.

Commerce Scholarships

Applications Available Online January 9

In 2010 fifty-two scholarships totaling \$81,000 were awarded to Commerce residents through the Commerce Scholarship Program.

This year Commerce residents who are currently enrolled in college or will be attending an accredited college or university this fall are invited to apply for a 2011 Commerce Scholarship. The scholarship is open to undergraduates carrying 12 or more units (full-time status) and post-graduates meeting all eligibility re-

quirements.

This year the application will only be available online via the Commerce Library's website www.cocpl.org or the City's website at www.ci.commerce.ca.us/. Applications will be available starting January 9.

For more information, call Scholarship Coordinator Beatriz Sarmiento at (323) 722-6660 or visit the library's website at www.cocpl.org.

Parks & Recreation

Annual 5K Turkey Trot



Runners in the Annual 5K Turkey Trot fly off of the starting line.

More than 400 runners ranging from children to the event's oldest participant at 79-years-old walked, jogged or ran in the Annual 5K Turkey Trot held on Saturday, November 20.

Awards were given out to the top three finishers in each age group in the Men's and Women's Divisions. The Men's Overall Winner was Martin Sanchez who had a time of 18:02 and the Women's Overall Winner Veronica Alaniz with a time of 19:07 (see pg 6 for photos).

Awards were also given out to the oldest female runner who was 68-year-old Marsha Terry who finished first in the Women's 66 & Over Division, while the oldest male runner was 79-year-old Juan Cisneros who finished third in the Men's 66 & Over Division (see pg 6).

Thank you to all of the participants and congratulations to all of the winners. The Annual 5K Turkey Trot is coordinated by the Commerce Sports Office under the supervision of Parks and Recreation Director Jim

City Clerks Office

APPLICATIONS FOR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS AND RETURN OF VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS

City Clerk Linda Kay Olivieri has announced the following information relating to applications for vote by mail ballots and the return of vote by mail ballots for the March 8, 2011, General Municipal Election to be held in the City of Commerce:

Registered voters in the City may request in writing a vote by mail ballot from the City Clerk's Office between February 7 and March 1, 2011. You may also come by the City Clerk's Office between these dates, complete an application and vote in person. Applications submitted prior to this time will be held until February 7.

The City Clerk's Office cannot accept any applications received less than seven days prior to the election, unless you become ill or disabled or for some unforeseen reason will be away from your polling place on election day.

Applications are available at the City Clerk's Office and are included with the Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet.

Applications may also be provided by individuals, candidates, committees, organizations or groups. These applications must be of a uniform format as provided by law and must include on it the name, address and telephone number of who provided it to the voter. These applications may not be forwarded to the voter.

Your application must include your printed name, residence address, the address you want the vote by mail ballot sent to (personally filled in by you) and the name and date of the election you are applying for. In addition, you must personally date and sign your application.

Even if requested by you, your vote by mail ballot will not be sent to a candidate's residence, campaign headquarters or political party, unless you are the candidate, candidate's spouse or immediate family member or share the same residence address as the candidate.

You have the right to return your application directly to the City Clerk by mail or in person. You do not need to return the application to any other individual, organization or group.

Your vote by mail ballot will be provided directly to you by the City Clerk's Office. Ballots will not be given to any individual, organization or group to deliver to you. If you become ill or disabled or for some unforeseen reason will be away from your polling place between March 2 and March 8, 2011, you may au-

thorize another person to bring you the ballot and return it for you after you have voted.

You must personally return your ballot to the City Clerk's Office by mail or delivery. If ill, or disabled, you may designate a specific relative or person residing in your household to return the ballot for you by completing the required information on the back of the return envelope. You may also return your ballot to any polling place on election day.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Except as noted above, no other individual, candidate, group or organization is allowed to pick up and mail or deliver your ballot for you. This may prevent your ballot from being counted.

If you are ill, or disabled, the City Clerk's Office will personally send a special Deputy City Clerk to pick up your vote by mail ballot and return it to the City Clerk's Office for you. If you are in need of this service, please call the number listed below.

If you have requested and received a vote by mail ballot and later decide you would like to vote in person at your polling place on election day, please surrender your vote by mail ballot to the election officers at your polling place and they will give you a new ballot to vote at that time.

Further, if you have requested, received and returned a vote by mail ballot and later decide you would like to vote in person at your polling place on election day, or would like to change your vote for any reason, you must personally come in to the City Clerk's Office to submit your request.

The counting of your vote by mail ballot will depend upon the successful processing of your application and your voter registration being verified by the Los Angeles County Registrar's Office. Your signature on the back of the return envelope must match your signature on your approved application.

Please note that vote by mail ballots received after the close of the polls at 8:00 p.m. on March 8, 2011, will not be opened or counted.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures or need an application for a vote by mail ballot, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 323-722-4805, Ext. 2252.

REMINDER – VOTER REGISTRATION FOR THE MARCH 8, 2011, ELECTION CLOSSES ON FEBRUARY 21, 2011.

SOLICITUDES PARA PAPELETA DE VOTO POR CORREO Y EL RETORNO DE PAPELETAS DE VOTO POR CORREO

La Secretaria Municipal, Linda Kay Olivieri ha anunciado la siguiente información relacionada con las solicitudes para papeletas de voto por correo y el retorno de las papeletas de voto por correo para la Elección Municipal General de la Ciudad de Commerce el 8 de Marzo de 2011.

Votantes registrados en la Ciudad pueden solicitar por escrito una papeleta de voto por correo de la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal del 7 de Febrero al 1 de Marzo de 2011. También pueden recoger y completar la solicitud en persona en la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal. Solicitudes entregadas antes de este periodo de tiempo se guardarán hasta el 7 de Febrero.

La oficina de la Secretaria Municipal no puede aceptar solicitudes recibidas menos de siete días antes de la elección, a menos que se enferman o son incapacitados o por una razón imprevista que lo obliga estar lejos de su centro electoral el día de votar.

Solicitudes con el Folleto de Información y Muestra de la Papeleta están disponibles en la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal.

Solicitudes también pueden ser recibidas de individuos, candidatos, comités, organizaciones, o grupos. Por ley, estas solicitudes están en una forma uniforme y deben de incluir el nombre, dirección y número de teléfono de quien les dio la solicitud. Estas solicitudes no pueden ser remitidas al votante.

Su solicitud debe de incluir su nombre escrita en letra de bloque, domicilio residencial, domicilio donde quiere que se mande la papeleta (completada personalmente por usted) y el nombre y fecha de la elección. Además, debe de personalmente firmar y fechar su solicitud.

Aunque usted lo solicite, la papeleta no será mandada al domicilio de un candidato, oficina de campaña o partido político, a menos que usted es un candidato, esposo del candidato o su familia directa, o reside usted en el mismo domicilio del candidato.

Es su derecho devolver su solicitud directamente a la Secretaria Municipal por correo o en persona. No tiene que devolver su solicitud a cualquier otro individuo, organización o grupo.

Su papeleta de voto por correo será proveída directamente a usted por parte de la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal. Papeletas de voto no serán entregadas a ningún individuo, organización o grupo para que se le entreguen a usted. Si usted se enferma o esta incapacitado o por alguna razón imprevista no puede ir a su centro electoral entre el 2 de Marzo y el 8 de Marzo de 2011, puede usted autorizar a otra persona para que

le entregue su papeleta y devuelva la misma después que ha votado.

Debe usted personalmente devolver su papeleta a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal por correo o presentada en persona. Si se encuentra enfermo o incapacitado, puede designar a un miembro de su familia o persona que reside en su hogar para que entregue su papeleta por usted si usted incluye la información requerida en la parte trasera del sobre de retorno. También puede usted devolver su papeleta a cualquier centro electoral en el día de la elección.

NOTA IMPORTANTE: Con la excepción de lo indicado anteriormente, ningún individuo, candidato, grupo o organización es permitida recoger, mandar por correo, o entregar su papeleta por usted. Esto puede prevenir que se cuente su voto.

Si esta usted enfermo o incapacitado, la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal mandará a un Delegado particular de la Secretaria Municipal para recoger su papeleta de voto por correo y entregarlo a la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal. Si requiere este servicio, favor de llamar al número indicado al calce.

Además, si ha solicitado, recibió y devolvió una papeleta de voto por correo y después decide que quiere votar en persona en su centro electoral en el día de la elección, o quiere cambiar su voto por cualquier razón, debe de personalmente presentarse en la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal para presentar su solicitud.

Para que se cuente su papeleta de voto por correo depende de que se procese su solicitud y de que su registro de votante sea verificado por la Oficina del Registro Civil del Condado de Los Angeles. Su firma en la parte trasera del sobre debe de ser igual que su firma en su solicitud de registro.

Favor de notar que las papeletas de voto por correo recibidas después que se cierran las cabinas electorales a las 8:00 p.m. el 8 de Marzo de 2011, no serán abiertas o contadas.

Si tiene usted alguna pregunta sobre este proceso o si requiere una solicitud para papeleta de voto por correo, favor de comunicarse con la oficina de la Secretaria Municipal al 323-722-4805, extensión 2252.

RECUERDO – REGISTRACION PARA VOTAR EN LA ELECCION DEL 8 DE MARZO DE 2011 CIERRA EL 21 DE FEBRERO DE 2011.



Channel 3

January 2011

Featured Highlights

Award winning cablecasts of the Community Development & 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.

Commerce Water Polo Tournament "Commerce vs. Foothill"

Mondays at 2 p.m.
Tuesdays at 12 p.m.
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Thursdays at 8 p.m.
Fridays at 1 p.m.
Saturdays at 10 p.m.
Sundays at 10 a.m.

Commerce Public Affairs Program "How To Get A Job"

Mondays at 3 p.m.
Tuesdays at 12 p.m.
Wednesdays at 7 p.m.
Thursdays at 8 p.m.
Fridays at 1 p.m.
Saturdays at 9 p.m.
Sundays at 10 a.m.

Commerce City News

Mondays at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
Tuesdays at 1 p.m.
Wednesday at 1 p.m.
Thursdays at 8:30 p.m.
Friday at 9 a.m. & 9 p.m.
Saturdays at 6 p.m.
Sundays at 9 a.m. & 5 p.m.

"In A Council Minute"

Mondays at 5 p.m.
Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Wednesdays at 9 a.m.
Thursdays at 2 p.m.
Fridays at 2 p.m.
Saturdays at 8 a.m.
Sundays at 8 p.m.

Commerce's Advanced Step Aerobics Class

Mondays at 6 a.m.
Tuesdays at 4 p.m.
Wednesdays at 6 a.m.
Thursdays at 10 a.m.
Fridays at 7 p.m.
Saturdays at 4 p.m.
Sundays at 8 a.m. & 10 p.m.

Vintage Vehicle Show - Shows include:

The Vintage Vehicle Show
"Greenwood Car Show" Mondays at 1 p.m.

The Vintage Vehicle Show
"Hot Rod" Wednesdays at 9 p.m.

The Vintage Vehicle Show
"Classic Reflections Coachworks" Thursdays at 1 p.m.

The Vintage Vehicle Show –
"Bellflower Cruise" Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Channel 3 will play many different shows throughout the month of January 2011. Please see the ongoing Channel TV Guide for more info on show titles and show broadcast times. Remember to check this channel for major emergency info and basic info on what's happening in your city. Channel 3 can be viewed anywhere in the world from our city web site at ci.commerce.ca.us. Thank you for your viewing support.

Report to the People • January 2011 • 5

Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition



Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future



Active duty members of the United States Army were in attendance at the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony.



All four branches of the military marched behind their official flag led by members of Boy Scout Troop #473 and Cub Scout Pack #473.

Calendar Art Contest Top Artist



Calendar Art Contest Grand Prize Winner Jeannette Hernandez is pictured here with Citadel General Manager Susan Jennrich.

2011 Calendar Art Contest Winners



Winners of the Calendar Art Contest were honored at an Awards Ceremony hosted by the Citadel.

Congresswoman Honors Veterans



Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard spoke at the City's Annual Veterans Day Ceremony. She is pictured here with Guest Speaker Jake Alarid and Master of Ceremonies/Commander of American Legion Post #320.

Girl's Water Polo Honored



The Girl's 14 & Under Water Polo Team was honored for taking 2nd place in their age group at the USA Water Polo Champions Cup tournament.

Boy's Water Polo Honored



The Boy's 14 & Under Water Polo Team was also honored for taking 2nd place in their age group at the USA Water Polo Champions Cup tournament held in Shenandoah, Texas in November.

Rosewood School Runs the Turkey Trot



Students and staff from Rosewood School have made running in the Annual 5K Turkey Trot a Thanksgiving tradition.

Turkey Trot Winners



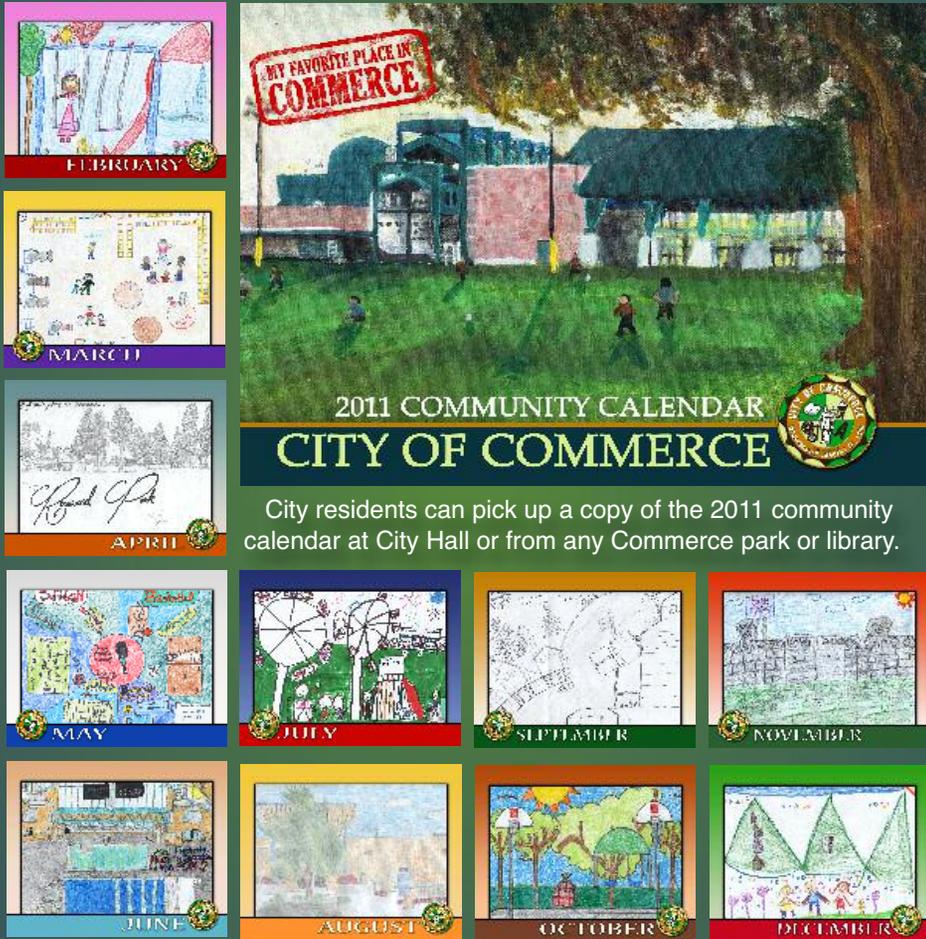
Men's Overall Winner was Martin Sanchez with a time of 18:02 and the Women's Overall Winner was Veronica Alaniz with a time of 19:07.

Fit Seniors



The 2010 Turkey Trot's oldest runners were 68-year-old Marsha Terry who finished first in her division and 79-year-old Juan Cisneros who finished third in the Men's 66 & Over Division.

CITY OF COMMERCE 2011 COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Produced by the City of Commerce Public Information Office
2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA (323) 887-4453

MISS COMMERCE PAGEANT



Saturday, February 26, 2011
Steven's Steak & Seafood Restaurant

Look for the 51st Annual
Miss Commerce Application And
Young Man of the Year Application
Applications will be delivered to residences
on Friday, November 19th

They may also be picked up after that day at City Hall

City of Commerce Seniors Center



Come surf the Internet, practice Chi Gong, watch a movie, cook or take dance lessons at the Commerce Senior Citizens Center. The center sponsors a variety of events and activities for Commerce residents 50 years of age and older. Dinner dances, social clubs, exercise classes, museum tours, shopping excursions, yoga, bingo, pool are all offered at the center. Many activities and events are low to no fee. Stay active and involved in the community. Visit the Commerce Senior Center.

Senior Citizens Center

2555 Commerce Way
Commerce, CA 90040
(323) 887-4430

Senior Citizens Center Hours

Monday, Thursday, Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sunday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Closed Saturday



COMCAT VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for a select group of dedicated residents to join "Com-Cats", The Commerce Community Assistance

Team. Volunteers are cross-trained to assist the Public Safety Department and the Emergency Preparedness Office. Upon completion of training, COMCATS are certified as disaster volunteers.

Sample duties include:

- Patrolling residential areas and parks using City vehicles and City Radios
- Assisting with Neighborhood Watch/Crime Prevention Events
- Fingerprinting Children at Operation Kid I.D. events
- Setting up the Mobile Command Post for emergencies and drills
- Serving as "Disaster Volunteers" in disasters and drills

To Qualify for ComCats you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Complete a ComCat application
- Consent to a "background check" by the L.A. County Sheriff's Dept.
- Be interviewed by the ComCat Coordinator



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL LAURA TILLEY
AT CITY OF COMMERCE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT (323) 887-4460 EXT. 2870

COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



Tina Baca Del Rio, Mayor
 Robert C. Fierro, Mayor Pro Tem
 Joe Aguilar, Councilmember
 Lilia R. Leon, 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 - www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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City Ordinance

Approved

In October the City Council adopted an ordinance regulating the placement of canopy structures on residential properties. The ordinance limits the number of canopies permitted on residences and requires a permit and fee for structures that will be up for more than 24 hours. Under the ordinance, residents can have one canopy in the rear yard of their residential properties. Canopies are not permitted in front or side yards. Residents who want to keep a canopy up for more than one day must obtain a \$50 permit which allows the structure to be up for a maximum of 90 days. Only one permit will be issued annually.

While the ordinance states that canopies cannot be visible from public view, an exception will be made for owners of corner lots. Staff will provide information about canopy

structures to residents over the next couple of months and all nonconforming canopy structures will be required to be removed by mid February.

Staff reported that use of tents and canopies has increased creating a need for regulation. Officials also reported that improperly placed tents and canopies can be hazardous because structures made with materials that are not fire treated create a fire risk and that light weight structures can blow over or collapse during high winds affecting the property owner and neighboring properties. Aesthetically, tents and canopies may detract from a neighborhood's appearance.

For more information, call the Planning Division at (323) 722-4805.

Veterans

Cont. from page 1

have given their lives defending freedom and democracy. "We are indebted to them and we pray for peace for them and their families", Wright said.

City officials also honored the oldest resident and non-resident Veterans in attendance. The oldest resident Veterans in attendance were Herbert Aldrete, 90 and 93-year-old Angel Aduato. The oldest non-resident Veterans were 79-year-old John Lance and 86-year-old Manuel Jimenez.

The Annual Veterans Day Program is hosted every year by the City of Commerce to honor our Nation's Veterans.

Tree Lighting

Cont. from page 1



The Tree Lighting Ceremony featured talented young residents from many of the City's dance programs.

the Performing Arts "On Cue" programs.

The Commerce Employees Choir also performed for Commerce residents under the direction of Environmental Program Director Mike Pyles. In addition the Commerce City Employees Association generously contributed raffle prizes for the lucky residents who won raffles at the event.

With the evening's entertainment complete, Miss Commerce led the audience in the count down to the ceremonial lighting of the tree, which illuminated the steps of City Hall. With the tree lit, Santa Claus spent the remainder of the tree lighting ceremony talking with Commerce's youngest residents to hear their Holiday wishes.

The Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony was sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department under the supervision of Director Jim Jimenez. The event team was led by Event Coordinator Adolfo Marquez and his production team that included Production Assistant Lucinda Blancarte, Music Coordinator Tina Fierro, Show Mobile Decorations by Laura Logan, and Tree Decorations by Brenda Wood Hernandez and Veronica Hannah.

January Dates to Note

1
New Year's Day
Libraries Closed

3
 English Book Club, 6 p.m.

Youth Advisory Commission, 7 p.m.

4
City Council/CDC, 6:30 p.m.

5
 Senior Citizens Commission,
 12:30 p.m.

Teen Book Club, Greenwood Library,
 4:30 p.m.

Traffic Commission, 6:30 p.m.

6
 Parks and Recreation Commission,
 6 p.m.

7
 Scholarship Applications Available

10
 Education Commission, 6 p.m.

11
 Beautification Committee,
 3:30 p.m.

12
 Community Task Force, 3 p.m.

Teen Book Club Bristow Park Library,
 4:30 p.m.

13
 Community Services Commission,
 6 p.m.

17
Martin Luther King Jr. Day,
City Hall and Libraries Closed

18
 Library Embajadores, 6 p.m.

City Council/CDC, 6:30 p.m.

19
 Employment Task Force, 1 p.m.

Teen Book Club Atlantic Library,
 4:30 p.m.

24
 Adult Computer Class, 5:30 p.m.

25
 Library Commission, 5:30 p.m.

Teen Book Club, Central Library,
 5:30 p.m.

I-710 Local Advisory Committee,
 6:30 p.m.

26
 Planning Commission, 6:30 p.m.

28
 51st Birthday of City Incorporation

31
 Spanish Book Club, 6 p.m.