



Report to the People

*Where Quality Service
Is Our Tradition*

Volume 54 No.1 January 2014

THE COMMUNITY OF COMMERCE

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

In This Issue

PAGE 2
Municipal Notes

Council Actions

PAGE 3

Royal Tea Party



PAGE 4
Library Renovation Update

City's Birthday

PAGE 5
Rosewood Park

PAGE 6

Commerce Gallery



PAGE 7
Calendar of Events

Measure AA Update



Good infrastructure means good business. Improving the City's signage and major thoroughfares will make it easier for residents, local business people, visitors and tourists to reach destinations important to the City's economy, such as the Commerce Casino, Costco Business Center and the Citadel Outlets (pictured).

45 Projects Have Been Recommended

Measure AA was approved by a majority of voters in November 2012 and went into effect on April 1. The ½ cent sales tax is expected to generate between \$4.5 and \$5 million annually, which will offset severe State budget cuts. The revenue will protect and provide funding for services such as law enforcement and fire protection, maintenance and improvement of streets, sidewalks and public facilities, all of which have a positive impact on the people who live, work, invest in or visit the City of Commerce.

To ensure representation from the residential and business community, the City Council adopted a resolution to establish the Measure AA Advisory Committee. The Committee is charged with making specific recommendations on how the funds can be used to improve the City within the parameters of the resolution.

The council's appointments to the eight member committee include five community residents who are Joanna Flores, Annelle

Grajeda, Sonia Rodriguez, Laura Perez and Jason Stinnett; two representatives from the business community who are Steve Craig, Managing Partner of Craig Realty, which owns and operates the Citadel Retail Outlets and Haig Papaian, President and CEO of the Commerce Casino; and a non-voting member of the City employees union AFSCME Local 773 who is Kevin Larsen. Each of these individuals has been appointed to a four year term.

City staff provided the committee members with a list of 45 project recommendations at their first meeting in October and participated in a second meeting in December. In addition, the group took a tour of the City, which was led by Assistant Director of Public Works and Development Services Alex Hamilton.

The public is encouraged to attend the Measure AA Advisory Committee Meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the E.O.C. Meeting Room at City Hall, 2535 Commerce Way.

Community Cleanup on January 18th

In an effort to bring the community together and beautify the City, Commerce is hosting a Community Cleanup on Saturday, January 18th. Residents are invited to join City staff at Rosewood Park which was selected in a drawing as this year's cleanup location. Volunteers should meet in the City Hall parking lot on Commerce Way by 7:45 am for a light breakfast before being assigned duties.

Last year, approximately 80 residents and City staff cleaned up the Bristow Park area. Volunteer crews worked on painting curbs, cleaning tree wells, sidewalks, alleys and public right-of-ways and also planted flowers. Organizers said the team effort fostered camaraderie and community pride.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for neighbors to come together and give back to the community," said Robert Lipton, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation. "We are excited to focus our efforts in the Rosewood Park area this year and look forward to making a real difference."

Individuals and organizations interested in participating in the community cleanup are invited to sign up through the Parks & Recreation Department. Please call 323-887-4494.



Last year, approximately 80 volunteers joined City staff to beautify the Bristow neighborhood. In addition to collecting E-Waste and offering free shredding, volunteers cleaned sidewalks and streets throughout the area.

Christmas Tree Recycling

The holidays have come to an end and it is time to remove the wonderful smelling, live Christmas tree that has been in our living room for the past few weeks. The National Christmas Tree Association recommends not throwing away real Christmas trees in the trash because they are biodegradable, which means they can be easily reused or recycled for mulch and other purposes.

Commerce residents can recycle their trees by simply placing it in the green-waste container at the curb on your regular recycle trash day. CalMet will collect Christmas trees throughout the month of January but residents are reminded to remove all decorations, tinsel, and the stand. Flocked trees cannot be recycled and should be placed in your refuse container for disposal. And never burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove.

The best way to avoid a mess when removing your tree is to place a plastic tree bag (available at hardware stores) underneath and pull the bag up around the tree, stand and all, and carry it outside. Obviously, you will want to remove the stand before recycling the tree. If some needles do scatter inside, it is better to sweep them up as needles can clog vacuum cleaners.

Too Toxic To Trash

Recycle household hazardous waste and electronics for FREE

If Santa brought you new electronics for the holidays it is important to note that like household hazardous waste, your old electronics need to be disposed of properly. To eliminate the possibility of potentially toxic substances leaking into our landfills, consumers are encouraged to consider listing usable electronics on LACoMax, Los Angeles County's online materials exchange or donating them to a charity. If electronics are no longer usable, LA County offers free collection events at different locations each Saturday. They are drive-through events where you never have to exit your vehicle.

Continued on page 8

From The Desk of Jorge Rifá City Administrator

We're happy to announce that the Central Library Renovation Project is underway. Just as importantly, after a brief closure, the Central Library is once again serving the public in temporary buildings located in the Library parking lot. The community will still receive the same great service they expect as we all look forward to having a newly renovated 21st century Central Library in the near future.

We're also looking forward to starting planned infrastructure projects like the reconstruction of Washington Boulevard, as well as new projects critical to the City's future development. These new infrastructure projects are possible thanks to the voter approved Measure AA, which has brought in approximately \$2 million dollars between April and November of 2013. We have estimated that Measure AA will generate \$4.5 to \$5 million in 2014.

Recently we lost Mr. George Tumanjan, one of the founders, as well as former President and CEO of the Commerce Casino. Known affectionately as "Mr. T," Mr. Tumanjan was responsible for building the Commerce Casino into the largest and most successful card club in the State of California. This success has in turn been a blessing for Commerce by providing vital funding for programs and services that directly benefit residents and industry. Mr. Tumanjan gave much to the community through his business accomplishments as well as his philanthropic efforts. On behalf of the City I would like to convey our condolences to his family and everyone at the Commerce Casino. For more about this man and his accomplishments, please see our story on page four.

This month the City will host a community cleanup in the Rosewood Park area. I want to encourage individuals interested in participating to sign up. For more information, see our story on page one.

Speaking of community, Commerce strives to continue providing information to our Nation's veterans who have served our Country in the U.S. Armed Forces. Our Veteran's Corner column on page four highlights our women Veterans and services offered specifically for them.

I also want to acknowledge the Finance Department for receiving the 'Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting' from the Government Finance Officers Association. That the City continues to receive this award is indicative of the care staff takes in preparing financial reports at the direction of the City Council that ensure propriety and transparency in the city's finances and operations.

Finally, I'd like to encourage parents to bring their princesses and princes to the Royal Tea Party. This is a unique event during which our youngest residents can have fun and be inspired by spending time with Miss Commerce Shanese Perea, the Royal Court, and Young Man of the Year Armando Valencia. Details are on page three.

Remember Commerce City Hall and Libraries will be closed on January 1 in observance of New Year's Day and on January 20 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

On behalf of the City Council, I want to wish everyone in Commerce a happy and successful new year.

Sincerely,
Jorge Rifá

Report to the People

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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

With the New Year come new laws. Here is a brief overview of three laws that may have an impact on you or someone you know. To read about the California laws that went into effect beginning in 2014 visit www.legislature.ca.gov.

Affordable Care Act – Californians must have public or private health insurance by January 1, 2014 or face a financial penalty. The penalty will be one percent of yearly income or \$95 per person, whichever is greater. For adults with children, the fine for lack of coverage for the child is \$47.50.

AB 10 Increases California's current minimum wage of \$8 per hour in two \$1 increments: to \$9 per hour on July 1, 2014, and from \$9

per hour to \$10 per hour on January 1, 2016. This is the first minimum wage increase in California in five years.

AB 60 Requires the California Department of Motor Vehicles to issue a drivers license to undocumented residents who can prove identity and California residency and meet all other licensing requirements, such as passing the written exams and driving tests. The DMV will design a special drivers license that complies with the U.S. government's REAL ID Act.

AB 60 also makes it a violation of law to discriminate against anyone on the basis of having this new license and the law explicitly prohibits using the new license for criminal investigation, arrest or detention based on immigration status. The new law will go into full effect on January 1, 2015.

Regular Meeting of December 3

Honored the Finance Department for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Associations (GFOA).



Assistant Finance Director Josh Brooks

Received and Filed an update on a reimbursement agreement with Craig Realty Group, LLC for pavement repairs and restriping of Camfield Avenue, Flotilla Street, Hoefner Avenue, Smithway Street, Tubeway Avenue and Telegraph Road.

Adopted a resolution approving a full release and settlement agreement between the City of Commerce and the County of Los Angeles.

Appointed a representative on behalf of the City Council to the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District Board.

Approved use of Camp Commerce by official City of Commerce civic organizations.

Approved the 2013-14 Christmas Eve Holiday Schedule for City Hall and other facilities.

Approved a community cleanup to be held in the Rosewood Park area on Saturday, January 18.

Directed staff to evaluate vehicle policies utilized by other local government agencies and directed an inquiry relevant to use of a City vehicle by an elected official.

Discussed requirements for posting official notices and the definition of a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Commerce.

Received and Filed an update on the Central Library Project and temporary Library facilities.

Regular Meeting of November 19

Honored Ali Pakravan, President and Owner of Arya Ice Cream Company for his donation of ice cream to the 2013 Commerce Relay for Life event.

Declared vehicle units 420 and 546 as surplus vehicles, and authorized staff to sell them via a public auction on the City's website.

Amended the Personnel Classification and Compensation Plan to revise the Classification Specifications for Recreation Coordinator, Class Instructor and Tap and Ballet Instructor.

Approved a fund trade agreement for the exchange of Proposition A Funds with the City of Montebello.

Approved the work performed by Mike Rose Masonry of Crestline, California, under the City of Commerce Standard Contract for City Project No. 1304 - Camp Commerce Retaining Wall Project.

Received a presentation on the Bristow Park Action Plan from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Appointed a representative of the City Council to serve on the Metro Eastside Light Rail Extension Project Committee.

Directed staff to develop revised language for Section 2.10.045 of the Commerce Municipal Code regarding campaign contribution limits.

Approved an ordinance amending Title 19 ("Zoning") of the Commerce Municipal Code by adding Chapter 19.47 (Housing Opportunity Overlay); Amending Chapter 19.07 Division 3 (Density Bonuses); Adding Chapter 19.07 Division 4 (Reasonable Accommodation); Amending Tables 19.07.020A (Permitted and Conditional Uses-Residential Zones) and Table 19.11.030A (Uses in Industrial Districts); Adding Chapter 19.31 Division 22 (Emergency Residential Shelters and Transitional Housing); Amending Section 19.07.090 (Second Units); and Chapter 19.45 (Definitions).

Approved an agreement and declaration of restrictive covenants between the Commerce Senior Partners, L.P., Rosewood Senior Apartments, L.P.

Approved a Long-Range Property Management Plan pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34191.5.

Honored the California Commerce Club also known as the Commerce Hotel and Casino for helping to facilitate the first annual Clippers Community Night held on Friday, October 25, 2013.



The Commerce Hotel and Casino was honored for helping make Commerce Clippers Community Night possible. Casino Operations Manager Ed Miles, former Mayor George Tumanjan, former President of the Commerce Club, Ed Miles, Education Commissioner and longtime Commerce resident; Rosa Olmedo, longtime Commerce resident and Roger Presgrove, President and CEO of 'Help the Children.'

Hear Ye, Hear Ye: Calling All Princes and Princess Across the Land

The City of Commerce will be hosting their 2nd Annual Royal Tea Party on Saturday, January 11 at Bandini Park Community Center. This year the event is open to both young girls and boys and all are encouraged to dress in their finest prince and princess costumes.

Miss Commerce and her Royal Court as well as the Young Man of the Year will be on hand to read stories, share tea and cookies and create keepsake photos with all the children in the land.

“Although only in its second year, the Royal Tea Party has quickly become a favorite event for both the kids and adults,” said event coordinator Adolfo Marquez. “The party allows the children to use their imagination to the fullest and they truly believe they are royalty. It’s magical to see their faces.”

Children 3 – 10 years of age are welcome. Residents can register at their local park with a current resident card. The event is free but space is limited.

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation office at 323-887-4434.



Young Man of the Year Armando Valencia and Miss Commerce Shanese Perea await their grand entrance to this year’s Royal Tea Party.

A Closer Look: Miss Commerce Shanese Perea

Serving the City as Miss Commerce has been a dream come true for resident Shanese Perea. As a self-described introvert, Perea credits her goal to become Miss Commerce as the catalyst for a more mature and outgoing personality. Those who know her best say when she’s not wearing her sash and crown she truly is the girl next door which is likely why Perea encourages all young ladies interested in being Miss Commerce to apply.

“I always said I could never compete for Miss Commerce because I was simply unable to speak in public,” said Perea. “But my friends and family were a great help. They would gently critique me and encourage me to talk to people I didn’t know and as silly as it sounds I would practice speaking in front of a mirror. Eventually I became more comfortable and gained the confidence to apply for Miss Commerce.”

As Queen of the Court, Perea said one of the greatest benefits has been establishing relationships. She explained that although they were in a competition, the entire court quickly became close. “We have become like family and we are able to turn to one another for support. I am so grateful to walk away with amazing friends.”

Perea said serving as Miss Commerce has provided her with opportunities she would have otherwise never experienced. From representing the City at business and community functions to traveling to Commerce’s Sister City Aguas Caliente in Mexico, Perea said being the best representative for the City was always her focus.

“I want people to say ‘Wow,



Commerce produces amazing people’,” said Perea. “But it is also important to remember that it is definitely a commitment and people are counting on you. Most of our events are scheduled but many times you are called to attend unscheduled events, so being flexible and available is important. I loved my experience as Miss Commerce and will cherish every moment forever.”

The Miss Commerce Pageant and selection of Young Man of the Year will take place on Saturday, March 22 at the Commerce Hotel and Casino. Residents ages 16-21 may submit an application for Miss Commerce or Young Man of the Year beginning January 1 through January 30, 2014. Twenty applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The Pageant Steering Committee Scholarship Award will also be given that evening. The Commerce Hotel and Casino provides the funds for the \$500 scholarship and the committee selects an individual based on academic and leadership abilities as well as a 200 word essay. The winning essay will be read on stage but does not guarantee a place on the Royal Court.

For a complete list of the official rules and regulations, pick up an application at City Hall or call 323-722.4805 ext. 2222.

Commerce Scholarship Applications Now Available

Commerce residents enrolled in college or who will be attending college in fall 2014 are invited to apply for a 2014 City of Commerce Scholarship. Applications are now available 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.

To be eligible, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Be a current resident of the City of Commerce for at least one year
- 12 or more units (full-time status)
- Proof of college or university acceptance and establish financial need
- Have an overall grade point average of 2.0 if attending a junior college, or 2.5 if attending a university or four-year college
- Be available for an oral interview
- Submit the application packet by the deadline

Early submissions are encouraged.

For more information, visit the Commerce Public Library System website at www.cocpl.org, or call the Library’s Literacy Center at (323) 722-7323.



A Look Back in History: Celebrating 54 years of Incorporation

And the fascinating story about how we were nearly the City of Downey



According to City of Commerce: An Enterprising Heritage by Charles Elliott, community leader Warren B. Bedell was the first to outline a proposal to incorporate the residential neighborhoods of Rosewood Park, Bandini, a portion of Bell Gardens and an adjacent industrial property in a speech to the Rosewood Park Women's Club in 1955. At the time, Los Angeles County provided services for the unincorporated area but residents were looking for more. They wanted recreation facilities like a baseball field and a community pool and basic infrastructure projects like curbing and sidewalks. Fed up with the inadequate or non-existent County services, residents got the ball rolling.

Commerce as part of the City of Montebello - In the fall of 1957, Bedell presented a plan to the City of Montebello to annex Bandini and Rosewood Park along Washington Boulevard and Telegraph Road. Although Montebello was considered a wealthy city, the Council concluded the additional residents would require more city services than they would generate in revenue. Montebello later proposed to annex only industrial land but that plan was defeated.

Commerce as part of the City of Downey - The City of Downey then announced plans to annex the valuable industrial southeast section of the Commerce area and exclude the residential neighborhoods. Downey officials calculated that by absorbing the industrial portion they would be able to eliminate property tax.

The Bandini Strip - Immediately thereafter, both the City of Bell and the City of Vernon attempted to acquire portions of the industrial property between the Long Beach freeway, Atlantic Boulevard, the Santa Fe tracks, Mansfield Way and Eastern Avenue.

The call to incorporate - Seeing the neighborhood threatened by outside influences with little or no concern for the community, Bedell called an emergency meeting where residents agreed to pledge the money needed to pay the \$350 filing fee to place incorporation on the ballot. Bedell drafted a letter to the county enclosing his model city charter and map. They outlined a city with 8,300 residents, 6.5 square miles with some 475 industrial firms employing approximately 50,000 people. This would make Commerce the largest industrial city in Los Angeles County.

The difference of three minutes - Due to "defects in the boundary description" the letter of intent was returned. The City of Downey saw their opportunity and held a special noon Council session on the following Friday to pass a resolution to annex the Commerce area. At 4:32 p.m., Bedell submitted the corrected notice of intent. Downey's mayor and city administrator filed their papers for annexation at 4:35 p.m. That timing required the Board of Supervisors to act on cityhood first which meant the incorporation was going on the ballot.

Commerce becomes a City - An incorporating committee was established. Val Bassett is the last surviving member of that committee and continues today to be an active and visible member of the community. On January 12, 1960, area residents voted for incorporation and for a five member City Council. In a more than three-to-one electoral approval, the City of Commerce became the 67th City in the County of Los Angeles.

Library Renovation Gets Underway

Temporary Location Now Open



To provide library patrons and the public with quality programs and services, a temporary facility is now open in place of the Central Library, which is under construction as part of the \$4.8 million renovation that got underway in December.

Despite being smaller than the permanent building, the temporary facility will continue to offer the same programs and services, including computers, free Internet/Wi-Fi and homework help, as well as books, magazines and other materials. The temporary facility is located in the west City Hall/Library parking lot and also houses the Adult Literacy Center.

Demolition on the Central Library's interior began in December, including removal of the carpet and the original circulation desk. Construction is expected to be completed this year and will feature a modern redesign that better suits the needs of library users.

Among the improvements are a children's area for Storytime and other youth oriented programs and events, a dedicated area for teens, a computer room and a "living room" where patrons can relax while they use library materials.

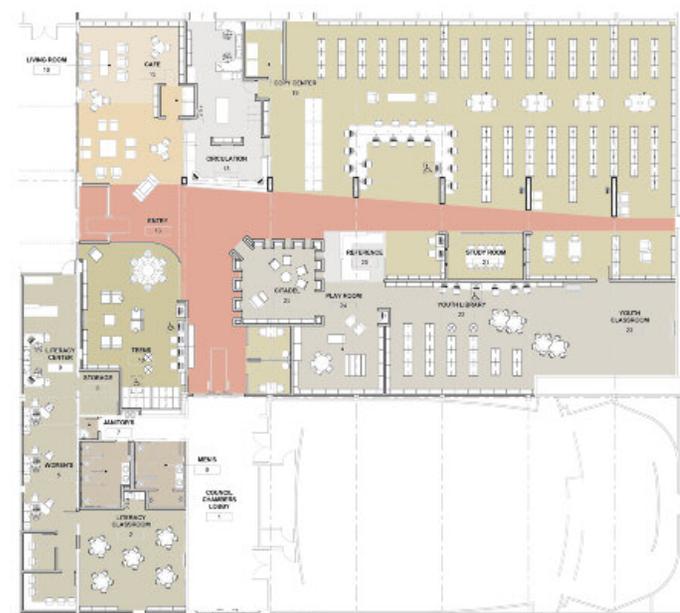
The renovated Central Library will also include new furniture, book shelves, displays, and a new circulation desk. Additionally, there are plans to establish an area of the Library that reflects Commerce's rich history in pictures.

The building will also be environmentally friendly with the addition of dual glazed energy efficient windows, new insulated roofing, wiring and electrical systems, as well as a dedicated HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning) unit.

The Atlantic, Bristow and Greenwood Branch Libraries will also continue to serve the public along with the temporary Central Library. We ask for your patience as we work to improve the Central Library.

Now Checkout Books Without Ever Leaving Home

Starting January 2014, Commerce Library will offer E-books at our online digital library available for check-out 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Simply download the Axis Reader and Blio Reader in the Android Play Store or Apple App Store and visit Commerce Library's website at www.cocpl.org click on the E-book tab and follow the steps to download E-books to your mobile device! For more information about the renovation or how to download an E-book, please call 323-722-6660 or visit www.cocpl.org.



The demolition of the Central Library's interior began in December while Library staff prepared the temporary buildings that will serve Library patrons during the renovation project.

Rosewood Park



Rosewood Park is one of four neighborhood parks in the City of Commerce. Some say it is the engine of the City as it is home to City Hall and the Civic Center. The park is expansive and features picnic shelters, two separate playgrounds for toddlers and older children, a baseball/softball diamond, two basketball courts, a horseshoe area and offers many organized youth sports activities.

Also on the campus is the community center which features many meeting rooms used for an array of recreational programs and activities. The meeting rooms may also be reserved by community members. Rosewood Park plays host to the City's two largest events, the Cinco de Mayo and the Fourth of July Celebrations. There are plenty of green areas and walking paths perfect for the whole family, even pets love Rosewood Park.



Brenda Villa Aquatic Center

For decades the City of Commerce has been renowned for the outstanding aquatic teams it produces and to provide those athletes with a world class training facility, the City invested in a brand new aquatic center built in 2001. Last year, the facility was dedicated in honor of our most decorated Olympian, Brenda Villa.



Weight Rooms Residents can enjoy two physical fitness rooms, one for cardio and one for free weights. The Physical Fitness Center is equipped with various physical development and body toning equipment as well as televisions to help make the work out a little easier. Resident and industrial residents must have a current resident or industrial membership card on their person when using the fitness center, dry heat saunas and locker rooms.

Senior Center The Commerce Senior Citizens Center is a community facility dedicated solely to the enjoyment of the senior population of the City of Commerce. The Center offers a variety of organized recreational programs, such as exercise, arts and crafts, cooking, dancing and senior excursions. The facility also offers computers with internet access, pool tables, a television viewing room, an exercise room, bingo, a social area with fireplace as well as a fully operational kitchen. A daily lunch nutrition program, transportation to and from the center as well as ride assistance to help seniors run errands is also provided.



EOC The new state-of-the-art Emergency Operations Center gives 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. It features a fully integrated audio/visual system and backup generator. The EOC will be officially dedicated later this year.



Cable Studio The City's cable channels 3 and 32 provides programming that includes City Council meetings, Commerce City News and the annual Miss Commerce Pageant. The facility features a studio, video control room, audio room, engineering room, edit room, playback. The City offers free training to volunteers in video and audio production.



The Gallery



COMMERCE SHINES BRIGHT



Adolfo Marquez, Parks and Recreation Supervisor, excited the crowd as emcee at the City's Annual Holiday Tree Lighting event. Residents were treated to a variety show which included games, performances from the City's talented dance groups and employee choir, pictures with Santa and delicious churros and hot chocolate.

TROTting OFF THE TURKEY



Runners, walkers and strollers all convened in the Rosewood Park area for the Annual 5k Turkey Trot held after Thanksgiving. Approximately 378 runners participated in the event which was created to help promote healthy activities in the City.

THREE CHEERS FOR HOLIDAY CHEER



A special group of children were picked to be part of the Holiday Cheer event hosted by the Commerce Hotel and Casino in partnership with the City of Commerce. Families were entertained by top-notch performers and feasted on a catered dinner. All the children received gifts and an early visit from Santa Claus.

WHO'S DR. WHO?



In honor of the 50th anniversary, fans of the British television series Dr. Who gathered to view a simulcast of the show. The show is an international phenomenon and fans from across the globe participated in the event.

BRINGING THE ISLAND TO THE SENIOR CENTER



Children from the after-school program at Rosewood Park School recently visited the Commerce Senior Center to perform traditional Hula and Tahitian dances from the Polynesian Islands of Hawaii and Tahiti. The students ranging from the ages 7-12 shared the Spirit of Aloha.



JANUARY 2014

COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

City of Commerce Department of Parks & Recreation

MISS COMMERCE Pageant and Young Man of the Year 2014

applications will be accepted
January 2 - January 30
(until 5:30 p.m.)

1

New Year's Day
City Hall & Libraries
Closed

Happ Year 2014

2

Senior Citizens Commission
12:30 p.m.

Parks & Recreation
Commission 6 p.m.

3

4

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."
Oprah Winfrey

5

6

English Book Club
EOC room 6 p.m.

Youth Advisory
Commission 7 p.m.

7

City Council/Successor
Agency 6:30 p.m.

8

Video Game Event
Bristow Library 4 p.m.

Community Task
Force 3 p.m.

Traffic Commission
6:30 p.m.

9

Scholarship
Applications Available

Community Services
Commission 6 pm

10

11

Royal Tea Party
Bandini Park

12

13

Education Commission
6 p.m.

14

"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."
C.S. Lewis

15

Video Game Event
Greenwood Library 4 p.m.

16

17

18

19

20

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
City Hall & Libraries
Closed

21

Library Embajadores
Meeting, EOC room 6 p.m.

City Council/Successor
Agency 6:30 p.m.

22

Video Game Event
Atlantic Library 4 p.m.

Planning Commission
6:30 p.m.

23

24

25

KEEP COMMERCE Beautiful

26

Spanish Reading Club
EOC room 6 p.m.

27

28

54th Birthday
City Incorporation

Library Commission
5:30 p.m.

29

Teen Book Club
EOC room 2 p.m.

Financial Aid Workshop
EOC room 6 p.m.

30

"With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts."
Eleanor Roosevelt

31

February 2014

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	

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.

Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition

COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL



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

Important Phone Numbers

City Hall (323) 722-4805 E.L.A. Sheriff's (323) 264-4151
 Code Enforcement Ext. 2293 Graffiti Hotline (323) 887-4444
 Animal Control
 M-F 8 am to 6 pm (323) 887-4460 **Emergency 911**
 Weekends/Evenings (562) 940-6898 www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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Veterans Corner: Women in the Military

According to the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA), more than 200,000 women are serving in the Armed Forces. Women veterans are a vital part of the veteran population in California which may be why the Golden State is home to the largest population of women veterans in the Country. The CDVA seeks to ensure that women veterans are aware of their US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) and State benefits and assist in obtaining the unique services that are available to them.

With increasing numbers of women in the military, the government has expanded gender-specific services over the last decade to include counseling for sexual trauma on a priority basis, general reproductive health care and mental health service including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Approximately 255,000 women veterans use USDVA health care services including the Women Veterans Health program and Grace After Fire. The

Women Veterans Health program promotes the health, welfare and dignity of women veterans and their families by ensuring equitable access to timely, sensitive and quality health care. Grace After Fire is a website that supports women veterans who have served our country and need support for the adjustment to post-deployment life, whether it be still in the service or as a veteran. For more information on women veteran services and benefits, visit:

- The Center for Women Veterans – www.va.gov
- Women in Military Service for America – www.womensmemorial.org
- US Department of Defense Policy on Prevention and Response to Sexual Assault – www.sapr.mil

Commerce City Channel 3

Award winning cablecasts of the Successor Agency Meeting / City Council Concurrent Regular Meeting

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. (Live every 1st and 3rd Tues.) Mondays 8 a.m., 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 5:00 p.m.

Commerce City News

Mondays at 4:30 p.m., Tuesdays at 10 a.m., Wednesdays at 3 p.m., Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Fridays at 5:30 p.m., Saturdays at 5:30 p.m., Sundays at 3:30 p.m.

Commerce Public Affairs Show

Mondays at 12 p.m., Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., Wednesdays at 4 p.m., Thursdays at 3 p.m., Fridays at 9 a.m., Saturdays at 6 p.m., Sundays at 8 p.m.

Port of Long Beach

Mondays at 6 p.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
 "Toyota Museum" Tuesdays at 3 p.m.
 The Vintage Vehicle Show
 "Malamut Vintage Car Show" Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.
 The Vintage Vehicle Show
 "Los Angles Driving Museum" Thursdays at 8 a.m.
 The Vintage Vehicle Show
 "Mark Morton Collection" Saturdays at 8 a.m.

California Gold

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 12 p.m.

City Awarded Excellence in Financial Reporting

Each year the City of Commerce Finance Department submits the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) to the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for consideration of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award. This certificate is the highest form of recognition in government accounting and financial reporting. Earning this achievement represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. Each entity submitting a report to the Certificate of Achievement review process is evaluated by professionals in other mu-

unicipalities to determine its compliance in the reporting process.

"This award is a testament to the hard work and diligence of the entire Finance staff," said Vilko Domic, Finance Director. "The City of Commerce has received this award 27 of the last 28 years and we are incredibly proud of that achievement."

The GFOA is a professional association of approximately 17,500 state, provincial and local government finance officers in the United States and Canada.

Continued from page 1



The next closest event is in:

**The City of Bell on January 11, 2014
 Bell City Yard – 5320 Gage Avenue**

What you can bring to an event:

- Brake fluid, paint and thinner, cleaners with acid or lye, pesticides or herbicides, household and car batteries, pool chemicals, motor oil and filters, anti-freeze, expired medicine, and fluorescent light bulbs.
- Electronic waste includes computer monitors and CPUs, keyboards, printers, televisions, cell phones, electronic games, iPods, iPads, and digital readers.

What you cannot bring to an event:

Business waste, explosives, ammunition and radioactive materials, trash, tires, white goods such as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines and dryers, and controlled substances.

How to prepare items for transportation:

- Bring items in a sturdy box, preferably in their original labeled containers.
- Do not mix the items together.
- There is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip.
- Be prepared to leave your containers and boxes.