



# Report to the People

*Where Quality Service  
Is Our Tradition*

Volume 54 No.8 September 2014

THE MODEL CITY

www.ci.commerce.ca.us

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Child Development



Food-Bank

## New MAOF Location Brings Programs and Services to the Heart of Commerce

After 14 years of delivering services from a two-story location at 972 S. Goodrich Blvd. in Commerce, the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF) has relocated several departments to a new facility at 5657 E. Washington Blvd. The move, prompted by a reduction in programs and staff that left the facility largely vacant, was completed at the end of June.

"We initially explored the possibility of purchasing the building (on Goodrich Blvd.) but the high price tag and numerous costs associated with improving the building to modern codes and standards made it cost-prohibitive," said MAOF Vice President of Operations Vicky Santos. "We considered several facilities in the Commerce and East Los Angeles communities and decided that the building on Washington Blvd. would best accommodate our budget, program needs, and technology requirements."

In addition to performing a complete rehabilitation of the existing workspaces, MAOF was able to install high-speed internet and an integrated network; something that had not been possible at the Goodrich building. Another feature is the site's 5,507 square foot warehouse, which has allowed MAOF to consolidate contents from various storage facilities to one site. Additionally, the warehouse will provide ample space from which to coordinate MAOF's weekly food distribution. Meal bags will be distributed every Thursday at 8:00 am and there are no qualifications to receive a bag.

Among the other programs now housed at the new facility are MAOF's Youth/Workforce Investment Act program, Parent Engagement program, Child Care, Handyworkers and Resource and Referral. The Youth/WIA program focuses on providing both workforce experience and educational assistance. Funded by the Workforce Investment Act, the youth program features tutoring, college tours and assistance with college applications. It also places youth with local businesses for employment. MAOF subsidizes the youth employee's salary which in turn is a benefit for both the youth and the business. The Parent Engagement program is an 8-week, weekend course that teaches parents about proper child development, nutrition and education. The Resource and Referral is the largest program MAOF

oversees. Funded by a government grant, MAOF connects families with licensed day care providers and offers subsidies to make day care affordable. Reference and Referral also provides technical assistance for persons interested in becoming licensed to provide child care, free workshops on child care related topics, information about child care options for children with special needs and licensing meetings conducted in Spanish and English by the Department of Social Services Community Care Licensing Division for persons wishing to become Family Day Care Home Providers.

Hispanic Business Magazine recently released its annual list of top 25 Latino nonprofits and MAOF ranked 10th on the list. Compiled using public data, the list ranks Latino-serving nonprofits by expenditure budget. MAOF reported an expenditure budget of nearly \$63 million in 2013. The mission of the Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF) is to provide for the socio-economic betterment of the greater Latino community of California, while preserving the pride, values and heritage of the Mexican American culture.



Child Care

## Free Diabetes Testing Offered for Children

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health, national examination surveys show Hispanics are almost twice as likely as non-Hispanic whites to be diagnosed with diabetes. They are also 50 percent more likely to die from diabetes than non-Hispanic whites.

While these numbers are startling, there are educational and informational resources available. The Latino Diabetes Association (LDA) offers a grassroots community based approach to preventative diabetes education and self-management. So what is diabetes? According to the LDA website, diabetes basically means there is too much sugar (glucose) in the blood and your body is not able to distribute to your cells normally. It is a medical condition that occurs when the body can't use this blood sugar normally. This is your main source of energy for your body's cells. The pancreas makes a hormone called insulin which controls the levels of the glucose in the blood by helping them enter the cell. This gives you energy and makes one active. When the body does not make enough insulin or cannot distribute the insulin in your body, glucose can't get into the cell and it builds up in the blood, causing a person to be diabetic and sick.

The City has partnered with the LDA to provide free diabetes testing for children ages 10 – 17. Operation A1c will take place on Tuesday, September 16, from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. The A1c Diabetes test is the most popular and best exam to check if you have diabetes or are at risk of getting it. The A1c test checks what percentage of hemoglobin is glycosylated (coated with sugar). Many children do not show signs before they are diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Parents should talk to their pediatrician about their child's risk for diabetes, especially if they are overweight or if there is a history of diabetes in the family.

All LDA programs are completely free and open to anyone of any ethnicity. To learn more about the programs and services offered by the LDA, visit their website at [www.LDA.org](http://www.LDA.org) or

## From The Desk of Jorge Rifá City Administrator

We hope everyone enjoyed National Night Out in August. City Council, staff and representatives of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's and Fire Departments visited block party barbecues throughout the City to meet residents to discuss and develop new ways to improve safety and the quality of life in Commerce.

Crime is down 6% Citywide. Geographically speaking some areas have seen larger decreases in overall crime, including a 15% reduction in the Bristow Park area. Another bright spot is that grand theft auto is down 22%. Although we've seen improvements, it is important for all of us to stay vigilant and engaged.

The easiest way to do that is by being observant. If you see criminal behavior or anything else out of the ordinary, call the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station at (323) 264-4151. For easy reference, we always include this and other important numbers on the back cover of the Report to the People.

An even better way to stay connected is to become a part of Commerce's public safety team by joining the Neighborhood Watch. It's easy to do and can make a big difference in your neighborhood. For more information, call the Public Safety Division at (323) 887-4461. Remember in an emergency to always call 911.

September is the perfect time to plan ahead for academic success for the students in your family. A great way to do that is by utilizing all of the free services available to students and the general public through the Commerce Public Library System. We have Homework Help at all four Commerce libraries in addition to online homework help, all free for Commerce library card holders.

If for some reason you don't have a Commerce Public Library Card, now is the perfect time to get one because September is Library Card Sign Up month. If you already have your card, share the excitement of the Library by bringing a friend or family member to sign up.

The Library will also be hosting the Commerce to College Fair on Sat. September 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to start charting their course to college. The Fair will feature financial aid workshops, college enrollment information and raffle prizes. We encourage people of all ages interested in pursuing or completing a college education to take advantage of this great event.

This month we'll be finishing up our three part series on water conservation. In July we talked about household water saving tips and continued in August with information on rebates for high efficiency, water saving appliances and toilets. This month's article will discuss water smart landscaping and provide rebate information from the Metropolitan Water District for replacing your lawn with drought tolerant plants. Remember to do your part and conserve water whenever possible. For more tips on water conservation, visit [www.savourwater.com](http://www.savourwater.com).

Until next month, be safe and enjoy the programs and services Commerce has to offer.

Sincerely,  
Jorge Rifá

## Municipal Notes

### Share Your Voice: Residents Encouraged to Apply for Commissions, Committees and Boards



Education Commissioner Marcos Herrera (right) is pictured here with Commerce Scholarship recipient Ernesto Covarrubias.

The City of Commerce is accepting applications for appointments to the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission, Youth Advisory Commission (must meet age requirement), Pageant Steering Committee and I-710 Local Advisory Committee. Applications are accepted on a continuous basis and are available at City Hall and at [www.ci.commerce.ca.us](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us). For more information, please call the City Clerk's Office at (323) 722-4805.

### Coming Soon: PACE Program Provides Students With Tools to Create Artistic School Projects for Free

This Month, the Commerce Public Library will be launching the Project and Collaborative Education (PACE) program which provides students with tools and materials like paper cutting machines and tri-fold poster board to enhance their creative school projects.

In addition to providing poster board, the PACE Program will also give students access to other project staples such

as scissors, crayons, markers, glue and much more. This new program, which will be funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, will be a great benefit to students and parents by transforming the Library into a project hub.

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

## City of Commerce Council Actions

### Regular Meeting of August 4

**Approved** three amendments to the existing contracts for the Home Preservation Grant Program Project No. 601074-13 under the Community Development Block Grant Program.

**Approved** a regional grant application for an Active Transportation Plan grant program.

**Approved** plans and specifications for City Project No. 1403-Resurfacing Outdoor Basketball Courts at various parks City-Wide.

**Approved** a maintenance and support agreement with Complete Paperless Solutions for Laserfiche software and hardware support.

**Received and filed** a follow-up presentation on Community Oriented Policing Services.

**Approved** funding and a corresponding agreement for Public Agency Retirement Services relative to a post-retirement health care plan trust fund administrative services.

**Received and filed** a report from California Water Service Company.

**Approved** the second amendment to the professional services agreement for design and architectural services with Adrian Gaus Architects, Inc. for the Central Library Renovation Project.

**Approved** an agreement with All American Asphalt for City Project No. 1305 – Telegraph Road Street Improvement Project.

**Approved** donation of six portable platforms to Bandini Elementary School.

**Appointed** Johncito "Jack" Peraza to the Community Services Commission.

### Regular Meeting of July 15

**Proclaimed** August 5 as National Night Out in the City of Commerce.

**Rescheduled** the August 5 Regular Council Meeting to August 4 due to accommodate National Night Out.

**Approved** the purchase of equipment and supplies from Decals by Design, Hanover Displays and Lift-U to rehabilitate two transit buses.

**Approved** the second amendment to the TransTrack Systems, Inc. Maintenance and Support Agreement.

**Approved** an agreement with the Los Angeles County Probation Department to provide prevention and intervention program services.

**Adopted** a resolution in opposition to changes in Title 25 CFT Part 83 governing the standards and processes by which the Department of the Interior officially recognizes Indian tribes.

**Amended** the rate schedule to the agreement between the City and Wayne Perry, Inc. for the operation, maintenance and monitoring of a landfill gas collection and treatment system.

**Approved** the 2013-2014 weed abatement charges as recommended by the Los Angeles County Agricultural Commissioner/Director of Weights and Measures.

**Approved** an amendment to loan agreements with the County of Los Angeles, Deadeaux Properties, LLC for a Section 108 loan for the commencement of the Commerce Industrial Center DART Development Project.

**Approved** Change Order No. 4 to contract with MTM Construction, Inc. for the Central Library Renovation Project.

**Received and filed** a report from Southern California Edison regarding the unplanned power outage in the Veterans Park area.

**Approved** formal support of the 710 Coalition's effort to complete the 710 Freeway and close the 4.5 mile gap in the region's freeway system.

**Appointed** city employee representative Ralph Vivero to the ex-officio seat on the Measure AA Advisory Committee.

**Appointed** business representative Jon Reno to the Measure AA Advisory Committee.

## Report to the People

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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

# Water Wise Care and Landscaping

Because California is in a drought, the City of Commerce has been ramping up our awareness efforts to provide the public with information about water conservation. In this final installment of our three part series on water conservation, we'll be talking about water wise landscaping and vegetation alternatives that can reduce your water use and save you money.

## Avoid Overwatering

Over 50% of water use in Southern California's homes is used to water lawns and gardens. An easy place to start reducing water is to avoid overwatering.

## General guidelines to avoid overwatering:

- Water in cycles of 5 minutes with time in between to allow water to soak through, percolating to the root zone.
- In summer, irrigation for lawn areas can be kept to three days in the summer with "run and soak" cycling of an irrigation valve, sprinkler or station.
- Mature shrubs can usually be limited to watering two days a week in summer.
- Use mulch whenever possible. Mulch conserves water by reducing moisture evaporation from the soil while reducing weed populations and keeping soil temperatures more moderate.
- Use rain barrels to collect rain water to maintain shrubs, trees, lawns and gardens.

crobes prefer rain water because it is naturally soft and free of chlorine, fluoride and other chemicals. The Metropolitan Water District offers rebates of up to \$75 per barrel. Visit [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com) for more information.

## Smart Controllers & Efficient Watering

Smart controllers are starting to replace standard clock time controllers saving nearly 8,800 gallons of water annually per household. Even if you can't replace your existing controller you can still save water by using it efficiently as follows:

- Water early in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.
- Check sprinklers to ensure only your lawn is watered rather than the house, sidewalk or street.
- Turn off your system when it rains.
- Water less frequently but for longer periods of time. Also see the 'Avoid Overwatering' section.

For more on sprinklers and irrigation visit [www.saveourh2o.org](http://www.saveourh2o.org) and click on the "Sprinklers 101" section in the upper right hand corner of the home page.

## Rethink Your Landscape



A newer trend in water conservation is replacing turf with drought tolerant plants. There are free online classes and workshops, as well as rebate programs available.

The Water Replenishment District (WRD) has an Eco Gardener Program, which includes free classes on subjects that include Edible Gardening for Beginners, Eco Gardening Concepts and Drought Tolerant Plants. The program includes on line "How-to" videos and information in English and Spanish. For more information, visit their website at [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).

The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) also offers resources to Commerce residents on how to get started and other useful information such as the California Friendly Gardening Guide. In addition, they also offer rebates to remove turf (grass) and replace it with non-turf plants with do-it-yourself or contractor options.

For more information from MWD on smart gardening, visit [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com). For more information on turf removal rebates, visit [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).



## Drip Irrigation

Drip irrigation is the slow precise application of water directly to a plant's root. A drip or micro irrigation system can be customized to meet your landscape's specific needs while maintaining an optimum moisture level for plants and conserving water that would have otherwise been used. Drip irrigation is at least 90 percent more efficient than other irrigation. It works by applying water slowly where it is needed through tubing on the ground alongside the plants. Drip irrigation improves plant health and growth while preventing disease and reducing weed growth. It also saves water, as well as time by requiring less work and maintenance.



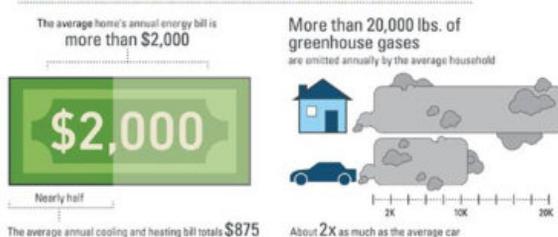
## Rain Barrels

Collecting and re-using rainwater from gutters and downspouts for lawns and gardens minimizes the amount of water flowing into your storm drains, sewer systems and local waterways. Plants and mi-

## HOW TO KEEP YOUR COOL WHEN THE SEASON HEATS UP

Welcome to summer! But don't think that the higher temperatures mean that you have to put up with higher utility bills. With help from ENERGY STAR you can keep your cool, tame those bills, and help fight climate change. The secret is to keep your cooling system from working too hard. Here are some of the best ways to keep your cool when the season heats up.

### HOW MUCH ENERGY DOES YOUR HOME USE?



### THE ENERGY STAR DIFFERENCE



### TOP 5 WAYS TO CHILL OUT THIS SUMMER

- 1. **Keep the Heat Out**
  - Improve insulation between your attic and roof.
  - If you are upgrading your windows, consider ENERGY STAR certified windows.
  - Use your window coverings, add new ones, or adjust blinds to keep the sun out.
  - The right roof can do a lot to keep the heat out. Consider ENERGY STAR certified roof products.
- 2. **Keep the Cool In**
  - Seal and insulate the cooling system ducts in your attic.
  - Find air leaks around your house and seal them with spray foam, caulk, and weather-stripping. Sealing and insulating your home can save you up to \$200 in annual utility bills.
- 3. **Maintain Your Cooling System**
  - Schedule a summer cooling system tune up.
  - Change your air filter every three months.
  - Use a programmable thermostat. Set it seven degrees higher when you're away and four degrees higher when you're asleep and save about \$180.
- 4. **Be a Fan of Fans**
  - Use an ENERGY STAR certified ceiling fan and raise your thermostat two degrees. It'll lower cooling costs by 14%.
  - Use an ENERGY STAR certified vent fan after a shower to reduce humidity.
- 5. **Look for the ENERGY STAR**
  - Look for the ENERGY STAR label when purchasing new air conditioning equipment and dehumidifiers and cut cooling costs by 30%.
  - Replace those old, hot incandescent light bulbs with much cooler ENERGY STAR certified light bulbs.

Learn more at [www.energystar.gov/cooling](http://www.energystar.gov/cooling).

### WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

EPA's ENERGY STAR program provides simple tips and information to help you save energy and money, all while protecting the environment.

Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



# What to Do In a Power Outage

Download the SCE Smart Phone App for Updates and to Report Outages

When your power is out or you are experiencing problems with your electricity service for more than a few minutes, you can report those issues by calling Southern California Edison (SCE) at (800) 611-1911 but the quickest and easiest way to do so is the SCE smart phone app free for download for iPhone and Android devices.

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

Remember to keep your smart phone charged since it may be your only means of communication in an emergency since other forms of communication may be down due to power outages.

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

THE CITY OF COMMERCE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND THE EDUCATION COMMISSION

INVITE YOU TO THE NINTH ANNUAL

# COMMERCE TO COLLEGE FAIR

## Make College Your Future!

Commerce to College

### SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 20, 2014  
10:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**INVITING**  
INTERMEDIATE, HIGH SCHOOL, AND ADULT STUDENTS.

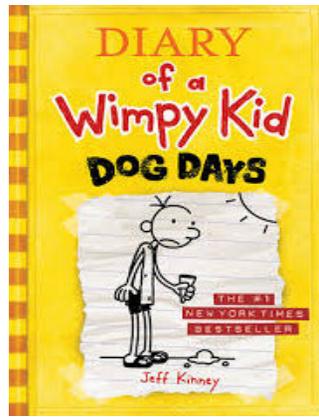
MEET WITH COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES AND ATTEND VARIOUS HELPFUL WORKSHOPS!

**SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:**  
CRISTINA GARCIA,  
58TH CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY MEMBER

**FREE LUNCH**

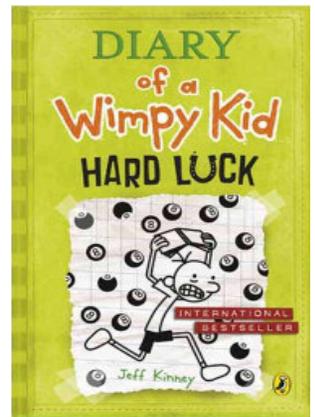
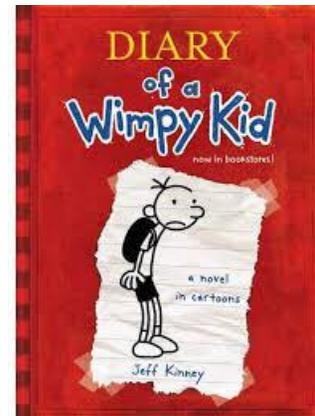
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WWW.COCPL.ORG.



# HOT READS

available @  
the City of Commerce  
Public Library



### Droid Talk, Featuring Mike Senna

Look No Further! We have the droids you're looking for!!

Join us as we welcome Mike Senna, a computer programmer and skilled prop maker hobbyist who has built replicas of some very famous robots. Mike's R2-D2 has made over 100 appearances, including Legoland Star Wars weekends, VH1, MTV, and even commercials! More locally, you may have seen his R2 unit in the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade.

Mike's WALL-E was made famous on the Yo Show on omg! From Yahoo. He has been invited to bring WALL-E all over the world, but mostly takes him to CHOC for quarterly visits, Muscular Dystrophy Association events, and many other charity functions.

#### This event is open to all!

Saturday, September 13th @ 11am at the Rosewood Park meeting room  
For more information, please visit: [teens.cocpl.org](http://teens.cocpl.org) or call: 323-722-6660

### Win a Blu-Ray Player During Library Card Sign-Up Month

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month and the Commerce Library Card is the smartest card in your wallet and the most important school supply of all.

#### A Commerce Library Card gives you FREE access to:

- Laptops
- E-Readers

- Electronic Databases such as Mango to learn any language online, MedLine Plus, World Book Encyclopedia, Chilton Auto Repair, etc.
- Free homework help online
- Renew your materials online
- Place holds on your favorite books, dvds, cds, magazines, etc.
- Checkout online eBooks and eMagazines
- And much more...

#### Enter a raffle for a Blu-Ray player by participating in one of the following:

1. Obtain a Commerce Library card during the month of September, 2014 for the first time.
2. Bring someone to obtain a library card for the first time.
3. Take a Selfie with your Commerce Library Card and tag our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter pages. (Twitter: @commercelib and/or #cocplcard) (Instagram: @commercelibrary #cocplcard) (Facebook: City of Commerce Public Library)

The raffle will be held at each Commerce Library on Thursday, October 2, 2014 at 3 p.m. The winner does not need to be present. For more information, call your local Commerce Library or Central Library at (323) 722-6660.

## Back-To-School Homework Help

By Ayelen Gimenez, YES Worker/Guest Writer

It's that time again: Back to school! Although the thought of a new workload of classes can be daunting, the library has a program to help you out.

"We saw that kids came in to do their homework and often asked librarians for help. We thought it would be great to have someone dedicated to helping children on their homework and so the Homework Help program began," said Librarian Sigrid Hudson, who is in charge of the Program.

"Children in the community have come to depend on the home-

work helpers for assistance with their daily assignments," said Hudson who added that program participation has grown in recent years. To address this need additional homework helpers have been hired for this year because according to Hudson, "One simply isn't enough."

The Homework Help program is available to students from K-12 at all four Commerce Libraries. Program times and days vary at each library. For more information please call your nearest local Library or check the Commerce Library website at [www.cocpl.org](http://www.cocpl.org).

## Commerce Scholarship Awards Breakfast

The City of Commerce Public Library and Education Commission hosted the Commerce Scholarship Awards Breakfast to honor 54

Commerce residents who received scholarships between \$500 and \$5,000 on August 9 at the Commerce Hotel and Casino.

This year's keynote speaker was Madeline Salazar, who is an engineer and graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which is one of the top tech universities in the world.

"My first lesson for students is diligence," said Salazar as she described her experience of studying 10 or even 20 hours to do well on a test that her fellow students aced with only two hours of preparation.

She also emphasized the importance of students pushing themselves by raising their standards and personal expectations, as well as encouraging them to find mentors and build their network as they progress in school and into their career.

"When you graduate I encourage you to become mentors. Tell your stories to encourage and inspire others," she said. "Have healthy relationships that are supportive of your roles and your

needs. Talk to your parents. Stay grounded. Give back and reach back."

This year 39 of the 54 scholarship recipients will be attending public universities, while 12 will be attending private colleges. This year's group included 14 freshmen, 15 sophomores, 10 juniors, nine sen-

iors and six post graduate students.

The City of Commerce would like to thank all of the generous contributors who made these scholarships possible with a special thank you to top contributor the Commerce Hotel and Casino for their \$50,000 donation as well as the Harvey Capital Corporation for their major donation of \$10,000.



# CITY OF COMMERCE SERVICES PROVE IN-VALUABLE TO ONE YOUNG RESIDENT



*Samantha Maravilla uses the Medi-Ride service to transport her to various doctors appointments. This is one of the many City services that assist Samantha in obtaining independence in her everyday life.*

*By Samantha Maravilla, YES Worker/Guest Writer*

I'm Samantha Maravilla, I'm 15 years old, I'm a Commerce resident and I'm wheelchair bound. I was born with Cerebral Palsy and living with a disability comes with challenges, but living in the City of Commerce has made it a little easier to overcome those challenges.

Like any teenager, I'm looking for my independence. But honestly, when your mobility is limited, venturing out on your own can be a scary thought. I had to overcome some insecurities and not only find physical strength but also mental strength to go out on my own.

Our city has so much to offer in terms of accommodations for people with special needs like me. For instance our Medi-Ride service provides senior and disabled residents a safe way to get to medical appointments within a 12-mile radius of City Hall. The van features a wheelchair-lift which is great for me. Service hours are from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday and residents simply have to call 323-887-4480 to schedule a pick up.

I don't drive a car (yet), so I rely on the City's Transit Service to get around town. Being able to get from one place to another on my own helps me depend less on others and has also given me a better sense of the world around me. I feel more comfortable being out on my own. Plus, the drivers have always been very nice and helpful.

But of all the programs I've used in the City, the one that has been incredibly important to me is the Youth Education and Service (YES) Leadership and Mentoring Program. YES is a summer work and training program for teens 14-19 years-of-age.

I enjoyed this program because not only did I gain more confidence but I also gained work experience. As a Yes Worker I worked in three different departments: Finance, Public Information and Parks & Recreation. Going to work at City Hall was like home because everyone was warm and welcoming. Not only did I get to work with a team of good people but I formed friendships and developed a level of trust with the people I worked with. The City Of Commerce has changed my outlook on life because each day has been a learning experience.

I hope that by writing about my positive experiences as a wheelchair bound teenager living in the City of Commerce, I have given other disabled residents the motivation to take that first step into a life of independence. It is important to me that I find a solution to achieve and fortunately my City has provided me with the tools and resources to do just that. So for me, the sky's the limit.

## Crush 12U Take 5th at Summer Soiree Tournament



The Commerce Crush Competitive Volleyball Team, which includes five age group teams, competed in the 7th annual Summer Soiree Tournament, hosted by the Southern California Volleyball Association at the Anaheim Convention Center and the American Sports Centers in late June.

Leading the pack was the 12 and under team that took fifth place out of 58 teams. The 13 & under team placed a solid 57th in a large group of 144 teams. While the 10's, 15's and 18 and under teams finished in the middle of the pack, they played hard

and were competitive in a talented field of teams.

The Commerce Crush Volleyball Team is one of the City's competitive youth sports programs, which also includes swimming, water polo, boxing, baseball and basketball. For more information, call the Commerce Sports Office at (323) 887-4432.

## CITY OF COMMERCE EBDC & CITADEL OUTLETS



### 6TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY

# JOB FAIR

Wednesday  
September

17 2014

10 am - 2 pm  
Citadel Outlets  
100 Citadel Drive  
Commerce, CA 90040



Meet employers hiring for: Retail, Clerical, Warehouse, etc.



For more information contact:  
**CITY OF COMMERCE  
EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER**  
at (323) 887-4461.

# The Gallery



## FUTURE FIREFIGHTERS



Neighborhood kids explore one of Los Angeles County Fire Department's fire engines during Commerce's National Night Out.

## THREE CHEERS FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Neighbors all over the City gathered to learn about ways to make Commerce safer. Reports show crime is down 6% Citywide.

## WORLD CUP READY



Nearly 200 local athletes participated in the Los Angeles Galaxy Soccer Clinic held at Rosewood Park in August.

## GRATITUDE FOR SUPPORTERS



Volunteers were given free t-shirts listing all the businesses who generously donated to Clean Up Commerce. More than \$200,000 community dollars was contributed to making this event a success.

## CHAMPION READERS



Miss Commerce Denise Rodriguez and the Royal Court congratulated young readers who completed the City's Summer Reading Program.

## VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP



Several civic groups, including teens active at the City's Teen Center, volunteered at the Clean Up Commerce event, to earn funds for their group. Craig Realty and the Citadel contributed \$10,000 to these groups.



# SEPTEMBER 2014

## COMMERCE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>October 2014</b></p> <p>S M T W T F S</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>5 6 7 8 9 10 11</p> <p>12 13 14 15 16 17 18</p> <p>19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>26 27 28 29 30 31</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Labor Day</b> City Hall &amp; Libraries Closed</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p>  <p>Youth Advisory Commission 7 p.m.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>Senior Commission 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Parks &amp; Recreation Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>"There is no labor a person does that is undignified; if they do it right." Bill Cosby</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>Fall Sports Registration 10 a.m. All Parks</p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>"Without labor, nothing prosper." <b>Sophocles</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Education Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>Community Task Force 3 p.m.</p> <p>Traffic Commission 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Senior Flu Shot Clinic Senior Center 9-11 a.m.</p> <p>Community Services Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>Camp Commerce Registration Council Chambers 8 a.m.</p> <p>Library's Teen Program Rosewood Park MtgRm 11 a.m.</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>16th of September Celebra- tion Bristow Park 1-5 p.m.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>English Book Club Transportation ConfRm 6 p.m.</p> <p>Measure AA Committee 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>"Preservation of one's own cul- ture does not require con- tempt of disre- spect for other cultures." <b>Cesar Chavez</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>College Fair Veterans Memorial Park 10 a.m.</p>
<p><b>21</b></p> <p>"Anytime you do something Latino, yeah, I love the color, the spice." <b>Esai Morales</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Library Commission 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency Meeting 6:30 p.m.</p> 	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Rosh Hashanah</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>Preschool Registration Council Chambers 8 a.m.</p>
<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>Spanish Reading Club Community SvcsConfRm 6 p.m.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>Teen Book Club Bristow Park Library 4 p.m.</p>	<p><b>National Hispanic Heritage Month</b> September 15 to October 15</p>  <p>Recognizing the contributions made and important presence of Hispanic and Latino Americans to the United States. A celebration of heritage and culture.</p>			

*Where Quality Service Is Our Tradition*

**COMMERCE CITY COUNCIL**



Tina Baca Del Rio, Mayor  
 Lilia R. Leon, Mayor Pro Tem  
 Joe Aguilar, Councilmember  
 Ivan Altamirano, 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](http://www.ci.commerce.ca.us)

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**Social Services Just One of Many Benefits Offered to Residents**



Since its incorporation, the City of Commerce set the standard as the "Model City," providing exceptional services for its residents. Those efforts continue today and while many residents may be familiar with the programs offered through the Parks and Recreation Department, there are many valuable programs and services provided through the Community Services Department.

Staff is trained to listen to the needs of the community and provide references to local, state and other partnering agencies. The following listing is a brief description of the myriad of services offered to Commerce residents. If you would like additional information, please call 323-887-4460. **For immediate crisis information and services, please contact the 24-hour Crisis Line and Suicide Prevention Center at (877) 727-4747.**

**Ambulance Reimbursement** – The City has budgeted \$1,000 per year to help residents who need assistance in offsetting the cost of ambulance transportation. Residents may request a partial reimbursement for transportation by ambulance from hospital to hospital or to a hospital during a medical emergency one (1) time per fiscal year.

**Case Management** – Social Services Coordinators are available to assist residents with individualized support in maintaining and promoting self-sufficiency and independence through services that include advocacy, information and referral, community outreach, conflict resolution, crisis intervention, assistance with forms and home visits.

**Crisis Counseling** – Commerce residents who need to discuss personal issues or need help resolving an issue can come to the social services division where Social Services Coordinators are available to listen. Following an assessment of needs, a referral can be made to the proper community based organization on their behalf.

**Educational Seminars** - Social Services Coordinators collab-

orate with professionals from various local agencies to help provide information for residents on topics affecting the community. These educational seminars can provide residents with a forum to discuss topics in depth and may also provide viable solutions for dealing with current issues of concern.

**Emergency Bus Tokens** – This income based program gives qualified participants 10 tokens a month to be used on MTA busses.

**English as Second Language (ESL) Classes** - ESL classes are held at Bristow Park Community Center on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents can sign up by contacting Community Services.

**Food Distribution** - Through the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank (LARF) the City offers residents the opportunity to participate in the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP). Every third Thursday of the month, Social Services Coordinators distribute a supply of food from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to residents who meet specific income based requirements.

**Holiday Cheer** – During the Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter holidays, food distribution participants are given gift cards and extra food. Children may also be selected to participate in holiday parties where families are sponsored by businesses and organizations within the city. Those not registered may apply in October.

**Independent Studies** - The City of Commerce provides an alternative school program through the Montebello Unified School District. The Contract Independent Study Program is designed for High School students between the ages of 14 and 18 years of age who are behind on school credits. The program's goal is to motivate students to catch up on lost credits and/or the opportunity to earn a high school diploma or pass the GED examination. This program is also geared to prepare students to continue their education past the high

school level. Students must contact their home high school counselor for information on how to enroll.

**Probation Services** – Information and referral services to L.A. County Probation Office.

**MTA Bus Pass Subsidy** - MTA Bus Passes may be subsidized for seniors 62 and older or for disabled residents 18 and older.

**Parent Education Classes** - Commerce has collaborated with the Montebello Unified School District to offer a Parent Education Program that provides residents with skills and tools pertaining to effective parenting and personal growth. Topics include anger management, proper discipline techniques, effective communication and child guidance. Classes are held in English at City Hall on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Classes are held in Spanish at the Bristow Park Community Center on Tuesdays, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Mommy and Me classes are also held at the Bristow Park Community Center, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Red Ribbon** – Rallies are held in October at Rosewood Park school and Bandini school to educate students about the story of fallen DEA Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena as well as knowing how to "Say NO to Drugs" and learning about Anti-bullying. LASD, Probation, Public Safety and Officer McGruff the crime dog join us during this event.

**Senior Volunteer** – Commerce senior citizens help social services coordinators with the food distribution program once a month.