



Report to the People

Volume 56 No.11 November 2016

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Si le interesa recibir un artículo en español, por favor llama a la Oficina de Información Pública al (323) 722-4805 ext 4453. Indica el título del artículo, la fecha y su domicilio o correo electrónico.



The Annual Veterans Day Ceremony is a great opportunity for the Commerce community to properly thank the men and women who served our country.

Giving Thanks to the Men and Women Who Served Our Country

The City of Commerce is inviting the public to the City's Annual Veterans Day Ceremony on Friday, November 11 at 10 a.m. at Veterans Memorial Park. Veterans Day is a nationally observed holiday to honor the men and women who have served and sacrificed as a member of the United States Armed Forces. This event will give the community the opportunity to say thank you to those who chose to serve our country.

The City will again partner with local organizations to offer information and resources for Veterans. Walgreens will provide free flu shots for Veterans who have their VA card as well as community members who have a Medicare or prescription usage card. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers will provide information about their Electrical Training Institute located in Commerce and the Pipe Trades will promote their Veterans to work program. Habitat for Humanity will be on hand with information about their free home repair program for Veterans as well as home ownership programs for qualified community members. There will also be various agencies that offer assistance to Veterans.

"We're proud to have expanded our traditional Veterans Day ceremony to include a resource fair that focused on assisting our Veteran community," said Director of Parks and Recreation Robert Lipton. "The organizations participating in this year's resource fair will benefit Veterans of all ages." The family friendly event will feature a military static display, dignitaries, a keynote speaker and a light lunch.

While Veterans Day is celebrated once a year, the City of Commerce provides veterans with information on programs that help with career searching, healthcare and many other resources year-round. The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is located in the Rosewood Neighborhood Library and is funded through a grant from CalVet and the California State Library. The VRC is staffed by knowledgeable and trained volunteers that focus on providing information to reintegrate California veterans into the workforce and, more importantly, our communities. The VRC maintains a collection of books and websites with links to local Veterans resources and access to computer equip-

ment for extended periods to allow time to complete online applications and do research.

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month, all veterans are welcome to come to the VRC from 5 p.m. -7 p.m. and share refreshments and good conversation. The Center provides a comfortable, welcoming area for veterans to relax, converse, read a book and relax.

The VRC is currently looking for volunteers to work at the center. Volunteer Benefits Coaches interact with veterans and active military members by assisting them in a variety of topics. Coaches ensure that veterans and their families know how to get connected to the state and federal benefits and services they have earned through military service. If you are interested in helping and serving veterans and their families; have patience, empathy and good listening and interpersonal skills; and are familiar with military life, veterans' issues, reintegration challenges, or a willingness to learn, then you can help!

If you are interested in donating your time either by becoming a Benefits Coach or participating in one of our Operation Gratitude projects, please contact Olivia Audoma at the Veterans Library (323) 722-4905, ext. 2851. For more information on the Veterans Day Ceremony, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 323-887-4434.



The Veterans Day Ceremony will be honoring the brave men and women who have served in the Army, Air Force, Marines, Navy and the Coast Guard.



The holiday season is a perfect time to reflect upon all the many gifts and people in our lives. As the City Administrator of this community, I am thankful for the leadership of our City Council, the dedication of our hard working staff, and our businesses and residents for helping to keep our City moving forward. I am also thankful to have served as the City Administrator of this great city for many years.

As the year draws to a close, I want to invite the community to join the Mayor and Council in honoring our nation's veterans at the Annual Veterans Day Ceremony being held at Veterans Park on Friday, November 11 at 10 a.m. This event is a great opportunity to come out and thank our local veterans for their service to our Country.

The City of Commerce is getting into the holiday spirit with a plethora of programs and events, beginning this month with our annual Commerce Turkey Trot 5K Run on Saturday, November 19 at 8 a.m. in the Rosewood Park neighborhood. It is a great way for the family to participate in a healthy activity and burn off a few extra calories prior to Thanksgiving dinner. Kids ages 2-5 can also participate in the Kids Fun Run right before the 5K.

Also, make sure to mark your calendar for December 5 when we will be hosting the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony in front of the steps at City Hall.

The holiday seasons are about generosity to our family, friends and community, which is why I'd like to encourage local businesses and residents to consider giving a helping hand to families who are less fortunate. I urge residents to make donations of food, clothing, funds or gift certificates to the Commerce Holiday Cheer Program. Your generosity can help brighten the holidays for a deserving family in need. To find out more, please call the Social Services Division at (323) 887-4460.

On that note, we hope you have safe holiday season. I encourage you to exercise your right to vote on November 8. Also remember that City Hall and branch libraries will be closed on Wednesday, November 11 in observance of Veterans Day as well as on November 24 and 25 for Thanksgiving Weekend.

On behalf of the City Council, I wish everyone a happy, healthy and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

**Report to the
 People**

Published Monthly and Mailed to Commerce Residents

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Please call (323) 887-4453
 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. or
 visit us online at www.ci.commerce.ca.us.



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Twitter:@CityofCommerce
Instagram:cityofcommerce



October 4 Meeting: Commended Jorge C. Garcia for his many years of dedicated service to the City of Commerce.

REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 4

Received and filed a presentation by Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, on the LAMTA's Measure M ballot measure scheduled for the November 8, 2016 election.

Received and filed a presentation by the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District.

Approved an agreement with Romo Planning Group, Inc. to provide professional consulting services to staff a vacant position in the Development Services Division.

Approved an agreement with TYR Sport Inc. for the provision of aquatic apparel and equipment for the Commerce Aquatics Swim Team.

Authorized Raimi & Associates to assist staff with processing proposed projects along the Telegraph Road corridor.

Approved the bid packet for demolition and abatement and RFP for industrial hygienist services for the Veterans Memorial Park Shooting Range Abatement Project.

Received and filed a report regarding the Exide facility located at 5909 Randolph Street.

Approved change order No. 2 to the All American Asphalt contract for FY 2015-16 Annual Pavement Improvement

Scheduled a meeting to pass an emergency resolution to move the City Council election to April 2017.

Approved the participation in the 2016 East Los Angeles Christmas Parade on November 27.

Made appointments to the Education and Library Commissions.

REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20

Honored the graduates of the 2016 Commerce Video Production Apprenticeship Program.

Honored employees from the Commerce Doubletree by Hilton who volunteered at the Commerce Senior Center.

Proclaimed September 23 as Vin Scully Day to honor Vin Scully's contributions to baseball.

Proclaimed October 2015 as "National Breast Cancer Awareness" Month.

Proclaimed October 2016 as "National Bullying Prevention" Month.

Proclaimed October 2016 as "Crime Prevention" Month.

Accepted the completed water main and site improvements project for Camp Commerce by Rentex Construction Inc.

Authorized using \$60,000 in Measure AA funds for the Security Camera Installation Project at the Metrolink Station.

Approved an amendment to the 2016/17 ROPS regarding the environmental assessment of the former Specific Plating site located at 1350 Eastern Avenue.

Approved an agreement with Maryman & Associates for information technology services.

Approved support for Senate Resolution 84 urging Governor Jerry Brown to declare a State of Emergency on the growing homelessness crisis.

Provided direction to the Voting Delegate and the Voting Alternate to support Vision Zero, a traffic safety project program, to be voted on at the League of California Cities Annual Conference.

Received and filed the presentation on FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Methodology.

Received and filed a presentation on the Security Cameras Program.

Approved an earmark of \$300,000 from Measure AA Public Safety Funds to implement a Residential Security Camera Rebate Program, a partnership with Ring.com, and automated license plate readers throughout the City.

Continued an item to change the Sheriff's Contract to eliminate a Motor Deputy and add a permanent Sergeant to the deployment.

Approved a cooperative agreement with the County of Los Angeles for the City of Commerce's Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program and authorized appropriation of \$12,000 from City's General Fund.

Continued the bid packet for demolition and abatement and RFP for industrial hygienist services for the Veteran's Memorial Park Shooting Range Abatement Project.

Approved proposed modifications to Washington Blvd plans for access at Arco Gas Station and Commerce Square Area east of Fidelia, and the approval of related Environmental Amendment.

Received and filed a report regarding parking issues near Stevens Steak House and appointed an Ad-hoc Committee to provide the City Council with updates on this matter.

Received and filed a report on the City of Commerce's Code sections and State Law that prohibit street racing.

Adopted an Ordinance amending the Commerce Municipal Code by adding an Art in Public Places Program.

SIGN UP FOR NIXLE COMMUNITY & EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS

With technology advancing more and more each year, the City must adapt to the new ways to keep the public informed about emergencies, criminal activities and community information. In order to provide Commerce residents with up-to-the-minute community updates and emergency alerts, the City of Commerce is urging everyone to sign up with Nixle, the mass communication system designed to deliver real-time messages right to your phone.

The service is free and includes options in English and Spanish. To sign up, residents should visit www.nixle.com, text 90040 to 888777 or download the Nixle application on all platforms. For those who do not have a cell phone, residents can register their landline phone and/or email addresses at www.nixle.com.

Each alert will be targeted geographically, allowing residents to receive localized, relevant alerts from city agencies, local law enforcement and other authorities. Alerts will include information on severe weather warnings, criminal activities, severe traffic, missing persons and local events.

Residents can even provide crucial information to authorities by replying to alerts.

"Nixle is going to be a great tool for us to use because it's so versatile," said Ernie Fierro, the City's Assistant Emergency Preparedness Officer. "It has three levels of notifications. The first is general information, the second is for mid-level alert, and the third is for serious emergencies."

"Best of all, residents can customize their profile to receive whichever notifications they want," Fierro continued. "This will allow the City to better serve our residents."

Founded in 2009, Nixle has partnered with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Blue Alert Network and Google in an effort to provide better community outreach and a two-way information exchange. Today, more than 7,200 U.S. agencies rely on the Nixle system, which allows local police and other municipal departments nationwide to send immediate alerts and advisories.

For more information, call the Public Safety and Community Services Department at (323) 887-4460.



Beautify Your Home Through the Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant

The City of Commerce will be conducting this year's second lottery for the Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant Program! This popular program provides financial assistance to residents for minor improvements to their homes. Residents must pre-qualify based on income guidelines and those that are eligible will be placed in a lottery. Applications are available now at City Hall. Residents must meet eligibility criterion and provide all documentation to the Planning Division (Window 2) by November 18, 2016 to be entered in the second lottery. The Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant is an ongoing program and applications will continue to be accepted for subsequent lotteries.

The Program provides funding for the cost of materials associated with eligible residence exterior upgrades that are visible from the street or public right of way. The Program may also assist with some improvements that are not visible from the public right of way or street, but only if they are tied to an improvement which is visible (e.g., fence, windows, etc.)

"Over the years, the Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant Program has proven to be successful in revitalizing residential areas within the City," said Maryam Babaki, Director of Public Works and Community Development. "The Program has made a significant visual impact in the City's neighborhoods and has brought about great improvements within the community of Commerce."

Grants of up to \$2,000 every 2 years may be awarded to income-qualified residents.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- The dwelling unit must be located within the City of Commerce boundaries.
- Only 1 application will be accepted per property.
- Gross household income must not exceed 120 percent of Area Median Income for Los Angeles County, as defined annually by the California Housing and Development Department (HCD).
- The Program will only cover material costs for eligible exterior repairs or alterations that are visible from the street or public right of way (e.g. paint, stucco, fence, door, windows, etc.). The Program may also assist with some improvements that are not visible from the public right of way or street, but only if they are tied to an improvement which is visible (e.g., fence, windows, etc.).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS ARE:

- Household Income Qualification: Applicant must provide supporting income documentation for all household members 18 and over.
- Proof of Tenancy (Copy of current gas, water, or electric bill).
- Property owner consent (applicable to renters).
- Qualified applicants will be placed in a lottery
- Before and after pictures of your home will be taken by Planning Staff.
- Applicant must submit receipts to the City's Planning Division and must be no older than 6 months from the date printed on your Fix-Up Grant Approval Letter from Planning staff. Only original receipts will be accepted (e.g., Home Depot, Lowes, etc.).
- The reimbursement process will take approximately 4 to 6 weeks from the date of receipt submittal.
- Households must be within the maximum income limits shown below:

2016 INCOME LIMITS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Household Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Household Income is Less than:	\$54,450	\$62,200	\$70,000	\$77,750	\$83,950	\$90,200	\$96,400	\$102,650

HOW DO I APPLY?

SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION TO THE CITY'S PLANNING DIVISION:

- A Completed Neighborhood Fix-Up Grant Application (only 1 per property)
- Copy of Drivers License, California ID or school ID for all members of the household.
- Income Tax Return (1040 Form) for all members of household 18 and over.
- The last 3 paycheck stubs, SSI or Pension Statements for all members of household 18 and over (last 3 bank statements if direct deposit)
- "No-Income Certification" form must be submitted for all unemployed members of household 18 and over (if applicable)
- Copy of current gas, water or electric bill.

For more information about the program, contact the Planning Division staff at 323.722.4805 extension 2820.

The Code Zone: Christmas Tree Disposal

How time flies! Although it seems the last holiday season is barely past, the next one is right around the corner. It's time to string the lights, get the presents wrapped and decorate the tree. Now that your home is perfectly decorated and the scent of pine fills the rooms, it's time to think about the Christmas aftermath, namely discarding your tree. Exhausting as it may sound, getting rid of your Christmas tree doesn't have to be an unpleasant task.

When it comes time to recycle your tree, there are two ways to do so. Christmas trees will be collected during the first full week in January on your normal trash collection day. Any time after that, please use the recycle bin to dispose of your tree.



For curbside collection, follow these instructions:

1. Remove all ornaments, tinsel and stands from the tree and place it curbside for pick up.
2. If using the recycle bin, cut the tree into pieces no longer than 4 ft.
3. Please remember that flocked trees cannot be recycled and will be collected as waste.

Failing to follow the proper procedure may result in your tree being left behind. Christmas trees left on the curb at any time other than the first full week of January will result in a violation of the City of Commerce Municipal Code. It's not that we're Grinches; dry Christmas trees are very flammable and are considered a fire hazard. National Fire Protection Association statistics indicate that nearly 40 percent of home fires that begin with Christmas trees occur in January. Although these fires are not common, they are much more likely to be serious when they do occur.

Speaking of fires, never burn your Christmas tree in a fireplace or wood stove. Burning the tree may contribute to creosote buildup and could cause a chimney fire. That would be a terrible way to start off the New Year. Always remember to stay safe.

If you have any questions regarding Christmas tree recycling or any other Code Enforcement matter, please call (323) 887-4460.

Happy Holidays from the City of Commerce Code Enforcement division!



Prevent the spread of West Nile Virus

Officials from the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) have confirmed at least one confirmed West Nile Virus positive mosquito sample in Commerce this year.

West Nile virus is transmitted to people and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. There is no cure for West Nile virus. One in five persons infected with West Nile virus will exhibit symptoms. Symptoms usually occur between five and 15 days, and can include fever, headache, body aches, nausea, or a skin rash. These symptoms can last for several weeks to months. One in 150 people infected with the virus will require hospitalization. Severe symptoms include high fever, muscle weakness, neck stiffness, coma, paralysis, and possibly death.

Vector control advises residents to take the necessary precautions to avoid mosquito bites by using insect repellent. Effective repellents contain EPA-registered active ingredients such as DEET, Picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR3535. Residents should also dump and drain any standing water around the home. This prevents mosquitoes from laying their eggs in any container that can hold stagnant water.

Residents can take an active role in reducing the threat of WNV in their neighborhoods by taking the following steps:

- Eliminate standing water in clogged rain gutters, rain barrels,

discarded tires, buckets, watering troughs or anything that holds water for more than a week.

- Ensure that swimming pools, spas, and ponds are properly maintained.
- Change the water in pet dishes, birdbaths and other small containers weekly.
- Request FREE mosquito fish from your local vector control district for placement in ornamental ponds.
- Report mosquito activity near vacant or foreclosed homes to your vector control district.
- Report neglected (green) swimming pools in your neighborhood to your vector control district.

While West Nile virus is starting to pick up, another threat of the invasive kind is causing concern for vector control officials. The infestation of Aedes mosquitoes, featured in last December's special issue of the Report to the People) has taken hold of more than 20 communities throughout the District in L.A. County. Residents are beginning to report day-biting mosquito problems again this year in various communities. The time to search for and remove containers that hold water is NOW. Do not let these mosquitoes thrive in your yards.

For more information, contact GLACVCD at (562) 944-9656 or visit their website at www.GLACVCD.org.

Commission Profile: Public Safety and Community Services Commission

Public Safety is and always has been one of the most important aspects in the City of Commerce. On January 28, 1960, during the first Commerce City Council meeting, one of the first items passed was a resolution approving contracts with the county for sheriff's and fire department services.

The City's Public Safety Division focuses on safety awareness and crime prevention programs, such as the City's ComCat volunteers and the Neighborhood Watch Program. The City is also protected by the brave men and women from the East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station and the three fire stations that provide emergency services.

The City's Social Services Division staff is trained to listen to the needs of residents and refer them to local, state and other agencies best qualified to assist them. This includes no-cost programs for parent education, food distribution for low-income residents and delinquency prevention.

The Commerce Public Safety and Community Services Commission provides policy advice and recommendation to the City Council with respect to public safety, including law enforcement, fire protection and other related services, and social services programs for the City of Commerce.

The group consists of five residents appointed by each member of the Commerce City Council, with a chairperson and vice-chairperson chosen amongst the commissioners.

"Being a commissioner is truly an incredible experience," said Commissioner Sandra Jimenez. "It is an honor to represent my community and to work closely with city staff and city council to keep our streets safe and help our residents whenever we can."



Members of the Public Safety and Community Services Com- mission include:

Chairperson John Soria
Vice-Chairperson Ulysses Gonzalez
Commissioner Rodrigo Gallegos
Commissioner Johncito Peraza
Commissioner Sandra Jimenez

Matthew Rodriguez, the Director of Public Safety and Community Services, serves as the staff liaison for the group. The Commission does not have the authority to oversee day to day operations, create policy or order staff.

The Public Safety and Community Services Commission meet every second Thursday of each month at the Council Chambers at 6:30 p.m. Commission meetings are open to the public, with a public comment period available at the beginning.

For more information on City Commissions or how to apply to be a Commissioner, contact the City Clerk's Office at (323) 722-4805.

Commerce Library News

Pajama Storytime

The Commerce Public Libraries are hosting Pajama Storytimes during the week of November 7 – 10 at 6 p.m. Each storytime will be hosted by The Mouse from "If You Give a Mouse A Cookie." Children and parents are invited to wear their pajamas and bring their favorite stuffed animals to the story times to take a photo with the Mouse. Activities also include book and stuffed animal raffles and refreshments after the programs.

Holiday Program

The Annual Library Children's Holiday Program will be on Saturday, December 3 at 10 a.m. in the Council Chambers. The Commerce Casino is providing box lunches for the program and children will have a chance to visit and take a photo with Santa. The program is free, but space is limited. Tickets will be available (limit four per family) at 1 p.m. at all Commerce libraries on Monday, November 28.

Stranger Things at the Library

The Rosewood Library is holding a "Stranger Things" program based on the popular Netflix television show on Friday, December 15 from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for fun games, spooky atmosphere, and waffles!

Hoopla

Commerce Library patrons can now begin enjoying thousands of titles from major Hollywood studios, record companies and book publishers. Digital media items are available to borrow for instant streaming or temporary down-

loading to smartphones, tablets and computers. Visit www.cocpl.org for more information or visit www.hoopladigital.com.

Veteran Book Signing

Join us at the Rosewood Park Neighborhood Library on Thursday, November 10 at 6 p.m. for a reading and a book signing from John Adame, the author of "Where's the Music?" John Adame was a draftee served in the 9th Infantry in Vietnam. He grew up in the Simons Brickyard #3 which sat on property that is now part of the City of Commerce. In his book, John recounts his experience in Vietnam and gives an intimate view of war and its consequences to those who serve. Light refreshments will be served.

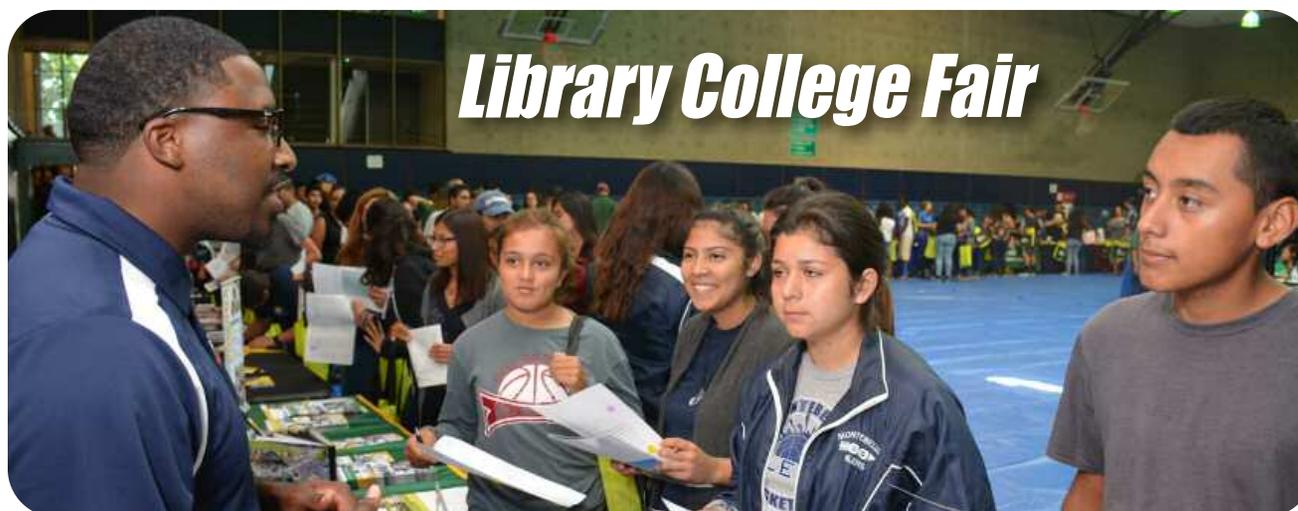
Ceramic Artwork by Local Artists!

Join us for a reception celebrating local ceramic artists and their work on Tuesday, November 15, 6 p.m. at the Rosewood Neighborhood Library. Come and admire the artwork, meet the artists, and enjoy refreshments at this special exhibition. For a limited time! The artwork will be on display from Monday, November 14 through the end of the reception on Tuesday, November 15 – so don't miss it!

Star Wars Reads Day

A Short Time From Now In a Library Not So Far Away... The Commerce Public Library is hosting a Star Wars Reads Day on Saturday, December 10 at 11am at the Rosewood Neighborhood Library. All children, teens, adults and families are invited to join us for an afternoon of costume contest, crafts, and more. Don't underestimate the power of reading!

For more information, call the Commerce Library at (323) 722-6660 or visit teens.cocpl.org.



Representatives from over 40 colleges, universities and other organizations spoke to an estimated 1,131 students.

More than a thousand people attended the Commerce to College Fair held September 17 at Veterans Park. The fair was sponsored by the Commerce Public Library and the Education Commission.

College bound students and their families were invited to meet with representatives from over 40 colleges and organizations and attend workshops on financial aid, scholarships, the application process and college success.

Considered one of the most preeminent college fairs in Southeast LA County, the Commerce to College Fair attracted students not only from Commerce but from cities such as Bell Gardens, Downey, Whittier, and Long Beach. Students from Montebello Unified School District (MUSD), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and Downey Unified School District (DUSD) attended the fair to learn more about higher education.

Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Dr. Francisco C. Rodriguez was the keynote speaker for the event, encouraging students to face the future with courage and imagination.

"My speech is mainly four words," Rodriguez told the excited audience.

"Those four words are 'No Fear' and 'No Borders.' Don't be afraid of dreaming big and don't be limited by anything in this world," the Chancellor said.

In 2017, in partnership with the city of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) is offering a free year of tuition to seniors graduating from an LAUSD public or charter high school. While the program is being spearheaded by the city of Los Angeles, Commerce families with a senior graduating in 2017 from an LAUSD high

school can qualify for the free year of college tuition.

Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-40), who represents Commerce and many of the surrounding southeast cities in the United States House of Representatives, also spoke to attendees during the event. Recognizing that paying for college can be challenging, Roybal-Allard and her staff shared information from her "Paying for College Student Resource Guide." The guide contains a directory of scholarships, internships, fellowships, and other educational opportunities for students and can be downloaded from the Congresswoman's website at <http://roybal-allard.house.gov>.

Roybal-Allard also spoke about the different national service institutions that offer free college education in exchange for serving in the military. For more information, visit the Congresswoman's website.

Assemblymember Cristina Garcia and State Senator Tony Mendoza were also in attendance, lending their help to constituents who are looking for resources to help pay for college.

In addition, the Commerce Public Library kicked off the 2017 City of Commerce scholarship donation drive during the closing ceremonies. Wendell Henley of Gatwick Group LLC presented a \$1,000 check to Library Director Beatriz Sarmiento for the Commerce Scholarship. The City would like to thank Henley and the Gatwick Group for their generous donation.

For more information on various college resources, visit the library website at www.cocpl.org or call the Commerce Public Library at (323) 722-6660.

Lead Acid Battery Recycling Act Becomes Law



Assemblymembers Cristina Garcia, Miguel Santiago, Jimmy Gomez, Senators Tony Mendoza and Ricardo Lara, and East Yards for Environmental Justice Executive Director Lopez held a joint press conference to celebrate the passage of AB 2153: the Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Act.

Last month, California Governor Jerry Brown signed a bill into law that would require consumers and manufacturers to pay a \$1 fee for every lead-acid battery sold in the state in order to fund the cleanup of lead contaminated communities, such as those surrounding the now-defunct Exide Technologies Recycling Plant.

Assembly Bill 2153, known as the Lead Acid Battery Recycling Act, will collect revenue from lead-acid battery sales into a fund that would pay for the cleanup of approximately 10,000 affected properties in Commerce and other nearby communities. The bill was authored by Assemblymember Cristina Garcia.

"Residents affected by Exide never thought this day would come after fighting for decades to get leaders to take their concerns seriously, but as someone who has grown up with this all their lives, I was not willing to wait any longer or continue to look the other way," said Garcia. "But today, AB 2153 writes a new chapter and will play a vital role in ensuring cleanup by bringing relief to our communities."

"The State Legislature, Senator Pro Tem De Leon, Speaker Rendon and Governor Brown are sending a clear message to residents in the affected communities that they do matter and we will no longer let them live on poisoned soil," said Garcia. "Today we begin to right a wrong and let these communities know there is only one California and we all matter irrespective of our skin color or income."

The Exide plant in Vernon closed its doors in 2015 after reports surfaced that communities around the plant are be-

lieved to be contaminated with lead, cadmium, and arsenic. Exposure to these particulates has been linked to cancer, birth defects and cognitive development issues in children, pregnant women and the elderly. Officials have estimated that the cleanup cost could be as much as \$500 million, which Exide is legally responsible for paying.

The new fee would raise an estimated \$70 million a year for the Lead-Acid Battery Cleanup Fund.

In the meantime, the City of Commerce is working with the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC) to provide the necessary resources and bring awareness and education to Commerce residents as to the dangers of lead contamination. Commerce residents, especially in the Bandini and Bristow Park neighborhoods, are encouraged to allow DTSC to conduct soil testing on their property, free of charge. Sampling agreement forms can be requested by calling (844) 225-3887 or can be found at DTSC's website at dtsc.ca.gov/exide.

Residents concerned that the soil on their property may be contaminated with lead can sign up for a free and confidential blood lead test by calling the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health at (844) 888-2290, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information about testing and clean up, please contact the Department of Toxic Substance Control at (844) 225-3887 or visit dtsc.ca.gov/exide.

Public Works and Development Services CIP Update

The City of Commerce is constantly changing and moving forward, all in the name of progress. In order to carry on this mission, the City implements and funds its Capital Improvement Program (CIP) in order to keep up with the necessary enhancement of our infrastructure for residents, businesses and visitors.

26th Street Metrolink Station Improvement

Construction began on Spring 2016 at the Commerce Metrolink Station located at 6433 26th Street. The scope of work for the project included ADA accessibility improvements, upgrade of the existing lighting to LED, and pavement rehabilitation. Project completion was accepted by City Council at the September 6 City Council Meeting.



The Commerce Metrolink Station serves the Orange County Line, connecting Commerce with LA Union Station, Norwalk, Anaheim, Fullerton, Irvine and Oceanside. The Station connects to Metro Buses, the Montebello Bus Lines, City's Orange Route and the City's 26th Street Shuttle.

Teen Center Paving and Basketball Courts

Paving has begun as part of the Annual Paving Project with a projected completion by approximately mid-November.

Indoor Recreation Facility Feasibility Study

The project would determine the possibility of creating a new indoor recreation center for the City. The project consultant, Sports Facilities Advisory (SFA), is coordinating with the project architect in performing a site analysis and review. The results from the first phase of the analysis are tentatively scheduled to be presented to the City Council in November 2016.

Citywide Radar Speed Survey

The draft report is completed. Adjustments and revisions are now pending for the draft report. The speed survey is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Traffic Commission this month.

Citywide Street Racing Study

Pilot study for street racing mitigation on citywide streets has been approved by the Traffic Commission and the City Council. Staff is in the process of procuring the services of Elie Farah, Inc. to begin the design and development of the pilot project.

Senior/Library Plaza Improvement Project

The expanded scope of work requested by the Council subcommittee is in the process of being finalized. Staff intends to present a report to Council by this month regarding the expanded scope with staff's recommendations.

Aquatic Center (Air Quality Issues)

Staff is implementing Council approved recommendations beginning with cooling the spectator area first.

ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan

Staff is incrementally implementing the Council approved ADA Plan with each year's budget set aside for improvements such as sidewalk displacements and replacements.

The Holiday Season is Alive and Well in Commerce

5k Run Turkey Trot

Saturday, November 19

5K Run begins at 8:10 a.m.

Residents free with current activity card

Non-Residents - \$20.00 pre-registration- \$25.00 same day registration

Check - in and late registration 6:30 - 7:45 a.m.

Kids Fun Run Saturday

November 19

Kids age 2-5 can participate in the Kids Fun Run at 8 a.m at Rosewood Park. The track for the Kids Fun Run is 350 yards. Registration is free the day of the Run and each participant will receive a T-shirt and a medal upon completion.

Community Tree Lighting

Monday, December 5

6:00 p.m.

Bring an unwrapped toy that will later be distributed to less fortunate children in our community. Immediately following the tree lighting, special guest Santa Claus will be available to meet the lucky boys and girls in attendance.

Tiny Pajama Party

Friday, December 9

6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Veterans Park

Fee: \$3.00 Ages: 2 - 5

Young Commerce residents can enjoy an evening of games, crafts and story time while wearing their P.J.'s. Adult supervision is required. Children older than 5 are not allowed in the event area. Sign-ups begin Tuesday, November 22 at each local park. Space is limited.

Snow Day Saturday, December 17, 2016

Veterans Memorial Park

Session 1 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Session 2 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Free family fun for all ages. Ages 4 and under must sled with an adult. Registration begins Tuesday, November 15 at your local park or at the Department of Parks and Recreation. All participants must have a signed waiver in order to participate. Sleds will be provided.

Children's Holiday Faire Monday, December 19

Veterans Park

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Ages: 5-12 yrs

The Toys Are Back In Town! Round up your pals and prepare to go to infinity & beyond! We're bringing this tale to life with food, games, slides, crafts, singing, bouncing, dancing, raffles and more! Wear your favorite Toy Story attire. Registration begins on Monday, November 14 at your local park.

Commerce Gallery Rewind

COLLEGE FAIR



Wendell Henley of Gatwick Group LLC. kicked off the 2017 City of Commerce Scholarship donation drive by donating \$1,000 to the Commerce Scholarship.

LONGTIME RESIDENT HONORED



Public Safety and Community Services Commissioner Rod Gallegos was honored by the Commerce City Council in recognition of his countless achievements and many years of dedicated service to the City.

FARMERS MARKET



City and School District Officials cut the ribbon at Rosewood Park School's brand new community garden during the Farmers Market cohosted by the City of Commerce and the Montebello Unified School District.

2016 STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

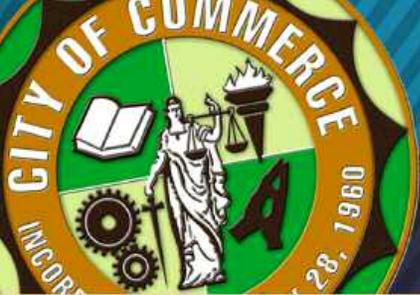


Commerce Industrial Council Director Eddie Tafoya discusses the great strides made by the City during a luncheon that featured the Mayor's State of the City Address.

FIESTAS PATRIAS

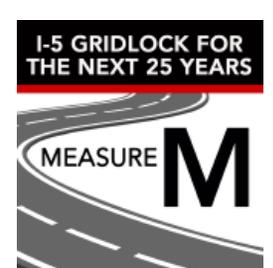


The Commerce Folklorico Dance Class entertained the community during the celebration of Mexican Independence on September 18.



COMMERCE CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																										
	<p>"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." John F. Kennedy</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Hecho a Mano Rosewood Library 11 a.m.</p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Clippers Night</p> <p>Senior Citizens Commission 12:30 p.m.</p> <p>Day of the Dead Bandini Library 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Hecho a Mano Rosewood Library 6 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Hecho a Mano Veterans Library 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Commission 6 p.m.</p> <p>Common App Workshop READs Center 6 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Video Games Rosewood Library 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5</p>																																										
<p>6</p> <p>Daylight Saving Time Ends Turn clocks back one hour</p>	<p>7</p> <p>English Book Club Bandini Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Pajama Storytime Rosewood Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Youth Advisory Commission 7 p.m.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>General Election</p> <p>Coffee Break with Veterans Rosewood Library 5 p.m.</p> <p>Pajama Storytime Bandini Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Measure AA Committee 6 p.m.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Task Force Committee 3 p.m.</p> <p>Computer Class in Spanish Bandini Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Pajama Storytime Veterans Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Traffic Commission 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Pajama Storytime Bristow Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Veterans Book Talk Rosewood Library 6 p.m.</p> <p>Community Services Commission 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Veterans Day</p> <p>City Hall & Libraries Closed</p> <p>Veterans Day Ceremony Veterans Park 10 a.m.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>In-N-Out Burger Reading Program Ends</p>																																										
<p>13</p> <p>"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself." Joseph Campbell</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Education Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>City Council/Successor Agency 6:30 p.m.</p>  <p>Library Embajadoras READs Center 6 p.m.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Video Games Bandini Library 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>UFW Citizenship Seminar Bristow Library 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Hecho a Mano Bandini Library 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Spanish Book Club Rosewood Library 6 p.m.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Video Games Rosewood Library 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Turkey Trot 5K Run Kids Fun Run Rosewood Park 8 a.m.</p> <p>International Games Day All Libraries 11 a.m.</p>																																										
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>I-710 Advisory Committee 6 p.m.</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>Thanksgiving Day City Hall & Libraries Closed</p>	<p>25</p> <p>City Hall & Libraries Closed</p>	<p>26</p> <p>"We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures." Thornton Wilder</p>																																										
<p>27</p> <p>"Thank you' is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding." Alice Walker</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Database Fair Rosewood Library 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Library Commission 6 p.m.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Database Fair Bandini Library 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Database Fair Veterans Library 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>December 2016</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> </tr> </table>		S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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Report to the People

City of Commerce 2535 Commerce Way Commerce, CA 90040 • (323) 722-4805 Fax (323) 888-6841

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CITY OF COMMERCE

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Mayor Ivan Altamirano
Mayor Pro Tem Tina Baca Del Rio
Councilmember Hugo A. Argumedo
Councilmember Lilia R. Leon
Councilmember Oralía Y. Rebollo

Important Phone Numbers

Aquatorium (323) 887-4404
Code Enforcement Ext. 2293
Animal Control (323) 887-4460
-Weekends/Evenings (562) 940-6898
SCE St. Lights Out* (800) 611-1911
*Provide Light Pole # for Report
E.L.A. Sheriff's Office (323) 264-4151
Graffiti Hotline (323) 887-4444
Vector Control (562) 944-9656
Report Train Idling/Noise call
BNSF (800) 832-5452
UPRR (888) 877-7267

EMERGENCY 911



**FREE BULKY ITEM PICK-UP
FOR COMMERCE RESIDENTS**

Call to schedule your
pick-up at least 1 day
before your regular
trash day.

**CalMet Services
(562) 259-1239**

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City of Commerce
Public Safety and Community Services Department

Registration for the
**Thanksgiving and Christmas
Holiday Cheer Program**
2016

Starting October 6

Commerce residents can register for the 2016 Holiday Cheer Program at
Public Safety and Community Services Department
2535 Commerce Way

Tuesdays **Thursdays**
9:00 to 11:00 a.m. **2:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

Eligibility is dependent upon Commerce residency and total household income.
Registrants must bring current City of Commerce resident cards for every member of the household and proof of income for all adults (18 and over) living in the household.

If you have any questions or require more information, please call the Social Services Division at 323/887-4460



LANDMARK **3**
TV CHANNEL
CABLE GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2016 FEATURED HIGHLIGHTS

**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"

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

Adopt a Pet

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.

Los Angeles County Art Zone

Mondays at 6 p.m., Tuesdays at 12 p.m., Wednesdays at 8 a.m., Thursdays at 6 p.m.
or after City Council Meeting, Fridays at 6 p.m., Saturdays at 11:30 a.m., Sundays
at 5:30 p.m.

Annual Twilight Dance Concert series "The Knack"

Mondays at 5 p.m., Tuesdays at 3 p.m., Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Thursdays at 3 p.m.,
Fridays at 3 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.