



# Community Connection

A Monthly Publication by the City of Huntington Beach

Public Information Office

(714) 536-5577

February 2008

## Huntington Beach Reads One Book

The Mayor and City Council are pleased to announce the opening event for the Huntington Beach “Reads One Book” program, a community-wide reading and discussion program. The selected book, *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin, received the City Council’s approval in June 2007 as the first annual Reads One Book program of the City’s Human Relations Task Force, in conjunction with the Library Board.

Huntington Beach Reads One Book invites the public to attend the opening event, 6 p.m., Thursday, January 24, 2008, at the Huntington Beach Art Center located at 538 Main Street, Huntington Beach. “An Evening of Music, Art, Food and Film from the Lands of Greg Mortenson” features Omar Akram, a Billboard Top 20 musician and son of a former United Nations diplomat for Afghanistan, authentic Afghan food, and a chance to talk with humanitarians who work in the Three Cups of Tea region. The event is free to the public.



*Three Cups of Tea* is a true story of American Greg Mortenson (mountain climber turned humanitarian) and his attempt to climb K2, the second highest mountain peak in the world. While failing to make it to the top of the mountain and almost dying, he forges a lasting relationship with the local villagers who nursed him back to health and promises to return their kindness by building their village a school. True to his promise, Greg built the school and hundreds of others in some of the remotest regions in Central Asia.

Mayor Debbie Cook calls the book, “an unforgettable experience; one that will call you into service, not only in our own community, but in the world as well.”

Huntington Beach Reads One Book encourages you to read the book! Get your copy of the book by visiting the Huntington Beach Central Library or by purchasing it at Barnes & Noble in Bella Terra. A percentage of purchases made during the week of January 27 – February 2, 2008, will be donated to the Task Force to support the Reads One Book program.

On Thursday, February 21, 7 p.m., the Reads One Book program hosts author and humanitarian Greg Mortenson at Huntington Beach High School for a free public discussion of his work and experiences.

For further information regarding upcoming book discussions, the opening event, and Greg Mortenson’s visit to Huntington Beach, go to the City’s website at [www.surfcity-hb.org](http://www.surfcity-hb.org), under “What’s New”, or email [HBReads@socal.rr.com](mailto:HBReads@socal.rr.com).



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## More Information on how to Support HB Reads One Book:

*Book fair and discussions to be held prior to Huntington Beach visit by author Greg Mortenson on February 21st*

**Huntington Beach Reads One Book** invites the community to read *Three Cups of Tea* and join in book discussions leading up to author Greg Mortenson's visit in February.

Seven area high schools, adult book clubs and readers of all ages are already reading *Three Cups of Tea*! Find out what they're talking about by picking up your own copy at the Barnes & Noble book fair supporting the program.

### Book Fair

To purchase your copy of the book and other great books, visit the Barnes & Noble **book fair** at Bella Terra (located at Beach Blvd. and Edinger Ave.) in Huntington Beach the week of **January 27 – February 2**. Mention your purchase supports **Huntington Beach Reads One Book** to the cashier, and a portion of your book purchase will be donated to the Huntington Beach Reads One Book program.

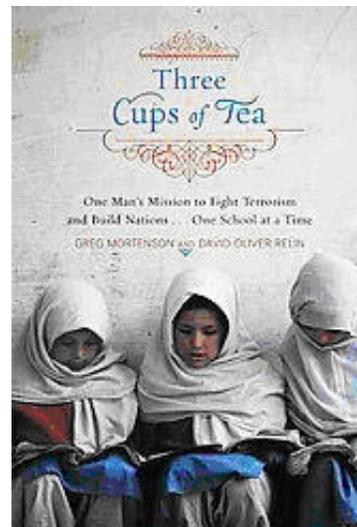
### Book Discussions

For those of you who are not part of a reading group but want to talk to others who have read the book, Barnes & Noble at Bella Terra will be holding a **book discussion** on **January 29, at 7:00 p.m.**, and another book discussion will be held on **February 12, at 7 p.m.**, in the Balboa Room of the Huntington Beach Library, Goldenwest Street and Talbert Avenue. Visit [www.surfcity-hb.org](http://www.surfcity-hb.org) to download the reading guide, as well as a bibliography for children and adults for further reading about Afghanistan and Pakistan.

### Author Visit to Huntington Beach

Greg Mortenson—whose personal story is told in *Three Cups of Tea*—visits Huntington Beach on Thursday, February 21, with a free, public speaking event at the Huntington Beach High School gymnasium. No reservations are required to hear the author discuss the stories in the book, his work in Central Asia, and to meet him for a book signing after his talk.

Huntington Beach High School is located at 1905 Main Street, near Yorktown Avenue, across from City Hall. Parking is available off Huntington Beach High School Way in back of the school or at City Hall in "public parking" spaces. There also is street parking in the area. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. and early arrival is recommended.





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## HB Police Announce Citizen's Police Academy Graduates

The Huntington Beach Police Department is honored to announce the recent graduation of Citizen's Police Academy Class 27. The Citizen's Police Academy provides residents, business owners, and other interested parties the opportunity to participate in a 12-week course, which meets one night per week. Participants receive instruction on the various divisions within HBPD provided in a mix of classroom instruction by officers of the department and demonstrations by the K-9 unit, SWAT team, and Aero Bureau. One evening's training module allows the student to experience realistic mock scenarios with simulated weapons. The class members are also allowed to participate in dispatch and patrol ride alongs.



### The Huntington Beach Police Department Citizen's Police Academy Class 28 is tentatively scheduled for February 26.

Interested parties should check the HBPD website at [www.HBPD.org](http://www.HBPD.org) for an online application or contact Officer Jerry Goodspeed at 536-2942.

## Learn More about Your Finances and Retirement – For Free

The American Library Association (ALA) has teamed up with the Investor Protection Trust (IPT) to create *Investor Education @ your library®*, a national public education and awareness campaign to help individuals make informed investment decisions.



With so many investment options to choose from, how do you know if the financial choices you make today are the right choices for the future? *Investor Education @ your library®* is designed to provide investors with accurate and reliable financial information they need to make smart decisions for themselves and their families. Developed and conducted by the Evelyn Brust Foundation, the non-commercial seminar includes a 90-minute plenary session focusing on the process of investing.

The seminar will be followed by optional, one-on-one counseling sessions for participants. This FREE seminar, hosted by the Huntington Beach Public Library, will be held at the Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, on Saturday, February 2, at 9 a.m., in the Talbert Room. Please call 960-8836 to pre-register for this important event. Visit [www.hbpl.com](http://www.hbpl.com) for more information.



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## Woman's Club Turns 100!

The Woman's Club of Huntington Beach is turning 100 years old this year. To celebrate this momentous achievement the organization is holding an Open House on Tuesday, February 12, 2008. Doors will open at 11 am, lunch will be served at 12 pm, and entertainment, including a performance by The Good Time Singers, will start at 1 pm. Everyone is welcome to come and share 100 years of memories with the Woman's Club.

One year older than the city itself, the HB Woman's Club was established in 1908 by the women of this growing community who expressed a need for civic improvements. In the early 1900's, the Huntington Beach Woman's Club was an essential way in which women in a young community were able to fully engage in the betterment of their community. This is still true today. Through the years, the HB Woman's Club has continued to focus on the community, self-improvement, and philanthropic work as well as other issues with the town.



This Open House will also pay special tribute to Shirlee Earley for her many years of unselfish dedication. Earley joined the HB Woman's Club in the 1970's and quickly became an example of a woman who was able to utilize her leadership skills to mold the character and focus of the organization in a new direction. She earned the nickname of "Fireball" due to her drive and ability to inspire an increase in benevolent activities, membership growth, and political activity that was unprecedented before her arrival.

**The Woman's Club is a vital organization for both the women of Huntington Beach as well as the surrounding community. Join in the festivities and share some memories with this great organization. The Open House will be held at the Woman's Club at 420 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Huntington Beach.**



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## Centered on the Center Opens at the HB Art Center

The Huntington Beach Art Center held its annual *Centered on the Center* Art Exhibition on Friday, January 18, welcoming crowds of patrons that began arriving well before the doors opened at 6 p.m., and continued arriving even after the three-hour event closed.

“We welcomed approximately 1,500 patrons throughout the evening, possibly even 2,000,” said HBAC Director Kate Hoffman. “*Centered on the Center* has proved to be one of our most attended events of the year because of the high number of participating artists, the scope of artwork, as well as the community’s infectious curiosity of the local contemporary art scene.”



*Centered on the Center* is the Art Center’s yearly open call, non-juried art exhibition open to all artists who work in a multitude of mediums. This year, 206 artists submitted a total of 365 pieces ranging from video and sculpture, to mixed media, paintings and photography.

The exhibition runs through February 17. Most artwork is for sale. For more information, call 714.374.1650, go to [http://www.surfcity-hb.org/Visitors/art\\_center/](http://www.surfcity-hb.org/Visitors/art_center/), or visit the Art Center at 538 Main Street, Wednesday through Saturday, 12 – 6 p.m. or Sunday 12 – 4 p.m. Admission is free to the public.





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## ***Taste of New Zealand a Success***

The end of the year marked a successful trial program for the Main Street Trial Closure Project. The City of Huntington Beach and its sister City, Waitakere NZ, organized the last weekend Main Street trial closure of 2007 which not only provided a cultural element to the downtown, but also financially benefited a few non-profit organizations.

Navigator Tours, Rendezvous Tours and Langham Hotel in conjunction with Waitakere City donated and conducted an opportunity drawing for a free trip for two to New Zealand which raised nearly \$1,500 to be shared between the Huntington Beach CPC Youth Shelter and Olive Crest Homes for abused children. Local resident Thomas Hobbs was the lucky winner of the drawing.

Additionally, Surf City Kiwanis spearheaded a 2-hour New Zealand wine tasting on Main Street and raised approximately \$800 to support causes such as the fire victims in southern California, Lake View Elementary School, bowling project with physically/mentally challenged children, Huntington Valley Boys & Girls Club, Children's Hospital of Orange County, children's orphanage in Mexico and Pediatric Trauma Prevention.



## **‘Just Be Safe’ Coloring Books Available, by Senator Tom Harman, 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District**

Senator Tom Harman’s district office located in Costa Mesa has just received a new batch of “Just Be Safe” coloring books which are intended to be used by kindergarten students throughout the 35<sup>th</sup> Senate District. These coloring books discuss the importance of not talking to strangers, looking both ways before crossing the street and other important safety recommendations.

Senator Harman knows how important it is to better protect our children and these coloring books are a great tool for parents to empower not only themselves, but their children as well. If you would like a coloring book for you or someone you know, please contact the district office at 714-957-4555 to order yours today.



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## Computer Volunteers Needed

The extremely successful computer program at the Michael E. Rodgers seniors center needs additional volunteers to assist in the classroom. These assistants would basically help students follow along with the teacher by providing individual direction as needed. Basic computers skills are required.



Teaching experience is not required. Examples of duties include helping students learn to click the mouse, find items on the screen and lead a student back to the proper window when he or she has gone astray. Through the Sands Community Services Guide, Michael E. Rodgers seniors center offers a range of computer classes on weekdays to seniors 55+ including, Beginning Course to the Computer, Windows XP, Microsoft Word, Keeping your Computer Up-To-Date, Google Galore, Photo Organizing and E-Bay. "Age is no barrier to learning the computer" emphasized one of the oldest computer students, a 99-year-old woman who wanted to learn how to email her grandchildren.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Chris Cole, Recreation Coordinator 714-374-1710, ccole@surfcity-hb.org.

## Valentine's Day Events from Michael E. Rodgers Senior Center

Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center is having a sweetheart of a month. On Friday, February 8 from 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Valentine attire is recommended at the Council on Aging's monthly ballroom dance featuring the Bob Warren Trio. It's only \$5.00 at the door and there are seats available at the singles table!

There will be two Valentine's Luncheons on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. Community Senior Serv is hosting an early seating lunch at 11:30 a.m. with a Valentine menu of stuffed salmon, rice pilaf, Normandy vegetables and strawberry cake. The popular musician Rick McClellan returns to the senior center to play all your favorite love songs. Pre-paid reservations are required for the Community SeniorServ lunch. \$2.50 for seniors 60+ \$3.00 for under 60. If you prefer a later lunch, the Council on Aging is hosting their Valentine's Lunch at 1:00 p.m. with entertainment and gift baskets. A prepaid \$5.00 reservation is required. You may prepay your reservations at the front counter of Michael E. Roger's Seniors' Center, 1706 Orange Avenue, Huntington Beach. Call 714-536-9387 for more information.



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## Income Tax Assistance from AARP

Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center will host A.A.R.P. **FREE** income tax assistance for seniors 55 and older on Tuesdays beginning February 5 through April 15, 2008. Appointments begin at 12:00 noon and the last appointments will be 3:00 p.m. The senior center is located at 1706 Orange Avenue in Huntington Beach. Appointments are required. For more information or to make an appointment, call the senior center at 714-536-9387.

Please bring the following with you when you come:

- Current year's tax forms and preparation booklet
- Copy of last year's income tax return(s)
- W-2 form from each employer
- Unemployment compensation statements
- SA-1099 form if paid SS benefits
- All 1099 forms
- All forms indicating federal income tax paid
- Dependent care provider information
- All receipts or canceled checks if itemizing deductions
- Social Security numbers for all dependents
- Driver's license or ID card.

Before your scheduled appointment, enjoy the Community SeniorServ lunch. A hot lunch is served each weekday at 11:30 a.m. A donation of \$2.50 for those 60+ is recommended for the lunch. \$3.50 is charged to those under 60. Each Tuesday the lunch menu has a Polynesian flair. In February the Tuesday lunches include pork loin, Hawaiian meatballs, baked fish, and baked ham with pineapple-raisin sauce.

## Film Forum Returns to Huntington Beach Central Library

After last year's successful Johnny Depp film series, the Film Forum will return to the Central Library starting this March. This time the program will be called "Cinema Francaise: Gypsies, Tramps and Thieves." On Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, we will start with *Chocolat* (of course we will start with another of Johnny Depp's finest!). The program will continue with *Charade* on April 12<sup>th</sup>; *French Kiss* on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, and finally, *Moulin Rouge* on May 31<sup>st</sup>. All the films are free and will be on Saturdays from 2pm to 5pm in the Library theatre. Please plan on joining us for this series!





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## Shipley Nature Center Presents *Save the Monarchs*

Shipley Nature Center will be hosting a **Family Celebration to Save the Monarchs** on Saturday **February 16<sup>th</sup>** from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This will be an educational morning with hands-on activities for families including puppets, crafts, planting and tours. Learn about the Monarch Life Cycle and what you can do to provide a home for them in your backyard. See the native plants that attract the Monarchs and provide food for the caterpillars. There will be books and items for sale that pertain to Monarchs.



Shipley Nature Center is located in Huntington Beach Central Park. Free parking is available at 17829 Goldenwest Street near Talbert. For more information, call 714-842-4772 or see [www.shipleynature.org](http://www.shipleynature.org).

On **February 23<sup>rd</sup>**, Shipley Nature Center will be hosting a workshop for residents on **California Friendly Gardening for the Water Wise Gardener** from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Huntington Beach Public Library. Guy Stivers, Landscape Architect, serves as the designer and consultant for Shipley Nature Center and will give the presentation.



This free workshop will focus on Landscape Design Basics, Plant Selection Criteria, Soils and Fertilizers, and Irrigation. We are told that we face a water shortage in California that will become severe in Huntington Beach in 2009. Come and learn about the use of plants that require little water and how to achieve the effect you wish in your garden.

For more information call Shipley Nature Center at 714-842-4772 or see [www.shipleynature.org](http://www.shipleynature.org).



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## Upcoming Events at Central Library

The Central Library offers a variety of programs and activities for children! In addition to participating in weekly storytimes and crafts, kids can visit the Children's Department for computer and Internet access. Visit our website at [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org) for a listing of our regularly scheduled storytimes.

### Special Upcoming Events for February 2008:

#### **Ballet Etudes performs "Peter Pan"**

Wednesday, February 6, 2008 – 4 & 7 PM

Thursday, February 7, 2008 – 4 & 7 PM

Tickets \$3 Children and \$5 Adults

Library Theater

The Huntington Beach Public Library again welcomes the popular Ballet Etudes company to the Library Theater for a child-friendly production of Peter Pan. In this forty-five minute ballet, designed with young children in mind, Ballet Etudes adds a new dimension to this favorite tale. Children will feel comfortable watching a familiar story unfold while being gently exposed to the art of ballet. Please join us in Neverland and experience the adventure!

Advanced ticket purchase is **highly** recommended; call ahead for availability at 714 375-5107.



#### **Family Evening Pajama Storytime**

Thursday, February 14, 2008 -- 7:00 PM

FREE

Tabby Storytime Theater

Come celebrate Valentine's Day and Leap Year with stories, songs, puppets and more! Wear your pajamas and bring your teddy bear. Refreshments provided by the National Charity League.

**For more information call (714) 375-5107.**



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## Free! Friday at the Movies

No lines, no tickets to purchase! Enjoy a free afternoon at the movies at Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center, 1706 Orange Avenue on Fridays at 12:30 p.m. Complimentary popcorn and drinks make this a must see event. Movies are selected based on suggestions from the audience.

### THE NANNIE DIARIES

**FEBRUARY 1**

Some people believe "It takes a village to raise a child." But in upper east-side Manhattan, it takes just one person, the nanny. College-educated Annie Braddock (Scarlett Johansson) gets a crash course in child care when she plays nanny to the 4-year-old son of grossly dysfunctional parents (Laura Linney and Paul Giamatti). Rated PG-13 104 minutes



### ELIZABETH THE GOLDEN AGE

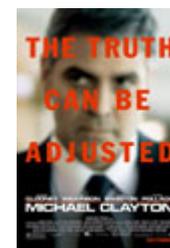
**FEBRUARY 15**

Reprising the roles they originated in seven-time Academy Award®-nominated Elizabeth, Cate Blanchett and Geoffrey Rush return for a gripping historical thriller laced with treachery and romance. In this Shekhar Kapur directed sequel, Cate Blanchett has once again received an Oscar nomination for her portrayal of the Virgin Queen. Focusing on their tempestuous relationship, the film also stars Clive Owen as Sir Walter Raleigh, the adventurer and newfound temptation for Elizabeth. Rated PG-13 113 minutes.

### MICHAEL CLAYTON

**FEBRUARY 22**

Screenwriter Tony Gilroy (writer/co-writer of the Bourne movie trilogy) makes his directorial debut in this film nominated for seven Academy Awards® including Best Picture, Best Actor, George Clooney, Best Supporting Actor, Tom Wilkinson, Best Supporting Actress, Tilda Swinton, and Best Director. Burned-out corporate attorney Michael Clayton is the go-to guy when his powerful New York firm wants a mess swept under the rug. However, when a guilt-ridden colleague threatens the settlement of a multimillion-dollar case, Clayton is backed into a career corner that offers little room to fight free and he must make some life or death decisions. Fast. Rated R for language 120 minutes



### THE MARTIAN CHILD

**FEBRUARY 29**

"It doesn't matter where you come from as long as you discover where you belong." In this film John Cusack stars as recently widowed science-fiction writer David Gordon who adopts a misfit 6-year-old boy (Bobby Coleman). Although his son claims to be from Mars, the new dad doesn't pay much attention to the would-be extra-terrestrial's story until an odd series of events occurs and he begins to believe his son may be telling the truth. Rated PG 108 minutes

Come early and enjoy the Community SeniorServ lunch. Lunch is served each weekday at 11:30 a.m. A donation of \$2.50 for those 60+ is recommended for the lunch. \$3.50 is charged to those under 60.



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## Karin Reed is honored with January Mayor's Award



Karin Reed came to the City of Huntington Beach as a Personnel Assistant in March 2000. She was promoted to Administrative Assistant in July 2002. Karin serves as the go-to person in Human Resources. She is the person who ensures that staff is informed and knowledgeable regarding City and Department activities.

Karin graciously volunteers her time to serve on a variety of City-oriented activities. She coordinates the Annual Employee Service Awards ceremony, she is a member of the Community Emergency Response Team, and she was part of the organizing team for the 2007 Huntington Beach Employee Excellence Workshops.

Karin always considers the needs of the team ahead of her own and is the person who ensures that everyone's birthday and every HR team special occasion is remembered and celebrated. Karin is an asset to the City of Huntington Beach and her loyalty and service to the City and the community is better because of Karin's work and dedication. She is shown with her husband Jeff, on her right, fellow Human Resources Staff members, Deputy City Administrator Bob Hall and Mayor Pro Tem Keith Bohr, receiving her award on January 22<sup>nd</sup>.



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## February Calendar of Events

For a complete listing of events in Huntington Beach, visit the Huntington Beach Conference and Visitor's Bureau Calendar at [www.surfcityevents.com](http://www.surfcityevents.com)

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### February Television Schedule for Channel Three

Community Bulletin Board	<b>Daily - Be sure to check out the new look to the Channel 3 Bulletin Board!</b>
City Council Meetings	<b>February 4 @ 6:00 pm</b> Rebroadcast Feb. 5 @ 10 am & Feb. 6 @ 7 pm <b>February 19 @ 6:00 pm</b> Rebroadcast Feb. 20 @ 10 am
Planning Commission Meeting	<b>February 12 @ 7 pm</b> Rebroadcast Feb. 14 @ 7 pm <b>February 26 @ 7 pm</b> Rebroadcast Feb. 28 @ 7 pm

Be sure to check out Surf City Highlights on Channel 3 and the City's website! For a complete program schedule – go to the City's website [www.surfcity-hb.org](http://www.surfcity-hb.org). Click on Government then Public Information Office. You can download or view the schedule.