

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

April 12, 2010

CITY TREASURER

Customer Service Tip of the Week – The Blame Game

If a customer comes to you with a complaint, don't blame, defend, or explain. Just use these 3 simple steps:

1. Apologize
2. Assure the customer that their feedback will get to the right person
3. Work towards a solution to make it right again

Anything else just wastes time and makes it more likely that customer will stop offering feedback. Or they'll stop being a customer. Either way, the company and the customer lose.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Office Yoga Workshop

Do you work long hours sitting at a desk? Now learn what you can do for yourself--caring for your body without leaving your office. This workshop is held at the City Gym and Pool on April 17 from 10:00am to noon. For more information, contact the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884 or register at www.hbsands.org today!

Earth Day Beach Clean Up

The Earth Day Beach Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 24th from 9:00am to Noon. Volunteers will be meeting on the North side of the Huntington Beach Pier. Cleaning supplies and free parking will be provided. For more information, please call 714-536-5614.

Youth In Government Day

Thursday, April 15, 2010, the Huntington Beach Youth Board will host its 26th Annual Youth In Government Day. One hundred students from all four high schools in Huntington Beach will come to City Hall to participate in learning more about their city government by being assigned to various departments and learn the day-to-day functions of city employees. We are privileged this year to have the participation of the Orange County Sanitation District and the Orange County Registrar of Voters. Voting booths will be set up to allow for students to vote on two **mock** issues facing Huntington Beach residents: closure of Main Street; and Annexation of Sunset Beach. Students, staff, and City Council will then meet for a mock City Council meeting discussing the two subjects voted upon by the students. A luncheon will follow the mock Council meeting with a guest speaker from the 3/1 Marines.

Pee Wee Soccer

The City of Huntington Beach youth sports programs will be holding pee wee and junior soccer starting this Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at the Huntington Central Park Sports Complex. Boys and girls between the ages of three and eight will be introduced to the basics of soccer through game-based drills, hands-on instruction, and fun-based scrimmages during this six-week program. League participants develop not only soccer skills, but social skills as

well and learn the importance of sportsmanship, teamwork, and the enjoyment of playing sports.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Travel & Trips - On Friday April 16 at 2:30 p.m. at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center, 1706 Orange Avenue, the Huntington Beach Council on Aging (HBCOA) will present a slide show of the upcoming Travel & Trips planned for 2010. This is a preview of the many great trips planned like Day at the Santa Anita Races in April or Doheny Mansion Tour in May.

More information on these trips is available at www.hbcoa.org or by calling the front desk (714-536-9387) of the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center on Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. or Thursdays and Fridays from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. The slide show will follow *Friday Afternoon at the Movies*. At 12:30, the HBCOA will show "The Blind Side" starring 2010 Best Actress Academy Award winner Sandra Bullock. The movie is free and popcorn is included.

Youth Character Awards

At 10:00 a.m. on May 15, 2010, the Children's Needs Task Force (CNTF) will be hosting their annual Youth Character Awards Recognition program at Bella Terra Huntington Beach. In 2000, the CNTF implemented the Youth Character Awards program inviting public and private schools and youth service organizations in the community to nominate young people who exhibit strength of character. The American Youth Character Awards are designed to honor young people whose lives and achievements demonstrate an enduring commitment to qualities associated with good character. Students are not recognized for isolated acts of heroism or generosity; nor is it given for good grades, leadership posts, excellence in athletics or arts, or any combination thereof. The young people who are honored are role models for their generation and will be memorialized on the Bella Terra Youth Character "Wall of Fame".

Register Now For Summer Camps

Residents and visitors can make their summer plans now! Online registration started April 12 for Community Services Summer Camps! A wide array of programs will be available this summer with week-long camps offering everything from Surfing to Jr. Astronauts. With over 200 different camps available, it would be hard not to find something exciting to involve your children in this summer. Online registration is available at www.HBsands.org. Click on "register" and you can find more detailed information on each camp. Check it out and join us this summer for great Surf City experiences!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Surf City Nights: Enjoy the downtown festivities on Main Street, Tuesdays from 3 to 7pm. Stroll along Main Street, enjoying live entertainment while shopping for fresh vegetables and fruit at the farmers market. Make a night of it with friends and family, shop, and dine at a local restaurant.

FINANCE

Budget Award

The City of Huntington Beach received the "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the Fiscal Year 2009/10. While the Finance Department is the lead on the city's budget process, it is through the hard work of dedicated employees working on the budget process throughout the city departments that makes the achievement of the award possible.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Library Celebrates National Library Week

National Library Week 2010 will be observed April 11-17 with the theme, "Communities thrive @ your library@."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

The Huntington Beach Public Library contributes to the community by offering a wide range of vital services: access the Internet; work with a computer coach to expand and strengthen computer skills; get help with a research paper; learn how to read. And this is just to name a few of the services found here at the Library.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services just released a report in March, *Opportunity for All* (http://www.ims.gov/pdf/OpportunityForAll_2pg.pdf), that shows that about 77 million people in the United States use the Library to access the Internet. About 151 million people have a library card, almost as many as have a credit card in their wallet. Every day, across the country over 300,000 get job assistance at their libraries. Last year, more people went to the library (1.4 billion visits) than attended the movies (1.3 billion) or attended a sporting event (218 million). Libraries are amazing places of discovery, connection and community.

During these tough economic times, Libraries are more essential than ever – our community truly does THRIVE @ the Huntington Beach Public Library.

The Library Plays Host to Six Cold-blooded Creatures!

The Children's Department's most recent show, Wildlife Company's "Cold Blooded Reptiles", was held Wednesday, April 7, at 11:00 am and 1:00 pm. Over 260 attendees crowded into the Tabby Theater to meet some very interesting new friends. The host, Bree, showed participants six animals, including a tortoise, pixie frog, an alligator, boa constrictor, iguana and a red tegu – and talked about their habitats and adaptations to the world around them, such as scales and claws. Bree also showed the children and their parents the boa's most recent skin shed (watch out, boas get bigger after each skin shed!) and shared fascinating

tidbits about each animal guest. On the way out, the children were able to pet the boa -- if they wanted to!

Videoconferencing at the Library.

The conversion of the videoconferencing connections from ISDN to IP has provided the Library with an "every time" reliable connection to another videoconference ready site. Last month the library was able to complete five videoconferences for potential jobs candidates, seamlessly. Three more videoconferences have been scheduled since the beginning of April. This technology allows real-time interviews, business meetings, depositions, training sessions, product introductions and even family visits to take place across the country and across the globe. For more information about this technology, please contact Renee Brown at the Library (714) 375-8425.

Huntington Beach Symphony Orchestra.

The HBSO's performance of "Music of the Dance," directed by Grant Sevdayan, will be held in the Library Theater on Sunday, April 25 at 3:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased by calling (714) 274-5524 or visiting www.hbsymphony.org. Presale price is \$25. Tickets are \$30 at the door. Last year's performance of "Carmina Burana" was a great success. Don't miss the opportunity to hear Faust - Ballet Music, Waltz from the Nutcracker, Dvorak-Slavonic Dance and Beethoven's 9th (Ode to Joy).

Huntington Beach Art League at the Central Library.

A visit to the Central Library Windows Gallery to view the April Exhibit offers a variety of media which is very enjoyable. The work continues to provide bold color, mixed media and a surprise in each rendering as Francesca Brayton occupies the Corner Gallery. Her subjects are varied and include Crystal Cove Cottages, beach cityscapes, dogs, cats and even a couple of pigs whimsically rendered. Both galleries are well worth the time spent to enjoy the work of the Huntington Beach Art League's members.

BB Jazz features Mike Phillips.

Saxophonist Mike Phillips will perform and present his new CD on Saturday, April 24 in the Central Library Theater, performing two shows: 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Mike has toured with Prince for the past few years and on rare occasions makes a Southern California appearance. For more information and tickets, visit www.bbjazz.com or call (714) 377-7574.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

April 13, 2010 Planning Commission Highlights

The Planning Commission will review the following applications at the Tuesday, April 13, 2010 meeting.

- Black Bull Chop House. The Commission will hold the six-month review of Conditional Use Permit (CUP) No. 06-020 and Entitlement Plan Amendment (EPA) No. 06-008 for compliance with the Huntington Beach Noise Ordinance. The project is located at 300 Pacific Coast Highway, # 112 (south side of Walnut Avenue, between Main St. and Third St. in the Pierside Pavilion)

- Wells Fargo ATM appeal. The Commission will consider the applicant's appeal of the Design Review Board's denial of the design, colors and materials of a new automated teller machine (ATM) located at 101 Main Street, at the building exterior between Jamba Juice and Jack's Girls. The Design Review Board denied the request at their November 12, 2009, meeting
The Planning Commission meeting is Tuesday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council chambers. A copy of the agenda and staff reports is available at http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/PJB/pcl/pcagenda041310_000.cfm.

Harmony Cove Mitigated Negative Declaration Review Period Opens

The Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Harmony Cove project will be available for public review and comment for thirty (30) days commencing Thursday, April 15, 2010, and ending Friday, May 14, 2010. Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 08-004 analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the request by Michael C. Adams Associates to amend the City's General Plan land use designation, Zoning map, and Local Coastal Program to amend the land use and zoning designations on the project site to allow for residential development and to permit the construction of 15 condominium units and a 25-foot slip marina. The project site is located at 3901 Warner Avenue (north side of Warner Avenue, west of Weatherly Lane). The site is 2.28 acres, 1.02 acre of which is terra firma and 1.26 acres which is submerged (Huntington Harbour).

A copy of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration is on file with the Planning and Building Department, City of Huntington Beach City Hall, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California. A copy of Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 08-004 is also available for review at the Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, California, the City Clerk's Office, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, California, and on the internet at <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.org/government/departments/planning/Environmentalreports.cfm>.

Subsequent to the comment period, a public hearing will be scheduled before the City of Huntington Beach Planning Commission. The public hearing is tentatively scheduled for June 2010. Any person wishing to comment on the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration may do so in writing within thirty (30) days of this notice by providing written comments to Tess Nguyen, Associate Planner, City of Huntington Beach, Planning Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan effective Friday, April 16

Adopted by the City Council on March 1, 2010, the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan (SP-14) goes into effect on Friday, April 16. For more information, contact Rosemary Medel, Associate Planner, at (714) 536-5271.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Helicopter "HB1" Locates Person in Need of Help

On April 9, 2010, at about 6:43 p.m., the Huntington Beach 911 Communication Center received calls of a man in the water in Huntington Harbor yelling for help. The caller said the person yelling for help was in the water across the channel. The caller could hear the male, but could not see his location.

The police helicopter, HB1 arrived on scene first and was able to locate the male who was partially under a dock and blocked by a boat. The officers in HB1 directed the ground officers to the correct location to assist the male. The officers were able to rescue the man from water and get him back onto the dock.

The male had slipped from the dock and into the water. The combination of the current and the boat against the dock kept him pinned in the water. He was treated by the Huntington Beach Fire Department at the scene.

Victim Stabbed During a Robbery

On April 11, 2010, at about 7:30 a.m., a resident was robbed and stabbed multiple times by three suspects in front of his house. The victim was leaving his house when he was confronted by two suspects wearing ski masks. The suspects demanded his jewelry case and stabbed and slashed him multiple times to take it from him. The suspects then fled in a newer silver four door sedan driven by a third suspect. The victim was treated by the Huntington Beach Fire Department at the scene then transported to UCI Medical Center. His wounds were severe, but not life threatening. Huntington Beach detectives are following up on this investigation.

PUBLIC WORKS

Vermiculture and Composting Program

On Saturday, April 10, the first of three vermiculture lectures was presented at the Shipley Nature Center. The program is sponsored by the City of Huntington Beach and Rainbow Disposal's Refuse Education Program and the Friends of the Shipley Nature Center. Twenty-nine attendees were introduced to composting and earthworm cultivation. Vouchers good for \$50 off the purchase of either a compost bin or vermiculture kit if purchased from the city's vendor are issued to HB residents only, one per household. Thirteen residents used their voucher to get started right away on reducing waste at home. The seminar will be repeated on May 22 and June 12, at 9 am at the Shipley Nature Center, 17581 Goldenwest St., Huntington Beach. Cost is \$10 per participant. Attendance is limited to the first 50 registered. Fees are payable online at www.shipleynature.org.