

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**April 30, 2012**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **Huntington Beach Senior Services**

A Huntington Beach Senior Services staff member was invited to apply for, and received, a \$500.00 scholarship for the upcoming Whole Person Wellness workshop at California State University, Fullerton May 22 through May 24. The purpose of this workshop is to advance whole-person wellness knowledge and understanding among professionals in the field of aging and shift perceptions and approaches away from an illness model towards one of whole-person wellness. Staff looks forward to the knowledge gained from this workshop. Recent studies on longevity conducted at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York show that genetics has only a 30% influence on length of life; the remaining 70% depends on lifestyle. Knowing that additional years are possible, Huntington Beach Senior Services strives to improve the quality of those years through a broad spectrum of programming and direct services.

### **Recreation Programs – Parks Make Life Better!**

On Saturday April 28, Community Services Department staff worked with members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) "Helping Hands Day of Service." City staff collaborated with the LDS Church members on several projects, including work at Adventure Playground, the Huntington Beach Art Center, the City Gym and Pool, Murdy Community Center, Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, Oak View Center, Norma Gibbs Park, Central Park, and the Newland House Museum. At the Newland House alone, 129 volunteers worked 387 hours to paint yards of wrought iron fence surrounding the Newland House.

The Community Services Department provides opportunities for collaborative partnerships that facilitate social connections, human development, and lifelong learning! Congratulations to the LDS Church on their very successful "Helping Hands Day of Service" in Huntington Beach.

On May 19, the Children's Needs Task Force will be hosting the annual Youth Character Awards at Bella Terra Amphitheater Huntington Beach. 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. The young people who are honored are role models for their generation. Each year several outstanding youth are selected from the field of nominees to be honored on the Youth Character "Wall of Fame." The Children's Needs Task Force Chairperson will present the recognition certificates and honoree medals beginning at 10:00 A.M. This event is open to the public.

### **Huntington Beach Art Center**

The Huntington Beach Art Center, in collaboration with CSULB Recreation and Leisure Studies Department, has concluded a semester-long intern program with college senior, Wynndi Dahlin. Wynndi worked diligently with Art Center staff to develop and implement a new Volunteer Program, and as a result of her outstanding achievements, she received the

David Grey Award from the CSULB Recreation Society. David Gray was a nationally known advocate for recreation programs, was the founder of CSULB's Recreation and Leisure Studies Department, and was named Professor of the Year by the school's Associated Students. Today, the David E. Gray Award is given to high-achieving Recreation and Leisure Studies students. The Art Center is looking forward to continued partnerships with CSULB students.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Java Bakery Café at Five Points Plaza – now open!**

Java Bakery Café, under new ownership, celebrated its official Grand Opening on April 27 and 28, treating Surf City to delicious offerings of fresh bakery items and breakfast sandwiches, as well as a full lunch menu of made-to-order salads, cold sandwiches and Panini, as well as an extensive list of hot and iced beverages. You may even notice a familiar face there, as the proprietor is none other than Melynda Tan, the same operator of City Café, located on the lower level of Huntington Beach City Hall. Melynda has been providing service with a smile at City Café for five years and the City is pleased that she, too, knows that Huntington Beach is indeed a great place to do business. Visit Java Bakery Café at Five Points Plaza, located at 18685 Main Street, or online at [www.javabakerycafe.com](http://www.javabakerycafe.com).

## **FIRE**

### **Smoking and Home Fire Safety**

The place where we feel safest – at home – is where most smoking-materials structure fires, deaths, and injuries occur. Smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths. Smoking material fires are preventable.

#### **Smoking Safety**

- If you smoke, use only fire-safe cigarettes.
- If you smoke, smoke outside. Most deaths result from fires that started in living rooms, family rooms and dens or in bedrooms.
- Keep cigarettes, lighters, matches, and other smoking materials up high out of the reach of children, in a locked cabinet.

#### **Put it Out!**

- Use a deep, sturdy ashtray. Place it away from anything that can burn.
- Do not discard cigarettes in vegetation such as mulch, potted plants or landscaping, peat moss, dried grasses, leaves or other things that could ignite easily.
- Before you throw away cigarette butts and ashes, make sure they are out, and dousing in water or sand is the best way to do that.

## Smoking and Medical Oxygen

Never smoke and never allow anyone to smoke where medical oxygen is used. Medical oxygen can cause Materials to ignite more easily and make fires burn at a faster rate than normal. It can make an existing fire burn faster and hotter.

### Be Alert

- To prevent a deadly cigarette fire, you must be alert. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs that make you drowsy or have consumed alcohol.
- Never smoke in bed.

### FACTS

- The risk of dying in a home structure fire caused by smoking materials rises with age.
- One out of four fatal victims of smoking-material fires is not the smoker whose cigarette started the fire.

Please visit [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education) for more information.

## INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know that by having .gov in our website top-level domain name, site visitors can be assured that our website is a legitimate official government website? This domain name required a letter of authorization from the Mayor and was submitted to the US General Services Administration (GSA) for approval: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov>.

## LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Literacy Tutors Graduate

Twelve volunteers graduated from Adult Literacy Service's intensive tutor training program on Monday, April 30 joining a dedicated core of more than 120 tutors who already volunteer at Central Library. These amazing volunteers from the community meet one-to-one with adults each week, helping them acquire the reading, writing, and English-speaking skills needed to accomplish personal goals, function better on the job, with their families and in the community. Thank you, tutors!!

The ability to read and write has never been more important than it is in this complex, technologically advanced society. For more information on becoming a volunteer tutor, applicants of at least 21 years of age can call (714) 375-5102 or visit the Facebook page,

**Literacy Volunteers HBPL**, or visit:

[http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Library/literacy\\_programs/](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Library/literacy_programs/).

### Spring Art Show @ the Library

The Spring Open Art Show runs through May 30 at the Huntington Beach Central Library in the Windows Gallery. Prizes are awarded by the Huntington Beach Art League in six

categories, including oil/acrylics, watercolor, mixed media, drawings/pastels, photography, and sculpture. Some of the artwork may be for sale. The Library is at 7111 Talbert Avenue; the gallery is free and open during regular Library hours. Info: [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org) or [www.hbartleague.com](http://www.hbartleague.com).

### **Teens can Volunteer at the Library**

Interested in becoming a summer library volunteer? Beginning May 1, young people between 12 and 17 can apply online at [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org) for an opportunity to assist adults, teens and children in registering for the library's summer reading programs. They can also volunteer to assist library storytellers, read aloud to children, help out at children's programs and shelve library books. Application deadline is June 1.

### **Library Aquarium Fundraising going well!**

The Library launched a fundraising campaign this past year to **SAVE OUR AQUARIUM**. The campaign to raise money for this little piece of the Ocean in the Library has drawn attention from the community and recent donations include a large donation from the *Anglers of Huntington Harbour*. The donation from the Anglers, a local fisherman's club, will cover more than a month of service and maintenance on the Aquarium.

The Library continues to seek donations large and small – donors of \$1.00 to post their names in the donor area and larger donations (\$25 - \$100) are recognized by adding a ceramic fish to the donor wall behind the aquarium. The local Aquarium service that maintains the tank has lowered maintenance costs, and as long as the Aquarium's plumbing continues to work, funds are available to support the Aquarium and the fish. Thanks to the support of library patrons and fish fans the aquarium is sustainable for now. Although donations remain critical to meet ongoing costs, the fundraising success is a real tribute to a caring community.

### **Public Servants @ the Library**

May 6-12 is Public Servant Recognition Week - a time to pay tribute to public servants in all levels of government. As public servants, the Huntington Beach Library staff strives to provide a positive experience for every visitor to the Library. By helping a patron find the book and resources they need, sharing the oral tradition of storytelling with young children, providing assistance in using the Internet, and giving the gift of literacy to those who struggle to read, Huntington Beach Library staff serves the public in many ways. For more information on the Library's books and programs visit [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org) or call (714) 842-4481.

## **PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

### **Zoning Administrator**

On May 2, 2012, at 1:30PM in Room B-8, the Zoning Administrator will conduct a public hearing on the following items:

#### **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 12-04 (NISSAN TEMPORARY VEHICLE STORAGE)**

to review a request to permit a temporary parking lot for the storage of new cars on a 1.78-acre unimproved site secured with a 6 ft. high perimeter chain-link fence for a period of four-months in association with the remodel of the Nissan dealership (19070 Holly Street,

92648 - bounded by Holly Street, Main Street, and Garfield Avenue). Contact Tess Nguyen, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information;

**COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 12-02 (CITYWIDE RECEPTACLES)** to review a request to permit the installation of approximately 50 receptacle housing bins for trash and recyclables located within City-owned property including beach parking lots, the pier and Pier Plaza, and along the blufftop and bike paths. The 4 ft. high and 8 sq. ft. receptacles will feature two 8 sq. ft. advertising panels (front and back) displaying sponsored messages promoting recycling and environmental stewardship. The CDP is part of a Citywide project for installing approximately 150 receptacles at locations which include Central Park, Sports Complex, select parks and community centers, bus stops, and sidewalks in the downtown area (Citywide). Contact Jill Arabe, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information. A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Costco Grand Opening Wednesday!**

Costco is scheduled for its Grand Opening at Bella Terra on Wednesday, May 2 at 8:00 AM. We anticipate a large amount of traffic entering the site from the 405 freeway, Center Avenue and Edinger Avenue. Residents should anticipate heavy traffic, display patience and take extra caution driving in the area from 8:00AM to 12:00PM. The CHP has been notified of possible congestion on the 405 at Beach Blvd.

### **National Take Back Initiative**

On April 28, the Huntington Beach Police Department participated in the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration's fourth National Take Back Initiative. The purpose of the event was to collect accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, and to safely dispose of those medications. The final number for our collection site was 692 pounds. That includes 16 boxes collected over the past six months from the lobby bin, and 9 new boxes from today.

Americans that participated in the DEA's third National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on October 29, 2011, turned in more than 377,086 pounds (188.5 tons) of unwanted or expired medications for safe and proper disposal at the 5,327 take-back sites that were available in all 50 states and U.S. territories. When the results of the three prior Take-Back Days are combined, the DEA, and its state, local, and tribal law-enforcement and community partners have removed 995,185 pounds (498.5 tons) of medication from circulation in the past 13 months.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Landscape Irrigation Tips**

Spring is good time to perform an inspection of your home irrigation system. Checking for leaks and replacing sprinkler heads on a regular basis is essential to efficient landscape water use.

For information on the City's water conservation program and lots of tips, suggestions and links visit the City's main website page at <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov> and click on the

water conservation button on the left. Also, check out the Huntington Beach Water Facebook page.

