

## City Manager's Report

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

**AUGUST 7, 2020** 

## City Launches the OneHB Business Support Campaign to Deliver \$5,000 Micro-Grants to Qualified Small Businesses



On August 6, the City of Huntington Beach announced the launch of its *OneHB Business Support Campaign*, which will deliver \$5,000 micro-grants to qualified small businesses that have been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. These one-time grants will provide financial relief to help Huntington Beach small businesses keep their doors open. All grants will be funded through direct donations and the sale of OneHB apparel and yard signs, available on our new website, www.OneHB.org.

#### Robert Mayer, Sr. Donates \$100,000

To kickstart the program, Robert Mayer, Sr. donated \$100,000 towards the *OneHB Business Support Campaign*. Mr. Mayer developed the landmark Waterfront Hilton and the Hyatt Regency Huntington Resort and Spa, which helped establish Huntington Beach as a major tourism destination. Mr. Mayer's donation will translate into 20 micro-grants of \$5,000 each for eligible small businesses located in the Resort

District. Grant funds may be used for payroll, rent/lease payments, utilities, inventory, and other approved operational expenses.

#### **Apply Starting August 10**

To apply for this **first round of 20 grants**, applicants must own a small business in the Resort District and meet all eligibility requirements that are described in <a href="www.OneHB.org">www.OneHB.org</a>. Applications will be available online starting August 10, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., and all completed applications must be submitted by no later than August 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The City plans to evaluate and award all 20 grants (via lottery) before the end of August 2020, and an informational webinar will be available on August 12 at 2:00 p.m. Visit <a href="www.OneHB.org">www.OneHB.org</a> for details.

As new contributions and donations are received into the OneHB fund, the City will reopen the application process and invite all qualified small businesses citywide to apply. These updates will be announced via the City's media outlets and www.OneHB.org.

#### **OneHB Partnerships**

This campaign builds upon the City's efforts to support its entrepreneurs and was developed in partnership with the Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce, the Community for Innovation, Entrepreneurship Leadership and Opportunities (CIELO), and the Orange County Inland Empire Small Business Development Center. CIELO will provide administrative support and will issue the grant payments directly to awardees.

#### **Fire Department**

#### **Bolsa Chica Wetlands Brush Fire**

On July 26 at approximately 4pm, the Huntington Beach Fire Department responded to a brush fire in the Bolsa Chica Wetlands Mesa area. The fire, compounded with challenging onshore winds and dry brush, was threatening several hundred homes in the Brightwater Community, Bolsa Chica Conservancy Interpretive Center, Bolsa Chica Land Trust Growing Space, wildlife, trees and native plants.

Huntington Engine 47 was able to put on their wildland personal protective equipment and arrive on scene within five minutes of dispatch. They reported that the fire was moving quickly towards the Brightwater Community and was ~400 yards and ten minutes from their location. An aggressive fire attack took place with approximately 70 firefighters from 11 fire engines, one hand crew, two water dropping helicopters, two utility trucks, and four chief officers with assistance from the Orange County Fire Authority and Fountain Valley Fire Department. Ultimately, the fire was stopped 100 yards from the Brightwater Community which suffered no damage.

The fire was contained at 7:00 P.M and one Firefighter was seen at a local hospital and later released. Firefighters continued to work throughout the night to ensure that there were no hot spots or flare ups. Throughout the next day, firefighters retrieved hose from the wetlands and cleaned it at their stations.

Firefighters were able to protect property, native plants, and trees which provide housing for an abundance of wildlife including a family of owlets. We thank the Bolsa Chica Conservancy for their efforts and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust who had created a defensible space prior to this fire that helped to protect their the space where they raise native plants for future restoration efforts.

We also thank our community who continues to give us endless support before, during, and after the fire. Since the fire occurred on unincorporated land, the investigation is being conducted by the Orange County Fire Authority.







#### Masks Up, Surf City!

In a concerted effort to encourage residents and visitors to mask up and limit the spread of COVID-19 in Huntington Beach, the Public Information Office and Public Works Department designed and will be installing one hundred "Masks Up, Surf City!" pennants throughout town this month.

The PIO is also developing PSA videos and additional sign campaigns, in collaboration with the Downtown BID and Visit HB, which will be used to encourage the following best practices during the pandemic:

- 1. Stay 6 feet apart
- 2. Wear a mask
- 3. Wash your hands
- Stay at home if you experience any COVID-19 symptoms - with or without a positive test.

Following these simple steps will not only protect public health, but also help our community centers, businesses, schools, and places of worship to reopen more quickly.

PLEASE NOTE: On August 3, 2020, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 2020-54 to cancel the August 17 Regular Meeting of the City Council and Public Financing Authority.

# Calling All Huntington Beach Restaurants!

The County of Orange and the Orange County Business Council have partnered to support local restaurants with a \$1,000 grant to create a COVID-safe environment for their customers and employees.



"Restaurants are important drivers for our local economy, and we are grateful to the Board of Supervisors for providing a new source of financial support to assist them," says Mayor Lyn Semeta. "These incentive grants will help ensure diners and employees are safe as they enjoy some of the fabulous dining options offered by Huntington Beach restaurants."

#### **Program Info:**

- The grant will reimburse restaurants for qualified purchases such as PPE, site reconfiguration, employee training, cleaning supplies, etc.
- Purchases must have been made from March 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020;
   receipts must be submitted at the time of application.
- The application takes less than ten minutes to complete.

APPLY NOW: The Application Period begins August 6, 2020 and ends in 60 days or when funding fully allocated - whichever occurs first.

Questions? Email SafeDineOC@ocbc.org or visit SafeDineOC.com.



#### Surf City Stroll Expands to the 3rd Block of Main Street

On August 3, City Council approved the closure of the 3<sup>rd</sup> block of Main Street to vehicular traffic, in order to allow businesses to expand their outdoor operations onto the street and sidewalks.

These closures would be an expansion of the Surf City Stroll program, which takes place on the 2nd block of Main Street and has proven to be very popular with the community. These closures were an effort under-



taken in response to Governor Newsom's orders that prohibited certain indoor business operations to limit the spread of COVID-19. The latest effort to close the 3<sup>rd</sup> block of Main Street was initiated by the Downtown BID, and City staff is currently coordinating the closures for this coming weekend. To learn more, <u>read the Staff Report here</u>.



#### **HB Mayor's Excellence Award - August Winners**

During the August 3 City Council meeting, Mayor Semeta awarded the "HB Mayor's Excellence Award" to five City employees who went above and beyond the call of duty during COVID-19. Awardees are nominated by staff for their exemplary service and the following traits: humility, social awareness, passion, exceptionality, integrity, and team-orientated. The recipients are Anthony Pham (HBPD), Jerry Goodspeed (HBPD), Terry Tintle (Public Works), Kevin Justen (HBFD) and Debbie DeBow (Public Works).



#### Mayor Semeta Presents the "Making a Difference Award" to City Archivist Kathie Schey

This month, Mayor Semeta presented the "Making a Difference Award" to Kathie Schey, who volunteers as the City Archivist to keep the City's history alive, accessible, and relevant to our residents today. Kathie established the City Archives and works with the City Clerk's Office to manage and preserve our historic materials. Kathie also serves as Chair of the Historic Resources Board and Design Review Board to ensure all historic sites and relics are preserved and available in the future.

Kathie's work underscores the importance of learning from our past to inform our future as a City. She truly provides a valuable service to Huntington Beach.

#### City Clerk's Office

#### **City Celebrates the Centennial of the 19th Amendment**

August 26 marks the 100th anniversary of the right of all women to vote in the United States. Also known as Women's Suffrage, the fight for this basic right began when the movement's founders, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott were barred from the World Anti-Slavery Convention in London in 1840, simply because they were women. When they hosted the famed Seneca Convention for suffrage eight years later, former slave and famed abolitionist Frederick Douglass was in the audience. Black men were given the vote after the Civil War, but still women of every color were denied it. For another half-century, women and some sympathizing men campaigned, demonstrated, picketed and were even arrested and committed as mentally unfit.

In 1911, two years after Huntington Beach became a city, California became the sixth state in the nation to allow women the vote, albeit not in federal elections. Finally, in 1919, Congress passed the 19th Amendment guaranteeing women their voice in federal elections. It took more than a year for the required number of states to ratify, and it was ultimately certified on August 26, 1920.

Women not only gained their voice, but they also gained the ability to lead! Huntington Beach is privileged to have had 14 female Mayors beginning with Norma Brandel Gibbs in 1975. Five have held the office twice and at one point five successive mayors were women. They came from differing political parties and were



Our first female Mayor, Norma Gibbs, learned first-hand about the challenges of the disabled in 1975 by spending the day in a wheelchair.

not necessarily unified by a single opinion on any subject. But they served our city as each thought best, meeting different challenges with one another over many years. Although four of them have since passed away, each has left a legacy of equality and service behind.



Forty years later, Mayor Gibbs is joined by former Mayors Jill Hardy and Barbara Delgleize at the 40th Anniversary celebration of the Central Library in 2015. They appear here with architect Dion Neutra and Library Director Stephanie Beverage.

#### **Community Services Department**

# Socially Distanced Summer Camps Provide Valuable Learning Opportunities for Kids!

The Community Services teams at the Huntington Beach Art Center (HBAC) and Murdy Community Center have been hard at work coordinating socially distanced summer camps! Staff have closely monitored State and County day camp guidance, modifying enrollments to ensure social distancing, incorporating the use of face coverings, health checks, increased sanitation of supplies, and healthy hygiene practices!

"Art at HBAC" has sold out with seven campers per week! Campers are given professional arts instruction in a variety of methods and mediums such as painting on canvas, drawing on multimedia paper, making masks, sun prints, and a variety of other art forms. Each week is themed based on kids' interests such as Lion King Safari or Pokemon. Parents are reporting positive experiences for their kids and complimentary about the safety protocols implemented to keep them safe. Many are

grateful that their children have a place to interact with other children in a safe

environment.





"Field trips" have included HB Police and Fire, shaved ice, a game truck, and Mad Science! Campers and staff wear masks when social distancing cannot be maintained and temperature checks are required at check in and again at lunch. Each camper is given a caddy with all art supplies needed for the week. The caddis, room, and games are sanitized throughout the day. Water days and watching a movie on the big screen twice a week have helped beat the heat! Running Camp HB during this time has been very rewarding, staff have had to think outside the box and have come up great alternatives to provide campers with a fun and memorable summer despite current restrictions.

#### **Police Department**



Every year, the Huntington Beach Police Department, in partnership with local agencies, come together to host National Night Out — an annual community-building event that is celebrated nationwide. The goal of National Night Out is to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while working together to decrease crime. It is an event where neighbors can take the opportunity to get to know each other and to get to know the officers that patrol their neighborhood.

Although we look forward to this event every year on the first Tuesday of August, this year we cancelled the in person event due to the current State restrictions for social gatherings. But don't worry, we have something up our sleeves coming soon! Follow us on our social media platforms to stay up to date with our upcoming events.



# Huntington Beach Businesses: Show Your Commitment to Keeping Your Staff and Customers Safe

### Sign the OneHB Clean and Safe Pledge www.SurfCityUSA.com/OneHB

Businesses who sign the pledge will receive a complimentary window cling for their storefront, get a free listing on SurfCityUSA.com (which had over 2.7 million unique pageviews in the last year), and have the opportunity to be featured in Visit Huntington Beach social media posts.











# August Reading & Activity Raffle

The Summer Reading Challenge may be over, but the library is still encouraging you to read! During the month of August, earn points by reading, listening to stories and doing special activities! For every 5 points you earn, you will receive a virtual raffle ticket which you can use to enter the drawing of your choice for amazing prize baskets (up to 20 entries). After reaching 100 points, you will earn a virtual raffle ticket for every 10 points. Earn up to 300 points! Use all the tickets you earn to try to win one prize or split your tickets up to enter multiple drawings. The choice is up to you! Drawings will be held September 1, and winners will be notified by email or phone. Register online at <a href="https://hbpl.beanstack.com">hbpl.beanstack.com</a>



Join the HBPL Children's Library and our local Microsoft team for a variety of virtual travel experiences hosted through their Teams platform! Programs are geared towards school-age children and tweens and happen each Monday afternoon in August at 4 p.m. Tours include a Road Trip Across America, Zoo Tour, Food from Around the World, Journey to Africa, and Journey to Australia. Register online at hbpl.libcal.com.



Students in grades 3-12 have the opportunity to stay engaged over the summer through live tutoring, mini lessons, and activities in Math, Science, and Writing. These exercises will help your children keep their skills sharp so that they are ready to learn new concepts (instead of rehashing last year's lessons) when the school year begins. To access this free resource, visit <a href="https://bit.ly/hbplbrainfuse">https://bit.ly/hbplbrainfuse</a> and enter your library card number. Then just select a grade level and a subject and start learning!



Episode 4 of Hidden Huntington Beach is now available! This episode features 217 Main Street - the oldest remaining building in the City. Built in 1904, the building has changed hands many times and is currently occupied by the Longboard Restaurant and Pub. Learn about the businesses that came before the Longboard (and the secret prison out back)! Watch Surf City TV at noon and 6pm or our <u>YouTube Channel</u>.



Did you know that used motor oil never wears out? Instead, it can be recycled and reused. Recycling your used motor oil reduces pollution threat, protects the environment and conserves a valuable resource. That's a winning combination! <u>Click here</u> to learn more about Free Oil Recycling Kits, Home Collection, and collection centers in our area!



You're not alone. These are challenging times for everyone, and if you or a loved one are experiencing mental health concerns, substance abuse, loneliness or are in need of community resources, call or text the NAMI OC Warmline at (714) 991-6412. The NAMI OC Warmline is a free and confidential telephone service providing emotional support and resources to Orange County residents, 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.

#### CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA

#### **City Hall Directory**



Oliver Chi
City Manager
www.huntingtonbeachca.gov

