

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

March 21, 2011

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

11th Annual Huntington Beachcruiser Meet

Downtown Huntington Beach

March 26 - March 27, 2011

Cost: Free

The Annual Wavecrest Huntington Beachcruiser Meet features 450 "Beachcruisin" vehicles manufactured through 1967 - including station wagons, sedan deliveries, convertibles, VW transporters, nomads, woodies, pick-ups, trailers and other similar vehicles of the era. This popular event attracts thousands each year. All vehicles will be showcased along Main Street in downtown Huntington Beach and at Pier Plaza.

Awards will be presented at 2pm on Saturday and Sunday. Show hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm on Saturday and 8:00am to 2:00pm on Sunday.

Email hbcruisers@yahoo.com to pre-register for this event. Registration will also be available onsite beginning at 5:00am.

Marine Safety

Ocean Lifeguard Tryouts were held on March 6. Fourteen Percent (14%) of the applicants were rescued during the pier swim, the first event. Another fifteen percent (15%) dropped out prior to the start of the second event. Only 52% of the applicants were able to finish all three events. After an oral screening process, eighteen (18) cadets were admitted into the Ocean Lifeguard training program.

While in Tower Zero (on the pier) on Thursday, March 17 at 3:15 PM, Marine Safety Officer Tony Villalobos spotted a fishing vessel drifting toward the pier. The vessel operator was unable to start his engine, so Marine Safety Officer Mike Bartlett launched the Rescue Personal Watercraft (PWC). MSO Bartlett towed the disabled vessel safely away from the pier and secured the disabled vessel to a Coast Guard buoy off Huntington Street. *Vessel Assist* arrived at the buoy and began to tow the disabled vessel back to Huntington Harbor. Eight minutes later, after MSO Bartlett had beached the PWC, the disabled vessel capsized during tow and the two passengers were immersed in the ocean. MSO's Bartlett & Panis re-launched the PWC, rescued the passengers and returned them safely to shore.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

The California Department of Aging's Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program, HICAP, offers counseling on Medicare, Medicare supplement policies, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) and long-term care insurance. HICAP volunteers provide free, confidential, individual counseling at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center by appointment on Monday mornings. These trained volunteers assist in filing Medicare and private insurance claims and/or preparing Medicare appeals if a claim has been denied. If you are

considering purchasing long-term care insurance or Medicare supplement insurance, HICAP counselors can help you compare policies and explain what services each policy provides. HICAP counselors do not sell, recommend, or endorse any insurance product, agent, insurance company, or health plan. If you would like to set up a counseling appointment or have questions about your health insurance, call the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center at 714-536-9387 or for more information about HICAP or a phone consultation contact (800) 434-0222 or online at: www.aging.ca.gov.

Children's Needs Task Force Annual Youth Character Awards

The Huntington Beach Children's Needs Task Force, together with the City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department, is sponsoring the American Youth Character Awards program to honor young people who are the real and proper role models for their generation. Nominees must be in grades 3-12 and reside in the City of Huntington Beach. For more information and to download a nomination form visit:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/boards_commissions/childrens_needs_task_force.cfm.

All youth nominees will be invited to attend a recognition ceremony at the Century Theater amphitheater at Bella Terra on May 14, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. Selected honorees will also be recognized at a City Council meeting on June 6, 2011. Nominate a praiseworthy youth now! The deadline for submission is Friday, April 1, 2011, at 4:00 p.m.

Adult Arena Soccer Sign-Ups

The City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department offers year round adult arena soccer leagues at the award winning Central Park Sports Complex. Games will be played on artificial sports turf under the lights beginning the week of April 3, 2011. Team registration costs are \$400.00 per 8 week season, plus referee fees of \$20.00 per game paid directly to the official by each team. League play will be 6 vs. 6 including the goalie. All teams must have uniforms with numbers. Registration packets are available at City Hall, on the City website, or by mail. For league information or to be placed on the individual players list, please call (714) 536-5486. The deadline to turn in team registration to City Hall is March 25, 2011.

Murdy Community Center

Creative Writing Workshop - This workshop, for young writer's age 9-14 years, focuses on the use of figurative language to create meaningful images their stories. Students will practice techniques in class with exercises and then write original prose and poetry! More importantly, students share in the creation, discussion, and experience of the figurative writing style. Class is held at the Murdy Community Center on April 2, 2011. For more information on Community Services classes and programs, visit www.hbsands.org.

Street Bicycling Skills - Huntington Beach is a "Bike Friendly City!" The Community Services Department is offering a bicycling skills class to teach students how to ride a bike safely, legally and confidently in traffic. A Thursday evening classroom session at the Murdy Community Center will be on March 31, followed by a "on bike" skills development session. Visit www.hbsands.org for more information on this and other Community Services classes and programs...the benefits are endless!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Surf City Savings Discount Program

Surf City Savings is a discount program offered by the city free of charge to participate for Huntington Beach business license holders. On the website, www.surfcityavings.com, residents will find various discounts from over 100 merchants offering opportunities to save on dining, shopping, health & beauty, services, and leisure/recreational services. Visit the website, print the discount, take to the merchant, and save. The City offers this program as an incentive to keep our spending dollars local. Some of the newest businesses to sign up are Caffe Gazelle, Cross Fit Training, Burtucci's Pizza, 5 Star Pool Service, Affinity Jewelers, and Endless Food and Fun. Visit the website often – new merchants are regularly joining the program and many offer new discounts on a regular basis.

Pacific Sun - Groundbreaking

On March 15, Colette's Children Home/Chelsea Investment and the City of Huntington Beach held a Ground Breaking ceremony for the six-unit Pacific Sun Apartments project. Acquisition of the vacant parcel was accomplished with Neighborhood Stabilization Program funds and Federal HOME funds. The City will provide HOME funds to assist with construction of the project. These new units will be an important part of the City's efforts at revitalizing the Oak View neighborhood and will include a community room and services for residents. The apartments, when completed, will be available to households earning 50% or less of Area Median Income. Please contact Colette's Children for more information at (714) 596-1380.

FIRE

2011 Leadership Academy

On March 16, the Fire Department hosted the Huntington Beach Leadership Academy at the Central Net Training Center. Students, including members from business, health, and the government sector, were given an overview of the HBFD by Fire Chief Patrick Mc Intosh. Various jobs within the fire department were highlighted, along with a narration of their specific function and an explanation of the equipment used. Students were given a tour of Gothard Fire Station, and then viewed the Hazardous Materials Truck, Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Team, Emergency Transport Units, and Aerial Ladder.

2011 Huntington Beach Disaster Preparedness Expo

The Huntington Beach Fire Department Emergency Management and Homeland Security Office sponsored the second annual Disaster Preparedness Expo at the Huntington Beach Central Library on Saturday, March 19. The timing of this Expo could not have been more relevant and, despite the threat of rain, was very well attended by the community.

The Police Department, Fire Department's Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) Team, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), and FireMed also participated and the National Weather Service, American Red Cross, and Ready OC were represented as well.

There were demonstrations by experts in disaster preparedness; the public was educated on the hazards facing Huntington Beach and what is needed to plan for emergencies. Tsunami preparedness brochures and Emergency Preparedness packets were distributed. Vendors also provided disaster preparedness literature and supplies.

INFORMATION SERVICES

City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Want to know where to park your RV or camp at the beach?

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Visitors/Beach_Info/parking_and_camping.cfm

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Haikus for Poetry Month @ Central Library

In conjunction with National Poetry Month, the Huntington Beach Central Library is offering a free haiku workshop. Learn the history of haiku, how to structure a haiku poem using seasonal words, and even write your own haiku! The workshop will be led by Deborah P Kolodji. Deborah moderates the Southern California Haiku Study Group and is active in the international English language haiku community.

Please join us on Saturday, April 2 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Balboa Room @ Central Library for this celebration of the art of haiku.

“Street Beat” Is Coming

The Huntington Beach Public Library and the Friends of the Children's Library are happy to announce “Street Beat – A Theatrical Drum & Dance Spectacular,” March 23 at 4:00 p.m. The show will be held in the Library Theater and gives performers and children alike a chance to make music out of trash cans, lids, office supplies, drum sticks, hands, feet and tools.

Inspired by Stomp, the audience will learn how just about anything can become a drum. In the process, music is made, and the group learns about percussion, rhythm, beat and imagination.

Tickets are \$4 each, available by check or cash, at the Children's Desk of the Central Library. Advance purchase is highly recommended. For information, please call (714) 375-5107.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

HBPD to host special meeting for all Neighborhood Watch Block Captains.

Event: Annual Block Captain Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Huntington Beach Police Department
Training Room A

2000 Main St.
Huntington Beach, CA

Speakers from different units within the Huntington Beach Police Department will speak on various topics in order to assist Neighborhood Watch Block Captains with planning, organizing, and facilitating the program. Other discussion will cover the importance of working together and strengthening our partnership to help deter and/or eliminate crime in our community. The information is designed to give a better understanding on the partnership between the police department and Neighborhood Watch.

Topics include crimes that can affect you, your family, and neighborhood, and the latest crime trends. HBPD will offer techniques to help keep you and your neighbors from becoming victims, including checking on the health of your Neighborhood Watch Block Program and keeping it alive and active.

RSVP to: Nilda Patiño de Berndt, HBPD Community Relations Specialist, at 714-536- 5933. (Seating is limited)

PUBLIC WORKS

Weekend Storm

The storm that moved through Southern California on Sunday and Monday dumped an average rainfall of 1.14 inches on Huntington Beach, with one station registering 1.54 inches. Crews are continuing to pick up branches and other debris caused by the high winds accompanying this storm. Total rainfall in HB to date for this storm season (October through April) is 17.3 inches, which is nearly 4 inches more than last year's total. The month of December 2010 provided nearly 9.5 inches of that total.