

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**April 18, 2011**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **Youth Character Awards**

On May 14, 2011, the Children's Needs Task Force will be hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Character Awards at Bella Terra Huntington Beach. Since 2000, the Children's Needs Task Force, together with the Community Services Department, has been sponsoring the Youth Character Awards program. Community members have been invited to nominate deserving young people who exhibit strength of character. Students are not recognized solely for isolated acts of heroism or generosity, nor are the honored simply for achievements like good grades, leadership positions, or excellence in athletics or arts. The young people honored are role models for their generation, and are people whose lives and achievements demonstrate an enduring commitment to qualities associated with good character. All outstanding nominees will be recognized, and several top nominees will be honored on the Bella Terra "Wall of Fame". The hour-long program begins at 10:00am and is open to the public.

### **Adult Softball Registration**

Registration for the Summer 2011 Adult Softball leagues is now underway. The registration deadline is April 28, 2011. Senior leagues are offered on Sunday mornings and Thursday nights; Senior Coed leagues are offered on Tuesday nights; Men's leagues are offered on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays; Coed leagues are offered on Sunday afternoons and evenings, Wednesday nights and Friday nights. The leagues will start play May 9 and will concluded in late July or Early August. Registration packets are available on the City Adult Softball page or can be mailed out. For more details or information, please contact the Community Services office at 714-536-5230.

### **ShIPLEY Nature Center Spring Festival**

Come join in the fun at the ShIPLEY Nature Center and enjoy the essence of nature in an urban setting. The ShIPLEY Nature Center Spring Festival, Saturday, April 30 from 9:00am – 2:00pm, includes entertainment, the California Native Plant Sale, and a nature friendly Information Fair. Children are invited to participate in the Maypole dance and parade. Guided tours through the California Native Plant Gardens and habitats will also be available. Relax and enjoy this natural environment right in our own backyard....the benefits are endless! Visit [www.shipleynature.org](http://www.shipleynature.org) for more information.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **New Farmer's Market Coming**

The Oakview Renewal Partnership will be launching the new Oakview Certified Farmers Market (OVCM) at Ocean View High School beginning Saturday, May 21 from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. The Farmers Market will offer fresh produce, live entertainment, community resources, crafts and nutritional workshops. The Renewal Partnership is looking for local residents to become market vendors so that it will be a true locally run and produced event.

If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Iosefa Alofaituli at 714.596.7063. The City of Huntington Beach Economic Development Department assisted with the Farmers Market.

## **FIRE**

### **Residential Structure Fire**

On April 17 at approximately 7:30 p.m., the Huntington Beach Fire Department responded to a residential structure fire on Ocean Vista Drive. The Huntington Beach Police Department arrived first on scene and found flames coming from the garage, reaching the second floor. The majority of the fire was knocked down within seven minutes of Hbfd's arrival, but due to multiple hidden spaces, the fire was not fully extinguished until 8:34 p.m. A total of 30 firefighters from Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley were on scene to completely extinguish the fire.

The residents and pets were at home at the time of the fire, but all escaped unharmed. Fire damage is estimated to be over \$200,000. An investigation to determine the cause of the fire is being conducted by Huntington Beach Fire Investigators.

### **Hotel & Motel Safety**

Vacations and business travel make hotels and motels our home away from home. It is just as important to be prepared and know what you would do in a hotel/motel emergency as it is in your own home.

### **Be Safe When Traveling**

- Choose a hotel/motel that is protected by both smoke alarms and a fire sprinkler system.
- When you check in, ask the front desk what the fire alarm sounds like.
- When you enter your room, review the escape plan posted in your room.
- Take the time to find the exits and count of number of doors between your room and the exit. Make sure the exits are unlocked. If they are locked, report it to management right away.
- If the alarm sounds, leave right away, closing all doors behind you. Use the stairs – never use the elevators during a fire.

### **If You Can't Escape...**

SHUT off fans and air conditioners.

STUFF wet towels in the crack around the doors.

CALL the fire department and let them know your location.

WAIT at the window and signal with a flashlight or light colored cloth.

### **FACTS**

- On average, one of every 12 hotels or motels reported a structure fire each year.

- The majority of hotel fire deaths result from fires that started in the bedroom.
- Cooking equipment is the leading cause of hotel/motel fires.

For more information, visit [www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education).

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

See photos of the HB Fire Department in action:

[http://www.ci.huntington-beach.ca.us/government/departments/fire/general\\_Info/PhotoGallery/PhotoGallery.cfm](http://www.ci.huntington-beach.ca.us/government/departments/fire/general_Info/PhotoGallery/PhotoGallery.cfm)

### **LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

#### **City Library Appreciation Event Honors Volunteers**

On April 11, 2011, the Central Library hosted its annual Volunteer Appreciation Event, "*Volunteering Expands Your Horizons!*" to acknowledge those who have dedicated their time and talent toward making the Huntington Beach Library System a valuable community resource. The library is proud to say it had over 400 volunteers donate their time during 2010, contributing over 56,500 hours.

Each year the library selects one of the extraordinary volunteers to be honored as the Volunteer of the Year. It is an honor to announce Erin Schmidt as the 2010 Volunteer of the Year. Erin embodies the new trend toward high level volunteerism. Erin oversees the successful Computer Coach project, a volunteer-based program that strives to increase adult computer literacy in the community of Huntington Beach by providing one-on-one assistance to community members who need access to the online world as a way to look for jobs, learn to be smart consumers, help their children in school, and manage social connections. As a staunch advocate of the need for increased computer literacy, Erin has worked closely with Programming Services to introduce free computer classes to the library to recruit and schedule experienced volunteer instructors to teach these popular courses. In addition to her efforts in the library, Erin has contributed to the "Get Involved" grant on the state level by providing training materials and video excerpts to increase volunteer awareness in California. Erin is a valuable asset to the Library System and the community as a whole.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Volunteers recognized at the Spirit of Volunteerism Awards**

On April 14, 2011, five volunteers, nominated by their peers at the Huntington Beach Police Department, were recognized at One OC's 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Spirit of Volunteerism Awards held at the Disneyland Hotel.

From the Huntington Beach Neighborhood Watch Program:

- Mike Seth
- Carol Waidner

From the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)

- Mary Jo Reed
- Jay Waggoner

From the Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS)

- Jim Dwyer

The Spirit of Volunteerism Awards Luncheon provides an annual forum and non-competitive opportunity to recognize individual, group and corporate team volunteers for their dedicated service to Orange County. The Huntington Beach Police Department is very proud of all our volunteers in these three valuable programs.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**Landscape Irrigation Tips**

Spring is good time to perform an inspection of your home irrigation system, especially after a relatively wet winter where your system was (hopefully) used less than normal. 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.

