

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

April 26, 2010

CITY TREASURER

Customer Service Tip of the Week – My Way or the Highway

They'll never get it their way, if we always do it our way. Are your customers important enough for you to meet them where they are? How might you do this better than you are now? Relate to customers in their way, not how you want them to be.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Earth Day Beach Clean Up

Over one hundred volunteers came out this past Saturday, April 24, to help clean our City Beach. The City of Huntington Beach hosted one cleanup site at the pier and the Surfrider Foundation hosted another at 17th Street. These cleanups are extremely important this time of year because of the sensitivity of the grunion eggs in the wet sand below the high tide line. The heavy equipment used by the beach crew is not operated in this area during grunion season and all cleaning must be done by hand.

Evening Pilates at the City Gym-New

Join this new evening Pilates class at the City Gym and Pool! Tone and strengthen your abs, back, thighs, and arms. This is a rejuvenating class that will combat those trouble zones. Pilates will also improve your flexibility, posture, coordination, and body awareness. This class is great for all levels and abilities! Class starts Thursday, May 6, from 6-7pm. Contact the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884 for more information or sign up today at www.hbsands.org!

Swimming Lessons at the City Gym and Pool

Before you hit the beach and pool this summer, get prepared! Sign up your child or yourself for swim lessons at the City Gym and Pool! Classes are taught in a warm indoor pool with certified instructors. Each session is \$45 for ten lessons. Don't miss out! Lessons begin the week of May 3rd. For more information, contact the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884 or sign up at www.hbsands.org today!

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Mobility Lending - Through donations, Seniors Outreach maintains a supply of wheelchairs, walkers, and canes for loan to seniors in the Huntington Beach Community. The equipment is loaned on a first-come, first-served basis and may be retained for the duration of the need. For more information about the lending service, call Seniors Outreach at 714-960-2478.

Arthritis Foundation Exercise – This free exercise class, designed for people with arthritis, meets twice a week on Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, May 5, 2010. Space is limited to 35. Register at the Rodgers Seniors Center front counter. For more information, call 714-536-9387.

Summer Art Camp is around the Corner

Registration for the popular Summer Art Camps is now open. Don't wait; simply visit www.hbsands.org to reserve a place. Students from ages 6 to 12 can participate in fun and educational art projects taught by experienced instructors in both of our studios and the outdoors. From monsters from around the world to dragons galore, each week of art camp will focus on a different theme, with art projects planned in a variety of mediums. Exposure to and education in the

Arts has been shown to benefit students in a number of ways, building creative thinking and problem-solving skills as well as personal confidence. These skills enhance learning in the core curriculum subjects, and opening the pathways for innovative applications in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Student Art Exhibit Open through May 8

The Huntington Beach Art Center is hosting the Annual Student Art Exhibit featuring the work of many of our brightest and youngest local artists. Working with the Huntington Beach Elementary, Middle, and High School Districts, students have the opportunity to showcase their work in a professional gallery space. Teachers, students, volunteers, and art center staff work extremely hard to bring the show together and show their support for local art education. This event is free and open to the public. For more information please call 714 374-1650.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Redevelopment Agency is pleased to announce the Grand Opening of the 48-unit Pacific Court Apartments on April 29, 2010, from 4-6pm. The acquisition and rehabilitation of this property was accomplished with Redevelopment Set-Aside funds and Federal HOME funds. The Pacific Court Apartments are the City of Huntington Beach's newest affordable apartment community. The property, originally constructed in the 1960's, consists of 48-units situated within twelve 4-plex buildings. The property went through a major rehabilitation including, paint, roofs, windows, decks, landscaping, security system, solar panels, play equipment, basketball court, flooring, cabinets, appliances, drywall, plumbing, and electrical fixtures. The apartments are available to households earning 50% and 60% of Area Median Income. You may contact the Pacific Courts Apartments at (714) 960-6100.

FIRE

On April 24, 2010, at approximately 11:00 a.m., the Fire Department responded to a residential garage fire on Caledonia Circle. Upon arrival, firefighters reported a fully involved garage fire and assigned personnel to check for fire spreading inside the residence next to the garage. As additional firefighters arrived on scene, they began to attack the fire in the garage and searched the residence and ventilated the roof.

The fire in the attic area was extinguished rapidly, resulting in damage being confined only to the garage with minor smoke and water damage inside the residence. Firefighters also assisted with salvage operations to minimize damage to the contents. The fire was extinguished in 20 minutes.

Investigators concluded that the fire began in the attic space of the garage. An electrical failure of the built in fluorescent lights and/or wiring in this space failed, causing the fire which spread to the rest of the garage.

There were no injuries sustained by fire personnel or citizens. Damage is estimated at \$75,000.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Save Time and Money! Access Consumer Reports from Home.

In tough economic times, consumers are especially interested in price and value; magazines like *Consumer Reports* supply the information that makes good decisions easier. Library cardholders can access full-text *Consumer Reports* articles online through the library's databases. Library patrons can simply visit www.hbpl.org, click on the green Quick Login to Databases tab, put in their library card

number, and pin number. Once logged in, a database list will appear on the left. Click on the link "**Ebsco (Magazines|Journals)**" and a new window will open up where users can click on the link "**General, Health, Business and Newspaper Databases.**" Clicking on the "**Continue**" button will open a search screen where users can type a search term, "**Consumer Reports**" for example, in the Publication box. Library cardholders can also browse entire *Consumer Reports* issues by clicking on the **Publications** link located on the top left and then search for *Consumer Reports*. Take a minute to explore the library's databases and experience the world of information available through the Huntington Beach Public Library.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

April 27, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission will review the following applications at the Tuesday, April 27, 2010 meeting.

- The Ridge, located at 17202 Bolsa Chica Street (5-acre site located southeast of the intersection of Bolsa Chica Street and Los Patos Avenue, involves a request by Hearthside Homes to amend the zoning and land use designations on an existing 5-acre parcel from Residential Agricultural – Coastal Zone (RA-CZ) with a General Plan land use designation of Open Space – Parks (OS-P) to Residential Low Density – Coastal Zone (RL-CZ) with a General Plan Land Use designation of Residential Low Density – 7 units/acre (RL-7). In addition, the project applicant is requesting approval of a coastal development permit, conditional use permit and tentative tract map to subdivide and develop the project site with a 22-unit single-family planned unit development (PUD) with a 5,776 square foot common open space area. The application also consists of a zoning text amendment that would amend the Planned Unit Development (PUD) supplemental standards and provisions of Chapter 210.12 of the Huntington Beach Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance (HBZSO) to allow greater flexibility in the provision of parking spaces for a PUD development. The Planning Commission will consider a recirculated draft mitigated negative declaration, which analyzes the environmental impacts associated with the project, in conjunction with the proposed legislative amendments and development project during a public hearing on Tuesday April 27, 2010 at 7 pm in the City Council chambers. Upon final local action, an amendment to the City's certified Local Coastal Program to change the Land Use Plan from OS-P to RL-7 and reflect changes proposed to the HBZSO and zoning map will be forwarded to the California Coastal Commission for certification.
- HB Dental Alley Vacation. General Plan Conformance (GPC 09-008) to determine if the vacation of an approximately 2,864 square foot portion of an unimproved alley right-of-way is in conformance with the goals, objectives, and policies of the General Plan. The alley is located south of Warner Avenue, West of Ash Lane. This item was continued from the February 23, 2010 Planning Commission Meeting.

The Planning Commission meeting is Tuesday, April 27 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

POLICE DEPARTMENT**Tobacco Sales to Minors**

Several months ago the Huntington Beach Police Department Special Investigations Bureau sent out letters to businesses that sell alcohol and tobacco that we will be actively enforcing laws that prohibit sales of alcohol and tobacco to minors. The police department followed up with compliance checks and most businesses handled police "decoys" appropriately and refused service. Of the 34 businesses that were checked, three were cited for selling tobacco products to minors. One business was cited for allowing 15 minors to purchase and consume tobacco products. These enforcement actions will continue in the future.

DUI Checkpoint Results

On April 17, 2010, the Huntington Beach Police Department conducted a DUI checkpoint on Pacific Coast Highway and Huntington Street. The following are the results of that checkpoint:

- Vehicles through the checkpoint 1318
- Vehicles screened for DUI 419
- Field sobriety tests given 40
- DUI arrests 11
- Other criminal arrests 3
- Unlicensed/suspended citations 5
- Other citations issued 4
- Vehicles towed 11

The checkpoint started at 9:30pm and ended at 2:30am. The police department handed out over 400 educational drinking pamphlets which are donated by the Community Services Program as part of "Project Path".

Residential Burglar Pleads Guilty

On November 13, 2009, Huntington Beach police officers arrested Taylor Bast, a 21 year old male, for residential burglary related to a string of prowler type residential burglaries. He recently pled guilty to 20 counts of residential burglary, one count of grand theft of a firearm and one count of theft from a vehicle. He was sentenced to seven years and four months in prison for his crime spree.

PUBLIC WORKS**Downtown Street and Alley Rehabilitation**

Work is continuing on a six-month project to improve the roadways in the Downtown area. Upon completion, three streets will have pavement reconstruction and concrete repairs. The segments include First Street from Pacific Coast Highway to Orange Avenue, Huntington Street from Pacific View to Atlanta Avenue, and Pecan Avenue from Main Street to Lake Street. In addition, improvements will be made to five alley sections. This project is a continuation of the previous year's street improvements, made possible by funding from the Redevelopment Agency. Total cost of both projects is \$2.5 million.