

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

April 4, 2011

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Volunteers Being Sought for Ol' Fishin' Hole Fishing Derby for Exceptional Youth

Volunteers are being sought to help the Kiwanis and City of Huntington Beach with their Ol' Fishin' Hole Fishing Derby on May 6, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Chris Carr Park, Springdale and Heil Avenue in Huntington Beach. Lunch will be provided by the Huntington Beach Kiwanis. Many of these youth with special needs are fishing for the first time, and many are returning participants who look forward to this event every year!

To sign up as a volunteer, call Diane Swarts in HB Senior Services at 714-374-1544.

For more information on the event, call Chris Slama at 714-374-1710.

Huntington Beach Art Center

Please join us for the closing reception of ***Open Dialogues***, the HB Art Center's Artists in Residency program which will finalize this week with the reception for the public on Friday April 8 from 7-9 pm. Residency artists Jeffrey Frisch, Gina Genis, Laurie Hassold, and Robin Repp will be presenting their completed projects, which have been in process in the galleries during the past month. ***Open Dialogues*** presents a unique opportunity for the community to learn firsthand how artists conceive and create original work. For additional information please call the Art Center at 714-374-1650.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Huntington Beach Seniors Services is offering a 3-class Brain Fitness series by Alzheimer's Family Services on Wednesdays, April 13-April 27 from 1:45 – 3:00 pm at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center. The first class, *Missing Keys and Forgotten Names* is designed to help participants gain a better understanding between normal forgetfulness and abnormal memory loss. The next class, *Being Your Own Health Advocate* will cover how to advocate for your own individual and family healthcare needs. In the final class, *Brain Power 101*, participants learn how a healthy lifestyle can promote cognitive fitness and reduce risk for Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia. The small administrative fee of \$6.00 covers all three classes. Registration is limited. Register online at www.hbsands.org, Class # 4821.200 or in person at the front desk at Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue, Huntington Beach. For more information call, 714-536-9387

Youth Soccer

The City of Huntington Beach offers a youth soccer program for children between the ages of 3 and 8. Pee Wee soccer for youth between 3 and 5 years old is designed to enhance the athletic and social skills of all participants. Players engage in game-based drills and supervised scrimmages that help develop the child's talent and confidence. Junior soccer is a semi-competitive introduction to soccer for youth in first and second grades. Participants learn soccer techniques, basic rules of the game, and the importance of sportsmanship. All participants receive an HB recreation jersey and league photo certificate. Programs begin the week of April 12.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peter's Landing New Farmer's Market and Family Festival

Plan to attend the Grand Opening of a new weekly Farmer's Market and Family Festival on Saturday, April 16th. The new exciting Farmer's Market will be held every Saturday from 9:00am to 2:00pm at Peter's Landing located at 16400 Pacific Coast Highway. The festival includes a farmers market with fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables, tasty food vendors, arts and crafts, musical and non-musical acts, kid's activities, and more. Plan to stop by and pick up your fresh produce and visit the stores located at Peter's Landing.

FIRE

Children Playing with Fire

Children playing with fire cause hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries each year. Preschoolers are most likely to start these fires, typically by playing with matches and lighters.

Facts & Figures

- In 2008, children playing with fire started 53,500 fires that were reported to US fire departments, causing an estimated 70 civilian deaths, 910 civilian injuries and \$279 million in direct property damage.
- Most of the people killed in child-playing fires are under 5, and such fires are the leading cause of fire deaths among preschoolers.
- Roughly three out of every four child-playing fires – and at least four-fifths of associated deaths and injuries – involve matches or lighters.
- Children also start fires by playing with candles, stoves, fireworks and cigarettes.
- Among fatal home fires started by children playing, three out of five involve children igniting bedding, mattresses, upholstered furniture or clothing.
- Just over half of child-playing fires in the home start in a bedroom.
- Children who start fires may be children in crisis, with the fires acting as cries for help from stressful life experiences or abuse, according to studies of fire-setting behavior.

Safety Tips

- Store matches and lighters out of children's reach and sight, up high, preferable in a locked cabinet.
- Never use lighters or matches as a source of amusement for children. They may imitate your actions.
- If your child expresses curiosity about fire or has been playing with fire, calmly but firmly explain that matches and lighters are tools for adults only.
- Teach young children to tell an adult if they see matches or lighters, and teach school-age children to bring any matches or lighters to an adult.
- Never leave matches or lighters in a bedroom or any place where children may go without supervision.
- If you suspect your child is intentionally setting fires or unduly fascinated with fire, get help immediately. Your local fire department, school, or community counseling agency

can put you in touch with trained experts. The phone number for the Huntington Beach Fire Department is (714) 536-5411.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Huntington Beach Employees Make Smart Transportation Choices

The City of Huntington Beach reached the emission reduction performance target set by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) for reducing air pollution from on-road mobile sources in 2010. Through an employee rideshare program, "Surf Air Commute Choices," employees voluntarily participated by walking, bicycling, taking public transportation, and carpooling.

Other contributing factors that improved AQMD Rule 2202 emission reduction compliance was a 99% response rate on the annual commute survey and the City's compressed work week schedules. Employee's choice of a green lifestyle preference and commitment to reducing their work commute carbon footprint has also generated \$228 in donations to the Shipley Nature Center. HB continues to "Go Green."

INFORMATION SERVICES

City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Make payments electronically:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/elected_officials/city_treasurer/payments/

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

National Library Week – April 10-16, 2011

National Library Week 2011 will be observed April 10-16 with the theme, "Create your story @ your library."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

The Huntington Beach Public Library contributes to the community by offering a wide range of vital services: access the Internet; work with a computer coach to expand and strengthen computer skills; get help with a research paper; learn how to read. And this is just to name a few of the services found here at the Library.

Libraries are amazing places of discovery, connection and community. During these tough economic times, Libraries are more essential than ever – our community truly does create its story @ the Huntington Beach Public Library.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**Planning Commission Meeting: April 12, 2011**

On April 12, 2011, the Planning Commission will hold a study session and conduct a public hearing on Tentative Tract Map No. 17397 and Coastal Development Permit No. 10-017, a request by the Pacific Mobile Home Park property owner to subdivide an existing for-rent, mobile home park with a total of 252 units for ownership purposes located at 80 Huntington Street (southeast corner of Atlanta Avenue and Huntington Street). The property owner proposes to subdivide the 252 existing mobile home spaces into 252 numbered lots and 31 lettered lots representing interior drive aisles, landscape areas and common areas to enable the existing park residents to purchase their own lots. The study session will be held in Room B-8, City Hall – Lower Level at 5:15 pm and the public hearing will be at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers.

POLICE DEPARTMENT**National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week**

In 2010, the Huntington Beach Police Department public safety communications operators received 220,263 incoming telephone calls. Of those calls, 79,491 were received as 9-1-1 emergency calls. In addition to this, the communications operators made 74,428 outgoing calls in order to gather additional information in support of the public safety personnel responding to calls for service in our city.

The Huntington Beach Police Department Communications Center has an authorized staff of one Bureau Manager, six Supervising Dispatchers, 15 full-time Dispatchers and four part-time Dispatchers. This staffing handles the varying activity levels of our Communications Center that is a 24 hours per day, seven days per week operation.

With the nearly 300,000 telephone calls, the communications operators prioritize emergencies, coordinate resources and provide support to responding field personnel. The dispatchers communicate with the police officers in their cars and by handheld radios using multiple frequencies on a Motorola 800 Mhz trunked radio system. All this data and information is typed by the communications operators and recorded into a Computer Aided Dispatched (CAD) system. While all this multi-tasking would be challenging enough, it is often conducted under the urgency of real-life emergency situations.

In 1991, Congress proclaimed the second week of April as "National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week." This week is to recognize the critical role public safety communications operators provide in support to police, fire, and emergency medical services. At the Huntington Beach Police Department, we recognize the professional service provided by all the employees in our Communications Center all year round. Join us during the week of April 10-16 as part of National Safety Telecommunicators Week in giving them special recognition for the outstanding job they do every day.

PUBLIC WORKS**Sports Complex Eighth Field Begins Construction**

The Central Park Sports Complex Eighth Field will begin construction this week and will be completed by the first week of June 2011, weather permitting. The approved original plans for the Huntington Beach Central Park Sports Complex proposed to construct a total of eight ball fields as part of the overall project. Since a portion of the park site was utilized by Hanson Material Company Inc., the Sports Complex was built with only seven ball fields. Portions of the eighth field – the back stop, dugouts and bleachers were installed as part of the original Sports Complex project with the expectation that field eight would be completed once Hanson vacated the site. In 2009, Hanson discontinued operations at the site and restored the site to pre-existing conditions which now allows for the eighth field to be constructed.

The project includes precise grading, installation of irrigation, turf, and in-field mix. Staff will be working closely with the County of Orange Local Enforcement Agency since this was originally a landfill that had a “protective soil cap” called an Alternative Final Cover installed during the original construction on 2003. This eighth field will not be available until late August so the sod can have time to establish.

The Mayor's Challenge 2011- April 1 – April 30

Mayors across Southern California are engaged in a friendly competition to see whose city can be the most “water-wise” and the “greenest.” The “Mayor's Challenge” was developed by famed artist and conservationist, Wyland, to encourage residents to make a pledge to make simple changes that will lead to more efficient use of water and energy, and reduce pollution.

During the month of April, residents are asked to make an on-line commitment at www.mywaterpledge.com on behalf of the City of Huntington Beach and Mayor Joe Carchio, to save water and reduce pollution. The city with the highest percentage of residents who make the pledge wins. A “Top Ten” list will be updated daily so residents can follow along and encourage their friends, families, classmates, and neighbors to join in.

Resident in the winning city will be eligible to win Angels baseball tickets, family four packs to Disneyland, and half- off admission to the Aquarium of the Pacific, May 9 to May 15.