Inside the report:

- New Police Chief Eric Parra
- City Launches New Website - Surf City Break
- Spark of Love Toy Drive
The City of Huntington Beach has chosen Eric Parra to serve as its new Chief of Police.

Parra has more than 33 years of law enforcement experience, and currently serves as the Chief of Police for the City of Alhambra. Prior to his current role, he held a variety of leadership roles with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, leaving that agency in 2019 as Division Chief.

“I am beyond grateful to have this opportunity to serve as Chief of Police here in my hometown of Huntington Beach,” said Parra. “I am looking forward to partnering with the Mayor, City Council, and staff as we work to ensure the safety and wellbeing of Surf City.”

Throughout the course of his career, Parra has been responsible for the oversight and coordination of various law enforcement operations, including supervision of widespread patrol functions, leading reform efforts at the Los Angeles County jail system, instituting community policing programs, and establishing improved internal law enforcement operational practices.

“We are delighted to have found Eric to serve as our next Chief of Police,” said Oliver Chi, City Manager. “After an extensive recruitment process that included multiple assessment rounds with our management team and the Mayor and City Council, Eric was identified as having the best combination of experience and approach to lead the Huntington Beach Police Department into the future.”

Parra holds a bachelor’s degree from California State University of Long Beach in Criminal Justice, and also earned his Juris Doctor from Western State University College of Law, and is licensed by the State Bar of California. Pending approval of his employment agreement, Parra will assume his new role as Chief of Police on December 20, 2021.
Our new Winter Wonderland Ice Skating Rink at Pier Plaza is now open and with a calendar full of special events! The Rink offers a one-of-a-kind holiday experience next to our famous beaches. Learn more and reserve your tickets in advance here.

INTERVIEW WITH COUNCILMEMBER RHONDA BOLTON

Get to know more about our new Huntington Beach Council Member, Rhonda Bolton who talks with Matt Leffreing about her priorities and goals, the strengths of our City, and her overall message to the community.

Watch here!
The City of HB is excited to launch a new website - www.SurfCityBreak.com - your online source for the latest happenings in #HuntingtonBeach!

Surf City Break will be updated weekly, so check in regularly for the latest info about your HB neighborhood, events, and City programs.

Visit www.SurfCityBreak.com!
TRAFFIC ALERT: Springdale Street will be closed from immediately north of Warner Avenue to Heil Avenue to traffic through December 10. For addition information please contact Shannon Wildor with the County of Orange at (714) 667-9759 or visit the project website.

“Made in HB” is BACK! Learn about Huntington Beach's vibrant industrial corridor that creates systems and tools that are used throughout the region. "Made in HB" gives us an insider's look at different industrial businesses that are the engines of our local economy.

The first episode features California Closets, a fully operational, award-winning manufacturer of closets, from design to completion. How to Watch: HBTV 3 at 11am and 8pm daily bit.ly/SurfCityTV on demand or here.
The City of Huntington Beach would like to congratulate Patricia Albers, a recipient of the Mayor's Excellence Award!

Patricia works in our Administrative Services Department as a Senior Analyst. She has done an amazing job supporting the Public Works Department as it fills a large number of new vacancies. Patricia is timely in all her responses and can be trusted to follow through with all commitments.

She is also able to provide constructive feedback in a respectful manner and demonstrates honest and ethical behavior in her duties. She has been very hardworking in helping us complete our recruitments, often filling several of them at one time.
2021 SPARK OF LOVE TOY DRIVE

It's that time of year to help others in need during the holidays. The Spark of Love Toy Program benefits local charity and non-profit groups in our community who provide toys to kids and teens who may otherwise not fully enjoy the magic of the holidays.

The earlier in the season you donate, the more impact your donation will have. Here are the various ways you may donate this season:

- Individuals may drop off new and unwrapped toys at Huntington Beach fire stations, Marine Safety headquarters, Senior Center in Central Park and City Hall. Bins will be placed outside each location’s front door during business hours. We ask that you deliver toys without knocking on the door or ringing the doorbell.

- Monetary donations may be made through the non-profit Huntington Beach Fire Outreach Foundation (HBFOF). By credit card or PayPal on the HBFOF website and select the Spark of Love image to proceed to PayPal or scan this QR code.

- Or, send a check or money order, payable to 'HBFOF' with a note of “Spark of Love” and mail to: HB Fire Outreach Foundation, 6771 Warner Ave, PO Box 1903, Huntington Beach CA 92647

- Toys may be purchased from the Huntington Beach Fire Department Gift Registry or scan this QR code:

- Group donations for collection programs at a business, neighborhood or community group, please contact Ruben Solorzano at 714-536-5411 to arrange for a collection bin (while they last) or a drop off appointment. For more info email fire.department@surfcity-hb.org.
DON'T LET FOG CLOG YOUR DRAINS
THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

**Fats, Oils, and Grease** are no joke. While they may make your food delicious, they can cause serious plumbing issues if disposed of improperly. Plumbing blockages can cause sewage to overflow into your home or the street, posing a hazard to your health and the environment. Don’t fall victim to FOG this holiday season.

DISPOSE RESPONSIBLY!
Your pipes and wallet will thank you.

Use these tips this holiday season to prevent FOG from clogging your drains:

- If you are deep frying, don’t pour the leftover grease down the drain. You can recycle your used cooking oil at the following locations:
  - HHW Collection Center located at 17121 Nichols Ln. HB Gate 6
    - 714.834.4000 www.oclandfills.com 9am-3pm
  - Orange Coast College Recycling Center located at 2701 Fairview Rd Costa Mesa 714.432.5131

- Pour used cooking oil into a can/container with an absorbent material, like coffee grounds, sand, or paper towels, and dispose in the trash.

- Wipe all grease and food from dishes into the trash before washing.

Your help is needed!
Report sewage spills by calling (714) 536-5921, After-hours (714) 960-8825. Visit the City’s FOG Program website for more information
https://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/fog
TIPS FOR MAKING YOUR HOLIDAYS LESS WASTEFUL

The holidays are a wonderful time when many of us gather with family and friends to celebrate. But many traditional holiday celebrations can also generate a lot of waste. Try to reduce holiday waste by incorporating some of the following tips into your festivities this year.

When entertaining:
- Avoid plastic and other single-use tableware. Use metal, glass and ceramic as much as possible – wash and reuse.
- If you don’t have enough reusable serveware, try renting. Check online for local party rental companies.
- Share leftovers! Encourage family and friends to bring their own container from home.
- If you are using a caterer, ask if they can donate leftover food to a local food bank.
- Set up separate labeled containers for recyclables and trash. Don’t bag your recyclables. Keep them loose and free of food and liquid residue.
- Avoid plastic water bottles. Set up a pitcher or dispenser and let guests fill their own reusable glass.

For holiday gifting:
- Avoid foil, plastic coated, and cellophane wrapping paper because these are not recyclable.
- Fold or reroll and save wrapping paper to reuse whenever possible.
- Instead of curly plastic ribbon to tie gifts, use cloth ribbon or raffia so that it can be saved and reused.
- Avoid sticker tags or sticky bows on your gift bags – tie a tag and ribbon to the handle instead so the bag can be reused.
- After the gifts are opened, take the plastic windows, zip ties, foam blocks, and other fasteners out of cardboard packaging. Flatten and recycle the cardboard and put the rest into the trash.
The City of Huntington Beach has received the Building Excellence Shaping Tomorrow (B.E.S.T.) Award from the American Public Works Association (APWA) for the design and construction of the City’s Navigation Center. Located at 17642 Beach Boulevard, the Navigation Center was selected over projects built by the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, and the County of Orange.

Working under a tight timeline, the City acquired the property, designed the facility and completed construction of the Navigation Center in less than four months, opening its doors to the first homeless clients on Monday, December 7, 2020. The completion was not easy given the time constraints and limited resources in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. By making use of a prefabricated sprung structure, the City was able to quickly construct the facility and cut down on long-term energy costs due to the structure’s sustainable nature.

Managed and operated by Mercy House, the Navigation Center has the capacity to provide safe, short-term shelter for up to 174 adults. Additionally, the Center provides enhanced services and programs to assist with issues related to substance abuse, mental health, education and career support. Since opening less than a year ago, the facility has already provided temporary housing and services to over 150 unhoused individuals.

“The completion of this much-needed facility serves as a testament to the teamwork we have grown accustomed to here in Huntington Beach,” said City Manager Oliver Chi. “It’s amazing how transformative improvements can be made when a group of people truly work together, and I am immensely proud of our team here in Surf City, and way in which everyone pulled together to overcome the many challenges associated with this effort.”

For more information visit HB Homeless Solutions.
ADULT SERVICES EVENTS

Booklovers unite! It’s time for another session of the library-sponsored “Central Library Book Club”, coming up on Tuesday, December 7 from 7 to 8 p.m. This month’s featured book, by Rebecca Searle, is *In Five Years*. Fans of time-travel and "what if’s" will enjoy this unforgettable novel that explores a successful lawyer's glimpse into her future five years from now, only to be returned to the present day. Was this a dream or a premonition? Can she change anything?

All adults aged 18 and above are welcome to share some thoughtful discussion at this online event. Registration is required, since seats are limited, and the event URL will be sent to the e-mail provided. Click [here](#) to register.

For those who have not yet mastered the art of holiday gift-wrapping, the Central Library is here to offer some helpful tips at their upcoming “Gift Wrapping Techniques” class, taking place on Tuesday, December 14 at 4 p.m. Join others in-person at the library’s Talbert Room and learn some tricks and techniques to ensure the perfectly wrapped gift! Some supplies will be provided for demonstration, but attendees are welcome to bring their own boxes, wrapping paper or other materials to get specific help with those items. To register, click [here](#) since there are a limited number of seats available.
Students in pre-K through 8th grade are invited to participate in the “2021 Children’s Writing and Illustration Contest”, sponsored by the Authors Festival Committee of the Friends of the Children’s Library. This year’s topic is “Stairway to ??” and participants are encouraged to write and/or illustrate a story, poem, letter, song or essay about a set of hidden stairs in the library! Imagine what would happen if one day on a visit to the library, someone opens a door and finds a secret staircase! What does it look like, where does it go? Will it lead to a different place or time? Who is there and what happens? Entrants are encouraged to include in their narrative what their character might be seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling and touching. Also sponsored by the Sand Scribes Children’s Writing group, this contest is a great way to build literacy and creative skills in children. Contest entries are due at the Children’s Library desk by 4 p.m. on Saturday, December 18. Winners will receive a Barnes & Noble gift card and a certificate! For the required entry form and complete contest rules, visit fotcl.org/events.
YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT — ALL AGES FUN EVENT

People of all ages are invited to meet at the Huntington Beach Public Library on Saturday, December 18, from 1-3 pm for the “NASA Webb Telescope STEAM Fun Day”! “STEAM” stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math, so attendees will get to take part in activities featuring these key learning areas. Also, in celebration of the launch of the James Webb Space Telescope, there will be a variety of space-related crafts and activities just for families. The Webb Telescope is an amazing new space exploration tool that is poised to find the first galaxies that formed in the early universe, giving astronomers brand new tools to expand knowledge of the universe. Registration is not required, but since supplies and program space are limited, early arrival is highly recommended. The event will take place in the Talbert Room of the Central Library.

LITERACY DEPARTMENT

For those interested in help preparing for the Naturalization Exam to become a U.S. Citizen, the Literacy Volunteers at the Huntington Beach Central Library are pleased to present another series of their popular “Citizenship Classes.” The classes begin on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 from 10 a.m. to noon and will continue every Wednesday for 11 weeks, until March 16, 2022. Instructors will cover all aspects of the exam, including test questions and answers, some history, and what to expect during the exam. The class is free and open to the public, and will be in-person in the Balboa Room at the Central Library. This class is also ideal for anyone who would like a refresher course before their fast-approaching appointment, or someone who started the classes but was not able to finish. Class size is limited, so advance registration is required. Click here to register.
BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS

The Huntington Beach Public Library system is pleased to announce that three of their branch libraries have now returned to their regular hours of operation and a fourth, Oak View Branch, is almost fully open! The most recent branches to re-open are the historic Main Street Branch Library and Oak View Branch Library. Please visit one or all of the branches during the following regular operating hours.

All of the staff at the branch libraries are looking forward to providing the community with the same outstanding services as before – now, full time! We welcome patrons to stop by any of these convenient branch locations to browse books, pick up a book on hold, check out some DVDs or magazines, or use the computers and printer/copiers.

Main Street Branch Library
525 Main Street
Tuesday-Thursday 9 am - 6 pm
Friday and Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Banning Branch Library
9281 Banning Avenue
Tuesday-Thursday 9 am - 6 pm
Friday and Saturday 9 am - 1 pm

Helen Murphy Branch Library
15882 Graham Street
Monday & Wednesday 1-7 pm,
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9 am -2 pm

Oak View Branch Library
17251 Oak Lane
Monday - Friday, 9 am - 9 pm
Saturday 9am to 1pm
The Youth Volleyball league ended with an action packed game at the City Gym and Pool! The 1st place Spikers Team took on the 3rd place Volleyballers! The teams fought hard and took the championship match all the way to the third game after the Spikers took game one and the Volleyballers came right back with the equalizer. After an action packed game three, the Spikers came out victorious, winning the match and the league! A HUGE thank you to the VOLUNTEER coaches that made this season possible! It was a great season for everyone!

Next up is the Coed Youth Basketball League! Registration is currently ongoing and the league will begin on January 8, 2022. Find out more at HBSands.org or call us directly at (714)-960-8870.
Winter Wishes  
Holiday Gift Collection

Feeling the need to spread some peace and cheer this holiday season?
The Senior Center is collecting gifts for older adult Care Management and Home Delivered Meals clients this year.
Individual wishes can be found on the tree in the Travel & Resource Room between November 22 and December 14.

New, unwrapped gift items with the wish tag attached, should be returned by December 15th to give our team time to deliver before the holidays. Contact: Michelle Yerke, Social Services Supervisor, 714-374-1521 or myerke@surfcity-hb.org with any questions.
The Huntington Beach Police Department will co-host a Toys for Tots drive on Saturday, December 11 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the HB Sports Complex (18100 Goldenwest). Representatives from the police department will be on hand, and we will have static displays and other goodies for kids. To participate, please bring a new, unwrapped toy for donation.
HUNTINGTON BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT IS HIRING

HBPD is now hiring! We're looking for hardworking candidates ready and willing to serve the HB community.

The HBPD is currently seeking individuals for the following roles:
- Police Officer (Experienced)
- Communications Operator (Trainee)
- Communications Operator (Experienced)
- Police Cadet

For more, visit www hbpd org/careers
Our December calendar is packed, so come on over and enjoy your holidays in HB! Also, our Winter Wonderland Ice Skating Rink at the Pier is in full swing. Drop by or purchase tix in advance at [http://ow.ly/qoEq50GTHwf](http://ow.ly/qoEq50GTHwf).

### DECEMBER 2021 EVENTS IN HUNTINGTON BEACH

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CITY HALL DIRECTORY

General Info.............................. (714) 536-5511
City Attorney............................ (714) 536-5555
City Clerk................................. (714) 536-5227
Passports................................. (714) 374-1600
City Council............................... (714) 536-5553
City Manager.............................. (714) 536-5202
Community Services....................... (714) 536-5486
Beach Operations......................... (714) 536-5281
Business Development...................... (714) 536-5582
Finance Department....................... (714) 536-5630
Business Licenses......................... (714) 536-5267
Fire Department........................... (714) 536-5411
Human Resources.......................... (714) 536-5492
Information Services....................... (714) 536-5515
Library Services........................... (714) 842-4481
Community Development................... (714) 536-5271
Code Enforcement........................ (714) 375-5155
Police Department......................... (714) 960-8811
Public Works.............................. (714) 536-5431
Graffiti Removal.......................... (714) 960-8861

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA