

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

December 13, 2010

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Welcome to New Finance Director

The City welcomes Lori Ann Farrell the City's new Finance Director. Lori Ann joined the Huntington Beach team on Monday, December 13. Lori Ann served the City of Long Beach as Chief Financial Officer for the past 4 years managing a budget of \$2.5 billion dollars and directing 136 employees in five offices including the Office of the City Treasurer, City Controller, Budget Director, and Purchasing and Commercial Services.

Prior to working for the City of Long Beach, Lori Ann was the Administrative Services Director for the City of Lomita, CA from September 2003 to February 2006. She also worked in the private sector as a Financial Advisor for Citigroup/ Smith Barney in Long Beach. After her graduation from Columbia University, she worked for the New York State Division of the Budget then as Director of Financial Compliance and Claiming for the New York City Administration for Children's Services.

Lori Ann Farrell has her Master of Public Administration and Bachelor of Arts from Columbia University and was honored with the Alfred P. Sloan Fellowship for Outstanding Academic Performance. She can be reached at 714-536-5630 and her email address is loriann.farrell@surfcity-hb.org.

City Hall Holiday Closure

In order to save taxpayer's dollars, City Offices and off-site facilities will be closed during the holidays between Christmas and New Year's Day. The closure will not impact essential public safety services. The closures will be as follows:

City Hall will be closed December 24 – January 2, re-opening on January 3. Limited staff will be available in some offices to process payments and schedule building inspections.

Community Services facilities – Edison Center, Murdy Center, City Gym, Senior Center and Art Center will be closed. The Sports Complex will be available through reservations and the batting cages will be open. The Pier, beach area, beach parking area, and Main Promenade Structure will be open. Senior Outreach will continue providing Meals to the Home for those homebound seniors.

The Central Library will be open December 27 – 30 from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm. All branch Libraries will be closed.

Police and Fire will continue to be available and will answer any emergency 9-1-1 calls. The Police building will be open during the furlough. Fire Stations will be open and staffed for emergencies.

Questions regarding the City's holiday closure can be directed to Public Information at 714-536-5577 or email lpayne@surfcity-hb.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Community Services

Visit Surfing Santa on Main Street. Santa will be in town through December 24, 2010, for photos with Surfing Santa (dogs and cats welcome). There will be snow on Main Street Dec 18-24 from 1:00pm - 8:00pm - come build a snowman! Also, listen to Mrs. Claus' Story Time on Saturday Dec. 18 at 12:30pm, 2:30pm, 4:00pm, & 4:30pm and Kids' Activities, Arts & Crafts Dec 18 – 24 at 12:00pm & 5:00pm. For more information contact www.hbsurfingsanta.com

Huntington Beach Senior Services

The Rodgers Seniors' Center is willing to assist all of us by taking those White Elephant Gifts off our hands and help with our New Year's Resolutions by accepting all those tempting Christmas gift-basket items and candy. The Center is able to use our donations of new, unopened gifts and basket items as raffle prizes for senior bingo and other events. The center also needs stationary, note cards, scarves, bed and bath items, coffee/tea items, chocolate items (hot chocolate, candy, etc.), cheese and crackers and the like. The center is always looking for new or gently used baskets! Please deliver your items to the directly to the Seniors Center at 1706 Orange Avenue. For information call 714-536-9387.

Rose Parade Excursion Registration Now Available Online!

The City of Huntington Beach is now taking registration for the 122ND Rose Parade. This year in addition to walk in registration we will be accepting registration online! Simply go to www.surfcity-hb.org/sands/, enter the link and follow the directions! Tickets include transportation to and from the event so you don't even need to worry about finding a parking place. We have a limited number of reserved bleacher seats at 2000 E. Colorado. The price is \$115 per ticket and may also be purchased at City Hall on the fifth floor in the Community Services Department. The busses will leave at 6:45 a.m. on January 1 and are scheduled to return at approximately 3:00 p.m. Parking is located at 2180 Walnut so be prepared to walk up to one-half mile. All registrants under 17 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Call Community Services at 536-5486 for more information. City Hall will be closed from Dec. 24 – Jan. 1 so sign up early!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Village At Bella Terra Redevelopment has Begun

The long awaited demolition of the Montgomery Ward and Mervyn's buildings has begun. The Montgomery Ward buildings have been vacant since the company closed in 2001. The

demolition will make way for the second phase of Bella Terra - The Village at Bella Terra. The project, which was approved by the City Council on September 20, 2010, will include Costco and a mixed use development with 467 rental units and 17,500 additional square feet of retail and restaurant uses.

FIRE

Fireman's Fund Grant and Robert Mayer Corporation Donation

A ceremony was held at Lake Fire Station on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, including Mayor Carchio, representatives from the Fireman's Fund, Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services and the Robert Mayer Corporation. The Fire department received \$15,000 in grant funding from the Fireman's Fund and a \$15,000 matching donation from the Robert Mayer Corporation. The funding will be used to replace outdated self-contained breathing apparatus which provide an emergency air supply to firefighters in contaminated environments.

Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman's Fund products are able to direct these grants to support fire departments in their communities. Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services was instrumental in directing this specific donation to the Huntington Beach Fire Department. As part of their ongoing support of the Fire Department and community involvement, the Robert Mayer Corporation provided a matching donation.

Structure Fire

On the morning of December 12, the Huntington Beach Fire Department, along with a unit from the Fountain Valley Fire Department, responded to a structure fire on Poe Drive. When the first fire unit arrived on scene, they reported a two-story house with heavy smoke and fire coming from the second floor. It was initially reported by neighbors that there were three adults possibly in the home. Fire crews worked aggressively to attack the fire and to search the residence for any victims. Fortunately, nobody was in the house.

While involved in firefighting operations, two firefighters narrowly escaped injury when they fell through the second floor which had burned through beneath them. The firefighters were caught by the floor joists which prevented them from falling all the way through to the first floor.

The home sustained extensive fire, smoke, and heat damage to the second floor with associated water damage on the first floor. Initial damage estimates are approximately \$200,000 to the structure and \$20,000 of contents. Further loss was reduced by the aggressive actions of firefighters. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation.

Award of Excellence

On Friday, November 5, the Huntington Beach Fire Department (HBFD) was presented with an Award of Excellence in appreciation for our dedication and commitment to patient care by Hoag Hospital's Regional Paramedic Advisory Committee,. Hoag's new program, "Code 60

D2B" (60 minutes from door to balloon) allows paramedics to evaluate patients in the field and get them to an appropriate facility that can insert a balloon into the artery and clear the blockage within 60 minutes of the onset. Two HBFD case studies were presented and paramedics Terry Jack, Ronny Perez, Chris Galbraith and Joel Whipp were mentioned for their efforts that assisted in successful outcomes for the patients.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

"Hope of the Carols" at the HB Central Library & Cultural Center Theater

Poimea Christian Fellowship presents "Hope of the Carols" performed by singer/actor Michael Sewell on Friday, December 17. This Christmas play depicts the story of a Pastor who, in the midst of great worry for his ill child, is trying to prepare a message for the Christmas service at his church. As he listens and sings some of the beloved Christmas carols, he discovers some of them were born from great devastation. While preparing his sermon for his congregation, he realizes the carols and his prayers of pain are becoming songs of triumph as he feels his faith renewing.

The play begins at 7pm in the Huntington Beach Central Library Theater. Admission is free. For more information: 714-403-4402.

Donate a Decorated Tile to Display in the Children's library

The Huntington Beach Public Library is offering an opportunity to commemorate a special person while helping the library raise money to buy children's books. A favorite teacher, remembered grandparent or birthday can be memorialized by creating a unique, hand-painted ceramic tile. The finished creation will be hung in the Children's Library. A tile can be purchased by the painter or given as a gift certificate - \$50 donation for one tile or \$80 for two tiles.

Once decorated, the tile will be fired and installed permanently on the Children's Library walls. The tile painting can be arranged by appointment when the Library is open Monday through Saturday. To schedule tile painting, please visit the Library or call (714) 374-5330.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Zero Tolerance for Teen Drivers and Alcohol

Teen drivers are issued Provisional Licenses that restrict the hours of when the teen can legally drive and who the teen driver can have as passengers. In addition, Provisional License holders, and anyone under 21 years of age, are subject to the Zero Tolerance Law.

The Zero Tolerance Law states it is against the law to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .01% or higher if you are under 21 years of age.

Under this law, on a first offense, the Provisional License holder's driving privilege will be suspended for one year if:

- The BAC is .01% BAC or higher, or
- The driver refuses the preliminary alcohol screening test
- The driver fails to complete the preliminary alcohol screening test

In addition, for drivers under 21 years of age, it is against the law to purchase beer, wine or hard liquor. It is also illegal to have alcohol on your person or in your car unless you are with a parent.

There is no safe way to drive while under the influence. Teen drivers need to remember one drink can make them an unsafe driver. The police department's message is ***Be safe –DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE!***

PUBLIC WORKS

Trash Collection and Street Sweeping Schedule for the Holidays

Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Saturday this year so there will be **no change** to residents' regular trash pick-up days. There will be street sweeping as scheduled December 20 - 23. Street sweeping is canceled for December 24 thru 31. Streets that are not swept due to holidays are not rescheduled. There is no make-up schedule for street sweeping.

Christmas Tree Disposal Pick-up

Rainbow Disposal will collect and recycle discarded Christmas trees and large cardboard boxes until January 21, 2011. To recycle your tree, simply remove all ornaments, hooks, light strings, tinsel, and stand and place it next to your carts on trash day. Trees must be cut to six feet maximum with no stands.

Cardboard must be flattened and stacked beside your trash carts. The automated trucks are not collecting the cardboard boxes and trees; please do not block access to the carts and do not put your Christmas tree in your carts. Residents with blue metal dumpster service should place trees to the side of the dumpster, not in front of or on top of the dumpster. Cardboard boxes should be flattened and placed inside the dumpster.

What Goes Where? Which cart do I use for gift boxes, wrapping paper, Styrofoam and other packaging?

Gift boxes, bubble wrap, wrapping paper, bows, and most other wrapping material can go in your blue recycling cart. Molded packing Styrofoam can be placed in your brown trash cart. Styrofoam packing peanuts should be secured in a box or bag so they don't fly away and placed in your brown trash cart.