

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

December 19, 2011

CITY MANAGER

City Hall Holiday Closure

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

City Hall will be closed December 26 – January 2, re-opening on January 3. Limited staff will be available in some offices to process payments and schedule building inspections.

The first City Council meeting in 2012 will be Tuesday, January 17, 2011, due to the observance of Martin Luther King Day.

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.

Marine Safety Officers will be patrolling the beach daily 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Lifeguard Headquarters will be open December 26 through January 16 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. Parking passes will be available for sale at this location.

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 holiday closure. 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 lfrymire@surfcity-hb.org.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services

New Year's Eve Ballroom Dance - The Huntington Beach Council on Aging will host their annual New Year's Eve Dance and Dinner at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center, 1706 Orange Avenue in Huntington Beach on Saturday, December 31, 2011, from 8:00 P.M.-12:30 A.M. (Doors open at 7:30 P.M.).

Your ticket includes the swinging sounds of the Bob Warren Trio, raffle prizes, a festive buffet dinner, and a "Grand Countdown Champagne Toast" at midnight. At the buffet, there is a choice of maple-glazed ham with raisin brandy sauce or roast beef with cabernet sauce and a four-station bread pudding bar for dessert. Wine is available for purchase.

Purchase tickets for \$35 at the senior center front counter. The purchase of eight tickets reserves a table. Singles are welcome at the friendly single's table. Tickets must be purchased by Thursday, December 22, 2011. For more information, please call the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center at (714) 536-9387.

Softball Registration

Registration for the Winter 2012 Adult Softball leagues is now underway. The registration deadline is January 12, 2012. 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 January 22, 2012, and will conclude in April. Registration packets are available on the City Adult Softball page or can be mailed out upon request. For more details or information, please contact the Community Services office at 714-536-5230.

Adult Arena Soccer Sign-Ups

The City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department offers year round adult arena soccer leagues at the award winning Central Park Sports Complex. Games will be played on artificial sports turf under the lights beginning the week of January 15, 2012. Team registration costs are \$400.00 per 8-week season and referee fees (\$20.00) per game paid directly to the official by each team. League play will be 6 vs. 6 including the goalie. Women's leagues are offered on Sunday afternoons; men's on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday; and Coed on Thursday and Friday. All teams must have uniforms with numbers. Registration packets are available at City Hall, on the City website, or by mail upon request. For league information or to be placed on the individual players list, please contact (714) 536-5486. The deadline to turn in team registration to the City is January 6, 2012.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ice Skating at the Beach?

Perhaps anything is possible in Surf City! The Holiday Ice Rink at The Strand will continue through January 1, 2012. Skate rental is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children ages 12 and under. The Holiday Ice Rink is also available for group rental and private events. For more information about The Strand and its holiday happenings, visit www.atthestrand.com.

CPAB Public Hearing on Community Needs

On January 5, 2012, at 7:00 PM, the Citizens Participation Advisory Committee (CPAB) will hold the first of its two annual public hearings on community needs in Room B-8 of City Hall. CPAB is the advisory board to the City Council with the responsibility for making recommendations for annual allocations of Community Development Block Grant Program funding. The public hearing on community needs is an opportunity for members of the community to provide input to CPAB pertaining to those priorities for fiscal year 2012-13, based on the City's Five Year Consolidated Plan. Those priorities are: housing, homeless needs, community development and community services, and anti-poverty. For more information on the CDBG Program visit:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/ed/cdbg/>

FIRE

Structure Fire

On December 14 at approximately 10:00 a.m., firefighters were dispatched to a structure fire on Pickwick Circle. Upon arrival, firefighters reported fire from the second level and smoke coming from the roof area of the three story apartment building.

A second alarm was ordered and an interior fire attack knocked the fire down quickly. Smoke filled the second and third levels and required evacuation while the smoke was cleared. The fire briefly extended to the third level and required firefighting efforts in the unit above the initial apartment. The fire was declared under control at 10:43 A.M.

One resident suffered minor injury while attempting to extinguish the fire on the second level prior to Fire Department arrival. Two other residents reported minor injuries, but were not transported to the hospital. The cause of the fire is under investigation and the initial damage estimate is still pending.

INFORMATION SERVICES

If you are a resident of HB, the city website has a web application, "MyHB," where you can find out your street sweeping and trash collection days, nearest parks, and view an online map of your neighborhood. Check out "MyHB" at:

<http://hbmaps.surfcity-hb.org/viewer.htm>

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**'TIS the Season for reading on that new eReader**

Think there might be an eReader gifting this holiday season? Wondering what ebooks are available and where to get them? Wondering who has a great selection of eBooks to borrow and read for free?

Good news! The Huntington Beach Public Library has a growing collection of eBooks that work on the Kindle, Nook and iPad and LOTS of other devices. Come to the Library for special "How To" sessions on Friday, January 6, Monday, January 9 (both @ 2:00 pm.) or Thursday, January 12 (@ 5:00 pm) to find out more about eBooks, and what kinds of eBooks work on which kinds of readers. This hour long workshop will introduce borrowers to the library's collection, the software that works with the various eReaders on the market and some basic information about check outs and returns. Check the library website, www.hbpl.org, for more information. Happy Holidays!

Adult Literacy Volunteer Training

The ability to read and write has never been more important than it is now in our complex, technologically advanced society. Huntington Beach Library Literacy Services trains community volunteers to assist other adults with the literacy skills they need to succeed.

Winter 2012 Tutor Training begins Wednesday, January 18. There will be five sessions, Wednesday and Monday evenings from 6:00 pm to 9:00 p.m. at Central Library. Contact

Literacy Services at 714/375-5102 for more information or to register. Or, click *Literacy Programs* from www.hbpl.org to watch our video and download a registration form. *Volunteer today!*

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Administrator

On December 21, 2011, at 1:30PM in Room B-8, the Zoning Administrator will conduct a public hearing on the following item:

SITE PLAN REVIEW NO. 11-003/ VARIANCE NO. 11-004 (HOAG HEALTH CENTER

EXPANSION) to review a permit for the phased construction of an approximately 52,775 sq. ft. three-story addition to an existing 52,177 sq. ft. medical office building; and associated site improvements and to permit a proposed three-story, approximately 486-space parking structure. (19582 Beach Blvd., 92646 - east side of Beach Blvd., south of Yorktown Avenue – Hoag Health Center) Contact Jill Arabe, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information. A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

DUI Driving and Medications

Remember that all medications, prescription or over-the-counter, are potentially dangerous. Over-the-counter medicines that you take for colds and allergies can make you drowsy and affect your driving ability. If you must take medication before driving, find out the effects of the medication from your physician or pharmacist. **It is your responsibility to know the effects of the medications you take.**

Before you decide to drive, do not:

- Mix medications, unless directed by your physician.
- Take medications prescribed for someone else.
- Mix alcohol with your medications. This applies to both prescribed and over-the-counter medications.

PUBLIC WORKS

Christmas and New Year Holidays Affect Trash Collection and Street Sweeping

Trash collection will be on holiday schedule during the weeks of December 26 and January 2 due to the Christmas and New Year holidays. Trash will not be collected on Monday, December 26 or on Monday, January 2. All residents should place trash for collection on the day after their regular route day. For example, residents on Monday's route should place their trash for collection on Tuesday, Tuesday's route on Wednesday, and so forth for the entire week. Friday's route will be collected on Saturday. The regular collection schedule resumes on Monday, January 9.

Street sweeping is suspended from December 26 through Monday, January 2. For the week of January 3 - 6, due to the holiday trash collection schedule, trash carts are at the curb one

day later than usual which conflicts with scheduled sweeping days in many neighborhoods. Residents should place trash carts at the curb or alley per the holiday schedule. Neighborhoods on the 1st/3rd route schedule that can be efficiently swept will be swept per regular schedule. Example: where trash is collected from a rear alley. Neighborhoods that are impacted by trash carts at the curb will not be swept.

If you have questions about the holiday maintenance schedule, please contact the Public Works Maintenance division at 714-960-8861.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Rainbow Environmental Services will be collecting non-artificial Christmas trees for recycling from January 3 through January 13. The trees will be ground and recycled into mulch. To recycle your tree, simply remove all ornaments, hooks, light strings, tinsel, and stand, and place it **next to** your carts on your trash day. The automated trucks are not collecting trees so please do not block access to the carts and **do not** put your Christmas tree in your carts. Trees must be cut to six feet maximum, with no stands. Multi-family, condo and townhome residents with commercial service (blue dumpster) should place trees to the side of the dumpsters, not in front or on top of the dumpster. Check with your property manager or HOA for other restrictions.

After January 13, tree pickups will have to be scheduled as a 10/4 Pickup arranged directly through Rainbow Environmental Services. For further information, please contact Public Works Trash and Recycling at 714-375-5010 or Rainbow Environmental Services at 714-847-3581.

City of Huntington Beach Awarded a \$175,000 Grant by the Bureau of Reclamation

The Utilities Division is proud to announce that the City of Huntington Beach has been awarded a \$175,000 WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grant by the United States Bureau of Reclamation. The grant will allow the City to install CalSense centralized computer based irrigation control systems at 45 of the City's municipal parks.

A centralized computer based irrigation system manages irrigation schedules based on historical data and real time environmental conditions such as soil moisture, rain, wind and evapotranspiration (ET) rates, providing much more precise amounts of irrigation water needed to maintain healthy park landscaping. Information from sensors installed at each park is sent via radio signals to a master computer that will analyze the data and then direct the irrigation controllers at the park to modify/reduce the amount time needed to irrigate a particular zone or area.

Once this project is completed, a total of 65 city parks will be equipped with the new irrigation control system. Once the control system at each park is tested and fully adjusted, a reduction in water use of over 50 percent is expected.

In addition to saving water and being more water efficient, dry weather run-off from the parks will be reduced and a savings in energy and park maintenance costs will be realized.