

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

December 6, 2010

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

Monday's City Council meeting brought much change as three council members left the council and three new members joined the city. Cathy Green, Gil Coerper and Jill Hardy said "good-bye" as many community members shared their appreciation for the eight years each had served on the City Council. New members Connie Boardman, Matthew Harper and Joe Shaw were sworn in to begin their term on City Council. City Attorney Jennifer McGrath was also sworn in after her successful re-election. Following a reception to meet and greet the new members and thank the members leaving, the City Council voted to have Joe Carchio serve as Mayor and Don Hansen to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

This week the HBAC will host 120 third graders from Hawes Elementary School for a tour of the contemporary exhibition *Hidden Places*. After a docent-lead tour of the show, the students will participate in an artist-taught workshop that incorporates the standards-based curriculum related to aspects of art theory and skills development. The tour program, currently in its third year, is called Partners in Art and is funded by a generous grant from the Plunkett Foundation.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Ice Skating Rink at The Strand in Downtown HB

Make the most of your holiday activities - shop, dine, and ice skate in Downtown Huntington Beach. The Ice Rink will be open from December 22, 2010, to January 5, 2011. Skate rental is \$5 for children, \$7 for adults. The Ice Rink will be located on 5th Street, south of Walnut Avenue at The Strand. The street will be closed to vehicular traffic during this time. For more information on the Ice Rink and hours of operation log on to www.atthestrاند.com.

FIRE

Grant Funding and Donation

A ceremony will be held at Fire Station 5-Lake on December 8 at 10:00 a.m., where grant funding from the Fireman's Fund and Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services, along with a matching donation from the Robert Mayer Corporation, will be presented to a Mayor Joe Carchio and Fire Chief Patrick McIntosh.

The \$15,000 grant is part of a nationwide program which has awarded more than \$26 million in grants to fire departments for needed equipment, training and community education

programs. The matching donation of \$15,000 from the Robert Mayer Corporation is being made as part of their ongoing support of the Fire Department and involvement in the community.

The Fire Department will use the funding to replace outdated self-contained breathing apparatus that provide emergency air supply to firefighters while working in contaminated environments.

Candle Safety

Candles may be pretty to look at, but they are a cause of home fires – and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

“Candle with Care”

- Blow out all the candles when leaving the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.

If you do Burn Candles, make sure that you:

- Use candles holders that are sturdy and won't tip over easily.
- Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- Don't burn a candle all the way down – put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

FACTS:

- On average, a candle fire in the home is reported to a U.S. fire department every 30 minutes.
- Roughly two-fifths of home candle fires start in the bedroom.
- More than half of all candle fires start when things that can burn are too close to the candle.

For more information, visit www.nfpa.org/education.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Outstanding Librarian in Support of Literacy

Library director Stephanie Beverage was nominated for the “Outstanding Librarian in Support of Literacy” award for her commitment to literacy as a core library service, demonstrating her dedication on behalf of literacy from day one. Stephanie was presented with a framed

certificate of special recognition by adult and family literacy staff on behalf of California Library Literacy Services and the California Library Association for her tremendous support for literacy in the HB library. Congratulations to Stephanie and to HBPL's vibrant literacy program!

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Public Meeting on Murdy Commons Project

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 7, 2010, beginning at 6:00 PM at Central Library – Lower Level, Rooms C & D, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA, 92648 to take comments related to the adequacy of the environmental issues analyzed within the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Murdy Commons project. The draft EIR analyzes development of up to 984 dwelling units and 60,000 square feet of commercial area on a 12.5-acre site consisting of four contiguous parcels located at the northeast corner of Edinger Avenue and Gothard Street (former Levitz site). All existing improvements on the project site would be demolished.

Any person wishing to comment on the Draft EIR may do so in writing by December 20, 2010, the end of the 45 day public comment period, by providing written comments to Jennifer Villasenor, Associate Planner, City of Huntington Beach Planning and Building Department, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648. A copy of Draft EIR No. 10-002 is on file with the Planning and Building Department, City of Huntington Beach City Hall, 3rd Floor, 2000 Main Street Huntington Beach, California 92648. The Draft EIR is also available for review at the City Clerk's office, City Hall – 2nd Floor, the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648; and on the internet at <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/Planning/major/index.cfm>. For additional information, contact Jennifer Villasenor, Associate Planner, at (714) 536-5271.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pride Foundation supports the police department

On December 6, 2010, the Pride Foundation presented a recovered and restored flag of the United States of America to the Huntington Beach Police Department – Traffic/Aero Unit.

The flag had been discarded by an unknown person on the beach in 1995. A motor officer of the department found it, recovered it and cleaned it. It has been hanging in the Traffic/Aero unit office since then. Now, 15 years later, the flag was in need of cleaning and a more professional display. Members of the Pride Foundation, knowing the importance of the flag to the police officers, offered to pay the cost of having it properly cleaned, restored and mounted for display.

The Pride Foundation has been supportive of many programs with the police department involving traffic safety and substance abuse prevention, such as Every 15 Minutes. The Huntington Beach Police Department is thankful for the many forms of support we have received from Pride Foundation over the years. To see a photograph of Chairman Ron

Russell and board members, Cheryl Russell, Shirley Carey and Ruth Brisky making the presentation to the Traffic/Aero unit go to our official fan page at www.facebook.com/HuntingtonBeachPolice.

PUBLIC WORKS

Huntington Beach continues to conserve

Overall water demand compared to last year is down 969 million gallons, just slightly over 10%! Huntington Beach citizens are to be congratulated for their water conserving efforts.

