

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

January 21, 2013

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services in Our Park

After 30 years of serving lunch to the seniors of Huntington Beach, Pat Mullins is retiring and SeniorServe will host a free lunch with entertainment in her honor on Friday, February 1, 2013 at 11:30 a.m. at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center, 1706 Orange Avenue. "I have enjoyed the great people here at the center. My co-workers have been a delight and the volunteers most extraordinary." Pat leaves to spend more time with her husband who retired two years ago. SeniorServ hopes all will attend the retirement luncheon, old friends as well as new friends interested in the daily meal served at the senior center. Each weekday a delicious lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. The lunch is a balanced meal formulated by a registered dietician and recommended by the Orange County Office on Aging. Make reservations for the special retirement lunch by calling 714-536-8404 or come in any weekday by 11:00 a.m. for a good company and a hot lunch.

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

Funtime Dance for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Edison Community Center offers a Special Event once a month for adults with developmental disabilities. Recreation staff hosts the "Funtime Dance" every third Friday of the month from 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. The event is co-sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, The Sts. Simon & Jude Knights of Columbus, and Men's Club. Recreation staff and kind, individual volunteers create a safe, positive environment that enables adults with developmental disabilities to have a fun experience dancing to music played by a DJ. Each dance has a different theme and participants often dress-up according to the monthly theme. Last Friday's dance was a New Year's Celebration where dancers came in fancy dress. Additionally, refreshments including donuts generously donated to the dance by Adams Avenue Donuts, are served. The dance is completely supported by donations from sponsors and a suggested donation of \$2.00 per dancer.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Make Shopping Locally the Resolution to Keep for 2013!

One resolution you can make – and keep – for 2013 is to save money and support the community by shopping locally. Take a look at www.surfcityavings.com to find more than 100 local merchants – including restaurants, retailers, activities and services - to support Huntington Beach. Shopping locally helps to generate sales tax dollars, a portion of which is given back to the city to fund street and road improvements, public safety, senior services, beach maintenance, and more. The merchants in the Surf City Savings program are committed to saving you money. So, go ahead, dine out or shop in town and pat yourself on the back each time for supporting your local vendors all year long!

Applications Available for 2013-2014 Community Development Block Grant Funding

Applications for 2013-14 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding are available and will be accepted through 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2013. Each year

the City uses CDBG funds to assist non-profit public service organizations that provide services and housing to low- and moderate-income residents. The City also uses CDBG funds to support selected capital expenditure projects that result in developments or construction that meet the eligibility criteria for federal program funds. There are two application types: 1) construction and/or development projects that include eligible public facilities and infrastructure projects, property acquisition, and other eligible renovation projects; and 2) non-construction projects that include eligible public services, fair housing activities, and housing rehabilitation. For more information and to download an application, please visit: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/ed/cdbg/>.

FIRE

Fire Escape Planning

Plan Ahead. If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have only a few minutes to get out safely once the smoke alarm sounds. Everyone needs to know what to do and where to go if there is a fire.

Safety Tips

- Draw a home escape plan and discuss it with everyone in your home (you can download *How to Make a Fire Escape Plan* at www.nfpa.org/homeescape to get started).
- The plan should indicate all windows and doors that can be used to get outside if the smoke alarm sounds
- All members of the household should walk through the home to identify two ways out of each room (usually a door and a window).
- Practice the plan with everyone in your home at least twice a year using different ways out, at night and during the day.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can't help them.
- Have an outside meeting place (like a tree, light pole or mailbox) a safe distance from the home where everyone should meet
- Make sure:
 - o There are working smoke alarms in all required locations throughout the home; there's at least one on every level of the home, inside all bedrooms and outside each sleeping area.
 - o All doors and windows leading outside are clear, free of clutter and can be opened easily. Security bars should have a quick-release device so they can be used to get outside in case of a fire.
 - o House number can be clearly seen from the street
 - o All household members know how to get low and go under smoke in case escaping through smoke is necessary

If the smoke alarm sounds

- Feel the knob and door before opening a door
- Close doors behind you as you leave
- If you have to escape through smoke, GET LOW AND GO under the smoke
- GET OUT AND STAY OUT - Never go back inside for people or pets
- Meet at the designated meeting location

- Call 9-1-1 from outside your home

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

Structure Fire

On January 19, 2013, at approximately 3:30 p.m., firefighters responded to a call for a reported structure fire on Springdale Street.

An occupant reported that the fire occurred while they briefly stepped away from the kitchen while cooking and returned to find a fire on the stove top that they were unable to extinguish. The fire was out within 13 minutes of the arrival of the first engine company and the crews kept the fire contained to the unit of origin. There were no injuries reported. The Huntington Beach Fire Department reminds you to never leave cooking unattended and encourages you to visit our webpage for more home fire safety tips at:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/safety_tips/.

INFORMATION SERVICES

City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Did you know that the City website contains a section that has information on Community Services events? Events, such as "Easter Hunt Family Fun Day," "Ol' Fishing Hole Fishing Derby," "HB Pier Swim," "Huck Finn Fishing Derby" etc., has a page that contains the event date, time, location, contact information, event synopsis, photo gallery and previous event videos that were featured on Surf City Highlights. You can view these events pages on the Community Services department homepage under the "Community Services Events" heading.

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/community_services/events/events.cfm

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Friends of the Library Valentine Tea

Please join the Friends of the Library for their annual Valentine Tea on Friday, February 15 at the Central Library. The guest speakers will be romance writers Jennifer Haymore, author of the books *A Season of Seduction* and *Confessions of a Improper Bride*, and Linda O. Johnston, author of the paranormal romance *Undercover Wolf* and other romantic thriller titles. Book sales and signings will be available before and after the program which begins at 12:00 noon.

Tickets for the tea are \$25 and seating is limited. Please make checks payable to FOTL and mail to 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648, or drop it off at the Friends Gift Shop. Reservations must be received no later than Friday, February 8. For more information contact the Friends of the Library at 714-375-8429.

Get your creativity ready!

Surf City Kids Book Fest and Authors Festival is the last week of January: Monday, January 28 through Thursday, January 31. There will be all sorts of workshops, storytimes, and activities that encourage and stimulate a child's imagination. Tickets for the workshops may be purchased at the Central Library Children's Desk.

Monday, January 28

Writing workshop for children, grades 3 – 6, taught by children's author Stacia Deutsch, in the Talbert Room of the Central Library from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Cost is a \$5 materials charge per child. Space is limited.

Author Chris Epting will be speaking about writing non-fiction and local history on Monday, Jan. 28 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Tabby Theater. Recommended for grades 3 to 8. Adults are welcome to attend as well.

Picture Book Workshop for adults interested in writing books for children. This workshop is \$35 per adult and will be held in the Maddy Room from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Space is limited. Registration forms for this workshop are available in the Children's Department.

Tuesday, January 29

Special pajama storytime and parade at 7:00 pm in the Tabby Theater.

Wednesday, January 30

Pirates and Princess Storytime by children's author Laura Knowlton at 10:00 a.m. in the Tabby Theater.

Pop-Up Book Workshop for grades 2 – 4, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Talbert Room. Materials cost is \$5 per child. Space is limited.

Improv Workshop for Teens, grades 6-8. 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Tabby Theater. Materials cost is \$5 per teen. Space is limited.

Thursday, January 31

Annual Authors Festival and Reception: 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Central Library. Meet a variety of children's authors. Books will be available for sale and signing. Everyone who attends will receive a raffle ticket for FREE books. Drawings are held every 10 minutes.

Writing and Illustrating Contest Awards Ceremony 3:35 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Tabby Theater

"More Friends, Better Friends"

The Huntington Beach Public Library and BARE - Bully Awareness Resistance Education, Inc. - with recognition from www.HBReads.org announce a leadership course for teens ages 13 – 19. This class is taught by a Huntington Beach harassment attorney. It includes information about the following topics:

- Discussions of Thirteen Reasons Why, the 2013 HBReads.org choice which is a fictional account of a teen suicide, based on peer pressure;
- Leadership, Communication and social skills for teens;

- Parent and Student Night planned by students;
- "Leadership 101" – a book by John Maxwell provided to each attendee.

This class will be held on eight (8) Tuesday afternoons of fun, friends and food from January 15, 2013 through March 5, 2013; 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration is free and advanced registration is preferred.

If you want to make a difference in your world and learn skills that bring you a better quality of friends, if you believe that change should happen in your world, AND IF you want to be that change, this course is for you. For further information, please contact BARE (Bully Awareness Resistance Education, Inc.) at www.barethebully.org or (714) 375-1529.

Wine & Words Fundraiser to Benefit Library Literacy Program

The Huntington Beach Library Literacy Volunteers are hosting "Wine & Words", a wine tasting fundraiser, on Saturday, February 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the Library. A raffle and silent auction are also part of the event - the raffle grand prize is Park Hopper tickets to the Disneyland Resort! Early bird tickets are available for \$30 until February 1. After February 1, ticket prices increase to \$35 per person. Proceeds benefit the Library's Literacy Program. Register online at www.hbpl.org/literacy_programs. For more information, contact Amy Brennan with the Literacy Volunteers at hbpl.literacy.volunteers@gmail.com or call the Literacy Office at (714) 375-5102.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission

On Wednesday, January 23, 2013, at 7:00p.m. in the Council Chambers, the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on the following items:

APPEAL OF DESIGN REVIEW NO. 12-112 (9/11 MEMORIAL) Applicant/Artist: Patrick Vogel **Appellant:** Council Member Joe Shaw and former Council Member Devin Dwyer **Property Owner:** City of Huntington Beach **Request:** To permit the installation of a 9/11 Memorial at the Huntington Beach Civic Center, which measures 19 ft. in height, 19 ft. in circumference and is illuminated with a water feature. **Location:** 2000 Main Street, 92648 (Huntington Beach Civic Center) **Project Planner:** Rosemary Medel.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 12-025 (RITTER'S RESTAURANT AND ALCOHOL SALES) Applicant/Business Owner: Linh Nguyen **Property Owner:** CIM Huntington Beach, LLC. **Request:** To permit the establishment of a 1,763 square foot restaurant with beer and wine sales within The Strand development. **Location:** 180 5th Street, Suite 130, 92648 (The Strand, southwest corner of 5th and Walnut Avenue **Project Planner:** Rosemary Medel.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 12-030 (WAHOO'S RESTAURANT LIVE ENTERTAINMENT) Applicant/Business Owner: Scott Fessenden **Property Owner:** Michael & Sandra Hughes Trust **Request:** To permit live entertainment consisting of live music, acoustic guitar, and comedy acts on an approximately 182 sq. ft. stage area within

the existing restaurant. **Location:** 7891 Warner, 92647 (north side of Warner Avenue, west of Beach Boulevard) **Project Planner:** Ethan Edwards.

VARIANCE NO. 2012-005 (REISEN GARAGE – FORMER HOTEL EVANGELINE)

Applicant/Consultant: Brian Edwards **Property Owner:** Erich Reisen **Request:** To (a) construct an approximately 560 sq. ft. detached three car garage with a second floor storage area at a height of 23 ft., 8 in. in lieu of the maximum 15 ft. height for accessory structures and (b) allow two required open parking spaces to deviate from the parking design standards by permitting a tandem configuration on-site to provide a total six (6) on-site parking spaces (3 enclosed) as required by the Huntington Beach Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance. The subject request is in conjunction with the adaptive reuse of an existing legal non-conforming structure listed as a Historic Landmark in the City's General Plan. **Location:** 421 8th Street, 92648 (west side of 8th Street, between Orange Avenue and Pecan Avenue) **Project Planner:** Hayden Beckman.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 12-029 / VARIANCE NO. 13-001 (SURF CITY CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL EXPANSION)

Applicant/Architect: Marcus Paris, DeRevere & Associates **Property Owner:** Surf City Christian Preschool **Request:** CUP: To permit the expansion of an existing 2,890 sq. ft. preschool by constructing a new 2,800 sq. ft. building, an 18-space parking lot, and site improvements. **VAR:** To permit a 7 ft., 2 in. street side yard setback in lieu of a minimum of 10 ft. street side yard setback for the new preschool building. **Location:** 5432 Heil Avenue, 92649 (southwest corner of Graham Street and Heil Avenue) **Project Planner:** Jill Arabe. A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Auto Theft

Saturday night an alert citizen notified the police of a couple suspicious individuals who appeared to be pulling on car door handles in the parking structure of Bella Terra Mall. Police officers discovered the individuals leaving the parking structure in a vehicle that had been stolen in Cerritos the day before and had newly stolen plates on the vehicle. The suspects were arrested and booked in the Huntington Beach city jail for charges of vehicle tampering, possession of stolen property, and auto theft. Remember, keep your valuables out of sight and lock your doors. Also, thank you alert citizen for calling this in!

Distraction Burglaries

There has been a growing trend of distraction home burglaries, typically preying the older or the elderly. In a distraction burglary, the suspect(s) will initiate contact with the victim while they are in front of their home or in a public parking lot entering or exiting their vehicle. The suspects will typically claim to be roofers, utility workers, driveway pavers, painters or auto body repairmen.

They will claim they can remove the dents from your car, do some sort of repair work on your home or claim to be utility workers looking for gas leaks, electrical problems, water pressure issues, etc. They will offer a reduced price for their work to gain your undivided attention.

While suspect #1 is distracting the victim with his great deal, a second suspect will make entry into the home undetected. Suspect #2 will go to the usual places where jewelry, currency, etc. is kept, searching for valuables. Once suspect #2 is done, suspect #1 will momentarily excuse himself, disappearing with the valuables. Please be aware of this scam or any suspicious activity and call the Huntington Beach Police Department should you have any similar instances, or dial 911 if necessary.

PUBLIC WORKS

Annual Post-Holiday Electronics Recycling Event This Weekend

The Public Works Department and All Green Electronics Recycling are holding a free electronics recycling event this Friday and Saturday, January 25 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. This is a drive-through event in the parking lot at the Huntington Beach Sports Complex, 18100 Goldenwest Street, Huntington Beach (near the Goldenwest St./Library Entrance intersection). All schools, businesses, and residents from Huntington Beach and other neighboring cities are welcome. Items to be collected and recycled include computers, monitors, televisions, cell phones, MP3 players, printers, microwaves, cables, wires, laptops-- anything electronic! This is a perfect opportunity to clean out the garage or warehouse, get rid of those old dust-collectors and help protect the environment at the same time. The non-profit Project Self-Sufficiency will receive a donation based on the total weight of TV's and computer monitors collected. For more information, call Public Works Trash and Recycling at 714-375-5010 or All Green Electronics Recycling at 1-800-780-0347.

Manning Park Playground Area Speed Limit

At the January 22, 2013, meeting the City Council approved the establishment of a 25 mile per hour playground speed limit on Delaware adjacent to Manning Park, between Detroit Avenue and Bay Drive. Appropriate signs will be installed on the street to notify motorists that the speed limit will be reduced from 30 mph to 25 mph near the park between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily. In addition to reducing vehicle travel speeds, the action is intended to improve motorist awareness of the adjacent park and playground, and the presence of children playing at the park.

Civic Center ADA Schedule:

The Civic Center ADA Upgrades project started the end of last year and will last through late April 2013. Most of the first week was devoted to site survey and mobilization.

The goal of this project is to limit the amount of work occurring at the same time. Therefore, only two floors will be under construction at any given time. When your floor's restrooms are under construction, you will be required to go to another floor for a restroom.

The following is the tentative schedule:

Phase I - 11/26/12 through early/mid February 2013

- Lower Level main restrooms and new shower/locker rooms began 12/6/12 and will last through mid February 2013

- Council Chambers Caucus Room Restrooms began 12/24/12 and will last through early/mid February 2013
- Exterior site work began 12/4/12 and will last through late February 2013
- 5th floor restrooms began 12/4/12 and will last through mid February 2013
- New hall area ramp on lower level began 1/21/13 and will last through mid/late February 2013

Phase II – early February 2013 through late January 2013

- 4th Floor restroom/kitchenette mid February 2013 through mid March 2013

Phase III – late January 2013 through mid March 2013

- 3rd floor restrooms/kitchenette mid February 2013 through mid March 2013
- 2nd Floor restrooms/kitchenette mid February 2013 through mid March 2013

Phase IV – mid March 2013 through mid April 2013

- 1st floor restrooms/kitchenettes and lobby mid/late March 2013 through late April 2013

Phase V –Elevators March 2013 through mid April 2013

- Elevator 1 mid March through early April 2013
- Elevator 2 early April 2013 through late April 2013

We will try and limit the amount of inconvenience this project will cause, but there will likely be times when noise, limited access issues, and general construction activities will occur. As with any construction project, estimated construction dates are subject to change. However, we will make every effort to complete this project by late April 2013. Should you have any questions you can contact Eric Charlonne at extension 5430 or Duane Wentworth at extension 5517.