

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**January 23, 2012**

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### **Huntington Beach Art Center**

On Saturday January 28, the Huntington Beach Art Center Foundation is hosting a festive fundraising event called ***Mardi Gras Night in Monte Carlo*** - a fun filled evening of Vegas-style gaming. Gaming tables will feature Texas Hold'em, Craps, Blackjack, and Roulette. Raffle prizes include a 32" Flat Panel TV and DVD player, a Barbeque Grill with tools and a gift card to Omaha Steaks, an HB parking pass and more. Sponsored by the Huntington Beach Auto Dealers Association, the evening will include live jazz, a Mardi Gras mask contest, delicious appetizers, and silent auction. VIP tickets are \$75; General admission is \$50. Valet parking will be available. Please call the Art Center at 714-536-5258 for information and reservations.

### **Huntington Beach Senior Services**

Braille Class – On Friday, February 3 and the first Friday each month from 12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center the Braille Institute offers a free Braille class. People who need low-vision assistance will learn orientation and mobility, dining with ease and library services. Register in-person at Rodgers Senior Center, 1706 Orange Avenue or call 714-536-9387.

### **Recreation Programs**

Shooting Stars Basketball begins February 4! The program is open to youth with special needs between the ages of eleven and twenty-one. Participants will learn the fundamentals of the sport while staying active and having fun outdoors. The program facilitates both physical and emotional development, and emphasizes social growth through team building exercises. Each basketball drill is modified to the needs of the individual so all participants have an equal opportunity to succeed. Players will learn how to dribble, pass, and shoot through fun, instructional drills, and scrimmages. Registration is available now at your local community center or online at [hbsands.org](http://hbsands.org)

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### **Surf City Nights – Fun All Year Round!**

When the temperatures in Surf City rise, so do the crowds at Surf City Nights. But the shopping, dining and entertainment continues year-round at Orange County's largest weekly Street Fair & Certified Farmers Market! Smaller crowds on Tuesday nights means less competition for the best picks of produce at the Certified Farmers Market, easier parking, shorter wait times at restaurants and a little more elbow room while shopping at the booths and local merchants. Surf City Nights is held on the first three blocks of Main Street every Tuesday evening from 5 to 9 p.m. Don't forget the "KIDS Corner" featuring a talented face painter, video gaming truck, inflatable amusements, balloon artist and games! For more information on Surf City Nights and all the happenings in the downtown visit: [www.hb-downtown.com](http://www.hb-downtown.com).

## **FIRE**

### **Apartment Fire**

On January 18, 2012, at approximately 6:00 p.m., firefighters were dispatched to an apartment fire on Stark Drive. Upon arrival, Firefighters found smoke in a second floor apartment and assigned additional firefighters to the third floor. During operations, the fire suddenly flashed and extended out of the bathroom, into a bedroom, and out into the hallway. The fire was brought under control with fire damage confined to the original apartment.

Red Cross responded to provide care and shelter to the apartment occupants and their pets. The estimated loss is valued at \$75,000. The fire is currently under investigation and no one was injured.

## **INFORMATION SERVICES**

Did you know that you can get your Passport at City Hall? Find out find about this service on the city website at:

[http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/elected\\_officials/city\\_clerk/passport\\_info/](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/elected_officials/city_clerk/passport_info/)

## **LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **Streamlining Computer Access @ the Library**

Access to computers and the internet becomes more important to library users every year. Whether looking for employment, doing research or just staying in touch with family and friends, many residents rely on the library for their online access. To keep computer and internet access working smoothly, the library is working to install new software to streamline the sign-in and printing processes. For the next few weeks some computers will be down and printing access will be intermittent. We are letting computer users know about this project in order to minimize any inconvenience. The new software, *Envisionware*, is used by many public libraries, allowing more people than ever to use library computers with minimal staff intervention. The new software and equipment will help us sustain our services more effectively, even in times of tight budgets and staff reductions.

### **Grandparents & Books Meeting/Workshop**

The Children's Library of the Huntington Beach Public Library held its quarterly meeting/workshop of Grandparents and Books on Wednesday, January 18. This program, sponsored by the Huntington Beach Public Library Children's Department and the Friends of the Children's Library (FOTCL), was started in the 1990s to give children and their parents (or caregivers) an opportunity to listen to books being read aloud by an older reader. Readers provide young listeners (from ages 1 – approximately 7 years) with seasonally-appropriate books, stickers and hand-stamps. Grandparents, children and parents alike enjoy the stories and the interactions on a daily or twice a week basis.

For more information on this volunteer reading program, please call the Children's Library at (714) 375-5107 or visit the Library's web site at [www.hbpl.org](http://www.hbpl.org) and follow the "Kid Stuff" link to

"Storytimes/Events" for a detailed listing of all five libraries' story time sessions, including the Grandparents and Books program.

**"Different" – A Program to Help Children Understand and Appreciate those who are Disabled**

The Huntington Beach Public Library is sponsoring a series of four programs to help children understand and appreciate those people who differ from them.

Each of the programs will feature a blind person with a guide dog, an American Sign Language interpreter for the hearing impaired, an art project involving the use of a wheelchair, and story time about differences between children. Each program is free and will last approximately one hour.

The programs will take place as follows:

Wednesday, January 25 at 3:30 p.m. at the Oak View Branch Library located at 17251 Oak Lane, Huntington Beach

Thursday, February 2 at 2:30 p.m. at the Banning Branch Library located at 9281 Banning Avenue, Huntington Beach

Monday, February 23 at 1:30 p.m. at the Barnes and Noble, in the Bella Terra Shopping Center on the corner of Beach Blvd. and Edinger Avenue in Huntington Beach

Thursday, February 23 at 3:30 p.m. at the Huntington Beach Central Library located at 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach

**PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**Planning Commission**

On January 24, 2012, at 7:00PM in the Council Chambers, the Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on the following items:

**SUBSEQUENT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) NO. 07-002/ GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT NO. 11-001/ CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 07-039(R)**

**(HUNTINGTON BEACH SENIOR CENTER)** to review the environmental impacts associated with the Huntington Beach Senior Center Project to permit the development of a 45,000 square foot senior center facility, a 227-space parking lot with spaces for City vehicles and shuttle buses, and an outdoor open space area. (18041 Goldenwest Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648) Contact Jennifer Villasenor, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information;

**CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 11-024/VARIANCE NO. 11-006 (HB WOMAN'S CLUB)**

to review a request to permit the reconstruction of the woman's clubhouse to replace the former fire damaged clubhouse, originally built in 1916. (420 10<sup>th</sup> Street, 92648 - east side of 10<sup>th</sup> Street, between Orange Avenue and Pecan Avenue) 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**

**HBPD Promotions**

On January 7, 2012, Chief Small made several promotions due to a number of recent retirements from the Huntington Beach Police Department.

Captain Russell Reinhart was promoted from the rank of Lieutenant. He had been the Chief's Executive Officer for the past three years. Captain Reinhart started as a police cadet with the Huntington Beach Police Department in 1986. He has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and a Masters Degree in Public Policy and Administration, both from California State University Long Beach.

Lieutenant Mike Freeman was a police officer in Long Beach for four years before coming to the Huntington Beach Police Department. Mike has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Studies-Vocational Arts from Cal State Long Beach. Most recently was the Sergeant for the Directed Enforcement team.

Sergeant Kreg Muller started with the department in 1987. In 2002 he went to Vice, then in 2006 he went to General Investigations as a Detective. Kreg is currently assigned as a Sergeant working Uniform Patrol.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Water Main Flushing Program**

Beginning February 7, the City of Huntington Beach Public Works Utilities Division will be implementing a water main flushing program in the north section of the City from roughly Garfield Avenue to the City's northern border. The program is typically performed as routine maintenance and helps maintain the quality of the water in the distribution system.

Utilities Division crews will be operating fire hydrants in order to flush the system. This work will be performed Tuesdays through Fridays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The program is expected to take approximately four months to complete.

Customers may experience some discoloration of their water during or following flushing activities in their neighborhood. This is only temporary and is not harmful. The discoloration should disappear by running faucets for a few minutes. If discoloration persists, or if customers have questions pertaining to the flushing program, they should call the Utilities Division at 714-536-5921.

### **Award of Funding for Edinger Trail Project**

In 2010, the City completed the landscape improvements along the north side of Edinger Avenue west of Bolsa Chica Street. The project was funded collectively through a Federal grant, private fundraising by local residents, and City funding. Through community input during the design phase, the need for on-street parking was identified along Edinger Avenue for activities such as the annual boat parade. City staff was able to incorporate a pedestrian/bicycle path into the design that would allow for the removal of the striped bicycle path currently located along the north side of Edinger Avenue. This in turn would allow for reconfiguration of the street striping to facilitate on-street parking along the south side of Edinger Avenue. Not only will this path provide a safer travel route for bicyclists, but will also allow residents to enjoy the newly landscaped area.

However, due to funding constraints the path as envisioned was not completed as part of the project. Luckily, in October of 2011, OCTA informed the City that a State grant had been awarded in the amount of approximately \$192,000, which will cover 75% of the construction cost to complete the path. It is anticipated that City will provide the necessary 25% match and will budget this project in the FY 2012-13 Capital Improvement Program.