

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

July 12, 2010

CITY CLERK

From 8:00 a.m. Monday, July 12 through 5:00 p.m. Friday, August 6 the nomination period will be open for the following offices:

- 4 City Council positions for a full 4-year term
- 1 City Attorney position for a full 4-year term

Those wishing to run for the office of City Council must be a resident and registered voter in the City of Huntington Beach. To run for the position of City Attorney, the candidate must be a resident and registered voter in the City of Huntington Beach and must be an attorney at law, duly licensed as such under the laws of the State of California and shall have been engaged in the practice of law in this State for at least three years prior to his/her election.

For more information, or to schedule an appointment to pull nomination papers, please call the City Clerk, Joan Flynn, at 714-536-5404.

Record Day for Passports!

On Monday, July 12, 2010, the City Clerk's Office processed 165 passport applications. This is the largest number of applicant's the office has seen in a single day since becoming a certified acceptance facility in 2001. In early June, the U.S. Department of State announced that the application fee for U.S. passports would increase from \$75.00 to \$110 for adults, and from \$60.00 to \$80.00 for children effective Tuesday, July 13. The City of Huntington Beach collects a service fee of \$25.00 per application, which means that yesterday's efforts netted a general fund deposit of \$5,205 (\$1,080 earned in passports photographs).

Microfilm Conversion Project Complete

In April 2009, the City Clerk's Office began the process of converting microfilmed images of permanent City Council records into a digital format so that they could be filed within the SIRE FileCenter electronic data management system (EDMS) for use by staff and the public. The process involved working with a third party vendor to establish benchmarks for image quality, splitting pages, optical character recognition (OCR), in addition to exporting index information and conducting a quality control of all converted images. The project was recently completed and special thanks go out to Rondi Nuno and Sheena Cathey for their efforts to view and successfully process a total of 162,771 images. Good job!

CITY TREASURER

Quick Tip of the Week – Customer Feedback

Customer feedback is priceless if you do something with it. If you use it well, it can help your organization more than any other information. And, if you ask for it in the right way, you'll engender more customer loyalty, because people like it when you ask their opinion. And they like to help.

Good feedback produces customer engagement. It builds stronger relationships with your customers. It draws them closer to your organization.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Senior Softball at the Central Park Sports Complex

The Huntington Beach Council on Aging partnered with the City of Huntington Beach in hosting the 22ND Annual Senior Softball Tournament at the Huntington Beach Central Park Sports Complex. The tournament continued to have inter-state appeal as teams from Arizona joined teams from Simi Valley, Valencia, Oxnard, Carlsbad, and of course, Huntington Beach. There were 22 teams competing in six divisions for the claim to be the best of the Southland in their competition level. All participants in the tournament received the very popular, special edition, commemorative shirt celebrating the anniversary of this event.

Many of the participants in this year's event commented on how much they enjoyed the tournament and are looking forward to next year's tournament. The teams appreciated the support by the Huntington Beach Council on Aging and the City of Huntington Beach in continuing to offer this annual event.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Transportation is a vital issue for seniors and their number one need across the nation. In Huntington Beach, Senior Services addresses this need through the award-winning *Surf City Seniors on the Go* transportation program. Senior Services provides transportation for qualified Huntington Beach residents 55+ each weekday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. for all transportation needs within Huntington Beach and to the social security office in Fountain Valley. Non-emergency medical transportation is also available to Hoag Memorial Presbyterian Hospital, Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Orange Coast Memorial Medical Center. For more information call 714-374-1742.

Family Camp Out

The Community Services Dept. held its annual camping event at Huntington Central Park on July 10 and July 11 with sponsorship from REI. Over 260 people participated in the event. Campers could attend organized activities, drop-in activities, or just kick back and enjoy the beautiful area. The activities included: Peak program (by REI), nature crafts, nature hike with visit to Shipley Nature Center, games, and a visit to Adventure Playground. Mary Pat Gonzalez entertained everyone with stories and songs. Inside the Outdoors gave an educational presentation and brought snakes and other creatures to show. This year we were joined by Joel Robinson who gave a demonstration of foraging and how to prepare food that can be found all around us. Dinner and breakfast were prepared by the Lions Club. Participants are looking forward to next year's sold-out event!

Opera Kadabra – July 25, 2010

For one night only, the Huntington Beach Art Center Foundation is bringing Opera Kadabra! to the Art Center. This unique event combines the excitement of a magic show with the resounding voice of opera. Come experience the dazzling magical and vocal talents of Patrick Bell, accompanied by pianist Eveline Eng. Appetizers and desserts are included with admission. Suitable for all the family, tickets are priced \$35 for adults and \$15 for children.

Show time is 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Tickets are available online at www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org or by calling 714. 374.1650

Rock Paper Salt – Now open through September 4, 2010

The main gallery is host to a new solo contemporary art exhibit featuring the work of Christine Nguyen titled *Rock Paper Salt*. Step into the visually stunning world of color and light that the artist has created. Large scale photographs, cyanotypes, specially commissioned installation pieces, and drawings form the different elements of this exhibit which is certain to intrigue and delight you. Admission is free. For gallery hours call 714.374.1650

Children's Summer Art Camp – Art at the Beach, June 21 – August 13, 2010

The theme of this week's Summer Art Camp is "Our Favorite Artist." Camp participants will fabricate a book and create a visual diary which will form the basis of diverse art works. Children ages 6-12 can choose from full and half day session. Space is still available. Register at the Huntington Beach Art Center or reserve your place online at www.hbsands.org. For more information call 714.374.1650

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Free Yoga in Downtown Huntington Beach

Enjoy yoga outdoors with an ocean view! Classes are held every Friday from 9 am to 10 am on the first block of 5th Street at The Strand. The outdoor yoga area is closed off from vehicular traffic. The yoga class takes place in the center of the street and soft flooring is placed directly on the ground for the outdoor class. Bring your own yoga mat and enjoy the view.

Downtown Art Walk

For a night of art and culture, come to the Downtown Art Walk next Wednesday, July 21 from 6 pm to 9 pm. The Art Walk is held the third Wednesday each month. Begin the Art Walk at the Art Center (538 Main St.) where you will be provided a map of all the locations of art exhibits in town: in the businesses, restaurants, and unique spaces in the Downtown area. Conclude your tour at the Shorebreak Hotel. The ongoing event will feature the talent of established and emerging artists, musical entertainment, poetry readings, and much more. For information, contact the Downtown BID office at (714) 536-8300.

Mickey Mouse at the Strand

It's your last chance to visit Mickey Mouse at the Strand. In an effort to kick off the festivities for Major League Baseball's All Star Game at Angel Stadium, the MLB placed 7 ½ foot Mickey Statues at key Southern California landmarks. In Huntington Beach, the Mickey Mouse statue, sporting the Milwaukee Brewers, has been at The Strand in Downtown Huntington Beach since early June and will be there until this weekend, July 17-18. Stop by and take a photo with Mickey before he is gone!

FIRE

Garage Fire Safety Checklist

The garage is one of the more common places that a fire can start. If you follow these easy steps, you can help reduce the chances that a fire will happen to you.

- ✓ Keep only small quantities of gasoline and in an approved safety container.
- ✓ Store paint and other flammable liquids in their original containers with tight fitting lids.
- ✓ Use and store flammable liquids far away from appliances, water heaters or other sources of heat or flame.
- ✓ Clothes dryers must be vented. Remove accumulated lint and dust from dryer vent hose.
- ✓ Store oily rags in a metal container with a tight fitting lid to avoid spontaneous combustion.
- ✓ Do not store anything adjacent to the water heater.
- ✓ Never smoke near flammable liquids.

To dispose of household hazardous waste call (714) 834-6752.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Free Laptop Computing Classes at Central Library

This month begins a series of laptop-based computer classes to be held at Central Library and various branch locations. On Friday July 30 at 10:00 am in the Balboa Room, the library will offer the first installment, "Laptop Basics": a simple introduction to laptop computing. This class is limited to four students in order to allow instructors to offer hands-on, personalized assistance. Register online at www.hbpl.org, select "Events" and select event type "Training". You can also stop by the Central Library Reference Desk or call 714-842-4481. *This program is supported by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the California State Librarian.*

SARBS 17th Collections Training Seminar at the Central Library

The Huntington Beach Central Library Theater and Meeting Room facility will be welcoming the California Water Environment Association's Santa Ana River Basin Section (SARBS), to conduct their 8th annual seminar on Thursday, July 22, 2010. The seminar offers training for SARBS employees from Orange County, Inland Empire and the high desert, on the newest technologies that keep drinking water and waste water clean. Discussions will include current issues effecting water and waste water, from a simple broken water pipe to public disasters including earthquake and floods. There will also be an opportunity for those attending the seminar, to speak to vendors and view the latest equipment to keep SARBS workers safe on the job. Most importantly will be the opportunity to network and discuss the issues affecting the SARBS workers today and the issues of how to save money for their respective agencies. Members of HBPW will be in attendance. Typically, those participating in the seminar from other cities take the opportunity to bring family and to spend the weekend in Huntington Beach's fine hotels and playing at the beach and in the ocean they work to protect. It is a win, win, win, for SARBS workers, for California, and for the city of Huntington Beach. For more information, contact Ralph Palomares - e-mail: rpalomares@etwd.com.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Ridge

On July 6, the City Council approved the requisite entitlements for The Ridge development. The applicant, Hearthside Homes, is seeking subdivision and development of a 22-unit single-family planned unit development (PUD) with a 5,776 square foot common open space area on an existing approximately 5-acre parcel located at the Southeast Corner of Bolsa Chica Street and Los Patos Avenue. The 22 residential lots will range in size from 5,114 square feet to 12,250 square feet. The proposed 4 and 5 bedroom dwellings range in size from 2,700 – 4,200 square feet, and are two-stories with a two- or three-car garage. Local Coastal Program Amendment for this project must still be submitted to the California Coastal Commission for approval.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

DUI Driver Arrested for Running Over her Fiancée

On July 9, 2010, at about 7:43 pm, a female had an argument with her fiancée in the beach parking lot at PCH and 6th Street. She entered the car first. She accelerated the vehicle backward and struck her fiancée knocking him to the ground. As he started to get up, she accelerated forward and struck him a second time again knocking him to the ground. She attempted to back over him a third time but citizens in the area were able to pull him out of the way to safety.

The vehicle left the parking lot and was at the red light of PCH and 6th Street when several police officers on foot approached. She ran the red light and attempted to run over the police officers. The officers jumped out of the way and avoided being struck by the vehicle. Two police officers in a patrol vehicle got behind her and a short vehicle pursuit was initiated southbound on PCH. The suspect vehicle ran another red light at PCH and 1st Street and collided with another vehicle. The suspect vehicle became stuck in the congested traffic at Huntington and PCH and the driver surrendered without further incident.

The fiancée, a 60 year old male from Buena Park, received minor injuries from being struck with the vehicle and was not hospitalized. The driver of the vehicle, Maureen Geddie, a 65 year old female from Buena Park was arrested and booked at Huntington Beach City Jail for attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, hit and run, and driving under the influence of alcohol.

PUBLIC WORKS

Arterial Highway Rehabilitation Project Begins

The reconstruction of three arterial street segments will begin in early August. Sections include Slater Avenue from Beach Boulevard to Newland Street, Magnolia Street from Warner Avenue to the I-405, and Gothard Street from Heil Avenue to Edinger Avenue. Reconstruction includes removal and replacement of roadway and curb, gutter, street trees, and sidewalk as necessary. The project will require approximately five months to complete. Daytime lane closures will occur and some street parking restrictions enforced. Funding is provided from State Proposition 1B, Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port

Security Bond Act of 2006, the \$20 billion bond measure approved by the voters. The City received \$6.26 million for the repair of local streets.