

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

July 16, 2012

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

The public is invited to join us on Thursday July 19 from 6-8 p.m. for an informal panel discussion with the Pegasus School students from the Algalita Marine Research Team. They will address their scientific study of plastic debris on local beaches with Casey Metkovich from the Surfrider Foundation. Presented in conjunction with the current exhibition, ***Escape from the Landfill***, the panel discussion is part of the Art Center's Late8 series. Admission is free. Call the Art Center for info at (714) 374-1650.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Pickleball in Huntington Beach! Four courts have been painted and officially designated for Pickleball play at Worthy Community Park, located at the corner of 17th Street and Main Street (1831 17th Street). Pickleball is played on a badminton court with the net lowered to 34 inches at the center. It is played with a perforated plastic baseball (similar to a whiffle ball) and wood or composite paddles. It is easy for beginners to learn, but can develop into a quick, fast-paced, competitive game for experienced players. Designated times: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Saturday 8 – 10 a.m. For beginners, a limited amount of nets and equipment will be available for checkout. More info: 714-374-1710, and visit www.usapa.org to learn more about this fast-growing sport!

Senior Days at the Fair-Huntington Beach Senior Services is providing transportation to the Orange County Fair on Friday, July 27 and Friday, August 3. Sign-up in-person at the Michael E. Rodgers Senior Center front desk, 1706 Orange Avenue, Huntington Beach. A \$5.00 deposit is required and will be refunded when the senior gets on the bus. Senior admission to the fair on those days will be \$6.00 and includes free admissions all day on the Ferris wheel and merry-go-round. The bus will leave Rodgers Senior Center at 9:00 a.m. and will leave the fair at 2:00 p.m. to return to the Rodgers Senior Center. For more information, call the senior center at (714) 536-9387.



Summer T-Ball concluded on Monday, July 16, at Edison and Murdy Community Centers. This instructional league for 3-5 year olds teaches fundamental t-ball techniques, basic rules of the game and strengthens social skills! The program not only stresses the rules and strategies of the game, but important lessons about life as well. City youth sports programs are designed to develop the whole person, not just the athlete, and demonstration of sportsmanship is a required element of all city youth sports programs. Parks really do make life better - for peewee athletes and their families. Visit www.hbsands.org for more youth sports programs.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Experience HB Now

The City of Huntington Beach recently put together a video that highlights the reasons why Huntington Beach is a great place to do business. In an effort to attract and retain quality businesses in Huntington Beach, the video contains a series of brief testimonials encouraging businesses and residents alike to "Experience HB Now." See for yourself the positive attributes our city has to offer the business community:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/videos/hbtv3/experience-hb-now-business.cfm>

FIRE

Home Safety Tips for the Elderly

Many senior citizens are choosing to live alone, or may be visiting, so it is important to take into consideration some simple tips to help safeguard themselves and prevent injuries. As people age, there are many factors to take into consideration. The following are some helpful tips.

- To avoid tripping hazards:
 - Remove scatter rugs
 - Reduce clutter
 - Keep stairs and entry ways brightly lit
 - Relocate lamps and appliances close to walls so the electrical cords are not in the traffic areas. If a cord must extend across a traffic area, secure the cord with brightly colored tape to draw attention to it. Do not cover the cord with a rug as the bump may create a tripping hazard.
 - Move low furniture out of traffic areas
- Use non-skid wax and floor cleaners to prevent a slippery floor
- Use a textured bathmat in shower stalls, bathtubs and floors to reduce the risk of slipping
 - Other helpful bathroom devices – raised toilet seats and grab bars
- Brighten lighting by using at least 100 watt bulbs for reading and at least 60 watt bulbs in most other rooms
- Place night lights in the pathways, especially the route to the bathroom
- Lower water temperature on water heaters to avoid scalding
- Keep regularly used items located on shelves that are easily accessible
- Steps and ramps – consider building a ramp or gradual slope with a handrail for easier access
- Smoke Alarms
 - Test smoke alarms at least once a month by pushing the test button.
 - For added safety, interconnect all the smoke alarms so that when one sounds, they all sound
 - Smoke alarms with non-replaceable (long-life) batteries are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years, which can be helpful for people who have difficulty changing batteries
 - Smoke alarms and alert devices, called accessories, are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Strobe lights throughout the home are activated by smoke alarms and alert people who are deaf to fire conditions. When people who

are deaf are asleep, a high intensity strobe light is required along with a pillow or bed shaker to wake them up and alert them to fire conditions.

- Heating
 - Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment (i.e., furnace, fireplace, portable space heater)
 - Never use your oven to heat a home
 - Turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed

The Fire Department's Senior Home Inspection Program (SHIP) has trained volunteers who provide free home safety inspections. Callers can leave a message on the Project SHIP request line at 714-374-1615 and a volunteer will contact them to schedule the inspection.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know the City website has a page that contains contact information for all of the utility companies that serve the City? It has contact information for cable, electricity, natural gas, water/trash/sewer and phone companies. The page is under the Residents navigation tab and is called Utility Services: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/utility-services/>

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Saving Money at Your Local Library

In today's online world some people wonder what the library still has to offer. Isn't it just dusty books and magazines? Tuned-in residents know that the library serves its public in lots of new ways – including saving money! Don't have a computer and printer and online connection? Come use a library computer and printer or get free WiFi access for your laptop. If the bills for borrowing or streaming movies are piling up, borrow some great new DVDs from the library. Even if that hot new release is checked out, there are lots of great movies for adults and kids priced at \$1.00 per week. Downloading a song online is convenient, but for that same \$1.00, you can get the whole CD - thousands of new and classic CDs are available for you to borrow. When you are looking for high-quality educational activities for your toddler or young child, consider the free and low cost programs at the library – weekly story hours in particular, are great free programs that teach and entertain young children and the Huntington Beach Library offers some of the best available. The library still has books, of course, with hundreds of new releases on display every day. By thinking twice before you click "buy now," you can save some serious money by borrowing that new best seller, eBook, career guide, cookbook, or travel guide. For more ideas visit www.hbpl.org and click on "Events/News" to see what programs are coming up. To get a real idea how much can be saved by using your library, click "Contact Us/About" from the home page and pick "value calculator" from the choices on the left. Forget the dusty books and the shushing librarian – today's library connects you to a world of possibility and saves money at the same time!

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Administrator

On July 18, 2012, at 1:30PM in Room B-8, the Zoning Administrator will conduct a public hearing on the following items:

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 12-06 (VEGILICIOUS RESTAURANT) to review a request to permit the conversion of an existing retail space into a new 1,300 sq. ft. restaurant within a commercial shopping center (16821 Algonquin Street, Unit 103, 92649 (northwest corner of Davenport Drive and Algonquin Street – Huntington Harbour Mall). Contact Tess Nguyen, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information;

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT NO. 12-08/ TEMPORARY USE PERMIT 12-03 (5th STREET CLOSURE) to review a request to permit the closure of 5th Street between Pacific Coast Highway and Walnut Avenue (within The Strand) everyday between June 15, 2012 and September 15, 2012 to allow for outdoor events (5th Street, 92648 - between Pacific Coast Highway and Walnut Avenue, within The Strand). Contact Ethan Edwards, project planner, at 714-536-5271 for further information.

A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Homicide Suspect in Custody

On July 17, 2012, at about 12:20 AM, the Huntington Beach Police Department received a call of a possible stabbing at an apartment in the 7800 block of Newman Avenue. Responding officers located a male victim of the stabbing at that location.

The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead. He was later identified as 32 year old Huntington Beach resident, Michael Vito Urso.

Witnesses provided information on a possible suspect who was identified as a 22 year old Huntington Beach resident named Alexandre Louis Antal. At approximately 3:45 AM, Antal was located in the area of the Santa Ana River Bridge near Brookhurst Street and Hamilton Avenue. He was arrested without incident. A weapon, which appears to be involved in the crime, was recovered nearby. Antal was later booked into the Huntington Beach Jail for murder.

The suspect and victim were well-acquainted and detectives are continuing their investigation into the crime. There are no outstanding suspects. Anyone with additional information is asked to call Detective Reilly at (714) 536-5940. See the Huntington Beach Police Department Facebook at www.facebook.com/HuntingtonBeachPolice for more information.

The Neighborhood Watch Newsletter is now available online at:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Government/Departments/PD/crime_info/neighborhood_watch.cfm.

PUBLIC WORKS

Parking Lot Improvements Enhance Greer Park

The Maintenance Division of Public Works recently renovated the parking lot at Greer Park, located at 6900 McFadden Avenue. The existing pavement had deteriorated to a point beyond the maintenance benefit of a slurry seal. A city contractor completed an asphalt overlay on July 6. In the overlay process, the existing edge of pavement is ground down and

a new 2-in. layer of asphalt concrete is constructed. This much needed improvement extends the service life of the pavement and provides a smoother, more attractive setting for park visitors.

City Council Reconsiders the Removal of Tree on Main Street Rehabilitation Project

On July 16, 2012, the City Council directed staff to prepare a design that would allow a large Eucalyptus tree to remain in place. Public Works is preparing modifications to the construction project that will include curb and gutter that is bumped out into the parking lane to provide room for the large roots of the tree. Additionally, the sidewalk will be modified over the top of the elevated tree roots.

The overall project will rehabilitate the pavement on Main Street from Utica Avenue to Adams Avenue and Garfield Avenue from Delaware Street to Beach Boulevard. The improvements also include limited replacement of curb, gutter, sidewalk, access ramps and replacement of street trees that are either in a declining condition or damaging infrastructure. The project utilizes rubberized asphalt concrete which contains crumb rubber derived from waste tire rubber. This project will divert over 239,000 waste tires from landfills to the asphalt surface of the streets.