

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

March 18, 2013

CITY MANAGER

Fireworks Booth Applications Available – Must be Submitted by March 31

The booth application for groups interested in selling Safe and Sane fireworks July 2013, is now available for completion. There will be ten fireworks booths located in the City selling fireworks.

The fireworks vendor is TNT Fireworks and booth locations have not yet been decided. Any group interested in selling fireworks for 2013 must complete an application and **submit it by March 31, 2013**.

All eligible non-profit groups that send in applications will be included in a drawing to be held by the Fourth of July Board of Directors. The drawing will be at a public meeting to be determined.

The application is can be downloaded at huntingtonbeachca.gov. Eligible groups must be located in Huntington Beach and be an IRS certified 501(C)3 organization. Other restrictions listed in the application apply. For more information, call Laurie Frymire at (714) 536-5577.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services is Our Park

Through a partnership with California State University Long Beach (CSULB), Huntington Beach Senior Services will offer free Home Health Assessments to Huntington Beach seniors on Tuesdays through April. The Health Assessments will be conducted by nursing students from CSULB School of Nursing under the supervision of a Public Health Nursing Instructor. The assessments include: General home safety check, medication review, nutrition assessment, physical activity assessment, disease self-management, and resource referrals. To schedule an appointment, call 714-960-2478.



Youth Indoor Coed Volleyball League

The City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department is proud to offer the 2013 youth Spring Indoor Coed Volleyball League at the City Gym and Pool. The nine-week competitive volleyball league stresses the importance of having fun, good sportsmanship, and positive communication while learning the fundamentals of volleyball. Players will receive a HB recreation jersey and league awards. The first week of evaluations will be held at the City Gym and Pool March 30, 2013, and registration is still available at any Community Center and online at www.hbsands.org. For questions, please call the City Gym and Pool at 714-960-8884.

Adult Arena Soccer Sign-Ups

The City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department offers year round adult arena soccer leagues at the award winning Central Park Sports Complex. Games will be played on artificial sports turf under the lights beginning the week of April 1, 2013. Spring team registration costs are \$400.00 per 8-week season plus referee fees (\$20.00) per game paid directly to the official by each team. League play will be 6 v 6 including the goalie. Men's leagues are offered on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday and Coed on Thursday and Friday. All teams must have uniforms with numbers. Registration packets are currently at City Hall, on the City website or by mail. For league information or to be placed on the individual players list, please call 714-536-5486. The Deadline to turn in team registration to City Hall is March 22, 2013.

Marine Safety

On March 9, the Huntington Beach Marine Safety Management Association hosted a "Firefighter Surf Orientation" coordinated with the Orange County Firefighters Emerald Society as part of their annual "St. Patrick's Pipes and Drums" event. Lifeguards volunteered to lead the three-hour orientation involving 25 firefighters representing the Dublin, Ireland; New York City, Boston, Cleveland, Seattle, and Pierce County, Washington Fire Departments. There were over 100 firefighters and officials present.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**New Year. New Energy and New Opportunity – this week**

The 26th Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce Economic Conference is fast approaching on March 20, 2013 at the Hyatt Huntington Beach. Find out what's happening in California, Orange County, and Huntington Beach, and what opportunities there are to help you grow and re-energize your business throughout 2013! The program will start with a keynote address by Mark Schniepp, Director of the California Economic Forecast. The California Economic Forecast prepares forecasts and economic commentary on the regional economies of California. The second keynote address will be Tom Patty – author of Marketing without Money and How to Grow Your Business.

The Conference will also feature two panels:

Panel 1) Risks & Threats Facing Business Today - moderated by City Manager Fred Wilson, with panelists – Tom Harman, Former California State Senator; John Moorlach, Orange County Board of Supervisors, 2nd District; Matthew Harper, Huntington Beach Mayor Pro Tem.

Panel 2) Opportunities and Strengths to Re-Energize your Business Today - moderated by Jerry Wheeler, with panelists - Michael J. Bouma, Senior Vice President of Voit Real Estate Services; Patrick Brenden, Home Run Media Group; Departure Marketing; Bruce Greenwood, Beach Senior Vice President and General Manager of Los Angeles Region for Costco Wholesale. Contact the Chamber of Commerce to register at hbchamber.com or (714) 536-8888.

March 21 Downtown Artwalk Celebrates Fashion Beauty and Health

The success of the Huntington Beach Downtown Artwalk continues on Thursday, March 21 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. with this month's theme "Celebrating Fashion, Beauty and Health." The free Artwalk is open to the public held on the third Thursday of each month and is a themed art show, featuring artist displays in restaurants and stores throughout Downtown Huntington Beach and offering opportunities to purchase art for sale and meet the artists themselves, first-hand. For information on the Artwalk or to become a featured artist, performer or host, please visit: <http://www.hbdowntown.com/ARTWALK.html> or call (714) 536-8300.

FIRE

Gel Fuel Warning

As with any product, manufacturer's instructions should be followed, but the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) issued a special alert in September 2011 due to the number of cases where people have been injured while using gel fuel and may be unaware of the dangers associated with its use.

- Due to the serious risk of flash fire and burns when consumers add pourable gel to an already burning fire pot, NFPA and Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) are warning consumers to immediately stop using the pourable gel fuel.
- Gel fuel and gel fuel pots should be considered an open flame and pose a serious danger.
- The fuel can ignite unexpectedly and splatter onto people and objects nearby when it is poured in a firepot that is still burning.
- Pouring gel fuel in a device that is not completely cool may result in a fire or injury.
- These devices will be hot during and after burning.
- The burning gel fuel sticks to skin and is difficult to extinguish.
- It is not easy to see the gel fuel flame, especially in daylight.
- A flame may still be burning even when it is not visible, and pouring fuel on any open flame is extremely unsafe.

FACTS

- Stop, drop and roll may not put out clothing that catches on fire involving splattered or spilled gel fuel.
- A dry chemical extinguisher or baking soda can be used to extinguish the fire.
- Several deaths and multiple victims with second and third degree burns have been reported. A number of these injuries occurred during the refueling process.

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

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know that Huntington Beach residents and visitors can camp their RV or autos with a trailer on the beach? You can find information about this service at:

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/Visitors/Beach_Info/parking_and_camping.cfm#rv_parking

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

5K Walk/Run and Kids Fun Run

Literacy Volunteers is holding a **5K Walk/Run & Kids Fun Run** on Sunday, April 14, 2013. The event will be held in HB Central Park, and will start at 8:00 am. This day of activities will include a Walk, a Run, a course for strollers, and a Kids Fun Run. The entry fee is \$30 through Monday, April 1, and \$35 after that date. The Kids Fun Run entry is just \$5.00. The entry fee includes a t-shirt for adults and a medal for the kids' fun run; all entries include after race snacks and festivities.

Go to the [5K Walk/Run](#) website for details and online registration, or contact Literacy Services for more information, (714) 375-5102.

Literacy volunteers assist adults and families with developing the necessary English skills to become more involved in their community. Adults get jobs and promotions, understand their health care information, become citizens, get their GED, and much more. Parents learn to read with their children in English, and help their children become successful in school.

Literacy Volunteers is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. All proceeds benefit HB Library Literacy Services.

Family Literacy Program addresses Technology Literacy

The Family Literacy Program will be working with a group of students enrolled in the Master's in Library and Information Science program at San Jose State University this spring on an exciting project! These master's students are part of Michael Stephens' "Transformative Learning and Technology Literacies" class and are designing an online learning program for literacy tutors and students to increase computer literacy skills. During the six-week project, approximately 25 tutors and students together will explore email, internet searching, Pinterest, Facebook, Jobscout and blogging among others. The project is meant to help people learn about free online technology tools in a fun, exploratory way.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**Reusable Bag Ordinance**

On Monday, March 18, 2013, the City Council voted to certify Environmental Impact Report (EIR) No. 2011-002 as adequate and complete and approve for introduction Ordinance No. 3975, otherwise known as the Reusable Bag Ordinance.

The Reusable Bag Ordinance prohibits the distribution of plastic carryout bags in commercial point-of-sale purchases within the City and establishes a 10 cent charge on the issuance of recyclable paper carryout bags at all grocery stores, supermarkets, drug stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, food marts and farmer's markets. All stores affected by the Ordinance are required to provide reusable bags to customers either for sale or at no-charge, and each store is strongly encouraged to promote the use of reusable bags through staff education and customer outreach.

Stores affected by the proposed Ordinance include full-line self-service retail stores with gross annual sales of two million dollars (\$2,000,000), or more (Wal-Mart, Target, Home

Depot); stores of at least ten thousand (10,000) square feet of retail space (Kohl's, Michaels, Hobby Lobby); or drug stores, pharmacies, supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience food stores, food marts, or other entities engaged in the retail sale of a limited line of goods (CVS or Walgreens pharmacies, 7-11 and other convenience or liquor stores).

The City's objectives for the Reusable Bag Ordinance include:

- Reducing the number of single-use plastic bags distributed by retailers and used by customers in Huntington Beach
- Deterring the use of paper bags by customers in Huntington Beach
- Promoting a shift toward the use of reusable carryout bags by retail customers in Huntington Beach
- Reducing the environmental impacts related to single-use plastic bags, such as impacts to biological resources (including marine environments) and water quality
- Avoiding litter and the associated adverse impacts to storm water systems, aesthetics and the marine environment (Pacific Ocean and Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve)

The Reusable Bag Ordinance initiates a community-wide shift from the use of plastic and paper carryout bags and promotes the use of reusable bags for retail customers in Huntington Beach. The reduction of single-use plastic carryout bags will reduce the likelihood

that plastic bags will enter the environment, causing harm to sensitive marine ecosystems. Further, the Ordinance improves the aesthetics of the City's beaches, parks, and other public spaces, which provide essential recreational opportunities that support the City's economy and community health.

A full description of the type of stores subject to the Ordinance can be found on the City's website. A second reading of the Ordinance is scheduled for April 1, 2013 and the effective date is anticipated to be October 2013.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Police Participate in Statewide Shoulder Tap Operation

On March 15th Detectives from the Special Investigation Bureau participated in a statewide pre-St.Patrick's Day "Shoulder Tap" operation targeting people who purchase alcohol for minors. 102 agencies participated in the event, which resulted in over 450 arrests and citations for people furnishing alcohol to minors. After visiting 8 locations and contacting over 35 people; three citations were issued and one subject was arrested for possession of a controlled substance in Huntington Beach.

A Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age, through utilization of a minor decoy. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) through the department's Grant Assistance Program.

Annual Public Safety & Citizen Awards

Police, Fire and Marine Safety employees were honored at the City Council meeting Monday night at the Annual Public Safety & Citizen Awards. Captain Stuart and Mayor Boardman honored the following employees from the Police Department:

Medal of Valor – Officer John Elser

Officer of the Year – Officer Shawn White

Civilian Employee of the Year – Nurse/Detention Officer Adrienne Caouette

Supervisor of the Year – Sergeant Timothy Martin

Award of Merit – Officer David Dereszynski, Sergeant Jonathan Haught, Detective Art Preece, Officer Victoria Shroyer and Officer Derek Young

Distinguished Service Award – Detective Philip Gasca, Reserve Officer Terry George and Officer Jeffrey Huss

The police department is grateful and proud of these officers for their commitment and service to the Huntington Beach community.

PUBLIC WORKS**East Garden Grove-Wintersburg Channel Improvement Project**

The Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) has started on a project to improve and reinforce the East Garden Grove - Wintersburg (C05) channel levees. The improvements begin at the Tide Gates located at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands area and end upstream of Warner Avenue. The improvements include constructing soil-mixed with cement columns sandwiched between two rows of steel sheet piles along both sides of the channel between Graham Street and Warner Avenue, and along the south levee only, from 2,000 feet downstream of Graham Street to Graham Street; and excavating the earthen embankment to widen the channel and increase the channel flood conveyance capacity.

In addition, a single steel pile wall will be inserted from Bates Circle to 3,400 feet downstream of Graham Street (Oil Road Bridge) for levee toe reinforcement. Additional work includes slope repairs on critical locations downstream of Bates Circle and recreational trail and ramp construction for the general public's access to the Bolsa Chica trail network and the Wetlands area. The project is anticipated to be complete by early 2014. This project is funded and managed by OCFCD. More detailed information and project contacts can be found at: http://ocflood.com/nfc/projects/construction/east_garden_grove_facility_c05/.

Landscape Irrigation Tips

Spring is good time to perform an inspection of your home irrigation system. Checking for leaks and replacing sprinkler heads on a regular basis is essential to efficient landscape water use.

For information on the City's water conservation program and lots of tips, suggestions and links visit the City's main website page at <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov> and click on the water conservation button on the left. Also, check out the Huntington Beach Water Facebook page.

