

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

March 28, 2011

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

Open Dialogues, Artists in Residency program continues this week with an event on Thursday March 31 from 6- 8 pm. Join residency artist Laurie Hassold for an interactive event that will extend her sculptural medium into the realm of performance and audience participation. **Open Dialogues** presents a unique opportunity for the community to learn firsthand how artists conceive and create original work. For additional information please call the Art Center at 714.374.1650.

Aquatics

The City of Huntington Beach spring aquatics program begins March 28 at the City Gym and Pool with Red Cross approved learn to swim, parent and me, and tiny tots swim programs. Red Cross swim classes are offered for children 6 months and older. The cost is \$45 for 10 class sessions. Other swim classes offered include adult lessons, exceptional swim for disabled swimmers, recreation swim, and senior swim. For more information regarding swim programs, please contact the City Gym and Pool at (714) 960-8884.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

Spring Cleaning and home maintenance is nearly impossible for frail older adults with limited means but two homes of three Seniors Outreach clients are sparking because of the efforts of Hope Chapel's Nails in His Hands volunteers. Seniors Outreach Care Management Team acted as a liaison and the Hope Chapel volunteers put in the elbow grease, even donating \$600.00 in supplies. Hope Chapel's goal is to improve life for those living in Huntington Beach with limited or no means through general household repair, gardening, and clean-up. Volunteers drained an old spa, removed trash, gardened, fixed a broken kitchen light, and cleaned inside and out. Volunteers at another home created a garden pathway, and carpeted the front porch enabling the older adult to once again wheel her walker outside and enjoy the fresh air. A thank you letter from one of the spring cleaning recipients said, "*They are (a) very kind and lovely team, they work with full speed with their hands, their heads and their hearts...and their smiles and their hearts are touching my heart.*"

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Redevelopment Agency will Receive Award for The Strand

On March 30, the California Redevelopment Association (CRA) will present the 2011 Award of Excellence in the Mixed Use Development Category for the success of the private/public partnership in developing The Strand project. Mayor Joe Carchio will be accepting this highly competitive award on behalf of the Redevelopment Agency. The CRA Award bestowed upon outstanding programs and projects that are superior examples of the redevelopment process in building better communities. Submitted in September 2010, the Agency's application detailed how completion of The Strand, with its 68,000 square feet of restaurant and retail space, 28,000 square feet of office space, and the 157-room boutique

hotel, created a new, vibrant environment for residents and visitors to experience an area that was previously comprised of vacant lots, weeds, and rundown buildings.

FIRE

In Memory of Brent Graham

The Huntington Beach Fire Department lost one of its youngest members to cancer on March 18, 2011, at the age of 23. Brent Graham worked as a part time Ambulance Operator from June 2009 until his fight with cancer started in May of 2010. His positive attitude and enthusiasm for the fire service never diminished.

Members of the HBFD Honor Guard stood vigil over Brent at the viewing and escorted his casket from the church at the funeral services on March 25, 2011, to his final resting place. An HBFD ambulance, along with a CARE ambulance, led the procession from the church to the cemetery, and several other HBFD apparatus participated in the procession to honor and pay tribute to Brent. During the viewing and funeral services, Brent's safety gear stood close by as a reminder of his service to the HBFD and our community.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Brent's family and all who were fortunate enough to know Brent.

INFORMATION SERVICES

City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Want to find a Huntington Beach park for your picnic?

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/parks_facilities/parks/

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

GRANDPARENTS AND BOOKS

The Huntington Beach Public Library offers its "Grandparents and Books" Program several afternoons each week throughout the year. Volunteer seniors read to children from a variety of specially chosen Library books. The Central Library, as well as the Banning, Main and Oak View branches, provide "pretend" Grandparents who read to a small audience and offer a listening ear to children.

For many children, whose own grandparents live far away, the Grandparents and Books Program is a unique opportunity to interact with an interested, older adult. For the grandparents, the reverse is true. They can interact with children on a weekly basis, even if their own grandchildren live across the country.

For additional information on attending a "Grandparents and Books" story hour, please call the Children's Department directly at (714) 375-5107.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Meeting: April 12, 2011

On April 12, 2011, the Planning Commission will hold a study session and conduct a public hearing on Tentative Tract Map No. 17397 and Coastal Development Permit No. 10-017, a request by the Pacific Mobile Home Park property owner to subdivide an existing for-rent, mobile home park with a total of 252 units for ownership purposes located at 80 Huntington Street (southeast corner of Atlanta Avenue and Huntington Street). The property owner proposes to subdivide the 252 existing mobile home spaces into 252 numbered lots and 31 lettered lots representing interior drive aisles, landscape areas and common areas to enable the existing park residents to purchase their own lots. The study session will be held in Room B-8, City Hall – Lower Level at 5:15 pm and the public hearing will be at 7:00 pm in the City Council Chambers. The proposed project is also scheduled for review by the Subdivision Committee on Thursday, March 31, 2011, at 3:30 pm in Room B-7, City Hall – Lower Level.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal Program

The City of Huntington Beach installed a Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal box in the Lobby of the Huntington Beach Police Department last year. The Pharmaceutical Disposal program was implemented so citizens can properly dispose of their old prescription medications, instead of placing them in the trash or flushing them down the toilet. This program has continued to have success in providing a proper way to dispose of these items.

Improperly disposing of unused medications can harm others and the environment. Medications which are flushed down the toilet are not completely removed by the sewage treatment facilities. These medications can enter the soil, surface water, and ground water.

The Huntington Beach Police Department front lobby is open from 8:00 am until 7:00 pm, seven days a week. The address is 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach.

PUBLIC WORKS

Edison Park Reconfiguration

Construction of Phase 1 of this project is scheduled to begin next week. Phase 1 includes a new parking lot and drop off area situated between the Magnolia Fire Station and the Community Center as well as re-grading to allow for 3 lighted practice soccer fields. Cost of the project is approximately \$700,000 funded using Park Acquisition and Development Funds. Construction is expected to be completed by end of July of this year.