

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

May 21, 2012

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

The Huntington Beach Art Center was recently awarded a \$3,000 grant from the National Charity League (NCL.) NCL has been actively involved as volunteers for many Art Center events and programs throughout the past 11 years, bringing extra assistance for activities that serve the local community. The funds will be used to support the annual Family Arts Day program, currently planned for September 30, 2012. The Art Center is grateful to NCL not only for the financial support, but also for the opportunity to work with such a remarkable group of community volunteers.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

The DreamCatchers, an auxiliary of the Assistance League of Huntington Beach, donated 50 large gift bags to Huntington Beach Senior Services. These bags are filled with non-perishable food, tea, greeting cards, note pads, stamps, hand sanitizer, lip balm, and tissue. The Care Management team will deliver the gift bags to low income participants. The DreamCatchers Auxiliary originated in 1993 with a group of working women who had an interest in helping meet the needs of the local community but had limited time to donate. Through their fundraising efforts, such as the Bargain Box Thrift Store on Slater Avenue in Huntington Beach, the DreamCatchers fund many philanthropic projects that assist both children and adults. Since 2001, a focus of one of their outreach programs has been the older residents of Huntington Beach and they fund Senior Services' Grocery Gift Certificate program, a contribution of over \$20,000 annually. Throughout the year, the DreamCatchers furnish the Outreach Center with gift certificates to local grocery stores as well as Target and the 99 Cents store. Care Managers give these gift certificates to very low-income older residents to purchase groceries, personal items, & medication.

American Youth Character Awards

On Saturday May 19, 2012, the Children's Needs Task Force (CNTF), together with the City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department hosted the 12th Annual Youth Character Awards Program at Bella Terra Huntington Beach. The "Annual American Youth Character Awards" program has been established to honor young people who are the real heroes and proper role models for their generation. The Youth Character Awards recognizes young people of character for their contributions to the community and for their commitment to making this world a better place.

The Ceremony recognized 51 outstanding nominees from a variety of schools and organizations. Fourteen exceptional students were announced as Youth Character Award Honorees, and will be recognized before City Council at the June 4, 2012, meeting. Academy for the Performing Arts student, Garrett Brown, sang the National Anthem, Mayor Don Hansen provided a warm welcome to the Nominees and their families, and Council

Member/CNTF Council Liaison Joe Carchio congratulated the Nominees. We invite you to view the city Facebook page for highlights of the ceremony.

Community Services programs enhance quality of life in Huntington Beach by creating opportunities to live and interact with families, communities, and the world...the benefits are endless.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Huntington Beach Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market is Now Hiring

The Huntington Beach Wal-Mart Neighborhood Market is now hiring. The market seeks to hire up to 85 associates for its new location at 21188 Beach Boulevard, Huntington Beach, CA. Employment opportunities include both full-time and part-time positions. Apply in person from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM or online at www.walmart.com.

Free Surf City Downtown Shuttle and Free Secured Bike Parking begins May 26

The Surf City Downtown Shuttle begins a third season of free service this weekend, providing free rides from the Huntington Beach Civic Center to downtown from May 26-September 3 on Saturdays, Sundays, Memorial Day and Labor Day, from 10 AM-10PM. Year-round service during Surf City Nights starts May 29 from 5:30-10 PM every Tuesday. Shuttles depart every 30 minutes from the Huntington Beach Civic Center at 2000 Main Street, and free parking is available for shuttle passengers in the Civic Center lot.

Plus, bicyclists searching for prime - free – and secure - parking for their wheels this summer won't be searching long... beginning this weekend, Pedego Electric Bicycles, one of downtown's newest merchants, will provide free, secured bicycle parking at their location on weekends from 10 AM to 6 PM and Tuesdays during Surf City Nights from 5 PM to 9 PM. Pedego Electric Bikes is located at the corner of 5th and Olive, at 301 5th Street. For more information, visit: <http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/visitors/parking/>.

Face2Face: A Business Expo at the Pier - Saturday, June 2

The Huntington Beach Chamber of Commerce in association with the City of Huntington Beach and the HBDBID cordially welcomes Face2Face: A Business Expo at the Pier event on Saturday, June 2, from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Pier Plaza. Get to know over 50 small businesses in Huntington Beach.

While strolling through Pier Plaza, you will enjoy the sounds of musicians as the surf gently meets the sand in the background. This event will host a job-seekers tent filled with opportunities to make connections with local employers searching for talent; learn about the latest job search tips; and get advice on resume writing. Come and celebrate in all things that are great about SurfCity. So come one and come all to this extraordinary event!

[FIRE](#)

Water Safety Basics

Summer is just around the corner and the Huntington Beach Fire Department wants to remind you that childhood drowning and near-drowning can happen in a matter of seconds. These situations typically occur when a child is left unattended or during a brief lapse of supervision.

- Never leave a child unattended near water (pool, spa, tub, or ocean). There is no substitute for adult supervision.
- Do not use flotation devices as a substitute for supervision.
- Designate a "Water Watcher" to maintain constant watch over children in the pool during gatherings.
- Make sure pools and spas are enclosed on four sides with a fence at least 5 feet high with self-closing and latching gates.
- Keep a phone at poolside to call for help in case of an emergency.
- Learn infant and child CPR and rescue breathing.
- Never leave water in buckets or wading pools.
- Remove toys from in and around the pool when not in use.
- Power-operated pool safety covers are the most convenient and efficient. Solar/floating pool covers are not safety devices.
- If a child is missing, always check the pool first. Severe and permanent brain damage affects as many as 20 percent of near-drowning victims.
- Never let children eat candy or chew gum when swimming.
- Get out of the water right away if you hear thunder or see lightning.

For more water safety information, please visit the National Fire Protection Association's website at: www.nfpa.org.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know that the City Website has a page about the CalRecycle Rubberized Asphalt Street Repaving Project. This page explains the program, street project flyers and a project map. You can view the project from the Public Works department homepage.

http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/public_works/rubberized-asphalt-project.cfm

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Gifts for Grads @ the Library

Commencement exercises are underway. The Friends Gift Shop at the Huntington Beach Central Library may have just the right item for that special honoree. The Shop sells a variety of cards, jewelry, and specialty gift items. Another option is donating a book for the Library collection with the Adopt-a-Book program. For \$25, the Library will select an appropriate book and insert a bookplate dedication to recognize the honoree. For more information call: 714-842-4481 or www.hbpl.org.

Authors Luncheon @ the Library

The Friends of the Library present historical fiction authors Dora Levy Mossanen and Maggie Anton at a luncheon to be held on Thursday, June 13 at 12:00 noon at the Central Library. Book sales and signings will be available after the program. Cost is \$20 per person. Seating is limited; reservations are required by June 8. For more information contact the Friends of the Library at 714-375-8429.

Downloading eBooks

Library cardholders can now meet with a trainer to learn how to download free library e-books to their Ipad, Kindle, or Nook. Office appointments will be held in the Central Library Computer Coach Office on Fridays. *Reservations are available online at www.hbpl.org, Click on "Events" and search "E-reader".*

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**Caltrans Releases the I-405 Improvement Project EIR/EIS**

The City received notice that the Draft EIR/EIS for the I-405 Improvement Project has been circulated for public review until July 2, 2012. The project contemplates improving the San Diego Freeway (I-405) by adding either one general purpose lane, or two general purpose lanes, or one general purpose lane and a tolled express lane in each direction between Route 73 and I-605.

Caltrans has made a copy of the Draft EIR/EIS available at numerous library locations, including the Huntington Beach Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648, and on the internet at www.dot.ca.gov/dist12/405/index.htm.

Caltrans will hold public hearings on the document during the review period from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on June 4 (Costa Mesa), June 6 (Westminster), June 7 (Rossmore) and June 14 (Fountain Valley). Meeting location information is available at: <http://www.octa.net/I-405/IPO.aspx>

Written comments on the Draft EIR/EIS should be sent to Smita Deshpande, Branch Chief, Caltrans-District 12, "Attn: 405 DEIR-DEIS Comment Period", 2201 Dupont Dr., Ste. 200, Irvine, CA 92612.

POLICE DEPARTMENT**HB Resident Arrested for Embezzlement**

The President of a Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) was arrested for embezzling over \$22,000 from school fundraisers. Gail Diane Panella-Monestere, 52, Huntington Beach, is charged with one felony count of grand theft by embezzlement. If convicted, Panella-Monestere faces a maximum sentence of three years in Orange County Jail. Panella-Monestere was booked at the city jail on May 17, 2012, where she later posted bond and was released. Panella-Monestere is expected to be arraigned on June 29.

Between September 2010 and February 2011, the defendant is accused of serving as PTO president for Sun View Elementary School in Huntington Beach and was responsible for

tracking and maintaining fundraiser money. The defendant is accused of abusing her position of trust embezzling approximately \$22,000 by writing unauthorized checks to herself from the PTO bank account in amounts ranging from \$250 to \$800 and cashing them for her own personal use. The defendant is accused of keeping cash raised from fundraising events intended to be deposited into the PTO bank account. School administrators discovered fundraiser money was missing and reported the theft to the Huntington Beach Police Department.

"Walk Like MADD" a Success

On May 12, members of the Huntington Beach Police Department along with their families and friends participated in the "Walk Like MADD" event in Huntington Beach. Funds raised during this event support the Orange County Chapter of the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD). The representatives from the Huntington Beach Police Department won first place for most money raised in the law enforcement category.

HB Neighborhood Watch Newsletter Available Online

The latest City of Huntington Beach Neighborhood Watch Newsletter is now available at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov.

PUBLIC WORKS

What is Household Hazardous Waste?

Leftover household products that contain corrosive, toxic, ignitable, or reactive ingredients are considered to be "household hazardous waste" or "HHW." Products such as paints, cleaners, oils, batteries, and pesticides that contain potentially hazardous ingredients require special care when you dispose of them. Improper disposal of household hazardous wastes can include pouring them down the drain, on the ground, into storm sewers, or in some cases putting them out with the trash. The dangers of such disposal methods might not be immediately obvious, but improper disposal of these wastes can pollute the environment and pose a threat to human health.

Proper disposal of household hazardous waste is convenient and free for Huntington Beach residents. Just take your HHW items to the County collection center located at Rainbow Environmental Services, Gate #6, 17121 Nichols Street, Huntington Beach, CA.

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Closed major holidays and rainy days.