

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**May 9, 2011**

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

### **Get out and PLAY!**

The City of Huntington Beach has many beautiful amenities, and Meadowlark Golf Course is one of them. The Community Services Department is partnering with Evergreen Alliance Golf to offer beginning group golf lessons for adults on Thursday evenings from 6-7 pm. Golf is a game that can be enjoyed for a lifetime, and this class teaches the basic fundamentals involved in both the short game and full swing. Basic rules and etiquette will also be taught.

Park and recreation programs allow people to experience new activities and provide opportunities for living, learning and leading full and productive lives! Visit [www.hbsands.org](http://www.hbsands.org). The next session of classes begins on Thursday, May 12.

### **Shipleigh Nature Center**

Composting Seminars - Learn all about Composting and Vermicomposting (worm composting) and how to turn kitchen scraps and backyard cuttings into "black gold" for your garden. Mark your calendars for 9:00am on May 21 or June 18. Registration is \$10 per attendee. Register online at [www.shipleighnature.org](http://www.shipleighnature.org). HB residents get a \$50 voucher toward the purchase of either type of composting bin. See [www.shipleighnature.org](http://www.shipleighnature.org) for all event details.

17851 Goldenwest St., 714-842-4772. Open Monday – Saturday, 9 am-1 pm.

### **Children with Disabilities Reel in the Fun at the Ol' Fishin' Hole Derby**

Chris Carr Lake was the site of the Ol' Fishing Hole Derby for exceptional youth. On May 6, staff from the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center and support from Kiwanis Club members provided an inter-generational program allowing people of all ages to get "hooked on fishing". Nearly 150 children from nine elementary and middle schools participated in the derby. Over 75 volunteers from various community organizations were on hand to lend assistance. May is nationally recognized as Older Americans Month, and this year's theme, Connecting the Community, was truly recognized as several generations united to catch fish, relax at the park, and share knowledge, stories and experience. The event was supported with donations from the Huntington Beach Firefighters Association, the Huntington Police Officers Association, and the Huntington Beach Municipal Employees Association. Thanks to all who helped create community and enhance quality of life for HB residents!

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **Surf City Savings Weekly Update**

This week Surf City Savings is proud to welcome Volleyball Market, SeaShore Pest Control, Gem Mortgage, Troadec Photography, Prince Yacht Charters, and the Huntington Beach Playhouse as new members of our program! These merchants have joined the program as a commitment to help consumers save money, and to encourage shopping locally, which helps the City generate sales tax dollars to support local services.

New merchants are joining each and every week, bringing you valuable offers and opportunities to find businesses in our community. Visit [www.surfcityavings.com](http://www.surfcityavings.com) often, print out your favorite coupons, and visit these merchants to receive your discounts. You can even sign up to receive an email whenever a new merchant joins the program, making it even easier for you to find money-saving opportunities in Huntington Beach.

### **Save the Date! HB Chamber and City Workshop**

On Tuesday, June 14, from 8:30 am to 11:00 am at the Central Library, the Chamber of Commerce and City will launch the first in a series of workshops for local businesses. The workshop will include information regarding FREE resources for business, financial planning, marketing, and finding skilled workers. More details to follow. For more information contact the Economic Development office at 714.536.5542.

### **HB Gastro-Truck Fest - Surf City's First Food Truck Event**

Bring friends, family, and an appetite for a day of feasting from one dozen of Orange County's premier food trucks on Sunday, May 22, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Guests will have choices from an array of cuisine: From Spudrunner's Gourmet Food Truck to Rolling Sushi. The event will take place in Peter's Landing at 16400 PCH. For more information, log on to [www.facebook.com/gastrotruck](http://www.facebook.com/gastrotruck).

## **FIRE**

### **Grilling Safety**

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It is one of the most popular ways to cook food, but can be very hot, causing burn injuries and can be a fire hazard.

#### **Facts**

- Fire departments respond to an average of 7,900 home fires involving grills, hibachis or barbecues each year.
- Thirty-three percent of home grill structure fires start on an exterior balcony or unenclosed porch.

#### **Safety Tips**

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.

### **An important safety message about the use of barbeques on balconies, patios or decks in the City of Huntington Beach:**

A recent change to the 2010 California Fire Code Sections 308.3.1 and 308.3.1.1 restricts the use of open flame cooking devices which includes BBQs. This restriction applies to

apartments, condominiums, hotels or similar multi-family occupancies with three or more units.

The new code does not allow charcoal burners or other open-flame cooking devices to be operated on combustible balconies or within 10 feet of combustible construction unless the building, balcony or deck is protected by an automatic sprinkler system. Combustible materials can be defined as anything that will ignite if exposed to open flame such as wood, furniture, paper, etc.

The new code further restricts the use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) type BBQ's to an LPG container not greater than 2.5 lbs water capacity if it is on a combustible balcony or within 10 feet of combustible construction.

For more information on Grilling Safety, please visit the National Fire Protection Association's website at: [www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

#### **Doing Business with the City**

Would you like to do business with the city? Complete the Vendor Application at:

. [http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/business/bids\\_rfps/vendor\\_application\\_signin.cfm](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/business/bids_rfps/vendor_application_signin.cfm)

### **LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

#### **Homework Assistance Program at Oak View Branch Library**

The Oak View community in Huntington Beach faces many challenges, including average household earnings below the poverty level, high rates of illiteracy and low academic progress. In conjunction with other agencies, the Oak View Branch Library provides many important tools for family self-sufficiency. One of the most popular and important programs at the branch library is the Homework Club Assistance Program. Children whose parents lack the language skills to help them with homework often struggle in school. This program exists to help those children have access to tutors, complete their homework and succeed in school.

The Homework Club helps an average of 50-60 students on a daily basis with basic reading, writing and math assignments as well as school projects. This school year the program has 246 children participating, ranging from kindergarten through high school, enrolled in the program. The Homework Club offers assistance Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 12:30-4:30 p.m. during the school year.

Because of the Homework Club, many students have found a place to go when they need assistance with their homework and, as a result, have stayed in school. This results in better grades and higher self-esteem, both key components to a student's success.

Currently, the library has eight regular volunteers and one part-time paid staff coordinator. The library also receives help from neighboring colleges whose students serve internships

with the Homework Club. All costs associated with the program are paid through grants and donations, but current shortages threaten the program. To find out how to help, either as a donor or a volunteer, please call 714-375-5068 or send an email to [lockec@hbpl.org](mailto:lockec@hbpl.org).

**PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

**Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan Wins Outstanding Planning Project Award**

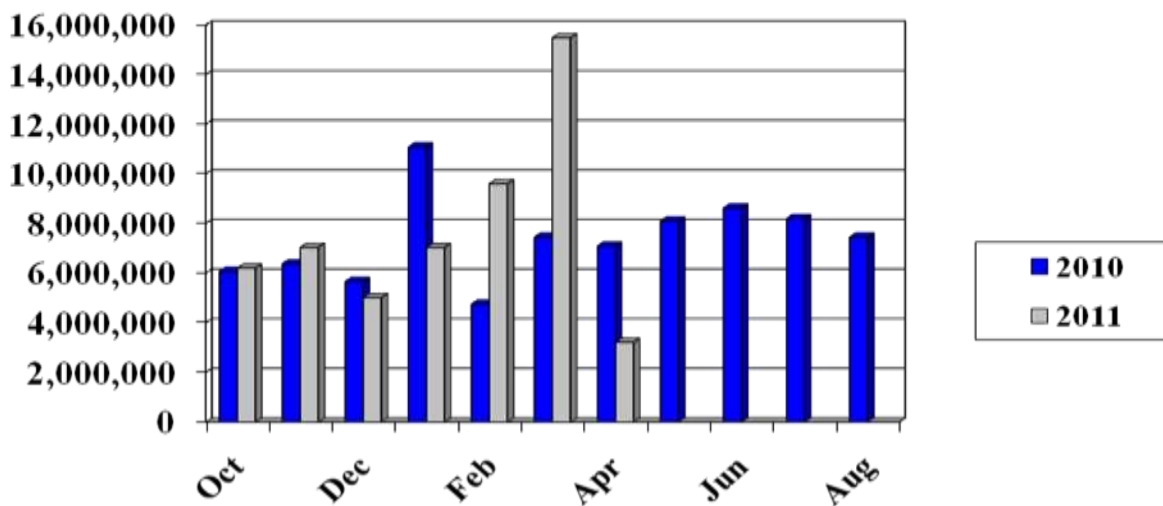
At their annual award ceremony held on May 4, 2011, at the Lutron Experience Center in Irvine, the Orange County Section of the American Planning Association (APA) awarded the Beach and Edinger Corridors Specific Plan the "Outstanding Planning Project" award. A panel of five judges from various Planning and Design backgrounds selected the Specific Plan because the Specific Plan embraces environmental sustainability through Smart Growth design principles, employs Form Based Code to ensure the desired built environment, and as a planning tool adhering to the highest standards in planning, the Specific Plan serves as a comprehensive, transferable, and user-friendly set of design guidelines and development standards that provide a framework for enhancing economic performance, functionality and beauty in accordance with the forces of the free market and the community's vision for its primary commercial corridors.

**Building Permits Update**

For the month of April, the Department of Planning and Building issued 589 building permits totaling a construction valuation of \$3,000,000. Construction valuation is the cost of the materials & labor of the permits issued. Permits for residential re-roofs were very strong in April. May 2011 outlook is better with the submission of Costco and The Village at Bella Terra mixed use project for plan check.

## Construction Valuation (\$)

Residential, Commercial & Industrial



## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### National Police Week and California Peace Officer Memorial Ceremonies

On October 1, 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a joint resolution of the 87th Congress of the United States to authorize the President to proclaim May 15 of each year as Peace Officers Memorial Day. The calendar week during which May 15 falls, is designated as Police Week in honor of the federal, state and local law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty.

In 1976, a small group of peace officers felt the need to create a remembrance specifically for California peace officers. With the signing of California Senate Concurrent Resolution 94, the dream of memorializing the fallen peace officer came true. These peace officers then went to work raising funds and formulating ideas for a memorial. Their ideas became the memorial case, the leather-bound book of names, and the two hand crafted swords that symbolized the Spartan warrior and the keeper of the peace.

For the ten years that followed, the Peace Officers Research Association of California (PORAC) Memorial Committee gathered the "police family" at the State Capitol to rededicate the memorial. This committee became the caretaker of the California memorial, taking great pains to insure that the names of the officers killed in the line of duty submitted by their respective departments were included in the memorial book, as well as the hearts of every Californian.

In 1985, Governor George Deukmejian called upon Senator Robert Presley to sponsor legislation establishing a monument memorializing the peace officers who died "in the line-of-duty."

The establishment of a nine-member California Peace Officers' Commission from this legislation developed into a new chapter in the memorial story.

The commission consisted of eight peace officers and a police widow: Richard Moore, Chief of Atherton P.D. and Phil Jordan, an officer with Vallejo P.D. were elected chairman and vice-chairman respectfully; Lt. George Aliano, Los Angeles Police Protective League, secretary; Bob Applegate, California Association of Highway Patrolmen, treasurer; other commissioners were Sgt. Jim Vogts, State Marshals Association; San Diego Sheriff John Duffy; Deputy Art Brown, Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff's; Mrs. Sammy Hoyt, widow of Lake County Deputy Sheriff and past PORAC president, Dave Hoyt; and Senior Officer Gil Coerper, Huntington Beach Police Officers' Association.

Gil Coerper continued with his public service, among many other duties, as the Mayor and City Council Member for the City of Huntington Beach (2002 – 2010).

California Peace Officers' Memorial Ceremonies have been conducted in the State Capitol since 1977 during the week proceeding May 15. This year's ceremony was on May 2, 2011. It was a ceremony that honored the 11 officers who had fallen in the line-of-duty in 2010, recognizing the sacrifice of those loved and left behind.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Arbor Day Foundation Names Huntington Beach "Tree City USA" Community**

Huntington Beach was recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry. Huntington Beach has earned this national designation for 9 years.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service. Huntington Beach has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Arbor Day Foundation commends Huntington Beach's elected officials, volunteers, and its citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest. Trees provide numerous environmental, economical and health benefits to millions of people each day, and they applaud communities that make planting and caring for trees a top priority.