

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

November 12, 2012

CITY MANAGER

Orange County Red Carpet Film Premier in for Historic Wintersburg Preservation Fund

The City of Huntington Beach Historic Wintersburg Preservation Task Force will host the Orange County premier of the upcoming film, Lil Tokyo Reporter Nov. 17 and 18. The Lil Tokyo Reporter cast includes Academy Award® winner Chris Tashima (Visas And Virtue), television star Keiko Agena (Gilmore Girls) and Eijiro Ozaki (Letters From Iwo Jima). Lil Tokyo Reporter is a narrative short film inspired by the life of historic newspaper publisher, Sei Fujii, who was known by Orange County's pioneer Japanese community.

The film will be screened at the Regency Theater (Warner Avenue and Beach Boulevard) at 5 p.m. and 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, and at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 18 (\$9, \$7 discount for students and seniors). Meet the film actors, producers, and director at the screenings. Join the film team and Historic Wintersburg at an "after hours" reception, 8 p.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort West Coast Club Room. Learn more at the Historic Wintersburg Preservation Task Force Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Historic-Wintersburg-Preservation-Task-Force/433990979985360>. Learn about the film at www.LTReporter.com. Advance online ticket sales at www.regencymovies.com.

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

The HB Art Center welcomes volunteers to share the fun of assisting in many of the programs, events and activities of the Art Center. January begins a new year of programming and the Art Center will need the energy and enthusiasm of community volunteers to assist with projects like Summer Art Camp, Family Arts Day, the Art of Chocolate, exhibition openings and more. Please call 714-374-1650 to explore our volunteer program.

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services is my Park

The Handy Crafters will offer a beautiful selection of their handmade sweaters, scarves, hats, and baby clothes for sale at City Hall, Thursday, November 15, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. All the proceeds from the sale benefit the Huntington Beach Senior Services Holiday Meals program. Qualified participants of Holiday Meals receive a short visit from a Senior Services Volunteer, a traditional turkey dinner prepared by Huntington Beach Hospital, and seasonal gifts handcrafted by the National Charity League and the Flying Geese Quilters. These older residents are no longer able to cook for themselves and appreciate the short visit, gifts, and Thanksgiving dinner. Your purchase of a blanket or scarf will bring warmth to a homebound senior's holiday. The Handy Crafters meet at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue, every Friday morning at 10:30 a.m. Their beautiful work is on display in the lobby at the senior center and can be purchased from the front desk any week day. A broader selection is available at their Friday meetings. The Handy Crafters also donate baby

items to Western Medical Center, baby hats to CHOC, and blankets to the V.A. hospital and to the homeless. Beginners are welcome to join this great group. Materials and instructions are provided. For more information, call the senior center at 714-536-9387.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“My Holiday Wish” Children’s Art Contest – Hurry...Entries due by November 15!

Don't miss the chance to submit entries for the Huntington Beach Downtown Business Improvement District “My Holiday Wish” kids’ original art contest – all entries are due by 5:00 PM on November 15. All artists 12 years of age and younger entering the contest will have the opportunity be the special guest at the Miracle on Main Street celebration on November 25 from 5PM to 7 PM, helping to personally welcome Santa and assisting with the lighting of the holiday tree. All entries will be displayed in various businesses throughout the downtown through the end of December. Entry forms and instructions are available online at www.hbdowntown.com, but hurry – entries are due by 5:00 PM on November 15!

Surf City Savings is your place for Holiday Savings!

Did you know that shopping locally here in Huntington Beach can actually add up to holiday savings and more dollars in your wallet this holiday season? The Surf City Savings program has been in place since 2009, with more than 150 merchants, from local restaurants, retailers and service providers, offering outstanding discounts. With such an extensive list, it should be easy to find something for everyone on your list at one of the Surf City Savings participants. Shopping locally is not only easy and economical, but it also generates sales tax for the City. Sales tax helps provide funding for services that our citizens and businesses rely on each day to make Huntington Beach the best place to live, work, play and shop! Take a look at the savings opportunities available at www.surfcitysavings.com today!

Mark Your Calendars...Small Business Saturday is November 24!

Between Black Friday and Cyber Monday sits Small Business Saturday, a day dedicated to helping small businesses and their communities. By supporting local, independently-owned small businesses, you are helping to create jobs, boost the local economy, and support your local community. Shopping locally also helps to provide sales tax revenue back to the city which is used to support the services our citizens and businesses rely on to make Huntington Beach the world-class community it is. Last year over one million people shopped small on Small Business Saturday! With your help, we can make November 24 the biggest day of the year for small business in Huntington Beach.

Want to learn more? Consumers and businesses alike can visit www.ShopSmall.com for more about special incentives, participating businesses and other helpful information.

FIRE

Thanksgiving Safety

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important when there is a lot of activity and people at home.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay three feet away.
- Make sure kids stay away from hot food and liquids. The steam or splash from vegetables, gravy or coffee could cause serious burns.
- Keep the floor clear so you don't trip over kids, toys, pocketbooks or bags.
- Keep knives out of the reach of children.
- Be sure electric cords from an electric knife, coffee maker, plate warmer or mixer are not dangling off the counter within easy reach of a child.
- Keep matches and utility lighters out of the reach of children – up high in a locked cabinet.
- Never leave children alone in room with a lit candle.
- Make sure your smoke alarms are working. Test them by pushing the test button.

Did you know?

- Thanksgiving is the leading day of the year for home fires involving cooking equipment.

Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen. For more safety information, please visit www.nfpa.org.

INFORMATION SERVICES

City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

Did you know that Residents can enroll online for the FireMed Paramedic Subscription Program? The online form has been design so the users with a smart phone can fill out the application. To fill out the application, go to the Fire Department homepage and click on the FireMed link. Then click on "Membership Application."

<http://huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/FireMed/enroll/>

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

People love the Huntington Beach Public Library on Yelp!

This month, the Huntington Beach Public Library was once again honored as a stand out local institution. Yelp!, the online social business site, where people rate local businesses and services, awarded the Library a "People Love Us On Yelp!" window cling, which is now up on the entry doors of the Central Library.

Locals in Huntington Beach say the Library is one of the best spots in the City! There are over 100 reviews and the average rating is 4.5 stars out of 5 - pretty impressive!

Thanks to everyone that took the time to write a review and share their enthusiasm for the Huntington Beach Library!

Reflections Art Entries on Display at the Library for a Limited Time.

The Reflections Arts Recognition Program is a national arts recognition and achievement program for students. To take part, student Reflections' entries are first recognized, judged,

and celebrated by the local PTA unit. Some selected unit entries are then chosen to represent the PTA at the council and district PTA levels. Student artwork submitted to California State PTA by a district PTA will be considered for an Award of Excellence and an Award of Merit. Entries from the Huntington Beach School Districts are currently on display in the Huntington Beach Central Library Children's Department until November 24. Winners from this division will move forward to the next level. Each year, thirty students are recognized with a California State PTA Award of Excellence for their artwork.

November is Picture Book Month

The second annual Picture Book Month begins November 2012. Across the globe, schools, libraries, booksellers, and book lovers are celebrating the print picture book, the joy of sharing stories, and learning to read. Picture books are exactly what their name implies—the picture dominates the printed page and tells the story as much as the words do, acting as an early childhood step to literacy. The Huntington Beach Library has more than 16,000 picture books in its collection—everything from the classic Peter Rabbit tales by Beatrix Potter to the silly fun of Dr. Seuss, to the latest Caldecott Winner for best illustrated Children's book. Check one out from the Library today!

"Picture books are here and they're important. I have yet to meet a three-year old person who didn't know what to do with a crayon. You make pictures with it." – Chris Raschka, 2012 Caldecott Winner for "A Ball for Daisy."

America Recycles Day – November 15

November 15 is America Recycles Day-- one day to educate and motivate. The Huntington Beach Library provides blue recycling bins for paper and plastic items throughout the building to reduce the amount of trash hauled to the landfill. The Friends of the Library have gotten in on the act, too, by recycling books that are not purchased in the Used Book Sale. Remember—reduce, reuse, recycle!

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Zoning Administrator

On November 21, 2012, at 1:30PM in Room B-8, the Zoning Administrator will conduct a public hearing on the following items:

SITE PLAN REVIEW NO. 11-04/ VARIANCE NO. 12-04/ ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NO. 11-06 (CASA RINCON): **Applicant:** Wayne Dietz, Global Premier Development **Property Owner:** Morrie Golcheh, Progressive Real Estate **Request:** **EA:** To analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed project and identified within the certified Beach and Edinger Program EIR No. 08-008. **SPR:** To permit the construction of an approximately 10,900 square foot, four-story affordable housing apartment project with an overall height of 50 feet within the Town Center Neighborhood Segment of Beach & Edinger Corridors Specific Plan (SP 14). The project will consist of 24 affordable housing units containing 3 one-bedroom units (615 sq. ft./unit), 5 two-bedroom units (843 sq. ft./unit), 6 three-bedroom units (1,028 sq. ft./unit) and 9 four-bedroom units (1,224 sq. ft./unit) including a 693 square foot, two-story community recreation building with an overall height of 33 feet. **VAR:** To permit (a) 8 feet high

perimeter privacy walls in lieu of a maximum height of 6 feet permitted; (b) a reduction in required public open space requirement from a minimum 1,200 sq. ft. permitted to 925 square feet; and (c) eliminating the private entry type requirement from the project design.

Location: 18431 Beach Boulevard, 92648 (Northwest corner of Main Street and Beach Boulevard). **Project Planner:** Rosemary Medel

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 12-15/VARIANCE NO. 12-07 (SMITH FRONT YARD

WALL): **Applicant/Property Owner:** Vanessa Smith **Request:** **CUP:** To permit the existing approximately 24 linear ft. wall with pilasters and a gate measuring 3 ft., 3 in. high in lieu of a maximum height of 1ft., 6 in. permitted within 3 ft. of the front property line.

VAR: To permit the existing approximately 50 in. high freestanding fireplace in lieu of the maximum 42 in. high at a setback of approximately 2 ft. in lieu of the minimum 3 ft. within the front yard setback. **Location:** 422 7th Street, 92648 (southeast of 7th Street, at Pecan Avenue) **Project Planner:** Hayden Beckman

A copy of the agenda will be available on the City's website on November 15, 2012.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Fraud Suspect Sentenced to 10 Years

On 10/29/2012, William Scott Spalding was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in state prison for stealing over \$280,000 from a victim in a fake gold investment scheme. Spalding, 47, Irvine, pleaded guilty to 13 felony counts of money laundering, three felony counts of grand theft and one felony count of first degree residential burglary. He admitted to sentencing enhancement allegations for committing a theft over \$100,000, committing an aggravated white collar crime over \$100,000, property loss over \$200,000, and laundering money exceeding \$150,000. Spalding was also ordered to pay restitution and a fine of \$576,000.

On March 6, 2011, Spalding visited the victim, whom he met through an acquaintance, at the victim's home in Huntington Beach. He claimed to be an investor and promised the victim large returns on investments of gold purchased through him.

On March 13, 2011, Spalding received \$58,000 in cash from the victim. The next day, Spalding received another \$180,000 from the victim through a wire transfer. On March 23, 2011, Spalding received an additional \$50,000 from the victim. Spalding distributed the money across multiple personal bank accounts and spent the money on expensive personal purchases including a gold Rolex watch, a high-end Mercedes-Benz, and rental payments on a \$1,000,000 home in Irvine. Spalding used the money for personal use and never purchased the gold he promised or returned any of the money to the victim.

Detectives from the Huntington Beach Police Department Economic Crime Unit worked with Special Agents of the United States Secret Service and the U.S. Deputy Marshall's to apprehend Spalding at his residence. Subsequent to Spalding's arrest, a search warrant was executed at his residence where approximately \$180,000 worth of cash and assets were seized. The seized items were purchased from the proceeds of the victim's fraudulent investment with Spalding.

In 2007 Spalding was arrested in Redondo Beach for conning his housekeeper out of hundreds of thousands of dollars as she mortgaged her home to invest in a movie he claimed to be producing. Spalding was convicted in November of 2007 and sentenced to serve 40 months in federal prison but was released early to pay restitution.

The Huntington Beach Police Department is currently working in conjunction with the United States Secret Service to return a majority of the assets and money seized from Spalding back to the Huntington Beach victim.

PUBLIC WORKS

Street Lights

There are over 14,000 street lights within the City of Huntington Beach. Approximately 12,000 of these street lights are operated and maintained by Southern California Edison with the City maintaining the other 2,000. The majority of the City maintained street lights are within the downtown area. Generally these city maintained street lights are situated in the

area bounded by Palm Avenue, 16th Street, Pacific Coast Highway and Main Street with additional city maintained street lights south of Orange Avenue and west of First Street.

The public's assistance is always appreciated in identifying outages or other problems with the street lights. Street light outages can be reported to Southern California Edison at (800) 611-1911 or at sce.com. City street light outages can be reported to the City at (714) 960-8861 or through the City's website at www.huntingtonbeachca.gov. The City's web-based reporting system is accessed through the "I Want To" tab, "Report" and "Street Light Outage."

Construction at Main Street/17th Street and Utica Intersection

Construction work has begun on the Main Street paving project between Utica/17th Street and Adams Avenue. One major challenge of the project is the reconstruction of the intersection at Utica/17th Street. The City has scheduled this work for the early part of Thanksgiving week (November 19-21) in order to reduce conflicts with the adjacent Huntington Beach High School. We have determined that the best method for completing this work efficiently is to completely close all adjacent street segments immediately adjacent to the intersection including Main Street from Yorktown to Adams, 17th Street from Main to Adams, and Utica from Main to Park. Detours around the construction area will be in place and emergency vehicle response routes will be planned around the closure. Any questions can be directed to Dave Verone at (714) 536-5431.

Thanksgiving Holiday Affects Street Sweeping and Trash Collection

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be no street sweeping on Thursday and Friday, November 22 and 23. If your street is usually swept on second and fourth Thursdays or Fridays, your street will not be swept next week. Streets that are not swept due to holidays are not rescheduled. There is no make-up schedule for street sweeping. Trash will not be collected on Thanksgiving Day. Residents on Thursday's route should place their trash for collection on Friday. Friday's route will be collected on Saturday. The regular maintenance schedule resumes on Monday, November 26. If you have questions about the holiday maintenance schedule, please contact the Public Works Maintenance division at 714-960-8861.