

# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**November 28, 2011**

## COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Surf City Store

Surf City Store will be selling great gifts for Christmas on Wednesday, November 30 & Thursday, December 1 from 8:00 AM – 5:00 in the lobby on the first floor in City Hall.

### Beach Parking Passes

Beginning December 1, 2011, the City of Huntington Beach will begin selling the revamped Beach Parking Pass for next year. Passes will be good for one-year from the date of purchase and must be permanently affixed to the driver's side windshield. Passes may be purchased from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M., Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) at the Lifeguard Headquarters, 103 Pacific Coast Highway or the Community Services Department on the fifth floor of City Hall. For additional information, customers may call 714-536-5280. In order to be serve customers and to provide added value the following annual passes will be available:

- Regular Pass – \$150 - valid for vehicles up to 20' in length
- Oversize Vehicle Pass – \$225 -valid for vehicles from 20' to 40' in length and can be used in the beach lots between First Street and Beach Boulevard
- Senior/Disabled – \$50 – valid for customers who are 65 and over. A valid identification and current registration for the vehicle which the pass will be used is required.

### Huntington Beach Senior Services

A study conducted by Community SeniorServ concluded that the congregate senior lunch program and the home delivered meals program make a difference in the health and quality of life for older adults. Community SeniorServ, the largest nonprofit senior nutrition program in California, serves a delicious, nutritious meal each weekday at the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue. The cost is \$3.50 for those under 60 and a recommended donation of \$2.50 for older adults 60+. Also each weekday, Community SeniorServ brings freshly prepared meals to be delivered by volunteers to adults 60+ living in Huntington Beach who are no longer able to shop or cook for themselves.

The Survey results of older adults attending congregate lunch programs at senior centers revealed the following:

- 68% of seniors reported the lunches have improved their quality of life
- 59% said their physical health has improved because of the program
- 81% reported they would be at home if they did not come to the lunch program
- 95% have more friends as a result of the program, including 48% who have *significantly* more friends
- 52% feel more connected to their community and city since attending the program.

The Survey results of older frail, homebound, older adults receiving home delivered meals revealed the following:

- Participants receive 141% more referrals to supportive services
- Participants gain an average of 2 pounds
- Participants demonstrate a sustained 20% increase in sense of well-being
- Participants had a 34% reduction in new clients hospitalized and 62% length of stay reduction.

The menu and information about the congregate meals served at Rodgers senior center are printed in the monthly Bright Outlook newsletter, which can be viewed at [www.hbcoa.org](http://www.hbcoa.org). For more information about meals to the home or the congregate meals program call Huntington Beach Senior Services 714-960-2478.

### **Senior Santa and Friends Program**

Huntington Beach Senior Services collects gifts for the *Senior Santa and Friends* program for older and disabled adult clients of the Orange County Social Services and Health Care Agencies. Gift ideas and collection boxes will be located at

- the HB Central Library
- the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall
- the Seniors Outreach building

Donations of ***new, unwrapped items*** are welcome. Gift ideas include: blankets, microwaves, clothing, heaters, fans, towels, cordless telephones, socks, slippers, sheet sets, pillows, Ensure and Boost nutritional supplements, or gift certificates for discount stores and grocery stores. Checks can be made out to "Senior Santa and Friends" and gift certificates can be mailed to HB Seniors Outreach, 1718 Orange Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648-3808. For more information, call Michelle Yerke, 714-374-1521.

### **Huntington Beach Art Center**

Please join artist Gina Genis on Saturday, December 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 P.M. for the launch of her book "Economy Portraits." Genis produced the book as the result of her work during the Art Center's Artist in Residence program held during March 2011. Her project was to invite the community to make a written statement of how the changing economy has affected them which she superimposed on their portrait. The portraits were hung on the gallery wall to form an image of the American flag in red, white, and black, a reflection of the negative impact of the economy. The exhibition was awarded Best Exhibition of the Year by the OC Weekly. Genis will discuss the book and sign copies for purchasers. For more information, please call 714-374-1650.

### **Oak View Collaborative**

The Community Services Staff, an active partner in the Oak View Collaborative, met with the Oak View Renewal Partnership staff to discuss the positive impacts of the HB Mercado Certified Farmers Market for the Oak View Community. The HB Mercado Certified Farmer's Market operates every Saturday from 9:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. rain or shine on the campus of Ocean View High School. Join family, friends, and neighbors in this weekly celebration of community, health, and wellness, featuring farm fresh produce, hot and prepared foods, local artisans, live music, community services and resources as well as activities for the whole

family! The net proceeds from HB Mercado will go back to the Oak View and Ocean View communities to support various programs improving the lives of residents and students.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Mobile Home Advisory Board Meeting

On December 7 at 5:30 p.m. the Mobile Home Advisory Board will be holding a meeting to hear a presentation by the Public Works Department and Economic Development Department on the Atlanta Avenue Widening Project Relocation Plan and project update. The right-of-way project, if implemented, would require the acquisition of the northerly portion of a parcel located at 80 Huntington Street and the relocation of eight mobile homes. The meeting will be at City Hall – 2000 Main Street in room B-8. For more information regarding the meeting – contact Economic Development at (714) 536-5582.

### Mobile Home Advisory Board Recruitment

New members are being sought to occupy vacancies on the Mobile Home Advisory Board (MHAB). In order to serve, members must be Huntington Beach mobile home park owners/park managers, park residents or “at-large” residents. Board Members currently meet quarterly in January, April, July, and October on the fourth Monday at 6:00 p.m. to review mobile home park issues and provide a forum for communication on matters affecting the City's 18 mobile home parks. There are currently three (3) openings for park owners/managers, one (1) for a mobile home park resident and two (2) for “at-large” residents. Anyone interested in obtaining an application should contact the Economic Development Department at (714) 374-1519. Applications are also available online at [www.surfcity-hb.org](http://www.surfcity-hb.org). **Applications close November 29.**

## FIRE

### Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

#### Holiday Decorating

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Connect no more than three strands of mini light sets and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.

#### Holiday Entertaining

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.

- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.

**Before Heading Out or to Bed**

- Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

**FACTS**

- One quarter of home decoration fires happen in December
- More than half of the December home decorations fires are started by candles
- Half of the holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source

**INFORMATION SERVICES**

**City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips**

Did you know that you can tour Huntington Beach Fire Stations? Find out tour information at: [http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/education\\_programs/fireStationTours/FireStationTours.cfm](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/fire/education_programs/fireStationTours/FireStationTours.cfm)

**LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Holiday Giving Ideas**

Among the thoughtful gifts available this gift-giving season are a few that benefit your local public library. Gift certificates are now available for the Taste of Huntington Beach, the annual celebration of food and drink sponsored by the Huntington Beach Restaurant Association and the Friends of the Children's Library. Anyone on your list who loves fine food would be delighted to receive tickets to this gala affair, scheduled for Sunday, April 29, 2012. Purchase tickets at the Central library or simply visit [www.tastehb.com](http://www.tastehb.com). The enjoyment of this popular event is only enhanced by the knowledge that it supports books and programs for the children of Huntington Beach.

Another gift idea helps to save the library's beautiful aquarium. For a donation of \$25 or more, donors can have their (or their loved one's) name placed on a ceramic fish which will adorn the library's fundraising wall. This fun idea will create a beautiful space near the aquarium and will help to maintain this popular part of the library.

Finally, the Friends of the Library Gift Shop, located inside the Central Library, is a great source for cards and unique gifts for all ages. The volunteer staff provides fun shopping and a friendly atmosphere, and purchases support the library throughout the year.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Zero Tolerance for Teen Drivers and Alcohol

Teen drivers are issued Provisional Licenses that restrict the hours of when the teen can legally drive and who the teen driver can have as passengers. In addition, Provisional License holders, and anyone under 21 years of age, are subject to the Zero Tolerance Law.

The Zero Tolerance Law states it is against the law to drive with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .01% or higher if you are under 21 years of age. Under this law, on a first offense, the Provisional License holder's driving privilege will be suspended for one year if:

- The BAC is .01% BAC or higher, or
- The driver refuses the preliminary alcohol screening test
- The driver fails to complete the preliminary alcohol screening test

In addition, for drivers under 21 years of age, it is against the law to purchase beer, wine or hard liquor. It is also illegal to have personal possession of alcohol or alcohol in your car unless you are with a parent.

There is no safe way to drive while under the influence. Teen drivers need to remember one drink can make them an unsafe driver. The police department's message is ***be safe – don't drink and drive.***

## PUBLIC WORKS

### Civic Center Parking Lot Improvements

Improvements to the Civic Center parking lot have been completed. The improvements were funded by the City to improve the deteriorated parking lot to compliment the solar project. After completion of the solar panel construction project, the City's contractor constructed concrete repairs, surface drainage improvements, new asphalt pavement or slurry seal, and installed all new striping. All this work was constructed over the course of 4 weekends to minimize parking impacts.

The Solar Project's landscaping contractor will now complete the landscaping at all of the parking lot islands over the next few weekends. Since the majority of work will be completed over the weekends, we expect only minor inconveniences. The City appreciates the patience of all of our patrons and looks forward to the final completion of the overall project.