

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S WEEKLY REPORT

October 11, 2010

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Senior Services Travel & Trips – Old Town Pasadena

This is your last chance to register for the Huntington Beach Council on Aging's (HBCOA) "Tea and Treasures" trip on Thursday, October 14, 2010. This spectacular trip features a docent-guided tour of J.B. Nethercutt's world-renowned "Treasure House of Beauty" with an optional tea lunch in Old Town Pasadena. The price for the Nethercutt tour only is \$42.00 and \$62 with lunch. The bus will depart Rodgers Senior Center at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, October 14 and return at approximately 4:30 p.m. To register, call Rodgers Senior Center at (714) 536-9387 by 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday, October 13. To see all of HBCOA's upcoming trips through their Travel & Trips Program visit www.hbcoa.org.

Human Relations Task Force

The HB Human Relations Task Force invites you to join them in celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month on Wednesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm at Barnes & Noble at Bella Terra. The program will include the introduction of the next **HB Reads** book selection, *Barefoot Heart: Stories of a Migrant Child*. The keynote speaker will be Superior Court Judge Frederick Aguirre with additional remarks by Ron Gonzales of the OC Register. Briefings about programs serving Hispanic families in the Oak View community and HB High School area will also be included.

56th Annual Distance Derby

On October 23, 2010, the City of Huntington Beach Community Services Department will hold its 56th Annual Distance Derby, the oldest run/walk in Orange County. The 10-mile run will begin at 7 am at beautiful Pier Plaza and head south for 2.5 miles along the service road. At 8:30 am, the 5-mile run/walk will begin followed by the Surf Kids Fun Run at 10 am. The event takes place on a flat course with a spectacular view of the ocean! Proceeds from the Distance Derby will go to support Project Self-Sufficiency. Project Self Sufficiency (PSS) is a Public/Private partnership between the City of Huntington Beach, the Project Self Sufficiency Foundation, and our very generous community. PSS provides support for low-income, single parents and their children through case management, education assistance, and links to resources. For more information on the 56th Annual Distance Derby, visit www.hbdistancederby.info

Huntington Beach Art Center

Huntington Beach Art Center presents the contemporary exhibition "Hidden Places" featuring new sculptures by Cathy Cooper, new paintings by Daniel du Plessis, and an installation in the project room by Leslie Yagar. All three artists utilize hidden ideas or objects; objects that are hidden by trees and overgrown ivy, the celestial bodies, what lies beyond the universe,

and the theories involved with extinction. Please join us for the public reception on Friday October 15 from 7:00 -9:00 pm. Admission is free. Call 714.374.1650 for information.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HALLOWEEN FEST- October 31, 2010- 4:00-8:00PM

Bring friends and family to "Trick or Treat" at participating businesses in Downtown Huntington Beach. This year the event will feature a window decorating contest, children's activities including pony rides, a petting zoo, face painting, balloon animals, and photo ops. A Canine Howl-o-ween Contest will take place at 5:00 and Kid's Costume Contest at 6:00 at the Haunted Strand on 5th Street. Additionally, the City's Fire and Police Departments will have vehicles on display. For more information, log on to www.hbdowntown.com or call the Downtown Business Improvement District at 714.536.8300.

FIRE

Community Emergency Response Team Graduation

On October 7, 2010, ninety-seven community members graduated from the 2010 Huntington Beach Fire Department's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. CERT is a FEMA endorsed training program that prepares citizens to assist themselves, their family, their neighbors, and their community in the event of a disaster. By becoming CERT trained, these citizens have learned the skills to help emergency responders save lives and property.

In addition, 16 members completed further training and have taken the opportunity to become Fire Department CERT volunteers. After taking care of their home, family and neighborhood, these CERT volunteers will lend their support to the city with duties such as providing damage assessment information, sandbagging, sheltering, and providing support to the Fire Department and Police Department. The city would like to congratulate everyone who participated in the class, as well as those who helped facilitate the training. For more information on CERT, visit www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert.

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Celebrating the National Friends of Libraries Week

The Huntington Beach Public Library would like to announce the National Friends of Libraries Week, October 17-23, acknowledging both the Friends of the Library and the Friends of the Children's Library for their continued dedication and commitment. The Library System is fortunate to have such dynamic volunteers working year-round to raise money and community awareness that is crucial to maintaining the library's status as an exemplary cultural and educational resource.

Announcing Friends of the Library Membership Drive

During the month of October the Friends of the Library group is holding a membership drive to attract new members and supportive volunteers. Come visit the information table at the Central Library to sign-up as a new member during October and receive a free tote bag. Additional member benefits include: 10% on Gift Shop merchandise, subscription to the quarterly newsletter, notifications of monthly author events, and an invitation to the "members only" Wassail Party.

Already a member? --- sign-up a friend or family member and receive your free tote bag.

Children's Library Programs

The "Cover to Cover" Book Club, sponsored by In-N-Out Hamburger Corporation, will begin October 9 and run through November 20, 2010. Children must be ages 4 to 12 to participate. For every five library books a child reads (or has read to them), the child earns a certificate for a free hamburger or cheeseburger from In-N-Out. A maximum of three certificates can be earned. Children can sign up at any of the five Huntington Beach Public Libraries.

Puppets and Players Little Theater presents "Thumbelina" on Wednesday, October 13 at 10:00 am, on the grassy area outside of the Main Street Library Branch. Tickets for this lively marionette presentation are \$4 each. The address is 525 Main Street; phone number is (714) 375-5071. Dress for outdoor weather.

This month's Family Evening Story time will be held Thursday, October 14 at 7:00 pm in the Central Library Tabby Theater. There will be fun songs, not-so-scary stories, and puppets. Come in your pajamas or your Halloween costume. Refreshments will be provided by the National Charity League.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**Planning Commission to Review Appeal of Atlanta Widening Mitigated Negative Declaration**

The Planning Commission will hold a study session on Tuesday, October 12, 2010, to discuss the appeal of the Zoning Administrator's approval of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Atlanta Avenue Widening Project. Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 09-001 analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with the Atlanta Avenue Widening Project, a City proposed project to widen Atlanta Avenue from Huntington Street to Delaware Street to comply with the primary arterial street classification of the City's General Plan Circulation Element and the Orange County Master Plan of Arterial Highways (MPAH). The Zoning Administrator had approved MND 09-001 on September 15, 2010. The Planning Commission is scheduled to formally consider the appeal at a public hearing on Tuesday, October 26, 2010. For additional information, contact Jennifer Villasenor, Associate Planner.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Increase in Burglary Crimes Noted

Comparing January 1 through June 30 of 2010, to the same six months of 2009, there has been an increase in burglary crimes in the City of Huntington Beach. There were 396 burglaries in the first half of 2010 compared to 318 burglaries in the first half of 2009, or an increase of 78 crimes.

For crime reporting, burglary crimes are broken down statistically by commercial burglaries, garage burglaries, and residential burglaries. Comparing the same six month periods in 2009 to 2010, the increase in commercial burglaries accounted for 14 of the additional crimes increasing from 113 to 127; the increase in garage burglaries accounted for two of the additional crimes increasing from 49 to 51; and residential burglaries accounted for 62 of the additional crimes increasing from 156 to 218.

PUBLIC WORKS

The City Gym and Pool Get's a Facelift

The City Gym and Pool received some much needed exterior painting; the facility was last painted in 1999. The first phase was to treat any existing lead based paint by encapsulating with a safe coating to seal any lead paint.

The exterior walls, windows frames, doors and trim were then repaired, patched and primed before the finish paint was applied. The colors are Pewter Gray for the body of the structure, Gray Mountain for the accents and base, and Prism White for the trim and windows.

Water Main Flushing

Beginning October 19, 2010, the City of Huntington Beach Public Works Utilities Division will be implementing a water main flushing program in the south end of town from the area of Garfield Avenue to PCH. The program is typically performed as routine maintenance and helps maintain the quality of the water in the distribution system. Over the course of the next four months, Utilities Division crews will be operating fire hydrants in order to flush the system. This work will be performed Tuesdays through Fridays, barring holidays. Residents may experience some slight discoloration of their water. This is only temporary and is not harmful. If discoloration persists, or if residents have questions pertaining to the flushing program, they should call the Utilities Division at 714-536-5921.