

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

September 3, 2012

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Marine Safety

Marine Safety Officers and Lifeguards were extremely busy over the Labor Day weekend with large surf and strong rip currents. Nearly 300,000 visitors flocked to the City Beach to enjoy the warm ocean and holiday weather. With the **Weather Channel** filming the television series *Lifeguard*, Marine Safety personnel made numerous critical rescues to save lives. Statistics for the three-day weekend included the following: 424 Rescues; 6,043 Preventative Actions; 32 Medical Aids; 1,014 Law Enforcement Warnings; and 16,435 Public Contacts.

Huntington Beach Art Center

The Allied Arts Board is currently inviting nominations for outstanding contributions to the arts during 2010-2011 for their biennial awards. Nominations can be made by anyone for the following categories: Distinguished Arts Administrator, Distinguished Arts Educator, Distinguished Arts Organization, Distinguished Business Support, Distinguished Business Organization, Distinguished Performing Artist, Distinguished Visual Artist, Distinguished Volunteer, Exceptional Youth in the Arts, and the Legacy Award for Volunteerism. Nominations are due by September 15, for consideration and should be sent to the Huntington Beach Art Center to the attention of Charlene Gomez, or call 714-536-5258 for information. Award Ceremony will be held at the Waterfront Beach Resort, a Hilton Hotel on November 15, 2012.

Huntington Beach Senior Services

The Senior Saturday Community Festival will be held at Pier Plaza in downtown Huntington Beach, on Saturday, September 8, 2012, from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Admission is free. Seventy-five exhibitors will be at the event offering information, products and services, free health screenings and giveaways geared toward seniors. Exhibitors will include health professionals, banking and investment representatives, realtors, dentists, health plan representatives, physical therapists, home health agencies, senior living communities, physical fitness professionals, elder law attorneys, and many other businesses and organizations. This is an excellent opportunity for seniors and their families to spend a Saturday by the Pier while gathering pertinent information amid a festive atmosphere. In addition to the sponsor booths, there will be a \$2 continental breakfast, a \$2 hot dog lunch (with chips & soda included), free entertainment, and many prize drawings throughout the day. Pier Plaza is located adjacent to the Huntington Beach Pier at the intersection of Main Street and Pacific Coast Highway. There will be a free shuttle service running every 15 minutes from City Hall and Rodgers Seniors' Center. City Hall is located at 2000 Main Street and the Senior Center is located at 1706 Orange Ave. Free parking is available at both shuttle locations. This is the Huntington Beach Council on Aging's (HBCOA) 24th annual Senior Saturday. The HBCOA is a non-profit organization that supports programs and services for Huntington Beach Seniors through the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors' Center and the Huntington Beach Senior Outreach. For more information, please call the Michael E.

Rodgers Seniors' Center at 714-536-9387 or visit the Huntington Beach Council on Aging web site at www.hbcoa.org.



Free Demonstration Classes

The Huntington Beach Community Services Department and HB Pilates will be offering FREE demonstration classes for PILOXING®, Pilates Mat Class, Pilates Cardio Barre, Pilates for Seniors, and the NEW Ab-Core Blast. Classes will be held at the City Gym and Pool, Murdy, Edison, and the Roger Senior Center on specific days during the week of September 4 through 8. Do not miss the perfect opportunity to try one of these body-sculpting classes for free. For more information about specific days and times, please call the City Gym and Pool at 714- 960-8884.

Project Self Sufficiency

The Surf City Beach Derby and Project Self-Sufficiency have teamed up for a fundraising event to help PSS single parent families! Derby runners, walkers, and program supporters can raise funds to assist families in transition with a “hand up” to get back on their feet. This assistance allows highly motivated, low-income single parents attend school and gives them the opportunity to work toward permanent independence. For more information, visit the [Go the Distance](#) fundraising page. The event is made possible through the service and dedication of amazing volunteers! Positions are available on Friday, October 19, Saturday, October 20, and Sunday, October 21. Visit www.beachderby.com for more information on how to volunteer!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Shuttle Service Continues for Surf City Nights with Free Parking at the HB Civic Center

Although summer is over, passengers can still enjoy the fun and FREE convenience of shuttling downtown on Tuesdays during Surf City Nights. Service continues every Tuesday from 5:30-10 PM from the Huntington Beach Civic Center at 2000 Main Street to Main and Orange, and - best of all – not only is the ride free, but so is the parking! Shuttle passengers receive the added benefit of free parking at the Civic Center. Stay tuned for a few future promotions to give Shuttle passengers a little something extra just for taking the ride during Surf City Nights, too! For more information on the Surf City Downtown Shuttle, please visit: http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/parking/shuttle_parking/. For more information about the award-winning Surf City Nights, please visit: http://www.hb-downtown.com/SURF_CITY_NIGHTS.html

FIRE

National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is observed each September in the United States and is sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NPM encourages Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies including:

- “Get a Kit” - Assembling emergency supply kits
- “Make a Plan” - Organizing a family emergency plan

- "Get Educated" - Training and engaging in community preparedness and response efforts

Preparing for a disaster is a top priority of the city's Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program. Countless hours have been spent preparing disaster plans, training our employees and volunteers, organizing exercises, and ensuring that the city is prepared for emergencies that may occur in our community. However, we cannot do it on our own.

Throughout the month of September, the Fire Department will be highlighting important topics in the City Manager's Weekly Report to help educate you on the importance of being prepared for emergencies.

The city is exposed to a variety of hazards such as earthquakes, flood, tsunami, terrorism, etc., and our greatest individual defense is being prepared. In a disaster, emergency response personnel and local officials may become overwhelmed and resources will be limited. Advance preparation is necessary because there won't be time to shop or search for the supplies needed when a disaster strikes. A disaster plan will help with safety, security, and comfort. Regardless of the type of disaster, there are things you can do to prepare. Are you fully prepared if a disaster strikes Huntington Beach today?

For preparedness questions specifically for the City of Huntington Beach, contact:

Brevyn Mettler, Emergency Services Coordinator
Emergency Management & Homeland Security Office
714-374-1565
bmettler@surfcity-hb.org

For more information on Disaster Preparedness, please visit the following On-line Resources:

www.ReadyOC.org
www.HuntingtonBeachca.gov/CERT
www.Ready.gov
www.ShakeOut.org
www.AlertOC.org

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know you can get information about City Committees, Boards and Commission including meeting agendas and minutes? You can also download previous agendas and minutes. You can find Boards and Commissions information under the Government tab at: http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/boards_commissions/

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

September is Hispanic Heritage Month

Leer libros en Español a la Biblioteca! The Huntington Beach Library has books in Spanish for adults and children. There are more than 6,000 items en Español in both fiction and non-

fiction for readers of all ages. Spanish language books are shelved at the Central Library and at the Oak View Branch. Check it out today! For more information, visit www.hbpl.org or call (714) 842-4481.

Cutting Costs @ the Library

The Huntington Beach Library recently applied for, and received, special funding to cover 50% of the cost of Broadband access for the Library. The nationwide e-rate program - officially called the "Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism" - provides discounts to educational institutions for obtaining affordable telecommunications and Internet access. There is a lengthy application process to qualify for the discount. 2012 is the second year that the Library has received this special funding.

Thanks to all the Aquarium Supporters!

Ask many Huntington Beach residents about their childhood memories of the Central library and they'll mention the fun story times or a favorite book, but almost as many will remember the beautiful fish swimming in the 100 gallon aquarium outside the Children's Department.

Several months ago budget cuts threatened the aquarium, but once word got out about the popular library fixture, community support and generous donations have saved the Clownfish and his pals, at least for now. Mariners Church, which rents space at the library for their services, donated \$25,000 to support the aquarium. The library's "Feed the Fish" campaign has raised \$6,000, primarily in small donations from families and children. The Aquarium Doctor, the company that maintains the tank, has worked with the library to keep fees down while ensuring a healthy environment for the fish. Everyone who worked to save the aquarium has the thanks of the library and of its young visitors for their generosity. The popular fish tank will continue to greet young readers and to engage the interest and imagination of all library visitors.

The successful fundraising has secured the next few years for the Aquarium, but it will continue to need support – for more information on how to contribute and help keep the aquarium going, contact Library Administration, at (714) 960-8836.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration No. 2012-006 for the Warner Avenue Bridge Preventative Maintenance Project

The City of Huntington Beach has prepared Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) No. 2012-006 for the proposed Warner Avenue Bridge Preventative Maintenance Project. The Draft MND analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with a proposal to perform maintenance activities on the existing Warner Avenue Bridge that are intended to restore the integrity of its original design. The Warner Avenue Bridge was constructed in 1981. It is a three-span pre-stressed voided slab bridge with four traffic lanes and a pedestrian sidewalk along the north side. Parts of the bridge have deteriorated due to normal wear from vehicular traffic and from tidal flux of the estuarine ecosystem setting during the last three decades.

The project site is the existing Warner Avenue bridge, spanning approximately 110 linear feet over the Bolsa Chica Channel, which connects the waters of Huntington Harbour with Upper Bolsa Bay. The project rehabilitation area includes support structures beneath the roadway surface and rockslope protection extending into the Bolsa Chica Channel beneath the bridge.

The Draft MND will be available for review and comment for thirty (30) days commencing Thursday, September 6, 2012 and ending Monday, October 8, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Any person wishing to comment on the Draft MND may provide written comments to Hayden Beckman, Planning Aide, City of Huntington Beach, Planning and Building Department, P.O. Box 190, Huntington Beach, CA 92648 by October 8, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. The Draft MND is available at:

- 1.) Planning and Building Department, 3rd floor, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648;
- 2.) City Clerk, 2nd floor, 2000 Main Street, Huntington Beach, CA 92648;
- 3.) Central Library, 7111 Talbert Avenue, Huntington Beach, CA 92648; and
- 4.) City website at:

<http://www.surfcity-hb.org/Government/Departments/Planning/Environmentalreports.cfm>

For further information please contact Hayden Beckman, Project Planner, at 714-536-5317.

New Planning Commissioner

City Councilmember Joe Shaw has selected Robert Franklin, a planning consultant, to serve as his new Huntington Beach Planning Commissioner. Mr. Franklin replaces Blair Farley who resigned from the Planning Commission last month. His first Planning Commission meeting will be September 24. Mr. Franklin has been a resident of Huntington Beach for 44 years and has 30 years of professional planning experience. With his experience and knowledge, he will be an asset to the Commission and the community.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

This week students will be headed back to classes and police departments are reminding drivers about bus safety tips, and tips for students walking or riding their bikes to school.

The most important rule is to SLOW DOWN and don't be distracted while driving.

- **Follow school buses at a safe distance**, they make frequent stops.
- **Yellow flashing lights** indicate that the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.
- **Red flashing lights** and extended stop arms indicate that the bus has stopped, and that children are getting on or off. Motorists must stop their cars and wait until the red lights stop flashing, the extended stop sign is withdrawn, and the bus begins moving before they can start driving again.
- **You must stop in both directions** when approaching a bus with Red flashing lights.
- **Watch for children** arriving late for the bus stop who may run into the street.

- **Pay particular attention to children walking** where there are no sidewalks.

Safety tips for **Walking**:

- Always cross at an intersection or crosswalk, if available, and look both ways before crossing.
- When no cars are coming, walk - do not run - across the road, **and keep looking for cars while crossing.**
- At intersections with traffic lights, watch for turning cars and obey all traffic signals.
- Always walk on the sidewalk if there is one.
- If there are no sidewalks, be sure to walk *facing traffic* so you can see what's coming.
- Don't run between parked cars and buses.
- Don't run across the street or through a parking lot.
- No cell phone talking or texting while going to or from school. **Watch what's going on around you.**

Safety tips for **Bicyclists**:

- Always wear a helmet.
- Always ride on the right side of the road. Never ride against traffic.
- Ride single file.
- Watch out for dangerous things in the roadway – storm drains, gravel, pot holes, trash.
- Stop at all stop signs and at all traffic lights. Be extra careful at crossroads.
- Maintain control of your bike. Don't swerve or make sudden turns.
- Watch out when riding next to parked cars. They can open doors or pull into the street.
- Listen for cars approaching from the side or behind you. Never wear headphones.
- Know your road signs and obey them.
- Always be prepared to stop.
- No cell phone talking or texting while riding. **Watch what's going on around you.**

PUBLIC WORKS

Magic of Composting Seminar on Saturday, September 15 at Shipley Nature Center

Saturday, September 15 at 9:00 a.m. Shipley Nature Center is hosting a seminar on backyard composting and food composting with worms. Approximately 90 minutes in length, the lecture covers the various techniques for reducing waste and creating rich compost for gardens, flowerbeds, and lawns. The cost is \$10 per person. Register in advance to reserve your seat at www.shipleynature.org. The seminar is held at Shipley Nature Center, 17851 Goldenwest St., Huntington Beach 92647 (in Huntington Central Park). Huntington Beach residents attending the lecture will receive a \$50 voucher that can be used toward the purchase of a composting unit or complete worm composting kit. This lecture series is

sponsored by the Department of Public Works, Rainbow Environmental Services, Enrecos, and Friends of Shipley Nature. For more information visit www.shipleynature.org.

California Coastal And Inner-Coastal Cleanup Day

It's once again time for our annual California Coastal and Inner-Coastal Cleanup Day! Citizens can visit one of two local Cleanup Day events on Saturday 9/15/12 from **9:00 a.m. to noon**, either on the beach, just north of Huntington Beach pier or at Bartlett Park, 8099 Adams Avenue near Newland House. Free parking for the beach location will be at 1st and 6th Street lots until 1:00 p.m.. Parking for the Bartlett Park Cleanup will be available at the Newland Shopping Center next to Newland Barn.

This half-day event is a great opportunity for individuals, families or local civic groups to help our environment by removing trash and keeping our waterways clean. In order to help cut down our waste for this event, participants are encouraged to bring their own buckets or reusable trash bags, gloves and filled, reusable water bottles and to use public transportation, bike, or carpool to the cleanup sites.

For more information about what you can do to prevent water pollution, please visit <http://www.ocwatersheds.com/publiced>, or to report a water pollution problem, contact the Orange County Stormwater Program at 1-877-89-SPILL.