

SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:

- ◆ PROJECT SELF SUFFICIENCY
- ◆ SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY
- ◆ FOG
- ◆ ED BENT AWARD
- ◆ WEAPONS ARREST

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## Monday, December 1 : Come Celebrate as we Honor the Historic Golden Bear!



The public is invited to join the celebration Monday, December 1 at 1 p.m. as the City honors the iconic piece of Huntington Beach history — the Golden Bear. From its opening in 1929 as the Golden Bear Café to its closing in 1986 as the notorious rocking concert hall it had become, The Golden Bear will forever serve as the famed establishment that housed the tunes of famed musicians and entertainers such as the Ramones, Van Halen, Peter Gabriel and Steve Martin.

The ceremony will take place along PCH in front of George's Grill. Former owners, managers, and local historians will all take part in the unveiling and share their thoughts and memories of those who lived The Bear!

## Structure Fire

On November 17, the Fire Department responded to a reported structure fire on Indigo Circle. On arrival, firefighters reported a single-family home with light smoke coming from the rear.

The fire started in the wall between the master bedroom and rear bathroom causing heavy damage to the wall and fiberglass shower enclosure. The cause of the fire was heat from a plumbing torch.



## Heavy Rescue

On November 21 at approximately 4 p.m., the Huntington Beach Fire Department responded to a reported traffic accident at the intersection of Magnolia Street and Hamilton Avenue. On arrival, firefighters found a two vehicle head-on accident between a small sedan and full-size pickup truck. The driver of the sedan was trapped, and the driver and passenger of the pickup truck had climbed out of their vehicle. Two of the victims were transported to the hospital.

## The Ed Bent Fire Instructor of the Year Award!

The City of Huntington Beach is proud to announce that Battalion Chief Dave McBride has been selected as the recipient of the honorable Ed Bent *Fire Instructor of the Year Award* by the California Fire Chiefs Association Training Officers Section. McBride was honored Wednesday, Nov. 19 at the annual California Fire Chiefs Association Training Officers Conference in Fresno for his efforts to improve training, facilitate change to the traditional way of operating on emergencies and his integration of technology into fire training programs.

“Chief McBride’s work ethic is something to be admired and his dedication to the craft of being a firefighter is inspiring,” said Huntington Beach Fire Chief Patrick McIntosh. “He has done so much for Huntington Beach in ensuring our fire operations are utilizing the most current methods and techniques. He’s to be commended for his talent and genuine commitment to improving the efficiency and safety of our department members.”

Over the past several years, the essence of McBride’s leadership and commitment to the Department has been made evident through the capital improvements made to the regional training center, implementation of training programs through use of technology, acquisition of several buildings for live fire training purchases of new safety gear and leading changes to tactical operations. All of which have been made possible through the efforts of Chief McBride’s dedication.



# Police

## Spending Time Signing at Edison High School

On Friday, Officer VanMeter, who is also a sign language interpreter for HBPD, met with deaf students with special needs at Edison High School. Officer VanMeter introduced himself, talked to the students and answered any questions they had about police interactions. Officer VanMeter also met with a class of students who are learning sign language as a second language, of which, some are preparing to be interpreters in the future. Officer VanMeter has also met with officers from other police departments to discuss on how to bridge the gap between the deaf community and law enforcement.

In the future, he will be meeting with Huntington Beach High School students who are learning American Sign Language.



## Former Bank Teller Arrested

Former Bank Teller Arrested for Embezzling almost a Quarter of a Million Dollars from Customers

On November 21, 2014, detectives from the Huntington Beach Police Department Economic Crimes Unit and agents from the United States Secret Service arrested a former Wells Fargo bank teller at his residence in Tustin, CA. Jake Chih Wei Cheng, age 23, previously worked at the Wells Fargo located at 7902 Edinger Avenue in Huntington Beach as a bank teller.

The investigation started after Huntington Beach detectives received a report of an elderly man who had been defrauded out of almost \$200,000 by his bank teller. Cheng befriended the victim and convinced him to give the money to him while acting as his bank teller. After a few months Cheng began to forge temporary checks from the victim's account. The theft continued for almost a year. Soon thereafter, Cheng transferred to another branch in San Clemente where he defrauded another elderly person out of over \$40,000. The victim's power of attorney was notified of the theft after Wells Fargo Fraud Investigators discovered the embezzlement and immediately terminated Cheng.

Cheng was arrested for embezzlement and money laundering. Cheng is also facing enhancements due to the high dollar amount of the theft and the fact that the victim's were elderly. Cheng will be prosecuted in Federal Court and is currently being held in federal custody in Santa Ana. This arrest was the culmination of a year of intensive investigation.

Huntington Beach Police Department Economic Crimes Detectives and the US Secret Service Agents were operating as part of the U.S. Secret Service Los Angeles Field Office Electronic Crimes Task Force while investigating this case. The Task Force is part of an established formal working relationship between the Huntington Beach Police Department and the United States Secret Service.

## Weapons Arrest

Last Wednesday night, officers observed a man on a bike in the area of Beach Boulevard and Garfield Avenue and stopped him for several vehicle code violations. During the stop, officers began conducting an investigation. During the investigation, a loaded handgun with several loaded magazines and several knives were found on the person. Several more loaded magazines, a knife and collapsible baton were found in his bag. He was arrested on various weapons charges.



# Public Works

DO



DON'T



## Don't Let FOG Clog Your Drains This Holiday Season

FOG (**Fats, Oils, and Grease**) and is a by-product of frying and cooking greasy foods. When FOG is not disposed of properly it can build up in plumbing lines and eventually form a blockage. Plumbing blockages can cause sewage to overflow into your home or the street, posing a hazard to your health and the environment.

Use these tips this holiday season to prevent FOG from clogging your drains:

- ◆ Pour used cooking oil into a container with an absorbent material, like coffee grounds or paper towels, and dispose in the trash.
- ◆ Wipe all grease and food from dishes into the trash before washing.
- ◆ Planning on deep frying for your holiday dinner? You can recycle your used cooking oil at Orange Coast College Recycling Center located on Adams Avenue between Harbor Blvd and Fairview Road. Contact (714) 432-5131 for more information.

Please report all sewage spills to (714) 536-5921 and visit the Public Works website for more information on the City's FOG program.

# Community Service

## Project Self Sufficiency

Project Self Sufficiency is holding a holiday toy drive, a gift card drive and a bicycle drive for hardworking, low income PSS single parents. Toys, gift cards and bicycles can be dropped off at the Seniors Outreach Building at 1718 Orange Avenue. We will accept your donations Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5 p.m. from December 1 through December 18.

For more information or a suggested toy list, please give us a call at 714-536-5439 or email us at [single.parent@surfcity-hb.org](mailto:single.parent@surfcity-hb.org)

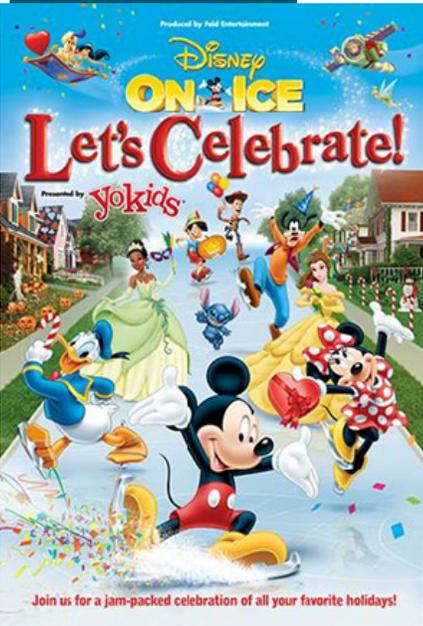


# Library

## It's a Jewelry Party

Now's your chance to do some early holiday shopping AND support the Library's Literacy program!

A Jewelry Wonderland, located at 369 E 17th Street in Costa Mesa, is donating a portion of the proceeds from your jewelry and accessory shopping either in store or online to Literacy Services. Go in person and support a local business while also helping HBPL's Literacy Services (just mention Literacy at checkout), or shop online at [www.ajewelrywonderland.com](http://www.ajewelrywonderland.com) using the word "literacy" in the special instructions box at checkout. This fundraiser will be going on through November 30 so head on over to A Jewelry Wonderland and find a beautiful gift for someone in your life while supporting Huntington Beach Public Library's Literacy Services.



## Disney on Ice Reading Program

Just in time for Thanksgiving vacation — our **Disney On Ice** Reading Program for ages one to 18-years-old. Read four books now through December 6 and be entered in a virtual raffle to win a family four pack of tickets to see Disney on Ice Let's Celebrate! There will be 10 lucky winners. Winners will be notified December 8.

Visit [hbpl.org](http://hbpl.org) and click on the Disney on Ice button to register for the program or go to this link: <http://hbplsr.evanced.info/?programid=11>

Have you registered for one of our past reading programs?? If so, you can use your same user name and password that you have used in the past.

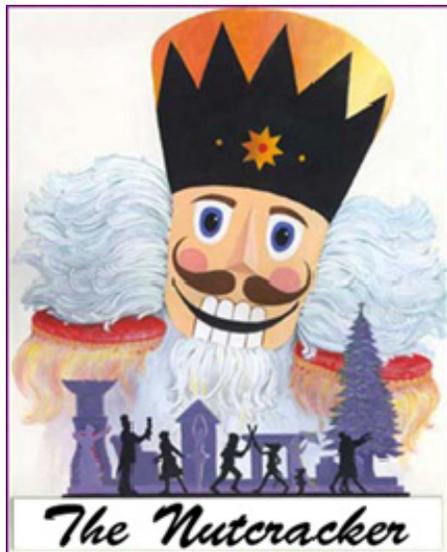
If you need any help registering, please visit your favorite HB library branch and a staff member can assist you.

## Holiday Happenings for Children

Holiday fun is in store for you and your children at our annual Tree Trimming Crafts and Holiday Marionette Show. *The Friends of the Children's Library* is sponsoring this festive event on Saturday, December 6 at 10 a.m.. Kids will have an opportunity to make ornaments, decorate our tree, enjoy Franklin Haynes Marionette show AND meet Santa! Don't forget your camera! Tickets for this fun event are \$4 per person and can be purchased in the HBPL Children's dept. Plan ahead purchase your tickets now before they run out.



Another *Friends of the Children's Library* event is the Ballet Etudes' performance of the Holiday Classic *The Nutcracker*. Tickets are still available for the 7 p.m. shows on December 16 and 17, but going fast. Tickets are \$5 per person and can also be purchased in the Children's Dept. of the HBPL. This is a holiday tradition that you do not want to miss out on!



Please check out the Library's website at <http://www.hbpl.org> for all upcoming events.

## Information Services

### City of Huntington Beach Web Surfing Tips

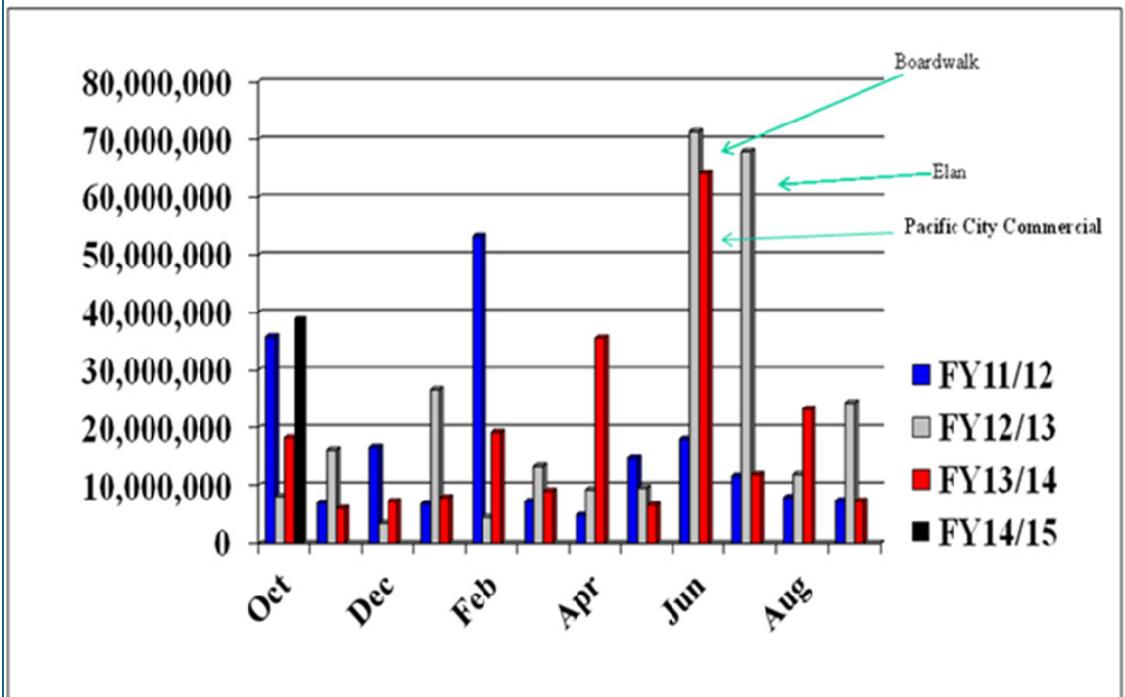
You can view Adult Softball League schedules, standings and registration information on the City website at:

[http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/recreation\\_culture/softball.cfm](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/recreation_culture/softball.cfm)

# Planning and Building

**Construction Permit Valuation for October, 2014 is up from Last Year at this Time!**

## Construction Valuation (\$) Residential, Commercial & Industrial



Fiscal year 14/15 construction activity began on a strong pace at \$38,858,290 largely due to the issuance of building permits for HB Lofts, a mixed use development located at 7302-7400 Center & Gothard. HB Lofts is the former site of a commercial retail complex which included Del Taco. Also, for the first time since FY 09/10, building permits were issued for two new industrial buildings on the former Randal Lumber property located at 17322 Gothard St.

Activity at the Planning and Building counters remains steady over the fall months. Permit activity has increased 16% for the same time period last year. While building plan check submittals and entitlements processed are down 5% and 68% respectively for the same time period last year, walk-in customers to the Planning and Building counters remained consistent at an average of 106 customers per day. The dip in plan checks and entitlements is a normal industry trend for this time of year.

## LAFCO Alternate Public Member

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is accepting applications from members of the public that are interested in serving on LAFCO to complete an unexpired four-year term ending June 30, 2017 as the **alternate public member**. All applications must be completed and returned with a cover letter to LAFCO Executive Officer by 3 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17. Finalists will be invited to interview with the Commission at the regular LAFCO meeting on February 11, 2015.

All interested parties are encouraged to contact the LAFCO office at 714-834-2556 for additional information. If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Emery, Executive Officer at LAFCO or by email at [cemery@oclafco.org](mailto:cemery@oclafco.org).

LAFCO is a state mandated agency that oversees all jurisdictional changes within Orange County, including the incorporation of new cities; annexations to cities and special districts; and consolidations, mergers, and dissolutions of public agencies. The purpose of LAFCO is to encourage the orderly formation of local government agencies, to discourage urban sprawl, and to preserve agricultural and land open space. LAFCO meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. in the Planning Commission hearing room at the Orange County Hall of Administration located at 10 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, California 92701.

Attached is a link to receive additional information and an application: [http://oclafco.org/images/stories/PDF/Commission\\_Vacancy/2014\\_Nov\\_AltPubMem\\_PressReleaseApp\\_UnExpiredPkg.pdf](http://oclafco.org/images/stories/PDF/Commission_Vacancy/2014_Nov_AltPubMem_PressReleaseApp_UnExpiredPkg.pdf)

# Business Development

## Small Business Saturday

It's certainly not too early to start thinking about fulfilling the wishes of everyone on your holiday gift list.. In fact, you may have even started shopping already. But what about your everyday needs? In celebration of the upcoming Small Business Saturday, plan and commit to finding and shopping businesses that provide services or carry items you purchase year-round, and make a date to visit them on Saturday, November 29th, when other consumers throughout the nation will be doing the same.



If you're not sure who might have what you're looking for, many Huntington Beach businesses have already listed themselves on the Shop Small map at [www.shopsmall.com](http://www.shopsmall.com), and other online consumer sites are very effective at helping locate businesses and sharing customer reviews, which small businesses rely upon and find very valuable (so if you have a great experience locally, be sure to share!).

## Annual Light A Light of Love Holiday Parade!

Save the date! Sunday, December 7, Downtown will host the Light A Light of Love Holiday Parade. This annual celebration, benefitting the Huntington Beach Youth Shelter, begins at 4 p.m. at Pier Plaza. A Children's Holiday Parade will begin at 4:30 p.m. along Main Street and there will be an official visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus!

At 6 p.m. there will be an official lighting of the snowflakes along the Pier and Main Street. The snowflakes illuminating Downtown during the holiday season are sponsored by various individuals, businesses, organizations throughout the community, and provide much-needed financial support for the shelter, which relies on outside financial support is operated by Community Services Programs, Inc.

For more information about attending this family-friendly event, including how you or your business could sponsor a snowflake in support of the shelter, please visit: <http://www.cspinc.org/Light%20a%20Light%20of%20Love>.

## City Council Adopts Mills Act Program

On November 3, 2014, the City Council voted unanimously to adopt a Mills Act Program. The Mills Act is a state law designed to provide financial incentives for property owners who agree to restore and maintain their historic residential and commercial properties.

The City of Huntington Beach Mills Act Program allows for a Preservation Agreement between the City and eligible Huntington Beach historic property owners. The Preservation Agreement allows the County Assessor's Office to reduce the property tax amount on historic properties if the property owner agrees to use the tax savings for continued preservation of the property as a historic resource.

Eligibility for a Preservation Agreement is limited to the owners of properties identified in the Huntington Beach Historic Context and Survey Report or any federal or state official register of historically significant sites, places, and landmarks (Resolution No. 2014-82).

Applications will be accepted January 2015 through March 2015 and applications will be limited to ten (10) per year. As part of the application process, applicants will be required to pay an application fee of \$500 and asked to provide detailed plans to improve the property over a 10-year-period. The application will be available on the City's website in early December. For more information, please call the City Manager's Office at 714 536-5202.

## We Wish our Departing City Council Members and City Attorney Best of Luck!

We want to wish our departing council members and city attorney the best of luck in their future endeavors. To Mayor Matthew Harper, Mayor Pro Tempore Joe Shaw, Council Members Joe Carchio and Connie Boardman, as well and City Attorney Jennifer McGrath — a very fond farewell and thank you for your service over the years.



# Candle Safety

Candles may be pretty to look at but they are a cause of home fires — and home fire deaths. Remember, a candle is an open flame, which means that it can easily ignite anything that can burn.

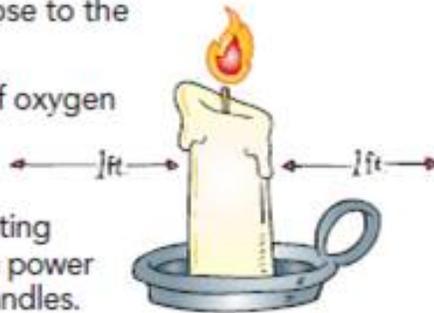
## "CANDLE WITH CARE"

- » Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Avoid the use of candles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.
- » Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn.

Think about using flameless candles in your home. They look and smell like real candles.

## IF YOU DO BURN CANDLES, make sure that you...

- » Use candle holders that are sturdy, and won't tip over easily.
- » Put candle holders on a sturdy, uncluttered surface.
- » Light candles carefully. Keep your hair and any loose clothing away from the flame.
- » Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets too close to the holder or container.
- » Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.
- » Have flashlights and battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.



## Candles and Kids

Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle. Keep matches and lighters up high and out of children's reach, in a locked cabinet.



## FACTS

- ! **December** is the peak time of year for home candle fires.
- ! Roughly **one-third** of home candle fires started in the bedroom.
- ! More than half of all candle fires start when things that can burn are too close to the candle.



Your Source for **SAFETY** Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

## City Hall Directory

City Attorney	(714) 536-5555
City Clerk	(714) 536-5227
Passports	(714) 536-1600
City Council	(714) 536-5553
City Manager	(714) 536-5202
Community Services	(714) 536-5486
Beach Operations	(714) 536-5281
Business Development	(714) 536-5542
Finance Department	(714) 536-5630
Business Licenses	(714) 536-5267
Fire Department	(714) 536-5411
Human Resources	(714) 536-5492
Information Services	(714) 536-5515
Library Services	(714) 842-4481
Planning & Building	(714) 536-5271
Code Enforcement	(714) 375-5155
Police Department	(714) 960-8811
Public Works	(714) 536-5431
Graffiti Removal	(714) 960-8861



Fred A. Wilson, City Manager

[www.huntingtonbeachca.gov](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov)