

CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

August 19, 2013

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Huntington Beach Art Center

The public is invited to join us for a closing reception and panel discussion on Saturday, August 24, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. in conjunction with the exhibition ***Kustom Kulture II***. The panel includes Curators CR Stecyk and Paul Frank, Artists Robert Williams, Don Ed Hardy, and Jeff Decker and moderated by co-curator Greg Escalante. The exhibition will close on Sunday, September 1. Admission to the event is free. Call the Art Center at 714.374.1650 for info or visit www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org.

Huntington Beach Senior Services – Senior Services is Our Park

On Saturday, September 7, 2013, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Huntington Beach Council on Aging will hold its annual Senior Saturday Community Festival at beautiful Pier Plaza in downtown Huntington Beach. Join in the Silver Anniversary event, celebrating 25 years of valuable resources, entertainment, food, and family fun! Senior Saturday is the largest FREE Senior Expo in Orange County.

Approximately 75 sponsor booths will offer information, products, and services geared toward Baby Boomers as well as the older adult population. This is an excellent opportunity for Boomers, 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 breakfast, \$2 lunch giveaways, health screenings, 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. Free shuttle service to and from the event is provided from City Hall at 2000 Main Street and the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center, 1706 Orange Avenue. Free parking is available at both shuttle locations.

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 Seniors Outreach. Bring your family and friends for a fun filled morning and afternoon. For more information, please call the Michael E. Rodgers Seniors Center at (714) 536-9387 or visit www.hbcoa.org.

Huck Finn Fishing Derby

 On Saturday, August 17, the Community Services Department presented the 50th Annual Huck Finn Fishing Derby on the Huntington Beach Pier. This FREE event marks the 50th year that community members have spent the morning fishing with family and friends! Children ages 4 through 15 experienced the fun of recreational fishing off the Huntington Beach pier. Prizes were awarded to the best dressed Huck Finn and Becky Thatcher and trophies were given to the largest and smallest fish in three different categories.

The Recreation, Human and Cultural Services Division of Community Services wrapped up a very busy summer schedule last week, and honored Part Time staff with a "People of the Summer" presentation at the August 14 Community Services Commission Meeting. Staff from Art Camp, Youth Sports, Adventure Playground, Aquatics, Special Events, and Summer Concert Series were recognized and honored for their commitment to improving quality of life for Huntington Beach residents. Parks Make Life Better and our Staff make parks better in Huntington Beach!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Task Force

City Council has formed the Downtown Task Force to review the impact of special events on Downtown. The Downtown Task Force will also examine how to create a sustainable and vibrant downtown economy while maintaining a safe and high quality of life for the residential neighborhoods. The Task Force will meet at the Main Street Library at 504 Main Street at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. The first meeting will be September 12 at 5:30 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend these meetings and provide input to the Task Force. For additional information on the meetings or to be included in the e-mail list for meeting notification, please contact kfritzal@surfcity-hb.org

FIRE

Car Seat Installation

Car seat installation is not one of the services performed by the Fire Department, but there are several agencies in Orange County that provide car seat safety classes and inspections.

Huntington Beach residents can contact:

- 1) Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) – to register, call 714-532-8887
They offer free car seat classes and inspections once a month. One-on-One appointments are available for a fee.
- 2) California Highway Patrol – Westminster - call 714-892-4426 for an appointment
13200 Golden West Street
Westminster, CA 92683

Child Passenger Safety

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death in the US to children 14 years and under according to the National Center for Health Statistics. They are also a major cause of permanent brain damage, epilepsy, and spinal cord injuries. Many of the deaths and injuries can be prevented with the proper use of car seats.

Effective January 1, 2012, California Law says that children under the age of 8 or under 4'9" tall must be properly secured in the rear seat of a vehicle with a child passenger restraint system.

CHOC recommendations:

- Always read and follow the directions that come with the car seat.
- Read your car owner's manual. It will describe how your seat belts lock, if you need to use a locking clip to put in your car seat, and if you can use a tether strap to reduce forward head movement in a crash.
- All seats have height and weight limits. Make sure you buy a seat that is appropriate for your child's height, weight, and physical needs.
- If your car seat is over six-years old or has been in a crash, it may not be safe. Buy a new one.
- Put children under the age of 13 in the back seat. It is the safest place for any child to ride.
- Get a tight fit. Car seats should move no more than one inch from side to side or toward the front of the car.
- Children should face the rear of the vehicle until age two or until they reach the maximum height and weight of their seat.
- NEVER put an infant facing the rear of the car in the front seat with an active airbag.
- Harness straps should be as snug as possible and the harness clip should be placed at armpit level.
- Young infants need to ride reclined to keep their airway open. The most a rear facing car seat should be reclined is 45 degrees.

Protect your child – it is the law!

In California, for each child under 16 who is not properly secured, parents (if in the car) or drivers can be fined up to \$490 and get a point on their driving records.

Booster Seats

- Help elevate your child so that the shoulder strap fits comfortably across the chest, the lap belt stays low over the hips, and the knees bend over the seat edge.
- Seat weight limits can be as high as 120 pounds.
- Keep your children in a BOOSTER SEAT until they are big enough to fit in a seat belt properly

Your children can properly fit an adult SEAT BELT when on every trip they can stay seated and:

- Sit all the way back in the seat with their knees bending at the edge of the seat
- Have the lap belt stay low on their hips, touching the upper thighs, and
- Have the shoulder belt cross the center of their chest and not ride on their neck or face.

No one should ever place the shoulder belt under the arm or behind the back.

For more Child Passenger Safety information or resources near you, please call CHOC Community Education at 714-532-8887.

Structure Fire – Terry Drive

On August 16 at approximately 10:45 a.m., Huntington Beach Fire Department units responded to a reported structure fire on Terry Drive. Firefighters arrived on scene and reported a working fire in a two story single family residence where smoke and fire were coming from the front door of the home. An aggressive fire attack was initiated, a search was conducted for victims, and the fire was brought under control in 16 minutes.

No civilian or firefighters were injured during this fire, but a small family dog was found during the search and it did not respond to the CPR efforts on scene.

The homeowner discovered a fire in his kitchen only minutes after leaving a pan of grease heating on the stovetop. This was an accidental fire caused by unattended cooking and it was exasperated due to a lack of functional smoke detectors in the home, which delayed fire department notification.

This incident should serve as a reminder that cooking should be attended at all times and functional smoke detectors should be in place in all residences.

INFORMATION SERVICES

Did you know the City website has a very large selection of streaming videos? You can watch a variety of videos such as HBTv3 Live, archived videos of Surf City Highlights, Cityworks, City Attractions, City Events, and videos about City departments. You can find a link to this page from the City site homepage or under the Residents navigation tab:

<http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/videos>

LIBRARY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Homesteading Help @ the Library

“Going Local”, “Sustainable Living”, and “Locavore” are ways to describe the popular trend of becoming more self-sufficient and living off the land. By whichever label, here’s a list of helpful titles for anyone interested in urban homesteading—check one out today!

- *Projects To Get You Off The Grid: Rain Barrels, Chicken Coops, and Solar Panels*, selected by Instructables.com, edited by Noah Weinstein.
- *The Renewable Energy Handbook: The Updated Comprehensive Guide To Renewable Energy And Independent Living* by William H. Kemp.
- *Composting: An Easy Household Guide* by Nicky Scott.
- *Gardening By Cuisine: An Organic Food Lover's Guide to Sustainable Living* by Patti Moreno.
- *The Locavore's Kitchen: A Cook's Guide to Seasonal Eating and Preserving* by Marilou K. Suszko.

Many Happy Returns @ the Library

Need to return a book to the Library, but don't have time to make an extra trip to the original lending location? No problem—Huntington Beach Library books can be returned to the book return bin of any of the five (5) library locations throughout the city:

- ❖ Central Library, 7111 Talbert Ave
- ❖ Helen Murphy Branch, 15882 Graham St
- ❖ Oakview Branch, 17251 Oak Lane
- ❖ Main St Branch, 525 Main St
- ❖ Banning Branch, 9281 Banning Ave

Library Storytime ON VACATION

Central Library, Banning, Main Street and Murphy Branches will be having a Storytime vacation starting Tuesday, August 27, through Saturday, September 7. These are the weeks before and after Labor Day. There will be no Toddler, Pre-School or Arts and Crafts Storytimes during this time. Our regular Storytime schedules will resume on Tuesday, September 10.

PLANNING & BUILDING DEPARTMENT**Zoning Administrator**

On Wednesday, August 21, 2013, at 1:30 p.m. in Room B-8 the following items are scheduled for the Zoning Administrator:

1. **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 13-016 (STARBUCKS ALCOHOL) Applicant:** Candice Doyle, Architects Orange **Property Owner:** Shea Properties Management Co., Carol Trueman **Request:** To permit alcohol (beer and wine) sales, service, and consumption within an existing 1,821 sq. ft. indoor eating and drinking establishment and approximately 716 sq. ft. outdoor patio area enclosed with a 42-inch high metal railing. **Location:** 7101 Yorktown Avenue, 92648 (north side of Yorktown Avenue, between Goldenwest and Main Street) **City Contact:** Kristi Rojas, Contract Planner

A copy of the agenda is available on the City's website. Please contact the Planning Division, at (714) 536-5271, with any questions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT**Police Update on the July 28 Major Disturbance Investigations:**

Huntington Beach detectives continue to work with the vast amounts of evidence and information collected during and after the July 28 disturbance. Many investigations are still actively being pursued, arrests warrants being obtained, and more arrests are pending in the near future. The Huntington Beach Police Department remains committed to identifying and arresting anyone engaged in unlawful behavior occurring during this incident. We greatly appreciate all the assistance provided by members of the public.

DUI/Drivers License Checkpoints

The deterrent effect of DUI checkpoints is a proven resource in reducing the number of persons killed and injured in alcohol or drug involved crashes. Research shows that crashes involving alcohol drop by an average of 20 percent when well-publicized checkpoints are conducted often enough. Officers contact drivers passing through the checkpoint for signs of alcohol and/or drug impairment. Officers also check drivers for proper licensing and will strive to delay motorists only momentarily. When possible, specially trained officers will be available to evaluate those suspected of drug-impaired driving. Drivers caught driving impaired can expect jail, license suspension, and insurance increases, as well as fines, fees, DUI classes, and other expenses that can exceed \$10,000.

In 2010, over 10,000 people were killed nationally in motor vehicle traffic crashes that involved at least one driver or motorcycle rider with a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08% or higher. In California, this deadly crime led to 791 deaths because someone failed to designate a sober driver. Over the course of the past three years, DUI collisions have claimed five lives and resulted in 866 crashes, harming 455 of our friends and neighbors in Huntington Beach. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), checkpoints have provided the most effective documented results of any of the DUI enforcement strategies. Based on collision statistics and frequency of DUI arrests, DUI Checkpoints are placed in locations that have the greatest opportunity for achieving drunk and drugged driving deterrence. Locations are chosen with safety considerations for the officers and the public by the Police Department's Traffic Bureau.

PUBLIC WORKS

Turf Removal Incentives Currently Available to O.C. Residents

Orange County residents have reached a milestone achievement of more than one million square feet – and counting – of non-functional turf grass removed through the Turf Removal Program. The Turf Removal Program provides an incentive of \$0.30 (or more) per square foot for removing large areas of turf grass that do not serve a functional purpose (recreational or other) and replacing them with low water using plants and other permeable materials. The removal of one million square feet of turf grass saves 120,000 gallons of water each day, which is enough water to serve 268 Orange County households for a year.

Board President Joan Finnegan commented, "Orange County residents are doing a remarkable job of reducing their outdoor water use through the Turf Removal Program. The participants have shown their commitment to protecting our most valuable natural resource, and we thank them for their efforts."

The Turf Removal Program was introduced by the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) in 2011 to increase outdoor water use efficiency and reduce the amount of harmful water runoff that flows off properties and eventually enters our waterways. The program is designed to incentivize residents to remove water intensive turf grass, which uses more water than any other plant in the urban landscape, and replace it with a water wise landscape.

The program is a collaborative effort of MWD OC, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and several local water retailers throughout Orange County. Rebates are currently available to residents and small commercial customers in participating areas throughout Orange County. Visit www.mwdoc.com/services/turf-removal for a list of participating areas, rebate levels, before and after photos, and program details.

Participation in the Turf Removal Program not only reduces outdoor water use, it can also brighten up a yard by adding color and variety through beautiful California Friendly plants. Native landscapes have the added benefit of attracting local wildlife, like butterflies and birds. A wide variety of gardening tips and California Friendly plant lists are available at www.bewaterwise.com.

In addition to providing rebates on turf grass removal, MWD OC also offers rebates on a variety of water-efficient devices, including rotating sprinkler nozzles, smart irrigation timers, high efficiency clothes washers, and high efficiency toilets. For a current listing of rebate opportunities and other water-saving tips, please visit: www.mwdoc.com/services/water-rebates.