



Nancy Gardner

Councilwoman



Newsletter: October 2009

Newport Beach, California

City Contacts

City Hall

General Information

644-3309

Departments 644-

Administrative	3127
Building Dept	3275
City Clerk	3005
City Council	3004
City Manager	3000
Economic Dev	3225
General Services	3055
Graffiti Hotline	3333
Harbor Resources	3034
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Mayor	3004
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Senior Services	3151
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Utilities	3011
Water/Sewer	3050

Emergency Services

Emergency	9-1-1
Fire Dept	633-3104
Police Dept	644-3717

Libraries

CdM	644-3075
Main	717-3800
Mariners	717-3838
Balboa	644-3076

Oasis Senior Center

644-3244

Post Office

CdM	673-2989
Main	640-4663

COUNCILWOMAN

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DESALINATION

A 50-million-gallon-a-day desalination plant has been proposed for Huntington Beach. While more water would certainly be welcome, there are environmental concerns since the proposed plant would utilize AEC's intake. This means continuing destruction of marine life since the pipe traps some species and destroys a lot of larva. The Coastal/Bay Water Quality Committee took no position on the merits of the plant but has recommended that the City sign a water purchase agreement as fourteen Orange County public water agencies have. This would not curtail any environmental arguments we might want to make, and the City can opt out at any time, but it means that if the project were to be approved we would be in line to purchase water.

COASTAL PEAK PARK

The new park right by Signal Hill is open. It's a terrific park—great playing fields, areas you can reserve for kids' parties, a nice play area. Nearby residents are concerned about parking impacts since this is also a staging area for the open space across the street, and we will be making adjustments as needed.

COMMUNITY YOUTH CENTER

There will be a week-long open house October 3-9, to celebrate the renovated Community Youth Center in Corona del Mar, culminating with a movie in the park (Madagascar 2) and barbecue that Friday. There's an additional classroom with ten new instructors and thirty classes. For more information call 644-3165 or go to the City's web site.

MORE ON FIRE RINGS

I was down at Big Corona one weekend this summer, and by the jetty and fire rings all I could smell was lighter fluid from the fire rings which didn't add much to the beach experience. Senator Tom Harmon is interested in the subject, so we met for coffee and talked about safety and air quality issues. He gave me some interesting figures: Of the 394 beaches in California, 12 have fire rings, and 4 of the 12 are in Orange County.

PARKING

A parking structure has been proposed for Old School Park to help alleviate parking problems in the area. The concept is for automated parking which would take the existing parking lot and put what would like a house on it facing 4th Avenue where the ingress and egress would take place. The actual parking would be underneath the park. As presented, there would be less impact on nearby residents than the existing set up. However, impact is in the eye of the beholder, so if the proposal gains any traction, residents' reaction will be critical.

CIVIC CENTER

I still hate the sail. There was a final meeting Sept. 30 of the City Hall and Park Design Committee at which the project architects presented their schematic designs. They have gone a long way in answering neighbors' concerns about view planes and light pollution. I determined that since we had put together this committee of architects to give us the benefit of their expertise I would try not to second-guess the design with my own impeccable taste, but when I see the sail I cannot help myself. Anyway, I understand NBTV will be showing reruns of the meeting the next few Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for those who want an update.

AND NO, I DO NOT BEAT MY DOG

But neighbors probably think I did. Mouse was grouse-hunting in Colorado and mistook a porcupine for a game bird (I never said he was a smart dog). Jim pulled all the quills out, and he was fine for a week, and then one afternoon, he started yelping like he was being punished, and he was, but not by us. The porcupine got its revenge. The vet found a small quill floating around inside his ear canal where we couldn't see it. I wish I could say that Mouse has learned his lesson about porcupines, but knowing the animal it's probably best if he just avoids Colorado.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

This is a two-way process; please don't hesitate to contact me with your ideas and opinions.