



Nancy Gardner

Council Member

Newsletter: November 2010

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
Licenses	3141
Mayor	3004
Public Info Office	3031
Planning Dept	3200
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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

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COUNCIL MEMBER
Nancy Gardner

City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Blvd
Newport Beach, CA
92663

PHONE
949.644.3004

WEBSITE
www.nancygardner.org

EMAIL
gardnernancy@aol.com

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TALK ABOUT THE BOY SCOUTS

Be prepared. That's the purpose of biannual Emergency Operation Center drills which train staff to handle a disaster situation. I observed part of this year's drill which took place at the current EOC at police headquarters. The simulated disaster was a 7.1 earthquake, and as the day went on, numerous incidents were reported and dealt with: fires, collapsed buildings, road slides, an interview with Anderson Cooper (if he can visit New Orleans he can come here). I got there at the beginning, and everything was ready to go, but it was pointed out that in a real situation, it would take about two hours to make this EOC functional. That will be another benefit of the new civic center. It will have a dedicated EOC which can be up and running within minutes.

DREDGING

We had a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) to meet Colonel Toy, the new commander for our area, who seemed quite aware of the city's issues. Everything depends on funding, but at this point there's money in the federal budget to make a start on the lower bay dredging during the next fiscal year. Let's hope the money stays in the budget. The other good news was that ACE wants to do a cleanup of the salt water marsh at this end of the Santa Ana River, and it will be an opportunity for the city to coordinate and get the Newport slough area dredged as well. The city made it clear to ACE that we have funding for our share of the project.

YES, BUT CAN WE HANDLE THE QUEEN MARY?

Before the end of the year, we'll have a study session on boat size and overhang in the harbor. Right now a boat can overhang the pier or slip by the width of its beam. As boats get bigger, the overhang has become greater, and now there is a proposal to bring a new charter boat into the harbor, the biggest yet, so it seems like a good time to review the policy to be sure that it is keeping pace with the times.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Newport Beach Historical Society has rather lapsed in the last few years, but there's an effort to revitalize it, launched with a Bawdy Balboa evening celebrating my father. They had almost one hundred people at the Pavilion, with old friends relating anecdotes and reading from *Bawdy Balboa* and his old Daily Pilot columns. They also had copies of *Bawdy Balboa* available, to my surprise since I didn't know there were any left. The evening was taped and can be seen on *Timeless Treasures* on NBTV. For more information on the society, go to Newportbeachhistorical.com.

GLAD THAT'S OVER

Everything I read and hear says that despite everyone's stated dislike of them, negative campaigns work. At the local level, one mailer suggested we're a vote away from being the City of Bell. I don't know whether it's because we're an informed and educated community or people just liked the other candidate, but in this case, the negative campaign didn't work. As for robocalls, I don't buy anything over the phone whether it's carpet cleaning or candidates so I spent a great deal of time the past month hanging up. If I were more disciplined, I wouldn't answer in the first place.

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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