



*Nancy Gardner*  
Mayor



Newsletter: November 2012

Newport Beach, California

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**City Hall**  
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**Departments 644-**  
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City Council 3004  
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Economic Dev 3225  
Graffiti Hotline 3333  
Harbor Resources 3034  
Licenses 3141  
Mayor 3004  
Municipal Ops 3055  
Public Info Office 3031  
Planning Dept 3200  
Public Works 3311  
Recreation 3151  
Refuse Collection 3066  
Senior Services 3151  
Streets/Sidewalks 3060  
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

**MAYOR**

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***WALK WITH THE MAYOR***

A final burst of energy. Saturday, November 17, come walk with me around Santa Ana Heights. This is the most recently annexed part of our city, the only area that permits horses and other animals besides dogs and cats. We'll be leaving from the fire station (turn right on Mesa Drive, and it's there on the left at the corner of Acacia) at 9 a.m. There may be some off-roading, so wear sturdy shoes. Among the highlights—a peek in at Newport Beach Vineyards and Winery, but just a peek. Too early for us to be tasting. We'll end up back at the fire station for light refreshments.

***SPEAKING OF MAYOR'S THINGS...***

There was a good turnout for the paddle, everyone from tweeners to retirees, and it was so much fun I was instantly thinking of other paddling opportunities: a bay version of CycLavia or a post-Boat Parade moonlight venture, for example. One of the participants is involved in the effort to make standup paddling an Olympic Sport. His hope is to create a center in Newport that would provide training for elite SUPers. I suppose it would be fun watching them fly by, leaving me bobbing in their wake.

***TRASH***

Is it that people who eat fast food are slobs, or is it that our domestic wildlife (yes, I realize that's an oxymoron, but I think it well-describes creatures like ravens, raccoons, rats and—to break up the alliteration—coyotes who live so happily with us) have developed a craving for fast food? All I know for sure is that the trash I pick up in the alley is 90% from fast-food establishments, so people who patronize such places either blithely toss their trash or—and I think much more likely—the critters like high-fat, high-salt snacks and have learned to recognize the packaging. Either way, picking up all this trash is certainly going to influence me when we review our trash procedures.

***NOBLE DANE***

"To desal or not to desal, that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to support the Huntington Beach desal project and insure an alternate source of water for our residents or to take arms against the innumerable environmental issues associated with the project and by opposing end it." Most water experts will tell you that desal is another arrow in our water supply quiver but that it should be the last arrow. The primary focus should be on what we have and better managing it. This means more ground water replenishment, more capture and storage of runoff, more conservation when it comes to landscape. Most water experts will also say that there is good desal and not so good desal. Unfortunately, the proposed desal plant in Huntington Beach falls into the not so good category. Unlike the proposed plant in Dana Point which will use slant drilling, the HB project proposes to use the power plant's ocean intake pipe, the kind of pipe that the state is phasing out because of its environmental impacts, and there is the issue of brine and associated chemicals that would be discharged into the ocean. On top of that, desalinated water takes a lot of energy to produce and as a result is very pricey. Without even getting into the issue of private ownership of a water supply, there are good reasons to be concerned about the Huntington Beach project. At the same time, if the plant is built, we would want access to the water, so we hover, torn between the two paths, indicating interest to keep our hand in the game but not going so far as support. Just like Hamlet. Oh, what a rogue and peasant slave etc.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

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

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