



Features

[Public Service Center Update](#) | [And the Survey Says](#) | [Sports Center Update](#)
[Project Updates - Cannery Row/Lower Presidio](#) | [Join a Board](#)

Budget Challenges Mean Changes in City Work Program

City income continues to fall short of our projections due to the persisting weak economy, lagging local tourism industry and ongoing cutbacks by the State of California in funds earmarked for cities.

Also, we expect City expenses to go up. In order to maintain a balanced budget, we must adjust our spending plans and work program. It is difficult to predict how big our budget gap will be – much depends on the amount the State takes away and how soon the economy rebounds.

However, right now we are projecting a \$2.6-million gap between income and expenses for fiscal year 2003-04 and a \$5-million gap for 2004-05 in the City's main account that pays for programs and services – the General Fund.

To deal with this challenge, the City must re-evaluate how we spend money and, possibly, reconsider revenue sources. We will review programs/services that could be cut with the least impact on the community. And we will continue to look for new and better ways to do business and provide services.

In addition, the City Council might re-examine how much we can still subsidize specialized fee-based services and programs, including permits and recreation activities. We also continue to work on ways to boost revenues and increase the tax base without increasing tax rates. These include 1) completion of the Monterey Peninsula Hotel project on Cannery Row and 2) more investment in marketing efforts to attract visitors to Monterey.

We encourage you to be involved in the City's budget planning process. Stay tuned to local media for times to participate in meetings and work sessions. **See article below** for some important dates and deadlines and for more info on the budget process. Send comments anytime to the City's Suggestion Hotline, contact us at www.monterey.org/contus.html



Balancing Budget Takes Ongoing Coordinated Planning

As the City and community continue to deal with economic uncertainty, we will be identifying necessary changes in services to ensure a balanced budget.

Community suggestions are vital to establishing the City's financial plan, and even more important during these challenging times.

Let us know which City services and programs are vital to your quality of life and what programs could be reduced/eliminated to help off-set the \$5-million gap in income and expenses projected in fiscal year 2004-05. For more details, see the cover article.

"During this process we will identify specific strategies to balance the City budget, review our priorities and work program to make sure they are in-line with predicted revenues and expenses," says City Manager Fred Meurer. "And connecting with our citizens is an important step in shaping City programs, projects and activities over the next several years."

Although it is far too early to know what the eventual recommendations might be, we will continue to keep the community up-to-date and involved in the process.

How can you participate?

- 1) Participate in the public meetings and/or hearings during the budget development process, see budget meeting calendar below. Visit www.monterey.org/budget/budgetdates.html for more info.
- 2) Call 646-3799, fax 646-3793 or email (suggest@ci.monterey.ca.us) your suggestions and ideas.
- 3) Stay tuned to local media for opportunities to participate in meetings and work sessions for fiscal year 2004-05.

For more details, call 646.3940, or visit www.monterey.org/budget

Plans for Public Service Center Continue to be Reviewed

Background

Over the past couple of years, the City has been evaluating plans to build a one-stop Public Service Center to consolidate related community services. Many City offices are located in cramped, dilapidated bungalows and are scattered throughout the area. The upgraded Civic Center would provide better service to our customers. The City Council approved a conceptual design for a two-story building proposed for the corner of Madison and Van Buren streets. During the past few months, we began to evaluate the environmental impacts and reassess the project based on the current economic climate.

Last summer, the City Council approved moving forward with the environmental review process for the Public Service Center project. This process helps measure the impacts of the different designs on the surrounding neighborhood.

Very recently, concerns about the City's budget have caused us to reconsider how and when we should move ahead with solutions to our office space needs. As a result, we are reviewing our options in even greater detail.

We are working with the architectural team and the City Council Sub-committee to prepare updated recommendations for consideration by the entire City Council. In the meantime, we are moving forward with a modular building to house the Police Department Investigations Division. Proposed designs for this building should be available soon.

Plans to address the temporary space needs for the Fire Department's administration as well as the Finance and Personnel departments are still being reviewed. For updates and more info, visit www.monterey.org/civiccenter or call 646.3770.

And the Survey Says

Results from the Community Survey distributed in the City Focus last winter are in. Nearly 550 responses were collected! Thank you for taking the time to let us know what you think. In the survey, you rated City appearance and government; community services, including programs for different age groups; neighborhood conditions and safety issues.

Overall, respondents continue to be very satisfied with City services and programs. However, we did see some decreases in satisfaction over the last two years with street cleanliness in neighborhoods, street conditions throughout the City and with code/zoning regulation enforcement issues. We believe there is a direct link between community perception and satisfaction and cutbacks in services and reduced budgets. We anticipate that future surveys will show similar impacts.

On a positive note, results show a significant increase in satisfaction with programs for teens as the City has made a concerted effort to focus on the needs of youth and teens during the past two years. For detailed survey results, visit www.monterey.org

Here are some more survey tidbits:

In general, safety concerns at night about various parts of the City continue to remain low, as compared with past surveys. Downtown Monterey safety issues continued to show significant decreases while concerns regarding the Coastal/Rec Trail from Wharf II to the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Lighthouse Avenue business district showed modest increases.

Regarding City priorities, community members were asked to choose the three to four issues facing the area that should be a focus for the City during the next few years. The top two items chosen were 1) encourage development of plan to increase water supply (64%) and improve traffic management program (61%). Next in line were build multi- and single-family affordable housing and create more open space (e.g. Window on the Bay).

Thanks for your input! Continue to send in your ideas and suggestions, contact us anytime. Visit www.monterey.org/contus.html for numbers and addresses. Look for our next Community Survey or send in info anytime.

[Return to top](#)

Sports Center Promotes Healthy Community

See the state-of-the-art upgrades at the [Monterey Sports Center](#) and experience the difference.

The 15,200 square feet of additional space is now open to the public, including an upgraded Cardio Fitness Center, a Weight Training Center, an Assessment Center, a Sports Café and Pro Shop, the Kids Zone babysitting service and a multi-purpose room (Studio I).

The Cardio Fitness Center is equipped with 55 fitness machines including True and Life Fitness Treadmills, Precor and Star Trac cross-trainers, Stairmaster Stepmills and Star Trac recumbent bikes and cycles.

To make your workout more enjoyable, the center also includes Cardio Theater with six televisions and four music stations. The Weight Training Center features Hoist strength training equipment. All of the machines are ergonomically designed with special features that accommodate most users and make the machines move more smoothly.

Need a safe place for your children to stay while working out at the Sports Center? The Kids Zone babysitting service is available for children 6 months to 8 years old. Kids can color, do art projects, watch movies or just play.

With the new addition, the Sports Center has two multi-purpose rooms for group exercise, martial arts, yoga, pilates and other programs. Both rooms are equipped with suspended floors to support group exercise programs.

Thanks for your patience during this process. We are excited to have celebrated the grand opening this March.

Project Updates

*The completion of some projects along **Cannery Row** would significantly increase the amount of revenues collected by the City, adding to our overall fiscal picture.*

Two projects have been approved by both the City and California Coastal Commission. However, neither project is moving forward because the developers have not secured the necessary financing. The applicants say the events of Sept. 11, 2001, and the continued lag in tourism have made it difficult to get investors.

The Monterey Peninsula Hotel project is a 208-unit luxury hotel on the bay and inland sides of Cannery Row between Prescott and David avenues. The site is currently screened by the Cannery Row Mural. It also includes a parking garage along the 700 block of Wave Street.

The IMAX project is a 500-seat large format theater that includes retail stores. It is proposed for the opposite end of the Row – on the bay side between the Monterey Plaza Hotel and Monterey Bay Inn.

When completed and operational, these projects, particularly the luxury hotel, would benefit City revenues. For more info, call the Planning Division at 646.3885 or email fell@ci.monterey.ca.us

*Visit the **Lower Presidio Historic Park** in Monterey, 26 acres of some of the most historic sites in all of California.*

The Lower Presidio, leased and maintained by the City, includes the location of Achasta, a Rumsen Ohlone village, which dated back more than 2000 years. We recently approved the Master Plan for the park, describing how to best interpret and preserve the area.

The Lower Presidio is open to the public – just enter off Pvt. Bolio Road or Artillery Street and

turn onto Corporal Ewing Road at the military checkpoint. The Presidio of Monterey Museum on Corporal Ewing welcomes visitors Thursday to Monday.

When you're there, see these other sites:

- 1602 Vizcaíno landing site and 1770 location where Gaspar De Portolá and Father Serra founded Monterey, located at the park entrance at Pacific and Artillery streets.
- The Spanish fortification, located just above Lighthouse Avenue, where in 1818 the Spanish Garrison El Castillo fought the only sea-land battle in California history.

Today the middle and upper portions of the Presidio are home to the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center, which is closed to the public. But the Historic Park is open! For more info and museum hours, call 646.3456 or visit www.monterey.org/museum/pom

[See related article on the History Buffs only page.](#)

[Return to top](#)

Join a Board, Commission - Art is Their Forte

Encouraging public art, holding exhibitions, preserving historic resources and supporting cultural arts are tasks assigned to the Colton Hall Museum and Cultural Arts Commission.

What do they do?

Commission members advise and give recommendations about Colton Hall Museum, and they support many cultural arts programs and events, such as selecting art for the Alvarado Gallery, deciding on musicians for the Chamber Music in Colton Hall series and recommending public art projects.

Some of the more visible projects they have brought to the community include *The Great Blue Heron* at Lake El Estero, the grizzly bears in front of Colton Hall (photo above), Elkin's Park rotating sculpture garden next to the Monterey Museum of Art, *Sanctuary Sculpture* at San Carlos Beach and the Cannery Row Mural.

Commission members are appointed by the City Council to serve two-year terms. They meet monthly on the fourth Monday at 4 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

To learn more about the Colton Hall Museum and Cultural Arts Commission, call 646.3991 or send an email to conway@ci.monterey.ca.us

*More info regarding city Boards and Commissions can be found at www.monterey.org/boards
The City Clerk accepts applications on an ongoing basis, and we are currently recruiting for Architectural Review Committee members to fill terms that expire in June.*

[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)



Rev. 09/03/09 L. Huelga <http://www.monterey.org/focus/spring03/features.html>



In the News

[Lighthouse Avenue Update](#) | [Community Centers - Fun Places to Be](#)
[Focus on Trees](#) - Urban Forestry Team at Work | Permit Needed to Remove Trees
[Youth in Action](#) | [New Tools to Help Curb Bay Pollution](#) | [City TV - LIVE Council Meetings](#)

Automated Vehicle Makes Chalk Passé

The City has a new high-tech parking enforcement tool: a parking scooter equipped with AutoFind that reads and remembers license plates and parking positions.

No more hand-chalking the tires because the new scooter can do it all, using four cameras (two on the roof and two over the bumpers), a Global Positioning System (GPS) antenna and a computer mounted in the trunk.



Here's how it works:

As the parking officer drives down the street, the vehicles' position, image, actual plate number and location as well as the time and date are read and logged in the computer.

When the officer returns a second time, the plates will be scanned again and an alarm will notify the officer when it detects a parking violation based on time/location data.

Using a monitor in the scooter, the officer will make a visual confirmation that the license plate matches, and review actual pictures of the vehicle's position, recorded during each pass by the officer.

"We will be able to patrol and enforce larger areas in less time and be able to visit residential parking zones on a more regular basis," says Assistant Public Facilities Director Jo Lyons. In addition, the chalk-less system greatly reduces the risk of injuries associated with marking tires by hand.

For more info, visit us on the Web at www.monterey.org/parking

Lighthouse – the Road More Traveled

Tired of being stuck in traffic on the Presidio curve? Ever worried about losing your door as you leave your car to shop on Lighthouse?

We have been working over the past two years to find an environmentally friendly traffic solution for Lighthouse that balances the needs of residents and business owners.

Last fall, we held a series of public workshops regarding traffic on Lighthouse Avenue. Based on the input received, the 19-member General Plan Committee voted in favor of maintaining two-way traffic while improving the pedestrian environment. One alternative still under consideration is one lane of travel in each direction with a turn lane in the middle. On April 15, the City Council is scheduled to review this and other issues related to updating the traffic section of the City's General Plan.

By the way, we suggest using Foam Street when travelling to Pacific Grove or New Monterey.

For more info about traffic in the City, call Transportation Planner Doug Bilse at 646.3472 (bilse@ci.monterey.ca.us)

Check 'Em Out – Fun Places to Be, Your Community Centers

Our community centers offer a variety of programs and classes for all age groups.

Here's just a sample: The Monterey Youth Center's A Space Adventure offers cosmic crafts, galactic games and Martian munchies. And Bunny Brunch at Casanova Oak Knoll Park Center

will include games and morning brunch with the Easter Bunny.

Young chefs can prepare foods with Mexican and South-west flair at Archer Park Center's Tantalizing Tex-Mex Cookshop while Mind-Body Fitness at Hilltop Park Center combines "emotional integration" along with nutrition and exercise to promote weight loss.

At the Scholze Park Center discover many free or low-cost programs for seniors. See article below for more details for seniors.

To learn more and for location info, call the Recreation and Community Services Dept. at 646.3866, pick up an Activities Guide or visit www.monterey.org/communitycenters

Up close – Scholze Park Center

The place to be for seniors and adults 55 years and older – the [Scholze Park Center](#).

The newly renovated Senior Center offers recreation classes, a lunch program, plus space for nonprofit organizations to gather.

Line, folk, Scottish and Turkish dance classes meet weekly.

Take an exercise class or look into sewing, needlepoint, sculpting or ceramics. Or try traditional favorites like bingo and bridge.

Golden 55 Travelers begin their adventures at the Center, which is also home to The Tap Bananas performing troupe. You can also surf the Web on three public access computers or set an appointment with our Internet instructor to learn more about going online.

The Senior Center also offers bi-monthly blood pressure checks and Legal Services for Seniors. Defensive Driving classes are offered monthly.

For more info, call 646.3878 or visit our offices at 280 Dickman Ave.



Focus on Trees

Making it Green – It's Your Urban Forestry Team at Work

Discover what your urban forestry team does for the community.

We currently maintain more than 15,000 trees, in parks and along streets, and about 300 acres of Monterey Pine forest, part of the largest remaining stand of native pine forest in the world.

In caring for our urban forest this past year, crews trimmed more than 1,800 trees and removed 150. A total of 768 trees were planted or replaced on City property, and 1,500 native tree seedlings were donated for planting on private property.

City arborists conducted 358 private tree inspections to review removal and replacement of private trees. We have conducted nearly 4,000 tree inspections since 1991.

To find out about tree inspections or how to get a permit to remove a tree on your property, see article below. For questions about trees or our urban forest, call 646.3866 or email reid@ci.monterey.ca.us

Permit Needed to Remove Trees

Remember – removing a tree from private property in the City requires a permit. In most cases, a replacement tree must be planted for each tree that is removed.

Replacement trees can be as small as a 5-gallon native Monterey pine or a 15-gallon tree of an ornamental species compatible with the area. Property owners can select the tree type they like best and can replant anywhere on the property. Advice from City arborists is always available.

Occasionally, more than one replacement tree can be required, depending on the amount of existing tree cover on the site and the size and prominence of the tree to be removed. The replanting of trees is very important to property values and the overall health and appearance of the urban forest within Monterey. Your effort ensures that the quality and character of our neighborhoods are protected and preserved.

Remember to get a permit and plant a tree! Permits are available through the City's Parks Division. Call 646.3860 for more info or email reid@ci.monterey.ca.us

[Return to top](#)

Youth in Action

Partnerships that Work

For the last two years, the Monterey High School Spanish Club has been collecting cans and bottles to recycle for cash.

Students coordinated the program and each weekend their teacher redeemed the recyclables for cash.

This year club president Ashish Patel realized that with a little extra coordinated effort they could expand the project, which supports families in the community who can use an extra hand. Ashish talked with City Solid Waste Program Manager Angela Brantley, who had enough recycling bins to place in all classrooms.

Next Monterey City Disposal Services (MDS) stepped in and provided special bins to place in students' common areas. MDS also offered to pick up the recycling at the curb and donate \$1,000 to the club.

"It truly is amazing how a few people in a community, the City, a few high school students and teachers and a few caring individuals can make such an impact," Ashish says. The club has already been able to adopt four families, and the students are now gearing up for the Easter party they host for the kids.

Club officers Kim Igoesia, Jennifer McAlmond and Katya Blick have worked closely with Ashish on the recycling program. And all have noticed a significant increase in campus recycling.

"Recycling in school will hopefully leave an immediate and long-lasting impression on the students of Monterey High. If we teach students to recycle early on, they might be inclined to continue to recycle throughout their lives," Ashish says.

We continue to meet with students and teachers to help streamline the project and expand involvement on campus. In the near future, look for student artwork, posters and dance performances with recycling themes.

For more info, call Volunteer Services at 646.3719 (sammon@ci.monterey.ca.us).

New Tools to Help Curb Pollution

Reducing the amount of runoff and pollutants that flow into City storm drains and into the Monterey Bay is a necessity. It not only keeps the Bay healthy and beautiful, it is also a federal requirement.

To protect our waterfront and meet the requirements placed on our community, the City will be developing new programs over the next several years to curb stormwater pollution. As part of the process, we will be applying for two new required stormwater permits from the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, our state regulatory agency.

What changes will we see?

Pollution prevention tools, design alternatives and structural controls will be developed for construction sites, new development projects and redevelopment projects. Examples of pollution prevention techniques could include proper storage of materials such as fertilizers, pesticides and other hazardous chemicals.

Some site design alternatives might include minimizing the amount of concrete driveways, walkways and patios (impervious areas). On-site structural controls would be designed to keep runoff from increasing due to development and could include shallow grassy ditches, filtration devices and infiltration systems, such as holding ponds.

Monterey is a member of the Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program, which is helping communities implement the new federal stormwater requirements.

To learn more, call Associate Civil Engineer Jennifer Gonzalez at 646.3920 or send an email to jgonzale@ci.monterey.ca.us

[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)

City of Monterey



City Briefs

[Community of Caring Update](#) | [Jobs for Teens and Adults](#) | [New Bike Trail has Great Views](#)
[Volunteer Hot Picks](#) | [Angel Note Cards on Sale](#)

Ins and Outs of Code Enforcement

The beauty, peacefulness and safety of our neighborhoods make Monterey one of the most desirable places to live in the country.

Code Enforcement, a division of the City Attorney's Office, plays an important role in maintaining the quality of our neighborhoods.

Code Enforcement deals with a range of neighborhood issues, from abandoned vehicles parked in yards or driveways to illegal conversions of garages into living spaces and unsanitary buildup of trash and debris on private property.

The first "tool" in enforcing codes in Monterey is public education. When we explain that a law is being broken, most problems are resolved quickly. Actual code "enforcement" (usually by way of issuing citations) is normally used only when we don't gain voluntary cooperation.

We stay in contact with community groups to understand local concerns, and we welcome all questions regarding your neighborhood issues. For more info, call Code Enforcement at 646.3915.

Alive and Well – Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula

You make this a true "Community of Caring."

Supporting youth and their families throughout the area is what Community of Caring Monterey Peninsula is all about.

And it works because of people like you – this diverse coalition composed of Peninsula schools and cities, public and nonprofit agencies, businesses, youth and adults.



How Community of Caring works:

First, they provide the opportunity for people and organizations that serve Peninsula youth to coordinate and network with one another. This helps identify gaps and overlaps in local services while encouraging organizations and individuals to work together to pursue new endeavors. Networking activity takes place at face-to-face meetings and through the Internet. Second, they work to reinforce the five Community of Caring values of caring, respect, responsibility, trust and family.

Community of Caring believes (and research proves!) that supporting these values throughout the community – in homes, schools, businesses and public facilities – will make a difference in the success of our youth.

To learn more about the program or to get involved, call 646.3435 or visit the Web at communityofcaringmp.org

Jobs at the City

Visit the Personnel Department at 399 Madison Street to review current job openings and to pick up our newest brochure, "Testing and Interviewing." To keep up-to-date with City jobs, call our Job Hotline at 646.3751 or visit the Web at www.monterey.org/pers
 See article below for details on summer jobs for teens.

Teens Looking for Summer Work: Check Out Opportunities at Your City

Work with kids, earn some \$\$, enjoy the outdoors, learn new skills and have fun this summer. Teenagers 16 years of age or older who enjoy being around children should apply to work in Recreation and Community Services programs!

We are looking for creative, organized, responsible, energetic, talented and flexible individuals. If you possess any of these qualities and a positive attitude, then we are looking for you. Bring your patience, cooperation, enthusiasm and willingness to learn. All part-time positions involve working with various age groups.

Positions available include, recreation playground leaders, swim instructors, lifeguards, day-camp counselors, resident-camp counselors and resident-camp support staff.

Application deadline for summer employment is Fri., April 4, by 5 p.m.

Applications are available at the Recreation and Community Services office at 546 Dutra Street or visit us on the Web at www.monterey.org/rec

For more info on part-time jobs and summer employment, call 646.3866

(vierra@ci.monterey.ca.us).

Bike to the Best Views

Looking for a new bike outing location? The newly opened Sand Dunes Bike Trail has proven a hit with Coastal Trail users.

The bikeway is one-mile long and stretches from the Monterey Coastal/Rec Trail just east of Casa Verde Avenue, to Monterey's city limit with Seaside.

The trail boasts beautiful bay views and excellent trail facilities. This new link has dramatically improved safety along the trail network by eliminating the crossings at Roberts Avenue and the Hwy. 1 on and off ramps. So go out and take a bike ride or a walk, and enjoy.

[Return to top](#)

Of, By and For the People – Volunteer Today!

- Are you a VIP? Join a group of very important people, **Volunteers in Parks (VIPs)**. Whether you are a skilled gardener or just enjoy plants and flowers, come out every Tuesday from 9 a.m.-noon and help keep Monterey parks and gardens beautiful.
- Help preserve Monterey Bay's ecosystem as a **Marine Research Volunteer**. Work with the Harbor Division and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary scientists to locate, map and get rid of an invasive species of kelp at the waterfront.
- Interested in local history? Enjoy interacting with people? Become a **Presidio of Monterey Museum Guide!** The six-week training course, which starts April 7, will get you up to speed on the political and social history of our area and ready to introduce the museum to the public. [See feature article on Project Updates](#) for more info on the Lower Presidio Historic Park.
- Attention teens! As a [Volunteer](#) this summer you can assist Recreation and Community Services staff at the Sports Center, day camps and community centers; help in the Monterey Public Library; or edit a newsletter. Application deadline is May 9. Visit www.monterey.org/volunteer for details and applications.



For more info on volunteering, call Volunteer Services at 646.3719, email dillemut@ci.monterey.ca.us or visit us on the Web at www.monterey.org/volunteer

Take an Angel Home

Monterey Angels have watched over the streets of our City each holiday season since their creation in 1956.

And now with the arrival of Monterey Angel note cards you can share these angels with friends and family around the world.

The City's unique holiday angels were designed by artist Erica Barton Haba (Franke) and are a community tradition. Inspired by early California Mission paintings, Haba created 88 angels in 1956 and was paid \$12 for each one.

The note cards, now on sale at Colton Hall Museum, depict four different angels and are sold individually or in packets of eight. Send the angels year-round!

More about the Angels:

The original angels were painted in the same style and palette as those depicted in the mission paintings. The angels have survived continued controversy over their somber expressions and brown skin and eyes. During the 1970-restoration project, the angels received a facelift and some came back with smiles and varied skin tones and hair and eye color.

Ten new angels were designed in 1999.

To buy cards or learn more, call 646.5640 or visit Colton Hall Museum. The museum is open daily from 10 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m. and is located next to City Hall at the corner of Pacific and Madison streets.

[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)



Rev. 08/16/10 L. Huelga <http://www.monterey.org/focus/spring03/citybriefs.html>



For History Buffs Only...

French Restaurateur Left Lasting Legacy

How did the transit triangle Simoneau Plaza downtown get its name? Jules Simoneau, French restaurateur and saloon keeper, operated his business near the site that bears his name today. Simoneau is remembered for befriending Robert Louis Stevenson when the writer visited Monterey in 1879. Although Stevenson had not yet achieved fame and was almost destitute, Simoneau extended him credit for food and libations and provided the writer with companionship and conversation.

For the rest of Stevenson's life, he faithfully sent Jules Simoneau an autographed copy of every new book he published. In his later years, Simoneau carried his homemade tamales door-to-door in a wicker basket. This trade kept him in close contact with his many friends and neighbors.

The Library's California History Room has a wealth of info about the people and places from our historic past. For details, call Dennis Copeland, library archivist, at 646.3741 or email copeland@ci.monterey.ca.us

Lower Presidio Historic Park Tells Great Tales

Take some time to visit and learn about this local historic treasure – the Lower Presidio Historic Park:

In the Spanish and Mexican era, El Castillo (located on the Lower Presidio) was a focal point contested during the various political revolts.

After the American seizure of Monterey in 1846, the first U.S. fort built on the West Coast was established further up the hill. Although abandoned periodically between 1852 and 1902, the site remained under federal control and was valued for its panoramic views of the Monterey Bay. During that time, it became home to the Serra and Sloat Monuments. In 1902 the Army returned and in 1904 named the site, Presidio of Monterey, in honor of its Spanish heritage. The Lower Presidio Historic Park is open to the public.

[See feature article on Project Updates](#) for other historical facts about the park, for info on the Presidio of Monterey Museum and location and directions to the area.



[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)

City of Monterey

Rev. 09/03/09 L. Huelga <http://www.monterey.org/focus/spring03/historybuffs.html>



Odds and Ends

AT THE LIBRARY

Library to Reduce Hours of Operation this April

Monterey Public Library will reduce its hours of service in April due to budget cutbacks at the City.

Several vacant staff positions will not be filled, leaving fewer employees to handle essential public service functions.

Effective April 1, the Library's hours of operation will be as follows:

- Mon. to Weds. - 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Thurs. & Fri. - 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Sunday 1 p.m.-5 p.m.



For more details on the Library's budget issues, visit the Web at monterey.org/library

Get the Best Sellers Express

If you want a book, not a reservation, check out Express Best Sellers at your Monterey Public Library. Express Best Sellers is an affordable, new way to read hot new best sellers right now, since the Library can't always buy enough copies to keep up with the demand for the most popular titles.

Now you can borrow books that everyone's talking about for the small fee of \$2 for one week. If you need a little more time to finish up, you pay only another \$1 per day for additional days.

For more info, call Readers Services at 646.3477 or send an email to buiburto@ci.monterey.ca.us

Find Out About Your Family History on Local Database

Family historians and genealogists! The long-awaited 1930 federal census on microfilm is now available at the Monterey Public Library. Find info on residence, family members, birthplace, personal description and occupation.

To learn more, call the Library Reference Service Desk at 646.3933 or email refdesk@ci.monterey.ca.us

[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)

City of Monterey



Community Tips

[Safety Tips -](#)

[Change the Batteries in your Smoke Detector](#) | [Preparing for the Unexpected](#)
[Move Right for Sirens and Lights](#)
[Request Services Online](#)

Recycling

Safely Dispose of Your Hazardous Waste

Look around your home, do you have any household hazardous waste (HHW) products: cleaners, pesticides, paint, stains or used motor oil?

These products should not be put in the trash can or poured down the drain. You can dispose of HHW by taking it to the permanent collection program operated by the Monterey Regional Waste Management District. The service is free to area residents (I.D. required) and is available Monday to Saturday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., at the District's Environmental Park. The Park is located at 14201 Del Monte Blvd., two miles north of Marina near Hwy. 1.

Residents can take up to 15 gallons or 125 lbs. of HHW per drop off. If you own a small business you might be eligible to participate for a small fee.

Reusable HHW materials, such as paint or cleaning products, are available free at the District's Last Chance Mercantile, located in the same area.

To learn more about the program or to find out about safer HHW alternatives, call the District's Recycling Hotline at 384.5313.

Keep Recycling Simple

Think before you throw. Is it really garbage or can it be recycled?

- Buy larger quantities, it eliminates over-packaging and saves resources.
- Lead by example. Your children watch what you do and learn by your actions.
- For special events, bring a clear plastic bag to save recyclables. Clear bags help to avoid confusing it with trash.
- Recycle yard trimmings or begin a composting program at your home.
- Buy products that are made from recycled materials. This saves trees and water.
- Make recycling a habit not a chore.

To learn more, visit www.monterey.org/recycle or call 646.5662.

[Return to top](#)

Safety Tips

Change the Batteries in Your Smoke Detector

The beginning of Daylight Savings Time means it's time to check your smoke detectors. When setting your clocks ahead one hour on Sun., April 6, remember to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors.

Battery-operated smoke detectors depend on a strong charge to work properly during an emergency. Since smoke detectors are your first line of defense against smoke and fire, you should replace the batteries at least twice each year to ensure that they sound an alarm properly.

So when it's time to change your clock in the spring and fall, it is also time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Support the national campaign, "Change your clock, change your battery." Pass this message along to family and friends!

To learn more, call the City's Fire Prevention Bureau at 646.3908 or email rodewald@ci.monterey.ca.us

Preparing for the Unexpected

Disaster can strike quickly and without warning. Do you have a family disaster plan in place? To keep your family and home safer, be prepared before disaster strikes.

To get started, visit the American Red Cross (ARC) Web site www.redcross.org/services/disaster/beprepared. You'll find material about disaster preparation, including civilian guidelines for each of the Homeland Security Advisory System (HSAS) conditions (Green, Blue, Yellow, Orange and Red).

What about the disaster plan in place at your child's school? Do you know what it is? Examples of school disaster plans can be found at the Red Cross Web site as well. Links are provided off the City's Web site at www.monterey.org

Disaster preparedness: it's your choice; be part of the solution. Don't put it off until it's too late.



Move Right for Sirens and Lights

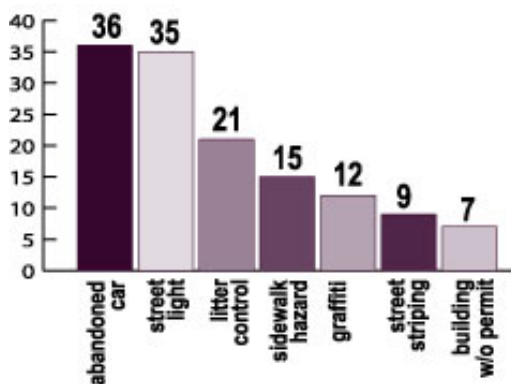
In an emergency, seconds count!

Cooperation is the key to making sure emergency public safety vehicles arrive to their destination quickly and safely.

Follow these simple rules to help:

When you hear or see an emergency vehicle traveling with lights or sirens, pull over as close to the right edge of the road as possible and stop. Remain stopped until all emergency vehicles have passed.

However, don't stop in an intersection. If you are in an intersection when you see an emergency vehicle, continue slowly through the intersection and then pull to the right as soon as possible and stop.



Request Services Online

Log on to www.monterey.org, select City Hall and then Make Service Requests. Let us know about potholes, parking enforcement, illegal dumping, dead animals, and curb and utility repairs. In 2002, we logged more than 135 online service requests. Check out the graph at left for the requests that were mentioned most.

[Return to top](#)

[Features](#) | [In the News](#) | [City Briefs](#) | [History Buffs](#)
[Community Tips](#) | [Odds & Ends](#) | [City Focus Main Page](#)

City of Monterey