The City of Monterey is about to begin construction on a major project to rehabilitate portions of its aging sanitary sewer system. This project will repair nearly 7.5 miles of sewer pipelines and over 500 sewer manholes located in streets throughout the City.

The rehabilitated facilities will help to prevent sewer backups, leaks and spills that could harm our quality of life, local economy and the pristine waters of the Monterey Bay. Some of these streets will subsequently be repaved through Measure P funding.

Repairs are expected to begin in early 2016 and continue through spring 2017. Sewer pipes will be repaired by a combination of pipe bursting, lining, open cut removal and replacement, and spot repairs. The manholes will be re-lined or removed and replaced. The rehabilitated facilities will have a minimum of 50 years extended service life.

Under the branding of "What a Relief - Working for you 24/7", Monterey’s engineering staff, supplemented by construction management firm Harris and Associates, will be meeting with neighborhood groups and will be implemented to minimize these impacts.

Funding for the $16 million Sewer Rehabilitation Program comes from a low-interest loan from the State of California Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund and is to be repaid by sewer fees. The City has already completed construction of two smaller-scale projects under this program including upgrading all seven sewer lift stations and performing spot repairs, lining, and television-inspections of sewer pipelines at nearly 200 locations.

Stay informed on this project - follow monterey.org/fixingsewers
Preparations for the renovation of the Monterey Conference Center are underway. The City is soliciting bids from construction companies for the renovation. Construction is expected to begin in late November 2015.

The City of Monterey and its project management firm, Ausonio, Inc., have selected a construction schedule designed to complete the renovation in the shortest time possible. The City’s goal is to minimize disruption to Conference Center business.

Conference Center staff has been working with groups who had booked the facility to find alternative locations for their conferences and events. A temporary pavilion on the nearby Custom House Plaza is expected to accommodate many groups.

The Conference Center will remain open until construction begins. The adjacent Portola Hotel and Spa and Monterey Marriott Hotel will be open for business throughout the renovation.

Watch for information on an official ground-breaking ceremony that will take place in November! MontereyConferenceCenter.com

Sidewalks up next on the Measure P schedule

The spring slurry seal project is complete and the next phase of Measure P work will be fixing sidewalks. Sidewalk work is expected to begin in late October, starting with areas of Pearl Street across from the tennis courts, and sections of Adam and Tyler streets. Next will include large sections of Lighthouse Avenue as well as several other streets - see full list of initial sidewalks scheduled for work.

Keep up-to-date at monterey.org/fixingstreets
Get involved with the Parks and Rec Master Plan

BY PRINCIPAL PLANNER ELIZABETH CARAKER

The City of Monterey is embarking on a major revision of our 1986 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and we need your help! As much of what was envisioned over 30 years ago has come to pass, its time to evaluate our evolving community needs and create a plan that will carry our community into a healthy and active future.

Your contribution to this planning effort will help to set a new vision, ensuring that the City continues to deliver a high level of quality recreation and leisure programs, safe and attractive beaches, trails and parks, and recreation facilities that meet the needs of all ages.

monterey.org/ParksandRecMasterPlan

It’s Happening Now! The Downtown Specific Plan vision for a vibrant downtown is well underway

BY PRINCIPAL PLANNER KIMBERLY COLE

Outdoor seating was recently completed at Montrio Restaurant at 414 Calle Principal.

Construction is wrapping up at 301-375 Alvarado. The second and third floors have been re-purposed into apartment units. These apartment units will bring new residents to the area helping to realize the vision of a vibrant Downtown. You should also be looking out for new outdoor seating next to Cibos, Monterey Crepe Company and Round Table Pizza as part of the project.

The burned site on Alvarado is emerging from the ashes. Two buildings are under construction. You can see the two-story building facing Alvarado has been constructed and finishing touches are underway. The building facing Tyler is under construction. A split construction approach was needed to keep Alvarado Street open during project construction so all construction staging was from Tyler Street.

Download a downtown poster showing the different projects - monterey.org/planning
Police vehicles recording video

BY MONTEREY POLICE OFFICER LUIS MOSQUEDA

Citizens should take comfort in knowing that there are appropriate policies and guidelines in place to guarantee that while they are being protected their personal privacy is not being violated.

The Monterey Police Department deploys an in-car video camera, MAVRS (Mobile Audio Video Recording System), to record traffic stops and other encounters with the public. In the spirit of building public trust, the in-car camera recording provides an unbiased account of events that allow citizens and others to view what actually occurred during encounters that have been called into question.

Agencies and others report that such evidence has been invaluable and that the benefits of the in-car video camera far exceeded the original goals, which are to improve:

- Officer safety
- Professionalism and performance
- Complaints concerning police practices
- Public opinion
- Agency leadership
- Training

The in-car camera can improve citizens' confidence in the police profession and enhance the ability to capture and convict violators. It is well documented that public safety benefits from having in-car video cameras available to all police officers.

Citizens should take comfort in knowing that there are appropriate policies and guidelines in place to guarantee that while they are being protected their personal privacy is not being violated.

montereypolice.org
Preparing for predicted El Niño

BY MONTEREY FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY COORDINATOR DAVID POTTER

The general scientific and weather forecaster’s consensus of the status of the predicted El Niño is that we are now in a strong El Niño, and are likely to remain so through the spring of 2016. Predicting how wet or dry these strong El Niño conditions will be is scientifically difficult and much less accurate than that of a seven-day weather forecast.

So how can the home owner or business operator best prepare for what may occur? Our best advice is to prepare as you would for our normal wet winter storm conditions and pay close attention to the seven-day forecast for more detailed information. To be better prepared for any emergency situation we strongly recommend you to Be Informed, Have a plan, and Make an Emergency Kit.

To help ensure you stay informed in case of an emergency or disaster be sure your mobile phone is registered with AlertMontereyCounty.org (831-755-8969).

Additional emergency preparedness and El Nino information can be found at:

- monterey.org
- fema.gov
- ready.gov
- nws.noaa.gov
- CERT Winter Supplement

If you are interested in having someone speak to your group concerning Emergency Preparedness email potter@monterey.org.

CERT MONTEREY

UPDATE

The Monterey CERT program will be conducting neighborhood search and rescue training in the Oak Grove neighborhood on Saturday, November 14 from 9 am to noon. The specific areas include Del Monte Avenue to 10th Street and Camino Aquajito to Sloat Avenue. Fifty or more community members will be participating.

Monte (CA) Fire Museum

A friend of the Monterey Fire Department has created a museum collection of photographs of historic fire apparatus from the Monterey Fire Department. It is a great collection and fun to see. Photos ready for viewing on Flickr, http://www.flickr.com/photos/legeros_sets/72157637204861263/
Get ready for winter with help from the Housing Rehabilitation Program

Residents are gearing up for a projected stormy and wet winter. "People are really trying to get ready for the approaching winter, clearing branches and trees, cleaning gutters, and repairing roofs," explains HPC Coordinator Thane Wilson.

The 2015-16 Housing Rehabilitation Loan and Grant Program year is now open. This program can help get the community ready for the storms. If you are a Monterey resident and you qualify, this program may be just what you need to get some of these home projects done. For details and qualifications, please refer to the brochure online, or you can call (831) 646-3728.

For anyone who has not already participated in the program within the last three years, don't delay, fill out an application today!
Monterey is famous for its spectacular coastline, but our magnificent forested neighborhoods are where Monterey lives. Unfortunately the drought is weakening and killing many of our trees. This situation has put the City’s Urban Forestry division, already at reduced staffing levels, at critical capacity.

If you have a tree on your property that you are concerned is dead, dying or dangerous, you have a couple of options. You can fill out the new online-fillable permit application form available at monterey.org/trees. There’s an FAQ there as well that answers some common questions about trees and permits.

If you just need advice or an expert to take a look at the trees on your property, a better option may be to hire a professional arborist.

Here are some tips for selecting an arborist and a list of licensed contractors in the area. As always, if you have questions, please call us at (831) 646-3860.

There's also a lot of great information online about trees and the drought. Here are a few suggestions that might help you help your trees survive the drought:

- CalFire Young Tree Fact Sheet
- CalFire Mature Tree Fact Sheet
- Help Your Trees Survive the Drought
- saveourwater.com
- montereywaterinfo.org

monterey.org/trees
Sister cities celebrate 20 years of friendship

Twenty four delegates from Nanao, Japan visited the third week of September to celebrate a 20 year Sister City relationship with Monterey. The week was filled with cultural exchanges that emphasized our commonalities in business, the environment and student programs.

Nanao was the first sister city to present a gift at the Sister City Park along the Recreation Trail.

Kudos to the Parks Division staff for getting the Sister City Park ready for the celebration! Check out the park along the Recreation Trail. It now has directional signs to all of Monterey’s sister cities.

"We have so much in common and so much to learn from each other, and I really value that."
Monterey Mayor Clyde Roberson

Monterey mural restoration project
BY MEDIA ASSISTANT ERIC PALMER

The City of Monterey commissioned ARG Conservation Services to remove the Monterey Mural in preparation for the renovation of the Monterey Conference Center. The 45- by 11-foot tile mural occupied the southwest corner of the Conference Center. A major renovation will close the Conference Center in late November.

The project will cost between $55,000 and $100,000, depending on the level of restoration work needed.

ARG staff carefully detached 663 hand-painted tiles one by one. Tiles were labeled and keyed in a graph form to ensure their correct placement when the mural is re-installed.

The Monterey Mural is a colorfully illustrated time-line of Monterey history, depicting 150 different scenes, including significant events, historic figures and buildings in Monterey. It was created and installed by artist Guillermo Granzio in 1984.

During the Monterey Conference Center renovation, plans for the return of the mural will be determined. The revitalized Conference Center is expected to re-open in early 2017.
City meetings calendar gets an update
Watch meetings LIVE on the Monterey Channel at monterey.org/tv

The Monterey City Council, Planning Commission and other boards, commissions and committee meeting dates get posted to I-SEARCHMonterey.org. This site is where agendas, minutes, ordinances and resolutions get stored and are available to the public.

We recently added a city meetings calendar on monterey.org that offers another option for finding the meetings schedule. On the home page you can see an Upcoming Events section as well as a button to “City Meetings Calendar” Both sections will list upcoming meetings.

An important thing to note is that if the date does not have the link to the Agenda, then check back to make sure the meeting is happening.

Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance.
For now, the calendar is only populated with City Council and Planning Commission meeting dates.

Winter & Spring Recreation Programs - Registration Dates!

BY RECREATION SUPERVISOR SHANNON LEON

Start planning to fill your plate with fun activities, when the Winter/Spring issue of play! Monterey (good December-May) hits the streets Monday, October 19. Mark your calendars for Wednesday, October 21 and sign up for camps, school break programs, field sports, aquatics, gymnastics, tot classes, dance, music and drama, and arts and crafts programs. A variety of new programs will also be offered including Cooking Camp, Walk the Bay: Walking for Fitness, Drawing From Your Imagination and Jedi Engineering with Play-Well Teknologies.

Guides will be available online at monterey.org/rec or at the Monterey Recreation Administration Office at 546 Dutra Street, 646-3866 beginning Monday, October 19.

Winter/Spring Registration – Begins Wednesday, October 21
Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:00pm
Monterey Recreation Administration Office, 546 Dutra Street.

Registration for all winter/spring programs at the Monterey Sports Center begins on Wednesday, October 21 at 5:30am for everyone!

Online registration 24/7 and mobile-friendly monterey.org/rec
A recent Huffington Post blog by Food and Health Editor, Kate Bratskeir, advocated for the best fruits and vegetables for weight loss. We’ve all heard that we should be eating more fresh fruits and vegetables, but it is interesting to examine why some fruits and vegetables may be better for snacks and meals than others. Also, timing can be an important factor in assisting us to lose or maintain our weight.

Bratskeir cited a recent study published in the journal PLOS Medicine that followed the diets of more than 117,000 men and women in their 30s and 40s over a 24-year period. The study confirmed that fruits and vegetables are indeed good for our health, but produce with a lot of fiber and low glycemic index (lower sugar) can play a significant role in helping a person achieve and maintain a healthy weight. A significant finding in the study is that when you increase your fruit and vegetable intake, you gain less weight than those who keep or reduce their produce intake.

Some foods were much better at promoting weight loss including adding a daily serving of tofu and soy foods like edamame – these foods resulted in gaining 2.47 fewer pounds than diets that did not include them. Other foods that were found helpful for reducing weight were berries, citrus, apples, pears and peppers.

The starchy vegetables had the opposite effect. Corn, peas and potatoes were not effective on minimizing weight gain and associated with increases in weight overall. Not that these foods are necessarily bad – potatoes provide potassium and fiber (small potatoes are much better than larger potatoes and keep the skin on) and peas are packed with vitamin K and other crucial nutrients. Also, since fewer than 15% of American adults meet the daily intake guidelines for fruits and vegetables, we need to increase not decrease our produce intake.

Instead, Bratskeir recommended to add more of the good stuff to your meals and snacks. Add berries to your pea salad or eat some peppers along with your potato. The extra fiber will help you feel fuller for longer and help you stave off your craving for dessert or other foods. Another good idea is to eat an apple or high fiber fruit or vegetable a while before eating (and before shopping) which will help you control portion size.

As always, keep up your daily walking and fitness activity programs and turn in your Fitness Activity Log to earn your reward.
Want to study a foreign language in depth, or brush up on the French you learned in high school? What about embarking on some family research, tracing your roots back to another continent and another time?

Monterey Public Library has added new online resources that can help you do just that. Rosetta Stone Library Solution is an award-winning web-based program that provides language instruction through immersion. There are 30 languages to choose from including Arabic, English, Swedish and Vietnamese.

Rosetta Stone’s interactive approach is structured around core lessons to build reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. Library customers can also take advantage of mobile apps to reinforce language learning on the go.

If family history interests you, the Library has two new databases to choose from. Ancestry Library Edition is the world’s largest genealogy database. It gives you instant access to hundreds of years of history through billions of historical documents and millions of historical photos from around the world. A quick search on a family name can lead you down a fascinating path of discovery. And while Ancestry is only available at the Library, the companion database, Heritage Quest (HQ) can be accessed remotely 24/7. HQ includes the Federal Census from 1790 to 1940, various military records, and more than 40,000 family history and regional history books including Monterey city directories from 1947 to 1982.

The Library has added ten additional databases as well covering an array of topics including biography, consumer health, and science, and suitable for a range of reading levels – primary, middle school, college bound and beyond. All resources can be accessed from database stations in the Library. Most can be accessed from home as well with your Monterey Public Library card.

Visit monterey.org/library or ask a Librarian for more details.
Dennis the Menace Mystery

The mystery of what happened to the bronze statue of Dennis the Menace stolen from a Monterey, California playground remains unsolved. An analysis by staff at the foundry that cast the Dennis the Menace statue for the Dennis the Menace Playground in Monterey has determined that the statue recently recovered in Orlando, Florida is not the City’s missing Dennis. The determination was made based on welds inside the statue that were specific to the original.

In the words of Hank Ketcham who created Dennis the Menace: “Mischief just seems to follow wherever Dennis appears...”

If the Orlando Dennis remains in Monterey, the City will find a place at one of its many parks or facilities where generations of youngsters can enjoy it.

Read more details in the October 13, 2015 news release.

Old Monterey Foundation's Angel Project: how you can get involved

Wind, water and sun have battered the Historic Franke Angels that grace downtown Monterey each Holiday season and the Old Monterey Foundation needs your help to restore them for future generations. To raise funds for the restoration The Colton Hall Museum and Cultural Arts Commission and the Old Monterey Foundation have joined forces to host a “Save the Angels” Auction.

Inspired by the historic Angels, twenty renowned local artists have created new Angels in their own distinct styles that will be auctioned to benefit the restoration. The auction is at 7:30pm on Saturday, December 5 at the Museum of Monterey, with a complimentary appetizer reception and no host bar starting at 6:00 pm.

The public will be able to preview the Angels for auction at the Museum starting December 1.

In addition, during November the Angels will be on display at local businesses. Artists include Will Bullas, Christine Crozier, Erin Lee Gafill, Marcia Perry, Gail Reeves and Pamela Takigawa.

There are four ways you can help:

• Plan to bid on an Angel at the Live Auction on Dec. 5
• Donate to the fund to restore the Franke Angels. Give a donation as a holiday gift or in honor of a family member, friend or business associate
• Spread the word about the

Monterey Angel Project “Save Our Angels”
• Display an Angel at your business

They are currently looking for additional Monterey businesses with heavy foot traffic to display the six-foot Angels. They can be hung in windows, propped up against an inside wall or set up on shelf. In addition to having a one-of-a-kind holiday display, businesses will benefit from the publicity to drive potential customers to their location to view the angels.

Angels will be delivered to and picked up from the business. There is a nominal donation of $100 to host an Angel. Businesses can reserve their angel by calling the Old Monterey Foundation at (831) 346-3030.

OldMontereyFoundation.org
City Focus Newsletter

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