

# City Focus

Spring 2016

volume XXXI, no. 2

## Monterey Named Great American Defense Community



On February 29, 2016, Monterey became one of ten communities throughout the nation designated by the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) and the Defense Communities Caucus as a "Great American Defense Community" for providing unwavering support to service members and military families.

The Great American Defense Communities program was launched this year to acknowledge the unique contributions cities, counties and regions that host installations make to improve quality of life for service members, veterans and their families.

The inaugural class of honorees includes:

- Colorado Springs, Colo.
- Dayton, Ohio
- Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.
- Goldsboro, N.C.
- Grand Forks, N.D.
- Lawton, Okla.
- Manhattan, Kan.
- Monterey, Calif.
- Okaloosa County, Fla.
- South Puget Sound, Wash

**Learn about the military- municipal partnership, the "Monterey Model," at [monterey.org/Monterey-Model](http://monterey.org/Monterey-Model)**



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## Construction this week



Look around any part of the city and you are sure to see construction happening. Streets, sidewalks, storm drains, sewers - all getting much needed improvements.

Keep updated right from the home page of monterey.org.

We have a section, "Construction this Week" that includes links to projects, and lists for projects happening now, upcoming, and ongoing.

Thank you for your patience during the construction!

## State of the City 2016

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJio5SPuUpY>



Mayor Clyde Roberson and City Manager Mike McCarthy address the community about top issues in 2016.

# Spring cleanup for fire safety

BY FIRE PREVENTION TECHNICIAN KATHLEEN BATTAGLIA

Spring is here and your thoughts may be turning to that dreaded ritual of spring cleaning. With it comes a timely reminder to keep your home safe from the threat of fire. In an effort to make this "Spring Cleanup" a fire safe one, Monterey Fire Department provides the following safety tips:

- ▶ **Ensure smoke alarms are installed** inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- ▶ **Smoke alarms with non-replaceable 10-year batteries** are designed to remain effective for up to 10 years. If the alarm chirps, warning that the battery is low, replace the entire smoke alarm right away.
- ▶ **Smoke alarms with any other type of battery** need a new battery at least once a year. If an alarm "chirps," warning the battery is low, replace the battery right away.
- ▶ **Test your smoke alarms monthly** by pushing the test button.
- ▶ To help prevent nuisance alarms, gently **vacuum your smoke alarm** every six months or as needed.
- ▶ **Replace all smoke alarms every 10 years** or as recommended by the manufacturer.
- ▶ **Change batteries** in flashlights and carbon monoxide detectors.
- ▶ **Clean your garage** of stored newspapers or other rubbish that can fuel a fire.
- ▶ **Clean the lint filter** before or after each load of laundry. Remove lint that has collected around the drum.
- ▶ **Keep the area around your dryer clear** of things that can burn, like boxes, cleaning supplies and clothing.
- ▶ **Check electrical cords** to make sure they are not running across doorways or under carpets. Extension cords are intended for temporary use.
- ▶ **Have a qualified electrician add more receptacle outlets** so you do not have to use extension cords.
- ▶ **Keep outdoor debris or dead vegetation away** from the house.
- ▶ **Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds.**
- ▶ **Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles** from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
- ▶ **Keep tree branches 10 feet away** from your chimney and other trees.
- ▶ **Properly dispose of oily or greasy rags.** If these items must be stored, they should be kept in labeled, sealed, metal containers.
- ▶ **If you store gasoline,** keep it outside your home in a shed or detached garage. Keep only

small quantities in tightly sealed containers. Use gasoline only as a motor fuel - never as a cleaning agent.

- ▶ **Use outdoor barbecue grills with caution.** Place in a safe area away from building, windows, heating, ventilation and air conditioning units or places with high/dead vegetation.
- ▶ **Never use gasoline to start the fire,** and don't add charcoal lighter fluid once the fire has started.
- ▶ **Use barbecue grills outside only** - not under overhangs or balconies, and away from combustibles.
- ▶ **Check your propane barbecue grill hose for leaks and cracks;** never store propane indoors.



If you have any questions or would like clarification on any fire safety tips please call Monterey Fire Department at (831) 646-3900.

[monterey.org/fire](http://monterey.org/fire)

# "The Old Grey Mare" turns 100

BY FIRE INSPECTOR  
MIKE VENTIMIGLIA

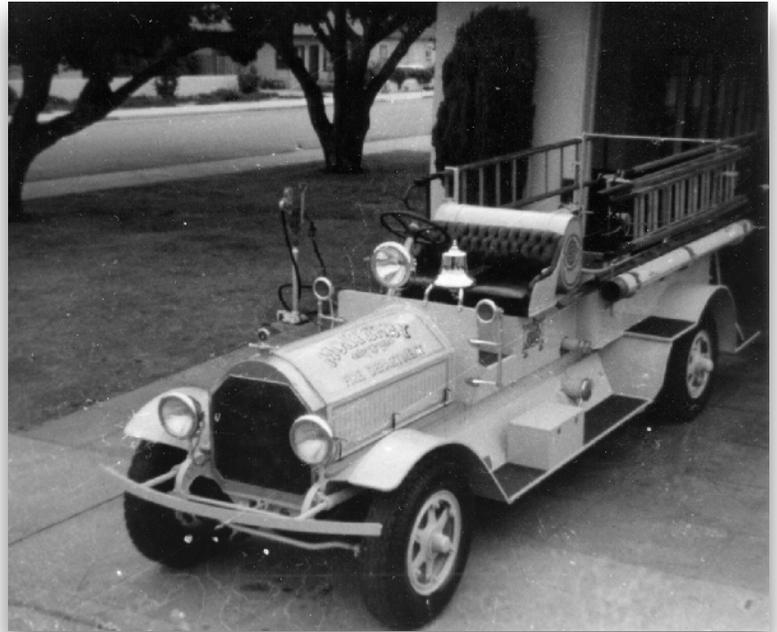
Look who is having a Birthday! The City of Monterey's 1916 Seagrave fire engine, dubbed "The Old Gray Mare," will celebrate its 100th birthday in conjunction with the City's July 4th festivities.

The birthday event will be held at the Monterey Fire Department Station #1 where the Monterey Firefighters will be hosting their 2nd annual pancake breakfast. A portion of the proceeds raised will go towards preserving this valuable part of Monterey's history.

Its first large fire was June 27, 1919 when the

T.A. Work lumber mill located at David Avenue and Lighthouse in New Monterey burned. In 1924 the Associated Oil tanks were struck by lightning and caught fire.

The 1916 Seagraves pumped 72 hours straight without shutting down; it worked like a horse and was given its nickname "The Old Gray Mare."



# News from the Planning Office

BY PRINCIPAL PLANNER  
ELIZABETH CARAKER

The City Council adopted the **Waterfront Master Plan** on February 16, 2016. This plan replaces the Wharf Master Plan and Resolution 9000 that were adopted in the 1980s. The new plan provides greater flexibility in land uses

and design possibilities to be considered during lease negotiations. It also provides a long-range vision for how improvements to parking, open space, circulation, harbor space, and public access could be implemented over the next 20 years.

amending the City Code to allow long-term mobile food vending at the following locations:

- ▶ Cass Street;
- ▶ Del Monte Avenue, Camino El Estero to Camino Aguajito;
- ▶ Dela Vina Avenue, west of Highway 1;
- ▶ Ramona Avenue, west of Highway 1;
- ▶ Hannon Avenue, west of Highway 1;
- ▶ Garden Road;
- ▶ Harris Court;
- ▶ Thomas Owens Way;
- ▶ Mandeville Court; and
- ▶ Justin Court.

On April 19, 2016, the City Council will consider



[monterey.org/planning](http://monterey.org/planning)



At its March 23 meeting, the Monterey Public Library Board of Trustees appointed Inga Waite to the position of Library Director. Ms. Waite has served as Interim Director at Monterey Public Library since September 2015, where she has directed daily operations of the Library and served as a member of the City's executive team.

Monterey Public Library Board Chair Lisa Koenig said, "Inga is committed to the Monterey Library and the community it serves, and we look forward to a bright future for the Library under Inga's leadership!"

Read the news release

## Inga Waite Named Library Director



April is National Poetry Month, and a time when the library staff reflects on the special relationship between readers and writers, and a time when poetry takes center stage. Every April the library hosts a poetry writing workshop or reading – sometimes both – which are always very popular.

in October.)  
Later in the month (Saturday, April 23, 2 p.m.) the library joins our partner



This year, on Saturday, April 2, poets gathered at the library to practice their writing skills with inspiration and guidance of poet and teacher Patrice Vecchione. These workshops are free of charge to poets thanks to a grant from Poets and Writers, Inc. and additional funding from the Friends of the Monterey Public Library. (Don't worry if you miss the April 2 workshop; there will be another one

the Carl Cherry Center for the Arts to host a reading by award-winning poets from the Robert Campbell Monterey County High School Poetry awards. This annual event, which the library has hosted for over 20 years, features poets from high schools all over Monterey County. In a typical year, as many as 300 to 400 high school poets submit entries to the competition, in either English or Spanish, and

about 25 are named winners. Because poetry writing is often highly personal it is a special honor to witness and support the courage of these young writers. This reading draws a full-house audience of parents, teachers, students and poetry lovers from public and private schools

throughout the county and is, in a word, heartwarming.

Celebrating poets and poetry is just one of the many ways the library provides a community gathering place for the social, recreational, educational, cultural and literary life of the community all through the year.

For more information visit [monterey.org/library](http://monterey.org/library) or call (831) 646-3933.

## Celebrating poets and poetry

BY SPECIAL SERVICES  
COORDINATOR  
JEANNE MCCOMBS

# Ribbon Cutting for new ball field at El Estero Park

BY RECREATION SUPERVISOR SHANNON LEON

The City of Monterey held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Frank E. Sollecito, Jr. Ballpark upgrades on Saturday, March 12, 2016.

Thanks to a generous \$500,000 contribution from the Monterey Peninsula Foundation and NIP and CIP funds, over 1 million was raised to expand artificial turf to the outfield.

Two acres of artificial turf has been installed. Tic marks have been added to allow marking for soccer and flag football fields. With this project, we are expanding the field sports facilities in our community. In addition to the outfield upgrades, the project includes fencing improvements, new gates, ramps and ADA paths and parking stalls.

We're excited to have an upgraded facility for the high school and Monterey Recreation sports programs. This project is a true public-private partnership, improving park facilities for both youth and adults.



# Big sporting events returning to Monterey

BY MEDIA ASSISTANT ERIC PALMER

Two sporting events are returning to Monterey this summer. On May 18, the Amgen Tour of California, one of the largest American cycling races, will finish Stage 4 at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. The stage will begin in Morro Bay and travel north along Highway 1. Cyclists will travel down Carmel Valley Road, Laureles Grade and Highway 68, followed by a finish on the world famous track.



The Great Pacific Race will also return to the Monterey waterfront. Ocean row boats of two and four people will race from Monterey to Waikiki, Hawaii. Stop by the waterfront Depot Lot in the weeks leading up to the race. Meet the brave crew members and check out their boats before they take off on June 4.

## 2nd annual Language Capital of the World Cultural Festival - May 14 & 15, 2016



Held in the heart of historic Old Monterey adjacent to Downtown

Monterey and Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf, the 2nd Annual "Language Capital of the World® Cultural Festival" will highlight Monterey's rich language, culture, and international affairs capabilities, as well as its Sister City relationships.

Fun for all ages, the

Festival will feature cultural dancing and singing, ethnic foods and crafts, Sister City exhibits, and exhibits from the flagship foreign language and culture institutions of higher learning, as well as language and culture mini-lessons.

There will be delicious international food and beverages offered from many vendors with food from around the world, as well as beer and wine.

[LCOWFEST.COM](http://LCOWFEST.COM)

# Improve vehicle fuel efficiency

BY SUSTAINABILITY COORDINATOR TED TERRASAS

The majority of the peninsula workforce are driving cars to work, many times with no one else in the car. Although gas prices are down right now (who knows how long that will last) it is no reason to be wasteful.



With a few minor adjustments vehicle fuel efficiency can be greatly increased while decreasing carbon emissions and saving money all at the same time. Here are a few ideas on how to do improve vehicle fuel efficiency:

- ▶ **Tire Pressure:** Check your tire pressure at least once per month. Under-inflated tires

reduce fuel economy, wear out faster, handle poorly and make braking more difficult.

- ▶ **Cruise Control:** Use cruise control when you can, this can save up to 6% in fuel consumption on the highway.
- ▶ **Idling:** Don't let your vehicle idle. Idling consumes half a gallon to one gallon of fuel per minute and the best way to warm up a vehicle is by driving it.
- ▶ **Regular Maintenance:** Ensure that air flow sensors, oxygen sensors, spark plugs, and air filters are replaced as necessary.
- ▶ **Drive Smoothly:** Don't rev the engine and avoid speeding up and slowing down abruptly.
- ▶ **Limit Heat and A/C Usage:** In an urban environment, these can lower fuel efficiency by up to 30%.
- ▶ **Lighten the Load:** Remove items from your trunk or storage area that you are not using regularly. An extra 100

pounds can reduce your MPG by 1%.

- ▶ **Avoid the Roof:** A large cargo box on the roof of a car can reduce fuel economy up to 8% in the city, up to 17% on the highway and up to 25% at interstate speeds. Rear mounting is far more fuel efficient.

**“All in favor of conserving gasoline, please raise your right foot”**

**- Anonymous**

[MontereyRecycles.org](http://MontereyRecycles.org)

## Tours of the Pacific Biological Laboratories (Ed Ricketts' Lab)



City of Monterey Museums are holding free one-hour tours of the

Pacific Biological Lab (Ed Ricketts' Lab) at 800 Cannery Row. Upcoming Saturday dates are **May 14, June 11 and July 9.**

Join our Lab Docents as they tell the story of the Lab and its pivotal role in the life and work of marine biologist Ed Ricketts, his friendship and collaboration with author John Steinbeck and their circle of friends at the Lab. You

will also learn about the "PBL Members" who bought the Lab in the mid-1950s and were instrumental in the founding of the Monterey Jazz Festival and in saving the Lab.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED for these popular tours as spaces are limited. Contact the Colton Hall Museum at 646-5640.

[Monterey.org/Museums](http://Monterey.org/Museums)

# Student oceanography club inspires ocean conservation through art



Oceanography Club (SOC) for this new public art. The SOC is a program the Monterey Bay Aquarium organizes to inspire middle school students

science and math knowledge as well as artistic ability. Working on this project as a team also strengthened collaboration and communication skills.

The SOC team hopes that as you drive or walk by their piece of art that you too will feel inspired to take care of our beautiful Monterey Bay!

Watch for more ocean art from SOC coming this summer. For more information on the SOC please visit the Monterey Bay Aquarium SOC web page.

Monterey is a special place to live and visit. Our coastal community has a unique and outstanding natural environment to explore, protect and enjoy. We also have necessary infrastructure, including utility boxes at intersections with street lights. These utility boxes can create an eyesore, attract graffiti, or be dismissed and ignored.

Not any longer. Local kids are painting beautiful artwork on utility boxes that spotlight the beauty of Monterey Bay. The utility boxes at the intersection of Pacific and Madison streets have been transformed into pieces of artwork with an ocean theme.

Thanks to the Student

to take action and help their community while learning about marine sciences. Its mission is to inspire conservation of the ocean. The club is comprised of small groups of 3 - 5 students who form individual teams that make up the whole of the SOC.

"By painting an aquatic ecosystem scene on a public utility box, our team hopes to inspire people to take care of and love the ocean by creating an emotional connection to our art," explains SOC member and artist Alexa Ortiz.

The project took teamwork,



SOC Group, L to R: Maren, Ella, Nina Parris (art mentor), Elijah, Desiree, Ira, Alexa

## Big turnout for the 60th annual Cutting Day & Horticulture Faire

The 60th annual Cutting Day and Horticulture Faire was one of the best yet!

"We had a very good turnout and people seemed very happy with the amount of plants and cuttings given away," said Parks Operations Manager Louie Marcuzzo.

Thanks to the Kiwanas Club, Boy Scout Troop #2 and the City of Monterey Parks Division staff for their help with this fun local event.



# Water Art Contest

BY ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS INTERN SASKIA HUPERTZ

In observance of World Water Day (March 22, 2016), the City of Monterey wants to support bringing attention to conserve and preserve our water resources with the aim to raise awareness on the importance of clean and available water now and into future.

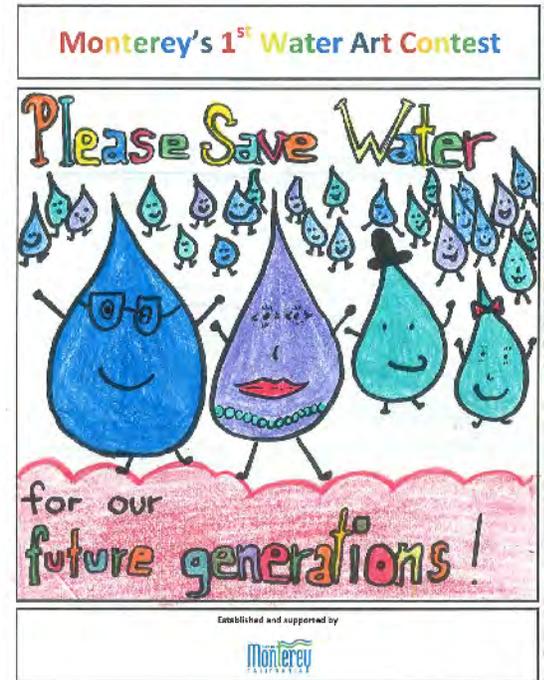
To do this we're launching a Water Art contest.

All kids up to age 12 are invited to submit their Water Art by June 20, 2016.

Select Water Art will be displayed in public facilities and those artists receive City recognition.

We look forward to receiving your Water Art entry!

**Learn more about the Water Art Contest at [monterey.org/WaterArtContest](http://monterey.org/WaterArtContest)**



# City wins best of Monterey County awards

BY MEDIA ASSISTANT ERIC PALMER



Thank you Monterey County Weekly readers and editors! The City of Monterey recently won three awards in the Best of Monterey County 2016 campaign. The Monterey Public Library won "Best Library" because "librarians and staff go to superhuman lengths to help ordinary citizens." The Weekly praised the California History Room, teen services, community meeting rooms and computer access.

The Monterey Sports Center's "cheerful" staff, daycare services

and group exercise offerings were cited by the Weekly. The Sports Center won "Best Health Club" in all of Monterey County. The Sports Center has also won in the Herald Readers Poll.

In the Editor's Picks section, the City Manager's Office won for Best Government Use of Social Media: "The City of Monterey has Twitter dialed better than some millennials, and definitely better than most governments." Follow our Twitter feed at [twitter.com/cityofmonterey](https://twitter.com/cityofmonterey).



## Exercise is Medicine

BY MONTEREY SPORTS  
CENTER FITNESS  
MANAGER  
BILL ROTHSCHILD

If you could bottle a pill that when taken could reverse many of the effects of aging, reverse cardiovascular disease, reverse hypertension, reverse diabetes and assist you with finding your physique and appearance of your younger years – well, that pill would be priceless and everyone would want to purchase it. The equivalent of such a pill is available to all and is absolutely free. The equivalent is called exercise.

Regular, daily, moderate to vigorous bouts of cardiovascular exercise can improve nearly every health parameter and even reverse many of the effects of years of sedentary living. The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), the foremost authority for fitness professionals, advocates for daily exercise of 45-60 minutes most days of the week and numerous studies have concluded that the physical and emotional benefits of daily exercise are as beneficial as the mythical fountain of youth.

ACSM has partnered with fitness professionals, medical providers, healthcare systems and community resources to create an initiative called Exercise is Medicine (EIM).

The goal of EIM collaboration is to achieve global targets for inactivity reduction, related morbidity and mortality and a decrease in health care costs. One outcome of the EIM initiative is to engage major health systems and communities to work together to improve health and combat chronic diseases by promoting physical activity, recreation and fitness.

athletic development – literally, there are classes available seven days a week that meet the needs of the vast spectrum of the community.

The outstanding, clean fitness rooms, pools and gymnasium provide recreational opportunities for all ages. The Physical Therapy and Fitness staff provide exceptional, professional services for



The Monterey Sports Center has long embraced this strategy and worked to create collaborative health solutions for the community and for the City of Monterey workforce. The Sports Center has developed a unique and fantastic group exercise schedule that provides well over 100 classes every week for individuals of all levels of ability including seniors, individuals with physical challenges and medical conditions, individuals looking to lose weight or improve physique, individuals looking to improve functional performance or

community members and City staff. Our personal trainers have high-level educations, certifications and training with most possessing degree in exercise science, certifications through ACSM and post-rehab and EIM certifications to reach a high-need population.

The Sports Center has become the heart of the community when it comes to providing recreation and fitness for all ages and foundational support for the City's workforce to stay active and healthy.

## Easter Egg Hunt draws big family crowd

After a 5-year hiatus due to budget reductions, Monterey Recreation once again offered an annual Egg Hunt for the community.

The 38th Annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on Saturday, March 26 at Jacks Ballpark. The Easter Bunny was hopping around greeting and welcoming everyone when they arrived. All the excited youngsters also enjoyed face painting. Over 7,000 eggs were hidden including over 100 prize eggs. Children finding one of the 100 prize eggs received a free Easter basket.

This year's Easter Egg Hunt was co-sponsored by Monterey Recreation and KWAV Radio. There was lots of Egg-citement and staff is already planning for the next Egg Hunt!





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Clyde Roberson

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**City Focus is published by the City of Monterey's Communications & Outreach Office to inform citizens about the programs, services and activities of city government. City Focus is available by email subscription and is posted online in January, April, July and October.**