



# The Monterey Park Cascades



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## SARS UPDATE

### Internet Hoax Discovered

Unknown person(s) have flooded the Internet with stories saying that local Health Department officials have closed restaurants and grocery stores owned and operated by Asian Americans or that people have died as a result of shopping in the stores.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) has been a favorite topic for the last several weeks for the television and newspaper medias. The World Health Organization indicates that the first known case of SARS was traced to a patient in Hanoi, Vietnam in February 2003. Since then cases have been traced to Mainland China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada and even here in the United States.

As of the end of April, there have been a total of 70 cases nationwide, with about 10 being reported

in Los Angeles County. Los Angeles County Department of Health Services spokesman Dr. Chin recently told Monterey Park City Council members that no resident or person who works in Monterey Park has contracted the virus. Dr. Chin also expressed concern that while the public has a natural high anxiety in this matter, that the severity of the problem does not come close to matching the fears and rumors that surround SARS. Dr. Chin indicated that nationwide approximately 50,000 people every year die from complications from the everyday flu bug. No one in the United States has died from the SARS virus.

The Los Angeles County Health Department and the Center for Disease Control stress that people

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### Make Plans for July 4th Celebration

Monterey Park's annual July 4th event includes fabulous stage entertainment, great food, a craft area for the kids, a surprise strolling entertainer and the best FREE fireworks show in the San Gabriel Valley!

Beginning at 1:00 p.m. in Barnes Park, entertainment will be provided throughout the afternoon and evening featuring jazz, contemporary music, and pop tunes. The entertainment concludes at the Amphitheater stage at 9:00 p.m.

with a rousing rendition of "Proud to be an American," which will signal the start of the fireworks show.

The Fourth of July Committee is looking for residents who have received their United States Citizenship between July 1, 2002 and June 30, 2003, to honor them at a special ceremony in the late afternoon. Anyone who qualifies is urged to contact Barbara Hamer, Community Participation Coordinator at (626) 307-1461.

### Budget Taskforce Recommendations

With the California State facing a massive budget deficit, Governor Davis has proposed to increase taxes and to take revenues from the local governments to balance its budget. The Governor's actions would create a significant loss of funds for the City of Monterey Park and put the City's budget out-of-balance.

In January, the Monterey Park City Council authorized the formation of a community budget taskforce to advise the City with budget balancing options. The Taskforce, which consisted of 11 members

including City Council appointees and members from various commissions and committees of the City, represented a broad cross-section of Monterey Park. The Taskforce has reviewed the projected State Budget impact, the City's financial information, and the cuts and revenue increase options proposed by the City departments. The Taskforce has finalized the report and it is now available for review at the City Clerks Office. The recommendations are also available to the public on the City's Website ([www.ci.monterey-park.ca.us](http://www.ci.monterey-park.ca.us))



## Lovebirds Café & Bakery Coming to Monterey Park

David Tsai, the managing director for Union China Investment & Development Group, Inc. is pleased to announce that LOVEBIRDS Café & Bakery will be opening a new location in their building on the ground floor located at 1055 Corporate Center Drive. The Los Angeles Corporate Center is home to many companies looking for new dining options for their employees. The Economic Development Department has been working diligently to provide dining opportunities for Corporate Center. Mr. Tsai mentioned "The residents and working people in Monterey Park deserve a variety of choices for lunch such as Lovebirds."

Lovebirds Café & Bakery has been in business for twenty years and features custom sandwiches, soups

and salads, along with gourmet coffee. The choice of bread for the custom sandwiches consists of the following: seven grain, capicola sour dough, Heidelberg rye, Jewish egg, westphalian pumpernickel, wheat & honey, ciabatta, baguette, French roll, barbari, bagel, pita, all butter croissant, rosemary, and Dr. Snyder (seven grain with walnuts, raisins & honey). In addition to the cold sandwiches, the menu includes: hot and vegetarian sandwiches, a variety of soups and salads, high energy, nutritional, and sensational drinks. The company boasts "At Lovebirds Café & Bakery, our day starts at two a.m. so that we may bring you the highest quality, all-natural, freshest food possible."

Currently, Lovebirds has two locations; one at 10 South First Street, Alhambra, CA and the other is

located at 921 East Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA. The company is hoping to expand its operations and looked at the Cities of Monrovia, Arcadia and Monterey Park to open a satellite store. Monterey Park was chosen because it was close to many of their current customers from the Los Angeles County Children's Court, Cal State Los Angeles, the California Highway Patrol, and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

The construction of the tenant improvements for the Lovebirds began in early May, and the Café is expected to be opened within the next 45 days. The Café will be located in the lobby of the 1055 Corporate Center building and will provide seating for up to 56 people and outdoor dining just in time to enjoy the summer rays.