



MONROE THIS WEEK

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Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition provides details on a new Snohomish County grant program to support small businesses, our local recognition of Memorial Day, promotions for two members of the Monroe Police Department, a wonderful annual event taking place this Saturday after adapting to a virtual format, and a free webinar offering best practices tips for residents who have wildlife neighbors.



Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at gthomas@monroewa.gov.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "G. Thomas".

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

COUNTY ANNOUNCES GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST SMALL BUSINESSES

Yesterday, May 21, the Snohomish County Council passed an ordinance appropriating \$73 million in funds allocated to the County under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Included in this ordinance was **approval** of the Small Business Relief, Recovery, and Resiliency (R3) Grant Program, which was **proposed** by County Executive Dave Somers last Friday, May 15.



Snohomish County

Workforce Snohomish will administer the R3 program. Applications are anticipated to take less than 30 minutes, and awards are expected to be made within five weeks of application. Grants of up to \$25,000 will be issued to Snohomish County small businesses that are critical to supporting the



Workforce Snohomish

County's broad-based recovery. Eligibility criteria, details on the allowed usage of funds, and the application portal can be found on the [application page](#). Applications are due by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 3.

CITY AND NATION TO RECOGNIZE MEMORIAL DAY THIS MONDAY

This coming Monday, May 25, is the annual Memorial Day holiday. Observed on the last Monday of May, Memorial Day is a federal holiday to honor and remember those who have died while serving in the Armed Forces. We must never forget that while we go about our daily lives, we do so thanks to the members of our Armed Forces who are at work in dangerous and challenging conditions to protect us, our liberties, and our interests. Today I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Memorial Day here in the City of Monroe. This Memorial Day, please take a moment to remember those service members who we've lost, and their families.



I would like to recognize and thank the dedicated volunteers of Monroe's Tualco Grange No. 284. For over 20 years, a committed group of 10-16 volunteers have maintained 180 beautiful U.S. Flags that line Main and Lewis Streets for 9 holidays each year. This dedicated group of volunteers arrange set-up and take down of the flags on 8-foot high flag poles for each of these holidays, and will do so again on Monday.

While there will not be any formal public ceremonies marking Memorial Day this year due the Stay Home/Stay Healthy order, two annual commemorations of the holiday will still take place. On Monday morning, I will be laying a flower wreath at the Veterans Memorial Monument in Lake Tye Park, and VFW Post 7511 will lay a wreath at the IOOF Cemetery.

TWO MONROE POLICE OFFICERS PROMOTED TO RANK OF SERGEANT

In the last couple of months, two Monroe Police Officers have been promoted to the rank of Sergeant.



Officer Jake Carswell received his promotion on March 16. Sergeant Carswell has been with the department for 18 years.

Officer Jason Southard received his promotion on May 15. Sergeant Southard has been with the department for 23 years.

Both new sergeants have been assigned to the patrol division, leading our two night squads in response to resident calls for service. While there will be a formal ceremony in the future, I would like to congratulate Sergeants Carswell and Southard as they take this next step in their careers.



Sergeant Jake Carswell



Sergeant Jason Southard

ANNUAL POW-WOW TO BE OBSERVED ONLINE

On Tuesday, May 19, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing Skykomish Valley Indian Education's 16th Annual Traditional Pow Wow. [Skykomish Valley Indian Education](#) is a federally funded program, founded by Monroe Public Schools in 1980. Today the program provides academic support, cultural services and a wide range of opportunities for Native American/Alaska Native youth in the Monroe, Snohomish and Sultan School Districts. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's event will be virtually observed online this Saturday, May 23. I encourage you to read the full text of the Proclamation and participate in the 16th Annual Traditional Pow Wow, which will highlight important themes of partnership, awareness, and cooperation.



FREE WATER CONSERVATION TOOLS AVAILABLE

As we approach the coming summer months, we tend to start using more water. Free water conservation tools are available to City of Monroe water customers. Water conservation tools include timers, soil moisture contact meters, and spray nozzles for outdoor use. The City also provides low flow shower head kits for indoor water conservation efforts. If you are interested in any of the free water conservation items please leave a message for the City's water quality division at (360) 794-7400 or email utilitybilling@monroewa.gov.



LIVING WITH BEAVERS - FREE WEBINAR

While an important part of our natural ecosystem, beavers can be a pesky neighbor. They chew trees, block culverts, and can flood your property. Snohomish Conservation District (SCD) wants to help, and is hosting a free webinar on Tuesday, May 28 about the benefits of having beavers on your property, strategies for managing beaver conflicts, and assistance that SCD can offer. SCD has partnered with the City of Monroe for many years to advocate for, enhance, and protect our natural resources. [Registration](#) for the webinar is open, and registration preference will be given to three zip codes, including 98272.



REMINDER: FARMERS MARKET OPENS ON WEDNESDAY

As I shared in last week's edition of *Monroe This Week*, the [Monroe Farmers Market](#) opens for the season on Wednesday, May 27. This year the market will be held weekly through September 2. Hosted by [Galaxy Theatres](#), the market will dedicate the time between 2:30 and 3:00 p.m. as shopping time for seniors and residents at high risk for COVID-19 transmission, and will implement social distancing guidelines for all visitors to safeguard health and safety.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the May 26, 2020 Business Session meeting of the Monroe City Council is cancelled. The next scheduled meeting of the City Council is Tuesday, June 2, 2020, and will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the June 2 agenda.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember
Heather Rousey



Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at councilmembers@monroewa.gov

