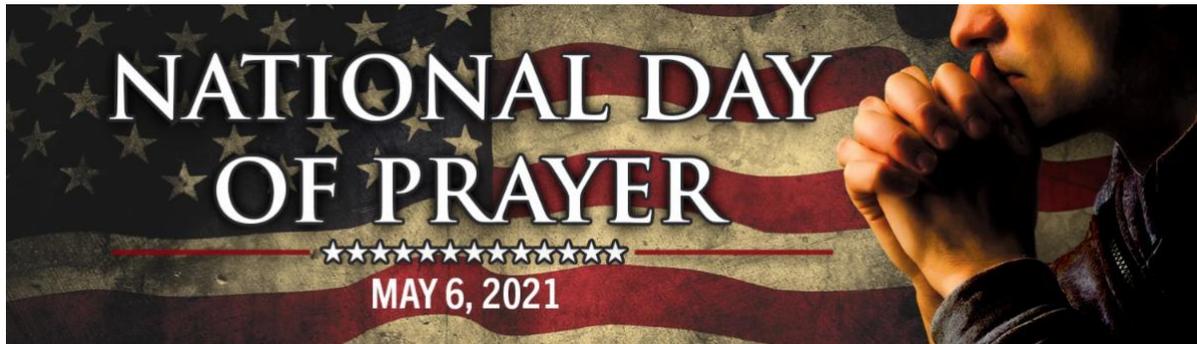




MONROE THIS WEEK

May 7, 2021 • Volume 7/Edition 18



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition includes details on the City's ongoing sewer line inspections, our local recognition of National Day of Prayer and Mother's Day, the City recruiting for paid internships, a two-week pause in Healthy Washington phase movement, an update on COVID-19 vaccination processes, open applications for the Restaurant Revitalization Fund, the Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue Community Survey, and a recap of the City's Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebration.



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

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

CITY CONDUCTING SEWER LINE INSPECTIONS

The Public Works Department began sewer line inspections in April using a newly purchased sewer camera. Crews will be cleaning and videoing sewer lines over the next couple of months, recording and inventorying the city's sewer collection system. This effort is important to identify potential problem areas and correct them if necessary. It also aids in the planning for future capital improvements.



Additionally, camera inspections are very helpful in identifying sources of infiltration or inflow (I/I) into a line. Identifying and controlling sources of I/I greatly help our City's Wastewater Treatment Plant by reducing peak hydraulic loading during storm events. It also eliminates unwanted flows from reducing the overall capacity of Monroe's Wastewater Treatment Plant. To learn more about the sanitary sewer program, please visit the City's [website](#).

CITY RECOGNIZES THURSDAY, MAY 6 AS NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

The last year has been difficult for so many. People have lost jobs and businesses, families and friends. Divisions among people and communities have become more prominent and painful. It has been a year of hurt and sorrow for many.



Yesterday, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing May 6 as National Day of Prayer. On National Day of Prayer, I asked every resident to remember and honor people we have lost and give thanks for the many people who have helped us through this difficult year. I called upon every resident to pray for, and actively seek to develop and enhance Love, Unity, Understanding, and Peace with one another, within our community, and across our country. With Love, Unity, Understanding, and Peace, we will build one another up on our road to recovery, and build ourselves as a stronger country and a stronger people.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Today I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing this Sunday, May 9, as Mother's Day. This holiday is dedicating to honoring remarkable women who strive and sacrifice to encourage us to reach great heights and support us no matter the challenges we face.

Mothers raise and are pillars of families, are breadwinners and community leaders who, through their example, teach the value of hard work, compassion, service, and personal responsibility. I wish a very warm Happy Mother's Day to all mothers in our community.



CITY RECRUITING FOR PAID INTERNSHIPS

The City has openings for up to two paid internships. Interns will provide administrative support to the Executive and Human Resources Departments, city programs, and policies pertaining to all areas of local government, with particular responsibilities in policy analysis, community outreach, strategic planning, and organizational change. We anticipate these positions to last for 12-16 weeks. Successful candidates will possess or be enrolled in a bachelor's degree program in public administration, business administration, or related field, and have some experience with project management and the research, analysis, and development of public policy. For more information and to apply, please visit the City's [website](#).



GOVERNOR ISSUES TWO-WEEK PAUSE ON HEALTHY WASHINGTON PHASING

On Tuesday, May 4, Governor Jay Inslee announced a two-week pause in the movement of phases within the [Healthy Washington - Roadmap to Recovery](#). Under the pause, every county in the state will remain in their current phase and be reevaluated at the end of the two-week period. Snohomish County is currently in Phase 3.



For the past several weeks, epidemiologists have been following the state's fourth COVID-19 wave, which now appears to be leveling out. The fourth wave has been less severe, and case counts and mortalities have not been tied in rates of increase as they have in past waves.

Governor Inslee attributed the changes in data throughout the fourth wave to increasing vaccination rates, which have shortened hospital stays and reduced the severity of the illness. As described in the following article, vaccines are now available without an appointment to all Washington residents over 16 years of age.

COVID-19 VACCINATION APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED

Beginning on Wednesday, May 5, mass vaccination sites operated by the Snohomish County Vaccine Taskforce began offering on-site registration for people who do not have a prior appointment. Persons seeking a vaccine may arrive at vaccine distribution sites during open hours and receive their vaccine as long as doses remain available.



Registration can be done on-site using a digital or paper form. The taskforce still highly recommends registering in advance; this reserves a dose for that appointment. Vaccines for those without an appointment will be given on a first come, first served basis.

Signing up for an appointment is easy. It can be done online using the [taskforce website](#), or over the phone by calling (425) 339-5278 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED FOR RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND

Applications for the federal \$28.6 billion Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) opened on Monday, May 3. This program was established by the passage of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and provides emergency assistance for eligible restaurants, bars, and other qualifying businesses impacted by COVID-19 to help keep their doors open. Grants will be issued to qualifying businesses in an amount equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss, up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023.



The application portal will remain open to any eligible establishment until all funds are exhausted. For more information on eligible uses of RRF funds, and to register and apply, visit the [RRF webpage](#).

SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE LAUNCHES COMMUNITY SURVEY

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue (SRFR) has launched a Community Survey and are inviting residents to make their voices heard. SRFR is a

growing fire and emergency services district now serving over 175,000 residents, and is seeking the feedback of those in their service area on the following:

- Satisfaction with SRFR fire services
- How to pay for fire services
- Alternative tools to property tax funding
- Urgency of capital facilities priorities



SRFR is committed to engaging the community to serve you better and incorporate your needs into their future planning efforts. Add your voice to [this survey](#) to let them know what you think. The survey should take approximately 10 minutes, and your answers are confidential; only SRFR's research provider will see your individual responses. Residents are asked to complete the survey by May 16, 2021. If SRFR doesn't receive your response online, you may also receive a phone call to complete the survey.

For more information, contact Public Information & Education Officer Heather Chadwick at hchadwick@snofire7.org or (360) 282-3962.

SRFR thanks you, in advance, for your support and engagement with this survey so they can better understand your needs and priorities.

CITY'S NEWEST TREE PLANTED AS PART OF ARBOR DAY & EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

As I shared in recent editions of *Monroe This Week*, the City hosted a virtual Arbor Day & Earth Day Celebration at Lake Tye Park on Friday, April 30. Congresswoman Suzan DelBene participated in the celebration and presented the City with the Tree City USA Growth Award. The Growth Award is presented by the Arbor Day Foundation to participating Tree City USA communities that demonstrate higher levels of tree care and community engagement during the calendar year.



The City of Monroe received the Growth Award for creating and implementing [Heritage and Living Christmas Tree Donation Programs](#). During the celebration, I presented Park Board Member Tami Kinney with a Mayor's Coin in appreciation of her advocacy and support of the Heritage Tree Program.

A group of gardening friends, in honor of the [Monroe Garden Club](#), donated a Katsura tree to the City, which was planted during the celebration. Diane Carlson, a

member of the Monroe Garden Club and one of the friends who donated the tree, joined Congresswoman DelBene, City Councilmember Heather Rousey, Board Member Kinney and myself to place the first scoops of dirt on the City's newest tree.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2021. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the May 11 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

Council Agendas/Minutes

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



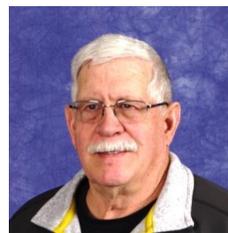
Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember
Heather Rousey

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



City of Monroe | (360) 794-7400 | 806 West Main Street, Monroe, WA 98272

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