



MONROE THIS WEEK

February 17, 2023



On Monday, February 20, we recognize the federal holiday of Presidents' Day. Originally enacted to recognize and celebrate George Washington's birthday, the day now commonly recognized as Presidents' Day was established in 1879 as February 22. On January 1, 1971, the Uniform Monday Holiday Act shifted the holiday to the third Monday in February, which can land between the 15th and 21st days of the month. Originally established as "Washington's Birthday", the day has become known colloquially - and officially in over 20 states - as Presidents' Day to honor President Abraham Lincoln as well. I wish all residents of Monroe a very Happy Presidents' Day!



This week's edition of Monroe This Week features details on:

- *WSDOT surveying on Lewis Street*
- *How ARP funds are supporting local partners*
- *A fundraiser for the JVM Food Bank Garden*
- *The Monroe Public Schools Foundation's scholarships for seniors*
- *Upcoming events at the Monroe Community Senior Center*

Please reach out to me with what may be on your mind about and for

Yours in Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

SURVEYING ON LEWIS STREET

You may have noticed land surveyors working along Lewis Street last week. WSDOT is in the planning stages to repave Lewis Street between McDougall Street and US-2. We understand that 2025 is the year they are targeting to do the work. For more information, please contact WSDOT at **206-440-4000** or nwpublicaffairs@wsdot.wa.gov



ARP FUNDS SUPPORT LOCAL PARTNERS

In recent editions of *Monroe This Week*, I've shared information about the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act funding, and how the City is partnering with local organizations to respond to needs in the community. This week, I would like to highlight how ARP funds have supported [Sherwood](#) and their mission to "create an inclusive society where children and adults with disabilities have the ability to live full, independent lives as part of their communities".



One of Sherwood's primary missions is to help adults contribute to their communities and be more independent by providing them with resources and training to ensure that they have access to meaningful employment opportunities. Sherwood received funds to support their vocational team who spent 9 full days at the Evergreen State Fair to create new opportunities for 7 individuals to receive vocational support. Additionally, Sherwood has been able to reach more than 10,000 Monroe residents through direct mail and Facebook advertising and has spread awareness about their organization and mission. Recently, Sherwood had the opportunity to join the Monroe Chamber of Commerce to reach more businesses and inform them about becoming a supported employer. As Sherwood continues to grow and reach more people and businesses, I am encouraged and excited to see how they continue to leave a meaningful impact on our community and people in need.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

The Friends of JVM Food Bank Garden need help in their efforts to replace the 20+ year old greenhouse at their garden with a new cedar shed.



The garden is run completely by a small group of dedicated volunteers on a very small budget. Last year, despite the late, cold, wet spring which caused the failure of their carrots and beets to germinate, they grew and delivered 2,489 pounds of nutritious, chemical free vegetables to [Sky Valley Food Bank](#) next door. The new cedar shed will make their tasks much more easier. It will be owned by the Food Bank and the existing greenhouse will be disassembled, cleaned, and repurposed by the Parks Department to raise the flowers that are planted throughout the city. If you're interested in donating to their fundraiser, click [here](#). Let's help this amazing team of volunteers meet their goal!

MPSF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION DEADLINE FEB. 20

Can you help the Monroe Public Schools Foundation get the word out to graduating Monroe School District seniors? Local community scholarship award applications are due on Monday, Feb. 20. These scholarships open the door to many local community organizations, service and non-profits, businesses, School Administration, Staff, PTO/PTA, family memorial scholarships, and individuals who want to give the gift of education through funding. For applications, or if your business, service organization, non-profit organization, individual or family is interested in giving a gift that will last a lifetime, click [here](#).



MCSC HOLDING MULTIPLE EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Are you searching for ways to build community while promoting the physical, emotional, and economic well-being of yourself and other senior

residents? The Monroe Community Senior Center might have just what you're looking for! They have all types of events and informational sessions coming up such as bingo, a craft fair, classes from Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue, and more. They are always looking for volunteers to help in their thrift store, kitchen, and other areas. Click [here](#) today to learn more.



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will next meet in a Regular Business Meeting Feb. 28. The meeting will be held in a hybrid format; members of the public may participate in Monroe City Council meetings either in-person at City Hall or remotely via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the Feb. 28 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember
Tami Kinney



Councilmember
Kyle Fisher

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



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