

Proclamation

***Recognizing July as  
Parks and Recreation Month***



**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Monroe, Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and recreation are vitally important to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the physical health of all residents, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, Imagine Monroe aspires that the City of Monroe is and will continue to be a "lively center surrounded by nature.... A place of beauty..." where "our parks, waterways, and environment are healthy and accessible for everyone to enjoy..." where "we strengthen connections through gathering spaces" that create "a safe place for all" to call home and to belong; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Recreation and Park Association's 2023 Parks and Recreation Month theme is "Where Community Grows," which celebrates the vital role park and recreation professionals play in bringing people together, providing essential services and fostering the growth of our communities.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor of the City of Monroe, Washington, do hereby recognize the month of July 2023 as

***PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH***

and encourage residents, businesses, and visitors to seek out City of Monroe parks facilities and participate in recreational events.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Geoffrey Thomas", is written over a horizontal line.

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor