

# MONROE THIS WEEK

May 23, 2025

## MEMORIAL DAY

*Remember And Honor*



I recently issued a **proclamation** to recognize the importance of this year's Memorial Day, and presented the proclamation to members of the Ward Roney Jr. VFW Post 7511 during the May 20 City Council meeting. In the proclamation, I encourage us all to remember our U.S. military members who have fallen in service to our country and to honor the legacy that they have left to us in our daily lives. On Monday, May 26, please join me at Lake Tye Park (14964 Fryelands Blvd. SE) at 9 a.m. for the City's wreath laying and join the Ward Roney Jr. VFW Post 7511 and its Auxiliary at 10 a.m. at the Monroe International Order of Oddfellows (I.O.O.F.) Cemetery (21714 Old Owen Rd.) for its ceremony.



Please note that City administrative offices will be closed on Monday, May 26, 2025 in observance of Memorial Day.

This edition of Monroe this Week features:

- *Memorial Day Proclamation*
- *Former Parks Director receives WRPA Award*
- *Garden Club Hanging Baskets*
- *Public Works Summer Projects*
- *2025 Events Brochure*

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

Yours in Service,



Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

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## MIKE FARRELL RECEIVES WRPA AWARD

I am excited to report that Mike Farrell, the City's recently retired Parks & Recreation Director, was recently awarded the prestigious "*Ron C. Davis II Unsung Hero*" award from Washington Recreation & Park Association (WRPA) at their annual awards banquet on May 15, 2025.

Mike was nominated by staff and a portion of the nomination letter states "*Over his 37-year career in Parks and Recreation, Mike Farrell has championed better parks, expanded programming, and created events that enrich residents' lives. As Monroe's first Parks and Recreation Director, he played a pivotal role in shaping the city's park system, leading projects like Monroe's first dog park, a comprehensive athletic complex, and the \$4 million transformation of Lake Tye Park. His commitment to collaboration strengthened partnerships with organizations like Skyhawks, Little League, and the Sky River Soccer Club, as well as businesses and nonprofits, fostering a more connected community. Despite his significant impact, Mike embodies the essence of an unsung hero - leading with humility, uplifting those around him, and ensuring shared successes.*"



Mike retired as Monroe's Parks and Recreation Director in February 2025. We wish him well in his future endeavors and congratulate him on this, much deserved, recognition.

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## DOWNTOWN HANGING BASKETS

A special thank you to Monroe Garden Club for volunteering to plant our downtown hanging baskets. We are grateful to Pine Creek Farms and Nursery for supplying the flowers, and the Parks and Recreation Department staff for helping with the planting, installation, and maintenance of the baskets. These baskets beautify our downtown for residents, businesses, and visitors alike and I look forward to watching them grow and bloom.



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## ROAD MAINTENANCE AND UTILITY UPGRADES PLANNED FOR SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

As construction season is here, our Public Works Department will be initiating our annual road maintenance program and managing two utility enhancement projects this summer.

- **Annual Road Maintenance Program:** As part of this program, each year we identify roads that need to be resurfaced. This year 146th

Street SE and 169th Drive SE in the Industrial District will be resurfaced. Additionally, 11 accessibility ramps will be installed along Main Street between 177th and 178th Avenues SE and as part of our [new traffic calming policy](#), a raised crosswalk speed table will be constructed on 154th Street SE at Currie View Park. Construction activities for these projects are planned to begin in July and wrap up in August.

- **Sumac Corridor Utility Project** Expected to begin in June, the first phase of this project will replace water and sewer mains (pipes) along Sams Street, Circle Drive, and Blakeley Street from Sumac Drive to Powell Street. Completion is expected in September. Phase 2, anticipated in summer 2026, will replace water and sewer mains along Sumac Drive and Riverview Drive.
- **Short Columbia Neighborhood Utility Project** Phase 1 of this project will replace 500 linear feet of sewer main (pipes) and side sewer connections and install new water service connections, storm water filters and approximately 200 feet of storm pipe along the alley between Sams Street and Madison Street. The alley will be repaved. Work is anticipated to begin in July and end in September. The future Phase 2 will replace water and sewer mains along Sams Street, Short Columbia Street and Arthur Lane, construct sidewalks, re-profile the roadway, and improve stormwater drainage.

To learn more about city projects, visit our [interactive project map](#).

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## 2025 MONROE EVENT BROCHURE

Get ready for a Summer full of community events. [Monroe's 2025 Events Brochure](#) is now live online.

Packed with a variety of family-friendly activities, seasonal festivals, and community gatherings, this year's event lineup has something for everyone.

The brochure covers events sponsored by the city and a variety of other local and regional organizations. From Movies Under the Moon to the Evergreen State Fair and everything in between!

Whether you are looking to explore new traditions or return to your favorite annual events, the brochure is your go-to guide for what's happening across the city. Check it out today and start planning your

calendars!

# 2025 EVENTS



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## UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The next City Council Meeting is currently scheduled for Tues., June 10, 2025 at 7 p.m. To view the meeting agenda, click the button below. City Council meetings are re-broadcasted on the [City's YouTube Channel \(@MonroeWA\)](#). To learn how to provide public comment to the Mayor and City Council, click [here](#).

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Jacob Walker



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

Have a question for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov)

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