

City Manager's Report
Brian J. Borne, Interim City Manager
Week Ending April 1, 2022

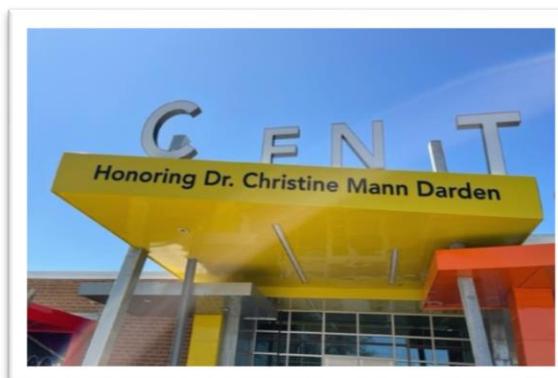
Charlotte Monroe Executive Airport
Peter Cevallos, Airport Manager



Communications and Tourism
Pete Hovanec, Director of Communications and Tourism

Monroe Science Center Honoring Dr. Christine Mann Darden Signage

The approved signage for the Monroe Science Center was completed this week with lighted lettering on the Windsor Street and Franklin Street sides along with solid lettering on the entrance canopy. City Council approved the naming last year and the signage complements the interior mural and accompanying video from Dr. Darden highlights and showcases the Monroe native's accomplishments and achievements. Staff has been in contact with Dr. Darden and will continue to incorporate her into the overall programming of the Science Center.

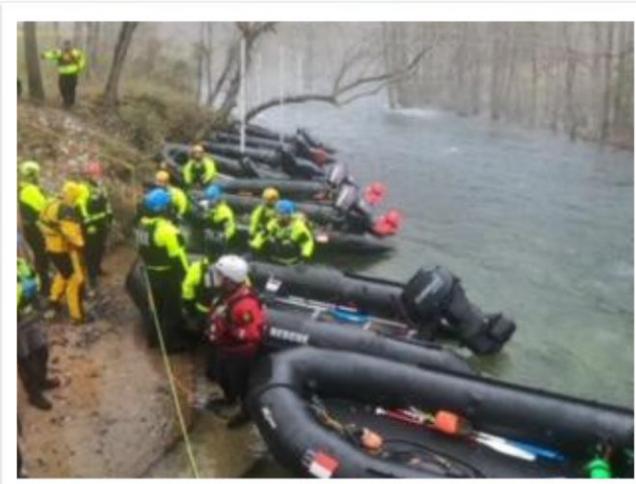




Fire

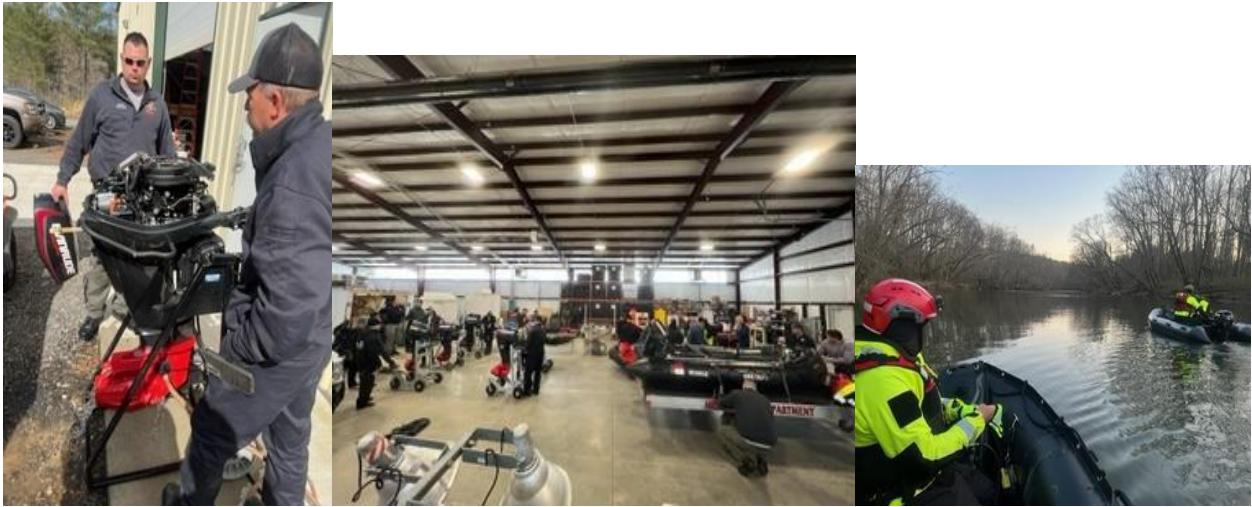
Ron Fowler, Chief, Fire Department

NC Advanced Water Rescue Boat Operators Course:



Firefighters Rodney Austin, Charles Laton and Robert Stovall recently completed the North Carolina Advanced Boat Operators Course as part of our ongoing water rescue training program. These firefighters had previously completed the initial boat operators' course and thus qualified to attend the advanced training. Having certified boat operators is one requirement of the swift water rescue typing requirements. Water rescue teams from across North Carolina participated in the

training, which was held in western North Carolina and focused on night operations in still and swift water situations. Learning these advanced techniques is extremely beneficial to our water rescue team to better prepare them for water rescue situations they may encounter. The course was sponsored by NC Emergency Management, which covered registration and lodging costs.



Walter Bickett Elementary Career Day:

Monroe Firefighters and Fire Explorers recently teamed up to attend Walter Bickett Elementary School's Career Day. Assistant Fire Marshal Katie Hinson and Fire Explorers worked inside at the fire department's career display, while A-Shift firefighters on Engine 1, Ladder 1 and Rescue 1 displayed apparatus outside for the students. Firefighters also assisted with landing Med Center Air for the students.



Strategic Planning:

The Fire Department's Strategic Planning Committee recently met at Fire Station 4 to continue work on goals and objectives contained in the Department's Strategic Plan. Approximately 30 firefighters from all ranks, divisions and shifts gathered to update and document progress made and focus on objectives for the near future. It was good to bring this group of dedicated individuals together in person, as holding this type of in-person meeting during the pandemic has been risky to do. The department utilized a Community Driven Strategic Planning process in 2019 to develop our current five-year strategic plan. The plan development process included input from

approximately 40 members of our community and is written in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International.

Firefighter Certifications:

Congratulations to the following firefighters on their professional accomplishments! Engineer Joe Uhl has earned his North Carolina State Fire Inspector, Level I, certification and has been sworn in to conduct fire inspections.

Firefighters Josh Hawk and Ryan Moore have passed their North Carolina Fire Instructor Qualification exam for Firefighter I & II.



Energy Services

Rob Miller, Interim Director of Energy Services

Energy Services Department

Governor Cooper proclaims April as North Carolina Safe Digging Month. April is National Safe Digging Month, a great reminder to always contact 811 before you dig! No matter how small your next home digging project is, remember to keep yourself and your community safe by contacting 811 to have the approximate location of buried utilities marked with paint or flags before breaking ground. Learn more at <https://nc811.org/>



Energy Services – Electric Division

The Electric Division began upgrading the Camp Sutton Substation. The project includes replacing the wood timber foundations under the transformers, installing transformer cabinets, and modernizing the substation. The project will be complete in May.



Parks and Recreation

Ryan Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center (MAFC):

MAFC staff is getting ready for another busy Summer Camp and Waterpark season!

Make sure you mark your calendars for the Splash and Dash 5k and the Kids and Heroes Fun Run on May 7th.



MAFC and Novant Partner to host a Living Well Workshop

The Novant Health MAFC Wellness Center is offering a fantastic evidence based workshop:

Healthy Living with Chronic Pain:

This six-week interactive workshop covers a wide range of tools and strategies to help manage your pain and get on with living your best life! The workshop will take place every Tuesday beginning April 12th. Each session is approximately 2 1/2 hours and includes a Made Easy exercise program. Topics include pacing, relaxation techniques, communication, setting reasonable goals, and much more.

Registration is required as there is a limited number of seats.

To register or for additional questions, please call 704-282-4693.



Parks Maintenance:

Leaf season is officially over. This year saw a considerable increase in leaves and maintenance staff did a great job staying on task during a busy leaf season. Attention will start moving towards park mowing as the weather gets warmer. Also, maintenance staff will begin preparing fields for baseball and rental usage.

Recreation:

Baseball practices have begun and we are excited for another great season! Track and field registration is currently taking place! Track and field will begin soon. Practices will take place throughout the week at the track at Central Academy of Technology and Arts (CATA).

The Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with Union County Public Schools to coordinate transportation to families at city schools to our Beyond the Bell Afterschool program! The program's goal is to extend the school day and expose participants to homework assistance, life skill enrichment, cultural opportunities and vocational training. We are excited about this partnership and its potential for growth!

The Spring/Summer Program Guide is ready and we have a ton of activities, camps and recreational opportunities in store for our residents and those living in surrounding areas. Click on the link below to take a look:



Planning and Development
Lisa Stiwinter, Director of Planning and Development

Permitting:

Permit Revenue - includes Building, Planning, Fire and Engineering

<i>FY 2020</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>
<i>7/1/22 - 3/31/22</i>		
\$412,148.79	\$1,131,453.87	\$1,519,667.17

New Single Family Dwelling Permits Issued:

<i>FY 2020</i>	<i>FY 2021</i>	<i>FY 2022</i>
<i>7/1/22 – 3/31/22</i>		
131	378	504

Planning Division:

The Board of Adjustment and Historic District Commission have open seats.

The Board of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial board. This Board hears and makes decisions on Special Use Permits, Variances, and Appeals.

The Historic District Commission makes quasi-judicial decisions on matters within the Historic District. You must either live in the district or have a demonstrated special interest, experience, or education in history, architectural, archaeology, or related fields to serve on this Commission.

Please note if you are interested in serving on one of these boards, you must attend at least one meeting prior to applying to serve on a Board. The application is on the City's website (<https://www.monroenc.org/City-Council/Committees/Committee-Application>). If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Department at 704-282-4520.

Project Submittals:

The Planning Division had the following projects submitted in the second half of March:

Board of Adjustment

- Variance Request for property located at 1700 Icemorlee St.

Historic District Commission

- Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) Request for property located at 505 Parker St.

- COA Request for property located at 406 1/2 E. Talleyrand Ave.

*All meeting agendas and packets can be found at the following link:

<https://monroenc.civicclerk.com/web/home.aspx>

City's Unified Development Ordinance and Zoning Map Update:

The Planning Department will be presenting the proposed Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) and proposed zoning map to City Council at the April 12, 2022 Regular Meeting. The changes that were implemented from the October 2021 City Council Regular Meeting will be presented at this meeting with possible action from Council. This meeting will also include a public hearing. Notification letters were sent to all property owners within the City limits, Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), and properties within 150-feet of those limits, Zoning Decision signs were also posted throughout the City to provide additional notification of this public hearing. The public is encouraged to visit the project website www.forwardmonroe.com for addition information.

Police Department

J. Bryan Gilliard, Chief of Police

Community Involvement/Youth Engagement:

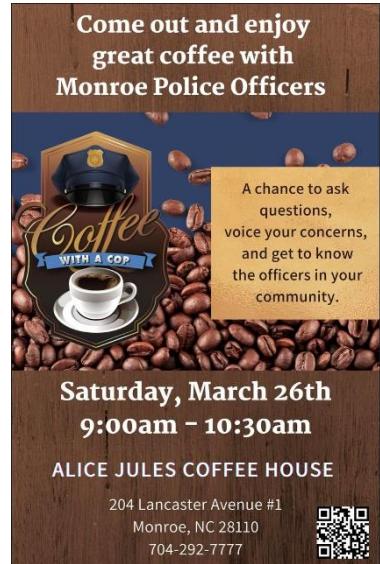
Each Tuesday morning, the Monroe Police Department, in conjunction with Multiply Community Church and Heart for Monroe our Community Service Division participates in food and supply donation efforts within the Icemorlee Street apartment community.



On March 24th, the Community Services Division assisted Heart for Monroe, Shiloh Baptist Church, Multiple Community Church, Ground 40 and J.B. Preslar Company distribute 39,984 pounds of water throughout the community.

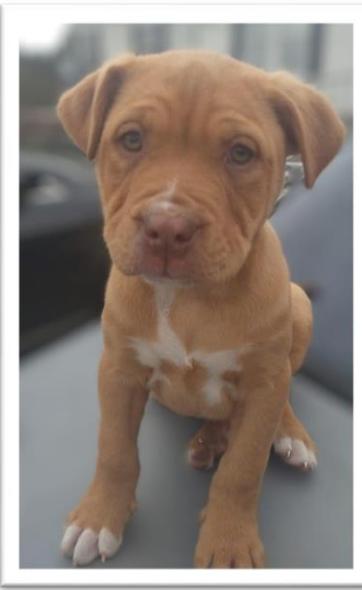


On March 26th, the Community Services Division held Coffee with a Cop at Alice Jules.



Patrol Division & Detective Bureau:

On March 25th, the patrol division took a report of two stolen dogs from the area of Elizabeth Avenue. After some dogged work by the assigned Detectives, both dogs were found later that evening and returned to their owner(s).



School Resource Officers (SROs):

The Monroe Police Department SROs have been busy over the last couple of weeks. Officer Demera spoke to a class about what it takes to be an officer. Officer Demera as had several students join the Monroe Police Explorer Post this year. As seen pictured below, Officer Demera is in front of the class talking with them about his career as a law enforcement officer.

SROs Cureton and Chaney, along with K-9 Officer Hunter spoke with seven rotations of students at Union Academy during career day. Officer Hunter spoke about his time as a K-9 officer with the Monroe Police Department and what it takes to become a K-9 officer. SRO Chaney and SRO Cureton also spoke about their time as officers with the police department and their experiences. The officers also answered questions about their careers as a law enforcement officers.



Water Resources

Russ Colbath, Director of Water Resources

Well, they did not find a pot of gold, but Earth and Science Honors/AP students from CATA High School did spend part of their St Patrick's Day learning about the science and technology that helps the City treat wastewater and protect the environment. The students shown below are in Ms. Kortney Kopchick's AP/Honors class to prepare them for college entry. Ms. Kopchick (shown is

her best Leprechaun apparel) has been a teacher at CATA for 15 years, teaching some of the brightest young minds in the County. Her classes have also adopted portions of Bearskin Creek at Belk Tonawanda Park, doing water quality testing and clean up along that section of creek.



Water Resources New Hires, Advancements, and Retirements:

New Employees:

Cameron Webster – Maintenance/Construction Equipment Operator I

Cody High 3/14/22 – Maintenance/Construction Equipment Operator I