

City Manager's Report
Brian J. Borne, Interim City Manager
Week Ending April 15, 2022

Engineering

Sarah McAllister, Director of Engineering

Spring Creek Cleanup

The Engineering Department collaborated with Union County Soil & Water Conservation District to hold a Spring Creek Cleanup at the Union County Farmers Market. Volunteers and staff collected litter from in and around Bearskin Creek on city and county property to reduce contamination in our waterways. The group filled eight large bags of trash, which the Street Division picked up for proper disposal. The Engineering Department uses public involvement programs such as these to highlight the importance of environmental stewardship and protection for our water resources. To learn more about our Stormwater volunteer programs, please visit the Public Involvement website at <https://www.monroenc.org/Departments/Engineering/Stormwater-Services/Public-Involvement>



Wake Up To Ag

Our Environmental Educator took part in this year's Wake up to Ag Week hosted at the County's Agriculture Special Events Center. Third graders from around the county visited various booths and exhibits for introductions into small and large animal care, soils, plants, forestry and other agriculture related themes. At Monroe's Engineering booth, students learned the impact of stormwater pollution on water quality as part of the Force & Motion station.



Fire

Ron Fowler, Chief, Fire Department

Water Rescue Drill

The Water Rescue Team conducted a drill at Cane Creek Park April 28 - 30. Monroe Fire Department and Union County Emergency Management worked collaboratively to plan, prepare, and execute the drill; furthering the existing partnership and growing collectively in skills and preparedness. The drill included boat operations, land and water searches, and communications training. The drill intentionally put team members in realistic situations in order to prepare them for future search and rescue events. This helps us be even better equipped to serve both our local and state community when a need arises.



Wake Up to Ag/Fire and Life Safety Event

Fire and Life Safety Educator Katie Hinson, along with a representative from Union County Fire Marshal's Office, attended the Union County Schools Wake Up to Ag event at the Union County Events Center. Lessons on Break the Shape of Fire along with smoke and carbon monoxide alarm placement in the home was shared with approximately 500 students.



Firefighter Career Presentation at Monroe High School

Captain/Assistant Fire Marshal Jason Easter shared with Mr. Hunter's Career Management Classes at Monroe High School. His presentation was Thinking Outside the Box with Fire Service Careers. Firefighters also gave students the opportunity to view Quint 2 and ask questions about the fire service.



Energy Services
Rob Miller, Interim Director of Energy Services

Energy Services Department

Governor Roy Cooper proclaimed April as North Carolina Safe Digging Month. This is 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

Austin Tarlton was promoted to Journeyman Lineman.

Energy Services – Natural Gas Division

Justin Keziah was hired as Energy Services Locator I.

Parks and Recreation
Ryan Jones, Director of Parks and Recreation

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center (MAFC)

Strong Seniors & Brave Beginners

It is no secret that the fitness industry has been greatly affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic. Although some people now have a new habit of working out at home, many people still prefer to exercise at a gym. Some choose to exercise on their own, while others want, and benefit from, the social interaction and motivation from in-person classes. At the MAFC, we are happy to report that our “Strong Seniors & Brave Beginners” class has been consistently attended post-pandemic. Whether these participants are choosing to focus on their physical strength or bravely stepping out of their comfort zone and trying something new, they are making their health a priority and we are proud of them!



Parks Maintenance

Warm weather brings green grass and green grass means its growing fast! Mowing season is here and our Parks Maintenance staff work diligently to stay ahead of the tall grass and ensure that our parks look great year round. Highway 74 corridor was mowed for the first time this season. The next project to be completed will be lining the Dickerson Recreation Complex Outdoor Courts. Stay tuned for pictures!!

Parks Maintenance would also like to welcome the following new hires to the department:

Lily Ellis – Facility Maintenance Worker II
Logan Clark – Equipment Operator I

Recreation:

Athletics

The United Senior Games began on March 21st and will take place until mid-May. Check out some of our participants enjoying the games!



The Monroe Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with [Tennisbloc](#). This ten-week program will allow participants more opportunity to play tennis and pickleball at the Dickerson Community Complex (899 N. Johnson St.) beginning in June 2022. Individuals interested may register [here](#).

VIBE COMMUNITY TENNIS & PICKLEBALL PROGRAMS

PARTNERED WITH  **tennisbloc**

DICKERSON RECREATION COMPLEX & PARK
(899 N. JOHNSON ST. MONROE, NC 28110)



**EMAIL INFO@TENNISBLOC.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR CALL 704-282-4663**



Annual Easter Eggstravaganza was held at Parks Williams Athletic Complex on Saturday, April 2nd. We had a great time with a HUGE crowd!



The 15th Annual Downtown Car Cruise-In event kicked off on April 8th. This event takes place the second Friday of each month from April-October. An award is given to the Best Show, Best Show Runner-Up, and the Best Featured Car (Camaro, Corvette, etc.)



The 2022 Music on Main Concert Series begins April 22nd with the Motown Legacy Revue Band. This band is sponsored by the Union County Arts Council and North Carolina Arts Council. We are very excited to announce this event has been moved to Friday nights.



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:



Police Department

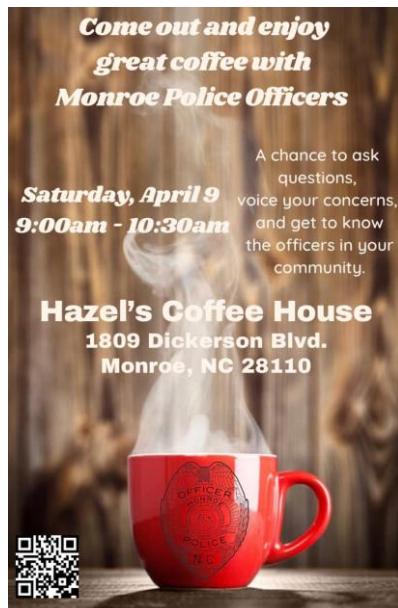
J. Bryan Gilliard, Chief of Police

Community Involvement/Youth Engagement

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



On April 9th the Community Services Division held Coffee with a Cop at Hazel's Coffee House.



Patrol Division and Detective Bureau

Officer Travis Furr and his K9 partner, Narco, are the WIXE officers of the month for April! Thanks to Whitley Mortgage for sponsoring this program.



Water Resources

Russ Colbath, Director of Water Resources

Water Main Replacement Begins on Cedar Street

Water Resources Construction crews have initiated replacement of an aging 2-inch water main on Cedar street, from Miller to Wolfe. Approximately 500 feet of water main will be renewed, including services to five customers. This project is part of the ongoing asset management program for Water Resources, with a goal of replacing 1% of the system annually. The City currently has over 1.6 million feet of water main in the ground. Pictured below are Crew Leader II Casey Keziah (in the excavator) and Equipment Operator II Chris Deese measuring trench depth. The total project will take four weeks +/- to complete.



John Glenn Water Treatment Plant (WTP)Treatment Basin #1 Coating Project Complete

The six-month effort to rehabilitate the protective coatings on the John Glenn WTP treatment basin #1 has been completed. The project was completed on-time and on budget at a cost of \$603,000. Shown below are before and after pictures, with Chief Operator Robbie Jenkins posing in the newly coated basin.



Water Resources New Hires, Advancements, and Retirements

Advancements:

Kevin Rowland was promoted to Crew Leader I, in the Water Resources Maintenance Division.