




City Manager's Report
Brian J. Borne, City Manager
Week Ending August 5, 2022

Charlotte-Monroe Executive Airport
Peter Cevallos, Airport Manager

		Takeoffs	2,836
		Landings	2,742
July 2022 Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Daily Average = 90 per day✓ 798 total active aircraft flights		

Communications and Tourism
Pete Hovanec, Director

NC Civil Rights Trail Marker Installed

A North Carolina Civil Rights Trail Marker was installed and unveiled at a ceremony at the Monroe Country Club on July 28, 2022. The Marker sits at the site of the former Monroe Public Pool in the lower parking lot of Monroe Country Club and recognizes the African American Youth from Monroe who protested in 1957 and 1961 for the right to swim in the public pool.

A Few Good Men, Inc. led the initiative for the marker and City Staff worked closely with them on the installation and location of the “Wade-In” marker. The Dedication Ceremony featured Yousef Crowder and Johnathan Blount sharing their recollections and experiences during the protests.

Dr. Timothy Tyson, a Sr. Research Scholar from Duke University, offered a historical perspective on the event and representatives from the NC African American Heritage Commission were also on hand to share information regarding the significance of this event and the installation of the marker.

Youth Council Completes First Phase of Underpass Mural



More than a dozen Monroe Youth Council volunteers along with City Staff, working under the guidance and direction of local artist Margaret James, began the process of painting a mural on the underpass of the CSX railroad Crossing on Old Charlotte Avenue. The remaining underpasses will be completed in the near future as schedules permit.

This has been a multi-year event and has required a great deal of planning and permissions. This is just one of the ways Monroe Youth Council members give back to their community. The Youth Council participates in nearly all City events (Air Show, Easter Activities, Halloween Happenings, Christmas in Downtown) and are always available to help when called upon.

There are roughly 30 Youth Council members representing at least six different Union County High Schools.

City Council has supported the Monroe Youth Council for 13 years. Being a member of the Youth Council helps members learn responsibility and it helps to prepare them for college and adulthood.

“Hope (Hope Tanner, Youth Council Co-Facilitator) and I are so proud of what our Youth Council is doing to make their mark on their community,” said Co-Facilitator Pete Hovanec. “The effort of these students and their desire to make their community better is so admirable, especially when there are so many of their peers making poor decisions.”





Monroe Country Club Hosts Free Golf Camp

Monroe Country Club was the site of the second annual Let's Tee Off Golf Clinic recently. The three-day free camp hosted roughly 30 enthusiastic campers and introduced them to the game of golf.

Through a partnership with Serve Unity Outreach, Monroe Parks and Recreation and Monroe Country Club Staff, the event allowed campers to not only practice golf, but also get on the course and play a few holes.



Left: John Miller, Monroe Country Club General Manager / Head Golf Professional is surrounded by campers and volunteers prior to the closing banquet of the camp. Below left and right: Golfers get lessons on putting, chipping and real time experience playing a round at Monroe Country Club



Energy Services

Rob Miller, Director, Energy Services

Natural Gas Division

Dylan Penegar was promoted to Gas Crew Leader.
Darren Thomas was promoted to Gas Crew Leader.

Fire

Ron Fowler, Chief, Fire Department

Swiftwater Rescue Team Leader Training

Monroe Battalion Chief Johnny Blythe, Captain Derrick Carnes, Captain Adam Speer, Captain Keith Starnes and other Swiftwater Rescue Team leaders from across the state recently spent time training at the State Emergency Operations Center in Raleigh. Among many other things, they are learning about some new GPS mapping and damage assessment technology that was recently distributed to our team by the State. Our team received two cell phones provided by North Carolina Emergency Management to use on deployments. These phones are loaded

with critical software to complete tasks during deployments. The training also covered proper documentation during deployments to aid with reimbursements.



Monroe Night Out

Monroe Firefighters were pleased to participate in the Monroe Night Out events. Although this event is primarily focused on bringing neighborhoods, citizens and law enforcement together, firefighters also appreciate this opportunity to interact with our citizens and deepen our relationships with them. This also provides a good opportunity to share with our citizens the great

working relationship between police officers and firefighters in Monroe. Thank you to Safe Kids Union County for providing educational materials and thank you to Monroe Police for organizing this event!



Fire Station Location Study

Staff previously identified the need to conduct a Fire Station Location Analysis Study in Monroe. The NC Fire Chiefs Consulting group, who is the official fire consulting group for the NC League of Municipalities, conducted this study. The study is complete and provides a qualified and objective review of current fire station locations in Monroe along with recommendations on meeting current and future station location needs to best serve our citizens. An overview of this study was presented to the Public Safety Committee at their August 1, 2022 Meeting.

FIRE STATION LOCATION ANALYSIS

January
2022



City of
Monroe Fire Department
Monroe, North Carolina

Parks and Recreation

Ryan Jones, Director, Parks and Recreation

Active Adults

Through ongoing collaboration with community partners, the Ellen Fitzgerald Senior Center (EFSC) offered educational programs throughout the month of July. Partners to include: Humana; Partners Health Management/Geriatric Adult Specialty Team; North Carolina Cooperative Extension; and, Union County Soil and Water.

In preparation to transition to the new Active Adult Living Center, the EFSC has expanded its hours to include regular Thursday evening programming.



ELLEN FITZGERALD SENIOR CENTER
City of Monroe Parks and Recreation
327 South Hayne Street Monroe, North Carolina 28112-5506
Telephone 704-282-4657 Fax 704-238-9187

HELLO AUGUST 2022

Ageing Well, Living Well
44 years of serving seniors 55+

Monday AUGUST 1	Tuesday AUGUST 2	Wednesday AUGUST 3	Thursday AUGUST 4	Friday AUGUST 5
In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9 a- Aerobics 10 a- Range of Motion 9a-1p Ceramics 9a Bags for Benches 1p -3p Intermediate Line Dance	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Mat Yoga 10:00a- Tai Chi Seated Class 9 a -1 p VIP – ART Room 9 a – 11 a - Ceramics 11a-2p - Pottery 10 a – 12:00 p – Handwork 10:00a- Spades 12:30p –Bridge 1:00p- Game Time 1-2 p Beginner Line Dance	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Aerobics 10:00a- Range of Motion 9 a-1p – Ceramics 1:30 – 3:30 p– Art Studio 12:15 p – Pinochle 1p -3p Intermediate line dance	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Mat Yoga 10:00a- Chair Yoga 10a-Walk-Monroe Crossing Mall 9a -12 p Ceramics 12p-2p- Pottery 12p –Canasta 1-2 PM Educational –CAST 1-2 p Beginner Line Dance 6:00-8:00p: Thurs. Night Dance Bring a snack to share Open Studios Ceramics/Pottery	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9 a- Aerobics 10 a- Range of Motion 9a Bags for Benches 10a – 12p Euchre
AUGUST 8	AUGUST 9	AUGUST 10	AUGUST 11	AUGUST 12
In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9 a- Aerobics 10 a- Range of Motion 9a-1p Ceramics 9a Bags for Benches 1p -3p Intermediate line dance	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Mat Yoga 10:00a- Tai Chi Seated Class 9 a – 11 a - Ceramics 11a-2p - Pottery 10 a – 12:00 p – Handwork 10:00a- Spades 12:30p –Bridge 1:00p- Game Time 1-2 p Beginner Line Dance	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Aerobics 10:00a- Range of Motion 9 a-1p – Ceramics 1:30 – 3:30 p– Art Studio 12:15 p – Pinochle 1p -3p Intermediate line dance 8:30a TRIP Cane Creek Park Leave from Monroe Plaza	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9a- Mat Yoga Video 10:00a- Range of Motion Video 10a-Walk-Monroe Crossing Mall 9a -12 p Ceramics 12p-2p- Pottery 12p –Canasta 11:30a – 12:30p AARP – ART Room 1-2 PM Educational 1-2 p Beginner Line Dance 6:00-8:00p: Thurs. Night Dance Open Studios Ceramics/Pottery	In-Person and Zoom Fitness 9 a- Aerobics 10 a- Range of Motion 9a Bags for Benches 10a – 12p Euchre Yard Sale AUGUST 20TH 8/12 is last day to receive items for the sale see flyer

- **FOCAL POINT WHERE SENIORS 55+ COME TOGETHER FOR SERVICES, CLASSES, ACTIVITIES, AND SOCIALIZATION WHICH ENHANCE THEIR DIGNITY, SUPPORT THEIR INDEPENDENCE, AND ENCOURAGE THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE COMMUNITY**
- **MISSION STATEMENT** The Ellen Fitzgerald Senior Center was built by the city of Monroe.
- **MEMBERSHIP** Requires completion of Membership Registration Form. Fees- No fee for City of Monroe residents; \$60/annually for 1 person or \$90/annually for 2 people.
- **MONTHLY SCHEDULE ON INTERNET** Web address: Monroenc.org/Departments
- **Monroe does not have a transportation division. If you need transportation to the center, please call Union County Transportation 704-292-2611**
- **CITY OF MONROE'S MASK POLICY:** Masks are optional to wear. You may continue to wear masks, but we will no longer require masks to be worn by employees and customers in City facilities.

The Senior Center also offers a variety of day trips. During the month of July, members of the EFSC visited Narrowway Productions in Fort Mill, SC and the Earl Scruggs Center in Shelby, NC.

The Friends of the Fitzgerald

The Friends of the Fitzgerald is a group of seniors dedicated to raising money for the senior center. On August 20, 2022, the Friends of the Fitzgerald are hosting an Annual Yard Sale. All proceeds will go directly to the Senior Center to purchase needed items.

Athletics

Youth Baseball/Softball and Youth Soccer Registration is now open! Registration can be found online [here](#). Limited spots are available. Late registrations will be subject to a \$10 late fee.

FC Carolinas/Monroe Parks and Recreation Soccer Camp

Monroe Parks and Recreation Department has partnered with FC Carolinas to offer soccer camps and programming. The FC Carolinas/Monroe Recreational Soccer Camp is designed for players ages 6-12 who want to improve their fundamental soccer skills in a fun and encouraging environment. Each session will include a variety of technical exercises designed to improve confidence on the ball. Players will also get the opportunity to execute new skills in small sided games. This camp was offered August 1-3, 2022 at Parks Williams Athletic Complex (2011 Ashton Avenue).



Recreation Centers

Recreation Centers hosted National Night Out at several facilities. Kids were able to interact with staff and Community Partners. Monroe Police and Monroe Fire were on site to make sure everyone had a great time! Food, games, bounce houses and more were available for a great night in the community!



Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center

Monroe Aquatics and Fitness Center will be adjusting Water Park hours as lifeguards head back to High School and College.



Parks Maintenance

Walter Bickett Stadium

Each year the Monroe Parks and Recreation Department helps to convert Walter Bickett Stadium to a multi-purpose field and baseball field for Central Academy of Technology and Arts (CATA), Monroe High School, and Union Academy. This conversion allows the following sports to be played during the school year: fall men's soccer; and, spring men's baseball.



Special Events

- Back2School Bash – August 6, 2022 and August 13, 2022

As usual, the Summer has flown by and our Summer Camp participants return to school. Our staff is always there to make that transition a little easier and wrap up another fun Summer. Staff will have food, games, music and backpack/school supplies to give away.



- Classic Car Cruise In – August 12, 2022

Join us in Downtown Monroe as we welcome beautiful classic and specialized cars! Stop in at our Downtown Merchants while you enjoy the Cruise In.

- Music On Main – August 26, 2022

The Band of Oz takes the stage on Friday, August 26th. Downtown Monroe will be rocking!

- First Annual Fall Festival – August 27, 2022

Celebrate the start of Fall with Parks and Recreation. Food vendors, craft vendors, amusements, and more will be on site at Parks Williams Athletic Complex.

Other

Request for Qualifications – Bearskin Creek Greenway Phase III

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was provided to interested firms to assist with the submission of a North Carolina Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Grant to help fund the construction of the Bearskin Creek Greenway Phase III. This portion of the greenway would connect Don Griffin Park to Creft Park and would provide access from Creft Park to Don Griffin Park, the Union County Farmer's Market, Belk Tonawanda Park and the Downtown Monroe area. In conjunction with this project, firms will provide assistance with the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to assist with a renovation of Creft Park including a Master Plan for this specific park. Creft Park has been designated as a park protected by the LWCF. LWCF funding is exclusive to parks and open spaces that meet that designation. Creft Park and Dickerson Park are both protected parks in their entirety, whereas, a section of Sutton Park is protected. LWCF funding is contingent on the Master Plan's ability to meet certain requirements to protect those designated areas. Both grants are matching grants and are available for up to \$500,000.00.

All other programs offered throughout the summer can be found in our Program Guide. Click below to learn more:



Planning and Development
Lisa Stiwinter, Director

Community Development

During the January 11, 2022 City Council Strategic Planning Meeting, City Council recognized the need to allocate funds to protect our citizens, employees, and elected officials during an epidemic. The activity is referred to as the *City Hall Lobby and Permit Center Safety and Covid-19 Compliance Installation and Protection Project*. Due to the critical framework needed to determine the risk factors, a committee was formed consisting of Teresa Campo (Community Development), Alvina Nyako (Safety & Risk), Josh Hyatt (Information Technology), and Eric Purser (Facilities). The team met with Allied Universal Technology on June 24, 2022. Allied Universal Technology agreed to provide a safety and risk assessment with mitigation actions at no additional cost, as they maintain our electronic entry systems. Due to his capacity in the Information Technology (IT) Department, Josh Hyatt was assigned as the assessment coordinator. The safety and risk assessment will identify areas of need and provide mitigation measures to keep Staff, Council, and the public safe during an epidemic and will include crisis response measures. Once the assessment has been completed, a proposal will be presented to the City Manager for additional input. Based on the findings, input and costs, an action plan will be drafted for further consideration. Funding for this project is made possible due to the American Rescue Plan.

Permitting

Permit Revenue- includes Building, Planning, Fire & Engineering

FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022 7/1/22 – 7/31/22
\$1,131,453.87	\$2,178,892.99	\$145,835.63

New Single Family Dwelling Permits Issued:

FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022 7/1/22 – 7/31/22
378	708	47

Monthly Total Permit Counts for July:

2020	2021	2022
479	470	571

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. If you have any questions, please contact the Planning Department at 704-282-4520.

New Hires

Ayesha Iftikhar, Planning Technician



Ayesha Iftikhar joined the Planning Department as a Planning Technician in July 2022. Ayesha comes to the City of Monroe from Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation Department where she served as an undergraduate intern for the past six months. She has received her Bachelor of Science in Earth and Environmental Studies with minor's in history and religious studies from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. During college, she worked at CVS Pharmacy as a Pharmacy Technician for three years where she learned valuable customer service skills. In Ayesha's spare time she enjoys traveling, hiking, and Boba Tea.

Water Resources

Scott E. Clark, Director, Water Resources

Wastewater Treatment Division

In the photo below our Equalization Basin (EQ) was recently started, to enhance reliability and resiliency of the critical treatment operations during significant rainfall events. In photo (A) grading of the north side wall is underway. In photo (B) our contractor is screening soil to remove rocks, roots, and debris so it may be utilized on the site.

(Photo A)



(Photo B)



Construction Division

In photo (A) our staff is boring under Lane Street to install a new service line, as part of our goal to renewing our assets.

In photo (B) our staff is compacting a trench prior to restoring the customer's yard.

(Photo A)



(Photo B)

