

in the know

MONROE

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official newsletter of MONROE, Georgia



HOLIDAY Schedule Changes

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This section provides the schedule changes to your residential solid waste collection routes during the holiday season for the winter months.



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This section highlights the upcoming downtown events during our winter months and helps identify the layout of our downtown areas. Be sure and shop small during the holidays!



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Read this section to learn what's going on with the City-owned parks in Monroe, current funding sources, projects, plans, and upcoming projects are discussed.



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Be sure to keep up with the important dates including official City of Monroe meeting dates and fun calendar dates throughout the winter months.

Cy Nunnally Memorial Airport

The Cy Nunnally Memorial airport is still in the process of expanding hangar sites and hangar capacity. The single site is nearing completion, while the now 12-unit t-hangar site is still in the construction phases. Once complete, the airport's based aircraft count should expand to over 50 aircraft for the first time ever. This number helps with leverage for grant funding opportunities at both the state and federal levels.

The Cy Nunnally Memorial Airport was recently awarded grant funds in the amount of \$1,253,417.00 for the complete rehabilitation of runway 3/21 in the state's 2021 budget cycle. The City of Monroe will be responsible for \$52,417.00 of matching funds for the project. This project is currently in the bidding phase as bids close on December 17th with the evaluation process to follow. Recommendation for award will come before City Council in January of 2021 for final approval prior to construction in the spring of 2021.

November of 2020 will see the submission of the Airport Fuel Tax Certification by the City of Monroe. This entails providing proof that all tax dollars collected from the sale of fuel by the airport is then used for airport improvements in the following year. The city has always met this requirement easily in the years since the installation of the 100-LL AvGas fuel farm in 2015. The city is also responsible for submitting Capital Improvement Project schedules to the DOT during the month of November that both requests grant funding from the federal and state levels but unofficially declares the city willing to provide a percentage of matching funds should grant funds be awarded.

As schedules are generated, the airport undergoes routine inspections by the state to determine compliance and list of required improvements that may need addressing in a reasonable period of time. The current scheduled inspection for the airport is in early February of 2021, but is subject to change based on outside factors.

In the past several years there have been projects related to apron rehabilitation and expansion on the east side of the runway, taxi lane relocations on the west side, drainage repairs, and now a complete rehabilitation of runway 3/21. The total grant funds received for these projects are approximately \$2,339,667.23 from both federal and state funds. The City has leveraged these funds received with a local contribution of \$509,797.83 thus allowing for larger projects to be performed.



SOCIALLY *distance holiday tips*

The fall and winter holidays are something everyone looks forward to all year. This holiday season will be full of socially distanced precautions, but that doesn't mean we can't still experience the joys and traditions of our favorite holidays.

Consider virtual dining

For those who choose not to travel to be with loved ones for the holidays, virtual hangouts are a great way to share the holiday festivities. You can enjoy a holiday dinner with your whole family and friends in the online world and sit to feast together, even if from afar. Adding a collaborative and shared task will make everyone feel a little closer.

Experience the joy of outdoor dining

In many parts of the country, the weather is still favorable enough to enjoy a holiday dinner outside. Dining outside offers enough space and ventilation to gather with loved ones for a delicious dinner while still respecting social distance guidelines. Set up a long table on a porch or patio, and you can dress the table up with a beautiful holiday tablecloth and dishes.

Set up multiple smaller tables

Whether dining inside or outside, having separate tables is a great way to keep socially distant while still enjoying a holiday dinner. If you have foldable tables, you can set them up in different parts of the room to share your holiday dinner together from afar. Separate tables and meals offer a fun new way to enjoy the holidays while still being together.

Shorten the guest list

If your holiday dinner guest list tends to be on the longer side, perhaps this is the year to trim it down. While many of us enjoy a long dinner table where we sit happily shoulder to shoulder, there is something special and festive about the intimacy of a small group.

Holiday dinners won't lose their festivity and meaning because we are social distancing, even if they are a little tweaked for this year.



The City of Monroe Solid Waste Department will be running a modified garbage pickup schedule during the holidays in December and January. Please note below any changes that will affect your garbage pickup day.

Christmas Holiday Schedule

Monday, December 21, 2020 – Monday’s Route
Tuesday, December 22, 2020 – Tuesday’s & Wednesday’s Route
Wednesday, December 23, 2020 – Thursday’s Route
Thursday, December 24, 2020 – No Collection
Friday, December 25, 2020 – No Collection

New Year’s Holiday Schedule

Monday, December 28, 2020 – Monday’s Route
Tuesday, December 29, 2020 – Tuesday’s Route
Wednesday, December 30, 2020 – Wednesday’s Route
Thursday, December 31, 2020 – Thursday’s Routes
Friday, January 1, 2021 – No Collection

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Schedule

Monday, January 18, 2021 – No Collection
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 – Monday’s Route
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – Tuesday’s & Wednesday’s Routes
Thursday, January 21, 2021 – Thursday’s Route

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MONROE
DOWNTOWN

EVENTS

& happenings...

December 3 - 67th Christmas Parade

'Christmas Outside of the Box'

December - Candlelight Shopping &
Magical Light Parade







67th Annual Downtown Monroe CHRISTMAS PARADE

"Christmas Outside of the Box"

Downtown
MONROE
PARKING MAP



-  PUBLIC PARKING
-  AFTER 5PM PARKING
-  WALTER CO. COURTHOUSE
-  PUBLIC LIBRARY
-  DAVIS-EDWARDS HOUSE
-  MONROE-WALTON CENTER FOR THE ARTS
-  CHILDERS PARK
-  ON STREET PARKING
-  CITY HALL
-  REST HAVEN CEMETERY
-  MCDANIEL-TICHENOR HOUSE
-  VISITORS CENTER & MONROE MUSEUM



WHAT'S IN A MONTH...

December is the twelfth and last month of the year. It inspires a flurry of activity both in the business world and in our personal lives. Sales, shopping, family gatherings, school holidays, baking, and seasonal changes remind us of the way the world changes and how things used to be. Those born in December claim three icy cool birthstones - Tanzanite, Zircon, and Turquoise. The birth flowers are the narcissus and holly. The most common holidays in December are Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve. Famous birthdays include Britney Spears, Julianne Moore, Ozzy Osbourne, Tyra Banks, Little Richard, Brad Pitt, Samuel Jackson, Denzel Washington, Ian Somerhalder, Kirk Douglas, Jamie Foxx, Dick Van Dyke, Taylor Swift, Steven Spielberg, Ryan Seacrest, and Anthony Hopkins.



January is the first month of the year and the first of seven months to have a length of 31 days. The first day of the month is known as New Year's Day. On average, January is the coldest month of the year in the northern hemisphere and the

warmest in the southern hemisphere. In January, we celebrate National Freedom Day, a national holiday that is also known as, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Its birthstone is the garnet, and the birth flower is the cottage pink dianthus caryophyllus or galanthus. Famous birthdays include Morris Chestnut, Mel Gibson, Bradley Cooper, Diane Keaton, Nicholas Cage, Dave Matthews, Rod Stewart, Naomi Judd, Mary J. Blige, Trace Adkins, Jim Carrey, Betty White, Steve Harvey, Alicia Keys, Ellen DeGeneres, and Justin Timberlake.

February is the second month of the year with a length of 28 days in common years or 29 in leap years, with the 29th day being called leap year. It is the third and last month of winter in the northern hemisphere and the last month of summer in the southern hemisphere. Valentine's Day and President's Day are the most common holidays celebrated in February. Its birthstone is the amethyst, which symbolizes piety, humility, spiritual wisdom, and sincerity, and the birth flowers are the violet and the iris. Famous birthdays include Michael Sheen, Chris Rock, Garth Brooks, Ashton Kutcher, Emma Roberts, Jennifer Aniston, Burt Reynolds, Jane Seymour, John Travolta, Smokey Robinson, Rihanna, Drew Barrymore, Emily Blunt, Michael Bolton, Pauly Shore, and Haylie Duff.



City of Monroe PARKS

In January 2020, the City of Monroe voted to officially take back control of all City-owned parks from County management and oversight. The initial plan for the City of Monroe is to assess the condition of those parks and to then provide an overall maintenance and rehabilitation plan. The primary focus at the outset is safety, followed by the usability of functions and facilities, and to finally rehabilitate those parks throughout the years to come. Major projects at all parks will be funded by the 2019 SPLOST as provided for by the tax. Budgeted projects will then be discussed and presented to City Council as achievable based on funding availability.

On October 19th, Pilot Park on High School Avenue was reopened to the public as



almost all components of the complete rehabilitation were complete! The only remaining elements are to paint the new fencing that is in place and then to add a few shade structures in the early months of 2021. The park project was approved for \$250,000 and completed for approximately \$262,317 as a few adjustments were made with the addition of decorative trees, border shrubs, and storm drainage on the back corner were repaired. The finished product has been an overwhelming success and a perfect example of

what's to come with the City parks system in the future!

The next larger phased park project has been ongoing at Mathews Park. It was approved for \$175,000 for improvements that include additional playground

equipment, new swings, benches, picnic tables, grills, flag pole, painting, signage, and new restroom facility. Final numbers should be close to \$158,063 for completion. Currently, the park areas are open with the new restroom facility in production and slated to arrive



sometime at the very end of 2020 or early 2021. At that point, the initial phase of Mathews Park is complete, with additional elements and changes planned for the future. This will include bike and walking trails, additional pavilion space, new parking and paved areas, the restock of the lake for fishing, and other elements as determined based on need and spacing.

Another park of note for improvements is that of the Green Street park. New basketball goals have been installed as well as new swing elements. In 2021, the plan is to rework the court itself to level the existing area, restripe the lines, and to add seating on each side of the court potentially as space allows. Based on funding, a few additional playground elements will be added as well with improved fencing.

The parks system improvements have been both exciting and rewarding for everyone! Improvements are coming to other parks and areas around town, and can be done as funding becomes available. For updates on our parks system and the individual parks, please visit our website at www.monroega.com/parksrec. Our Parks and Recreation section of the site helps provide historical references to the initial founding and creation of the existing parks and provides for updates on the present and future of those same parks.

CITY MEETING DATES

December

- 1 - City Council Meeting - 6pm
- 8 - City Council Meeting - 6pm
- 10 - Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 8am
- 10 - Convention & Visitors Bureau Meeting - 9am
- 15 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 5:30pm
- 22 - Historic Preservation Commission Meeting - 6pm

January

- 6pm - City Council Meeting - 5
- 8am - Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 14
- 9am - Convention & Visitors Bureau Meeting - 14
- 6pm - City Council Meeting - 12
- 5:30pm - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 19
- 6pm - Historic Preservation Commission Meeting - 26

February

- 2 - City Council Meeting - 6pm
- 9 - City Council Meeting - 6pm
- 11 - Downtown Development Authority Meeting - 8am
- 11 - Convention & Visitors Bureau Meeting - 9am
- 16 - Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting - 5:30pm
- 23 - Historic Preservation Commission Meeting - 6pm

IMPORTANT CALENDAR DATES

December 3 - National Disability Day

December 4 - National Cookie Day

December 7 - National Pearl Harbor Day of Remembrance

December 21 - Winter Solstice

December 24 - Christmas Eve

December 25 - Christmas Day

December 26 - Kwanzaa

December 31 - New Year's Eve

January 1 - New Year's Day

January 9 - Law Enforcement Appreciation Day

January 20 - Martin Luther King Day

January 26 - National Spouses Day

January 27 - Holocaust Remembrance Day

February 2 - Groundhog Day

February 4 - World Cancer Day

February 9 - National Pizza Day

February 14 - Valentine's Day

February 15 - Presidents Day

February 17 - Ash Wednesday





City OFFICIALS

MAYOR - John Howard

CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Logan Propes

COUNCIL DISTRICT 1 - Lee Malcom

COUNCIL DISTRICT 2 - Myoshia Crawford

COUNCIL DISTRICT 3 - Ross Bradley

COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 - Larry Bradley

COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 - Norman Garrett

COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 - Tyler Gregory

COUNCIL DISTRICT 7 - Nathan Little

COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 - David Dickinson

FIRE CHIEF - Vacant

CITY CLERK - Debbie Kirk

POLICE CHIEF - Robert Watts

CODE DIRECTOR - Patrick Kelley

FINANCE DIRECTOR - Beth Thompson

SOLID WASTE DIRECTOR - Danny Smith

CENTRAL SERVICES DIRECTOR - Chris Bailey

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR - Les Russell

ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Chris Bailey

HIGHWAYS & STREETS DIRECTOR - Jeremiah Still

ELECTRIC & TELECOM DIRECTOR - Brian Thompson

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR - Sadie Krawczyk

WATER, SEWER, & GAS DIRECTOR - Rodney Middlebrooks