



Office of the Mayor

News Release

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Mayor honors ACS Relay for Life Coordinator as June Volunteer of Month

MARYSVILLE – Mayor Jon Nehring is proud to announce Monica Olason as the community's Volunteer of the Month for her hardworking coordination of the Marysville-Tulalip American Cancer Society Relay for Life in June that became a life-changing overnight fundraising success.

Monica, or "Mo" as she is otherwise known, served as Chairperson for this year's campaign, requiring months of intensive planning and fundraising that culminated in a spectacular Relay for Life June 11-12 at the Marysville-Pilchuck High School stadium.

By the end of closing ceremonies on June 12, Relay for Life raised \$187,757 in the fight to find a cure for cancer, exceeding the campaign target goal by \$84,000.

"Mo represents the essence of what it means to be a volunteer. Her passion and dedication inspired others in and around the community," said Mayor Jon Nehring said at a recent Council meeting where she was honored. Olason's family, husband, Todd, and children Luke and Mila, also attended and were heralded for their contributions.



"What I say about Mo can easily be said for her family and the many fellow coordinators and volunteers who were part of her planning team," said Nehring, who spoke Relay for Life and walked several laps as the City Team's Co-Captain. "Relay for Life was truly a family and team effort. Each did their part in ways big and small."

With Olason in the lead, 634 individuals and 68 teams gathered at Relay for Life to celebrate cancer survivors and remember those we've lost, while raising awareness and much-needed funds for the fight against cancer. Participants raised money through rummage sales, bake sales, dog walks, car washes, golf tournaments, oyster barbecues, motorcycle rides, and social networking sites.

"While no award can adequately recognize all that Olason, Team Development Chair Jessica Henkel and all of the Relay volunteers achieved in their efforts to eliminate cancer, this at least is a token of our gratitude for the incredible leadership she brought to an event that was at times fun and inspiring, at other times emotional and reflective.

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Olason said at the Council meeting that she was honored by the recognitions. She credited her family and volunteers for their hard work, and urged even greater participation next year.

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CUTLINE: Mayor Jon Nehring presents Monica Olason with her Volunteer of the Month certificate for June at a recent City Council meeting.

Information about the Mayor's community Volunteer of the Month program is available on the City website, in the media, and forms/background are available at City Hall, Marysville Public Library and other locations.

Know someone in the community who deserves to be Volunteer of the Month?

Do you know someone whose service and dedication to the community makes them the perfect candidate for Volunteer of the Month?

The Mayor wants to hear from you.

Download the Volunteer of the Month Application Form from the City of Marysville website at http://marysvillewa.gov/government/volunteer_of_the_month.htm.

The Mayor's Volunteer of the Month Award is a newly-created opportunity to recognize Marysville citizens for their volunteer contributions and commitment to community service. Volunteers from all areas of Marysville are eligible. The voluntary service demonstrated should be unpaid and not an employment responsibility. Volunteer service helps to conserve taxpayer dollars.

Eligible nominees should be committed to making Marysville a better community through voluntary personal service to citizens to meet community needs, whether through direct service, board service, administrative volunteering or a combination. Individuals – or groups – may be nominated by an individual, agency, corporation or organization. Nominees must be residents of Marysville.

Because this award program is ongoing, there is no deadline for submitting nominations.

Send your completed nomination form to Executive Asst. Lynn Schroeder in the Mayor's Office, 1049 State Ave., Marysville, WA 98270 or fax to (360) 651-5033.

Mayor Nehring will honor Volunteer award recipients at regular City Council meetings on either the 2nd or 4th Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1049 State Ave.