

CITY OF ROY

# ROY ROUND-UP

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ROY CITY PARK WALK BRIDGE FEBRUARY 9,1996



"I'm Yvonne Starks and have lived in Roy for 27 years and sat on Roy City Council for 9 years. I have a Bachelor's degree in Business majoring in accounting. I also sit on the Pierce County Advisor council that provides funding through a grant process. We fund the building of food banks, community centers and renovate homes for the disabled, veterans and seniors. We also fund homeless shelters, food banks, senior care centers, after school programs, low -income dental programs.

I have written numerous grants for our city for water, parks, streets and a warming and cooling center that we did not receive. In my spare time I make baby quilts for veterans and the low-income families."

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# HISTORY

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In 1986, BN severed the "Prairie Line" from the main line at Tenino and took the line south of Yelm out of service. Then in April of 2003, BN took the northern most 2.1 miles of the Prairie Line out of service due to the cost involved in constructing a crossing for the Tacoma Sounder light rail. Tacoma trains now travel to Nisqually on the Point Defiance Line and backtrack to reach the still intact segment of the Prairie Line between South Tacoma and Roy. Occasionally BN crews deliver grain cars to the Wilcox Farms at the Roy elevator.

The nominated water tank is a replacement tank, installed c. 1910. Historic images and Sanborn maps show a large water tank approximately in the same location as the existing tank. While dimension are unknown, the first tank appears to have a diameter twice the size of the existing and was resting closer to the ground on shorter piers.

At first, reportedly water was first pumped into the tank from nearby Muck creek. At a date unknown a hand dug well just north of the tank was later used to fill the water tank. The tank was a standardized structure that was most likely order in mass from one of the many tank & silo companies whom operated around the United States.

It most likely continued to be used at least until the mid-1950s when needed for steam trains passing through the community. Nationwide, the phase out of steam trains began in the mid 1940s and was accelerated in the PNW after a train wreck in downtown Renton in 1955. The NP ran their last steamer in 1957.

That same year NP sold the water tank to the town of Roy. The bill of sale to the city shows the community paid \$50.00 for the water tank, pump, pumphouse and well. The total area of property was 3,000 sq ft. The railroad maintained ownership of the land and leased the site to the city for an annual fee of \$10. The city's goal at the time was to utilize the water facility to provide water for Peirce County Fire District #17.

Excerpt from the Washington Heritage Register

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## EVENTS THIS MONTH

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- Council Meeting Monday Feb. 12th 7:00 PM at City Hall ALL are welcome to attend in person or online.
- Planning Commission Meeting Feb. 20th, 6:00 PM at City Hall.
- Nourish Food Bank-Calvary Baptist Church 9010 320th St S. Wednesdays 1-3 pm.
- Roy Lions Club meetings are every 3rd Tuesday 7:00 PM at the Roy Grange.
- If you would like to submit photos, events or suggestions please email royadmin@cityofroywa.us

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## CITY UPDATES

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Please join Mayor Ivy, Chief Antista and Pierce County District 3 representative Amy Cruver at the Roy Pub & Eatery for a meet & greet Feb.21st at 6:00 PM  
Council Position 1 is vacant, applications are available on our website or at City Hall.

Welcome to our new Public Works Assistant  
Ryan Fuller!

City Hall will be CLOSED Monday February 19th in observance of Presidents' Day.

### *Quote of the Month*

*"Keep your face always toward the sunshine and shadows will fall behind you."*

*- Walt Whitman*