



# MONROE THIS WEEK

November 25, 2015



**Mayor**

*Geoffrey Thomas*  
[gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov)

**Councilmembers**

*Kevin Hanford*  
*Patsy Cudaback*  
*Jeff Rasmussen*  
*Jim Kamp*  
*Ed Davis*  
*Jason Gamble*  
*Kurt Goering*  
[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

**City Hall**

806 West Main Street  
Monroe, WA 98272  
Phone: 360.794.7400  
Open 8AM – 5PM, M-F

**Appointment Openings**

*Salary Commission*  
*Library Board*

**Job Openings**

*No openings at this time*

**Events this Week**

- 11/26 *Thanksgiving, Day After - Thanksgiving*
- 11/27 *City Hall Closed*
- 11/26 *Monroe Thanksgiving Dinner, East County Senior Center, 12-2PM*
- 11/27 *Holiday Bazaar, Cascade Community Church 5-8PM*
- 11/28 *Holiday Bazaar, Cascade Community Church, 10AM-4PM*
- 11/28 *Light Up Monroe, Events On Main & Lewis St, Tree Lighting at Traveler's Park, 2PM-8PM*
- 12/01 *City Council Meeting, Council Chambers, City Hall, 7PM*

From the Office of Mayor Thomas

To highlight some of the things going on in our community, I am writing this weekly city update, "Monroe This Week. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding "Monroe This Week" or the stories below, please contact me at [GThomas@MonroeWa.gov](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWa.gov).

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

## Be In The Know!

### Happy Thanksgiving

It's Thanksgiving Week! Please drive extra carefully this week and enjoy celebrating Thanksgiving with friends and family.

### Meeting with Congresswoman DelBene and Washington State Senator Pearson

On November 20, 2015, I met with Congresswoman DelBene and Senator Pearson to discuss opportunities to widen the remaining two-lane sections of SR522 to four lanes. I am encouraged that Congresswoman DelBene and Senator Pearson share the Sky Valley Community's concerns about securing funding for this vital connection. Our City Councilmembers and I will continue to work with our partners up and down the Sky Valley to underscore the importance of funding and finishing SR522. Stay tuned for updates.

### Housing Hope

It was a pleasure participating in a presentation about Housing Hope, and a tour of Monroe Family Village, with Congresswoman DelBene, State Senator Pearson, County Councilmember Ken Klein, and Monroe School Boardmember Truitt-Pierce on November 20, 2015. Housing Hope has done a great deal of work in our community to help people in need of housing and employment. Thank you!

## City of Monroe Year to Date Comparisons

*The following are year to date comparisons*

### Sales Tax Revenues

'14 to 10/31/14: \$2,994,819

'15 to 10/31/15: \$3,359,189

**UP \$364,371 or 12.17%**

### Real Estate Excise Tax

'14 to 10/31/14: \$372,217

'15 to 10/31/15: \$541,149

**UP \$168,932 or 45.39%**

### Lodging Tax Revenues

'14 to 10/31/14: \$53,022

'15 to 10/31/15: \$56,983

**UP \$3,961 or 7.47%**

### Business License Fees

'14 to 10/31/14: \$39,623

'15 to 10/31/15: \$39,523

**DOWN \$99 or -0.25%**

### Building Permit Revenues

'14 to 10/31/14: \$151,913

'15 to 10/31/15: \$256,652

**UP \$104,739 or 68.95%**

### Planning Fee Revenues

'14 to 10/31/14: \$27,580

'15 to 10/31/15: \$59,665

**UP \$32,085 or 116.33%**

### New House Permits

'14 to 10/31/14: 14

'15 to 10/31/15: 51

**UP 37 units or 264%**

### Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'14 to 10/31/14: 44 units

'15 to 10/31/15: 4 units

**DOWN 40 units or -91%**

### Building Division Inspections

'14 to 10/31/14: 1,336

'15 to 10/31/15: 1,461

**UP 125 or 9.4%**

## Thank you Representatives - US2 East of Skykomish

US2 is a critical corridor that connects Puget Sound with Eastern Washington. Residents, businesses, and whole communities absolutely depend upon US2 for their livelihood and public safety. On November 19, 2015, the media reported US2 was closed east of Skykomish and the duration of the closure was indefinite. The City contacted Congresswoman DelBene, Senator Pearson, Representative Kristiansen, and Representative Scott, who in turn worked with WSDOT and other agencies to get US2 East of Skykomish open as soon as possible. As of the writing of this article, US2 is expected to have two lanes open by November 24, 2015. Thank you to everyone who pulled together to get US2 re-opened.

## Thank You to the Downtown Monroe Association (DMA)

Please join me in a BIG THANK YOU SHOUT OUT to the volunteers of the Downtown Monroe Association. On November 21, 2015, volunteers decorated Downtown Monroe with donated lights on trees and lampposts, and with window paintings on some of the downtown buildings, including the Ellis's Doloff-Key Building. Downtown Monroe is looking beautiful. Make certain you spend some time in Downtown Monroe's restaurants and shops this season! And, again, thank you to the Downtown Monroe Association!

## Thanksgiving Meal @ Senior Center

Need somewhere to go for Thanksgiving? The East County Senior Center will be open for a Thanksgiving meal. This event is hosted by Tapestry Church and is free! Thanksgiving will be served 12 to 2pm. Come out for food, door prizes, board games, and entertainment.

## Shop Local

Saturday, November 28, 2015, is "Shop Local" day. I encourage everyone to shop locally-owned stores in Monroe on November 28<sup>th</sup>. And, when you can buy something in Monroe or another area, please choose Monroe for your purchase.

## Light Up Monroe

Saturday, November 28, 2015, is "Light Up Monroe," sponsored by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce. Come on down and join us as we celebrate the season! Thank you to the Chamber for sponsoring this event and to many others who are contributing to this event. *(continued on next page)*

## Light Up Monroe (continued)

Light Up Monroe events schedule for November 28th:

- 1 – 2 pm: Santa traveling by firetruck through the Fryelands, Foothills and Blueberry Lane
- 2 pm: SANTA ARRIVES in Historic Downtown!!!
- 2:30 - FREE Photos by MarTeam Photography with the real Santa and Mrs. Clause, surrounded by decorations and an artisan bazaar brought to you by Columbia Bank
- 6:30 pm: Various music productions will be on stage dazzling you with incredible voice and song: Voices Northwest, Monroe High School Jazz Ensemble, Dakota Nueman, Accapella groups, Square Dancing and MORE
- 2 - 7pm: Food trucks, vendors, critters, SNOW!
- 2 - 7pm: Paint Ball action! FREE
- 2 - 8 pm: Holiday Artisan Bazaar
- 7 pm: The Mayor of Monroe and Santa lead the countdown from Travelers Park, for the 7:15 pm official Tree Lighting of this year's tree

## Stay Safe This Thanksgiving

Monroe Fire District No. 3 reminds you to be safe this Thanksgiving! Kids love to help in the kitchen. Here are some helpful tips to help keep them safe!

The kitchen is the heart of the home, especially at Thanksgiving. Kids love to be involved in holiday preparations. Safety in the kitchen is important especially on Thanksgiving Day when there is a lot of activity and people at home. Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires.

- Stay in the kitchen when you are cooking on the stovetop so you can keep an eye on the food.
- Stay in the home when cooking your turkey and check on it frequently.
- Keep children away from the stove. The stove will be hot and kids should stay three feet away.
- Have activities that keep kids out of the kitchen during this busy time. Games, puzzles or books can keep them busy. Kids can get involved in Thanksgiving preparations with recipes that can be done outside the kitchen.

## 211

Need help finding training, employment, food banks, shelter, and assistance for aging parents, addiction prevention, programs for teens, affordable housing options, or support groups? Call 211 from any telephone.