



# MONROE THIS WEEK

April 29, 2016 Edition 16

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## Mayor

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

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## Councilmembers

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

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## City Hall

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

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## Appointment Openings

No Openings At This Time

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## Job Openings

Senior Engineer – Development Review  
Senior Planner  
Seasonal Parks

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## Events this Week

- 04/30** YMCA "Healthy Kids Day", Monroe Family YMCA, 10AM-1PM  
  
Monroe Boys & Girls Club "Mom & Son Carnival", Monroe Boys & Girls Club, 5-7PM
- 05/03** City Council Finance & Human Resources Committee Meeting, City Hall, Permit Center, 6PM  
  
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!

### 2016 Community Awards

Just about every City talks about being a PLACE where people live, work, shop, and recreate; but it takes more than all that for a PLACE to transform into a COMMUNITY. Don't get me wrong, a community is where people live, work, shop, and recreate, but what truly makes community is having people who genuinely care about one another and who personally cultivate opportunity, hope, love, charity, and faith in one another. That is, a place becomes a community when people GET INVOLVED.

On Thursday, April 27, 2016, our Monroe Chamber of Commerce hosted the 2016 Monroe Community Awards to celebrate and give thanks for the efforts that people and organizations make when they get involved. To every person and every organization that contributes to our community, I thank you for your dedication, your work, your sacrifice, and your passion. Your work transforms the PLACE of Monroe into this COMMUNITY of Monroe! From my heart to yours -- THANK YOU!!!

At the 2016 Community Awards, our Chamber recognized the following individuals:

- 2016 Parade Grand Marshalls  
Chef Adam and Chris Hendrickson
- President's Award  
Chef Adam
- Outstanding Community Advocate Award  
Chris Hendrickson

**City of Monroe  
Year-to-Date Comparisons**

*The following are year-to-date comparisons*

**Sales Tax Revenues**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$973,181

'16 to 3/31/16: \$1,100,427

**UP \$127,246 or 13.08%**

**Real Estate Excise Tax**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$159,109

'16 to 3/31/16: \$205,780

**UP \$46,671 or 29.33%**

**Lodging Tax Revenues**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$10,441

'16 to 3/31/16: \$13,813

**UP \$3,371 or 32.29%**

**Business License Fees**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$13,344

'16 to 3/31/16: \$14,221

**UP \$877 or 6.57%**

**Building Permit Revenues**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$82,947

'16 to 3/31/16: \$85,216

**UP \$2,269 or 2.74%**

**Planning Fee Revenues**

'15 to 3/31/15: \$9,090

'16 to 3/31/16: 7,625

**DOWN \$1,465 or -16.12%**

**New House Permits**

'15 to 3/31/15: 21

'16 to 3/31/16: 19

**DOWN 2 units or 9.5%**

**Multi-Family Permits (# units)**

'15 to 3/31/15: 13

'16 to 3/31/16: 4

**DOWN 9 units or 69.2%**

**Building Division Inspections**

'15 to 3/31/15: 398

'16 to 3/31/16: 420

**UP 22 or 5.5%**

**(Awards Continued)**

- Business Excellence Award  
Coastal Community Bank
- Volunteer of the Year  
Michol Phillips
- Community Caring Award  
Phil Spirito
- Ed Utterback Revitalization Award  
The Downtown Monroe Association
- Outstanding Customer Service Award  
Pharm-A-Save
- Entrepreneurial Spirit Award  
Jim Lee
- Chamber Member of the Year Award  
Lisa Caldwell

I congratulate each of you on being recognized and thank you for your work.

**THANK YOU Monroe School District Board!!**

At the 2016 Community Awards, hosted by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the Monroe School District Board of Directors recognized the City of Monroe for our community's contribution to the new synthetic turf ballfield at Monroe High School. The field improvements were funded by a Monroe School District Bond, Snohomish County Tourism Promotion Area Grant, and the City of Monroe.

The recognition the Board presented to the City is AWESOME! It is a bright yellow softball with "2016 Field of Dreams" and each of the School Board Directors' signatures. I look forward to presenting this to the City Council on Tuesday, May 3, 2016. We will post a picture after the City Council meeting and find a public space to display this recognition. Thank you to our School District staff and School Board!!!

**Downtown Stakeholder Meeting**

On Tuesday, May 3, 2016, a project "kick-off" meeting will be held with the City of Monroe's Consultant, BDS Planning & Urban Design, and will introduce the Downtown Main Street program project. This meeting will evaluate and lay-out the necessary steps to establish a Downtown Main Street program. The meeting will be held at City Hall in the Council Chambers from 3 - 4:30 p.m. A Downtown walking tour will immediately follow.

## **Downtown Art Update**

I am excited to announce that the City of Monroe received four responses to the City's request for proposals for a downtown outdoor sculpture. An artist selection committee of eight people will next review the proposals and rate the quality of the artist's body of work and how it meets the City's Public Art Policy selection criteria. The selection committee will make a recommendation to the Monroe City Council for final selection.

## ***Council Updates!***

### **Monroe Community Coalition**

At the April 26, 2016, City Council meeting, Council discussed and considered recommendations brought forward by the Monroe Community Coalition including:

1. Not allowing alcohol on public property including at events;
2. Making possession of vaping devices unlawful by people who are not old enough to vape;
3. Prohibiting smoking and vaping in city parks; and
4. Adopting a civil penalty that would apply to the renter or owner of property where 10 or more people under the age of 21 are found drinking alcohol.

Council requested City staff bring back more information about item nos. 2, 3, and 4 in that list. Staff will present to Council on these topics at upcoming Council meetings in May and June. For more information, please refer to the Council agendas found at: <http://monroewa.gov/AgendaCenter/City-Council-3>.

### **Police Body Cameras**

The Monroe City Council will be considering a resolution authorizing a pilot program for the deployment of body-worn cameras by the Monroe Police Department, establishing a community involvement process to provide input regarding the development of operational policies governing the use of body-worn cameras, and requesting information regarding appropriate redaction policies and costs, at their regular business meeting of Tuesday, May 10, 2016; 7 p.m. Public comments may be offered during the COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS portion of the following Council Meetings:

- Tuesday, May 3, 2016; 7 p.m., Monroe City Hall, Council Chambers.
- Tuesday, May 10, 2016; 7 p.m., Monroe City Hall, Council Chambers.

Comments will be limited to 5 minutes per person.