



MONROE THIS WEEK

August 12, 2016 Edition No. 32

Mayor

Geoffrey Thomas
gthomas@monroewa.gov

Councilmembers

Patsy Cudaback
Kevin Hanford
Ed Davis
Jason Gamble
Jim Kamp
Jeff Rasmussen
Kirk Scarboro
councilmembers@monroewa.gov

City Hall

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

Appointment Openings

No Vacancies

Job Openings

Senior Engineer – Development Review
Planning Tech Part-Time
www.monroewa.gov/jobs

Events this Week

- 08/12 *Movies Under the Moon, "Pixels"*
Lake Tye Park, 8-10PM
- 08/13 *Monroe Board and Blade Skate Park -- Grand Opening with Ribbon Cutting,*
Lake Tye Park, 10AM
INT League Ski-Wake-Surf-Skate Event,
Lake Tye Park, 8AM-6PM
- 08/16 *City Council P4 Committee Meeting,*
City Hall, Council Chambers, 6PM
City Council Meeting,
City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM
- 08/17 *Farm To Table Farmer's Market, Lake Tye Park,*
3-8PM
- 08/19 *Movies Under the Moon, "Jurassic World"*
Lake Tye Park, 8-10PM

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.

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

Be In The Know!

179th Avenue Sidewalk Project

179th Avenue sidewalk project started this week! The City of Monroe received a Community Development Block Grant from Snohomish County to help construct a sidewalk along the west side of 179th Avenue Southeast from the existing sidewalk near West Main Street to 157th Place Southeast. This project includes curb and gutter, a five foot planter strip, a five foot sidewalk, and stormwater improvements. The estimated completion date should be around October 2016. For more info click [here](#).

Vaux's Swift Resolution

The chimney at Frank Wagner Elementary School is a unique migration point in North America for the Vaux's Swift. In September every year, hundreds of people come to watch these birds as they swirl around the top of the chimney at sunset before funneling into it to spend the night. This occurrence is one of the largest in North America. To commemorate this, at the City Council meeting on August 16, 2016, Council will consider adopting a resolution identifying the Vaux's Swift as the official bird of the City of Monroe.

Coffee with Mayor Thomas

The next "Coffee with the Mayor" session will be held at Paesano's Coffee at 14655 Fryelands Boulevard, Saturday, August 13, 2016, from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Come out with your questions, comments and concerns or just to say "Hi." See you there!

City of Monroe Year-to-Date Comparisons

The following are year-to-date comparisons

Sales Tax Revenues

'15 to 7/31/15: \$2,255,137

'16 to 7/31/16: \$2,502,888

UP \$247,751 or 10.99%

Real Estate Excise Tax

'15 to 7/31/15: \$345,565

'16 to 7/31/16: \$509,334

UP \$163,769 or 47.39%

Lodging Tax Revenues

'15 to 7/31/15: \$29,285

'16 to 7/31/16: \$37,826

UP \$8,541 or 29.17%

Business License Fees

'15 to 7/31/15: \$28,515

'16 to 7/31/16: \$27,330

DOWN \$1,185 or -4.16%

Building Permit Revenues

'15 to 7/31/15: \$205,841

'16 to 7/31/16: \$418,462

UP \$212,621 or 103.29%

Planning Fee Revenues

'15 to 7/31/15: \$80,697

'16 to 7/31/16: \$61,200

DOWN \$19,497 or -24.16%

New House Permits

'15 to 7/31/15: 39

'16 to 7/31/16: 75

UP 36 units or 92.3%

*16 issued in July '16; 2 in July '15

Multi-Family Permits (# units)

'15 to 7/31/15: 13

'16 to 7/31/16: 4

DOWN 9 units or -69.2%

Building Division Inspections

'15 to 7/31/15: 1,044

'16 to 7/31/16: 1,217

UP 173 or 16.6%

Veteran's Memorial Monument Breaks Ground

On Tuesday, August 9, 2016, the American Legion, along with Sam Thomas, began work at site where the Veteran's Memorial Monument will be. Boy Scout Sam Thomas is helping with this endeavor to achieve Eagle Scout honors. The memorial is scheduled to be completed by Veteran's Day 2016. Stay tuned for updates!

Grand Opening at Monroe Board and Blade Skate Park

The Monroe Board and Blade Skate Park at Lake Tye Park will have its **Grand Opening TOMORROW, Saturday, August 13, 2016, at 10 a.m.** and the community is invited to attend! The grand opening will be held in conjunction with INT League's "Skate the Lake" competition, which will feature water-skiers, wakeboarders, surfers, wake skaters, and knee boarders. It will also feature a skateboard competition on the new surfaces of the skate park which riders can sign-up on the day of the event. The event is free for spectators. I am really excited to have this new facility opening up in our community.

Movies Under the Moon

Mark your calendars for the 2016 line-up of Movies Under The Moon! **Premiering TONIGHT, Friday, August 12, 2016, at Lake Tye Park, will be *Pixels*.** Come early for activities for the whole family. The movie is set to begin at dusk. Thank you to our sponsors for the great line-up:

- Monroe Parks and Recreation
- Monroe Arts Council
- Monroe Concert Band
- Monroe Boys & Girls Club
- Monroe YMCA
- Republic Services

Skykomish-Snohomish River Recreation Planning & Management Open House

City staff, Board/Commission members, and citizens attended the Skykomish-Snohomish River Recreation Planning & Management Open House, offered on two different dates and locations earlier this week, hosted by Forterra. The open house participants learned about water trails and the opportunity for the Skykomish and Snohomish Rivers to be designated as "The Sky To Sound Water Trail." A group mapping activity occurred that brought forth discussions on needs, challenges, and opportunities for fishers, boaters, and other waterway users. They identified infrastructure needs and opportunities that will help the Sky To Sound Water Trail Coalition shape the development of the water trail concept and management plan. More information about the water trail can be found [here](#).

Downtown Public Art Sculpture

The Monroe City Council authorized the Mayor to sign a Sculpture Services Agreement with Artist Kevin Pettelle, to create a sculpture to be placed in the newly-renovated downtown titled – “Wagner Swifts.” The art will be a metal sculpture representing Vaux’s Swifts and the Frank Wagner Elementary School’s chimney, which will garner both community and visitor interest in this unique feature of Monroe. The artist has created a scaled-down maquette (*shown in picture below*) of the piece, to be used in the fabrication of the full size artwork. The scheduled timeline for installation of the artwork is by the end of November of 2016.



Recent Car Prowls

The Monroe Police Department has seen a recent spike in vehicle prowls especially in the Fryelands and downtown residential areas. Most of the vehicles were left unlocked which facilitates easy access. Residents are encouraged to keep doors locked and valuables out of sight. Call 911 to report any suspicious activity.