



# MONROE THIS WEEK

March 9, 2018 806 W. Main Street, Monroe WA, 98272 Vol 4/Edition 10  
Phone - 360-794-7400



## GREETINGS FROM MAYOR THOMAS

*Hello! Thank you for reading my weekly newsletter. I am grateful to serve the Monroe community and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any suggestions, questions, or comments for "Monroe This Week" or the articles included, please do not hesitate to contact me.*

*I can be reached at [gthomas@monroewa.gov](mailto:gthomas@monroewa.gov).*

*Thank you!*

*Yours in Service,*

*Mayor Geoffrey Thomas*



## MAYOR HAPPENINGS

### Police Chief Tim Quenzer Retiring

Congratulations to Monroe's Police Chief, Tim Quenzer, who announced his retirement effective May 1, 2018. Chief Quenzer has led the Monroe Police Department for 16 years. He has provided effective leadership and vision for the department and has served Monroe well. I have valued his insight and leadership over the years. Thank you Chief Quenzer for your contributions to the Monroe community. Our community is safer because of you and the department that you led. Best wishes in your retirement. You will be missed.



### Mayor

*Geoffrey Thomas*

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

### Councilmembers

*Jason Gamble, Mayor Pro Tem*

*Patsy Cudaback*

*Kevin Hanford*

*Ed Davis*

*Jim Kamp*

*Jeff Rasmussen*

*Kirk Scarboro*

[councilmembers@monroewa.gov](mailto:councilmembers@monroewa.gov)

### Police Department Awards

Congratulations to the 2017 Police Department Award recipients; Chaplains Heather Fox, Michael Hanford, and Brad Moore received a certificate and a Chief's coin for their support this past year; Sergeant Ryan Irving received the Chief's Award for his work in the start and success of the Community Outreach Team; and Officer of the Year recipient Trevor Larson for his dedication, work ethic, and proactive work intervening in criminal activity. I appreciate the great work they do in our community!



### Monroe Boys & Girls Club Tour

On Thursday, March 8, 2018, City Administrator Deborah Knight and I toured the Monroe Boys & Girls Club. I enjoyed meeting with Unit Director Jeff Rasmussen, Area Director Marci Volmer, and Executive Director Bill Tsoukalas. The Monroe Boys & Girls Club helps the community by supporting healthy lifestyles, kids in the community and their parents. I appreciated hearing from the young adults that work there and the values they have with the club. I truly value the partnership with the Boys & Girls Club. Thank you for all you do!

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

Sales Tax Revenues  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$869,788  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$891,661  
**UP \$21,873 or 2.51%**

Real Estate Excise Tax  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$150,585  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$348,141  
**UP \$197,556 or 131.19%**

Lodging Tax Revenues  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$8,592  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$9,553  
**Up \$960 or 11.17%**

Business License Fees  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$8,150  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$8,575  
**UP \$425 or 5.21%**

Building Permit Revenues  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$80,735  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$89,060  
**UP \$8,325 or 10.31%**

Planning Fee Revenues  
 '17 to 02/28/17: \$2325  
 '18 to 02/28/18: \$1750  
**DOWN \$575 or -24.73%**

**Community Transit Board**

On Tuesday, March 6, 2018, I attended the New Boardmember Orientation for Community Transit. I met with representatives from Community Transit and learned more about their organization. I am grateful to be able to be a part of this Board and look forward to working with them to enhance the partnership between the City and Community Transit.

**Troop 148/Webelos Pack 148**

Thank you to Troop 148 for coming out to the March 6, 2018, City Council Meeting! The Troop came out to the City Council meeting for the Merit Badge requirement. Patrol Leader Eli Bowen and the Troop 148 led the Pledge of Allegiance.



On Wednesday, March 7, 2018, the Webelos Pack 148 came to meet with me and ask questions about our City and the position of Mayor. Pack members were working on their Building a Better World pin. At the end of our conversation they received a tour City Hall. Thank you Webelos Pack 148 for your time in coming out and chatting together!

If you have a Girl Scout/Boy Scout troop needing to speak with an elected official, please contact Pam Baker, Executive Assistant, at [pamb@monroewa.gov](mailto:pamb@monroewa.gov).

**COUNCIL HAPPENINGS**

The Tuesday, March 13, 2018, Monroe City Council Study Session Meeting agenda item includes Discussion: WATVs. The Finance and Human Resources Committee will be discussing Updated Procurement Policies, Twice a Month Payroll, and Adoption of a Debt Policy. For more information about the City Council agenda and additional items, visit [www.monroewa.gov](http://www.monroewa.gov).

**CITY HAPPENINGS**

**Sky River Park Playground Replacement Project Update**

The Monroe City Council authorized 2018 Parks Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding for replacement of the 25-year old playground at Skykomish River Park, which is a listed project in the 6-year CIP of the Park Plan. The playground has outlived its service life, replacement parts were becoming non-existent, and features were dated and lacking the inclusive, challenge and motion elements that the playground industry of today offers.

EVENT HAPPENINGS	
03/10	2018 Dodgeball Tournament, Monroe Boys & Girls Club, 10AM  Split Second Live, Wagner Performing Arts Center, 639 W. Main St, 7PM
03/13	City Council Finance & HR Committee, City Hall, Council Chambers, 5:30PM  City Council Study Session Meeting, City Hall, Council Chambers, 7PM



The Monroe Park Board reviewed the existing playground equipment and recommended that the project include new active play features and improved ADA accessibility. A public open house was held in January. Participants viewed options and concepts, voted on their

**Appointment Openings**  
 LTAC Member (Hotelier)  
 Ethics Boardmember (3)  
 Salary Commissioner  
[www.monroewa.gov/vacancies](http://www.monroewa.gov/vacancies)

**Job Openings**  
 Lateral Police Officer  
[www.monroewa.gov/jobs](http://www.monroewa.gov/jobs)

*(Project update continued)* preferences and voiced comments and suggestions. The ideas and conversations from the open house have added detail and nuance to the final play equipment design.

Design criteria established for the new playground include features that encourage multi-generational play, ADA inclusive play spaces that intentionally break down physical and social barriers to play, playful public art that enhances the visual appeal of the park, and advanced climbing challenges and motion activities that appeal to older children who seek a more adventurous play experience. Surfacing improvements such as the use of rubberized surfacing is also part of the playground design.

This exciting new project is anticipated to be completed this summer!

### **Daylight Saving Time!**

Daylight savings starts this weekend on Sunday, March 11th. When changing your clock an hour forward remember to check the batteries on your smoke alarms. Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or the alarms are not working. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly when there is a fire. Change your clock, change your smoke alarm batteries! Residents are also encouraged to check the expiration date on their smoke alarms. If they are more than 10 years old, they need to be replaced!

For more information visit [www.Snofire7.org](http://www.Snofire7.org) or contact Heather Chadwick at [hchadwick@snofire7.org](mailto:hchadwick@snofire7.org) or (360) 282-3962.