



MONROE THIS WEEK

October 30, 2020 • Vol 6/Edition 42

Remember to VOTE

Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition provides details on Election Day 2020, tomorrow's deadline for the 2020 Monroe Business Survey, two public hearings scheduled for November 10, the publication of the Fall/Winter edition of Choose Monroe magazine, the Monroe Salary Commission's decision on 2021 elected official salaries, tomorrow's Downtown Trick-or-Treat event, and the Monroe School District's Housing Questionnaire & Assistance Inquiry.



Please contact me with any and all feedback regarding the articles below. I can be reached at GThomas@MonroeWA.gov.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Thomas".

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

DON'T FORGET TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT! ELECTION DAY THIS TUESDAY

This Tuesday, November 3, is election day in our country. While the presidential election has garnered a significant amount of the coverage, there are several

important campaigns and issues on this year's ballot. Our state's governorship and executive branch leadership, federal and state House of Representatives seats, state Senate seats, state and local judgeships, and multiple



referendums are all before us as voters. The decisions made in this year's election will impact all of us, and as Mayor, I encourage all residents of Monroe to thoughtfully consider the offices and issues, and to let their voice be heard. Ballots can be submitted up to election day, but must be postmarked by November 3. At this point, the best option to ensure your ballot is received and counted is to utilize one of the many [ballot drop boxes](#) throughout Snohomish County, which will be open until 8:00 p.m. on election day. Monroe's ballot drop box is located on Village Way, near the library. As I shared in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), voters can also [track their ballot](#), to ensure it has been received, and if it has been accepted or has an identified issue.

2020 MONROE BUSINESS SURVEY CLOSSES TOMORROW

As I mentioned in last week's edition of [Monroe This Week](#), the deadline for the 2020 Monroe Business Survey is tomorrow, October 31. If you are a local business owner or manager, please [take the survey!](#)



Monroe business owners and managers are encouraged to participate in the 2020 Survey; this year, participation is more important than ever. Businesses and residents are facing unprecedented challenges brought on by COVID-19, such as shut downs, drop in consumer demand, travel restrictions, and more; the survey helps zero in on the impacts of these issues. Survey results will assist the City Council and myself to craft policies and programs aimed at relief and support. The survey will take approximately 25 to 30 minutes to complete. Results will be published on the [City's website](#) following completion of the survey. No personal or contact information will be included in the published results. For questions about the survey, please contact James Palmer, Economic Development Specialist, at JPalmer@MonroeWA.gov.

TWO PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED ON NOVEMBER 10

The City of Monroe has scheduled two public hearings for the evening of Tuesday, November 10, during the City Council's Regular Business Meeting.



The City has issued [notice](#) that a public hearing will take place to accept testimony on an interim temporary homeless encampments ordinance. The purpose of the interim ordinance is to give City staff time to amend [Chapter 22.90](#) of the Monroe Municipal Code, and to incorporate recent changes in State law.

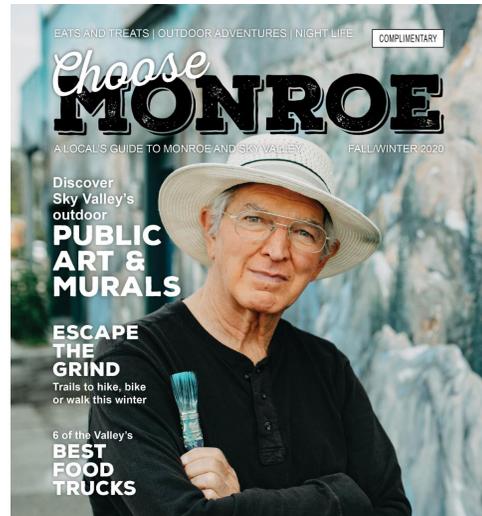
The City has also issued [notice](#) that a public hearing will take place to consider the Monroe School District's 2018 – 2019 Comprehensive Plan Amendment Docket proposal for a comprehensive plan amendment and concurrent rezone (CPA2018-01) for the 12.4 acre Memorial Stadium and Marshall Field site.



A public comment period will be available during both public hearings, and anyone may provide public testimony during that period in the appropriate hearing. Written comments can also be submitted by emailing Becky Hasart, Finance Director/City Clerk, at BHasart@MonroeWA.gov, and must be received prior to the public hearing. For additional information, please contact the Community

FALL/WINTER CHOOSE MONROE MAGAZINE PUBLISHES

The Fall/Winter Choose Monroe publication will arrive in resident's mailboxes today. Read about some great, safe activities to do with your family. This edition includes a spotlight on local artist David Hose and the many murals he has painted throughout the Sky Valley. Additional features include self-guided walking/driving tours of murals, public art, historical trees, and town histories; food trucks in the Sky Valley; outdoor recreation; and more. Want a copy? Stop by the Monroe Visitor Center, or one of Monroe's many local businesses, to get your own. You can also read it [online](#).



SALARY COMMISSION VOTES TO MAINTAIN STATUS QUO

The [Monroe Salary Commission](#) met on Monday, October 26 to discuss the 2021 salaries of myself as Mayor and our City Councilmembers. As allowed by [Chapter 35.21.015](#) of the Revised Code of Washington (RCW), and established by Chapters [2.24.050](#) and [4.70.010](#) of the Monroe Municipal Code, the Salary Commission reviews and establishes the salaries of Monroe elected officials. After careful consideration and comparison with the salaries of elected officials in nearby cities of similar size, the Salary Commission voted to maintain the salary of myself as Mayor at \$3,600 per month, and the salaries of our dedicated City Councilmembers at \$800 per month. As required by the RCW, the Commission's decision will now be filed with the City Clerk and incorporated into the 2021 City Budget with no further action needed by myself or the City Council. I extend my sincere thanks, as well as that of the City Council, to the members of the Salary Commission for their dedicated service.



DOWNTOWN TRICK-OR-TREAT EVENT TOMORROW

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce is hosting its annual downtown Trick-or-Treat tomorrow, Halloween Day. Scheduled for 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., this annual event provides an opportunity for our little ones to safely and responsibly trick-or-treat. Masks are required and social distancing guidelines must be followed. Free masks will be available at the Visitor Center, handwashing stations will be available onsite, and complimentary hand sanitizer will be offered by participating businesses.

There will be a mask and costume contest, with first place earning a \$50 gift card from our local businesses. Voting will take place on the Chamber's [Facebook page](#), so be sure to check there throughout the day!

DOWNTOWN TRICK OR TREAT MAP



An event map is above, at right. Participants may start at either the west or east end of Main Street, on either side of the street. Handwashing stations will be available at each crosswalk.

SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFERING SUPPORT TO FAMILIES EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC HARDSHIP

The [Monroe School District](#) is seeking to aid students, and their families, who are facing economic hardship. Families with students enrolled in the District who are experiencing homelessness, or are living doubled-up due to loss of housing, may qualify for support services under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. The District has launched an online [Housing Questionnaire & Assistance Inquiry](#), available in both English and Spanish. Responses are considered confidential, and are only shared with District staff directly involved in support efforts. More information can be found in this [online video](#).



MONROE
SCHOOL DISTRICT

UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

In recognition of Election Day, the November 3, 2020 City Council Study Session Meeting has been CANCELLED. The City Council will meet in a Regular Business Meeting on Tuesday, November 10, 2020. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform and participation information will be posted with the November 10 agenda.

[Council Agendas/Minutes](#)

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS



Councilmember
Patsy Cudaback



Councilmember
Kevin Hanford



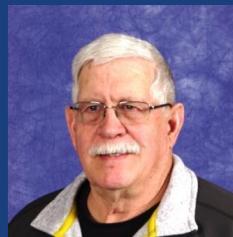
Councilmember
Ed Davis



Councilmember
Jason Gamble



Councilmember
Jeff Rasmussen



Councilmember
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember
Heather Rousey

Have a question for your Councilmembers?
Contact them at councilmembers@monroewa.gov

