



MONROE THIS WEEK

October 1, 2021 • Volume 7/Edition 39



Thank you for reading Monroe This Week.

This week's edition includes details on a Joint Statement issued by myself and the Monroe City Council, a Community Forum scheduled for Thursday evening, a notice of the City's sign collection, the City's participation in a regional emergency exercise, the appointment of our new City Clerk, the Pickin' at the Barn market this weekend, the VFW youth scholarship opportunity, and our local recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Cyber Security Awareness Month.



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

Yours in Service,

Mayor Geoffrey Thomas

CITY ISSUES JOINT STATEMENT ADDRESSING RECENT LAW ENFORCEMENT REFORM

In the 2021 legislative session, the Washington State Legislature passed numerous law enforcement reform bills. Several of these bills contain ambiguities in how various new standards and requirements are to be interpreted and implemented by local law enforcement.

Joint Statement of Mayor Geoffrey Thomas and the Monroe City Council

This week, myself and the City Council issued a joint statement requesting the Governor, Washington State Legislature, and State Attorney General to assist in giving clarification of new law enforcement standards and requirements, and for a formal opinion to provide guidance as expeditiously as possible. I invite you to read the full text of the joint statement [here](#).

COMMUNITY FORUM SCHEDULED TO PRESENT FINDINGS OF COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A community forum will be held next Thursday, October 7, at 6:00 p.m. to present and receive community feedback on the results of our recent Community Human Needs Assessment Survey.

Earlier this year, the City solicited proposals for a consultant to conduct a community needs assessment, gap analysis and facilitated program development for the City of Monroe and the Sky Valley, including the cities of Snohomish, Sultan, Gold Bar, and unincorporated Snohomish County. The assessment will now be used to inform myself, the Monroe City Council, and community stakeholders of the human service needs in the Sky Valley area, and how we can best complete this step toward the implementation of the Homelessness Policy Advisory Committee recommendations. If you are interested in participating in the virtual forum, you can do so by clicking [here](#).



NOTICE OF SIGN COLLECTION

City staff is collecting signs within the city, in an effort to clean up sign clutter along roadways. Temporary commercial and non-commercial signage displayed without a permitted sticker will be removed. Permits for your signage can be easily obtained on the City's [permitting page](#).

If your sign was removed as part of the collection effort of unpermitted signs, you are able to recover your sign within 10 days of removal. However a fee will be required as part of recovering your unpermitted sign. Fraudulently creating your own permit sticker will result in your sign being removed.



CITY PARTAKES IN REGIONAL EMERGENCY EXERCISE

On Tuesday, September 28, a large, regional emergency exercise took place at the Greater Tacoma Convention Center. [Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue](#), the [Monroe Police Department](#) and City of Monroe staff participated in the exercise, both in Tacoma and on-site at our municipal campus. The exercise was an opportunity for multiple disciplines to work together while managing various emergencies scenarios occurring simultaneously, within jurisdictions across the greater Puget Sound area. Funding for the training exercise was provided from a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant awarded to the [King County Office of Emergency Management](#) and distributed locally to cities like ours.



NEW CLERK TO JOIN CITY STAFF

We are excited to welcome Jodi Wycoff to the City of Monroe team as our new City Clerk. Jodi has served as the City Clerk of the City of Duvall for over 20 years. Ms. Wycoff has extensive experience in a variety of executive, legislative, and administrative duties, including: Council meeting preparation and management, post-meeting follow-up, public records management, contract administration, cash receipting, web updates, and event planning. The City Council confirmed Ms. Wycoff's appointment at its September 28, 2021 Regular Business Meeting; her term of employment and appointment will begin on Monday, October 16, 2021. Please join me in welcoming Ms. Wycoff to the City of Monroe staff.



PICKIN' AT THE BARN THIS WEEKEND

Although this week concluded the [Chamber of Commerce](#)'s spectacular farmers market series, there's no need to fret! Both Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., the [Pickin' at the Barn](#) event promises all your fall market needs. Benefitting the [Sky Valley Food Bank](#), there will be macrame and painting classes, antiques, live music, pumpkins, great food and much more! They've got wheelbarrows to load all your fresh picks out, and if you don't have tickets you can purchase them at the door. Located at 21708 132nd St SE, Monroe, WA 98272, you won't want to miss this local favorite.



PICKIN'
@ THE
BARN

VFW YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Established in 1947, Ward Roney Jr. VFW Post 7511's Voice of Democracy audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 64,500 9 - 12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of more than \$2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program.

The national first-place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college, or vocational/technical school. Additional awardees will receive scholarships ranging from \$1,000 - \$16,000, and the first-place winner from each VFW Department (state) wins a minimum scholarship of \$1,000. Want to apply? The rules, eligibility requirements, and entry form can be found on the Post's [Facebook page](#) and are due by midnight on October 31.



CITY RECOGNIZES BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is an annual international health campaign organized by major breast cancer charities to increase awareness of the disease and to raise funds for research into its cause, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure.

According to the [American Cancer Society](#), breast cancer is the most common cancer in American women, except for skin cancers. The average risk of a woman in the United States developing breast cancer sometime in her life is about 13%, and although significantly less common, men are also susceptible to developing breast cancer. Thanks to treatment advances, this number has gradually decreased over the past few years, however, is important to note that we still have a lot of ground to cover in fighting this disease.



On Tuesday, September 28, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I encourage all residents to read the full text of the Proclamation, to learn more about breast cancer and how we can celebrate and support those battling the disease, their loved ones, and our medical professionals.

CITY RECOGNIZES CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

On September 28, I issued a [Proclamation](#) recognizing the month of October as Cyber Security Awareness Month in the City of Monroe. As a City, we recognize the vital role that technology plays in our daily lives and in our future. More and more, critical infrastructure sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems and technology to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems. National Cyber Security Awareness Month is a national effort to raise awareness about cyber security. I encourage all residents to read the full text of the Proclamation, to learn about cyber security, and to put that knowledge into practice in our homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses



UPCOMING CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The City Council will meet in a Regular Study Session Meeting on Tuesday, October 5, 2021. The meeting will be held via the Zoom remote meeting platform. Participation information will be posted with the October 5 agenda, which can be accessed by clicking the button below.

[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 Fulcher

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



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