



# Monroe BUSINESS NEWSLETTER

City of Monroe, Washington

## December 2024

### Verizon Small Business Digital Ready

Grow your small business with valuable resources like free online courses, tools, coaching, peer networking and grants.



### Verizon Announces New Round of Grant Funding for Small Businesses

Verizon announces \$10,000 grant funding opportunities for small businesses via the **Verizon Small Business Digital Ready** platform. Registered small business owners can receive free, personalized access to over 50 online courses in English and Spanish, mentorship opportunities with industry experts, 1:1 and group expert coaching, virtual and in-person community events, plus the opportunity to apply for **grant funding**.

Until **December 13, 2024** at 11:59pm PT, small businesses can unlock the application for this round of grant funding by first registering on the **Verizon Small Business Digital Ready portal** and completing at least two courses, coaching or community events, in any combination, between July 1, 2024 and December 13, 2024 at 11:59pm PT. Small businesses that complete the application will be eligible for consideration to receive a \$10,000 grant.



## APEX & SBDC First Friday Follow-Up

Are you looking for a dedicated lunch hour to learn what it takes to grow your business?

First Friday Follow-up is an open forum, round table for businesses to get answers from your local APEX and SBDC Advisors.

Bring your questions regarding **government contracting** and how to grow your business.

Learn more about these two resources and how to incorporate new strategies and tactics.

[RSVP Here for Dec. 6](#)

[RSVP Here for Jan 3](#)



**WASHINGTON**

Secretary of State

**Beneficial Ownership Information Report (BOIR)**

**Effective January 1, 2024**, most **business entities registered with the Secretary of State** are required to submit a Beneficial Ownership Information Report “**BOIR**” to the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network “**FinCEN**”.

- Business entities formed prior to Jan 1, 2024 must file by Jan. 1, 2025.
- New business entities formed in 2024 must file within 90 days of formation.
- New business entities formed after Jan. 1, 2025 must file within 30 days of formation.
- Is your business exempt from reporting? Review the [\*\*FAQs from FinCEN\*\*](#).

### **Watch out for Misleading Notices!**

The Secretary's office has been made aware of individuals and business entities receiving misleading notifications to send in a BOIR paper form with payment or being provided with a link to file the BOIR and submit payment.

#### **BOIR Facts:**

1. There is **NO FEE** to file the BOIR.
2. The BOIR **must be filed online** with the U.S. Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network at [\*\*FinCEN.gov\*\*](#).
3. **Stay informed! Learn about misleading notices and attempts to solicit information from those subject to reporting requirements under the CTA. Review alerts at [FinCEN.gov](#).**

The Office of the Secretary of State **does not file the BOIR**; however, [\*\*visit their website\*\*](#) (under the Business Entities tab) for helpful information about the reporting requirements.

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# **Greater Seattle Export Accelerator**

**Go global. Increase profits and diversify risks.**

The Greater Seattle Export Accelerator (GSEA) provides advanced **export training and access to international markets**. Designed for businesses with a developed export strategy, GSEA supports

companies across King, Pierce, and Snohomish County. By equipping small businesses with the tools to expand their exports, we help boost profits, diversify risks, and create new jobs. The application to participate is open until January 31, 2025 and can be found [here](#). More information about GSEA can be found [here](#).

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## 10 New 2025 Grants for Minority Women Business Owners!

Grants for minority women business owners help drive innovation, diversity, and economic growth within our communities. Businesses owned by women and minorities enrich our economy and provide unique perspectives and solutions that reflect the diversity within our society.

**GrantWatch** offers a list of grants for minority women business owners. These financial resources and opportunities empower these trailblazers, helping them turn their visions into thriving enterprises that benefit us all. Information [here](#).

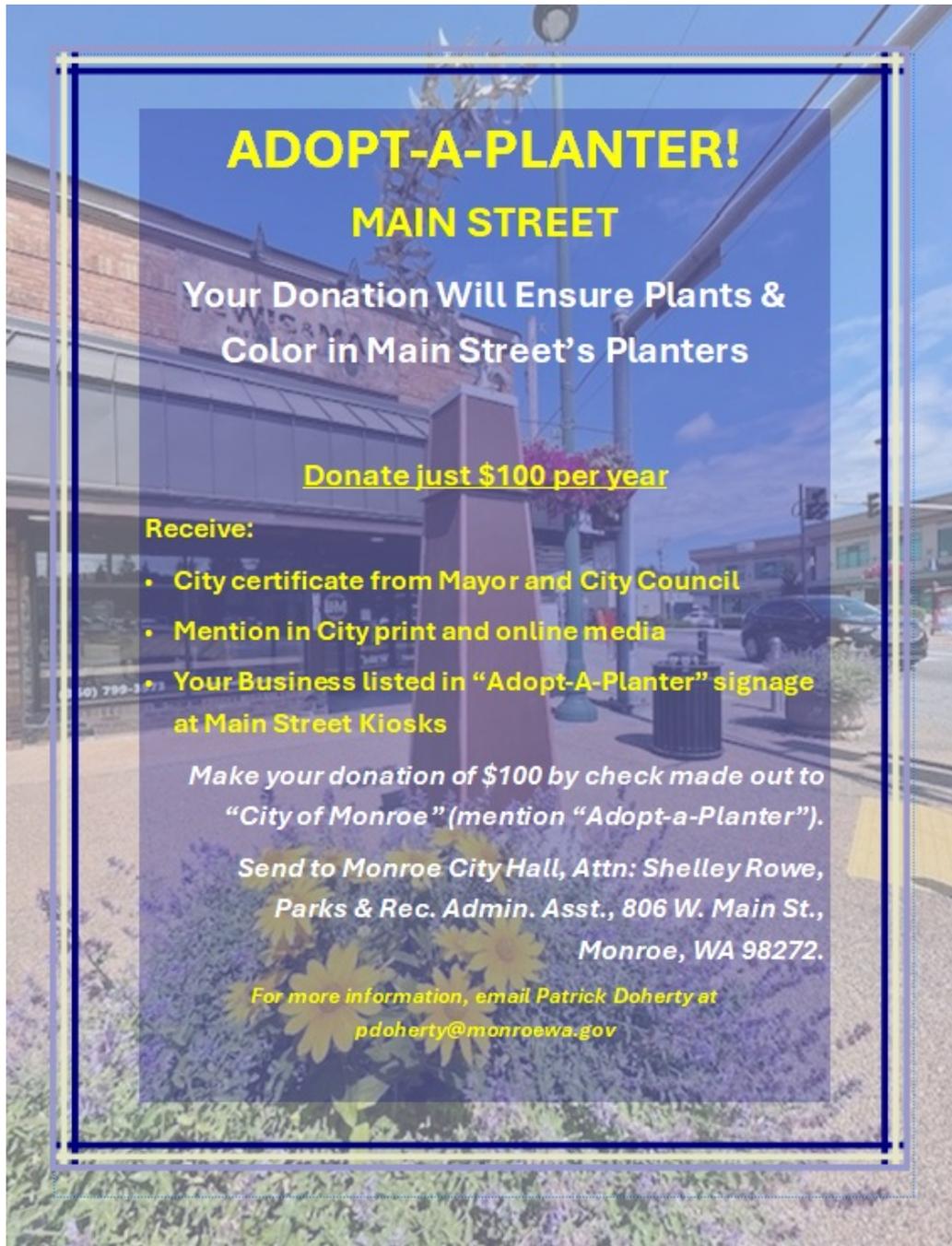
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## Evergreen BizLink Resource Navigator

The Evergreen BizLink Resource Navigator will connect you and your business with nonprofit resources in your area to help you **grow and thrive**. Use the search tool on their website to search for customized resources by location, area of assistance, business stage, business type, industry, demographics, and key words. For more information or to get started, check out: [EvergreenBizLink.com](http://EvergreenBizLink.com)

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**ADOPT-A-PLANTER!**

**MAIN STREET**

Your Donation Will Ensure Plants & Color in Main Street's Planters

**Donate just \$100 per year**

**Receive:**

- **City certificate from Mayor and City Council**
- **Mention in City print and online media**
- **Your Business listed in "Adopt-A-Planter" signage at Main Street Kiosks**

*Make your donation of \$100 by check made out to "City of Monroe" (mention "Adopt-a-Planter").*

*Send to Monroe City Hall, Attn: Shelley Rowe, Parks & Rec. Admin. Asst., 806 W. Main St., Monroe, WA 98272.*

*For more information, email Patrick Doherty at [pdoherty@monroewa.gov](mailto:pdoherty@monroewa.gov)*

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## **Useful Guide for Dealing with Retail Crime and Safety**

Association has compiled a useful *Guide to Navigating Public Safety & Retail Crime*.



**[Peruse the Guide!](#)**

**Guide to  
Navigating  
Public Safety  
& Retail Crime**

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## **Main Street America Offers Series of Insightful Podcasts for Small Businesses**



Latest in the series:

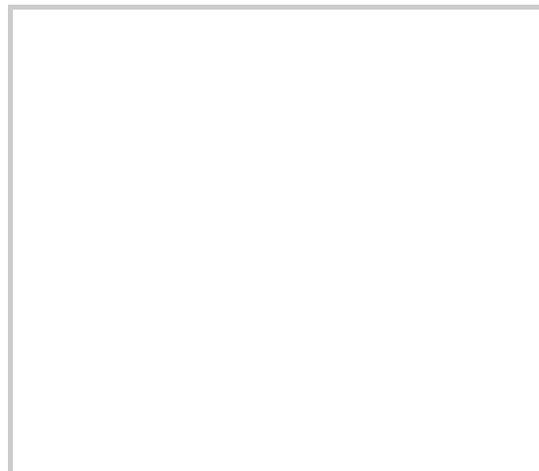
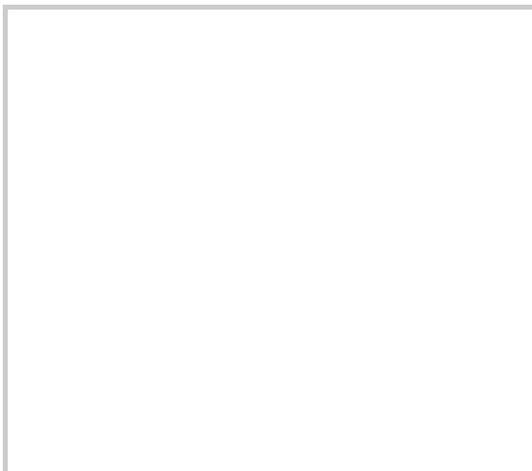
### ***Building Brand and Community***

Join host Matt Wagner for his conversation with Mallory Dabney, owner of Heyday, a home goods store in Bozeman, Montana. In this episode, Mallory shares her journey from moving to Bozeman from California, learning how to work in retail, and eventually becoming the owner of one of her favorite downtown shops.

**[Listen in and follow the series.](#)**

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## **Monthly Business Profiles - Fryelands Business District -**





## Burger Madness

With Jennifer and Kyle Raymond at the helm, Burger Madness, located at 14655 Fryelands Blvd SE, has been serving up over 22 different kinds of burgers, along with fries, sides and shakes, for five years as of this month.

Catering to a growing take-out crowd as well, this cozy burger joint has a wide following, not to mention the summertime crowd across the street at Lake Tye Park.

Stop in Mondays through Saturdays for your favorite burger, fries or – new on the menu – soup!



## Paesano's Coffee and Café

Also at 14655 Fryelands Blvd SE. Stop by and say hey to the friendly staff at Paesano's Coffee and Café as you order up the tastiest in coffee drinks – warm or cold – to fuel your day!

Locally owned by the Tarleton family for over eight years, Paesano's is a fixture in the Fryelands district, facing beautiful Lake Tye Park. Paesano's caters not only to loyal regulars but also to a steady stream of visitors and passers-by. With sunny outdoor seating facing the lake, what better place is there in Monroe to grab and enjoy your favorite coffee drink?

And Paesano's has got you covered if you need catering for your meetings, corporate events or gatherings.



No matter what phase your business is in -- from starting up or growing, to down-sizing -- the **Small Business Guide**, created by the State Commerce Department, is an invaluable resource for your business.

The **Guide** covers:

- Planning -- Start-Up
- Payroll -- Opening
- Management -- Growth
- Closure -- Loan Programs
- And more

The State also offers an array of knowledgeable **Small Business Liaisons** who can help you with specialized resources and information.

Plus, **FREE workshops** are available, providing essential information and resources to help start and grow your business. **Next workshop: May 7, 9am-10am.**

**SCORE**

FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS

**Greater  
Seattle**

Owning a business is both exciting and intimidating.

If you're looking for local resources, free business templates, e-guides, check-lists, and other helpful resources for starting or growing your enterprise, SCORE Greater Seattle is your destination. SCORE's mentors can assist in putting your ideas into action.

Tools and resources to help your small business grow - SCORE

Choose  
**MONROE**

**Upcoming Events**

Pickin' at the Barn Holiday Vintage Market, Dec 6 - Dec 7

Holiday Spark, Dec 5 - Dec 8

Artisans Holiday Fair - Continuing thru Dec 15

*Take Seventeen* Big Band Christmas Concert, Dec 20, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

And More...

[More information here](#)

## Monroe Listens Report Your Issue!



The City offers a direct and easy way to send your questions, concerns, requests, and compliments directly to the City staff person who can help you. Potholes, graffiti, fallen tree limbs, drainage problems, etc. Please let us know at [Monroe Listens](#).

## MAYOR



Geoffrey Thomas

Have a question or comment for Mayor Thomas?  
Contact him at [GThomas@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:GThomas@MonroeWA.gov)



Councilmember  
Kevin Hanford



Councilmember  
Jacob Walker



Councilmember  
Jason Gamble



Councilmember  
Kirk Scarboro



Councilmember  
Heather Fulcher



Councilmember  
Tami Beaumont



Councilmember  
Kyle Fisher

Have a question or comment for your Councilmembers?  
Contact them at [Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov](mailto:Councilmembers@MonroeWA.gov)

**Council  
Agendas/Minutes**



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