

# Grandview

## Our Town

- History
- Government
- Community
- Education

A Special Supplement to The Grandview Herald  
October 18, 2017

Grandview started as a mid-point between Yakima and the Tri-Cities for the Northern Pacific Railroad. Dubbed a “Grand View” by two inspectors in 1905. This comment was remembered when the time came to name the city. The name of Grandview was christened.

What once was a lone Post Office/Boarding House and a single General Store has developed into a small town, an American dream in the heart of Washington’s agricultural community. Within these pages, we invite you to get to know

# Grandview - Our Town



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Always Growing

# We're Coming Out and Moving Forward to Our Future



*The former home of The Grandview Herald, located at 107 Division Street. On the Washington State Historic Registry, the paper resided in this building from the time it was built in 1922 until its relocation earlier this year.*



*The new home of The Grandview Herald, located at 308 Division Street. We are excited to be in this location, closer to other downtown businesses and in the heart of Grandview.*

The Grandview Herald has been publishing since 1909 and is the paper of record for the community. In January 2017, after spending several years at 107 Division St. in Grandview, the Herald moved to the new location, 308 Division in Grandview.

After the move the Herald has continued weekly publications covering news that is local and surrounding areas. The Herald comes out on Wednesday of each week and is open from 9-5 daily offering retail sales, advertising, faxing, copying and your printing needs (done in Prosser). Suzie Zuniga is the office manager who can help you with all your needs.

The Herald is a quality publication and takes pride in being part of the Grandview community for many years and will continue to do so in the future.



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# A Brief History of Early Grandview



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection

**A view of down town Grandview, April 1911.** Shown is the Grandview State Bank, next to the Valley Clothing Company Store

Even before the city was officially incorporated in 1909, Grandview had a history. In November of 1895 President Grover Cleveland officially granted the area of what is now Northern Grandview to the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. (now Union Pacific). Through a series of land deals and establishments, a man by the name of F. L. Pitman helped shape the Grandview area into a townsite. Working with W. H. Dunbar, who laid out Pitman's design of the town, Grandview slowly started to take shape. It was during this time (now 1905) the name Grandview also came to be, as two observers noticed "the grand view" of the snow-capped peaks of Mt. Adams and Mt. Rainer.

In 1906, the first two buildings were erected in Grandview. One was a general merchant shop and the other was a hybrid post-office/lodging building. Early residents would meet on the steps of the post office to discuss the day's events and also what the future has in store for them. In 1907, Grandview's first bank was also built. It was under the management of the near-by Prosser State Bank. From then on, a series of "firsts" started popping up all over town.

The first well sprung up in Division Street. For six and a half years, this well was the only source of water for the townspeople. The first hotel also was opened by the Elser family. The first lumber yard opened its doors in the summer of 1907. The first drug store opened in 1908, and even the first barber shop was established in the same year. Grandview's expansion continued to grow throughout the years, with the establishment of a functioning railroad depot and also thanks to its fertile lands. Here is a brief timeline of notable early Grandview events:

- Fall 1906 – First high school was built.
- 1909 – Town is officially incorporated.
- 1909 – In just three years, the high school building was doubled in size.
- 1910 – Cement sidewalks in the business section were built.
- 1910 – The Telephone Company was given permission to build in the town.
- 1913 – City water system was completed.
- 1915 – Contract let for sewage system.
- 1918 – New brick high school was completed.
- 1920 – Contract let for paving of business section.
- 1925 – Public park on west side started.

As stated above, in 1909, Grandview was officially incorporated as a city even though it had already been around for three years. John Monroe was elected as its first mayor. The city councilmen were W. F. Elsner, D. O. Roberston, A. E. Fisk, C. R. Moulton and F. G. Bennett. The very first ordinance that was passed included the appointment of the city clerk, marshal, and city attorney. Today, the City Council still meets and decides which direction the city of Grandview will go in.

If you would like to know more about the history of Grandview, be sure to visit the Blehly Community Library for more information. Or, for an in-depth look at the history of Grandview ranging from timelines, histories of various clubs and organization, and the people that helped shape Grandview, visit <http://www.washingtonruralheritage.org/grandview/>.

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## First Post Mistress and First Building



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection

**Anny Sykes, Grandview's first post mistress also commissioned the Post Office in 1906 as the first building in the town**

# Mayor



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage  
Grandview Library Collection

Grandview's first Mayor, John Monroe



The current Mayor, Norm Childress, has held this position for over 10 years

# 2017 Grandview City Council Members



Grandview has a Mayor/Council form of city government in which the citizens of Grandview elect the mayor and the seven City Council members. The Council is responsible for setting policy and the Mayor oversees the operation of the city departments and carries out policies put in place by the Council.

## The NEW Grandview Chamber of Commerce

The Grandview Chamber of Commerce is back in action. The mission of the Grandview Chamber of Commerce is to add value to local business, to promote local events and tourism in a community with a healthy quality of life. Listed below are its officers and other members.

- President:** Dawn Meyer
- Past President:** Kathy Viereck
- Vice President:** Joan Scuders
- Secretary:** Carman McKinney
- Treasurer:** Viri Coleman
- Miss Grandview Ambassador:** Michelle Denchel



**Members:** Jim Herriman, Shannon Burlison, Tammy Ouelette, Maria Vargas, John Gallagher and Matt Kitzke

# City Hall



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage  
Grandview Library Collection  
Grandview's first city hall



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage  
Grandview Library Collection

The second home of City Hall, corner of Second Street and 'A' Street

Grandview Herald, July 29, 1937

**Excerpt:** "Dedication of Grandview's new city hall will take place Saturday evening of this week...Mayor Garrison and the members of the city council ... will be on hand to show visitors around so that they may thoroughly inspect the new building of which Grandview people are proud."



The current City Hall, located at 207 W 2nd St, Grandview, WA 98930

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**Dr. Ron Grow**  
Commissioner

## Three New Businesses Coming to the Port of Grandview



**Bestebreur Bros. Construction, Inc.**

**Bestebreur Bros. Construction** has been in business since 1958 in Sunnyside and works throughout southeastern Washington on projects ranging from commercial construction to civil and industrial projects. The company plans to build a new shop and office on 3 acres and move their home office to Grandview. They are planning to move into their new space by Thanksgiving.



**Jim Sewell**  
Commissioner



**Fast Mobile Service LLC or FMS** was started by owners David and Fatima Ruelas in 2005. The business has been located in Sunnyside for the past 12 years. FMS is a diesel mechanic shop that specializes in the service and repair of semi-trucks and farm machinery, as well as fleet maintenance and repair and offers 24/7 emergency roadside assistance. This year the company opened a parts store that carries parts and tires for semi-trucks and trailers.



**Richard Shenyer**  
Commissioner



**Indian River Transport** is a company with its corporate office based out of Winter Haven, Florida. The company is a bulk food-grade tanker transportation service, which hauls commodities consisting of any food-grade liquid. The company purchased five acres at the corner of Colleen's Way and Stover Road, where they plan to build an Indian River terminal, which will include a repair facility and a food-grade tank wash.

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Left to Right: Maria, Anita, Nancy, Branch Manager: Mireya

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# Together Grandview Can



**School and city employees came together** to serve hotdogs and get to know members of the community.

Community members of all ages came together on Monday Aug. 7th to observe Grandview's National Night Out. This event was sponsored and organized by the City of Grandview and the Grandview School District.

There were hotdogs, a bouncy house, free swimming, and the chance to talk to over a dozen local service providers. Also on hand was Grandview Police Chief, Kal Fuller. He and a few of Grandview's finest were there to talk about the safety of our beautiful town. Superintendent Henry Strom was also there to speak with members of the community about the importance of attendance for students.

Children and their parents of our community were able to explore one of the fire trucks from the Grandview Fire Station. While they were going around talking to the local service providers each patron was given a certificate they needed to have stamped six times, in order to take advantage of the free swimming hour on a hot summers evening.



**Superintendent Henry Strom talks to the crowd** about the happenings in the schools and the importance of attendance.

National Night Out is typically observed on the first Tuesday of Aug., as part of a nationwide program encouraging partnerships between the police department and the members of the community. Residents in the town are encouraged to take back their neighborhoods blocks from being overrun by crime. The first National Night Out was organized by the National Association of Town Watch in 1984.

The theme of our National Night Out was "Together Grandview Can". That theme speaks volumes on the coming together as members of our community (of Grandview) to want to better our residence in order to maintain the beauty and safety we pride ourselves in.

Together we can keep Grandview a safe place to raise a family and the future of our town. When we all come together there is no telling what we all can do to better our already great community. Together we can be proud of our little community that we all call home.

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## Community Growth, Celebration and Support



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage  
Grandview Library Collection

**Maypole Dance** at Community Days circa 1920



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage  
Grandview Library Collection

**The First Public Celebration** for Grandview occurred on July 4, 1916. The same route in reverse is used for the Yakima Valley Fair Parade today.

The citizens of Grandview have always celebrated and supported their community. From early times to now, community togetherness has been emphasized and encouraged.

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# Local Scout Completes Eagle Project

With two days to spare before he turned 18 years old, Grandview's Matt Denchel completed his Eagle Scout Project in the snow and mud at Legion Park.

Denchel, the son of Dan and Michelle Denchel of Grandview, built a multiple flag pole backdrop to the Legion Park sign at the East end of Grandview. "I had hoped to have it done earlier," said Denchel, "but the cold weather really slowed me down." Snow had prevented access to the site and the cold weather impaired the ability to dig the holes and pour concrete. "We were getting nervous about being able to complete the project before Matt turned 18," said Cliff Vining, an Assistant Scoutmaster with Grandview's Troop 643. "All requirements for the rank of Eagle Scout must be completed before the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday," he added.

"We are real proud of Matt for getting this done in such adverse conditions," said Tim Bardell, the Troop's Scoutmaster and engineering advisor for the project. "I'm glad he got it done. We could only work at his direction because it is his project," he added. "Now everyone can sleep at night."

Denchel's project provides flag poles for the five military flags, which will most likely be flown on special holidays, such as Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Depending upon the durability of the flags and the ability to replace them, the

flags may be flown year-round.

Denchel's project completes a "trifecta" of Eagle Projects involving the park and pathway. His oldest brother, Chris, built the pathway mileage markers between Grandview and Prosser for his Eagle Project. The zero-mile marker is a few feet away from Matt's project. His other brother, Nick, built the Legion Park sign and Gold Star Mother Memorial, behind which is Matt's project. Each of Matt's brothers are Eagle Scouts with Troop 643. All three of the young men have attended Evergreen Boys State sponsored by The American Legion. Scholarships to attend were provided by Grandview's Fred E. Hayes Post 57.

Nearby is another Troop 643 Eagle Scout Project, the drinking fountain installed by Nik Schultz. Schultz is now a Chief in the US Coast Guard. He also attended Boys State. "We always encourage our Scouts to look at things that have some staying power in the community," said the Troop's Committee Chairman, Jim Davidson. "The Denchel family has certainly achieved that."

Denchel is a senior at Sunnyside High School. Troop 643 is chartered to Bethany Community Church and is open to all boys between the ages of 11 and 18. They meet every Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. in the church fellowship hall. Three Scouts are in various stages of planning or preparing for their Eagle projects.



The weather did not stop Matthew Denchel from getting his Eagle Scout Project before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.



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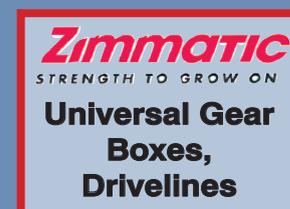


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# Two Grandview Officers Give Back to the Community

In a time when police officers aren't being held in high regard, two Grandview Police Officers went above and beyond their call of duty. "We are seen in a heavy negative light right now, especially throughout the whole country and I wanted to do something to make a positive image," commented Officer Jasper Rubalcava about his inspiration behind giving back to the community.

What began with one officer's selfless act, inspired another officer to join him. During the summer months, Officer Rubalcava began by purchasing toys from the Dollar Tree, out of his own pocket. He would randomly hand them out to children while on patrol. "If I'm having a bad day and I wanted my day to turn around, I would go out and give presents to kids. With them being so happy and excited, it helps turn a bad day into a good day," said Officer Rubalcava. After seeing how excited the kids were getting, Officers Rubalcava and Abarca decided to reach out to their community during the holiday seasons.

In November, both officers delivered several Thanksgiving dinners and vouchers for meals to families in our community. The officers also had some vouchers left over; some community members may have ended up thinking they were getting pulled over for a traffic violation, but instead drove off with one of the vouchers. The vouchers were donated by the Sunnyside Police Department and The Nazarene Church in Grandview. In December, Officers Rubalcava and Abarca reached out to businesses in the community and received the generous donations.



**Officer Rubalcava delivers a Thanksgiving dinner to a local family. INSET Officer Rubalcava channels his inner Santa and delivers gifts to some families for Christmas.**



*Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection*

**Police Chief Ted Wolfe** "ticketing" Kiblinger Highwheeler Model A automobile in the early days. Grandview's Police department has grown, but service and safety has always been the focus.

Sticking to their mantra of Peace and Love, the officers received gift cards from Peace and Love Coffee, located at 101 Stover Rd. They also received donations of toys from the Dollar Tree (located at 614 E. Wine Country Rd) and an assortment of gifts from the fellow officers at the Sunnyside Police Department.

During the course of the month of December, Officers were asked to hand out coffee gifts cards instead of tickets during traffic stops. During the course of the traffic stops, if the officer observed children passengers, they were asked to hand out gifts to them as well. The gifts were already wrapped for Christmas and separated by age and gender.

"Officers Rubalcava and I also elected to surprise several families in our community by delivering Christmas

gifts directly to their homes," said Officer Abarca. "Priceless, it kind of chokes you up a bit. It's hard not to bounce off the emotions parents and kids display. At the end of the day, we are human and it makes you feel grateful to be able to give back. It's one of those things where you have to be there in the moment to get a sense of it all," stated Officer Rubalcava about what it felt like to see the overwhelming happiness. It was also mentioned that he isn't the only officer to go above his call of duty. There are officers on the Grandview Police Department who have gone above and beyond while on calls.

An example of some things he mentioned were officers going out to buy coats in the winter months if they notice kids don't have one. He also said that there have been times that officers went and bought food for a house they were sent to. There is a lot of good deeds that the officers at the GPD have done that essentially go unnoticed. "I know I'm coming to light with all this, but there are a lot of officers who have been doing this stuff for a very long time," said Officer Rubalcava of the unnoticed good deeds that officers do.

At a time when there has been so much negative light on officers, it's incredible to see the good deeds our officers here in the small town of Grandview do, beyond their regular calls to maintain a positive relationship with the community they serve. As far as continuing on this new tradition that has been started up, Officer Rubalcava said that he hopes to see it continue on for many years to come, but he knows that next year he and Officer Abarca (along with other officers) will be out spreading positive messages during the holiday season.



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# Superintendants



**Frank G. Bennett** was the first superintendant from 1908 to 1913. He is pictured here with his wife, who also served as a school teacher.



**Henry Strom** is the current superintendant for Grandview School District.

# District Details

School District No. 81 was formed in 1896. Grandview Schools were added after the town's incorporation. The District experienced massive growth in the first several decades. As of May 2017, Grandview School District boasts a student enrollment of just over 3,700 students. It is home to 194 classroom teachers, with 33 new teachers hired this year alone. It is currently composed of three elementary schools (Harriet Thompson Elementary, McClure Elementary and Arthur H. Elementary), a single middle school (Grandview Middle School) and a single high school as well (Grandview High School).

The District offers low income assistance programs, special education services, athletic and artistic programs as well as english as a second language education. The high school has a beautiful football stadium for their home football team, the Grandview Greyhounds. With active FFA, Drama, Band, Grid Kids and after school programs, Grandview School District constantly strives to meet the needs of all students and be an active part in the community.

## Grandview School District 2017 New Teachers



**Front row, from left:** Raquel Castaneda, speech pathologist at GHS and GMS; Nancy Godinez, 1st at HT; Enrique Ochoa, 7th science at GMS and Eric Charvet, 4th at HT. **Second row:** Lupita Barajas, English at GHS; Dayenne Correa, 4th at Smith and Daniel Lopez, 7th math at GMS. **Third row:** Trevor Mashburn, English at GHS; Eric Schafer, 6th intervention and history and Jennifer Mason, Ag at GHS. **Fourth row:** Fidel Castro Jr., SPED math & reading at GMS; Geneva Smiskin, art at GMS and Kimberley Hall, fine art at GHS. **Last row:** Choncy Pena, 6th math at GMS and Tayller Curfman, kindergarten at McClure.



**Front row, from left:** Alexandra Hays, 3rd at HT; Dr. Lacie Schilperoort, biomedical science at GHS; Skyler Schmidt, 5th at HT and Rachel Lind, 6th math. **Second row:** Cristal Rivas, resource at McClure; Julie Sonnichsen, ELL at GMS and Galen Seaman, math at GHS. **Third row:** Amanda McDonald, math and science at GMS, Becky Fuller, science at GMS and Gerardo Gonzales, 4th at HT. **Fourth row:** Marcus Morales, math at GHS, Amy Courtney, 1st at HT and Christina Zinkgraf, science at GMS. **Fifth row:** Angel Almaguer, math at GMS, Danielle Malone, chemistry at GHS and Brian Malone, music at Smith. **Last row:** Garth Lind, math coach at GMS and Robert Parker, 8th math at GMS.

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# Grandview Celebrates as School Bond Passes

The question of whether or not community members thought Grandview High School was in need of an update was answered on Valentine's Day. The answer was "YES".

What better day for students to experience an overwhelming sensation of love for their education than the day set aside for love. Voters approved the new school with a 62.15% approval rating versus a 37.85% rejection rate.

The bond was approved to help pay for the construction of a new high school. The new high school will be built on the existing GHS site, directly behind where the school sits now.



**The conceptual view** of the Grandview School District plan for a new high school to be built near the existing building.

The new school will include two gyms, an auditorium, classrooms built with science, technology, engineering, math and vocational classes in mind. A new high school, means more space. Numbers don't lie, the community of Grandview knew that the need for a new school was inevitable. With nearly 1,000 students attending GHS, housed in a school built for half that number, you can guess the amount of overcrowding in hallways and if you drive by you can see new portables that were needed to house students and teachers in recent years.

The project will cost approximately \$70 million, of which an estimated \$27.4 million will come from the state. The remaining \$42.2 million is to be paid for with the help of the bond measure, and would translate into a tax rate in the range of \$3.65 per \$1,000 of assessed value or an increase of around 47 cents per \$1,000 over the current tax rate of \$3.18 per \$1,000. There were many people who played a big part in getting the information out to the community members, to ensure they were informed before they voted. The students at GHS are experiencing an overwhelming amount of love for their education from members of the community who voted yes. The first students to spend four years in the new facility, will be this year's current 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. The current 8<sup>th</sup> grade class will be the first senior class of the new high school. This bond was about the kids of Grandview and what they deserve. Now they see we placed more emphasis on a better education for them, there is no telling what these students will become.

# Always Growing



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection  
**Built in 1907**, the Old Central School burned down in 1924.



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection  
**The New Central School** housed students from 1925 to 1947.



Photo Courtesy of Grandview Heritage Grandview Library Collection  
**The 'new' high school** held classes from 1937 to the mid 1970s, when a new school was built on West Second Street. This building was used as the Compass High School campus and now houses the District Offices.

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