**Mayor:** Roy Schulz

Council: Shelly Ausmus Lydia Fletcher

Lydia Fletcher Michael Hale Margie Jaeger Pete Martin Amanda Prince Dave Tysz

Clerk/Treasurer: Eliza Evans-Teague

**Deputy Clerk:** DonNell Ellsworth

Maintenance/ Animal Control: Jessica May Johnson Steven Thomas Kevin Turnbough

# Code Enforcement Officer:

Mike Bogenreif 509-828-2144 tekoacodeenforcem ent@outlook.com

**Building Inspector:** 

Steve Haxton 509-981-2157

Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. to

4:00 p.m.

Council Meetings: Second and Fourth\* Monday 6:00 P.M.

Tekoa City Hall Council Chambers

Phone: 509-284-3861

**Fax:** 509-284-3590

Email:

tekoaclerk @gmail.com

Website: www.tekoawa.com

\*This is for September only!

#### September 2024 Newsletter

September 3 – Whitman Co. Hosp. Dist.

6:30 P.M. - City Hall

September 4 - Tekoa EMS & EMT Training

6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn

September 9 - City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

September 10 - Healthy Tekoa Coalition

9:00 A.M. - Tekoa SD Boardroom

September 12 - Empire Theatre Board

5:30 P.M. - Empire Theatre

September 13 - Chamber of Commerce

7:30 A.M. - Éclair's

September 17 - Tekoa Parks & Rec Meeting

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

September 23 - City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. - City Hall

September 25 – Tekoa Ambulance Board Mtg.

6:30 P.M. - Ambulance Barn

September 25 - Tekoa School Board Mtg.

6:30 P.M. - Tekoa SD Boardroom

The City of Tekoa will have our council meeting in the Tekoa City Hall Council Chambers on Monday, September 9, and 23, at 6:00 P.M. You may join in person.



# Tekoa Food Pantry

Tekoa Food Pantry will distribute commodities on September 26, from 8-11 A.M.



Fresh produce giveaways will be on September 5, and 9, from 12-2 P.M., at Tekoa City Hall.

## **Tekoa Library Happenings**

As you may have heard, I (Shelly) am transitioning out of the library to work full-time at the Tekoa Elementary School as a para-educator. As much as I enjoy working at the school, I will miss the library. It has been the greatest of work experiences, and Tekoa has such a wonderful, supportive library community. The Whitman County Library is still in the process of finding a permanent manager, so you may see a few different faces for a while. Regardless of who the new manager will be, there are a couple of special programs happening in September. First is a Disaster Preparedness Program sponsored by the Red Cross on Wednesday, September 18, from 6:00-8:00 P.M. Then, on Wednesday, September 25, the first Kids Club of the school year takes place. Kids, join us for LEGO Play from Noon to 1:00 P.M. Storytime is returning but will start in October. Be on the lookout for more details. For more info about all our programs, follow the Tekoa Library on FB or visit our website: www.whitcolib.org. Phone number: 509-284-5657.



#### EMPIRE THEATRE

A fun time was had by one & all at the first Friendly Feud, so we're doing it again on September 14, at 6 P.M. You don't need a team. Just come on down and we will find you one, or just enjoy the fun. On September 28, we will be showing the movie *Inside Out* at 6 P.M., as

well. Concessions will be available for purchase during both events.



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### **HEALTHY TEKOA**

September is an important month to take some time to recognize *National Recovery Month and Suicide Prevention Month*. These are two big topics that we can impact in small ways. It is hard to ask for help. We can ease this hurdle by sharing Messages of Hope with our family and neighbors. Hope fosters resiliency as we face our daily challenges. Please join us in creating chalk art Messages of Hope on Friday, September 6, from 12-2 P.M., downtown by the library. Suicide & Crisis Lifeline – Dial 988 (available 24/7)

Take a Break! The Tekoa Community Survey is skipping a year. It is rolling out on odd-numbered years from now on. You can still be a part of positive change by joining us at meetings or volunteering at events! Get connected with HEALTHY Tekoa on Tuesday, September 10, at 9 A.M., at Tekoa School District Boardroom, or join us on Zoom. Email jolson@tekoasd.org for the meeting link.

## Message from the Mayor—

Hi everyone, I hope this letter finds you well. As I write this, harvest is progressing well. So far, it has been a pretty good run; weather-wise. I hope I didn't jinx us. The summers seem to get shorter all the time so get out and enjoy what we have left. School is starting, fall sports are getting underway, and the days are getting shorter. I guess you know what comes next, but we will talk about that later.

Ok. let's get started, I will be as brief as I can. First off, the city had several side streets paved on the south side of town around Main, Henkle, and Park Streets. Arrow Construction has fog-sealed Washington, Ramsey, and Connell Streets. Unless something changes, next year we will concentrate on the north side of town. Hopefully, by the time you read this, the sewer line on the southwest part of town will be completed and hooked up. The city has inquired about the possibility of addressing some of the streets that have been in use for quite a while, like Henkle, Warren, and Park. If you look closely, they are starting to develop cracks. Hopefully, we can get grant funding to preserve these areas. The mag chloride that we have been applying to the gravel roads is really starting to do what we had hoped it would do. First, it keeps .3dust down, and second --just as important-- the process holds the gravel on the street.

On September 15, Upper Columbia Academy is going to bring a couple of busloads of kids to Tekoa to help their kids learn about community service. This will be the first of four dates with the next one in October. What the kids need from you are areas they can work on. They will clip, weed, mow, scrape, paint, or caulk around windows and clean flower beds, just to mention some possibilities. Use your imagination; we are running short on time, so we need your ideas as soon as we can: no later than the 5th of September.

There was a discussion at the August 19 council meeting about how we take care of gravel in our alleys. One idea is if the property owners buy the gravel, maybe the city public works would smooth out the gravel. There are lots of alleys. Some are used quite a bit and others hardly at all. Nothing has been decided at this point, but if you're interested stop by city hall and give them your ideas. The burn pile is presently still closed but we are working on a plan to open as soon as we can.

On a side note, there have been many comments from the movie crew to visitors passing through about how clean and well-kept the town looks. This is a credit to you residents and especially the public works department for their diligence. Finally, I would like to recognize Doug Palmer for helping around Tekoa City Hall. Doug opens the recycle bin on the weekends, I believe from 8 until 12. He also will water the plants around the office when needed.

Thanks for listening to me and we will talk next month. Have a great Labor Day and watch out for kids as schools start soon. Don't forget to take in the Palouse Empire Fair and support our kids. See you next month.

"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it" ~ Edith Wharton

Roy



