

## DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

**Mayor:**

Roy Schulz

**Council:**

Michael Hale  
Margie Jaeger  
Pete Martin  
Shelly Ausmus  
Reid Smith  
Dave Tysz  
Dan Thomas

**Clerk/Treasurer:**

Eliza Evans-Teague

**Deputy Clerk:**

Nikki Jensen

**Maintenance**

Steven Thomas  
Jeff Latkowski

**Code Enforcement  
Officer:**

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

**Building Inspector:**

Kevin Turnbough  
509-714-5148  
kturnbough14@gm  
ail.com

**Office Hours:**

8:00 A.M. to  
4:00 P.M.

**Council Meetings:**

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

December 1- City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. – City Hall

December 1 – EMS & EMT Training

6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn

December 2 – Whitman Co. Hosp. Dist.

6:30 P.M. – City Hall

December 5 – Chamber of Commerce

7:30 A.M. Tobra Coffee

December 9 Healthy Tekoa Coalition

9:00 A.M. SD Boardroom

December 11 – Empire Theatre Board

5:30 P.M. Empire Theatre

December 15 – City Council Meeting

6:00 P.M. – City Hall

December 16 Parks & Rec

6:00 P.M. – City Hall

December 18 - Food Distribution

8:00-11:00 A.M. – City Hall

December 29– Tekoa EMT (Board  
meeting) 6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn

### **Message from the Mayor—**

Greetings to everyone. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and were able to spend quality time with family and friends. Recently, on my bus route, I had a conversation with the kids about their favorite foods and Thanksgiving traditions. It was fun to hear about the different foods (mostly desserts) that the kids enjoyed.

I have recently been encouraged to remind everyone of the importance of buying local. We are blessed to have every business, and patronizing them helps keep them here and adds to the local economy. We all know the story about how, when you buy local, the money circulates several times within the community. I understand the ease of having a box show up on your doorstep and being able to sit on your couch and shop, but we truly have great stores and services in town, and they deserve your support. Whether it's coffee in the morning, that unique gift, lunch with friends, or the ingredients for the family meals, and supporting our local hardware store, buying local helps support our schools and helps provide income for families who send their kids to our schools. And therefore, helping keep our community young and vibrant. Surviving and growing is really about being intentional with your actions. By supporting businesses, the schools, the Theater, the Golf Course, and our various organizations, including churches, you are investing in the future of the town and, therefore, our country. We live in a great corner of the world, and I hope we all understand how fortunate we are. We are what we make it. Ok, I am going to see if I can hop off my soapbox, and I apologize if I have hit a nerve, but I truly believe in this community, and I think that most of you also do. I've probably said this before, but I think it deserves repeating: "Grab an oar and quit standing up in the boat and rocking it." Really good stuff is happening here, and you are welcome to join in. The movie that was partly filmed here will soon be out in theaters and soon afterwards on Netflix. I hear it's very nicely done and reflects well on the area and Tekoa. Oh yeah, it's called "Train Dreams." Public Works is busy getting ready for winter and helping with providing input for the future sewer project. Steven and Jeff are studying for the additional licenses they need for their jobs. The Clerk and Assistant Clerk are working on the budget, managing and researching the several grants we have and potential grants that are available.

As we continue into the holidays, let's not forget those who've lost family and loved ones and remember the reason for the season.

Thanks for listening, and "Shop Local." Roy

~ "There is only one way to avoid criticism: do nothing, say nothing, or be nothing."

### **Transportation Survey Open Now Through January 9**

The Palouse Regional Transportation Planning Organization, of which the City of Tekoa is a member, is seeking input on regional transportation needs and would like to know if you or someone you know faces challenges getting to other towns in the region for appointments, shopping, or other necessary trips. Please visit the online open house linked [here](https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/591806153fcf4554955778def3756ca9) and take the survey before January 9. The input received will help inform the updated Human Services Transportation Plan, which will summarize regional needs and provide recommendations to meet needs.

Online open house link: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/591806153fcf4554955778def3756ca9>

Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/H6T9SLT>

### **Tekoa Food Pantry**

Tekoa Food Pantry will distribute commodities on December 18, from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.

### **Tekoa Parks & Recreation**

Tekoa Parks and Recreation will be holding a maintenance and operations levy election on February 10, 2026. Keep an eye out for information on Facebook and the city newsletter.

A huge thank you to the Tekoa Elementary ASB for their efforts with leaf removal in Memorial Park. We appreciate your contribution to beautifying Tekoa.

### **Empire Theatre**

Starting our December events is Pirouette's dance recital on December 5th. at 6 PM. Doors open at 5:30 & tickets are \$5. Upper Columbia Academy returns for a free Christmas concert on December 9th at 6 PM. On the 13th, we will be showing Polar Express at 6 PM, jammies are welcome. On Sunday afternoon, December 21st, at 2 PM, come on down, get your free bag of popcorn & watch It's a Wonderful Life. To finish off the year, on New Year's Eve, we will be having Bingo starting at 6 PM.

### **Tekoa Library**

- Crafter's Circle on Tuesdays at 4 P.M., December 2, 9, 16
- Storytime on Thursdays at 11:45 A.M., December 4, 11, 18
- Homeschool activity on Wednesday, December 3 at 2 P.M.
- After school Kid's Club on Wednesday, December 10 at 12:15 P.M.
- Bunco Night on Wednesday, December 10 at 7 P.M.
- Adult Book Club on Wednesday, December 17 at 6:30 P.M.
- Library Closed Dec 24-27
- Special Hours on December 31, 11-3 P.M.



### **Healthy Tekoa**

December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month. It's the festive time of year when folks party with alcohol or marijuana. Please have a safe time by discussing your transportation plans before heading out, and have the designated driver keep the keys. Remember, friends don't let friends drive impaired. Stay safe Tekoa!

Just like kids, pets get into everything! Always keep medicines, cosmetics, & cleaners out of your pet's reach...That means off the counter or furniture & placing your backpack/purse up high.

- ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center 888-426-4435
- And, for your 2-legged family, WA Poison Center 800-222-1222.

You can get connected with HEALTHY Tekoa on the second Tuesday of every month at 9:00 A.M. Contact Jennifer at [jolson@tekoasd.org](mailto:jolson@tekoasd.org) for details. Join us and be part of positive change in our community.

### **Chamber of Commerce**

The Tekoa Chamber of Commerce would like to thank all who came out to support Small Business Saturday. It was a great way to kick off the holiday season. The next Chamber meeting will be on Friday, December 5, at 7:30 a.m. at Tobra Coffee. Hope to see you there!

