OCTOBER 2026 NEWSLETTER

Mayor:
Roy Schulz

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

Clerk/Treasurer:
Kynda Browning

Deputy Clerk:
Nikki Jensen

Maintenance
Steven Thomas
JJ Lahey
Emergency-
509-759-1271

Code Enforcement Officer:
Mike Bogenreif
509-828-2144
tekoacodeenforcement@outlook.com

Building Inspector:
Kevin Turnbough
509-714-5148
kturnbough14@gmail.com

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

Council Meetings:
1st and 3rd 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

October 2– Chamber of Commerce
7:30 A.M. at Tobra Coffee
October 5 – EMS & EMT Training
6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn
October 6 – City Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. – City Hall
October 8 – Empire Theatre Board
5:30 P.M. Empire Theatre
October 13 – Healthy Tekoa Coalition
9:00 A.M. S.D. Boardroom
October 13 – Whitman Co. Hosp. Dist.
6:30 P.M. – City Hall
October 19 – City Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. – City Hall
October 20 - Parks & Rec
6:00 P.M. – City Hall
October 22 - Food Distribution
8:00 – 11:00 – City Hall
October 26 - Tekoa EMT (Board meeting)
6:30 P.M. - Ambulance Barn

Message from the Mayor

Hello and welcome back. As I opened my screen to write this, a prompt on my phone said: "Help me write." Maybe I should take them up on that piece of advice. The topics I had planned to cover kind of got postponed, at least temporarily.
Recently I've had the pleasure of chatting with a few of our local business owners. The people, although optimistic, had a concern about the future. The new normal seems to be to get on your phone and press "send". And if it's not that, we head to one of our big city stores and have our wants taken care of. I will be the first to admit guilt. That said, I will take a vow to try to be better. We all should try to support our businesses. Last, we have had an influx of new families move into town. We would like to welcome you. I know habits die hard, and I will be the first one to commend loyalty, but I challenge you to stop in locally and give our businesses a chance. Use our hardware store for your home repairs, support our clinic for your medical needs, and use the pharmacy for your prescriptions. We have a nice selection of stores that can help you with gifts, housewares, and collectibles. We have several choices for coffee and food, a grocery store, lawyers, financial advisors, and a full-service bank. Not to mention several well-qualified contractors to help with your projects. These are the people who hire your kids ' schoolmates' parents, who support your kids at school with donations. I know you get the idea: when the money stays here, it benefits several people while it's here. We really do have a lot going for us, but we need to be intentional about how we patronize our community. A little side note: we can always use people to help with the volunteer fire and ambulance departments. Recently, I witnessed both departments in action and was thankful for their service. Communities like ours don't exist in a vacuum; we need citizens who can find a niche, something you can help with. It's truly worth it. That's why we live here. Maybe I should have listened to my phone. I recently had the opportunity to talk to several journalism students from WSU, and it was such an amazing experience. I hope the rest of their day went as well for them as my time with them was. As summer comes to a close, please be respectful of your neighbors' space and rights. Dogs barking and yards that need weed and shrub abatement are a constant concern. Thanks for your time. Roy

"One should never overestimate their importance nor should they underestimate their influence."

Banner Bank in Tekoa will be hosting its annual fall food drive in support of the Tekoa Food Pantry from October 1 to October 31. Donations can be made at the Tekoa Banner Bank. Donations will be accepted in cash, check, or canned or boxed items. For more information about this, please stop by your local Banner Bank for more information.

Tekoa Food Pantry

Tekoa Food Pantry will distribute commodities on October 22 from 8:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Empire Theatre

The Empire Theatre has had an incredible summer packed with fundraising, repairs, tours, and free community movies. Thanks to our generous sponsor, Whitman County Hospital #4, October's featured free film is *Patch Adams,* which will be shown October 17 at 6:00 P.M. We are also thrilled to welcome Dan Rose as the new Vice President of the Empire Theatre Board. Be sure to congratulate him when you see him around town! Want to help choose our next movie, bring in a local band, or organize an event? Join our board! We meet just once a month for about an hour, and every voice matters. We are also looking for event volunteers. Step up, get involved, and help make a difference in our community!

Any questions? Email bruce.mcguigan16@gmail.com or text 406-638-9863

Tekoa Parks & Rec.

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 20 at 6:00 P.M. at Tekoa City Hall to establish our preliminary budget for next year. Thank you to WiFiber and Donavan Chase for replacing the light bulbs in Memorial Park. Thank you to Sanchez Landscaping for the beautiful upkeep of our parks over the summer months.

Tekoa Library

Join library director Christy Hughes for a conversation about our proposed Levy lift at the library on October 2 at 5:00 P.M. Come with questions.

- We have our weekly Crafter's Circle on Tuesdays at 4:00 P.M.
- Storytime on Thursdays at 11:45 A.M.
- This month, our homeschool activity is on October 7 at 2:00 P.M.
- The kids' after-school club on October 14, as well as the Teen Hangout on October 28, will all involve LEGOs!! Put these fun events on your calendar to show off your building creativity.
- Lastly, our library book club is meeting to discuss Remarkably Bright Creatures on October 21 at 6:30 P.M.

If you have any questions, please call the library at (509)284-5657.

Healthy Tekoa News!

October is **Substance Use & Misuse Prevention Month**. Please store your current prescriptions too high for young children to reach. Teach your children what medicine and vitamins are and why you must be the one to give it to them.

Keep the **Poison Help** number in your phone: **800-222-1222**.

Free Store & Dispose supplies available: The Tekoa Pharmacy and City Hall have free envelopes to mail back unused prescription medicines. Also, lock boxes/bags are available (one per household) at Tekoa Pantry on Thursday, **October 22 at 8:00 A.M**.

Free Family & Community Event: We have partnered with FCCLA (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America) to bring back **Trunk-or-Treat** on Friday, **October 30 at 1:30 P.M.!** We are inviting community groups and neighbors to decorate a trunk. Contact the FCCLA advisor, Cori Schmidt, at cschmidt@tekoasd.org. for your spot.

Chamber of Commerce

The Tekoa Chamber of Commerce invites everyone to help decorate the town for fall by putting out your scarecrows to make the town festive. We are inviting everyone to join us in the fall fun from now until October 31. Also, the chamber is getting ready for Small Business Saturday. Mark your calendars; it's November 28th this year! Support your small businesses!!!