SEPTEMBER 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

September 1 – Whitman Co. Hosp. Dist.
6:30 P.M. – City Hall
September 4– Chamber of Commerce
7:30 A.M. at Trestle Coffee
September 8 – Healthy Tekoa Coalition
9:00 A.M. S.D. Boardroom
September 8 – City Council Meeting
6:00 P.M. – City Hall
September 10 – Empire Theatre Board
5:30 P.M. Empire Theatre
September14 – EMS & EMT Training
6:30 P.M. – Ambulance Barn
September 15 - Parks & Rec
6:00 P.M. – City Hall
September 24 - Food Distribution
8:00 – 11:00 – City Hall
September 28 - Tekoa EMT (Board meeting)
6:30 P.M. - Ambulance Barn

Message from the Mayor

Good day to you. As I write this, Kim and I are working through a minor situation that's complicated our lives for at least the time being. We recently had a small, contained attic fire. What I have learned is that even a minor incident is a bit of a deal; nothing like a major rebuild, but still a lot of details and decisions to make. We are lucky and blessed, and we are thankful beyond words to our fire department, Rosalia's fire department, and our ambulance crew for all of their work and concern. We are humbled by the outpouring of support.

Ok, back to work. As I write this, the street project is essentially done except for a few cleanups and touch-ups, but nothing out of the ordinary. Many thanks to Arrow Construction, CE&C (the city's engineer), and our previous clerk, Eliza Evans Teague, who were responsible for making this all happen. Some of you may recall the crack sealing that the city crew did last summer. That was really good timing, because the application that was put down by the contractor will last longer because those cracks are sealed. Thanks to Steven from Public Works for the foresight. Recently, I have had questions about who owns trees and bushes along streets and alleys. The property owner is responsible for the trees and bushes on your property to the middle of the street or alley. That means that it is up to the property owner to keep alleys clear and passable for fire trucks and ambulance response. Avista will try to keep the power lines open, but as you can imagine, it's a never-ending problem.

The city is constantly looking at solutions to keeping properties maintained to reduce the risk of fires and rodent damage. I'm trying to find a way to keep our town safe and still respect property rights. As in other places, we have seen an increase in the use of e-bikes and small motorbikes. The state views these as vehicles and therefore treats them as such. Following all traffic laws is not only required but also necessary to be safe.

This is maybe a good time to remind people of the importance of voting and the need to continue to support our community and city. Things just don't happen without citizen engagement and investment. We live in a great place, and recognizing that is imperative to the success of the community. The recent reinstallation of the lights on the football field is a great example of how we can pull together to make great changes in our community. Thank you, Justin Hoffman, for your vision and drive to make it happen. Thanks for listening, and we will talk in October. Roy

Whatever our individual troubles and challenges may be, it's important to pause now and then to appreciate all that we have on every level. We need to literally "count our blessings," give thanks for them, allow ourselves to enjoy them, and relish the experience of prosperity we already have. Shakti Gawain

Tekoa Food Pantry

Tekoa Food Pantry will distribute commodities on September 24 from 8:00 – 11:00 A.M.

Empire Theatre

The Tekoa Empire Theatre would like to thank all the patrons who attended the admission-free movies over the summer. We would like to thank the following movie sponsors: Joel Dupee, Tekoa Library, City Council, and Kim and Roy Schultz. Movie sponsors allow us to show movies at no cost to the patrons. September 19 at 5:30 P.M., we are going to show a double feature. Despicable Me 1 and 2; it should be a lot of fun. As always, there will be popcorn and concessions for sale. Remember, we are always looking for motivated people to join our team of volunteers.

Tekoa Parks & Rec.

We want to thank our lifeguards for this summer season. They all did an amazing job, and we appreciate their dedication to the daily functions of the pool and to the families of our community.
Thank you to our citizens for keeping the parks clean. We appreciate your stewardship in making our parks a better place for all to enjoy.
Future Park projects include: repairing and updating sprinkler systems; updating electrical to meet code; planning and designing the JAW's park.

Tekoa Library

Our fall events start again this month!

- Our weekly craft circle continues on Tuesdays at 4:00 P.M. September 1, 8, 15, 22, 29.
- Join our homeschool crew for our first activity this fall on September 2 at 2:00 P.M. for painting with apples!
- The second Wednesday each month will be our Afterschool Kids' Club at 3:30 P.M., with snacks and activities for the kids.
- The last Wednesday of each month will be a tween/teen hangout at the library. We're starting with games and snacks this month on September 30 at 4 P.M.
- Our weekly Storytime starts on Thursday, September 17 at 11:45 A.M. I am so excited to hear little laughter in the library each week!
- Finally, our book club is meeting on September 16 at 6:30 P.M.to discuss The Women by Kristin Hannah. Stop by the library if you need a copy to read.

Healthy Tekoa News!

September is an important month to take some time to recognize **National Recovery Month and Suicide Prevention Month**. Two big topics that we can impact in small ways. It is hard to ask for help. We can ease this hurdle by talking to our family members and neighbors.

- Small acts of connection, such as a check-in, a shared resource, a moment of genuine attention, are how communities take care of each other.
- Recovery is strengthened through relationships, belonging, meaning, and purpose.
- Research shows that meaningful human connection rewires the brain for resilience, hope, and sustainable sobriety.
- Communities that talk openly about recovery, mental health, and suicide help reduce the stigma that keeps people from asking for help.

  Suicide & Crisis Lifeline – Dial 988 (available 24/7)

Get connected with HEALTHY Tekoa **Tuesday, September 8 at 9 A.M. at the Tekoa School District Boardroom** or join us on Zoom. Email jolson@tekoasd.org for the meeting link.

Chamber of Commerce

Scarecrows! Scarecrows! Scarecrows!
Have fun decorating the front of your home or business with a scarecrow this year! Display your scarecrow starting September 1 through October 31. The Port of Whitman County is sponsoring a free Social Media Class for anyone interested. The class will be held in the Library on September 23 and again on September 30, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM A flyer will be sent to you soon. Thank you for your continued support.