



OUR TOWN

The official newsletter of Kalama, WA



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The View From City Hall- Finance Department

She keeps the street lights turned on by paying the bills on time, keeps the City compliant with the Washington State Auditor's Office, and is an absolute Excel whiz: Meet Shannon Johnson, the City's Finance Clerk! How does she make finance fun? This gal loves playing in spreadsheets and solving problems. She is responsible for accounts payable, accounts receivable, filing monthly returns with the Department of Revenue, processing business license approvals, and she plays a large role in balancing the funds and spreadsheets by bringing everything together each month. Shannon also adds value to the City Hall team by writing procedures and improving processes. She is also a certified permit technician (acting as backup for the building clerk). She previously organized the building/permitting/land use system. She's the Library Board advisory committee secretary.

She works with vendors and provides exceptional customer service with a positive attitude and a smile. When we asked Shannon what the most interesting thing about her job is, she said she feels the degree of diversity in what she does, and the variety of the tasks and projects is quite broad so she wears many hats. If you've been following along in our recent newsletters, you might have noticed this is a common theme among our City Hall players: we "wear many hats" or have multiple roles that aren't necessarily encompassed by a direct job title. Shannon communicates with each department lead to be sure their portion of the budget is being spent appropriately. This year she

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Finance Clerk, Shannon Johnson

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worked with City Clerk/Treasurer Coni McMaster to complete the "Annual Report". This isn't just a simple report-- it's a major report that goes directly to the Washington State Auditor's Office (SAO) for review. Every 1 to 3 years, the City is required to be audited by the SAO-- which often includes extensive analysis of the annual report for accuracy and compliance. The finance department takes pride in accurate reporting to keep us compliant with state rules. This year Shannon is looking forward to working on the annual budget. Preparations for "budget season" start in September, and her wheels are already spinning regarding process improvements. Shannon has her Bachelor's degree in accounting, so it makes cents (oops, we meant sense) that she is thriving in the finance department. She is always eager to learn and explore creative options while keeping us accountable to the taxpayers.

Shannon is a crafter at heart and enjoys classic cars. In her free time she loves to travel and spend time with her husband and friends. We sincerely appreciate Shannon's organized nature and the positive energy she brings to the office!

"Kalama Summer Lights on the Fourth" Event



For the first time, the City of Kalama will be hosting a 4th of July event in partnership with the Port of Kalama! Join us for LIVE music, artists and vendors, food, & more!

This is a **free**, family friendly event!

Who: Everyone is invited- all Kalama residents and visitors!

What: Kalama Summer Lights on the Fourth

When: Tuesday, July 4th, 2023 starting @ 10am

Where: Westin Amphitheater, Marine Park @ 215 N. Hendrickson Dr., Kalama, WA 98625

Follow our event on Facebook or our website for more details.

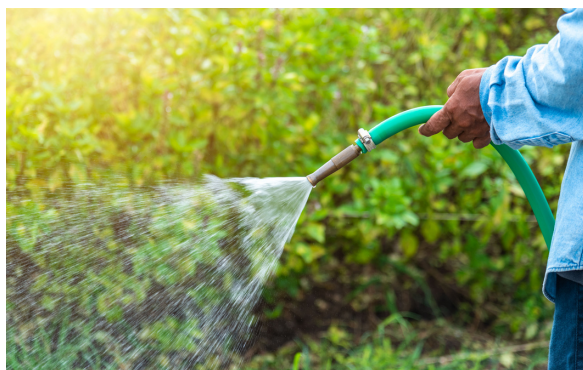
Interested in participating as a vendor?

Contact: Emily Moore

apclerk@cityofkalama.com

360-673-4908

Summer Sewer Notice



Attention Kalama water users connected to sewer: **summer sewer averaging is now in effect, and will end in the middle of September**. Now is the time for those extra water consumption activities like pressure washing, turning on sprinklers, filling pools, and/or watering your garden. For more information regarding the summer sewer average for billing, visit our website here:

<https://www.cityofkalama.com/departments/utility-department/utility-rates/summer-sewer-average>

June Parks & Recreation

June classes with Judy Bain: Drum 4 Fun!

\$15 for June (\$5 per class)

Tuesdays from 10:15am-11:15am

- June 6th
- June 13th
- June 20th

(no class on June 27th)

Location: 216 Elm Street, Kalama, WA 98625
at the **Kalama Community Building**

Bring your water bottle and free weights if you have them. Other equipment is provided. Bring a check to class, or register here:

<https://www.invoicecloud.com/portal>

Need more info? Contact Emily Moore
apclerk@cityofkalama.com or 360-673-4908

Summer Reading Program

Aloha Kalama! It's time for the Summer Reading Program 2023- Join us at the Library!

- **Thursday, June 29th** @ 10:00am (library) Volcanoes Rock & Roll! Danielle Robbins, Cowlitz County Historical Museum
- **Wednesday, July 12th** @ 10:00am (at Rising Heights Dance Studio) It's Hula Time! Nani Davis, Hula Dance Instructor
- **Friday, August 4th**, Port of Kalama Marine Park, Kalama Heritage Festival- Kids Day!

All kids are welcome. Be sure to register for each event at the library. Read through the Festival and record your reading on Beanstack through the Kalama Library. For every 10 books you read, you can earn a free Burger Bar ice cream cone! If you read the most books, you'll win the grand prize! Summer reading is fun - especially when it takes you to Hawaii!

Juneteenth

City offices and the library will be closed in observance of Juneteenth on Monday, June 19th, 2023.



LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

- Join in: FOLK celebration Day on June 3rd @ 1pm at the library!
- Summer Reading Program 2023
 - June 29th
 - July 12th
 - August 4th
- The Library will be closed June 19th for Juneteenth



June Events

Wednesdays, June 7th - August 30th (6-9pm)	Evening concerts @ the Westin Amphitheater
Thursdays, June 8 - August 31st (6-9pm)	Free Summer Movies @ the Westin Amphitheater
Sunday, June 18th	Father's Day Breakfast, hosted by: Kalama Lions (8am-11am @ the Community Building, 216 Elm St)
Thursdays, June 22nd - August 31st (Details)	Downtown Farmer's Market, north side of the Library
Saturday & Sunday, June 24th & 25th	Big Smoke in Little Kalama @ Haydu Park (visit https://bigsmokeinlittlekalama.com for schedule)

Meeting Info

- City Council : 1st & 3rd Thursdays @ 7pm
 - Planning Commission: 2nd Thursday @ 6pm
 - Civil Service Commission: 4th Thursday @ 5:30pm
 - Library Board: 3rd Wednesday @ 5:15pm (bi-monthly beginning January 19th)
- Meeting Location: 320 N 1st St, Kalama, WA 98625 (and via Zoom, click [Agenda](#) for info)

Contact Us



- Public Works 360-673-3706
 - (emergency) 360-703-0168
- Police (office) 360-673-2165
 - (emergency) 911
 - (non emergency) Cowlitz County dispatch 360-577-3098 and press 3



- City Hall 360-673-4562
- Library 360-673-4568
- Building/Planning 360-673-5211
- Utility Billing 360-673-4554
- Community Building 360-673-4908

Helpful Contacts

- City of Kalama - Main ----- 360-673-4562
- Comcast ----- 888-226-2278
- Cowlitz County Assessor ----- 360-577-3010
- Cowlitz Bldg & Planning ----- 360-577-3052
- Cowlitz PUD ----- 360-423-2210
- Fire District #5 (office) ----- 360-673-2222
- Kalama Post Office ----- 360-673-3567
- Kalama Telephone Co. ----- 360-673-2755
- Labor & Industries (L&I) ----- 360-575-6923
- Utilities Locate ----- 800-424-5555
- Waste Control ----- 360-425-4302



We are on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)!

