



OUR TOWN

The official newsletter of Kalama, WA



IN THIS ISSUE

- “Shop with a Cop” Program
- Welcome New Officer Tim Thomson
- Holiday Schedule & Garbage Service
- Santa Cruise
- Library Happenings & Storytime
- December Parks & Recreation
- December Events

Kalama’s Shop with a Cop Program

The Kalama Police Department is proud to participate in the Shop with a Cop program, which provides a Christmas gift buying and giving opportunity for under-privileged children in the Kalama community. Children from low-income families are selected to receive a \$100 shopping trip to buy gifts for themselves and their family. Officers from Kalama donate their time to assist these children with their shopping experience. The Kalama community rallies time and again to bring joy to the lives of our community’s most under-privileged kids. Recently, Chief Herrera hosted a community fundraising Caribbean Dinner and exceeded their fundraising goal! Because of Kalama’s generosity, the Shop with a Cop Program can wrap around entire families and extend this wonderful experience to the younger, non-school aged siblings at home of our school district kids selected for the program. This year’s program will take place on December 9th and officers will shop with almost 75 kids—our most ever! This program is funded entirely by donations from Kalama area businesses, civic groups, and individuals. We thank you for your generosity and for helping the Kalama Police Department brighten the holiday season for some of Kalama’s families.



Kalama Welcomes Its Newest Police Officer

Hi,

I'm Tim Thomson. I have lived in the PNW most of my life. I grew up in the Portland Metro area and graduated from Western Oregon State College with a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement. Immediately after college, I began my career in Law Enforcement with Longview PD and after 6 years, I was hired as a lateral officer with Vancouver PD. I retired from Vancouver Police after a successful career and enjoyed volunteering for Meals on Wheels, Fences for Fido, and a local Farm Sanctuary. I also worked part time at a popular home improvement store. Shortly into my retirement, I realized I was still motivated to serve my community through police work.



My fiancé, Wendy, and I purchased a beautiful home on several acres in rural Cowlitz Co. We are hobby-farmers with two dogs and fifteen chickens... for now..., we may add to our farm in the spring. I love music and attending concerts, riding ATV's on the property, mowing acres of field grass - just kidding. Wendy has the "green thumb" and I enjoy helping her in our large garden. I spend as much time as possible outdoors, in all seasons, and volunteering. I am proud and honored to return to the profession I love by serving the City of Kalama as a Police Officer.

Holiday Schedule & Garbage Service

City offices and the library will be **closed** on the following dates:

- **Monday, December 25th**
- **Tuesday, December 26th**
- **Monday, January 1st**



Garbage service will be affected for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

There will be **NO PICKUP** on:

- Monday, 12/25/23 (pickup Tues, 12/26)**
- Monday, 1/1/24 (pickup Tues, 1/2)**



Pick up for these dates will be **moved** to **Tuesday (12/26 and 1/2)**. All pickups will be delayed 1 day after their regular service day. The whole week will be delayed 1 day of service

Santa Cruise

Each year on Christmas Eve, Cowlitz Fire District 5 does the Santa Cruise. Remember to watch and listen for Santa to drive by on the fire engine as he makes his way through town. ([Santa's route will be listed on Cowlitz Fire District 5 Facebook page here.](#))



A big thank you to Cowlitz Fire District 5 for keeping this fun and special tradition alive!



What's Happening at the Library?



THE GATHERING PLACE
Drop by to spend time with other seniors!
*Chat, play cards, share recipes
do puzzles, knit, make art.....*
Library card not required

KALAMA PUBLIC LIBRARY *more than books!*

"The Gathering Place"
Adult drop-in gathering
Wednesdays, 1-3 pm

Adult Chair Yoga
Thursdays, 11 am
City Council Chamber
Call Library to register
(required)

Medicare Info
Unbiased Medicare Advice
from a
SHIBA representative
Call Library for appointment



Contact the library: **360 673 4568** or
librarian@kalamalibrary.com

Storytime

Children and Families! Join us at the Library on Wednesday, December 6th from 10:30 to 11:15 for Christmas Storytime! Songs, Games, Stories, and Lots of Fun wait for each one of us this season. It's our only Storytime in December, so don't miss it! We'll see you in the New Year on Wednesday, January 3rd and 17th!



Christmas Storytime

Friends of the Library at Kalama

A Christmas book and basket sale is set for December 8th and 9th at the library! Shop from 10am-4pm each day for Christmas gift ideas and great books to read and share. FOLK looks forward to seeing you there!



December Parks & Recreation

December classes with Judy Bain: **Drum 4 Fun!** \$5 per class- paid monthly (Tues OR Thurs only = \$10, All classes = \$20)
Tuesdays & Thursdays from 10am-11am

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

Bring your water. Equipment is provided. Bring a check to class, or register here:

<https://www.invoicecloud.com/portal> Need more info?

Contact Emily Moore:

communityrelations@cityofkalama.com or [360-673-4908](tel:360-673-4908)

December Class Schedule:

- Dec. 5
- Dec. 7
- Dec. 12
- Dec. 14

Upcoming January Class Schedule:

- Jan. 9
- Jan. 11
- Jan. 16
- Jan. 18
- Jan. 23
- Jan. 25
- Jan. 30



December Events

Fri & Sat, December 1st & 2nd	Winter Ale Fest & Market @ 155 Elm 3-9pm & 9-9pm (click for details)
Sat., December 2, 2023	<u>Kalama Fair's Holiday Bazaar & Pie Sale</u> , Community Building (8am-4pm), & Bingo Night (5pm-9pm)
Sat., December 2, 2023	<u>Parade of lighted floats</u> , pictures with Santa event (downtown @ 4-6pm, parade starts @ 5pm), Polar Express @ the Port of Kalama (6:30pm)
Sat., December 29, 2023	<u>Lower Columbia Christmas Ships Viewing</u> 4:30pm, Cruise @ 6pm
Dec. 25th & 26th, Jan. 1st	City Offices & Library Closed for holiday(s)

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)
- Parks & Rec: 2nd Tuesday @ 5:30pm

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](#)!

