

# Montesano Update

by Mayor Vini Samuel | [vsamuel@montesano.us](mailto:vsamuel@montesano.us) | 249-3021

## Holiday season means Festival of Lights

### Brighten the season

Appreciating each season is a gift the Pacific NW gives you. We have traded in the beauty of the golden fall leaf for the edgy bite in the air.

Soon, our houses will transition from fall finery and Thanksgiving day smells to lights being carted from all corners of our homes.

It is a season that this town loves. The glittery nights greeting you as you come home from work. I encourage and hope that your house will be twinkling this year as we push back the darkness of the winter season with brightness and cheer with the 30th annual Festival of Lights.

The Montesano Chamber of Commerce, proud sponsor of the Festival, works hard alongside the city and other partners to put on this event. The Festival of Lights is a defining tradition for Montesano. Check out the other side for the full schedule. Enjoy!

### \$1000 scholarship for outstanding senior

Association of Washington Cities gives out six \$1,000 scholarships to outstanding seniors. There can only be one applicant per city.

The mayor must forward the nomination by March 10th so the cut off for students will be February 17, 2017. For more information, visit [www.cfgc.org](http://www.cfgc.org).

### Food Bowl

Food Bowl is Dec. 2-Dec. 13. Please donate either cash or canned goods to students out collecting to support our neighbors in need.

### Bathrooms at Fleet Park

The Kelsey Foundation has made a generous offer to the City for 2017. It will match donations up to \$15,000 through 2017 to establish a bathroom at Fleet Park.

This is big news for our city, since many events are held at Fleet Park. The expected cost of a prefabricated bathroom would be \$45,000 exclusive of city's contribution of labor and infrastructure.

This would replace the port-a-potties that exist now and would be a significant upgrade to the downtown area. If you wish to donate to this project, please contact Doug Streeter or me at the city.

### New Councilmember appointed

Antony Chung was appointed to the council based on Lori Benedict's resignation due to employment changes. Councilman Chung was sworn-in in November and plans to focus on business development in multi-million dollar capital investments in Montesano.

Mr. Chung's family owns Monte Chevron, Monte Square, the RV Park development and other businesses in the region.

### Parks Board openings

The Parks Board does critical work with ballfields for our kids and outdoor recreation for all ages. There are openings for the Parks Board! Please submit a letter of interest to the city. Current members are Garret Dalan, Pat Wadsworth and Randy Bachtell.





## FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

### *Full schedule*

#### **Friday, Dec. 9**

- \* 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. — Live Vocal Entertainment, Monte HS Commons. Free, all ages.
- \* 9 p.m. to midnight — Ugly Sweater DJ Dance Party/Auction at Monte City Hall. Adults only (21+). Pre-sale \$15 for cup, 2 drink tickets, \$20 at the door.

#### **Saturday, Dec. 10**

- \* 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. —Pancake Breakfast w/Santa at Monte Community Center. \$5/person, 5yrs. and under free. 314 S. Main St.
- \* 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.—Santa's Sweet Shoppe Goodies for the kid in us all. Sponsored by the Montesano Community Center 314 S. Main St.
- \* 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.—Art Show featuring Ken Hurley at Whitney's Chevrolet showroom
- \* 9 a.m. to finish—Jingle Bell Jog 2 mile fun walk or 12K race. Pre registration at Montesano HS. Adults \$20, child (10 and under) \$15. Start at corner of Pioneer and Fleet Street.
- \* 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. —Craft Fair /Christmas Bazaar at Montesano Junior High Gym. 303 N. Church. More than 80 vendors will be there!
- \* 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.—Grays Harbor Historical Courthouse Tours
- \* 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.—Chehalis Valley Historical Museum Tours. 703 W. Pioneer Ave
- \* 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.—Live Local Performers at Grays Harbor County Courthouse. 1 p.m. Olympic Flute Choir, 2 p.m. Simpson Elementary School Choir, 4 p.m. Montesano High School Choir.
- \* 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.—Children's Program at the Montesano W.H. Abel Memorial Timberland Library. The Shoemaker and the Elf by Shaver Marionettes will present a winter puppet play. 125 S. Main St.

- \* 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.—Scavenger Hunt presented by Umpqua Bank. Meet at Umpqua Bank.
- \* 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.—Chowder Feed provided by Montesano Fire Dept. Volunteer Assoc. Donations appreciated. 310 E. Pioneer Ave
- \* 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.—Homemade Chili & Cornbread at the Montesano Moose Lodge. \$3/person. 3 Monte Elma Rd
- \* 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.—Cocoa Factory @Montesano Fitness Center Studio. Warm up and create your own unique cup of cocoa. 100 percent of all donations will help support our local Children Advocacy Center. Open until the end of the parade! 210 S. Main St.
- \* 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.—Open House and snacks with the Friends of the Library at the W.H. Abel Memorial Library. Live music by the Grays Harbor Banjo Band. All ages.
- \* 6 p.m.—Grand Parade. Grand Marshal, Ken Albert
- \* 7 p.m.—Lighting of the Yule Log at Fleet Park corner of S. First St. and Pioneer
- \* 7 p.m.—Self-Guided Driving Tours of Montesano's Decorated Homes and Businesses
- \* 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.—Live Nativity at the Montesano Presbyterian Church, 201 E. McBryde
- \* 7:30 p.m.—Dukes of Swing performers at the Montesano Moose Lodge. \$3 cover per/person (no charge for members). 3 Monte-Elma Rd.

#### **Sunday, Dec. 11**

- \* 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.—Art Show featuring Ken Hurley at Whitney's Chevrolet showroom
- \* 1 p.m.—Ringin in the Yule Log and a Christmas Sing-a-long at Schafer State Park. Free and open to all ages. 1365 West Schafer Park Rd., Elma. More details at FOSLS.org or call Stet Palmer 360-789-9953.



Front page header photo by Omi Prince and newsletter design courtesy of Silver Tongue. Please send news tips and photos to [vsamuel@montesano.us](mailto:vsamuel@montesano.us)

