



A TIME TO REBUILD



Medical Lake Middle School Students Suit Up as Elves to Serve During Winter Festival

An Unforgettable Season

Greetings, Dear Friends. It has been an unforgettable season and one that will not soon be forgotten. Incredible loss combined with incredible recovery efforts. All of us playing some part, not to mention the hundreds coming from near and far to offer assistance.

I, for one, will never look at trees in the same way. The ever-present, ever-green, towering ponderosa pines standing tall for decades, I took them for granted. Now they are gone or partly charred and I miss them, the way they were, the forest we knew. I expect we will see new growth in the Spring and the years following as those survivors propagate new life.

These remaining living trees are symbolic of our own recovery. What was left will take root, recover, and rebuild the forest that once was. It may take time and look differently than before but it will live again. So we too will do the same. The parts that remain alive will thrive again, rebuild, recover and live anew, I'm sure of it!

City Business

The 2024 budget was passed by city council at the December 19th meeting. Included in the budget are 15 capital projects, mostly grant funded, with some overdue improvements to the Waste Water Treatment Plant paid by capital reserves for such purpose.

All the city employees served above and beyond in 2023. City staff are true professionals and dedicated public servants! Special Mayoral awards were given during the Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon held mid-December.

Employee of the Year: Scott Duncan, Public Works Director.

Leadership Award: Sonny Weathers, City Administrator.

City Hall Staff Above and Beyond Award: Elisa Rodriguez, City Planner

Public Works Employee of the Year: Steve Blymyer

Waste Water Treatment Employee of the Year: Larry Lynch

winter festival 2023



Pictures by Cathy Johnson

NOT JUST A PLACE TO BE, MEDICAL LAKE IS A PLACE OF BELONGING.

2023 Accomplishments

Reported to you with gratitude for the team of excellent city employees and esteemed council members who completed the following:

- Two year budget proviso to reimburse cost of DSHS Law Enforcement services
- Law Enforcement Services Inter- Local Agreement with Spokane County Sheriff's Office
- Code Enforcement Officer hired
- Community Policing Town Hall Meeting
- Parks and Recreation Director, Glen Horton hired
- 15 Passenger Bus Purchased
- Community Garden
- Race Timing System purchased
- New After School programs
- Skyhawks programs offered
- New soccer goals
- New Panel Christmas Tree
- Grant: Barker St. Reconstruction
- Grant awards for 2024 Projects: Lefevre St. Restriping, all North / South Streets Scrub Seal, and Lake St. ADA ramps
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board established & appointed
- Appointment of Ted Olson to City Council Position 2
- Appointment of Keli Shaffer to City Council Position 6
- Salary Commission established & appointed
- Gray Fire Community Meetings
- Gray Fire Cleanup Efforts
- Spring Clean-up 20 tons debris
- Yard Waste Disposal Interlocal Agreement with Cheney
- Reclaimed Water Main Repair
- Library Roof Repair
- Planning: Critical Area Ordinance Updated
- Official Zoning Map updated and adopted
- Vacant Property Ordinance
- EPA Groundwater Study Grant management underway
- Broadband Feasibility Study
- WWTP Solar Array project

Accomplishments cont.

- Vactor & Multihog purchases
- Geographing Mapping GIS
- Credit card payments
- Grant writing consultant
- Cyber Security Assessment
- Asset Management Policy
- Public Records Policy
- Capital Improvement Plan

Other City News

Promotions & New Employees

The recent promotions of Marilyn Eaker to Public Works Administrative Support and Taylor Dormaier's to entry level at the Waste Water Treatment Plant have created vacancies in the front office. Please join us in congratulating Marilyn and Taylor on their new well earned positions. With that, you will see two new faces in the front office at City Hall. Colton Raczynowski, Administrative Accounts Payable Clerk, and Sandy Nettleton, Administrative Utility Clerk. Both are highly qualified with deep ties to the community. Please stop by and welcome them to the team!

Legislative Agenda. The city's 2024 legislative agenda was adopted by council. The Mayor, City Administrator, and council members will travel to Olympia in January to meet with state legislators to seek support for funding and bills that benefit the City of Medical Lake. Priorities include Post-Fire Mitigation money to pay for damages and deficiencies discovered during the fire response. The City is also seeking a permanent budget line item to pay for Police Services to DSHS facilities. See the Website for a detailed list.

Fire Recovery & Other News

Re*Imagine Medical Lake reports giving more than \$48,000 in grants toward fire recovery efforts and to individuals impacted by the Gray Rd Fire. Re*Imagine also gave away trees, stockings, handmade quilts, and decorations at the December Gray Road Fire Community Meeting. Their organization continues to accept grant applications. To apply go to MedicalLake.org/gray-fire-recovery/

The Medical Lake Lions Club, at the December Community Gray Fire meeting, gave away gift cards, gloves, hats, and blankets. The Lions Club also purchased \$500 of locally sourced ground beef donated to the Medical Lake Food Bank for all those in need.

The Salvation Army continues to conduct long term fire recovery case management for Spokane County Emergency Management. The Salvation Army is onsite in Medical Lake weekly through January at: 107 W Lake St, Medical Lake Mon., Tues., & Thursdays 9:30am - 3:30pm Call for Appt. Office: (509) 325-6810 Cell (509) 263-1957

Note: Case management is for all those impacted by the fires.

Mayor Terri Cooper was recognized as one of the Spokesman Review's 2023 Women of the Year for her leadership before and after the Gray Road Fire.

https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2023/nov/28/women-of-the-year-rising-to-the-occasion-medical-l/?fbclid=IwAR0uOC-rbq7cdzRnIsj2q4SZNGig8PeeJCLo-fr_L_PBxBfHd3SGO2A4ysc

MEDICAL LAKE PARKS AND RECREATION

Medical Lakers After School Program

Grades: 3-5 Cost: \$95 / Month

Hours: 2:45-6:00pm



Join the Medical Lake Parks and Recreation Department everyday after school for some fun. We have video games, arts and crafts, board games, homework help, and so much more. This unstructured program is a great way for your grade school children to blow off some steam after being in school all day.

4Rec Soccer

Come and have your child participate in this progressive league where your child will learn the fundamentals of playing soccer to help them progress towards playing competently.



AGES: 5/6 | 7/8 | 9/10 | 11/12 **COST: \$50***

SEASON: 4/8-5/23

(2 weekday practices & Saturday Games)

REGISTER BY: 3/8

*\$5 Late fee for registration after registration deadline.

4Rec Flag Football

Get your young ones ready geared up to learn how to play football when they are older! This non contact format of flag football teaches kids the



basics of how positions and plays work for when they get ready to play for their schools team.

AGES: 7/8 | 9/10 | 11/12 **COST: \$50***

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Skyhawks SuperTots Ages: 18 month-5 Years

SuperTots Sports Academy

provides sport-based development



programs where children discover and develop athletic, motor, and social skills. SuperTots' curriculum is specifically designed to promote development along side a healthy, active lifestyle. **All Supertot programs held in Medical Lake can be found at Skyhawks.com**

Karate with Kris Wilder

COST: \$96

Ages: 4-6 & 7-10

Session: 1/8 - 2/28 [8 weeks]

Mon. & Wed at 4:00PM

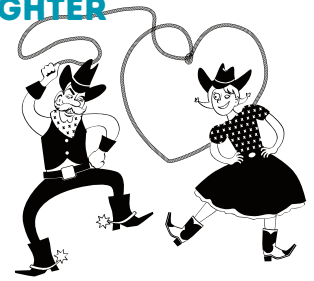
Registrations open 11/13 at

medical-lake.org/recreation



SPRING DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE HOEDOWN

Dads! Bring your little Cowgirl to our first Daddy Daughter Dance in Medical Lake! We will provide everything needed for you and



your little gal(s) to enjoy the night. Snacks, refreshments, crafts, and of course dancing!

Date: 3/16

Time: 4:00-6:00pm

Cost: \$15/person

Register By: 3/2

SPRING BREAK DAY CAMP

Join Medical Lake

Parks and Recreation Staff

this Spring Break for

some daily fun and

adventure. We will have

daily activities and trips

planned to entertain your

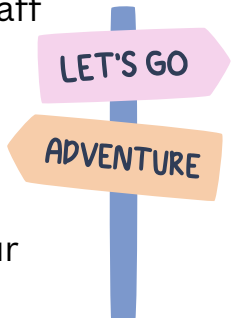
children all week long.

Daily breakfast and snack are included.

Bring your own lunch.

Ages: 8-13 **Cost:** \$200

Hours: 7:30am-5:30pm



Public Meetings

City Hall Auditorium, 124 S Lefevre St

City Council

Tuesdays | 6:30pm

1/2 1/16 2/6 2/20

Planning Commission

Thursdays | 5:30pm

1/25 2/22

TEEN PROGRAMS

FROZEN ON BROADWAY- First Interstate Center for the Arts

Enjoy your favorite songs you know and love from the original Oscar-winning film. This will be an unforgettable experience filled with Special effects, stunning sets, and costumes. Cost includes ticket, transportation and supervision. Feel free to dress up, but not required! Drop off and pick up at ML City Hall.

Ages: 13-17

Date: 7/25

Cost: \$70

Register By: 3/18

SPOKANE INDIANS BASEBALL GAME

Check out your favorite local baseball team as they play the Hillsboro Hops of the Arizona Diamondbacks. Cost includes transportation to and from ML City Hall, ticket, and supervision. Please send concessions money with your teen if they would like to purchase food at the game.

Ages: 13-17

Date: 8/1

Cost: \$20

Register By: 7/26

TEEN HIKING CAMP

We are partnering with Cheney Parks and Recreation's popular hiking camp to take your teen on some fun and adventure. Our program will embark on various beautiful hikes each day of the week exploring hiking trails around Washington and Idaho. Hikes will average 4-5 miles each day. Bring lunch, snacks, water bottle, backpack, sunscreen, bug spray, good hiking shoes, and a hat everyday.

Ages: 13-17

Dates: 6/24 - 6/27

Time: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Cost: \$150

TEEN WHITEWATER RAFTING

Come raft whitewater rapids on the Clark Fork River with Wiley E Water's Whitewater Rafting Co.! Send your teen with a towel, sack lunch, sunscreen, and change of clothes.

Ages: 13-17

Date: 8/15

Time: 6:00am -4:00pm

Cost: \$150

Register By: 7/18

BECOME AN INSTRUCTOR

Do you have a special hobby, skill, or passion that you would like to share with others in our community? Reach out to us at City Hall and we will see if we have the time and space available to help you host classes to share your knowledge!

Phone: 509-565-5007

ADULT PROGRAMS



Jazzercise! Cost: Varies. New Participant Discounts. Visit the Jazzercise website for times and dates.

www.jazzercise.com/location/jazzercise-west-plains.

6v6 Soccer

Hit the pitch for Spring 6v6 Coed Soccer and compete for the title of Spring Soccer Champs!

- 6 to 10 players per team

- Modified field: 60yds x 40 yds

- Includes single elim playoffs

Season: Fri 5/3-6/7 **Time:** 6:00-8:00pm

Cost: \$250

Register By: 2/16

Open Gym Volleyball

Get your friends together to play some free play volleyball. Must sign waiver upon arrival. Minors must have adult signature.

Dates: Saturdays 1/20 - 3/9

Ages: 16+

Cost: FREE

Location: Medical Lake Middle School

Yoga! Cost: \$8.00/Session

Come and enjoy a Yoga class designed for 55 and over! Sign a one-time waiver. Payment due before class each week.

11:30am – 12:30pm: Wednesdays

Location: City Hall Auditorium

124 S Lefevre

55+

Pinochle Cost: FREE!

Socialize and meet new people in our weekly Pinochle group. Bring a snack to share.

Noon: Tuesdays

Location: City Hall Auditorium

124 S Lefevre