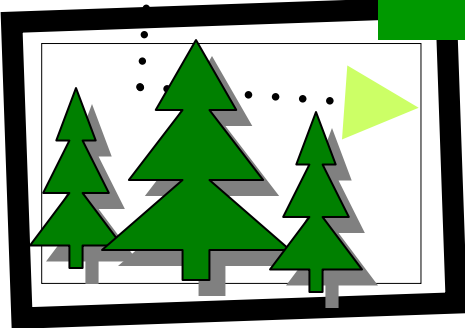


City of Montesano Quarterly Newsletter

Fall Issue 2009

Keeping you
informed



Home of the Tree Farm

City of Montesano

112 North Main Street
Montesano, WA 98563

Phone: 360-249-3021 Ex. 102

Fax: 360-249-3690

E-mail: mayor@montesano.us

We're on the web!

www.montesano.us

City Partners with Census 2010



The "2009 Festival of Lights" glass tree ornaments as shown above were contributed to the City of Montesano by the U.S. Federal Government as a way to publicize the partnership between the City of Montesano and Census 2010. Seven hundred ornaments have been provided.

Every 10 years the Census is a count of everyone of all ages, races, ethnic groups, citizens and non-citizens residing in the United States. Census questionnaires will be mailed or delivered to every household in March, 2010. A second mailing will be made if no response is made, and households that still do not respond will be called or visited by a Census worker in April, 2010.

Mayor Ron Schillinger and the Montesano City Council encourage Montesano residents to participate in the Census and they will attempt to raise overall awareness in support of census takers as they help complete an accurate count.

The City will provide meeting room space for meetings, training or testing, as well as help advertise, put up posters, and place information on the city website.

Community Calendar

Monte Homecoming Football vs
Tenino.....October 9
Monte Hall of Fame
Banquet.....October 24
Halloween.....October 31
Election Day.....November 3
F.O.L. Book Sale.....November 6 & 7
Veterans Day Holiday...November 11
Festival of Lights.....December 12

Small City Mayors Meet in Kippenheim, Germany

City of Montesano Elected Officials:

Mayor: Ron Schillinger

Council:

Chris Hutchings
Chris Thomas
Pat Herrington
Doug Streeter
Lyle Powell
Rich Klinger
Brian Schumacher

Appointed Officials:

Clerk-Controller: Kristy Powell
City Forester: Loren Hiner
City Attorney: Daniel Glenn
Fire Chief: Ken Walkington
Police Chief: Ray Sowers
Public Works Director:
Mike Wincewicz
Municipal Court Judge:
Arthur Blauvelt



From left: Willi Mathis, Kippenheim mayor for 32 years from 1976 to 2008; Ron Schillinger, Montesano mayor for 2 years; Dietmar Benz, City of Mahlberg mayor for 4 years; and Matthias Gutbrod, Kippenheim mayor since January.

Mayor Ron Schillinger and his wife, Janet Botnen just returned from spending 7 days in the city of Kippenheim, Germany. Kippenheim has many features in common with Montesano: one stop light, a population of 4,000 people, a city forest, an historic center and an agriculture/timber economy. Kippenheim is a farming community with grapes on the hillsides and corn in the valley. It sits in the SW corner of Germany in the Rhine River valley close to France and Switzerland with the Black Forest over the hill. Ron's great grandfather was born and raised in Kippenheim prior to immigrating to the U.S. in 1883. Ron has about fifty (50) 2nd and 3rd cousins who live in Kippenheim.



The City Hall for Kippenheim, Germany, built in 1610, sits in the center of town, which can be seen below the grape vineyards in the right photo.



CITY EMBRACES TECHNOLOGY



City Clerks DeAnn, Kim, and Teresa will answer questions and help you if you would like to sign up for automated payments. You may call them at 249-3021

The Clerks at Montesano City Hall have embraced the technology of ACH (Automated Clearing House), EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer).

The City of Montesano uses ACH/EFT for payroll, taxes, business to business payments, E-commerce payments, loans and consumer bills.

All Montesano utility customers recently received an ACH /EFT Authorization sheet in their utility billing. Using this method ensures timely payment of accounts and eliminates the need for checks, postage and envelopes.

The City also accepts VISA or Mastercard, either in person or by phone. There is a three dollar (\$3) convenience fee for use of debit or credit card. For detailed information on all payment options, see the city website: www.montesano.us/PaymentOptions.htm.

FAQ:

1. **Will I still receive a statement?** *You will receive a monthly statement marked: "PAID BY EFT" in the lower right corner.*
2. **What day of the month is the payment deducted from my bank account?** *The payment will be deducted from your specified account on the 14th of each month.*
3. **Is my information secure?** *This process requires two electronic signatures, therefore ensuring complete security for the City and its customers.*
4. **How do I get a form?** *At City Hall or on the city website shown above.*

If you have any questions or want to sign up for this service contact Kim or Teresa at Montesano City Hall @ 249-3021.

PREPARE NOW

October is time to prepare yourself and your family for winter storms and emergencies.

Before disaster strikes:

- * Choose a place for your family to meet.
- * Choose a person outside the area as an emergency contact.
- * Put together an emergency supply kit for home & work.
- * Know where the nearest fire & police stations are located.
- * Learn first aid and CPR & have a first aid kit & supplies.
- * Learn how to shut off your water, gas and electricity.
- * Keep a small amount of cash available.
- * Conduct storm & fire drills every 6 months.
- * Store vital records, valuables & photos in a safe deposit box.
- * Make sure all family members know the exits to your home.
- * Make sure all family members agree on an emergency plan.
- * Get good tires on your car or truck.

Be prepared to take care of yourself & family for at least three days:

Fuel in vehicles. List of contacts. Flashlights & batteries. Battery-powered radio or TV. Drinking water. Dry or canned food. Can opener. First aid supplies. Whistle. Drugs. Sleeping bag.

MONTESANO DOWNTOWN PLAN

Montesano Community School Notice

CREA Affiliates (Seattle) was retained to facilitate a Development Plan for downtown Montesano that will bring new energy and life and help keep our small town feel into the future as we grow.

There were initially three alternatives presented to the Montesano Planning Commission and identified in the summer newsletter, as well as in *The Vidette*. The "Puzzle Piece" Alternative received the most favorable public response and input.

The "Puzzle Piece" encompasses a larger portion of the downtown area. It is a composition of smaller districts, with a variety of streetscapes and development opportunities. Each district is planned for a public park or plaza and pockets of public parking. However, it relies on more street parking and a comingling of pedestrian and vehicle activity.

Two pedestrian loops connect the main destinations within downtown as well as many districts. A proposed Community Center and Farmer's Market are located on either side of Main Street. The Planning Commission would still like your comments. The Final Plan is scheduled to be done by March, 2010.



Schedules for fall classes for Community School will be available soon, including instructions for registration. There is a great lineup of classes for all ages, for example, Senior Exercise, Men's Basketball, Watercolor, Quilting, Jazzercise, Basic Sign Language, Children's Tumbling, Creative Writing, Herbal Astrology, Gourde Weaving and Holiday Wreath Making — just to name a few.

Class schedules will be available on line at www.monte.wednet.edu. Click on Community Education.

Schedules will also be distributed to local libraries, as well as to numerous other businesses around the county. There is sure to be a class (or classes!) just for you. For more information, please call 249-1988 and ask for Leticia.

November is Fire Arm Safety Month

Stop by the Police Department for free gun locks & safety tips.

**Shop Local
Buy Local
Eat Local**

City Vision Statement:

We see Montesano maintaining and enhancing its position as the historic county seat of Grays Harbor. We want a safe, stable population; a thriving diverse business community; and a healthy, active citizenry in a family oriented and pedestrian friendly community. We will strive to protect our natural resources, provide diverse opportunities, and remain financially stable.

The Police Department will be open on Halloween Night from 5 to 10 pm to exchange open candy and hand out glow sticks!!