

**CITY OF WHITE SALMON  
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-12-635**

**A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHOSE SPIRIT  
AND SERVICE BRING TO LIFE THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE & MENORAH  
LIGHTING CELEBRATION**

**WHEREAS**, as the famed editorial once reminded a young girl, “Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus,” for Santa lives wherever generosity, goodwill, and imagination endure—and in White Salmon, these qualities burn bright enough each December to light the whole town; and

**WHEREAS**, like the townspeople of Bedford Falls, our community proves year after year that when friends and neighbors come together, no one stands alone—each small act of kindness weaving into something bigger, warmer, and more wonderful than any one person could create; and

**WHEREAS**, for many years, Lloyd DeKay, Shari Bosler, and all the other Community Partners, along with Izak Riley and Ryan Kreps, have served as White Salmon’s original holiday elves, conceiving the beloved Dock Grade ornaments and lovingly decorating our community tree with patience, creativity, and a touch of magic that never fails to delight; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of Encounter Church have become our town’s “baking elves,” crafting mountains of homemade cookies so abundant and so delicious that even Santa himself may be tempted to linger a little longer than scheduled; and

**WHEREAS**, years ago, Amanda Lawrence ensured that our community celebration would shine for all by introducing the menorah, a symbol of hope and perseverance that now stands proudly beside our Christmas tree, illuminating the season with shared light and shared meaning; and

**WHEREAS**, the City’s Public Works crew serves as White Salmon’s behind-the-scenes elves, transforming downtown with festive décor and a holiday sign that greets all who enter our city with a reminder that they have arrived somewhere special; and

**WHEREAS**, the Downtown Business Alliance, the Mt. Adams Chamber of Commerce, and Explore White Salmon have also joined in the spirit of the season, partnering to enhance downtown with festive lighting, coordinated promotion, and the warm glow of good tidings; and

**WHEREAS**, the spirit these early elves sparked has continued to grow, welcoming new hands and new hearts into the work of building joy, led this year by community members including Dale Grinstead-Mayle, Brianna Wilson, Shannon Cooper, Piper Sullivan, Karissa Moreland, Ivy Carpe, and Lisa Smith, who energized volunteer teams to create new activities and a deeper sense of holiday connection throughout downtown;

**WHEREAS**, White Salmon’s dedicated firefighters ensure that Santa can safely make his brief but joyful visit from the North Pole (even in the midst of his busiest toy-building season!) so he may greet children, wave to families, and remind us that wonder lives in every generation; and

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*Recognizing the Community Members Whose Spirit and Service Bring to Life the Annual Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting Celebration*

**WHEREAS**, the White Salmon Valley Community Library continues the treasured tradition of its annual Wassail gathering, offering warmth and welcome to all, while the Gorge MakerSpace opens its doors for hands-on creativity, providing opportunities for neighbors of all ages to craft handmade gifts filled with real heart; and

**WHEREAS**, through lights, cookies, ornaments, music, handmade treasures, and countless unseen acts of generosity, these individuals and organizations remind us of the true meaning of the season: that community is the greatest gift of all, and that when you are surrounded by friends and kindness, you are never lonely.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:**

that the City Council of White Salmon expresses its deepest appreciation to all who give their time, talent, imagination, and joy to the annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting celebration, and recognizes that their contributions both large and small help weave the fabric of a community where goodwill shines brighter than any bulb or candle.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**

that this Resolution be entered into the official record of the City of White Salmon so that the spirit of these holiday elves, past and present, may be remembered long beyond this season, inspiring future generations to carry forward the simple, extraordinary truth: *that the magic of the holidays lives in the hearts of those who give of themselves to others.*

CITY OF WHITE SALMON, WASHINGTON

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Marla Keethler, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Signed by:  
  
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Erika Castro Guzman, City Clerk

Signed by:  
  
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Shawn MacPherson, City Attorney

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