

**Are your daffodils blooming yet? I always enjoy the happy yellow blossoms this time of year. With lots of pressing issues in the City and County, remember to join me at a Mayor's Coffee sometime soon! My weekly coffee is a commitment that is crucial to maintaining transparency and first-hand information about the City. See you soon!**

## Our State and Federal Legislators

In February, I travelled to Olympia to discuss the City of Mount Vernon with our State legislators. The legislative packet is posted online for you to take a look at. Our number one priority is assistance in funding Phase 3 of the Downtown Flood Control and Revitalization Project. All our State legislators were very supportive of the City's \$5 million request for the State Capital Budget. Once the State budget is complete, we will know if we have received this help from the State. Other issues discussed in Olympia:

- City of Mount Vernon's Downtown Flood Protection Project and Riverfront Trail – Phase III (\$5 million capital budget request)
- Restore diverted liquor revenue and retain existing State-shared revenues (*HB 1368*)
- The City of Mount Vernon supports the continued funding request of \$90 million for the Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP)
- Continue Capacity Grant funding to jurisdictions for the unfunded mandates related to NPDES implementation
- Preserve funding for Critical Infrastructure Programs under the Public Works Trust Fund and don't divert capital investment dollars to the general fund (*Do not support HB 1089*)
- Support legislation that would extend the expiration date of LIFT awards (*HB 1306 and SB 5293*)
- Public Records Act Reform (*HB 1128*)  
In conjunction with the Association of Washington Cities, the City of Mount Vernon encourages the legislature to address public records abuses that drive up local costs but do not enhance the public's right to know.

I have also had the opportunity to spend time with our new Federal Representative, Congresswoman Suzan DelBene. We have enjoyed lunch together, and the Congresswoman is very interested in Mount Vernon and opening a district office in Mount Vernon. In addition to meeting with the Congresswoman, we have begun to meet with her legislative aide Jay Tomkus.

### Mayor's Coffee Hours

**Friday, March 15**  
12:00—1000 p.m.  
City Hall Lobby  
910 Cleveland Avenue

**Friday, March 22**  
2:30—3:30 p.m.  
Park Village Clubhouse  
2725 E. Fir Street

**Saturday, March 30**  
10:30—11:30 a.m.  
Fire Station 2  
1901 N. LaVenture Road



Mayor Boudreau and Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

## Upcoming Events

### Friends of the Library Meeting

Wednesday, March 13  
6:00 pm  
Mount Vernon City Library  
315 Snoqualmie Street

### Mount Vernon City Council

March 13 and 27, 7:00 pm  
Police/Court Campus  
1805 Continental Place  
\*check website for agenda

### Women in Leadership: Miss Representation Film & Panel

Saturday, March 23  
2:00 - 4:30 pm  
Skagit Valley College  
Phillip Tarro Theatre  
Free and open to the public

Check our website  
[www.mountvernonwa.gov](http://www.mountvernonwa.gov)  
for Parks and Recreation  
offerings

### Mayor Jill Boudreau

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## Language Resource at the Library

With your Mount Vernon City Library card, you can now access a great online tool for learning languages. As part of the 2013 Budget, the Library was able to add **Mango Languages** to its offerings for library card holders.



From the Library website: "Mango is an online language learning system teaching practical conversation skills for a wide variety of popular languages. With everyday dialog from native speakers, engaging interactive lessons, and a unique intuitive teaching style, Mango increases your ability to use, adapt and build on what you learn. In no time at all, you'll be able to navigate all sorts of everyday situations – get directions, order a meal, make new friends – the possibilities are endless!"

Say you want to learn conversational Spanish. Mango Languages is the currently featured online resource on the library's webpage, so just go to the City's site at [www.mountvernonwa.gov](http://www.mountvernonwa.gov) and click on the "Library" link in the left hand column of options and then click on the Mango languages icon. A sign-in page will appear; type in your library card number and then your four digit library PIN, then click the login button. You are now on the Create a Profile page, or the Log In page if you are already registered. Either way you are seconds away from an effective, rewarding and FUN self paced Spanish lesson.

## Three Arrested During Drug House Search

For the past year, Police personnel and City Code Enforcement have been working to resolve issues with a multi-family property located in the 200 Block of West Lawrence Street. Complaints of drug activity, transient squatters, illegal diverting of utilities, sewer and garbage are just some of the issues. It was slow to resolve due to the fact the property was foreclosed on by a bank in Florida. The property had been scheduled for auction this month.

On March 11, Patrol Officers following up on tip information served a search warrant for Maintaining A Drug House (RCW 62.50.402(f)) and arrested a 28-year-old Mount Vernon man who was in control of the property. They also arrested a 40-year-old man for outstanding warrants and for possessing a substance believed to be illegal narcotics. A 25-year-old Sedro Woolley man was also taken into custody for Sedro Woolley Police Department for outstanding charges involving drug activity.

Eight officers from the Mount Vernon Police Department were involved in the warrant service. They located evidence of illegal drug substances along with packaging materials and other paraphernalia.

The actions taken reflect the sentiment expressed by many residents; this type of activity will not be tolerated around their neighborhoods, or community.

## "Miss Representation" Documentary Film and Panel Discussion

I'd like to invite you to an event that I am participating in! **On Saturday, March 23, from 2pm-4:30pm**, I will be participating in a Women in Leadership event at the Phillip Tarro Theatre (Skagit Valley College).

A screening of the documentary film "Miss Representation" will be shown, followed by a panel discussion of women who are in leadership positions. I have seen this film, and found it to be very profound and moving – highlighting the issues that women face when they step in to leadership roles. State Representative Kris Lytton, Publisher Heather Hernandez, Attorney Patricia Paul, Claudia Avendano Palomera and her daughter Felisha Palomera will join me on the panel.

