

We are moving into Memorial Day weekend – I encourage you to spend a moment or two to pause and honor the ultimate sacrifice made by men and women of our armed forces. Did you know that “Memorial Day” originated after the American Civil War to commemorate the Union and Confederate soldiers who died in the Civil War? Fly your flag proudly as a tribute!

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Downtown Waterfront Revitalization & Flood Protection Project, Phase 2 on June 15

A new era for Downtown Mount Vernon begins on Saturday, June 15, 2013 when groundbreaking ceremonies are held for Phase 2 of the Waterfront Revitalization Project and Downtown Flood Protection Project!

Phase 2 will include construction of approximately 1,650 linear feet of concrete flood wall to protect the historic downtown area, 1,650 linear feet of a 24-foot wide river walk and trail connection to a regional trail system, and the construction of a 30,000 square foot Public Riverfront Park. The project also includes the addition of public restrooms which will be located at the southeast corner of Gates and Main Street. Construction is expected to be completed by Fall 2014.

YOU ARE INVITED! The City of Mount Vernon will officially break ground at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 15, on the Skagit River Revetment near the intersection of Gates and Main Street.

To help ensure minimal impact, the City has worked closely with downtown businesses, the Mount Vernon Downtown Association and the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce on strategies including new parking and directional signage, construction staging, advertising, events and other communication programs.

The Downtown Waterfront Revitalization & Flood Protection Project has a third and final phase, which extends south from Kincaid Street along the waterfront and around the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The City is working on securing \$10 million to fund Phase 3, which once completed will qualify the City for FEMA certified flood protection. This means that the historic downtown will not only be protected from the flooding, but will also be removed from the 100-year flood plain as determined by FEMA, enabling investment and redevelopment in downtown.

The project is part of a comprehensive redevelopment plan for Mount Vernon's historic downtown area that is being used to guide public and private investments over the next 20 years.

The Downtown and Waterfront Master Plan is designed to build on and enhance existing retail activity along First Street, and create a vibrant, attractive, and safe waterfront and downtown, with enhanced public access to the shoreline and river, new and improved public amenities, and mixed-use redevelopment that will generate new jobs and create housing that preserves the character of downtown Mount Vernon. You can view the Master Plan on our website:

www.mountvernonwa.gov – go to the Community and Economic Development tab.



Mayor's Coffee Hours

Saturday, May 25

9:30—10:30 a.m.

Across the street from the Mount
Vernon Farmers Market
Corner of Cleveland & Snoqualmie

Friday, May 31

12:00—1:00 p.m.

Mount Vernon City Library
315 Snoqualmie St.

Friday, June 7

10:00—11:00 a.m.

Mount Vernon Boys & Girls Club
1100 N. LaVenture Rd.

Upcoming Events

Federal Budget Workshop with Congresswoman Suzan DelBene

Wednesday, May 29
6:00—8:00 p.m.

Skagit Valley College Cafeteria
2405 E. College Way

Rep. Suzan DelBene invites all constituents to join her in Mount Vernon for an interactive budget workshop where YOU will choose the solutions for America's fiscal challenges.

The event is free and open to the public, however you must RSVP to reserve your seat at (425) 485-0085 or rsvp.delbene@mail.house.gov

Mount Vernon Birthday Trail Walk

Saturday, June 29

10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Bakerview Park to Lions Park
Beginning at the N. 30th Street Kulshan Trail Entrance

Come celebrate Mount Vernon's birthday with a walk along the Kulshan Trail. Do Mount Vernon themed activities and collect stamps at stations along the way, then bring your stamped birthday card to Lion's Park for cake!

Check our website

www.mountvernonwa.gov
for Parks and Recreation offerings

Mayor Jill Boudreau

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Geocaching

Ever wondered about Geocaching?? Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices such as smart phones or hand held GPS units. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to locate the geocache (container) hidden at that location. This family oriented activity is a great way to get your family out of the house exploring the great outdoors.



Mount Vernon Parks & Recreation are offering a FREE course with an overview of how to get started, equipment needs, different types of caches, and how to log a find. They will also cover different tangents of the game, such as Travel Bugs, collectables, hiding your own caches, geocoins, and geocaching events.

At the core of Geocaching is being friendly to the environment, and learning how 'Cachers' can help. At the conclusion of the presentation, the class will head into Hillcrest Park with GPS devices and hunt for caches hidden right in our own back yard. You can bring your own smartphone or GPS if you would like, however, it is not necessary for participation in the course.

Date: Tuesday, July 9, OR Tuesday, September 10

Time: 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: Skylight Room at Hillcrest Park

Age: All ages, 12 and under bring your parents

Instructor: Tom Wenzl, Geocaching Junkie!

Note: Dress for weather, wear shoes for easy trail walking

For more information: Mount Vernon Parks Department, (360) 336-6215

LaVenture/Anderson Project and Cedardale Roundabout

The LaVenture/Anderson connection is now open for traffic, however the project is not complete yet. Crews are still installing lighting and completing road striping before the ribbon cutting ceremony on June 5th.

Beginning in the next few weeks, a new traffic control feature called a mini roundabout will be used at the intersection of Cedardale and Anderson Roads with the completion of the LaVenture/Anderson Road Extension project. A mini roundabout is a smaller and less expensive version of a full sized roundabout that channels traffic around a center island in the intersection to the other directions of travel. For the traffic volumes experienced at this location, the mini roundabout costs much less than a traffic signal or full sized roundabout, because it fits into the existing right of way and uses raised pavement markings and striping paint where concrete is used on larger versions of roundabouts. If you have questions, please contact the Mount Vernon Public Works Department at (360) 336-6204.