

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



January 2015

We provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

2015 Goals

As a leader of an organization, I find great satisfaction in meeting operational goals set forth by the City team. The public should expect us to meet our Mission, and it takes planning, resources, and talent to accomplish goals.

City Council and I met on Saturday, January 17, and spent the morning touring development sites, street conditions, Fire Station 1, West Mount Vernon, and the dog kennels at the City Shop. In afternoon discussions we drafted some strategic goals centered around the themes of Infrastructure, Healthy Neighborhoods, Mount Vernon as a Good Place for Investment, and Operations. In the next two months we plan to finalize strategic goals and an operations plan to achieve those goals. More to come.

We are also in the 3rd year of publishing our work plans in three distinct areas: Public Safety, Economic Opportunity, and Quality of Life. Here are a few highlights:

Public Safety goals include:

- Continued work on updating Emergency Management plans including debris removal and interface with non-profits during an emergency
- Complete the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Paramedic trial period, evaluate, involve Skagit Regional Health, and finalize recommendation for service as appropriate.

Economic Opportunity:

- Propose incentives for redevelopment
- Progress toward completion of elements of the Comprehensive Plan update (due June 2016)
- Begin construction on the final phase of the Waterfront Revitalization and Flood Protection Project

Quality of Life:

- Targeted outreach to Seniors and the Latino community
- Capitalize on trends; focus on events that encourage economic opportunities for tourism and local residents

Read the complete workplans at www.mountvernonwa.gov



Concept picture of the final phase - Waterfront Revitalization and Flood Protection Project

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, January 30, 10:00-11:00 am
Mount Vernon High School Library
314 N. 9th Street

Friday, February 6, 10:00-11:00 am
Mount Vernon Senior Center
1401 Cleveland Avenue

Friday, February 13, 10:00-11:00 am
Skagit PUD, Aqua Room
1415 Freeway Drive



Mayor Boudreau swears in the City's newest police officer, Eric Kivi

Father/Daughter Valentine Ball

Saturday, February 7
7:00 - 9:00 pm

Mount Vernon High School Cafeteria
314 N. 9th Street
Cost: \$11 per person

All girls are invited with their fathers (or other father figure) to a Valentine Ball. This is an opportunity for dads and daughters to dress up and spend a night together creating lasting memories. Remember to bring your camera!

Tickets are on sale now - purchase them early to reserve your spot on the dance floor. All tickets must be pre-purchased. They can be purchased over the phone at (360) 336-6215 with a Visa or MasterCard or in person in the Hillcrest Park Administration Office at 1717 South 13th Street in Mount Vernon.

Growing Our Own Grains Again: Keeping Value Here in Skagit County

Tuesday, February 17
6:30 - 8:00 pm

Mount Vernon City Library
315 Snoqualmie Street

Join us for "Growing Our Own Grains Again: Keeping Value Here in Skagit Valley," presented by Dr. Stephen S. Jones. This program is being held in conjunction with our Mount Vernon Reads program.

Mayor Jill Boudreau
910 Cleveland Avenue
P.O. Box 809
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

360.336.6211
www.mountvernonwa.gov



Winter Wellness Week

January 25: Art Walk at Riverbend Clinic

2320 Freeway Drive, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

January 26: Five Wishes: Writing Your Living Will

Hospice of the Northwest, 227 Freeway Dr.
6:00 pm

January 27: Zumba

Skagit Valley College Multipurpose Room
2405 E. College Way, 9:00 am

January 28: Free Gym Day

Anytime Fitness, Studio 7 Fitness, Riverside Health Club,
Urban Fitness, Skagit Valley Family YMCA, Mt. Baker
CrossFit

January 29: "Illuminight" Winter Walk

Tri Dee Arts, 215 S. 1st Street
4:00 pm – Create lantern; 5:00 pm – Walk

January 30: YMCA Free Family Swim

215 E. Fulton Street, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

January 31: Yoga Class

Hillcrest Lodge, 1717 S. 13th St, 1:00 pm



Mount Vernon Reads... *The Third Plate*

Start off the year by joining your fellow Mount Vernon readers in participating in Mount Vernon Reads, a community program lasting through the end of February. Stop by the Mount Vernon City Library and borrow a copy of *The Third Plate*; read it, think about it, pass it along to another community member, and participate in related programs at the library!

The Third Plate is the new book by international acclaimed chef, Dan Barber. Here is a blurb from his website, www.thethirdplate.com:

Dan Barber is the chef of Blue Hill, a restaurant in Manhattan's West Village, and Blue Hill at Stone Barns, located within the nonprofit farm and education center, Stone Barns Center for Food & Agriculture. His opinions on food and agricultural policy have appeared in the New York Times, along with many other publications. Barber has received multiple James Beard awards including Best Chef: New York City (2006) and the country's Outstanding Chef (2009). In 2009 he was named one of Times magazines 100 most influential people in the world.

Pay special attention to Chapter 30 – "Seed" which tells the INCREDIBLE story of our very own Dr. Stephen S. Jones, who directs the WSU Research Station [here in Mount Vernon](#). Skagit Valley grains are known AROUND THE WORLD because of Dr. Jones! He is leading our Skagit Valley Innovation Partnership Zone in bringing the economics of value added agriculture to our region. Read more about grains and The Bread Lab (WSU) at www.thebreadlab.org or mtvernon.wsu.edu.

Join us for a program featuring Dr. Jones "Growing Our Own Grains Again: Keeping Value Here in Skagit Valley" at the library at 6:30 pm on February 17.

Did you know that the WSU research in grains has been featured in New Yorker magazine, the Huffington Post, and the new documentary film "the Grain Divide"? This is a big deal!

