

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

Thank You, City Volunteers!

They fan out into our parks, our libraries and our streets. This place we call home is brightened by their selfless service. And many of them have discovered that the work they do is not only the secret to their own personal happiness and sense of fulfillment; but it can also bring more hope to our neighbors, and make our neighborhoods feel more like home.

They are the volunteers of the City of Mount Vernon. And in addition to investing well over 10,000 labor hours in 2015, they have beautified the city and they save our taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars each year. However, it has been the more intangible factors associated with volunteering that have continued to drive many of these noble citizens in their efforts to make Mount Vernon an even better place.

This week, in honor of *National Volunteer Week*, we want to recognize a few of your neighbors who serve you and us by devoting their time and energy to our community. Many of you reading this article also help out in various ways around Mount Vernon, and to all of you who serve shoulder-to-shoulder with these great volunteers, we want you to know how much we appreciate all that you do for Mount Vernon. For more information about volunteering, call the Mayor's Office at (360) 336-6211 or email mvmayor@mountvernonwa.gov.



First, we would like you to meet Mr. **Bill DeHon**. Bill volunteers with the Mount Vernon Police Department, and has been a member of Citizens on Proactive Patrol (COPP) for many years. He also serves on the COPP Advisory Board. He was active in efforts to support the Amber Alert Hotline, and he directed support officers during the Oso Slide relief effort.

Bill has gone above and beyond any "normal" volunteer work, by serving MVPD during many holidays, and at special events. He is well-respected throughout the Department, and is described as a recruiter and an encourager—always looking for the positive traits in others. Perhaps you've met Bill out in the community. *You* are actually a big part of the reason that Bill DeHon decided to serve in this capacity.

"I do this for the smiles that go with the *thank you*," he said. "When I get their keys out of their locked car, or help them push their stalled vehicle off of the road."

Bill, for your diligent service to our City, we hope you can see our collective smile when we say, *THANK YOU!*

If you have stopped in to the Mount Vernon Library in the past eleven years, you might have met **Nathan Mirante**—or as he is known to his friends, *Nate the Great!*

Nate decided to volunteer at the Library because he loves reading and checking out books. He helps out in the Support Services Department by stamping paperback book donations, preparing materials for discarding, and cleaning and edging bookshelves in Adult Fiction. Nate's personal favorite books are *Shrek* and the *Chronicles of Narnia* series. Besides volunteering at the library, he also sings in the band *Out of the Ashes* and works at Where the Heart Is.



Sara and Jeremiah Wohlgemuth are all-star volunteers for the Mount Vernon Parks & Recreation Department. Sara and Jeremiah live with their 4 young children in Mount Vernon. Since the summer of 2013, this dynamic duo have coached the community's youngest teams; ages 3-8 tee ball, coach pitch and soccer leagues. Sara and Jeremiah usually coach not one, but two teams per season! They have dedicated countless hours to planning, organizing, and coaching practices and games in addition to creating a sense of community through their leadership and devotion to our programs.

"The Wohlgemuths are well respected, and *highly* requested coaches for our department," Recreation Coordinator Lisa Esparza said. "And we appreciate all of the contributions they have made to Mount Vernon Parks & Recreation."

City of Mount Vernon Housing and Land Use Open House

Wednesday, April 20, 5-6pm

Join the Mayor, City Council, and Planning Commission for an Open House concerning Housing and Land Use issues. City staff will be on hand to talk over issues with you and take your input. Open House begins at 5pm, with a short presentation starting at 5:30 pm.

Mayor's Coffee Hour

Friday, April 22, 10am
Skagit Valley College

Administrative Annex Board Room
1405 E. College Way

Administrative Annex building is directly north of McIntyre Hall. Once in the building, the Board Room is the second door on the right.

Intro to Geocaching - FREE

Wednesday, April 27, 6-8pm
Mount Vernon City Library
315 Snoqualmie Street

All Ages (12 & under with parent)
Bring your smartphone or GPS enabled device

Pre-registration required: 336-6215

Geocaching is a real world outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS enabled devices. This course will provide an overview of how to get started, equipment needs, different types of caches, and how to log a find, as well as different tangents of the game such as Travel Bugs, collectibles, hiding your own caches, geocoins and geocaching events. At the conclusion of the presentation we will head out with our GPS devices and hunt for caches hidden nearby.

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

360.336.6211
www.mountvernonwa.gov



City Volunteer Statistics

Police Volunteers include Citizens On Proactive Patrol and Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol. In 2015 they provided over 4,200 volunteer hours and the value of labor was nearly \$100,000. For more information: Crime Prevention Unit, (360) 336-6271

City Work Program works with the Police, Solid Waste, and Surface Water Departments to clean graffiti, maintain and beautify parks, repair City property and perform other tasks that the City would otherwise have to pay or contract to complete. In 2015 they provided over 7,100 volunteer hours and the value of labor was over \$190,000.



Library Volunteers clean, catalogue, straighten and organize library materials. In 2015 they provided over 1,300 volunteer hours and the value of labor was over \$12,700. For more information: City Library, (360) 336-6209

Mount Vernon Trail Builders have been building multi-use trails on Little Mountain since 2009. In 2015 they provided over 1,936 volunteer hours with a value of labor of approximately \$30,000. For more information: <http://mountvernontrailbuilders.com>

Transportation Open House

The City held a public Open House on March 30th to discuss the need for more funding to maintain and preserve the transportation system in Mount Vernon and talk about possible revenue options.

Information about the Open House can be found on www.mountvernonwa.gov:

- Watch the meeting by clicking the "Video Center" button on the left, then selecting the "Transportation Open House" video.
- Read the presentation materials at the "Transportation Open House Information and Survey" link under "News and Announcements" on the front page of the website.
- In the same location, please take time to answer a 5-question survey to give us your opinion on transportation funding - we value your input!

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[www.mountvernondowntown.org](http://www.mountvernondowntown.org)

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