Mayor Jennifer Gregerson’s 2015 Action Agenda ......................................... 2

New Businesses Open in Mukilteo ...................................................... 4

Volunteerism and Community Service: A Historical Perspective .......................... 14

ON THE COVER: FEATURED WORK
Jenna Ridgeway, Photographer ......................................................... 19

Community Service and Volunteerism Edition
Last year, I shared my commitment to taking action on the pressing challenges that face our community. In that spirit, I announced my first Action Agenda, to help guide and focus my administration. I am proud to share that we were able to make significant progress on all seven issues, and we completed work by September. For the coming year, I have a similar Action Agenda of new priorities to focus on.

Realizing my vision of a city that is sustainable, well-run, and made up of safe strong neighborhoods takes action. I believe in committing to a clear agenda for the coming year.

**BUSINESS LICENSE REFORM**
A strong Mukilteo depends on a healthy economy, for our businesses, for every Mukilteo resident, and for our children’s future. We will plan strategically to support that economy. Our aerospace sector is an important component, and we should ensure all of Mukilteo’s children are ready to join that workforce. This year, we will pursue a reform of our business licenses, to encourage job creation and reduce the administrative burden on small businesses. Currently, if a small business hired even one employee, the license fee increases. We want to encourage our small businesses to create jobs and everyone wins.

**COMMUNITY VOICE FOR ROSEHILL**
We built the new Rosehill Community Center to serve our community. I believe that we can ensure that purpose better by encouraging citizen participation in the operations and mission of the Community Center. In February, I proposed to the City Council that we form a Rosehill Community Board to engage local residents in guiding the direction of this vital community institution.

**PREVENTION-ORIENTED PUBLIC SAFETY**
The most important duty our City has is ensuring we live in a safe community. I think about this solemn responsibility every time I swear in a new police officer or firefighter. We are so blessed to have these brave women and men working to keep us safe and healthy.

But safety shouldn’t depend only on responding to emergencies, we can do more to prevent those emergencies from happening in the first place. When we prevent an injury, we save taxpayer dollars that fund our emergency services. This year, I’ll be working with our emergency medical service providers to identify ways to keep all our residents healthy and safe, especially by preventing our seniors from falling at home. 52% of the medic calls in Mukilteo are related to falls in the home. Preventing these falls means that an aging resident can stay in their own home longer, improve their quality of life, and ensure that they have extra time with their loved ones.
For our younger residents, I’m so proud to be working with our schools, nonprofits, the faith community and other organizations on a new focus to prevent youth substance abuse. This year, we’ll be able to leverage our City’s dollars with a new initiative spearheaded by Kamiak’s PTO President, Rick Simon and Principal, Mike Gallagher, to ensure we have healthy and successful students and families in Mukilteo. I believe we need to bring these efforts into the daylight, remove the stigma of recovery, and support our children and families seeking help. Pairing our Youth Substance Abuse Prevention program with the efforts of the Together We Can Initiative means we will go further together.

INVESTING IN TRANSPORTATION
Destinations throughout Mukilteo should be accessible to all our residents. Whether you use a car, a bike, or your own two feet, our city should invest in a transportation system that works for everyone. Our valuable infrastructure should be strategically planned, well-maintained and preserved for the future. But we know that the City does not have adequate resources to invest in maintenance and improve our system at the same time. So later this year, I will convene a special citizen committee to study our infrastructure needs and make recommendations on funding options we should consider to pay for our streets, sidewalks, trails and bike paths.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY
As most of you know, I grew up here, graduated from Kamiak, and I’m so pleased that I’ve been able to return home to Mukilteo, run a successful business, and now help shape the future of our city as your Mayor.

However, I remember how it felt when I first moved back home to Mukilteo and looked at the housing options in our community. After years away at college in a big city, I valued the community spirit even more, and wanted to begin my career and life here. It can be tough to afford to live in Mukilteo, for kids returning from college, starting out in life, or for our seniors looking at the big family home that may no longer fit their needs.

I want to make sure we have a lot of choices in our community, to make sure the people that love Mukilteo and want to be a part of it are able to do so. We will encourage more affordable housing choices by reexamining our policies around the creation of mother-in-law units. It’s time to take a second look, understand why more property owners aren’t using this option, and ensure that Mukilteo provides better housing choices for residents of all ages.

I will work to deliver on this 2015 Action Agenda and keep a focus on these priorities. I will lead our city government to support our safe, strong neighborhoods and our healthy economy. We will continue to listen to and involve our residents in the City, because we are better together. Mukilteo is an amazing place to live, and I will work to ensure that our residents find opportunity and can make their homes here throughout all stages in their lives. Please reach out to me with your ideas and thoughts on these issues and any others.
Mayor Gregerson welcomed AdvantaClean owners, Cindy and Terry Thomas, to their new location at 4204 Russell Road. Previously, Cindy and Terry ran their business out of their home in Mukilteo. In addition to helping Terry with their business, Cindy teaches at Kamiak High School. AdvantaClean provides their customers with mold removal, water damage repair and duct cleaning services in the Mukilteo area and the Eastside. Many of Cindy and Terry’s employees and their families joined the Mayor for their Grand Opening in December.

Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Mukilteo
Mayor Jennifer Gregerson joined owner André Lannertone and children Isabelle and Luc Lannertone for the ribbon cutting event of Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Mukilteo in January. Gracie Jiu-Jitsu is an empowering self-defense technique that anyone, regardless of age, gender or athletic ability, can learn. André has studied martial arts since the 1970’s and became a Gracie Jiu-Jitsu instructor in 2014. Classes are offered to children, teens and adults. André also offers women’s self-defense classes in conjunction with the Mukilteo Police Department.

Gracie Jiu-Jitsu Mukilteo
9700 Harbour Place, Suite 218
Owner: André Lannertone
A Shared VISION
by City Councilmember Christine Cook

I believe that this commitment is one of our city’s best attributes and I cherish the friendships I have developed while volunteering, which centers on a shared vision of helping our city. My husband and I feel quite fortunate to have raised our children in a community that so willingly embraces service to others.

Mukilteo has many exceptionally skilled and generous residents of all ages who give unselfishly of their time and talents to help make our city the special place it is. Our community relies on the hard work of countless volunteers and we have many thriving events, organizations and activities in Mukilteo because of dedicated citizens of all ages.

Partnering with our students on the Mukilteo Youth Advisory Board (MYAC) as they learn about government and plan community events has been very rewarding for me. I am also especially pleased that, in keeping with our city’s spirit of volunteering, many of our young people have dedicated their Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday as a day of service. This is just one reflection of the caring citizens our generous community is creating.

Volunteer opportunities in the Mukilteo area are almost limitless. One of my favorites is Operation School Bell where volunteers put their shopping skills to use helping deserving students select new clothes and shoes for the school year. What could be better than shoe shopping for a good cause!

If you have a skill or interest that you would like to share with others, please consider contacting the organizations listed in this Newsletter. Or if your volunteer group isn’t listed, please let us know.

As Margaret Mead said “Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

I am exceptionally grateful for the many dedicated citizens willing to participate in making our city great and believe that Mukilteo truly embodies the idea that we all do better when we work together!

1. The Mukilteo Youth Advisory Board (MYAC)
2. Volunteers installing playground equipment at 92nd Street park
3. The community garden growing fresh produce for the food bank
The City of Mukilteo has received many generous donations over the years that are on display in many of our parks and City properties as well as the Library. In this newsletter, we’ve written about many types of community service and volunteer efforts and opportunities. We believe the generous gifting of artwork and property is the “ultimate in community service” that benefits everyone. This article is about only a few pieces of artwork donated to the City and people of Mukilteo. We hope to highlight others in future Newsletters. There are many items around our community that have been donated, and there are interesting stories behind each one.

Can you imagine visiting our beautiful Library without seeing the wonderful Georgia Gerber bronze animal statues? Or the incredible Daryl Smith “Bronze Origami Crane” on its granite base featured in Centennial Park on 5th Street? Not to mention the totem pole in Totem Park? Have you ever wondered: how did those items come to be donated and who were the generous benefactors?

The Mukilteo Library sits on land that was owned by the City of Mukilteo when it was originally built. The Friends of the Library and Harbour Pointe Limited Partners commissioned Georgia Gerber to create some whimsical bronze statues, known as “Chapter 5: A Promise Kept - Bronze Sculptures” to welcome visitors to the Library. The sculptures were donated to the City and placed on the terrace near the building’s entry when the Library opened its doors in 1998. Since then, Ms. Gerber was commissioned to create additional statues for the sculpture which have also been donated to the City. While the City transferred ownership of the Library to Sno-Isle Libraries in 2004, the transfer did not include the Gerber sculptures and other public art donations. Therefore, generations of Mukilteo Library patrons are assured they will be able to enjoy these exquisite works.

Daryl Smith’s “Bronze Origami Crane on Granite Base” was commissioned by the Mukilteo Historical Society to commemorate the Japanese-American families that resided in early Mukilteo. The Society donated the work of art to the City in 2000 when it was placed in Centennial Park, which is located on the north side of 5th Street just east of Prospect Avenue.

The totem pole in Totem Park, which is located between 2nd and 3rd Streets on the east side of Mukilteo Speedway, was commissioned to Jon Evavold by The Waldbaum Family Foundation in 1990. In addition to being an artist and sculptor, Dr. Evavold was the original and long-time principal at Columbia Elementary School. Cheryl and Jerry Waldbaum were long-time Mukilteo residents. The foundation donated the totem pole to the City and ever since a dedication ceremony in early 1992, the totem pole has been welcoming visitors to the Mukilteo waterfront. The pole features many highlights of Mukilteo, including the original Rosehill School with school bus in front, Park Avenue businesses, the ferry, and Celtic knots creating interest and texture, linking various sections. Next time you are nearby, see if you can identify these landmarks in the pole.

“Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more.” - H. Jackson Brown, Jr.
The Byers property, 601 4th Street, was deeded to the City in 2013 to be used as a city park. The City will be creating a Master Plan for this park in the near future so it can be enjoyed as a quiet overlook to Lighthouse Park and the water. Since then, the Byers Family Park Maintenance Fund generously donates money each month to be used for maintenance of the property.

The City Council recently adopted a new Donation and Memorial Policy authorizing the City to accept donations. Many local residents request to donate a park bench at Lighthouse or other city parks as a memorial to a loved one, but there are other options for donations and memorials, as well. For more information on our memorial park bench program, call the Permits Center at 425.263.8060.

Donations of money, artworks and property to the City of Mukilteo and its citizens are gifts that keep on giving to our community. Thank you to all of you who have so generously commissioned and donated so many wonderful treasures for all of us to enjoy. Their value is priceless!
Volunteering at Rosehill

“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not.” - Dr. Seuss

Volunteering is an avenue for people to build skill, to connect socially, and is usually associated with doing something fun! The Recreation and Cultural Services Department tries to engage citizens in a variety of ways through volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Here are some of the many fun events held at Rosehill Community Center:

**BOO BASH**
About 40-50 teenagers from Mariner and Kamiak High Schools help set-up and decorate, run the game booths, engage with the children attending this fun event, and assist with clean-up. This event typically takes place on the last Sunday in October.

**TOUCH-A-TRUCK**
This event teams Rosehill staff with the Mukilteo Police Department and Public Works for a day of fun and learning. Kids of all ages have a chance to climb into the biggest, fastest trucks maneuvering around Mukilteo streets. There are opportunities to learn about how to respond to emergencies and many informational booths from sports camps and art workshops to investigate. This year’s event is scheduled for Saturday May 9, 2015 from 10am-1pm at Rosehill’s lower parking lot (3rd Street between Lincoln Avenue and Park Street).

**HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING**
The Mukilteo Chamber of Commerce and high school volunteers act as greeters, help organize the entertainment, collect the food for the food bank and help with the children’s activities. Traditionally, the Mayor emcees this annual event held in early December.

**LIGHTHOUSE FESTIVAL PARADE**
Volunteer SeaFair Parade Marshalls get the participants all lined up and ready to go and then keep the parade moving down the route. Adult community volunteers help at the check-in tables and along the route with staffing the street closures. The parade Emcee also volunteers his time. This will be the 50th anniversary of the Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival, which will be held from September 11-13, 2015. The Lighthouse Festival Parade will be on Saturday morning, September 12.

**PARK TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS**
Many groups support the fantastic work of our Public Works employees, and help keep our parks, trails and right-of-way spaces maintained throughout the year. These groups make a big difference and help keep our parks and trails safe and clean.

**PARK ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**
The City receives requests from Eagle Scouts to do projects in the community. The Eagle Scout works with Planning and Community Development Department as well as Public Works to identify and complete their project.

**VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST**
The City values all the volunteer hours that the citizens of Mukilteo contribute to City projects and events. Each year, the City hosts a Volunteer Breakfast to express our thanks for their service. Last year, the Volunteer Breakfast was held on October 3, 2014 at the Rosehill Community Center. Volunteers were welcomed by the Kamiak Uber Kammerstreich Chamber Music Group. Guests were invited to enjoy a buffet breakfast. All volunteers received a thank you gift and Mayor Gregerson thanked all the volunteers for their service to the community.
Volunteers are important partners in the City’s mission to bring people together to enrich lives and build community.

**MUK-FEST’S RUN-A-MUK**

There are about 30 adult and high school volunteers that make this event successful through their volunteer efforts, working the registration tables, helping at the finish line, serving water and food for the runners, and working out on the route to keep the runners safe. This fun annual event is a 5k/10k walk/run held two weeks prior to the Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival (see Lighthouse Festival Parade for more information), on Saturday, August 29, 2015.

Volunteering usually has many positive benefits for the volunteer, as well as for the person or community they are serving.

1. The 2015 Lighthouse Festival Parade will be on September 12th.
3. Mr. and Mrs. Claus spread cheer at the holiday tree lighting.
4. The Touch-A-Truck event will be held on May 9 and is both informative and fun.

**LEARN MORE**

Contact the Recreation and Cultural Services Department at 425.263.8180.
The Mukilteo Fire Department, while hard at work protecting lives and property, is also very involved with volunteer events that benefit our entire community.

**MUKILTEO FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION (MFFA) EGG HUNT**
The annual Egg Hunt is held the Saturday before Easter and is attended by hundreds of children. This year’s event will be held on April 4th, 2015 at Mukilteo Elementary School and is partially funded from the City’s Community Support Grants. It is only through the efforts of many volunteers, family members and friends that this event is such a success. Donations received at the annual Pancake Breakfast help make this event possible.

**MFFA PANCAKE BREAKFAST**
The pancake breakfast, held in October at Fire Station 25 in Harbour Pointe, has traditionally been the kickoff event for Fire Prevention Week. The Association works with local businesses in the community who donate flowers, food and free advertising in an effort to reduce event costs. All proceeds from the breakfast go to fund the annual Egg Hunt each year. This event requires numerous volunteers from both Fire and Police associations, as well family members and friends. Countless volunteer hours are logged before, during and after the event.

**IAFF & MDA ANNUAL ‘FILL THE BOOT’ FUNDRAISER**
The annual Fill the Boot event raises several thousand dollars each year, which is in turn donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The event is held during the summer and is staffed with Mukilteo firefighter union (International Association of Firefighters) members, their family members and friends. The fundraiser is held over two days, in two locations - outside of the Mukilteo QFC store and in the Ferry holding lanes.

**IAFF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS SHIRTS**
Mukilteo Firefighters Local 3482 has purchased pink shirts in a joint effort with the International Association of Firefighters to show their support for breast cancer awareness. The Mayor has traditionally proclaimed October to be Breast Cancer Awareness month to show the City’s full support as well.

1. A Mukilteo Firefighter observes the children’s excitement at finding eggs filled with candy and prizes.

The mission of the Mukilteo Police Department is to “provide professional service for and with the community.” We believe that involving the community to work with us to solve neighborhood problems is a natural step in making Mukilteo a safer and more enjoyable place to live.

As a means of encouraging more citizen input to our policing efforts, we established the Volunteers in Public Safety (VIPS) program to reduce crime in Mukilteo through the use of citizen volunteers. We welcome citizens to volunteer a portion of their valuable time to get to know more about the Mukilteo Police Department and how they can help.

The Volunteers in Public Safety program consists of volunteers recruited from graduates of the Mukilteo Police Department’s Citizen’s Academy. In addition to the basic information received during the Academy’s 8-week course held each September at Rosehill Community Center, volunteers are provided with resources and training to safely perform duties.

One new member was added to the VIPS program in 2014, bringing the total number of volunteers at the Police Department to 17. We hope to add more volunteers to the team in 2015. These new volunteers will receive additional training in administrative duties, policy & procedures, radio use, radar reader board training, and vacation house checks. The volunteers also assist with the continued organization of the Police Department, filing and other clerical work, speed watch, community activities and department training.

"We often take for granted the very things that most deserve our gratitude." - Cynthia Ozick

Our VIPS program includes three volunteer chaplains. These chaplains offer invaluable services to the Police Department and to residents. The chaplains not only assist department members with counseling and emotional support, but they also respond to incidents in the community where a natural disaster has occurred, such as in Oso last year, to families in need of counseling after a family member has passed away, and in many other capacities.

The volunteers put in a significant amount of time at the Police Department. In 2014, the volunteers put in more than 1,100 hours of their own time to help the Mukilteo Police Department. This volunteer work is equivalent to one half-time employee for the year, saving the City thousands of dollars in compensation and benefits. We salute our volunteers!

Anyone interested in volunteer opportunities with the Police Department is invited to contact Crime Prevention Officer Colt Davis at cdavis@ci.mukilteo.wa.us or by phone at 425-263-8100. For more information about the Citizen’s Academy, visit: http://www.ci.mukilteo.wa.us/page.asp?navid=75.
In 2013, 62.6 million Americans volunteered nearly 7.7 billion hours! The Independent Sector’s estimated service value was nearly $173 billion.

In 2013, over 138 million Americans (62.5%) also “informally volunteered,” such as helping neighbors with shopping, child care, chores, or house/pet sitting.

Many employees who work for the City of Mukilteo also volunteer their time and donate to various charities and non-profits. During 2014, employees assisted with the following groups in our community:

- Mukilteo Food Bank
- Mukilteo Community Garden
- Japanese Gulch Group
- Kiwanis and other service organizations
- United Way
- Mukilteo Lighthouse Festival
- Boy Scouts
- National Night Out
- Mukilteo Firefighters Association
- Puget Sound Blood Center
- Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County
- Mukilteo School District
- Mukilteo Schools Foundation
- Many Others!

Thank you City of Mukilteo staff for caring about your community! Your service improves lives in countless ways. We salute you.

“\textit{It’s impossible to be involved in all situations, but there’s no excuse not to be involved in something, somewhere, somehow, with someone. Make an ounce of difference.}” - Richelle E. Goodrich
Volunteering with Passion

by Kim Voetberg, Marketing Manager

One of Mukilteo’s greatest strengths may be their volunteers. Our volunteers include not only service organizations such as Kiwanis or Rotary, but individuals who simply wish to make a difference to the community in which they live, work and enjoy life. Communities that engage in social responsibility find that the return on equity is repaid exponentially.

December brings out several student groups who donate their time and talents during a holiday concert. At the same event, high school volunteers help out with various kids’ activities just down the hall. Communities who appreciate their youth and work to include them in their endeavors ultimately gain well-rounded individuals who will become valuable members in society.

Volunteering brings a sense of connection and impacts the City in a positive fashion. It is also a two-way street, because aside from getting a project completed, or having a demand met, it benefits the individual volunteer with a sense of having made a difference, and strengthens relationships among neighbors.

Volunteering allows a person to explore interests and passions that result in a relaxing escape from the routine of work and family.

For cities, the array of volunteer positions abound. From working in a local park doing clean up, to shelving books at the library, to working on a fundraiser that benefits others, volunteer assistance is crucial. In fact, if communities did not have volunteers, unfortunately, a substantial amount of vital amenities would not be available to the public. Each area of society can enjoy an enhanced delivery of services and way of life because volunteers make a difference.

Mukilteo’s many volunteers reflect the strength of this community and are an asset the City can be proud of. Thank you!
Volunteerism and Community Service: A Historical Perspective

by John and Ann Collier, Mukilteo Historical Society

Voluntary community service has been important in Mukilteo since its earliest days. Cooperation and mutual assistance were highly valued among the handful of residents in the small frontier settlement of Mukilteo, which was founded in Washington Territory in 1860. In an era of minimal government and few public services, a wide range of practical and social needs were met by voluntary collective action. An interesting question, then and now, is the motivation of volunteers: is it based on a quid pro quo idea of mutual assistance, or does it spring from a deeper altruism—giving “back to the community” with no expectation of any tangible return?

For example, from the early 1900s to 1930, Mukilteo was almost entirely a “company town,” and that “company” was the Crown Lumber Company, at one point said to be the largest lumber mill on Puget Sound. Arthur Scott, manager of the company, was very active in community affairs. Mr. Scott loved baseball and helped promote Mukilteo’s team. He was instrumental in having the dike filled in and repaired to build the baseball field, which was located near where there is now a viaduct carrying the Mukilteo Speedway over the railroad tracks. The men of the town donated time and effort to drain and fill the tidal lagoon that covered the area and to build the grandstand and bleachers, made with wood donated from Crown Lumber.

Crown Lumber also donated materials so town volunteers could work at the construction of other buildings, such as, in 1907, the Mukilteo Presbyterian Church on Third Street. Another community project was the building of Hawthorne Hall on Second Street, known as the Royal Neighbors Hall. The Crown Lumber Company donated the site and lumber. Townspeople raised money for the building and volunteered their labor for the actual construction. Finished in 1925 and used as a community center for many years, it is now the home of the Mukilteo Boys and Girls Club.

Another important example of civic involvement may be seen in the creation of Mukilteo’s Volunteer Fire Department, organized in the early 1920s shortly after the District Water Department was formed. As described in a recent issue of Mukilteo Magazine, the Mukilteo Volunteers provided fire-fighting services to protect lives and property for nearly ninety years. By 2010, Mukilteo’s Fire Department was staffed by paid professionals, but volunteers have continued to help with many activities.

In the 1930s, the Mukilteo Improvement Club was formed. Since Mukilteo was not incorporated as a town until 1947, the Mukilteo Improvement Club undertook many of the tasks later done by City government, such as street repairs, clearing and...
cleanup of Pioneer Cemetery, and other activities to improve the collective welfare of Mukilteo. One dramatic example took place on December 8, 1941, when the Club rallied the citizens to respond to the attack on Pearl Harbor:

“There will be an important meeting tonight at the Rosehill School Auditorium to organize Mukilteo and the surrounding area into an Air Raid Precaution Zone. It is vital that you personally attend this meeting so that you may understand what to do when any air raid emergency exist. Don’t think that this matter can wait until tomorrow or next week. This community needs to be organized immediately in order to protect ourselves. We are next to an airbase which exposes our community more than most areas. Remember the time of the meeting is 8 P.M. tonight, Dec. 8, 1941, at the Rosehill School.

- Otto Zahler, Mukilteo Improvement Club Pres.”

After Mukilteo incorporated in 1947, the Improvement Club stayed active for several years, even as city government began to meet more of the general needs of the community. Even in 1947, when the new Town Council began to focus on the services needed by residents, there was a reference in the official meeting minutes to the continuing assistance of the Mukilteo Improvement Club with regard to maintaining a bathhouse near the swimming beach.

With increasing population and affluence, Mukilteo is blessed today with a variety of opportunities to provide community service, and a corresponding outpouring of volunteers to meet the needs. Every list of possibilities offered would undoubtedly be incomplete. It is reassuring to recognize that the community spirit that arose in Mukilteo during its frontier days is being continued by so many selfless and generous individuals and groups in the 21st century.
The following is a partial list in alphabetical order of service organizations in Mukilteo that are registered in Washington as a non-profit. Political and religious organizations have not been included. This list will be published on the City’s website. If you’d like your Mukilteo-based non-profit organization to be listed, please contact n.passovoy@ci.mukilteo.wa.us.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**
The mission of the Friends of the Mukilteo Library is to encourage and enhance the partnership between the Library and the community. For more information, contact Margaret Wright at margaret.wright@frontier.com.

**JAPANESE GULCH GROUP**
Our group advocates for outdoor recreation, wildlife and ecological preservation of the beautiful green space of the Japanese Gulch. For volunteer opportunities, visit the website at [http://japanesegulch.org/contact-us/](http://japanesegulch.org/contact-us/).

**KIWANIS**
Kiwanis is a global service organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world, one child and one community at a time. Kiwanis supports the high school Key Club and raises funds for scholarships and activities that support children. Contact information: [http://www.snohomishkiwanis.org/division21/mukilteo/contact.htm](http://www.snohomishkiwanis.org/division21/mukilteo/contact.htm).

**LIONS CLUB**
Since 1917, Lions have served the world’s population through hard work and commitment to make a difference in the lives of people everywhere. Lions Clubs International is the world’s largest service club organization and recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and visually impaired. Contact information: Mukilteo@Lions19B.com.

**MUKILTEO ARTS GUILD**
Established in 2004 for the purpose of offering great art to everyone by championing, developing and creating cultural events that enrich people’s lives. Produces many annual programs of diverse arts events including art festivals, holiday art market, literature, music and music festivals. For more information: 425-423-0450.

**MUKILTEO COMMUNITY GARDEN**
Join the Mukilteo Community Garden! Volunteer in our “Giving Beds” dedicated to local food banks or rent a plot to grow your own fresh produce. Visit the website at [www.mukilteogarden.org / mukilteogarden@gmail.com](http://www.mukilteogarden.org / mukilteogarden@gmail.com).

**MUKILTEO COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA**
The MCO, a community orchestra comprised of volunteer musicians, performs three concerts per season that are free for the public to attend. Contact: info@mukilteoorchestra.org.

**MUKILTEO FOOD BANK**
The Mukilteo Food Bank feeds and assists those in need within the Mukilteo School District by supplying food to anyone in time of need, regardless of race, sex, age, national origin, disability, marital status, religion, creed, or sexual orientation. To donate or volunteer: info@mukilteofoodbank.org.

**MUKILTEO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Our mission is to preserve, exhibit, promote, and encourage appreciation of Mukilteo’s rich history. We also train and organize docents to give tours of the light station from April through September, assist with special events (such as weddings), maintain the lighthouse gift shop, and beautify the grounds. For more information call 425-513-9602 or visit [www.mukilteohistorical.org](http://www.mukilteohistorical.org).
STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Assistant Planner Anita Marrero has lived in Mukilteo for most of her life and takes great pride in working for the City. After graduating from college, she volunteered for AmeriCorps for one year and worked at a school in Everett as a VISTA Coordinator. She had dreams of becoming a teacher when, as luck would have it, she began working for the Snohomish County Planning Department and discovered her love of planning. When the City’s Planning Department had a vacancy, Anita applied in hopes of having an opportunity to shape the city she grew up in and where she still resides. We’re very happy Anita followed her heart into the planning profession and the City of Mukilteo. We asked Anita to tell us more about herself and her role as an Assistant Planner.

WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT YOUR JOB AND WHY?
I like to work with the public and the different departments at the City. Being a planner at the City is never boring! We do a variety of different things such as code enforcement, long range planning, code amendments, development review, answering development questions at the counter and over the phone, and tree cutting assessments. Sometimes all in one day!

TELL US ABOUT YOUR HOBBIES.
I love to play and watch sports. I currently play in a flag football co-ed league. Russell Wilson is my favorite football player!

TELL US ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND AND FAMILY?
I graduated from Kamiak High School and then went to college to play volleyball in California. I came back to Washington and graduated from the University of Washington. My family still lives in Mukilteo and my daughter is a sophomore at Kamiak.

WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE IN MUKILTEO?
My favorite place in Mukilteo is the waterfront in the summertime. I like to go to Ivar’s Seafood Bar for fish & chips and then to Diamond Knot for a beverage.
Without volunteers, the City of Mukilteo Planning & Community Development’s efforts would be ineffective at best. There are formal volunteering opportunities such as Planning Commissioners as well as informal opportunities. Both types are required for the department to meet its responsibilities effectively.

For those willing to take on a more significant longer term volunteer commitment, the Planning Commission might be for you. Only with their input and guidance can the planning staff do its job properly. Although currently there are no unfilled positions on the Commission, those who think they might like to serve on the Planning Commission should contact Mayor Gregerson.

There are opportunities for Mukilteo residents to volunteer on a less formal level, with a smaller time commitment and still play a significant role in the City’s planning efforts. Those opportunities include simply offering comments on project proposals. Staff relies on public comments to help them understand the impacts of development proposals.

Serving on an advisory group is a commitment level in between volunteering as a commissioner and offering comments on projects. These groups are typically formed to assist with master planning projects like the ones currently underway for Japanese Gulch and the Downtown Waterfront. Major new code initiatives also frequently take advantage of advisory groups.

The Planning & Community Development Department assists and coordinates Boy Scout and other community service projects. Boy Scout Troop 16 of Mukilteo was started as an organization to help with the war effort of World War II. Scouts would serve at Paine Field to serve as “look outs” for incoming enemy aircraft. Today many local scouts serve the community through completion of their Eagle Scout project. The City has benefited from numerous Scout projects, many of which are located in city parks. Those projects include building hiking trail connections and improvements and informational kiosks. Assistant Planner and Eagle Scout Karl Almgren helps coordinate the scouting and other public service volunteer efforts. If you’d like to contribute your time and energy for this, contact him at kalmgren@ci.mukilteo.wa.us or 425-263-8045.

A former intern, Dustin Weller, now works for Puget Sound Energy through InfraSource Services as a Project Coordinator handling the coordination and management of new construction and altered gas services to PSE’s customers. Dustin reported that he uses many of the same skills in his current position that he used as a planning intern. He is also the secretary for the Japanese Gulch Group Board of Directors.

To find out more about volunteering your time to assist the Planning & Community Development Department, contact Planning Manager Glen Pickus at gpickus@ci.mukilteo.wa.us or 425-263-8042.
About Jenna
Born and raised in Mukilteo, the 2006 Kamiak graduate studied Communication and Photography at Central Washington University. She was a traveling staff photographer aboard Holland America Cruise Line before launching her own photography business in 2014. Jenna specializes in landscapes, nature and wildlife.

The Contest
“When I first heard about the photo contest, I immediately thought of a series of photos I had taken that captured the essence and beauty of Mukilteo. It was a great opportunity to showcase how breathtaking our City can be.”

The Shot
“On a fall evening, I was walking the trails of the Japanese Gulch admiring the variety of colors that were being warmed by the late day sun. At one point I turned and saw the sun starting to set and the sky was lit up in blues, pinks, and oranges. I quickly drove to Lighthouse Park where I would have a better view of the sunset. I wanted to incorporate the evening sky behind a very familiar view that people could relate to and connect with. Many residents have fond memories from Lighthouse Park, making for a nostalgic photo. It was shot with a Nikon D300s, 24-120mm, F/5.6, 20 seconds, with an attached circular polarizer.”

View Jenna’s Work At: jridgewayphotography.com

Featured Work
Like to see your photography in our magazine? Send samples to n.passovoy@ci.mukilteo.wa.us for consideration.

Save the Date
Saturday, April 25, 2015: Great Mukilteo Garage Sale
And large item pick-up the following week with your routine garbage service.

Saturday, May 2, 2015: Great Mukilteo Shred-Athon
For the first time, the City of Mukilteo and Lemay Mobile Shredding will sponsor a FREE shredding event (maximum of three grocery bags) in the Mukilteo City Hall parking lot from 9 am - 12 noon.