



A message from your Pierce County Councilmember

# Joyce McDonald

  
District 2

Serving the communities of

Alderton, Auburn, Browns Point, Dash Point, Edgewood, Fife, Fife Heights, Milton, Northeast Tacoma, North Puyallup, Pacific, Puyallup, and Sumner

## February 2015

### In recognition of American Heart Month...

The council has adopted:

**Resolution No. R2015-13**

A resolution of the Pierce county Council and Executive Supporting Congenital Heart Defect Week February 8th – 14th 2015 in Pierce County Washington.

I had the opportunity to work with Zoe Cardwell (pictured in the middle) and her family on this proclamation.



I have kept the promises that I made to you and balanced Pierce County's budget without added tax burdens to our citizens and without compromising public safety. In fact, we will devote more resources to public safety and corrections by funding two new positions in the sheriff's department and hiring eight additional corrections deputies at the Pierce County Jail. Also, at my recommendation, families will enjoy a new play area for their children. The council approved spending \$180,000 to construct a playground at Meridian Habitat Park on South Hill.

Moreover; the Council has added language to the budget that directs county departments to begin shutting down illegal marijuana dispensaries and collective gardens as of July 1, 2015, unless the Legislature acts to change state marijuana laws before then. For more information on the destructive effects of Marijuana click here: <http://goo.gl/2nZ4WG>

In this February Issue you will find; heart healthy tips, how to keep your property safe from flooding, classes on edible gardening, suggestions for fun family outings, Parks and Recreation Events and more. I hope you find the information useful.

Please remember, if there is anything in Pierce County government that I can assist you with or if you would like to share your concerns and ideas, my staff and I look forward to hearing from you.

Warm Regards,

### Click For Heart Healthy Tips From The American Heart Association:



<http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/>

### Be Prepared And Careful During Storms

Safety Reminder - A reminder for everyone: Never touch downed power lines. Always assume they're energized. Call PSE at 888-225-5773 or 911 to report outages and other electric problems.

More Information - To check outage information and restoration times, go to [PSE's Outage Map](#) or upload PSE's new [Outage Map App](#).

If you are interested in what is going on out in the field, you can visit our [Flickr site](#) as we post pictures of restoration efforts from around our service area.

## FLOOD SEASON IS NOT OVER YET!

Pierce County residents should prepare now for flood season to keep their family and property safe.

Residents can prepare by purchasing flood insurance, keeping storm drains clear of debris and leaves, and storing valuables and household chemicals above flood levels.

Individuals also encouraged to create a family plan that identifies a safe route from their home, school and work to high ground, a meeting place for family members in case they are separated, and an out-of-state contact to call if local phone lines are busy or down.

An emergency kit should include at least a seven-day supply of food and water, first aid supplies, extra clothing and blankets, prescription medicine, and hygiene and sanitation supplies. Additional information can be found at [www.pierrecountywa.org/prepare](http://www.pierrecountywa.org/prepare).

Flood postcard mailed out

Residents who live or own property near flood hazard areas within unincorporated Pierce County will soon receive a flood preparedness postcard. The card directs residents to the [www.piercecountywa.org/flood](http://www.piercecountywa.org/flood), where they can find information on:

- The county's Flood Warning System and emergency contact information.
- Actions property owners can take to avoid flood disaster – before, during, and after a flood.
- Flood insurance facts and how to purchase flood insurance.

#### Other available resources

Several other websites offer important information about flooding:

- Information on emergency kit supplies: [www.piercecountywa.org/prepare](http://www.piercecountywa.org/prepare).
- Information on flood insurance: [www.floodsmart.gov](http://www.floodsmart.gov).
- Sign up to get emergency alerts by phone, text message, email, or TTY/TTD: [www.piercecountywa.org/alert](http://www.piercecountywa.org/alert).

Information about winter weather in Pierce County: [www.piercecountywa.org/winterwise](http://www.piercecountywa.org/winterwise).

## READY SET GROW!



### Edible Gardens workshop series teaches gardening from seed to table

Pierce County residents can learn how to grow their own food during the 2015 Edible Gardens workshop series, which runs from February through November. The free series of monthly workshops, which are sponsored by Pierce County and the Pierce Conservation District, teach beginning gardeners how to plan a garden, prepare the soil, plant seeds, and harvest the food they've grown.

Each workshop is designed to help students throughout the growing season by addressing what needs to be done in the garden that month. The classes combine presentations with hands-on activities.

"Each student's knowledge will grow along with their garden, as they see their plantings go from seed to table," said Stephanie Leisle, Pierce County Public Works and Utilities environmental educator. "Attendees are sure to leave the classes excited about planting a garden and harvesting their own food. The collaborative environment and ability to share experiences benefits everyone from first-timers to experienced gardeners."

Classes are taught by educators from Pierce County Public Works and Utilities, Pierce Conservation District's Harvest Pierce County program and Tacoma Public Utilities.

Two classes – Fruit Trees and Perennial Edible Gardens – have been added to this year's series. The popularity of the series, now in its fourth year, has also led to an additional class location in Parkland at the Parkland/Spanaway Library.

#### Class information

The free monthly classes are held at five locations in Pierce County:

- Puyallup – First Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. at Washington State University Extension Puyallup, 2607 W Pioneer
- Lakewood – Second Wednesdays (except Feb and Nov) from 6-8 p.m. at Lakewood Community Center, 9112 Lakewood Dr. SW
- Parkland – Second Thursdays from 6-8 p.m. at Parkland/Spanaway Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S
- Orting – Third Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. at Washington Soldiers Home, 1301 Orting Kapowsin Highway E
- Tacoma – Third Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon at Tagro Conference Center, Cleveland Way near Portland Ave.

Additional schedule and registration information along with class descriptions are available at [www.piercecountywa.org/ediblegardens](http://www.piercecountywa.org/ediblegardens).

#### Class Topics

- February—Fruit Trees
- March—Starting From Seeds
- April—Garden Soil 101
- May—Planting and Maintaining Your Summer Vegetable Garden
- June—Garden Bugs, Plant Diseases and Non-Toxic Alternatives
- July—Fall and Winter Gardening
- August—No classes
- September—Composting Basics
- October—Putting the Garden to Bed For the Winter
- November—Perennial Edible Gardens



## Parks and Recreation Movie Night!

Friday, February 20 - Maleficent (PG)  
5:30-9 p.m.

Chambers Creek Regional Park  
9850 - 64th St. W  
University Place, WA 98467  
[Directions](#)

#### Fee:

- \$4/person (ages 3 and under are free)
- Pre-registration is preferred, space is limited
  - o Pre-register [online](#) or 253-798-4141

Grab your blankets and kick back for an evening of fun at the movies! Movie begins at 7 p.m. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

Pre-movie activities include FREE building workshops with Bricks 4 Kidz using LEGO bricks and motors. Don't miss out on the chance to own these movies in our raffle drawings!

## Foothills Dash



**Saturday March 7, 2015**

**9 a.m.**

**Foothills Trail in Orting**

**1Mile, 5K & 10K**

#### **About the Run**

The Foothills Dash is a 5K and 10K fun run in Orting to benefit recreation programs for youths. This fun run / walk takes place on the [Foothills Trail](#) and is open to people of all ages and ability levels. The 5K and 10K courses are USATF certified. Courses start and finish at the Orting Eagle Lodge. The Foothills Trail is paved and provides flat areas and easy slopes.

[Foothills Dash 2009 video](#)

#### **Registration & Check In**

[Learn more](#) about the check in and registration processes

#### **Awards**

Separate divisions for females and males will have awards given to first, second and third place finishers in each division.

#### **Refreshments & Proceeds**

Refreshments will be provided on the day of the race. All proceeds benefit recreation programs for youths and adults with disabilities.

## **Frontier Park Yard Sale**



**Saturday, April 18, 2015**

**9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Frontier Park in Graham**

Don't worry about the weather at this "yard" sale because it will be held in the horse barns at [Frontier Park](#) in Graham.

Discover great finds or sell your treasures by reserving a horse stall in the Frontier Park barns. Spots for sellers are limited to the number of stalls available.

#### **Seller Registration Fee:**

- \$20 per stall - limit two stalls per family/group
- Reserve your spot by April 3. Register [on-line](#) or call (253)841-8515

For more information contact [Cara Cross](#) at (253)841-8515.

## **Get Involved!**

### **Adopt A Park/Trail**



#### **About the Program**

The Adopt-A-Park/Trail program is a countywide opportunity for volunteers and organizations to keep our park sites and trail systems well groomed, safe for the community to enjoy and provide a legacy for future generations to enjoy.

Volunteers in the program maintain a specific park or two-mile section of a trail within Pierce County.

The Adopt-A-Park/Trail program is a long term volunteer position. Long term indicates your willingness to support a local park/trail on a regular basis for a commitment of three years.

#### **How to Apply**

If you are interested in the Adopt-A-Park/Trail program please complete and submit a [Volunteer Application](#) to the Parks Administration Office. You can also request for an application on our [comment form](#) or (253)798-4148.

## **Port of Tacoma Tour**

Feb 24<sup>th</sup> 10am

Fabulich Center

3600 Port of Tacoma Road Tacoma WA

(253) 383-9463

FREE

Join us on free monthly bus tours of the Port and learn about the valuable jobs related to international trade. Tours are approximately 75 minutes long.

Reservation Required [portoftacoma.com/community/tours](http://portoftacoma.com/community/tours)

## **The Puyallup River Watershed Council (PRWC)**

The PRWC works to restore, protect and enhance the environmental, economic and cultural health of our watershed, from Mount Rainier to Commencement Bay.

We are citizens and representatives of businesses, governments and other groups collaborating to achieve clean water, healthy habitat and thriving communities.

A monthly forum that is open to the public to discuss and learn more about things related to the Puyallup River watershed.

The Puyallup River Watershed Council Board of Directors usually meets at 3:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month

Address:

Puyallup City Hall, Council Chambers 5th Floor

333 S Meridian

Puyallup, WA 98371

Contact:

(253) 798-6158

Email:

[Lisa Spurrier](#)

Links:

[Puyallup River Watershed Council webpage](#)

## Central Pierce Fire & Rescue District 6 events and meetings

1st Aid/CPR Class every fourth Saturday of each month

**Location:** Station 71 902 7th St NW Puyallup 98371

**Start:**2/28/2015 8:00:00 AM | **End:**2/28/2015 5:00:00 PM

To register on line, click on Education and Events block on our home page and then choose which month's class you wish to attend or you can call 253.538.6401 for assistance.

### BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

**Location:** 17520 22nd Ave Ct E, Tacoma WA 98445 7:30:PM

The Board of Fire Commissioners meets every second and fourth Monday of the month at our Headquarters location

### Pierce County Council District 2

County-City Building  
930 Tacoma Ave. S.  
Tacoma, WA 98402

### Contact:

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(253) 798-6694

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