

Mount Vernon City Library



2014—a Pivotal Year at the Library,

by Brian Soneda

First, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year. All years should begin with great hope, but 2014 will be especially hopeful for the Mount Vernon City Library and the people that it serves.

If you believe that great library service in Mount Vernon would be enhanced by the building of a new library, then 2014 will be the year to make your voice be heard. We are in the process of hiring a consulting firm with a terrific track record of doing needs assessment/feasibility studies for libraries. This firm will oversee a critical process which will invite public input on what Mount Vernon wants in a new library.

Yes, the needs assessment and feasibility study are early steps, with many more steps ahead before a new library becomes a reality. But they are steps that have to happen to ensure a successful outcome and they will be happening very soon.

Stay tuned—there is an important City Council meeting on January 22 at which one agenda item will finalize the hiring of the consulting firm. You are certainly invited to attend that meeting. You are invited as well to ask me questions about a new library—my language in response might be a little careful (at least until January 22) but my interest in talking to you is real. 2014 is going to be a great year!

New Youth Services Supervisor, Beth Bermani (in her own words!)

When I began the Library and Information Science Master's program a few years ago, one of my first assignments was to write an advertisement for my dream job. I don't remember the exact words I wrote, but I know the career I envisioned mirrors this one quite a bit! I began my professional career as a high school English teacher and also have experience in elementary and middle school education, including substituting for school librarians. While I was in the MLIS program, I worked at Sigonella MWR Library in Sicily where we were stationed with the Navy. At the Sigonella Library, I gained experience in nearly all aspects of librarianship, including youth services, collection development, cataloging, circulation and management. After my husband retired from the Navy, we were thrilled to make Mount Vernon our permanent home when I began my career with Mount Vernon City Library last March as the Volunteer Coordinator. When the wonderful Linda Allen retired, I applied for her position since being a Youth Librarian was always my ultimate career goal. Now, I'm living my dream working with youth, promoting literacy, sharing my love of reading, advocating for libraries and so much more!



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Who supports the library?

- *You do, through City taxes*
- *The Friends of the Mount Vernon Library*
- *The Mount Vernon Library Foundation*
- *Individuals and organizations who believe in libraries, literacy and the quality of life in Mount Vernon.*

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Friends of the Mount Vernon Library, by David Johnson, Friends Vice-President

“Winter makes a bridge between one year and another...” Andy Goldsworthy

Happy New Year from the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library!

Not only does winter make a bridge between years, as Goldsworthy notes, but also now is the time new leadership for the Friends takes over. After three fun years as President, I now step aside and let Justin Holmes take over the reins. In our recent annual election, Justin became President, I will now serve as Vice-President, Steve Jordan will become Secretary, and Bryan Milliren continues holding the purse strings as our more than able Treasurer. We also welcome aboard Jenny Lee as our new Membership Coordinator. We're so grateful she stepped up to the table to help us better manage our membership data.



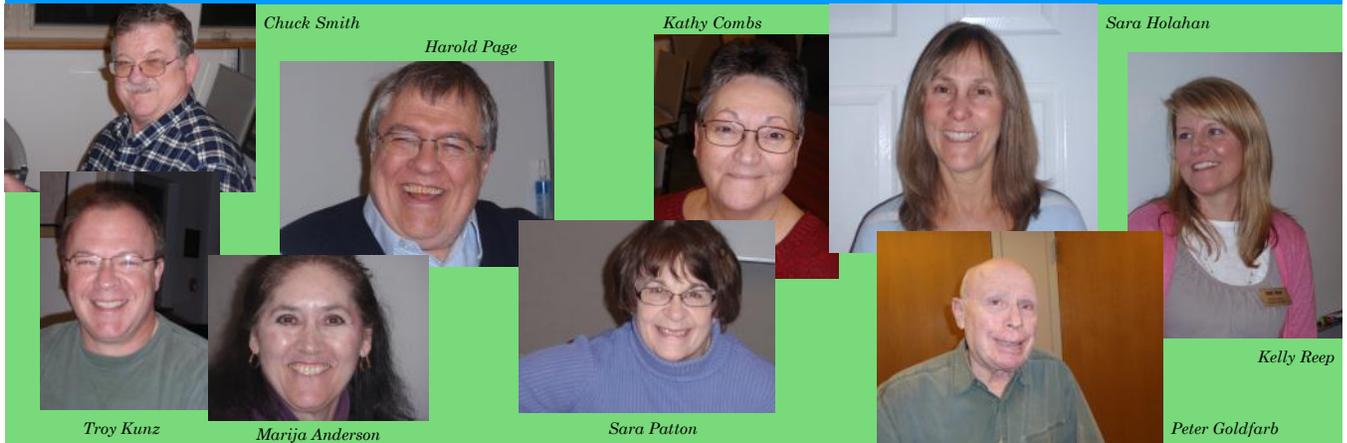
At that annual meeting, we also discussed membership in the Friends and need to remind all of our friends, old and new, that membership runs November 1 to October 31. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2014, please do so as soon as possible. We have different levels of membership and it's a great way to provide monetary support to our favorite library to help keep the services and programs offered here at the top level of quality. As a 501 (c) 3 IRS organization, your dues and other donations are tax-deductible. Thanks so much!

Never been a member? Resolve to change that in 2014!

This is a great time of year to go through your family's library and cull those books which might enjoy a new home. Bring them to the library and we'll sell them at our used book sale scheduled for Saturday, April 26, in conjunction with the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Street Fair (a week later this year due to Easter). Donations gratefully accepted at the front counter whenever the library is open.

See you at the library!

Mount Vernon Library Foundation Board members



Cool things that happened @ your Library last quarter...

Glow-in-the-Dark Party Spider Balls, a fun Halloween craft at the library.



Henna Hand Art, a November program for teens.

Youth Services Supervisor Linda Allen retired on November 30, Happy Trails, Linda!



2014 January-March Library Events Calendar

(all programs are free and no sign up is required)

Jan 4-Mar 29	Play & Learn, 10-11:30 am, ages 2-6, Saturdays.	
Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1	Tales for Tails, Kids read to certified therapy dogs, 1-2 pm, ages 6-12.	
Jan 4-March 29	LEGO Building for All Ages, 1-4:30 pm, Saturdays. (except first Saturday of Jan, Feb, Mar; LEGO is 2-4:30 pm.	
Jan 8-March 26	LEGO Building for All Ages, 1-6:30 pm, Wednesdays.	
Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 13	Adult Book Club, 12:30-1:30 pm.	
Jan 9, Feb 13	Teen Writing Group, 4:30-6:30 pm.	
Jan 14-Feb 25	Toddler Storytime, 10:30 am, 2-3 years, Tuesdays.	
Jan 14-Feb 25	Create & Investigate (Art & Science), 4 pm, 9-12 years, Tuesdays.	
Jan 14-Feb 25	Bilingual Storytime for Families, 6 pm, all ages, Tuesdays.	
Jan 15	Friends of the Mount Vernon Library meeting, 6 pm.	
Jan 15-Feb 26	Preschool Storytime, 10:30 am, 3-5 years, Wednesdays.	
Jan 16-Feb 27	Teddy Bear Time, 10:30 am, birth-24 months, Thursdays.	
Jan 16-Feb 27	Travels with SKOOB, 4 pm, 6-8 years, Thursdays.	
Jan 23	Button Making, 5-6 pm, teens.	
Jan 27	Make It Monday (Introduction to Watercolor Painting with Dierdre Czoberek), 6 pm, adults.	
Feb 3, 10	Make It Monday, 6 pm, adults.	
Feb 7, 8	Valentine's Day Crafts for Kids, 10 am-4:30 pm (Friday & Saturday)	
Feb 7, 8	Valentine Crafts for Teens, 10 am-4:30 pm (Friday & Saturday)	
Feb 26	Game Night at Burlington Public Library , 3:30-5:30 pm, teens.	
Mar 8	Seussabration: Dr. Seuss stories, activities, fun, 3-4 pm, ages 3 and up.	
March 13	Teen Writing Group, 4:30-6:30 pm, with guest author Kathleen Kaska.	
March 27	Knitting Roundtable for Teens, 5-6 pm.	<i>Kathleen Kaska</i>

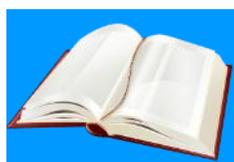
Dear Friends of the Library, by Jenny Lee, Friends Membership Coordinator

Another year has passed, and what a good year it was. On November 2, we had our annual Appreciation Day. I want to thank all who attended. On November 20 we held our annual meeting and voted for new Board officers. For those of you who couldn't attend, we elected Justin Holmes (President), David Johnson (Vice-President), Bryan Milliren (Treasurer), Steve Jordan (Secretary) and yours truly, Jenny Lee as Membership Coordinator. Thank you for committing your time and effort. We are always looking for new members. If you are not a member and are interested in becoming one, or just want more information about how you can help, email me at frndmvlib@gmail.com. Join us at the next Friends meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 6 PM at the library. Watch for updates about our March meeting and our upcoming Spring Book Sale on April 26.

Mount Vernon City Library

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“The Chain of Command”

The library director reports to the Mayor,
Jill Boudreau.

The library director is advised by the Board of Trustees. Trustees are appointed by the Mayor and are confirmed by City Council. Trustees serve 5 year terms. Current Trustees are: Marija Anderson (Chair), Bill Craig (Vice Chair), Carrie Odlin, Sharon Sackett and Laura Riquelme.

The library director and library staff serve you, the public.

This newsletter is edited by: Brian Soneda, Library Director

Mount Vernon City Library

Vision Statement:

Mount Vernon City Library - The Heart of Our Thriving Community

Mission Statement:

Mount Vernon City Library promotes lifelong learning by providing access to information and materials that are varied in format and viewpoint. We connect our diverse community through innovative programming and excellent service.

Core Values:

Mount Vernon City Library stands on a foundation of core value including, but not limited to:

Excellent customer service

Relevancy

Patience, understanding and caring

Tolerance

Community leadership

Sensitivity

Helpfulness

Welcoming spirit

Contributor to the community's quality of life

2014 Library Hours

Monday	10 AM-7 PM
Tuesday	10 AM-7 PM
Wednesday	10 AM-7 PM
Thursday	10 AM-7 PM
Friday	10 AM-5 PM
Saturday	10 AM-5 PM

Holiday and other closures:

January 1	New Years Day
January 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 17	Presidents' Day
May 26	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 1	Labor Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 27-28	Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas Day



Just part of the job...

