

# Mount Vernon City Library



## Book Drops Open 24/7, by Ellen Christilaw

You asked. We listened. The book drops are now open all the time. We are so excited to be able to offer our customers this convenient service. Have kids in the car? Just dropping off materials? Pull up, jump out, place your returns in the appropriate drop, jump back into your vehicle, buckle up, check for traffic and pedestrians, and go! Are you returning overdue materials or need to speak to library staff? Please bring your returns inside with you. Thank you.



Upper right: note new location of book drops  
Lower right: Staff member Betsy Risser and honorary staff member Joe Cool promote book drops

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January-March 2016

### 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.

## Hogwarts Yule Ball float wins!, by Betsy Risser



Castle spires, a tree-trapped flying auto, a dragon and Harry Potter lit up First Street in Mount Vernon on Sunday, December 6 and then drove off with **FIRST PLACE**. The Mount Vernon City Library's number one goal was staying warm and having fun—and of course, being safe. Thank goodness the unexpected high winds did not affect our float, until

after the parade. This year, Library staff members were excited to create the magical world of Harry Potter's Yule Ball. Director, Brian Soneda and Deputy Director, Sara Holahan led staff and friends dressed in traditional clothing from India, Mongolia, and Jordan as well robes, wands and magical creatures from Hogwarts.

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



*People ask me what I do in winter when there's no baseball. I'll tell you what I do. I stare out the window and wait for spring.* Rogers Hornsby

*Winter was made for warm blankets and large books.* Author unknown

Regardless of your personal perspective on the winter months, the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library know how important it is for our favorite library to provide the best it can for its guests with little regard for the weather. The Friends augment the City of Mount Vernon's budget to provide programs such as Son of Reptile Man in the summer, reading programs year-round, and ways to become involved whenever you want through the e-book system.

The two main funding efforts are the fall and spring book sales. However, donations and memberships are crucial throughout the year. To help support the Friends, simply pick up a membership form near the Book Nook just inside the doors, fill it out, add a check, and drop it in the box right there. Thanks so much!

Mark your calendar for our next Book Sale, which will be April 15 and 16. And don't forget to bring us your donations of gently used books for the sale...see, it's easy to support the Friends as they support the library!

## Mount Vernon Library Foundation, by Peter Goldfarb, Foundation Vice-President

The current Mount Vernon City Library was built in 1954 when there was a population of about 5,000 residents.

Today's population is 34,700 and growing and while there have been some renovations that added some square footage, the current 12,336 square foot library is no longer adequate to serve the community.

As the city has grown, the uses of libraries have changed and shall continue to, and the Library Foundation Board is looking toward the future.

There is a pressing need for a new library with flexible spaces, plenty of parking, up-to-date computer access, more services for children and seniors, community meeting rooms, private study areas and a safe environment.

In two recent meetings with the Mount Vernon City Council, these issues have been addressed and been met with enthusiasm by the Mayor and the Council.

The current conversation is now about funding, location and community interest. Discussions are now underway with the local school district concerning the possibility of sharing school-owned property and building a facility that would serve the school administration and contain a new library.

The conversation will continue into the new year while the Library Foundation works to get new members as well as increased community interest and involvement.



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



*Skagit Reads Spare Parts co-coordinators Brian Soneda and Jenny Fredriksen flank author Joshua Davis on November 10.*

*Campbell Road, a Celtic band that includes former Library employee Jessamyn Tuttle on flute and vocals, visited on December 7.*



*Santa Storytime on December 19 once again a great success!*



## 2016 January-March Library Events Calendar

(all programs are free and at Mount Vernon City Library unless otherwise noted; no sign up is required)

Jan 2-Mar 30	LEGO Building for All Ages, 3-7:30 pm, Wednesdays [except Nov 11]; 2-4:30 pm, Saturdays.	
Jan 2-Mar 26	Play & Learn, 10-11:30 am, Fridays and Saturdays, 2-6 years and caregiver.	
Jan 2, Feb 6, Mar 5	Tales for Tails, 1-2 pm, recommended for ages 6-12.	
Jan 5-Mar 15	Toddler Storytime, 10:30 am, Tuesdays, 2-3 years.	
Jan 5-Mar 31	Drop-in Student Computer Lab (be sure to bring your school issued passwords), Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 3:30-7:30 pm.	
Jan 5-Mar 15	Spanish Storytime, 6:30 pm, Tuesdays, 2-3 years and families.	
Jan 6-Jan 27	"Old School" Games (in the Teen Area), Wednesdays, 3:30-5 pm, ages 12-18.	
Jan 6-Mar 16	Preschool Storytime, 10:30 am, Wednesdays, 3-5 years.	
Jan 7-Mar 27	Teddy Bear Time, 10:30 am, Thursdays, birth-24 months.	
Jan 7-Mar 27	Travels with Skoob, 4:15 pm, Thursdays, ages 6-8.	 <i>SKOOB!</i>
Jan 12	STEAM Workshop: Winter Science, 4:30-5:30 pm, ages 6-10.	
Jan 13	Mount Vernon School District School Bond Information meeting, 6:30 pm, adults.	
Jan 14	DVD showing of the speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr., 7 pm, all ages.	
Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 10	Book Discussion Group, 12:30-1:30 pm, adults.	
Jan 20	Author Talk, Chris Hoke, 6:30 pm, adults and teens.	<i>Chris Hoke's book, Wanted</i>
Jan 20, Feb 17, Mar 16	Friends of the Mount Vernon Library meetings, 6 pm, new members welcome!	
Jan 29	Tech help with your mobile devices (part of the Mayor's Winter Wellness Week) 1-4 pm, adults.	
Feb 1, 8, 22, 29	Monday Evening International Travel Programs, 6:30 pm, adults.	
Feb 12, 13	Valentine Crafts for Kids, 12 noon-4 pm (both Friday and Saturday).	
Feb 24	Henna Hand Art, 5-6 pm, ages 10-18.	
Mar 8	Intro to Backyard Poultry, 6:30 pm, adults.	
Mar 9	Video Game Crafts for Teens and Tweens, 5-6 pm, ages 10-18.	

## Technology Ramped Up in YS Area!, by Beth Bermani



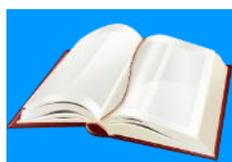
Coming in January: more drop-in Computer Lab hours for students! Have you seen our Learning Lab lately? Thanks to a generous volunteer and a new table, the lab has a new home that enables us to offer access to K-12 students more often. Beginning January 5, 2016, students can use the computers between 3:30-7:30pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Work on homework, sharpen skills and more! No code or library card needed. The computer lab was funded by a generous grant from SPEEA (Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Space).

Also, we now have two internet computers for children and families to use during any open hours. Youth up to 17 years of age and parents accompanied by their children can use these computers if they have an internet code (sign-up for a code with photo ID at the Resource Room).

# 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: Bill Craig (Vice Chair), Laura Riquelme (Chair), Hal Verrell, and (pending Council approval), Margaret Redfern and Frank Repplier.

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 values including, but not limited to:*

<i>Excellent customer service</i>	<i>Relevancy</i>
<i>Patience, understanding and caring</i>	<i>Tolerance</i>
<i>Community leadership</i>	<i>Sensitivity</i>
<i>Helpfulness</i>	<i>Welcoming spirit</i>
<i>Contributor to the community's quality of life</i>	

## 2016 Library Hours

Monday	10 AM-8 PM
Tuesday	10 AM-8 PM
Wednesday	10 AM-8 PM
Thursday	10 AM-8 PM
Friday	10 AM-5 PM
Saturday	10 AM-5 PM

### **Holiday and other closures:**

January 1	New Year's Day
January 18	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 15	Presidents' Day
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 11	Veterans' Day
November 24-25	Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas



*Winter scene from December 2012; director put to work...*

