

# Mount Vernon City Library



## Needs Assessment/Feasibility Study,

by Brian Soneda



Sonya Beard,  
Library Foundation  
inspiration.

As Mount Vernon Library Foundation board member Kathy Combs notes in her column (on page 2, “guest-writing” for usual Foundation columnist, Foundation President Harold Page), the focus of the Mount Vernon Library Foundation is a new library for Mount Vernon. Since its formation in 2010, the Library Foundation has been steadfast in this effort. The City of Mount Vernon supports this effort. Library staff, in consultation with other City staff, is working on a Request for Proposals for a “Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Feasibility Study: for a New Mount Vernon City Library” and hopes to have a well-qualified consulting firm on board by the end of the year, and have the selected firm work with staff and a wide array of com-

munity stakeholders on the study beginning in early 2014. The support and input of the library board, City Council and of course, the Library Foundation have been crucial in getting to this point. So much more work to do but things are happening! Stay tuned for more news.

## STEM at the Library, by Alberta Hendrickson

What is STEM? You may hear this buzzword often, especially in conversations regarding education and early learning. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Education and Math, and is a blended method of education which integrates elements from these four disciplines and applies them to real-world experiences. An example of a STEM activity would be to use blocks to demonstrate physics (sliding blocks down a ramp) and science (using differently shaped blocks to demonstrate weight and balance using a scale).

In order to help better prepare children for academic success, the Youth Services librarians at the Mount Vernon Library are taking the initiative by integrating STEM elements into their children’s programs.

Play and Learn, which is an early learning- based activity time that happens every Saturday from 10-11:30am at the library, offers STEM-based and literacy activities for children ages 2-6. Play and Learn is a family program, and parents are encouraged to participate in these activities with their children.

Another program which focuses on STEM is the Early Learning Science night which will be happening at Washington Elementary in November. The Youth Services Librarians from the Mount Vernon Library are collaborating with local childcare organizations to present an evening of science-based activities for ages 3-8. Activities will include a germ box, where children can examine their hands using a special light. Each child who attends will receive a science-based book and a take-away science activity they can do at home.

We hope that parents who attend these activities will take away the knowledge that most of these activities can be done at home using everyday items, and the time they spend being engaged with their children are the most important teaching moments of all!



Volume 3, Issue 4

October-December  
2013

### 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.

### Inside this issue

<i>Friends of the Mount</i>	2
<i>Mount Vernon Library</i>	2
<i>Your Library, out and about...</i>	2
<i>Library Events Calendar</i>	3
<i>Book Club news</i>	3



## Friends of the Mount Vernon Library, by Dave Johnson, Friends President

*"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns."* – **George Eliot**

Autumn roared in like a lion, didn't it? The fall weather drives us inside, but also reminds us of activities we enjoy. As we scurry about, wrapping our coats about us, wondering where we put that woolen scarf from Aunt Edna, hustling the kids from soccer to volleyball, and ordering holiday cards, let's not forget the past few months for the Friends.

Thanks to library staff and volunteers, we had a strong presence at the Farmer's Market this summer, providing crafts for kids, information for adults, and books for young and old. We made a few bucks but, more importantly, let several folks know about our library and its resources. We also sold a few Friends of the Library book bags, suitable for groceries, tomes, and toys!

Our used book sale was a success, thanks to volunteers and our friends at the fire station and to the folks who purchased books, CDs, tapes, and even VHS movies. Your support helps us fund exciting activities and needed items to keep our library the community benefit it has been and will remain.

The staff provided a variety of summer programs, supported by the Friends, which kept kids and adults digging into reading with activities in the library and around town. These activities will continue throughout the fall and into winter, so watch for updates!



## Mount Vernon Library Foundation, by Kathy Combs, Foundation Board member

- Mount Vernon needs a new building for its wonderful library.
- A new library building will be a tremendous asset to our community.
- We all have an opportunity through involvement to leave a lasting and meaningful legacy for future generations,
- We need to share our enthusiasm for the project with everyone!

We have initiated a Legacy Campaign to help fund and maintain our efforts for a new library building and programs, and we continue to assist in the search for the perfect location for a new library.

We are truly a work-in-progress Foundation and are certainly open to new members to the Library Foundation, new members to the Foundation's Board of Directors, volunteers to help on tasks ranging from stamping envelopes, giving us their suggestions and comments, and serving on a committee of the Foundation. Anyone from a retiree to an active professional may be part of our Foundation group. We meet once a month on the second Monday, September through June, usually in the meeting room of the Skagit Community Foundation, at 1003 Cleveland St. We have an annual meeting in January which will be fun and interesting! More on the time and location of the annual meeting coming soon.

## Your Library, out and about, in the last quarter...



Library staff members Linda Allen and Alberta Hendrickson entertain at the August 10 Farmers Market.



Thunderously successful Harry Potter event at the historic Lincoln Theatre on August 27, sponsored by the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library.



The Library hosted the "UNI Cube" station at the Cascade Mall on September 21.

## 2013 October-December Library Events Calendar

- Oct 1-Nov 5 Toddler Storytime, 10:30 am, 2-3 years, Tuesdays.
- Oct 1-Nov 5 Create & Investigate (Art & Science), 4 pm, 9-12 years, Tuesdays.
- Oct 1-Nov 5 Bilingual Storytime for Families, 6 pm, all ages, Tuesdays.
- Oct 2-Nov 6 Preschool Storytime, 10:30 am, 3-5 years, Wednesdays.
- Oct 2-Dec 18 LEGO Building for All Ages, 1-6:30 pm, Wednesdays.
- Oct 2 The Hokule'a Story, 6-7 pm.
- Oct 3-Nov 7 Teddy Bear Time, 10:30 am, birth-24 months, Thursdays.
- Oct 3-Nov 7 Travels with SKOOB, 4 pm, 6-8 years, Thursdays.
- Oct 5-Dec 28 Play & Learn, 10-11:30 am, ages 2-6, Saturdays.
- Oct 5-Dec 28 LEGO Building for All Ages, 1-4:30 pm, Saturdays.  
(except first Saturday of Nov and Dec; LEGO is 2-4:30 pm).
- Oct 8 Firefighter Storytime, 10:30-11 am, library AND Fire Station #1.
- Oct 8 To Your Credit Workshop (presented by Key Bank), 6-7 pm.
- Oct 10, Nov 14, Dec 12 Adult Book Club, 12:30-1:30 pm.
- Oct 10 Teen Writing Group, 4:30-6:30 pm, with guest author Alma Alexander.
- Oct 10 Credit Smart Workshop (en espanol, presented by Key Bank), 6-7 pm.
- Oct 24 Glow in the Dark Party—Spider Balls!, 5-6 pm, teens.
- Oct 24 Nicola Pearson/Author Talk, 6-7 pm.
- Nov 2, Dec 7 Tales for Tails (Read to Dogs), 1-2 pm, ages 6-12.
- Nov 6 Early Learning Night featuring STEM, 6:30-8 pm, families/all ages at Washington Elementary.
- Nov 14 Teen Writing Group, 4:30-6:30 pm.
- Nov 18 Count Every Dollar—Budgeting (presented by Key Bank), 6-7 pm.
- Nov 21 Henna Hand Art, 5-6 pm, teens (all materials provided).
- Nov 21 Count Every Dollar—Budgeting (en espanol, presented by Key Bank), 6-7 pm.
- Dec 12 Teen Writing Group, 4:30-6:30 pm.
- Dec 19 Holiday Nail Art, 5-6 pm, teens.



Legos, Wednesdays &amp; Saturdays



Alma Alexander



Adult Book Club discussion groups are held every second Thursday, from 12:30-1:30 PM, in the library director's office. The next three Club selections are: *The Handmaid's Tale*, by Margaret Atwood; *The Devil in the White City*, by Erik Larsen; and *A Tidewater Morning*, by William Styron. Interested in joining the Book Club? For more information, contact Beth Bermani at the library ([bethb@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:bethb@mountvernonwa.gov)).

# Mount Vernon City Library

315 Snoqualmie St.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: (360)336-6209  
Fax: (360)336-6259  
E-mail: [brians@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:brians@mountvernonwa.gov)



## *“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), Scott Correa (Secretary), Carrie Odlin and Sharon Sackett.

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*

## 2013 Library Hours

Monday	10 AM-7 PM	<i>Yellow Ginkgo Tree</i>
Tuesday	10 AM-7 PM	
Wednesday	10 AM-7 PM	
Thursday	10 AM-7 PM	
Friday	10 AM-6 PM	
Saturday	10 AM-5 PM	

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

January 1	New Years Day
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 18	Presidents' Day
May 27	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 2	Labor Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 28-29	Thanksgiving
December 25	Christmas Day

