

Mount Vernon City Library



Welcome to the first Mount Vernon City Library *E-newsletter!*

A Short History of the Mount Vernon City Library

Library service began in Mount Vernon when a local women's Civic Improvement Club (CIC) was formed in **1908** and set up a volunteer run library with donated items. In **1915** Mount Vernon citizens voted to tax themselves for library service. In **1916** the CIC transferred its library to the City and the mayor appointed a Board of Trustees. The first Head Librarian was Zoura Jackson. In **1920** the library moved into the new City Hall building. In **1954** the library moved to its current location on 315 Snoqualmie St. In **1969** an extensive addition enlarged the library's size from 3,551 square feet to 10,033 square feet. In **1981** a second addition expanded the building to 12,122 square feet. In **1997** an extensive renovation completed the last major changes to the library. (The addition of a small area adjacent to the Youth Services area in **2009** added 225 square feet of much needed storage space.) Today the library holds about 87,000 items, provides public internet access, a wide range of programs for all ages, and access to the library catalog and library accounts to all cardholders. If the library doesn't have what you want, Interlibrary Loan is available, as are (always) library staff members who are delighted to help you find what you are looking for.



Renew Washington II

In 2009, the library was awarded a Renew Washington grant in the amount of \$17,400 by the Washington State Library (using Federal funding from the LSTA program and additional funding from the Gates Foundation). In 2010, the library successfully applied for a second cycle of the funding (Renew Washington II, we like to call it) in the amount of \$16,750. The purpose of the Renew Washington grants are to provide funds to help libraries initiate new services, enhance existing services, conduct outreach and partnership efforts in addressing the needs of people seeking access to employment-related information, resources and services. In addition to fine additions to our book and audiovisual collections in the areas of resume writing, job search strategies and skills, and living in a frugal and sustainable way, see page 3 for some great new Renew Washington II events at the library [events designated as RW].

City of
Mount Vernon

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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

The Friends of the Mount Vernon Library are a 501c3 group that is committed to supporting the Mount Vernon City Library with funding beyond what the City budget can provide. In 2010, the Friends funded several Summer Reading Program events for children and a die cut machine for display and programming purposes, among other much appreciated events and items.

The Friends hold two major book sales each year, one in April (coinciding with the Tulip Festival Street Fair) and one in September (coinciding with the Mount Vernon Fall Festival). These sales, along with an ongoing "Book Nook" sale in the library as well as some online sales of donated and withdrawn books, are the major fundraisers for the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library.

On October 18, 2010, the Friends and library staff collaborated on the annual Friends Day, which celebrated what the Friends had accomplished and encouraged the public to become Friends of the Mount Vernon Library. The event was held in honor of Sonya Beard, who in March of 2010 made an astonishingly generous pledge of a "lead gift" of \$500,000 in support of an effort to build a new Mount Vernon library building.



Photo of Sonya Beard at Friends Day event

The Friends invite you to their next meeting, **Wednesday, January 19, 6 PM**, at the library.

Mount Vernon Library Foundation

Community benefactor Sonya Beard passed away in June of 2010, but not before making sure that Mount Vernon was a better place and would continue to be a better place far into the future. Substantial donations to Skagit Valley Hospital and Bethany Covenant Church showed what Sonya Beard was made of and were followed by the March 19 announcement of the abovementioned \$500,000 pledge to a future capital drive for a new Mount Vernon library facility. The announcement galvanized the library staff, library board, Friends of the Library and library supporters across the community into forming a new Mount Vernon Library Foundation. The Foundation meets every month, usually on the second Monday of each month. Library supporters interested in joining the Foundation should call the library.

Other supporters remembered the library in their wills in 2010. Library staff and trustees gratefully acknowledge the generosity of Vernon Sheller and Frank Bichler, both of whom bequeathed significant donations in support of the library. We are honored and humbled by this support.

Fun Days



Literary Characters Day

Every so often, library staff members dress up for **Fun Days** on an agreed upon theme. Here are a couple of the best 2010 Fun Days. Good for morale (of both staff and patrons!)



Pirate Day

2011 January-March Library Events Calendar

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

January 10-March 7	Teddy Bear Time, 10:30 am, birth-2 years, Mondays (except January 17* and February 21*)
January 11-March 8	Did You Know?, 4-4:30 pm, 9-11 years, Tuesdays.
January 11-March 8	Bilingual Storytime, 6:30 pm, all ages, Tuesdays.
January 12-March 9	Preschool Storytime, 10:30 am, 3-5 years, Wednesdays.
January 12	LEGO Building, 1-7 pm, all ages.
January 13-March 10	Travels with SKOOB, 4-4:30 pm, 6-8 years, Thursdays.
January 14-March 11	Toddler Storytime, 10:30 am, 2-3 years, Fridays.
January 14	Games, Giggles & Goodies (Family Game Night), 6-8 pm, all ages.
January 15-March 12	Toddler Storytime, 10:30 am, 2-3 years, Saturdays.
January 28	Teen Game Night, 6-8 pm.
January 29	National Puzzle Day (How many puzzles can we put together in the library?), 12 Noon-4:30 am, all ages.
February 1	Resume Writing 101, 6:30 pm [RW]
February 3	Valentine Crafts and Board Games in the Teen Area, 4-7 pm, teens.
February 8	Choosing and Maintaining Your Bicycle, 6:30 pm [RW]
February 12	Fancy Nancy Tea Party, 1-2 pm, ages 5 and up.
February 15	The Hidden Job Market – How Smart Job Seekers Find Employment, 6:30 pm [RW]
February 18	Teen Murder Mystery Night, 6-8:30 pm.
February 22	Managing Your \$s in Tough Financial Times, 6:30 pm [RW]
February 25	Teen Game Night, 6-8 pm.
February 26	Black Gold – Worm Composting in Your Back Yard, 1:30 pm [RW]
March 1	Making an Impression – Critical Steps to Preparing for a Job Interview, 6:30 pm [RW]
March 8	The Lincoln Community Garden, 6:30 pm [RW]
March 11	Teen Open Mic Night, 6-8 pm.
March 12	Bees and Beekeeping, 1:30 pm [RW]
March 15	Social Media and Your Job Search – How to Leverage Technology and the Internet, 6:30 pm [RW]
March 22	Eat Your Yard – Getting Started with Your Home Garden, 6:30 pm [RW]
March 25	Teen Game Night, 6-8 pm.

*no program/library closed for Federal Holiday.

[RW] = Renew Washington II funded program.

Mount Vernon City Library

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“The Chain of Command”

The library director reports to the Mayor, Bud Norris.

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), Paul Jurenka (Vice Chair), Bill Craig (Secretary), Scott Correa and Sharon Sackett.

The library director and library staff serve the public.

2011 Library Hours

Monday	10 AM-5 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 17	Martin Luther King Day
February 21	Presidents' Day
May 30	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 11	Veterans Day
November 24-25	Thanksgiving Day
December 26	Christmas Day (observed)

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:

<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>	

