

Message from the Director

2015 was another good year at the Library. While circulation was slightly down from 2014, library gate count, use of materials in the library as well as the number of programs and attendance at programs were all up in 2015.



Please take a look at 2015 Highlights, described in the middle inside panel of this report, for some of the best things that happened at the Library or with the Library participating in community events. We could not have accomplished those highlights without the support of our Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Mount Vernon Library, the Mount Vernon Library Foundation, and our wonderful City colleagues in multiple City departments.

But my main message to you, our loyal library users and supporters, is a big thank you. We appreciate your business! It has been, is and will continue to be a pleasure to serve you with our best effort in 2016 and beyond.

Brian Soneda
Library Director



Staff member Betsy Risser, Snoopy and open book drops that are now open 24 hours a day.

City of Mount Vernon

Jill Boudreau, Mayor

2016 Library Board of Trustees

Bill Craig, Chair
Hal Verrell, Secretary
Katy Armagost
Margaret Redfern
Frank Repplier

Library Hours

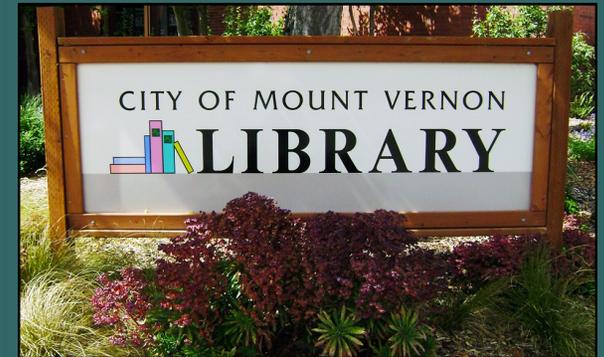
Monday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Holidays

The Library is closed on the following holidays:

New Years Day
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Presidents' Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Veterans' Day
Thanksgiving
Day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Day

2015 Annual Report



Mount Vernon City Library – the
Heart of Our Thriving Community

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www.mountvernonwa.gov/library



Message from the Board Chair

As the vice chair of the Library's Board of Trustees, I worked alongside our chair, Laura Riquelme, and three others, all of whom are committed to public service. At the time of this writing, Laura is now Judge Riquelme. As such, she no longer serves on the board. We are all proud of Laura and wish her the best in her career.



We also had two others on our board who represented you, Carrie Odlin and Marija Anderson, both of whom served with distinction. Carrie served for four years, while Marija served for 10 years. Their terms ended in 2015 and we wish them well in their future endeavors.

The trustees take their duties seriously. By working directly with the library director, and, by extension, his staff, the trustees ensure that the library - perhaps the one department in city government that has the most contact with the general citizenry - is run efficiently and respectfully of patrons. In a time where government processes are perhaps trusted less than ever, it is with pride that we serve the residents of Mount Vernon and surrounding communities. You can have confidence that our staff is operating your library to the highest of standards.

The Library Board continues to work with the director to ensure that staff is well taken care of and that patrons have a wide variety of materials to access. We still are waiting for a new library that will better meet the needs of a population that has grown tremendously since it was last remodeled. Until then, be assured that we are doing the best we can with what we have and that you, the citizen reader, is first and foremost in the minds of everyone who manages and oversees the operation of the Library.

Bill Craig
2015 Vice-Chair, Library Board of Trustees

2015 Highlights

- ◆ The Library's outside book drops were opened 24/7 as a pilot project late in the year. Public requests for this change were mounting and staff workflow was adjusted to make this happen. Early feedback has been very positive, with the very strong likelihood that this will become permanent.
- ◆ Summer Reading Program continued to be a great success in promoting reading (and combatting "summer brain drain") in 2015, with almost 1,200 participants. A strong slate of entertainers/presenters that fit the SRP theme of Every Hero Has a Story made the library an exciting place over the summer.
- ◆ The Library was a leading participant in Skagit Reads, which in November brought author Joshua Davis to Mount Vernon in support of the 2015 Skagit Reads book, Spare Parts. Hundreds of people in Mount Vernon and the greater Skagit Valley area read Spare Parts and participated in community events, events which culminated in a well-attended appearance by the author at the Lincoln Theatre. The Friends of the Mount Vernon Library were the main funding sponsors of Mr. Davis's visit to Mount Vernon.
- ◆ Hogwarts Yule Ball, the library entry in the 2015 Downtown Mount Vernon Christmas Parade, won first place. It was a massive team effort among library staff and volunteers, as well as other City departments. Staff member Betsy Risser was float project coordinator.



Spare Parts author Joshua Davis and 2015 Skagit Reads co-coordinators Brian Soneda and Jenny Fredriksen (Burlington Public Library)

2015 Service Measures

Days open	303
Total Items circulated	345,606
eBooks & eAudio circulated	18,545
Items used in the library	41,643
Items in collection	86,469
Withdrawn or missing	7,397
Library attendance	183,409
Program attendance	15,301
Internet terminal customers	3,571
Summer Reading participants	1,140
Volunteer Hours	1,343

2015 Financial Summary

2015 Library Budget	\$1,191,718
Revenue	
(beginning fund equity)	\$14,000
(from property taxes)	\$1,084,418
(from fines and forfeits)	\$29,300
(from charges for services)	\$20,000
(from Skagit County)	\$16,000
(misc)	\$28,000

