

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=55240>

Falls City Librarian Wants To Be Open More Hours

(KLZA)-- Hope Schawang presented the Falls City Library and Arts Center Annual Report to the Falls City Council Monday evening.

Noting the “new” library has been open for nine years, she said it remains a very busy place with an average of 920 patron visits per week. During 2015, 368 new patrons signed up, bringing the total to more than 4,400. 317 volunteers put in more than 1,400 hours at the Library in the past year.

Schawang, the long-time Falls City Librarian says she understands people would like the library to be open on Friday’s.

The Falls City Library and Arts Center is open Monday through Thursday and on Saturday. Schawang says the top priority is to be open more hours, noting a desire to be open on Fridays. Schawang noted staffing issues as the reason for being closed on Friday’s. The long-time Falls City Librarian said if she could hire two or three more part-time workers, that do not receive a benefit package, she feels the library could extend the hours they are open.

Libraries are no longer a place just to borrow a book. The Falls City Library offers 26 public computers which is more than any library comparative in size and more than many larger libraries. Schawang noted the importance of the computers since many things must be done on-line now, including, as an example, signing up for unemployment.

The Falls City Library and Arts Center also is home to the Stalder Art Gallery.

Many Signals Communications