

**For Immediate Release: September 14, 2011**

**Friends of the Library Announces  
Fall Authors for 24th Literary  
Luncheon Lecture Series**

Eleanor Clift, a political commentator and regular panelist on the *McLaughlin Group*, will kick off the 24th season of the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County's (FOLMC) annual Literary Luncheon Lecture Series at Strathmore Hall Mansion on Thursday, October 20. The mansion is located at 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda.

Clift will discuss her most recent book, *Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death and Politics*. The book parallels the lives and deaths of her husband, Tom Brazaitis, and of Terri Schiavo. Clift uses the two stories to analyze the political and cultural implications of death in America.

On Thursday, November 17, noted journalist and author Michelle Bernard will discuss women and politics and the 2012 election. Bernard is the founder and CEO of the Bernard Center for Women, Politics and Public Policy. She is a panelist on *Hardball with Chris Matthews* and guest commentator on NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Lectures begin at 11:30 a.m. and are followed by a book signing and luncheon at 12:30 p.m. Books will be available for purchase. Tickets start at \$25 for non-members and vary according to membership status.

The series will continue in the spring with two additional authors.

Proceeds benefit FOLMC whose mission is to support and enhance Montgomery County Public Libraries. The Literary Luncheon Series is funded in part by a grant from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

-more-

Friends of the Library, Montgomery County is a 29-year-old non-profit membership organization with 16 chapters dedicated to enhancing and promoting public libraries through fundraising and advocacy efforts. FOLMC operates three used book stores in Gaithersburg, Rockville and Wheaton and supports various literary projects that promote the work of local authors, encourage reading among children and enhance adult life-long learning.

For more information on this series or other Friends' programs, call 240-777-0020 or visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org).

###

**Contact:** Ari Brooks, 240-777-0020