

friends

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310
Rockville, MD 20850 | 240-777-0020

READ, EAT, & GIVE IV

By Jennifer Gan, Student Intern

The greatest-and-tastiest accompaniment to literature and discussion is delectable food. Read, Eat & Give (REG) 2011 brings the two together this fall, featuring Chef Johnny Mo, Rockville native turned cookbook author and singing chef.

The chef, owner of Mallards on Virginia's Eastern Shore, is quickly becoming a recognized figure along the Eastern shoreboard. What makes him so phenomenal? It's a combination of his great cuisine and his musical serenades for diners.

Now you can sample his delicious dishes and music without leaving Maryland. Join FOLMC on Saturday, October 29 at 7:30pm in the Rockville Memorial Library for wonderful food and discussion with the singing chef and his guitar. Learn more about Chef Johnny Mo or check out his new cookbook and CD, "Rock the Kitchen," at www.chefjohnnymo.com.

For more information and tickets to REG 2011 visit www.folmc.org.



Chef Johnny Mo

DON'T STOP NOW!

Thank you for all the hard work from everyone who joined our "Libraries Matter. No More Cuts" advocacy campaign. Because of you, the County Council unanimously passed the FY12 operating budget on May 26, and they are to be commended for setting libraries as a priority. Write your Council Members and thank them for the work that they have done to support libraries

Visit the **Library Calculator** under **Libraries Matter** at www.folmc.org for a better picture of the value the community receives from libraries.

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contents

Read, Eat, & Give	1
President's Letter	2
From the Executive Director	3
Save the Dates	4
Call for Board Members	6
Chapter Updates	7

friends OF THE LIBRARY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

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This newsletter is published four times a year by Friends of the Library and is available free-of-charge. If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please send a written request to staff@folmc.org.

friends OF THE LIBRARY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

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President's Letter

ANN DOROUGH

This is not another nag piece about the county budget.

Now that I have your attention, let me tell you about an encouraging trend: Friends chapters working with one another to achieve great success. One caveat: there are too many individuals to mention, so I won't even try. But here's what our chapters are doing that makes me proud:

1) Dine-In Nights: Lots of your chapter members are coming out to eat at our wonderful sponsor restaurants, such as The Original Pancake House, which gives back to the Friends of the Library 15% of your dinner tab. By dining out, you get a great meal, don't have to do dishes, and help keep the Friends fiscally sound, so we can give back more to our libraries.

2) Wine Down Series: Volunteers from many of our chapters helped on Wednesday nights all summer to pour wine samples at the food and wine tasting series in Rockville Town Square. This signature event of Federal Realty Investment Trust was held just outside the Rockville Memorial Library, and your volunteer energy allowed us to man the booths, keep the customers happy, and tell people about how great it is to be a part of the Friends.

3) Chapter Handbook: Chapter leaders from around the County have been diligently working to clarify, improve and edit our chapter handbook, and it is now in the editing stage. Their collective brainpower has produced a guideline that brings us into the 21st Century and sets us up to handle future challenges with poise and confidence.

4) Educating our Public Officials: Okay, I fibbed. But I cannot leave this page without bragging shamelessly about the above-and-beyond service our dedicated chapter leaders and members put in to get the MCPL budget on the radar of our County Executive and County Council. They no longer assume that libraries are expendable. They know deep in their bones what you all said emphatically, persistently, and effectively. So one more time, repeat after me: "Libraries Matter. No More Cuts."

I am so proud and encouraged by our chapter leaders and volunteers. Please let the staff and me know what we can do to keep your momentum. You have my great respect and gratitude.



Ann Dorough, FOLMC President, ready to fight for libraries as a library superhero.

From the Executive Director

ARI Z. BROOKS, MSW

When I was young, my family watched a television ministry on Sunday morning. Week after week, the minister would plead for donations or else he faced going off the air. At the tender age of 7, I responded to that call for help and talked my mother into helping save the ministry. She sent in a modest donation, yet every week the threat of their collapsing ministry continued to loom.



As an adult, I use a different set of standards when considering charitable giving. I know now that a charity that faces closing its doors has bigger problems than I can address. Today, I look for groups that have demonstrated sustainability through sound fiscal management to direct my donated dollars.

FOLMC is nearly 30 years strong and has proven our ability to have a lasting impact on libraries. When you become a member or make a monetary donation to FOLMC, know that you are giving to a fiscally lean organization that *directly* supports a cause near and dear to you—libraries.

Thank you to our members and donors who have responded to our invitation to give back to libraries. You have greatly contributed to our success and long history of service to the community. I look forward to your ongoing support and to welcoming new “friends” into our fold.

Give today by using the enclosed return envelope or sharing it with a library-loving friend or neighbor.

THE 1ST ONE HUNDRED PAGES

FOLMC is expanding into social media with a new bi-weekly book review series. Books will be reviewed based on the first 100 hundred pages and shared through a video on YouTube. But, there’s a catch. All the books that will be reviewed are only books that can be found either at the Friend’s Bookstores or through MCPL. So far, three books have been reviewed including *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*, and *Sex on the Moon*. Interested to see how these books rate with FOLMC? Visit www.youtube.com/folmcmd.

Want more up to the minute information on FOLMC? Follow us on twitter @FOLMC and “like” us on Facebook.

FOLMC thanks Bonnie Ayers for her editorial contributions.

FOLMC IS TURNING 30

In February 2012, FOLMC will turn 30! That’s 30 years of promoting, supporting, and defending our library system. Summer Reading, computers in libraries, videocassettes (now DVDs), and, now, e-Books -- FOLMC has supported these innovations and programs that keep our libraries current and invaluable. We are your Library Superheroes!

That’s why 2012 is going to be a year of celebration, starting with a kickoff at our Library Lovers Month event in February. Stay tuned to www.folmc.org for more information.



You can now purchase your Rockville Rewards card from FOLMC. This is an innovative initiative sponsored by the City of Rockville to support local businesses. For \$25, a card can be purchased that is good for discounts all year at Rockville stores.

New this year, with every \$50—or more—membership with FOLMC, you will receive this money saving card as a benefit.

And, don’t forget to visit our Rockville bookstore for **Free Book Fridays**. Get a free book of equal or lesser value when you present your Rockville Rewards Card.

Visit www.folmc.org/RockvilleRewards to purchase your card and to view the deals. All proceeds support FOLMC and our local libraries.

SAVE THE DATES



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
EXECUTIVE'S BALL

One for the Books: Annual Executive's Ball to Benefit MCPL

Historically, the annual Executive's Ball helps support organizations that improve the quality of life in Montgomery County. And who does it better than the libraries?

This year, funds raised will supplement the library system's programs and services, including the acquisition of much-needed new books and media for the County's 21 branches. FOLMC is proud to work in partnership with the Executive's Ball. Visit our website in September for more information and tickets sales. The Ball will be held on Sunday, December 4 at the Bethesda North Marriott Conference Center.

2011/2012 Literary Luncheon Series

The Literary Luncheon Series begins October 20 at 11:30 a.m. at the Strathmore Mansion with local Washington writer and political commentator Eleanor Clift. Author of five books, Eleanor Clift is contributing editor for *Newsweek* magazine. Her column, "Capitol Letters," appears weekly in *Newsweek* and on MSNBC websites. She is also a regular panelist on the syndicated show *The McLaughlin Group*.

Her most recent book, *Two Weeks of Life: A Memoir of Love, Death, and Politics* is both personal memoir and political commentary.

Mark your calendars and check our website for updates.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Dave Scalzi

By Jennifer Gan, Student Intern

The winner of this year's prestigious Charles W. Gilchrist Volunteer Award is Dave Scalzi, whose dedication and passion for libraries are shown through his labors of love.

In addition to having volunteered at the Twinbrook library for 27 years, Mr. Scalzi is a member of the Library Advisory Committee and has been an important part of the development of the branch's FOL chapter. He focuses most of his time and effort on the ongoing Used Book Sale. Thanks to his diligent organization and maintenance, the sales average about \$5,000 a year.

Dave Scalzi is the kind of volunteer who helps the County's libraries function at their best. He is a dedicated advocate for the public library system, and his love for books has made him an outstanding volunteer in Montgomery County.

UNDERSTANDING DIVERSITY *through* CREATIVE WRITING

On May 25, the 2nd floor meeting room at Rockville Memorial Library was packed with people who came to listen to students read from original literary works. These weren't just any works; this was the award ceremony for our 1st Annual *Understanding Diversity through Creative Writing* competition for middle school students. Students submitted works in three categories—short story, poem, and essay—on the topic of their cultures. The students received awards from the County Executive's Office for the exemplary writing. Attendees included County First Lady Catherine Leggett, local author Marilyn Bagel, and former FOLMC Board President Steve Snapp.

Winning students were: Annabel Abraham, Karina Chang, Annie Fang, Diwakar Ganesan, Michael Gross, Sara Himmelfarb, Jordana Meyer, Mukund Patnaik, and Jingjing Xu.

Students receiving honorable mentions were: Samantha Lee, Caroline Leng, Yonatan Mengesha, Chimey Sonam, Isabel Udell, Olivia Whitener, and Jada Wright-Paterson. To read the students' works visit the MCPL TeenSite <http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/teensite>.

GAY PRIDE AND *POTOMAC FEVER* AT BETHESDA LIBRARY

On June 14, Potomac Fever of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC (GMCW) celebrated Gay Pride Month at the Bethesda Library sponsored by FOLMC, Friend of the Library, Bethesda Chapter, and FDA Globe, a membership organization that seeks to promote acceptance and understanding of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community of the FDA.

Following the performance, Blogger Mike Bevel lectured on homosexuality in the 19th century using the life of J.R. Ackerley, an openly gay writer and editor born in 1896.

The group also funded the purchase of multiple copies of "It Gets Better: Overcoming Bullying, and Creating a Life worth Living" that were donated to MCPL.

LIBRARY NEWS



B. Parker Hamilton
Director

60 YEARS AND GOING STRONG

Summer began with a celebration of MCPL's 60th anniversary which marks six decades of providing needed resources and services and creating learning communities that foster meaningful educational experiences for people of all ages. At the reception held June 5, I received a Proclamation signed by County Executive

Isiah Leggett and County Council President Valerie Ervin. The occasion was also noted in a speech by Congressman Chris Van Hollen that appeared in the May 25, 2011 *Congressional Record*.

SUMMER READING

Over 130 children and adults were on hand at the Aspen Hill Library to help kick off Summer Reading with musical duo Cathy Fink and ChristyLez Bacon. More than 75 teens packed the Bethesda Library to spend time with popular teen author Sarah Dessen.

FALL PREVIEW

Back this fall: our popular preschool early literacy story times, classes for seniors presented in partnership with Montgomery College Lifelong Learning Institute, a new

series of job training and computer skills workshops, a puppet theater for children, and Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations.

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. *Please encourage everyone you know who may not be library cardholders to sign up for one today.*

The 2nd Annual "Library Snapshot Day: One Day in the Life of MCPL" will be held Tuesday, October 5. We will coordinate efforts with FOLMC, LAC, and the Library Board to gather information, comments, stories, and photographs about a typical day in our libraries to be used as an education tool for decision makers and funders about the value of libraries in our community.

CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT: QUINCE ORCHARD

By Jean Lee, Student Board Member

The Quince Orchard chapter of Friends of Library has become a cornerstone of serving the library community. When faced with drastic cuts, the QO FOL immediately poured their efforts and funds into preventing the economic recession from damaging their branch and the entire system, becoming a battalion in the face of the harsh economy downturn. Volunteers worked tirelessly to collect postcards from library patrons, which were sent to the County Executive and Council Members during the budget advocacy campaign.

The QO FOL has donated a total of \$12,000 this year, accumulated from profits of monthly book sales and a standing book sale in the branch, which has significantly

increased funding to purchase items, ranging from a large book display to toys and games for the Discovery Room. In addition, QO FOL has co-sponsored and funded programs, such as the annual birthday of the QO Library, Community Day, and UTSAV, a celebration of Indian culture. The activities of QO FOL don't only stop within the library walls; they help create a better community by supporting a volunteer group, Penny Theatre, and maintaining a garden outside the library.

Ann Stillman, the Quince Orchard branch manager, expresses her appreciation, calling the QO FOL "an integral part of the work of the [QO] library. The public and staff are fortunate to have such a dedicated group volunteering this time". QO FOL plays an important role in helping its library community achieve its goals.

CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

FOLMC is looking for volunteer Board of Trustees members who are passionate about the libraries and the communities they serve.

Our Board of Trustees was established to advance the mission of FOLMC. The Board supports the Executive Director, helps raise funds for programs, and assists in promoting FOLMC and MCPL activities. Our Board plays an essential role in FOLMC leadership and board members bring skills, experience, and talents that strengthen our partnership efforts with MCPL.

If you have the drive and commitment to serve on the Board, submit your resume online to staff@folmc.org or send it to FOLMC, 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310, Rockville, MD 20850.

We encourage you to join the effort to keep libraries flourishing and make an impact across the county.

LIBRARY LIFESAVERS

Thank you to our generous Library Life Savers donors: Anne Core, Sarah Lisk, Arthur Milholland and Luann Mostello, Jeannie Muir, Stephen and Kim Redlich, and Silvia Trumbower.

The Library Life Savers initiative puts books back on library shelves. For a donation of at least \$250.00, the fund directly feeds the purchase of new books for MCPL.

This is the minimum amount needed to cover the purchase of a set of books and necessary administrative costs associated with adding a book to the library collection. A donation for library collections must meet this requirement or it cannot be directly applied to the initiative.

Want to donate? Donate online at www.folmc.org/buy-a-book-for-libraries by credit card or download the mail-in form to donate by check. Questions? Please contact us at 240-777-0020 and we will help you through the process.

CHAPTER NEWS

■ ASPEN HILL

Chris Swan, *President*

4407 Aspen Hill Road
Aspen Hill, MD 20853
240-773-9410
aspenhill@folmc.org

With the help of the Aspen Hill LAC, we held the 3rd annual Caribbean-American Heritage Celebration on June 11. The steel pan band CASIO played, Caribbean Dance Traditions performed, and Island Pride Restaurant provided food.

Aspen Hill Garden Club has the five gardens in front of the library looking lovely. Stop by and take a look!

Upcoming events include:

- October 2, 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m.: 20th Annual Aspen Hill Community Festival. The celebration will feature KB Puppets, Magic Joe the Magician, 4H Reading Buddies, and more. Free... Open to all ages.
- Jazz Concert series returns: check www.folmc.org/aspenhill for details.
- November 7, Aspen Hill Fall Book Sale.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We need donations of books, CDS, records, DVDs and puzzles for the sale. Gently used fiction is in great demand. Due to staffing limitations, please do not bring donations to the branch. Contact Chris Swan at aspenhill@folmc.org to arrange your donation.

■ BETHESDA

Judy Gilbert Levey, *President*

7400 Arlington Road
Bethesda, MD 20814
240-777-0970
bethesda@folmc.org

Bethesda Library kicks-off its 5th year of Classics in Context, a monthly book group discussing Victorian Literature, and the French book group.

For Adults:

- October 22, 10:30 a.m.–4 p.m.: Civil War Celebration. A day of stories and lectures about the Civil War.
- November 19, 3 p.m.: Scrabble! *Word Freak* author Stefan Fatsis will talk about competitive scrabble and play games with the participants.
- November 21, 7:30 p.m.: Author Ron Suskind will discuss his new book *Confidence Men*, the story of the financial meltdown and Washington's efforts to rescue the economy.

For Teens:

- September 13, 7 p.m.: Author Ellen Hopkins writes novels in verse. Her new book *Perfect* is the story of just how far a teen is willing to go to achieve a goal. Ms. Hopkins' books are edgy, fast-paced books, particularly good for older teens.
- September 22, 5 p.m.: Jack Gantos, author of *Rotten Ralph* and *Joey Pigza* will talk about his new book. If you have ever been grounded, *Dead Ends in Norvett* is hard to resist.
- October 11, 7 p.m.: Author Melissa de la Cruz, of the Blue Bloods series, will discuss her most recent book *Lost in Time: A Blue Bloods Novel*, released in September.

■ CHEVY CHASE

Kristen Theiss, *President*

8005 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
240-773-9590
chevychase@folmc.org

We have been an active supporter of the Summer Reading Program. Attendance was great and the programs received high praise from children and adults alike.

- September 17, the Teen Book Club at Chevy Chase Library will resume.
- September 24, 10:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.: Annual Family Fun Day at the Library will include crafts, face painting, and more. For the full line-up of events, check www.folmc.org/chevychase for details. Questions: email chevychase@folmc.org.

■ GERMANTOWN

Mildred MacVicar, *President*

19840 Century Boulevard
Germantown, MD 20874
240-777-0110
germantown@folmc.org

We were honored to receive a Certificate of Appreciation recognizing that support during the Montgomery County Public Libraries' 60th Anniversary celebration held in June at the Rockville Memorial Library. Earlier in the year, we agreed to sponsor six programs for children at the library. They were completed in August, and we're pleased to report that all were well attended.

A special thanks to County Council-member Craig Rice, along with his father, who assembled the little red fire engine in the children's Discovery Room. Our chapter held its Annual Meeting on June 30 and re-elected our current officers and board for one more year.

MONTHLY BOOK SALE

October 8, November 12, and December 10, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

■ LITTLE FALLS

Susan Schmidt, *President*

5501 Massachusetts Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20816
240-773-9520
littlefalls@folmc.org

Thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to provide free summer programs to our preschool and elementary school readers. There is nothing better than a room full of our youngest and most enthusiastic patrons!

The "Literary Salon" will once again feature Dr. Karen Arnold. Join us at the following discussions under the theme:

Breaking Barriers:

- September 14: *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- October 19: *My Name is Mary Sutter* by Robin Oliveira
- November 16: *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks.

These conversations begin at 1 p.m. and are open to the public. Books will be available at the Reference Desk.

Please continue to shop "Rita's Corner," our ongoing book sale, and find great bargains on your next book.

■ POTOMAC

Sue Shaw, *President*

10101 Glenolden Drive
Potomac, MD 20854
240-777-0690
potomac@folmc.org

- September 21, 7–8 p.m.: Full membership meeting in the large meeting room of the Potomac Library, plus a celebration of the chapter's 20th Anniversary. We will also give an overview of e-Library and answer questions about its use. President Sue Shaw will discuss contributions and support from the Potomac FOL to the library system. We are happy to welcome three new board members: Ronnie Cristol, Edie Windgate, and Gael Cheek.

- October 22—Celebrate Potomac Day with a special program at Potomac Library. Details can be found at www.folmc.org/potomac closer to the time of the event. FOL members will dress in costumes of favorite book characters. Children and parents are encouraged to create costumes and join them in the parade.

■ SILVER SPRING

Nancy Pond and Marilyn Wisoff,
Co-Chairs

8901 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910
240-773-9420
silverspring@folmc.org

Welcome to our new agency manager, Fran Ware. Our Summer Reading programs have been so well attended that the audience stretched into our hallway. We are still selling summer reading t-shirts. Our May book sale was the second most successful sale in our history. We look forward to our **sale in October—date to be announced**. Good news for our library, the success of the library advocacy effort has allowed us to maintain our staff. The new library is scheduled to open in the fall of 2014. We are keeping up with all developments and are already planning how we can support the new library. Our book group continues to meet the 1st Monday of each month, except holidays. For more information and details on the next reading selection, call the branch at 240-773-9420.

PUZZLE #15 SOLUTIONS

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Find A BOOK TO LOVE at the Friends Bookstores

FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE AT RANDOLPH HILLS SHOPPING CENTER

4886 Boiling Brook Parkway
Rockville, MD | 301-984-3300

Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. – 6 p.m.

FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE AT WHEATON LIBRARY

11701 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD | 240-777-0688

NEW HOURS

Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The bookstore is closed when the library is closed

FRIENDS' BOOKSTORE AT QUINCE ORCHARD PLAZA

604 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD | 301-355-7211

Monday–Friday: 10:00 am – 8:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Sunday: 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

For more information, visit www.folmc.org or call 240-777-0020.

**Libraries Matter.
No More Cuts.**