

Friends



Friends of the Library, Montgomery County Maryland

(240) 777-0020

Giving the Gift of Knowledge



When FOL started to receive donations in memory of Charlotte Young, we wanted to know about the person who was responsible for the generous gifts to benefit our libraries. Here's what her family shared with FOL.

Charlotte Young carried her favorite books wherever she went. On small scraps of paper, held together by paper clips in her purse, she kept lists of books she planned to read. The lists included recommendations from friends, reviews she had read and compelling commentary she heard on NPR. While the lists changed regularly, they were always present, a constant reminder of her love for and commitment to the written word.

Reading was more than just an avocation for Charlotte. It was the source of continuing education. It was for that reason that she was strongly committed to the belief that every child has the right and the need to read. She believed that depriving a child of the ability to read was costly both to the child and to society. These were beliefs reflected in her work helping young children learn to read and explore their local libraries.

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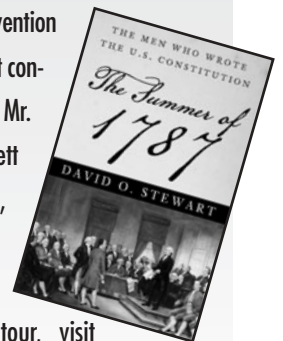
Attorney, Author and FOL Board Member



David O. Stewart is a man of many talents. As a trial lawyer for twenty-five years, Mr. Stewart defended accused criminals, challenged government action as unconstitutional, and argued many appeals, including two to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In addition to his legal career, writing also has been a big part of his life, beginning before law school when he was a reporter and later turning to fiction writing. As a Board Member, Mr. Stewart serves on the Marketing and Development Committee and has taken a particular interest in expanding the bookstore operations.

Mr. Stewart is the author of **The Summer of 1787**, (April 2007) which traces the struggle at the Philadelphia Convention to create the world's first constitutional democracy. Mr. Stewart lives in Garrett Park with his wife, Nancy. To learn more about Mr. Stewart and his upcoming book tour, visit www.davidostewart.com.



P R E S I D E N T ' S L E T T E R



Salute to Library Volunteers

National Volunteer Week is April 15 to 21, so what better time to thank and salute library volunteers. Volunteers work to ensure an efficient library system and provide financial and moral support all year

long. As a Friend of the Library, we volunteer to raise money for the “extras” that are not included in the county budget. These enhanced funds pay for summer reading activities and cultural programs that improve the library experience for patrons and enrich our lives.

As a funding organization, FOL realizes it is important to help libraries celebrate their volunteers. For this reason, the Board of Trustees annually grants the library money to recognize the vital contributions volunteers make to our libraries. This allows librarians to show their gratitude for the countless hours volunteers donate to each branch.

As a Board Member, I cannot think of a more worthy institution to volunteer for than the library. If you are not already a library volunteer, I encourage you to seek out opportunities to become involved. I promise you—it will be well worth your time.

Sincerely,

Steve Snapp

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

Honoring Dedication and Commitment

When was the last time you said “thank you” to a librarian or library employee...someone who took the time to assist you with a tough research question or tell

you about a little known author.

Starting April 15, I hope you will join me in recognizing Montgomery County librarians and library employees as we celebrate National Library Week—a special week set aside to honor librarians and library employees and celebrate libraries.

To help do this, complete the form below with an expression of your appreciation to Montgomery County librarians and library employees. You can return your form with a gift of \$35, \$50 or \$65 to Friends of the Library, Montgomery County and we will share your messages with librarians and library employees. Not only will you honor their commitment and dedication, you’ll have the satisfaction of knowing that you helped improved their ability to serve library patrons. Your tax-deductible gift will support staff training, scholarships and employee appreciation.

Help make National Library Week a memorable one for our librarians and library employees, and return your honor gift and appreciation card in time for us to share them by April 15. Our librarians and library employees are the backbone of our award-winning library system, so I hope you will take the time to thank them today.

National Library Week
April 15 to 17, 2007

Yes, I wish to honor Montgomery County Public librarians or library employees during National Library Week:

In Appreciation of your dedication and commitment

Message _____

From _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift: \$35 \$50 \$65
 \$ other

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Phone Number _____

Please charge my:

Signature _____

VISA MasterCard American Express

E-Mail Address _____

Expiration Date

All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by applicable law. You may obtain a copy of our current financial statement by calling 240-777-0020 or by writing to Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Inc. 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310, Rockville, MD 20850. Additionally, documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.



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The *Friends of the Library* is supported in part by funding from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

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 e-mail, please send a written request to staff@folmc.org.

Friends of the Library

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310 • Rockville, MD 20850
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you like one author and want to find another one who writes in a similar vein, he will have lots of suggestions.

Wheaton also has several volunteers who have been working a few hours every week for more than 20 years. As a matter of fact, most customers cannot tell the difference between our volunteers and employees.

There are volunteers at our Rockville location that helped open the store almost four years ago who still volunteer today.

We are always looking for people with an interest in books and some spare time to help out. Stop by our stores to complete a volunteer application or download one at www.folmc.org.

Our next special sale will be held on Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21. Call 240.777.0688 (Wheaton) or 301.984.3300 (Rockville) in March for more details. Present the coupon on page 7 for 10% off your entire purchase. Expiration date: April 21, 2007.

Meet Student Volunteer Peggy Li

FOL is delighted to introduce readers to 9th grade student volunteer, Peggy Li

Peggy is a whiz at labeling, copying, organizing and distributing materials to branches and our bookstores. She was instrumental in helping FOL relocate to our new offices and is a tremendous help to our small administrative staff.

Peggy is volunteering to earn her student service learning hours, which are a requirement to graduate high school. She approached FOL in the beginning of the school year and is committed to volunteering with us for two years.

In addition to office work, Peggy is helping plan a children's author program and young adult activities.

"During my time with FOL," said Peggy Li, "I learned that FOL is the backbone of all the libraries' programs and how publicity is integral to libraries' appeal and popularity. I also learned that I should not take for granted all the services provided by libraries."



FROM THE STACKS

*Jim Ludlum,
 Business Manager*

Volunteers come from all walks of life

Did you know that it takes at least 40 volunteers to keep the book-



stores running smoothly each year? Volunteers contribute approximately 1,025 hours of work each month performing such tasks as sorting donations, pricing books, shelving and keeping the miles of books in order.

The volunteers are fascinating people with different backgrounds. For example, at the Wheaton Book Sale, a retired college professor works many hours to make sure the mystery section is full of new and interesting titles. If you are looking for a book, but only know the name of the detective, he can probably tell you the author and title. Or if

Executive Director Ari Brooks said, "Peggy is a welcome addition to our office. She is thorough and conscientious and adds great value to our work."

Peggy attends Winston Churchill High School and lives in Potomac.

If you are a student interested in volunteering with FOL, contact us at 240.777.0020 or staff@folmc.org.

LIBRARY & CHAPTER NEWS



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

*Parker Hamilton, Library Director
21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310*

As we start 2007, I want to highlight some of MCPL's accomplishments during 2006, and thank everyone involved in

the success we attained.

For the fifth consecutive year, Montgomery County Public Libraries ranked in the top 10 among the nation's public libraries serving populations greater than 500,000, by Hennen's American Public Library Ratings (HAPLR). The annual HAPLR index is based on 15 factors, including circulation, staffing, materials, reference service, funding levels and visits per capita. This is a great recognition about how much our services are used by our customers.

Our first year participating in the National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement awards garnered us three Awards for our programs for seniors, conversation clubs for New Americans, and the online "Readers Café" with reading recommendations for adults.

We are also very proud of our "Report to the Community" published this fall. The report serves as a benchmark for providing free public library services to our community during the past 10 years. The report is available online on our website www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library.

Last, but not least, the Rockville Library moved to its new two story facility located at 21 Maryland Avenue. These endeavors not only reflect the character of our system, but how our staff, services and collections address the needs of our community. It is also a reflection of the support we are given by our customers, staff, and funding provided by Friends of the Library. Thanks to you to all.

**Next newsletter deadline
is May 1, 2007.**

Aspen Hill Chapter

Chris Swan, President

Spring Book Sale to be held April 28 from 9 am to 2 pm

The public may donate used books, CDs, videos and DVDs starting March 1 to benefit the annual sale.

Thanks to the efforts of Library Manager, Nancy Savas, the Aspen Hill Friends has a new and improved book depot, a large red book rack. Stop by the depot each time you visit the library to purchase books. Proceeds help fund projects like the 15th Annual Aspen Hill Community Festival. This year, the festival featured clowns, face painting, children's crafts, the Blue Sky puppets, storytelling, music, dancing, and the 4H readers.

The Aspen Hill Book Club recently read Beatrix Potter's *Tales of the Hilltop Farm*; *Nickel and Dime*; and *Brick Lane*, by Monica Slade. The club heartily recommends *Tales of the Hilltop Farm*.

Chevy Chase Chapter

Anne S. Core, President

Chevy Chase Library Welcomes New Staff

The Chevy Chase Library welcomed Irene Briggs as the new Library Manager. Ms. Briggs was most recently Acting Public Administrator where she oversaw Children's Services for the library department. She brings a wealth of experience to Chevy Chase, having served as Agency Manager for the Bethesda, Long Branch, Aspen Hill, Noyes and Fairland branches. "Chevy Chase is a great place to be," said Irene, "because the customers are friendly and the staff is wonderful. I am already hooked on the Chevy Chase community."



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Literacy Tutor Needed

The Literacy Council of Montgomery County needs volunteers to teach adults to read, write and speak English. You do NOT need to know a foreign language and hours are flexible.

Please call 301.942.9292 to register for an upcoming orientation session or email info@literacycouncilmcmd.org.

Briggs replaced former Library Manager Kathie Meizner, who now oversees collections, including print, media and electronic resources. Anne Core, president of the Chevy Chase Chapter said, "We are so grateful to Kathie for serving the Chevy Chase community for more than 12 years, and we're glad to have friends in high places. We're also delighted to have Irene as our new manager because we can benefit from her experience in many different parts of the county library system."

In addition, Chevy Chase has a new Adult Services Manager, Jane Greene. Jane was the head of Adult Services at White Oak Library before joining the Chevy Chase staff last year. One of her first projects has been the new adult book series launched February 28. Check the Information Desk for information about the next book in the series.

Davis Chapter

Dorothy Broadman, Board Member

Meet the Author Programs at Davis

Two wonderful authors will speak at the Davis branch during March and April. Come hear them, buy their books, get their autographs and support the Davis branch:

- **Tuesday March 13 at 7 pm.**—Jeff Sypeck will discuss *Becoming Charlemagne: Europe, Baghdad and the Empires of A.D. 800*. Jeff Sypeck is a professor of medieval literature at the University of Maryland. You do not need to be a history buff to enjoy this presentation as Professor Sypeck will be discussing both the history of his topic and its relevance to current events.
- **Tuesday April 10 at 7 pm.**—Drew Bowling will present *Tower of Shadows*, the first in a projected series of fantasy novels. Mr. Bowling also will talk about his experience get-

ting published at such a young age. This is an event for adults, young adults and the young at heart. The author has been profiled in the local Gazette and his book has received outstanding reviews in various national media.

Davis Branch Reports Staffing Changes

The Chapter would like to express a hearty thank-you and congratulations to Kay Bowman, our Agency Manager of 10 years, on her transfer to Bethesda Library. We extend another thank-you and congratulations to Rosemary Panas on her retirement after 17 years with MCPL.

Little Falls Chapter

Susan J. Schmidt, President

Little Falls Announces Spring Literary Salon Book Selections

- **March 14**—A. B. Yehoshua, *A Woman in Jerusalem*
- **April 18**—Batya Gur, *Murder in Jerusalem*
- **May 9**—Elias Khoury, *Gate of the Sun*

All programs are held on a Wednesday from 1 to 2:30 pm. Copies of these books are reserved at the reference desk.

Our 15th Anniversary Library Lovers Month Celebration was a success and everyone enjoyed listening Baba Jamal Koram weave African tales. If you did not have a chance to make *Why I Love the Library Valentines* that were mailed to the

Don't leave without considering your Legacy to the Libraries.



For more information, call (240) 777-0019

Friends of the Library
Montgomery County Maryland, Inc.



Montgomery County Council, send an email message to county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov. Now is a great time to let our elected officials know how much we appreciate all Montgomery County libraries, especially Little Falls!

Little Falls is in search of a used piano. We would appreciate an upright in very good condition. The Chapter will pay to move the piano to the Library.

Olney Chapter

Nena Ickes, President

Council Member Mike Knapp Invited to Attend Annual Meeting

The Olney Chapter held an Annual Meeting on March 4. The Chapter is looking forward to working with new Library Manager, Joseph Eagan, to find new ways to address special needs of young adults and older adults.

The ongoing book sale continues to be a successful source of income, with which the chapter helps the Library extend its programming outreach.

Most recently, Olney Chapter celebrated Library Lovers Month with several activities including a harpsichord concert, a Lunar New Year's celebration, and representation at Maryland Library Legislative Day.



Retired Quince Orchard library manager Cindy Counihan (center) helped volunteers serve refreshments at 7th annual birthday party.

Quince Orchard Chapter

Judith Mostyn White, President

Library Manager Cindy Counihan Retires

Quince Orchard celebrated Library Lovers Month with two new programs featuring Roy Passin, proprietor of Roy's Place in Gaithersburg, renowned for sensational sandwiches with witty names. Mr. Passin reminisced about the history of his restaurant and the area, the inspiration for his creations, and how he put together his sandwich cookbook, **Sensational Sandwiches**. Author Veronica Li spoke about her memoir,

Journey Across the Four Seas: A Chinese Woman's Search for Home.

Quince Orchard added a new book discussion group. In addition to the African American, Chinese, Bilingual Spanish/English, and adult book discussion groups, the library has a play discussion group. Each play discussed is being shown at a local theater, so after reading, members can experience the play as it was meant to be. February's play was *The Heidi Chronicles* by Wendy Wasserstein.

Other programs included the showing and discussion of Vice President Al Gore's film on global warming, *An Inconvenient Truth*. In celebration of African American History month, the Fairhaven United Methodist Church entertained patrons with a gospel concert, under the direction of Freddy Payton.

Rockville Chapter

Gayl Selkin-Gutman, Board Member

2007 Speakers Series Kicks Off in March

The Rockville Library community is thrilled with our wonderful new library. It is exciting to watch how patrons of all ages are enjoying this beautiful new facility. Some are fascinated with the building itself—its lights, textures and aesthetics. Others focus on the increased collection, many available computers and private or quiet study rooms as well as the expanded magazine collections. In particular, the new Russian collection has been very well received. The Russian Book Initiative's first Russian evening at the new library featured Arkady Barsky, an actor with Boris Kazinet's local Russian theater company, talking about his life in the theater.

For a guided tour of the new Rockville Library, call 240.777.0140.

Rockville Friends helped host an American Girl Tea for children who love books featuring characters created by local author Valerie Tripp. The popular author herself was the highlight of the event.

The program committee is pleased to announce the 2007 Speaker Series. All talks will take place on Saturday morning at 10 am and will be held in Meeting Room 1.

- March 17—Tim Meager, **Irish in America**
- April 21—Dian Belanger, **Antarctica's Age of Science**
- May 5—To be Announced
- June 16—Fran Durako, **Collecting Rare Books**

Rockville Friends is among the sponsors of a Rockville Library Science Initiative, *Save the Planet: A Series of Events Designed to Heighten Awareness & Encourage Dialogue among Montgomery County Residents on the Issues of Climate Change & Global Warming*.

The series will kick off on April 12 with Lise Van Susteren representing the Climate Project: *Save the Planet: What You Can Do About an Inconvenient Truth*. The series will continue for six months with:

- **May 19**—Business Expo: Going Green Products & Services in Montgomery County
- **June 14**—Climate Change and Animals
- **July 12**—Green Buildings
- **September 17**—Climate Change & Maryland: Previewing of *We are All Smith Islanders* with Mike Tidwell, Chesapeake Climate Action Network & Dr. Cindy Parker, Johns Hopkins
- **October 17**—Annual Tour of Solar Homes in Montgomery County
- **November**—America Recycles Day

All events are free and open to the public.

Silver Spring Chapter

Harvey Valentine, President

Silver Spring Library Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Silver Spring Library community celebrated its past and looked to the future on February 10 when it marked the 75th anniversary of the library and the 50th anniversary at its current location on Colesville Road.

Speakers at the celebration included Montgomery County Public Libraries Director Parker Hamilton, Council member Valerie Ervin, Gary Stith, Director of the Silver Spring Regional Services Center and Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett who read a proclamation (seen in above photo).



Those attending the ceremony shared anniversary cake, were treated to a performance by the Barbershop Quartet MBC4 and heard an update about the status of the planned new Silver Spring Library.

The day's events also included a used book sale, a bake sale, Born to Read story time, a performance of songs of Africa, by Devonna B. Rowe and a Valentine making craft activity for kids.

Giving the Gift of Knowledge

continued from page 1

Ms. Young understood that public libraries welcomed readers of all economic means, tirelessly offering opportunities for diversion or hope, for protection against censors, for literature or education or simple entertainment. She often donated books to Friends of the Library Book Sale at Wheaton Library. It was a commitment she held as much as those "book lists" she carried beside her well-worn Montgomery County library card.

We are pleased to honor the memory of Charlotte Young and her love of children and books by requesting contributions in her name be sent to Friends of the Library, Montgomery County to benefit children's services.

Special Book Sale

✂

FOL Bookstore Coupon

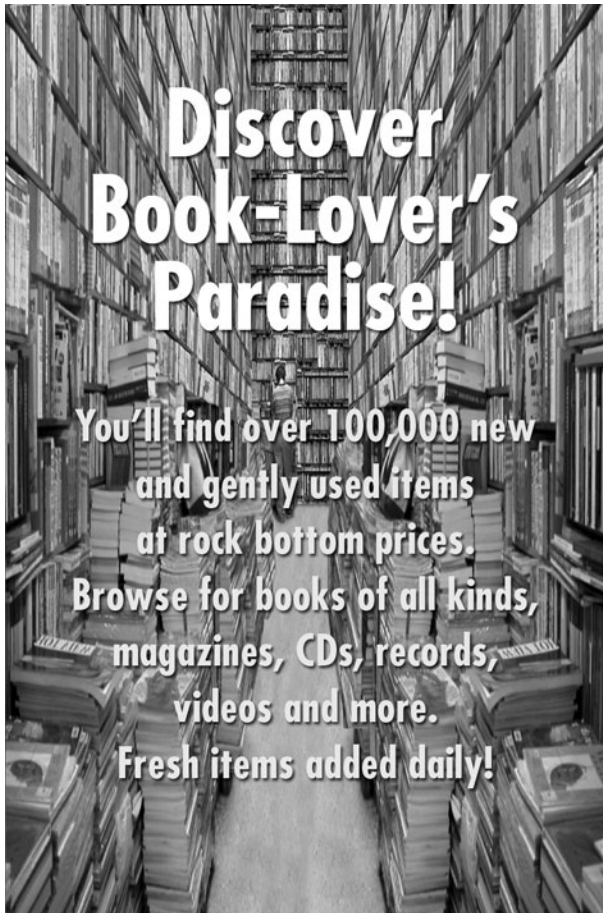
Take 10% off your entire purchase.

Friday, April 20 and Saturday, April 21. Call 240.777.0688 (Wheaton) or 301.984.3300 (Rockville) in March for more details.
Cannot be duplicated or combined with any other coupon. One per customer. Expiration date: April 21, 2007.



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11701 Georgia Avenue

240.777.0688

- Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–8:30 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
- Sunday: 1 p.m.–4:30 p.m. during the school year only when the Wheaton Regional Library is scheduled to be open to the public.

Friends' Bookstore at Randolph Hills Shopping Center

4886 Boiling Brook Parkway

301.984.3300

- Monday–Thursday: 10 a.m.–9 p.m.
- Friday–Saturday: 10 a.m.–6 p.m.
- Sunday: Noon–6 p.m.