

# friends

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

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

## Library Lovers Month 2010

*“A library is also a place where love begins.” — Rudolfo Anaya*

It's time to celebrate Library Lovers Month 2010! Our libraries make our world a better place each and every day, and Friends of the Library, Montgomery County celebrates them especially during February. Love is in the air in February, and FOLMC encourages you to share your love at your local library branch.



To get Library Lovers Month started with style, FOLMC will host a kick-off event on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. at the Silver Spring Library, 8901 Colesville Road. You and your children are invited to join us in costume for a “Mad Hatter’s Tea Party” with juice, snacks, and arts and crafts. Because it’s Library Lovers Month, you are invited to dress up as your favorite literary character.

In addition, you can enjoy a special Library Lovers Month kick-off performance featuring Barry Louis Polisar, a 4-time Parents Choice Winner, Emmy Award Winner, and performer for The Learning Channel and Sesame Street. Visit [www.barrylou.com](http://www.barrylou.com) to learn more about him.

This event is for children 5 and up, but younger siblings are welcome with parental supervision. Library Lovers Month kick-off attendees can also enter a raffle to win a free FOLMC membership, tickets to see the new movie “Alice in Wonderland,” plus other special prizes, such as book bags filled with titles from our stores.

While you and your children are enjoying the event, we invite you to fill out postcards to send to your local elected officials. Whether you check out books, use the computers or attend programs,



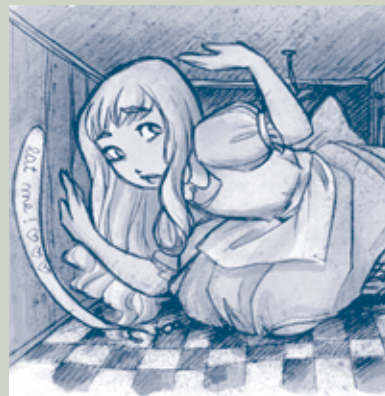
let your councilmember know the library provides invaluable services that are needed more than ever during hard economic times. Just fill out the cards and give them to your chapter representatives, drop them in the designated Library Lovers Month boxes, mail them directly to your councilmember, or send

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**Need ideas on costumes? For inspiration to read with your child, check out some classic tales available through MCPL and often at the Friends Bookstores.**

- Harry Potter series, J.K Rowling*
- Alice in Wonderland, Lewis Carroll*
- The Wizard of Oz, Frank L. Baum*
- Curious George collection, H.A. Ray*
- Beatrix Potter tales*
- Dr. Seuss stories*
- Winnie the Pooh series, A. A. Milne*
- Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis*
- Peter Pan, J. M. Barrie or the Peter Pan series, Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson*
- Roald Dahl’s books, such as Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*
- Lord of the Rings Trilogy, J. R. R. Tolkein*



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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](mailto:staff@folmc.org).

**friends** OF THE LIBRARY  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

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[www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org)

them to the FOLMC office at 21 Maryland Avenue. To find your representative, visit <http://tiny.cc/council>.

Let your imagination soar during Library Lovers Month. Find a new book, thank a librarian, and enjoy the Library Lovers Month activities hosted by your local Friends chapter, including parties, music, and other festivities. We know you love libraries, so this February, join us in showing the world just how amazing Montgomery County Public Libraries truly are.



## LOVE YOUR LIBRARIES

**Want to do more? Let your librarians know how much they and the libraries mean to our community. Here are some simple ideas on how to help your local library:**

- 1. Join Friends of the Library, of course! Many branches have their own chapters that raise funds which go directly back to that branch. Funds are used for programming, furniture, or whatever the library needs to meet the needs of your community.**
- 2. Donate to the Friends bookstores or chapter book sales. Get a head start on spring cleaning, or come to the stores and sales to find new titles to fill your shelves.**
- 3. A simple “please” or “thank you” goes a long way to making someone’s day. A smile also always brightens one’s outlook.**
- 4. Volunteer with your local Friends chapter—help with the book sale or gardening, or offer your special skills for another project if there’s something you’d like to do to give back.**
- 5. Fill out and send a postcard to your elected officials.**
- 6. Spread the word. Attend local government meetings, write a letter to the editor, or let your civic or social groups know about the Friends and the great resources libraries provide.**

**Want more ideas? Have some that you’d like to share? Visit us online at [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) and click on the “Library Lovers Month” link, or email ideas/thoughts to Cassandra at [cmcfarland@folmc.org](mailto:cmcfarland@folmc.org) and let her know what libraries mean to you.**



## President's Letter

Dear Friends,

Between budget cuts and rising use, Montgomery County's public libraries are in a squeeze. At the same time, whirlwind changes in information services and technology pressure staff to keep up with the times. That's why we, the Friends, are grateful that County Executive Isiah Leggett championed the bringing together of library stakeholders in "A Summit on the Future of Libraries" on November 17th.

More than 200 staff and volunteers—several from our chapters—took a first step towards charting the future of our library system. Presenters Tim Mack, of the World Future Society, and Stephen Abram, of SirsiDynix, poked holes in our assumptions in the most delightful, subversive way. Also featured was FOLMC Trustee Dr. Robert Chartrand, who played a critical role in planning the Summit.

When asked to rank the service roles libraries should play (from 18 outlined by the Public Library Association), these led the pack:

- Connect to the Online World: Public Internet Access
- Celebrate Young Readers: Early Literacy
- Understand How to Find, Evaluate and Use Information: Information Fluency
- Visit a Comfortable Place: Physical and Virtual Spaces

Now, don't panic. This is the first discussion that will help guide MCPL in the writing of its next Strategic Plan, an updated Facilities Plan, and a Technology Plan. No one is suggesting the Library's other roles should be diminished. We'll keep you posted and invite your participation over the coming year.

FOLMC financed the Summit, and we thank all the Friends for your support which made the Library Summit possible.

Yours,

Ann Dorough



## From the Executive Director

Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

While I was on leave these past several weeks, one of my family's favorite past-times was taking long trips to the library. We enjoy visiting several nearby branches, including Noyes, Chevy Chase, Kensington Park, Wheaton and Rockville. It's no surprise my older daughter can spot any one of these branches miles before we arrive! While there, we love to pick out books, play with the educational games and toys and meet new friends. During each visit, I find myself noticing the enhancements funded by Friends of the Library with a new eye. Working for FOLMC, I know first hand of our contributions to Montgomery County Public Libraries, but it is even more enjoyable to experience and directly benefit from them as a patron. That the librarians are so thankful and appreciative makes my work even more worthwhile.

During your next library visit, I hope you will take the time to notice how Friends of the Library works to provide your library branch and the entire system with enhanced resources. Turn to the "Chapter Section" of this newsletter on page 8 to learn about the programs and items that each chapter has funded to improve their branch with your membership dollars and book sale purchases. Additionally, see a partial list below of system-wide enhancements funded by FOLMC. Please continue to support our efforts by joining or renewing your membership annually, making a monetary donation in addition to your membership dues or shopping at and donating books to our used bookstores and the book sales held at most branches. Visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) for more information.

- Portable Circulation Devices at all branches to help librarians with a variety of functions including remotely checking out patrons and issuing library cards
- Receipt Printers at the circulation desks to reduce paper and help the patron to better manage due dates
- Staff Development Day for nearly 400 MCPL employees
- Teen Area for Long Branch Library
- Laptop Lounge for Wheaton Library
- Annual Summer Reading Club Program
- Teen Read Week and many special programs for this age group

Please note that neither Wheaton nor Long Branch libraries have active Friends groups.



## Gifts that Give Back

It's that time of year again for mistletoe, presents, candles, and gift giving. Have you finished your shopping yet? If you're looking for a gift that does some good, we've got some ideas to share with you.

- Avon Make Up and Gifts: Go to [www.beautyfundraising.com](http://www.beautyfundraising.com) and enter code 690021 to help the Friends. They have everything from make-up and body products to gifts for men and children.
- Justgive.org has charity gift certificates that benefit many nonprofits, including FOLMC! It's a wonderful alternative to traditional gift cards.
- <http://www.iGive.com/folmc> links you to a wide variety of stores that donate a percentage of your total purchase back to the Friends. Registration for the site is free and secure.
- [we-care.com](http://we-care.com) also lets you shop for our cause. Visit <http://folmc.we-care.com/> to check out their market links and gift ideas.

If you're looking for a stocking stuffer for the bookworm in your life, consider stopping by the Friends bookstores. With books for children as low as 25 cents and many adult books for around just \$2, Santa can give more than ever.



## Celebrations on Staff

This fall was a time of celebration for the Friends of the Library office staff. Executive Director Ari Brooks welcomed her second daughter, Isabel, who joined her sister Sofia and father Alazar. Isabel introduced herself in early October, and is doing quite well. She's sure to be as avid a reader as the rest of her family in no time.



Cassandra Powell, the Friends development assistant, was married in early November to Seth McFarland, whom you may have seen around as he has volunteered at several Friends events. They were wed in their hometown of Norfolk, Virginia, with friends and family present, and honeymooned on the Outer Banks.



## Emerging Leadership Award

Ari Brooks, FOLMC executive director, was honored at the County Executive's Awards for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities on October 19, 2009, for her Emerging Leadership. Nominated by Trustee Carol Leahy, Ms. Brooks was honored for her dedication to Friends of the Library, as well as for her active participation in other charitable endeavors. Ms. Brooks has grown the Friends into a sizeable organization that helps Montgomery County Public Libraries make significant improvements to its technology, programs and ability to serve the public.

Among her many notable achievements, Ms. Brooks helped introduce the "Library Lovers Month" celebration to the MCPL system. She also pioneered the annual "Read, Eat & Give" series, which will have its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual event this coming fall, to bring in new populations to the library and raise awareness of opportunities in Montgomery County with a focus on food, drink, and notable personalities. Under her guidance, FOLMC has opened its third bookstore, located in upper Montgomery County and has been able to bring services to all parts of the county.

Reflecting on her time at FOLMC, Ms. Brooks said she "really love[s] this place so, and being honored for the work [she does] is quite a humbling experience." The Awards Ceremony attendees were moved by Ms. Brooks' acceptance speech, which highlighted the impact of libraries on her early development growing up on a tobacco farm with her great grandparents. Her speech earned her a standing ovation from the audience; her story and passion for libraries touched everyone present. The Trustees, staff, and chapters are all proud of Ms. Brooks for her accomplishments and look forward to seeing her contributions to the future of this organization.



*L to R: Trustee Carol Leahy, Catherine Legget, Ari Z. Brooks, and County Executive Ike Leggett.*

## CARLA SATINSKY

Carla Satinsky just can't get enough of the Friends. She joined the FOLMC Board of Trustees under the former executive director a decade ago, and served three full terms before rotating off for a year. Ms. Satinsky asked to be considered again for a Trustee position and was unanimously elected to the Board of Trustees at the Annual Meeting on November 12, 2009.

Like most *avid supporters of libraries*, Ms. Satinsky has always loved to read. She began working in a library at the age of 12 and continued through college. While teaching in Philadelphia, she met her students at the Logan's Square library, an "old, beautiful, and venerable building" and introduced them to all it had to offer, including the rare books room. Ms. Satinsky learned that she could enroll in the Library Trainee Program after completing a difficult civil test, which she felt fortunate to pass. She interviewed and then accepted a job with famous Children's Library Carolyn Field and happily served in the Logan's Square Children's room.



Today, Ms. Satinsky enjoys her almost 40 years in Montgomery County with her children and grandchildren while working at Montgomery County's local television station and producing both Montgomery Week in Review and fellow Trustee Gracie Rivera-Oven's show, *Revista Semanal Montgomery*. In her spare time, Ms. Satinsky enjoys reading mysteries and has even admitted watching them on television. After reading reports and working with the news, she finds it reassuring to know that the good guys are going to win. She looks forward to staying busy with the Friends and helping to make sure that the library's resources stay available for everyone.

*If you or someone you know are interested in joining the Board of Trustees, there are several positions that will be opening in the next year. Contact [staff@folmc.org](mailto:staff@folmc.org) for more information.*

## Marita Golden Kicks Off 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Literary Luncheons

Marita Golden, contributing author and editor of *It's All Love: Black Writers on Family, Friends and Soul Mates*, kicked off our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Literary Luncheon series at the Mansion at Strathmore in North Bethesda. With her fellow contributing author, poet Abdul Ali, Ms. Golden answered questions from moderator Willard Jenkins and explained the origins of the book. Both authors spoke compellingly, enthraling the audience. One audience member noted the poetry present even in Mr. Ali's speech.

Following the presentation, audience members enjoyed a catered lunch. Many purchased books and asked the authors individual questions, while others explored the Mansion, enjoying the ever-changing artwork and gift shop. FOLMC is pleased to have had such a wonderful opener for our 22<sup>nd</sup> Literary Luncheon series and looks forward to the Spring series featuring Diane and John Rehm and Steve and Cokie Roberts.



*Trustee Willard Jenkins and authors Marita Golden and Abdul Ali entertain guests in the tea room.*

This past November, we were fortunate to close out 2009 with Trustee David O. Stewart and Councilmember Nancy Floreen. Mr. Stewart, an accomplished historian, and Ms. Floreen discussed their lives together as a couple and raising children in Montgomery County. The attendees were enlightened by Mr. Stewart's passion for history, enjoyed Ms. Floreen's insights, and appreciated the moderation by Trustee Carol Leahy.

For tickets or more information, visit us online at [www.folmc.org/literary-luncheon](http://www.folmc.org/literary-luncheon) or call 240-777-0020. Space is limited, and reservations are first come, first served. The Strathmore, which is accessible by both car and Metro, is handicapped-accessible.

### Upcoming Events:

March 18, 2010: Diane and John Rehm

April 15, 2010: Cokie and Steve Roberts

## From the Stacks

Jim Ludlum, Business Manager



Winter is a wonderful time for stopping by the bookstore to pick up gifts for yourself and others, but it's also a good chance to get a head start on your spring cleaning. We make sure new books appear on our shelves every day, but we can only keep selections fresh with your generosity. Donations are accepted daily at all three bookstores until 30 minutes before the store closing. Our staff can guide you through filling out your donation receipts for your tax deductions for the upcoming tax season.

Winter is always an interesting time for us as people come in to find new books to enjoy during these long, cold evenings. As everyone seems to know, there is nothing better than curling up with a good book on a winter night. We at the stores work to make sure you have an easy time finding precisely what you're looking for with organized shelves, clear labels, and staff to help you try to find that perfect book or series.

The Gaithersburg store was extremely fortunate this past October to benefit from the wonderful people of the Montgomery County chapter of ALTRUSA, who generously donated well over 2,000 books in a single day! The books ranged from thrillers and romance to first editions and children's selections. The piles were quite impressive to see, and our patrons greatly appreciated the new titles. We're grateful to the members of ALTRUSA who put forth the effort to gather the books and donate them to our stores.



*FOLMC thanks the members of ALTRUSA for their hard work and generosity.*

Donations don't need to be as large as ALTRUSA's gift to be appreciated—donations of all sizes can make a big difference. We are thankful for each and every donation that comes through our doors.

Make a new year's resolution to bring your unused books to any of our three stores today and support FOLMC and MCPL this winter.

Questions or comments? Call 240-777-0021 for the bookstore information hotline or email [bookstores@folmc.org](mailto:bookstores@folmc.org).

## From the Director's Desk

B. Parker Hamilton



We did it! And you made it possible! On November 17, 2009, County Executive Isiah Leggett convened his Summit on the Future of Libraries. During his opening remarks, Mr. Leggett set the stage for what turned out to be a very productive, energizing and inspiring day. After thanking MCPL staff for their dedication and consistency in delivering quality services to customers, he encouraged them to be enthusiastic about providing opportunities for access and lifelong learning to our diverse communities. Through his personal experience and stories, he conveyed the importance of libraries in people's lives and his unwillingness to follow the trend taken by other jurisdictions in the nation to cut library hours due to the economic climate.

We heard from futurist keynote speakers—Tim Mack, President of the World Future Society and Stephen Abram, Vice-President for Innovation, SirsiDynix. These two visionaries motivated us to examine community needs and prioritize library service roles. Both speakers emphasized the importance of creating community through partnerships, collaboration and community networks. Bob Chartrand, a long time member of the Friends of the Library and a creative thinker in his own right, delighted us at lunchtime and reminded us of the importance of being an “incrementalist”—doing a little bit at a time and adding to it—and “compromising”—the catalyst in the community to get things done.

Armed with our instructions, we went to our working sessions to discuss, prioritize, and reach a consensus on the top three library service roles that will guide the development of our Strategic, Facilities and Technology Plans for the next five years (2010-2015). The Summit begins a year-long dialogue about the direction in which our library system will move to ensure that it remains a vital part of all communities in Montgomery County. Information about the Summit is available at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/librarysummit](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/librarysummit).

I want to thank all who participated in this Summit, the Summit Planning Committee, and Mr. Leggett for his vision, and especially our Montgomery County Friends of the Library, Inc. for their continued support and funding for the Summit.



## GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Looking for the perfect present for “the person who has everything”? How about giving a present that gives back to the community? Consider giving the gift of membership to someone you love this year. Your present is tax deductible, and you can give someone all the benefits of being a Friend of the Libraries, including:

- Our quarterly newsletter, *Friends*
- 10% off all purchases at our three used bookstores
- Advance notice about upcoming events and the literary luncheon series
- Discounts on events, such as Read, Eat & Give and the literary luncheons

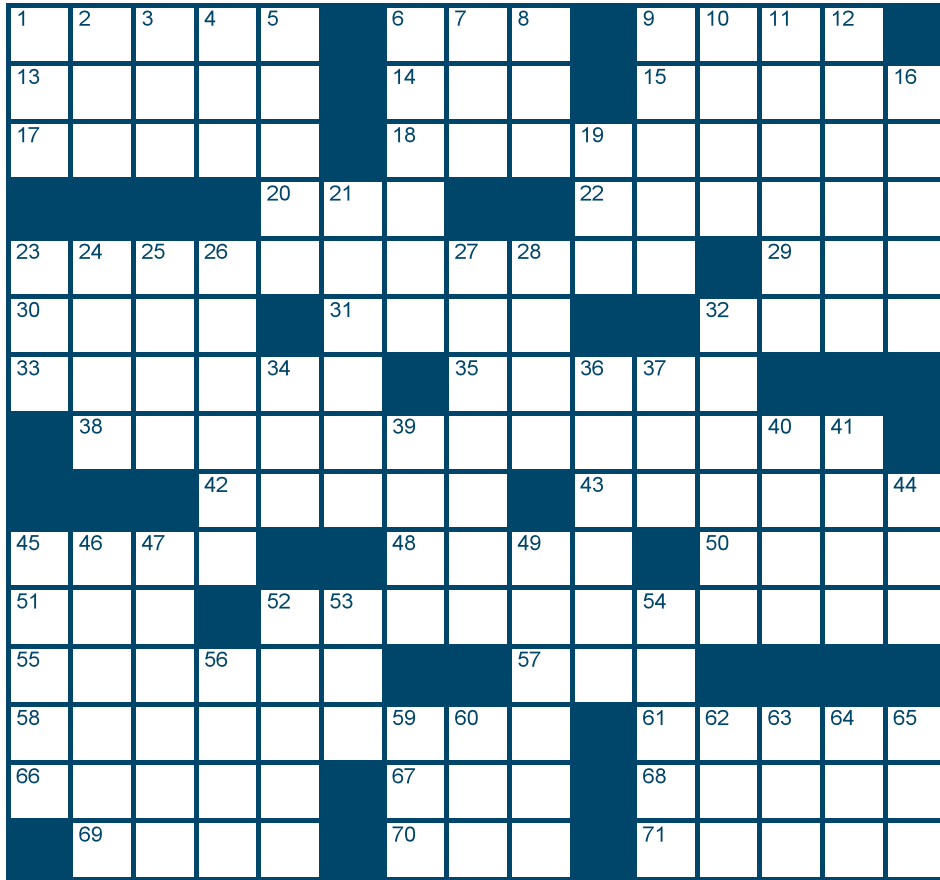
Visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) for more information on how to become a member or give a gift of membership.



# CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Complete the crossword puzzle and send it back to the main office at 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310, Rockville, MD 20850 with your new or renewal membership at the Short Story level or higher to win a free prize from Friends of the Library.

FOL Puzzle #9 "The poetry of Earth is never dead" © 2009 Verna Suit



## Across

1. "Ariel" poet Sylvia \_\_
6. Gaza Strip gp.
9. Inclination
13. Name meaning "loved"
14. "Listen to the Warm" Poet \_\_ McKuen
15. "The Bells" poet \_\_ Allan Poe
17. In a wily way
18. "Candy is dandy but liquor is quicker" poet
20. "Old Macdonald" ender
22. "She Walks in \_\_" (Byron)
23. "The Road Not Taken" poet
29. Masterpiece
30. \_\_ uproar
31. "Pronto!"
32. "Able was \_\_\_"
33. Like the Middle Ages
35. "Thoughts...too deep for \_\_" (Wordsworth)

38. Theme of this puzzle
42. Fancy tie
43. Certain Hondas
45. "Killed him \_\_ when he was only three"
48. Unit of power
50. Old Italian money
51. Chaney of horror films
52. "Leaves of Grass" poet
55. Take a peek
57. Popeye's Olive \_\_
58. Poet committed to St. Elizabeth's
61. "Belle of Amherst" poet \_\_ Dickinson
66. Author Zora \_\_ Hurston
67. PBS benefactor
68. Like some teenagers
69. Fishtail
70. National anthem poet Francis Scott \_\_
71. Sculptor Oldenburg

## Down

1. Mas' mates
2. Diminutive, in Dogpatch
3. Imagist poet \_\_ Lowell
4. Business card abbr.
5. Romance novelist Georgette
6. Checks for errors
7. Journal
8. Unexpected
9. "John Brown's Body" poet Stephen Vincent \_\_
10. "My candle burns at both ends" poet \_\_ St. Vincent Millay
11. Smallscale model railway size
12. Winery employee
16. Part of a traditional poem
19. "This is only a test" org.
21. Slanted font
23. Children's literacy program, briefly
24. \_\_-Day Vitamins
25. "Wizard of Oz" author
26. Win over
27. Drumming sound
28. Unrestricted
32. Tristram's love
34. Horace's "\_\_\_ Poetica"
36. Indifference
37. Mythical bird
39. Hood
40. Quick haircut
41. Romantic poet \_\_ Teasdale
44. Francisco or Diego start
45. Beat poet \_\_ Ginsberg
46. Drinks like a fish
47. Parka
49. Like a weekend
52. Helped do dishes
53. Year, in Spain
54. Intestinal
56. Hindu goddess
59. Dad's bro
60. Born, in bios
62. 1150
63. California Poet Laureate \_\_ Coolbrith
64. "America the Beautiful" poet Katharine \_\_ Bates
65. Fabric meas.

## Puzzle #8 Solutions

L	O	P	E	D		H	A	L		O	G	L	E	D			
A	K	I	T	A		E	P	A		B	E	A	L	E			
N	A	N	C	Y	D	R	E	W		T	O	S	I	R			
E	Y	E			A	O	L			C	A	R	S	O	N		
					M	C	L	I	I		B	I	G	O	T	S	
C	A	R	O	L	Y	N	K	E	E	N	E						
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P	I	N	O	T				O	R	E			O	A	S	I	S
T	E	E	N	S				A	S	S			B	R	A	S	S

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Aspen Hill

Chris Swan, President

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In spite of the rainy weather, the Friends of the Library, Aspen Hill Chapter's 18th annual Aspen Hill Community Festival was a resounding success. It featured puppeteers, Magic Joe the Magician, the Balloon Man, clowns, face painting, crafts, a free book giveaway, Crime Solvers, an exhibit from the Trolley Museum, and the latest storm water management plans for the library from the County Department of Environmental Protection. The Chapter thanks the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department for bringing over one of their fire engines to explore for the event.



*Pepi & Spec*

This year also marked the 3rd year of the Aspen Hill Friends' jazz series, which featured performers from throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

The annual Fall Book sale appeared to be another record-breaker. Material for the sales is organized into over 30 categories from Espionage & War Fiction to Religion & Philosophy. Over the next year, the Aspen Hill Chapter will be conducting a review of its book sale practices to see if they can be further improved. The Chapter will compare current practices to those of other chapters. If you have a comment or suggestion, please let the chapter know at [aspenhill@folmc.org](mailto:aspenhill@folmc.org). Our next book sale is scheduled for April 24, 2010, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

As part of our community advocacy role, we are working closely with the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee, FOLMC, the Library Board, and MCPL to make sure that MCPL's new regulations on programming do not result in a cut in services to the Aspen Hill community.

#### Upcoming Events:

April 24, 2010: Book Sale

### Bethesda

Judy Gilbert Levy, President

7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, MD 20814

[bethesda@folmc.org](mailto:bethesda@folmc.org)

Bethesda's Library Lovers Month plans include programs sponsored by Friends of the Library, Bethesda Chapter, which will celebrate Black History Month, the Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day.

On February 11, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., author Rosemary Reed will discuss her book, *The Threads of Time, the Fabric of History, Profiles of African American Dressmakers and Designers from 1860 to the Present*.

On February 13, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., the Adult Student Music Forum will hold its 3rd annual recital at Bethesda Library with "A Valentine to Music."

On February 20, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., enjoy Chinese New Year games and activities with librarian Amy Chen.

On February 27, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., The Black Hall of Fame Show will be presented by Kinderman. This program, designed for elementary school age kids, will provide an interactive look through African American history.

#### Upcoming Events:

February 11, 2010: Author Rosemary Reed

February 13, 2010: Adult Student Music Forum Recital

February 20, 2010: Chinese New Year Celebration

February 27, 2010: Black Hall of Fame Show

### Chevy Chase

Kristen Theiss, President

8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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The Chevy Chase Library received a much needed mini-renovation this summer. The Library was closed in mid-August and reopened the day after Labor Day. The branch was freshened with new

paint and carpeting, new circulation and reference desks were installed, and the staff work room received new modular furniture. The space in the library is being utilized in a new way: re-oriented bookshelves (to take advantage of the natural light), a new self-contained book sale area and a Friends Chapter funded teen space with special carpeting, seating and computer stations with "smart lights." We also purchased two comfortable leather chairs for the new books reading area.



*Barbara Webb*

We held a members only event on the evening of September 25, 2009 to celebrate the renovation. Barbara Webb, Chief of Collection and Technology Management, led a discussion about materials acquisition. Refreshments and a door prize were provided by the Chapter. Tours were led by Mildred Nance, Agency Manager and Jane Greene, Adult Services Librarian.

You can view before and after pictures at [www.folmc.org/chevychase](http://www.folmc.org/chevychase). Better yet, visit the library in person—you will be impressed.

## Damascus

*Earl Patrick, President*

9701 Main Street, Damascus, MD 20872

[damascus@folmc.org](mailto:damascus@folmc.org)

The October highlight for the Damascus chapter was the “Mystery in the Stacks” on October 16, 2009. The sold-out mystery show was written and directed by LAC member Nancy Lacy and produced by Damascus local Kathleen Wiacek. Damascus residents Bob Gladhill, Taylor Katherine Payne, Elizabeth Bradley, Esther Rea, Sue Payne, Sharon Rea, and Darryl Coffman played the characters’ roles fabulously. You missed a great event if you were not at Damascus that Friday night!



*Mystery Party 2009*

The FOL also supports our Train Day on the first Saturday of November every year. This year’s program was every bit as interesting, informative, and fun as the past 20 years’ and featured model train layouts, live music, story time, Operation Lifesaver, presentations by the B&O Historical Society and food for all. This annual event, planned and produced by staff member Anita Fry, draws more than 1,000 railroad enthusiasts from as far away as Pennsylvania.

On November 10, 2009, the Montgomery County Master Gardeners presented a Frugal Gardener Workshop for adults at 7:00 p.m. in the large meeting room of the library. They taught attendees how to impress friends and neighbors by reusing items lying around the garage. They have a second life, according to Master Gardeners Pam Hosimer and Terri Pitts. This budget-friendly evening included a project for attendees to take home.

Book discussion meetings continue through the winter. No title is planned for December, but on January 19, 2010, a dialogue about *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens will be led by Chris Lundy, Adult Librarian. Then in February, Lalita Tademey’s *Cane River* will be presented.

### Upcoming Events:

January 19, 2010: *A Tale of Two Cities* Book Discussion

## Gaithersburg

*Irma Shainberg Sheon, President*

18330 Montgomery Village Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879

[gaithersburg@folmc.org](mailto:gaithersburg@folmc.org)

Our library was bursting with users over the past summer, and many of them dropped off donations for our Book Nook on their way into the building. Volunteers were busy every day

sorting and shelving the books, which often sold shortly after they were put out for sale. Our ongoing book sale is a popular attraction in Gaithersburg.

Funds from our book sale enabled us to renew the library’s subscription for 100 copies of *BookPage*, a literary exploratory magazine that previews books and is extremely popular with our patrons. We provided broad support for children, including the purchase of a desk for the preschool computer; an extra Summer Reading Program presentation, four in all; new games to use at FunKademics, our partnership with the Watkins Mill High School National Honor Society; and additional games and toys for the Language Discovery Center, which needs a constant resupply of such items.

Thanks to Friends’ support, staff were happy to be able to show teen volunteers a good time in appreciation of their efforts on behalf of the Summer Reading Program. There were a lot of happy faces at the Gaithersburg Library this summer.

## Germantown

*Mildred MacVicar, President*

19840 Century Boulevard, Germantown, MD 20874

[germantown@folmc.org](mailto:germantown@folmc.org)

Friends of the Library, Germantown Chapter had a busy fall season with some exciting happenings.

On September 26, 2009, we were thrilled to be part of the dedication of the striking mural our chapter funded that has transformed the Story Time Room. Thanks to the work of Montgomery County artist John Craig English, the room has become a (figurative) underwater oasis with colorful marine life of all sorts that both educate and entertain children and adults alike. The ceremony was attended by County Council member Mike Knapp of Germantown, Montgomery County Public Libraries Director Parker Hamilton, Germantown Branch Manager Nancy Savas, FOLMC Board President Ann Dorough, and Germantown Chapter members. Mr. English, the artist, was there and officially signed his work with a special silver pen. Matched only by the mural itself, the real stars of the show were the children whose expressions told us that the artwork was a success.

The following weekend, on October 3, 2009, we staffed a booth at the annual Germantown Oktoberfest. Many people throughout the day talked with us about the Friends, our monthly Book Sale and the library in general while picking up the books for sale. The second Saturday in October again found our volunteers hard at work at the October Book Sale, which hosted a steady stream of buyers.

We look forward to continuing to support Germantown Library, which is the busiest in the MCPL system, and are always proud when we see things like the Story Time Room and Discovery Rooms that we have been able to enhance for the use of the library’s many customers.

## Little Falls

*Susan Schmidt, President*

*5501 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20816*

*littlefalls@folmc.org*

The holidays are the best time of the year-- come celebrate them with the Friends at Little Falls! Our Annual Sing-Along Holiday Concert featuring Myra Weinberg on piano will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for cookies and bring your best voices. Instruments will be provided.

Need a holiday gift for your favorite aunt or teacher? We will also be selling Friends of the Library logo items that Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until noon and during the Holiday Concert. T-shirts, canvas bags and the best aprons in the world make wonderful stocking stuffers.

Please take the time to renew your membership to the Friends. Your contribution is the best way to ensure that our staff and volunteers are appreciated, the enhancements that make our library special are provided and programs for children, teens and adults are enjoyed.

Happy Birthday to Little Falls Library! Next year, our community library will celebrate its 50th birthday. Please look for special programs, events and announcements and help us enjoy.

### **Upcoming Events:**

December 12, 2009: Annual Sing-Along Holiday Concert

2010: Little Falls' 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## Marilyn J. Praisner

*Elizabeth "Betsy" Matthews, President*

*14910 Old Columbia Pike, Burtonsville, MD 20866*

*praisner@folmc.org*

Burtonsville Day, September 26, 2009 was a community event for East County. We were proud to be one of the sponsors of this event and to see our name and logo on the Burtonsville Day t-shirts. Each year, we have a special book sale which allows us to meet and greet those who attend and let the community know what we do for the Marilyn J. Praisner Branch Library. We also recruit new members and volunteers.

We were also supporting our marvelous staff and volunteers who each year participate in the Burtonsville Day Parade. This year Jennifer Chandewar, representing the children's library staff, led the group of library volunteers who dispensed gifts along the parade route. Our library was also decorated, and all our staff and volunteers wore their Burtonsville Day t-shirts.

The MCPL Bookmobile was again in the parade and parked in front of the library for all to board and see for themselves what

a special library the Bookmobile is. We also had a children's program featuring author Valerie Tripp, who writes for the American Girl series. Her presentation was followed by a book signing.

Friends of the Library, Praisner Chapter would like to thank all our volunteers and library staff for making this a wonderful Burtonsville Day.

## Quince Orchard

*Linda Raden, President*

*15831 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878*

*quinceorchard@folmc.org*

The Library has been extraordinarily busy with programs for all ages. The Friends contributed to the creation of a Teen Center with attractive chairs and tables and more to come. Teens are regular visitors, especially from the high school across the street.

Penny Theatre programs have started again after a partial break during the summer. The Players put on well-received performances at Noyes during July and August. We are pleased to have a small group enthusiastic about their once-a-month productions.

If you haven't already, stop by to see the glass cases at the entrance to the library, which always feature an interesting selection of objects or paintings offered by patrons for display.

Community Day in June could have been disastrous as it poured rain; the first time we have had rain during the activities. Fortunately, everyone was very good humored and made the best of things. The book sale suffered the most as it was impossible to bring all the books inside, and the volunteers there were quite heroic in their efforts to protect the books at a cost of becoming sodden themselves. The Navy Quartet, which came for the first time, had an active experience in trying to find a dry spot, and eventually settled down inside where the patrons thoroughly enjoyed the music - not a usual event in the library.

Our next event is the Library Birthday party on December 14, 2009, which celebrates the original opening of the Library, now more than a decade ago on December 13. We offer cake and punch to patrons from noon to 4:30 p.m. The Quince Orchard Chapter will have a meeting that same evening.

Friends run the regular book sale the first Saturday of the month.

### **Upcoming Events:**

December 14, 2009: Library Birthday Party and Meeting for Quince Orchard Friends

January 2, 2010: Book Sale

February 6, 2010: Book Sale

February 2010: Chinese New Year Celebration

## Rockville

*Jacques Gelin, President*

*21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850*

*rockville@folmc.org*

On Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the first floor meeting room of the Rockville Library, Friends of the Library, Rockville Chapter will have a program on the "Humor in Politics, a behind the scenes look" from Robert Chartrand, retired Senior Information Specialist from the Library of Congress.

Our political process, down through the years, has been the greatest show on Earth, with a cast of characters ranging from the sublime to the ridiculous. With an easy manner and a use of anecdotes and material akin to that of Will Rogers and Mark Twain, Mr. Chartrand draws upon more than 40 years as an observer and activist in the political arena. He has collected a cornucopia of fun-filled facts and foibles about the Presidents, legislators ("the denizens of Capitol Hill"), political bosses, and just plain folks that make up the political institution. As a bottom line, he agrees with Will Rogers who once notes that "In all, it's a great country. It's the best and the worst one I ever lived in."

### **Upcoming Events:**

February 9, 2010: Robert Lee Chartrand, "Humor in Politics"

## Silver Spring

*Harvey Valentine*

*8901 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910*

*silverspring@folmc.org*

Storytelling, a petting zoo, and the unveiling of the exterior design for the new Silver Spring Library combined to make the Fourth Annual Silver Spring Library BookFest an event to remember this past October.

Sponsored by the Friends and the Library Advisory Committee (LAC), the event featured, for the first time, a petting zoo and pony rides on the library's front lawn, which faces Colesville Road (Route 29), providing an eye-catching component for our festivities. Despite intermittent rain, scores of young children were on hand to mingle with the animals and ride the ponies.

Indoors, Master Storyteller Diane Macklin kicked off the event as she once again enchanted a full house of enthusiastic Silver Spring children with stories and music featuring audience participation.

At noon, County Executive Leggett joined Montgomery County Public Libraries Director Parker Hamilton and



*Photo by R. Pace/SSP*

the county's design team to unveil exterior drawings of the new Silver Spring Library, which is slated to break ground in 2010 in Downtown Silver Spring. Mr. Leggett reiterated his strong support for a pedestrian bridge to connect the library with the Wayne Avenue Garage, which will provide parking for the new library.

As always, BookFest featured a huge used book sale and bake sale which raised money to support the Friends efforts at Silver Spring Library.

The event also featured the debut of the 2010 Vintage Silver Spring Calendar, Then and Now, featuring historic photos of Silver Spring accompanied by photos of the same sites as they appear today. Volunteers will be selling them at the library. Please call or email for the latest sales schedule.

## White Oak

*Frank Altrichter, President*

*11701 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20904*

*whiteoak@folmc.org*

On Wednesday, December 16, 2009, at 7:00 p.m., Pulitzer Prize winning literary critic Michael Dirda discusses his most recent book *Classics for Pleasure* and his work reading and reviewing books for *The Washington Post*. Mr. Dirda's books will be available for purchase and signing. This is the third author program in this series at White Oak. Prior authors were Laura Lippman in April and George Pelecanos in June.

### **Upcoming Events:**

December 16, 2009: Michael Dirda

## News from the Literacy Council

*shelley@literacycouncilmcmd.org*

*www.literacycouncilmcmd.org*

### **Give the Gift of Literacy**

This holiday season, give the gift of literacy. Thousands of adults in Montgomery County can't read or write well enough to fill out a job application, help their kids with homework, or understand prescription drug labels. You can help by becoming a volunteer literacy tutor. Attend a tutor information session and learn how you can make a difference in someone's life. Sessions will be held at the Rockville Library on January 6 at 7:30 p.m. and January 26 at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call the Literacy Council of Montgomery County at 301-610-0030 or email [info@literacycouncilmcmd.org](mailto:info@literacycouncilmcmd.org).

### **Upcoming Events:**

January 6, 2010: Tutor Information Session

January 26, 2010: Tutor Information Session

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*Potomac*

*Quince Orchard*

*Rockville*

*Silver Spring*

*Twinbrook*

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## Give the gift of a good book from the Friends' Bookstores

### **Friends' Bookstore at Randolph Hills Shopping Center**

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

- Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 9 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

- Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Friday: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### **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](http://www.folmc.org) or call 240-777-0020.