



Friends of the Library



Potomac Chapter

Summer Happenings @ Your Library

June 2015

Get Ready for a Summer of Stories... and Heroes

Every hero has a story. That’s the theme of this summer’s reading program for toddlers to teens at Potomac Public Library, June 1 to August 9. Help your child to be a reading hero, by helping them sign up for the summer reading challenge online (at <http://montgomerycountymd.beanstack.org>) or at the Library. Kids will commit to reading four to eight books during the summer – about everything from superheroes to biographies of real life heroes – or whatever captures their literary fancies.

Our own super heroine, Anne Gerlach, Children’s Librarian!

Incentives will include superhero badges for their sticker books, a voucher for a Frederick Keys or Bowie Bay Sox baseball game, a water bottle after three books (while supplies last!), Orioles tickets or a trip to the Maryland Science Center. Teens will receive a book light (while supplies last) after their third book. Everyone must finish by August 31.

But that’s not all! Children’s Librarian **Anne Gerlach** has packed the summer schedule with a wonderful list of special activities, all free, no registration required, including:

Agricultural Fair Program, Sat., June 20, 11 am
Which animal friend is coming to the Library? Visit us and find out!

Shazam Magic, Tues, June 23, 4 pm
Magician Peter Woods has the polish, energy and showmanship to Shazam you, and children of all ages!



History Alive, Wed, July 1, 2 pm
Pirate Queen Grace O’Malley will take you back to the 16th century on a pirate adventure, hoisting the rigging, casting nets and looking for land in a war against Queen Elizabeth I of England!

Stories by Hand, Thurs, July 8, 2 pm
Sign-along-sing-along for all ages. Explore American Sign Language through music and stories of all kinds of heroes with storyteller Kathy MacMillan.

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President's Letter

Dear Friends,

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter will be held Wednesday, June 10 at 11:00 A.M. That's the time for the election of the Friends' Board of Directors for 2015-16. Plan to come for the election, the opportunity to meet our new Agency Manager, Sue Koronowski, and enjoy light refreshments. Additionally, we'll have a brief recap of the year and ask for your thoughts as we plan for the 2015-2016 year.

Often I'm asked: What do I get for having a Friends' membership? The answer: nothing much, other than a quarterly newsletter, great appreciation, and the satisfaction of knowing that by supporting us you are helping to provide the icing on the basic cake which Montgomery County Public Libraries provides. In the Fall newsletter I listed—thanks to you generous support—some of the many enhancements the Friends have made through the years to our Potomac library.

You may not realize that the Friends have a category of membership for businesses. I'd like to recognize a long time business member who provides some of that icing by his continued membership: Cary Prokos, owner of Normandie Farm. As you can image he sends a check, not the actual icing from their bakery! Next time you are enjoying a delicious popover at Normandie Farm please be sure to thank Cary for his valued support all these years.

On April 13, local resident and Offutt Family descendent Ralph Buglass gave a fascinating talk and slide presentation to a standing room only crowd. Ralph told the story of how Potomac started as Offutts Crossroads. Clearly there is a big interest in the area's history! For another interesting story go to the Normandie Farm website and click on "history." (By now you are probably thinking Edie's going to get a nice meal out of this—not—we don't operate that way—we just value longtime supporters.)

As you know, libraries are a great place to go for information. On April 29, Leta Blank of Montgomery County's SHIP (State Health Insurance Program), spoke to a group of about 40 on the topic of "Turning 65." Wow, there is so much one needs to be aware of when approaching that milestone! Leta left behind some helpful reference materials—ask about them at the Information Desk.

Meanwhile as you get ready for summer reading be sure to check out our ongoing book sale in the lobby of the library or come to our monthly book sale on the 2nd Saturday of each month. You'll enjoy the books and we'll put your money to good use! Among many things, the Friends fund several of the summer programs for children.

Happy reading,

Edie Wingate



Notes from Sue

If you've been to the library recently you will have noticed that Spring has arrived!! Thanks to the hard work of the Potomac Village Garden Club, it is a pleasure to enter our library. In case you have questions about the plantings in the gardens, please ask at the Information Desk and we'll share a copy of the planting guide with you. (And see Garden story on page 5.)



New Feature- Did You Know?

In each newsletter I'll try to provide some piece of information about the library that you might not know.

This issue's "Did You Know?" is about STEM. In case you haven't heard the term, it stands for **Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics**. STEM programs have become part of school curriculums at all levels and one mission of the Library is to support education for all ages. This April, during National Library Week, all branches of Montgomery County Libraries introduced STEM mini-stations in their Children's areas. The Potomac Library introduced five mini-STEM hands-on stations featuring: weather, electricity, biology, optical illusion and observation. Thanks to our Potomac Friends of the Library for funding this program, come in and try them out!

Sue Koronowski, Branch Manager

Late Breaking News!!

The Friends of the Library, Potomac, is delighted to welcome its new webmaster, **Gary Waugaman**. To see what he's up to, visit our site at www.folmc.org/potomac



Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter Board

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This newsletter is published four times a year by the Potomac Chapter of the Friends of the Library Montgomery County (FOLMC).

Selby McPhee, Editor

Potomac Library

10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac

240-777-0690, 301-765-4083 (TTY)

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 10 am – 8pm

Tuesdays: 1 pm – 8 pm

Fridays and Saturdays: 10 am – 6 pm

www.folmc.org www.folmc.org/potomac



Potomac History Talk Draws a Crowd!!

Local historian **Ralph Buglass** drew a capacity crowd – more than 80 people – on Monday, April 13, for a look at Potomac history through the records of his own family – the Offutts – beginning the early 18th century, living in the village that became known as Offutts Crossroads in the 19th century. The talk was sponsored by Potomac Friends of the Library.

Ralph's talk, drawing on dramatic events – including a murder! – in the Offutt family records, brought to life the crossroads when they were rutted dirt paths, local farm families had slaves, and the corners now housing the Capital One Bank and Mitch and Bill's gas station were the sites of competing stores – owned by the Offutts and the Claggetts (which could read Hatfields and McCoys for the drama the competition engendered!)

Judging from the questions and animated discussion, Potomac residents are hungry for local history, so expect more on the Library calendar next fall. Next up: the **ghosts** of Potomac Village.



Cousins!!

Speaker **Ralph Buglass** and business owner **Reina Offutt Pratt**, founder of Potomac Pilates, discovered during the evening that they are second cousins, descended from Offutt grandfathers who were brothers.

Spring Garden News

Here we are in June, having witnessed once again the miracle of spring – after a tough winter. We are grateful for the work of volunteers from the Potomac Village Garden Club in keeping the library grounds beautiful! Here's a report on spring activity from Julie Perlman.

The Potomac Village Garden Club held a garden book sale on April 11. The club sold donated garden books and gave a plant with each purchase. All funds raised go toward plantings at the garden.

We are looking for a Brownie troop to participate in our Nature Detective Program next November. The hour and a half program involves a learning activity and planting bulbs. Each girl is given bulbs to take home. This is an after school activity.

This spring the Club is looking to remove the burning bushes, *Euonymus altus 'compactus'*, and replace them with deer resistant native plants. Burning bush is on the Invasive Species List.

Look for new plants in the sundial garden. Edibles, like kale, have a nice, long living foliage and the deer don't like it. Remember to pick up a plant guide at the information desk if you are curious about any of the trees, shrubs or perennials on the library grounds.

★ **Julie Perlman, Potomac Village Garden Club**

Summer Programs for Kids, continued from page 1

Improv for Kids, Tues, July 14, 2 pm

Create on-the-spot stories and sing funny versions of Jazz, hip hop, Broadway. Use your imagination!

Eric Energy, Wed, July 22, 2 pm

A wild and wacky scientist will mesmerize you with a science spectacular. Eye-catching experiments!

Flumpa and Friends, Tues, July 28, 2 pm

Science rocks with Wendy Whitten, the Singing Scientist, and Flumpa the famous tree frog. Music, science, fitness and fun are blended in this energetic award winning show.

Habitat Happenings, Mon, Aug. 3, 2 pm

This program of the Maryland Zoo helps you test your knowledge of animals and the places they live. Learn how animals and humans survive in different places around the world.

Crafty Kids Program, Sat, Aug. 22, 11 am

Get your smock on and come make a summer craft at the Library! For kids 8 and up.

Great Decisions



The Potomac Library begins its third year of Great Decisions, a national program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association in which local groups gather monthly to discuss topics associated with foreign policy of the United States.

The Friends of the Library, Potomac is delighted to sponsor a group here at our Potomac Library. We meet on most first Thursdays from 12:30 to 2:00 pm and most months we have a guest speaker. The program is free and open to the public; bring a brown bag lunch if you are hungry. A copy of the 2015 Briefing Book is available at the Information Desk. The book cannot be checked out, but it only takes about an hour to read the relevant article. Books can be ordered at fpa.org. For more information, contact potomacfol@gmail.com with "Great Decisions" in the subject line.

Thursday, June 4: U.S. Policy toward Africa

Africa is in the midst of an unprecedented transformation. The continent is home to some of the fastest growing economies in the world, and it has become a draw for foreign investment. After the "Obamamania" of 2008 died down, the realization kicked in that President Obama wasn't going to prioritize U.S. Africa policy. Still, we have promised to promote "strong institutions, not strong men," and to favor good governance over profit. How can U.S. policy live up to its promise while securing its interests in the region?

Summer Break: Happy Reading! Great Decisions schedule resumes October 1 with:

Thursday, Oct. 1: Syria's Refugee Crisis

Syrians have for a century welcomed over a million refugees from Armenia, Palestine, and Iraq, among other countries in the region. Thanks to war, they are now the *source* of one of the world's largest refugee populations, as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and other neighbors strive to accommodate millions of Syrians, risking dependence on emergency aid and becoming a "lost generation." The safety of displaced Syrians rests with the whole international community.



Don't forget about the Twice Told Tale **LIVE** Auction of rare, unique, and collectible books on...

Saturday, June 6, 12 pm

Wheaton Library, Lower Level

11701 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

For more information, call 240-777-0020, or go to www.folmc.org. Proxy bids welcome!

Potomac Calendar of Events

Used Book Sales

Saturday, June 13, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, July 11, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, August 8, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Saturday, September 12, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Great Decisions Group

First Thursday of the month, 12:30-2 p.m.

June 4: U.S. Policy Toward Africa

July, August, September: Summer Break!!

Oct. 1: Syria's Refugee Crisis

Great Decisions is a program of the non-partisan Foreign Policy Association in which local groups gather monthly to discuss topics associated with foreign policy of the U.S.

Wireless Wednesdays!

Every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Information Desk, with Jeff Corber

Need help with a new tablet, smartphone or e-reader? Bring your device to find help learn how to download apps for books and audiobooks.

Potomac Chess Group

Saturdays, 3 p.m.

Participants of all ages are invited to play chess on Saturdays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

You may bring your own Chess board.

Summer Programs for Kids

The Potomac Library offers a FEAST of special activities for children this summer! Here's a list – for details, see story beginning on page one. Supported by Friends of the Library and Potomac Friends.

Tues, June 23, 4 pm – Shazam Magic

Wed, July 1, 2 pm – History Alive

Wed, July 8, 2 pm – Stories by Hand

Tues, July 14, 2 pm – Improv for Kids

Wed, July 22, 3:30 pm – Eric Energy

Tues, July 28, 2 pm – Flumpa and Friends

Mon, Aug. 3, 2 pm – Habitat Happenings (MD Zoo!)

Sat, Aug. 22, 11 am – Crafty Kids Program

Chinese Language Book Club

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

June 2: *Please Take Me With You* by Kangkang Zhang

July 7: *The Alley Full of Memory* by Yong Liu

Aug. 4: *Three Love Stories in Three Cities* by Wenyin Zhong

Sept. 1: *Flowing Fragrances of Tea* by Zhizhang Xie

Book discussion in the Chinese language. Ask for the book at the circulation desk. No registration required.

Preschool Storytime, Potomac Toddlers and Potomac Cuddleups

Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.

Stories, songs and rhymes for children and their caregivers. Preschool Storytime is for 3-to-6 year olds, Potomac Toddlers is for children ages 12-36 months, and Cuddleups is for babies from birth to 11 months. No registration required.

Summer Schedule:

Preschool Storytime: June 18, July 23, Aug. 6, Aug. 27

Cuddleups: June 4, July 2, July 16, Aug. 13

Potomac Toddlers: June 11, July 9, July 30, Aug. 20

Lego Masters!

Mondays, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

For children 8 and up to build and create with Legos. Parents and caregivers are welcome and are required to accompany children younger than 8 years old. Not recommended for children younger than 4. No registration required.

Family Game Day

Tuesdays, 3:30 to 5:30 pm (June 23 at 1:30 pm)

Board and card games for the whole family!

No registration required.

Adult Book Club

Wednesday of the month, 1-2 p.m.

June 17: *The Finkler Question* by Howard Jacobson

July 15: *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield

Aug. 19: *The Orphan Master's Son* by Adam Johnson

Sept. 16: *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri

Ask for book at the circulation desk.

Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter Membership

Yes, I want to support the library!

- Please enroll me as a member of Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter
- Please renew my current membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Membership Levels

__ \$15_ Page Turner -seniors, students, teachers

__ \$25_ Short Story

__ \$50_ Novel

__ \$100_ Classic

__ Donation - \$ _____

Your information is never shared with any other organization or individual. Friends of the Library is a 501(c)3 organization.

I would like to make my donation in honor of:

Dues are 100% tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

You will not only be keeping friends up to date with library activities and events, through the newsletter, you will be giving the gift of support to the library for all the special events that bring you and your children back to the library again and again... .for book groups, author talks, foreign policy discussions, Lego Masters, preschool reading hours.

Membership makes no demands on personal time, but shows support for the enhancement of Potomac Library.

Please enclose your check made payable to Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter, with this form and leave with staff at the checkout desk, or mail to:

Friends of the Library, Potomac Chapter
10101 Glenolden Drive, Potomac, MD 20854

Payments may also be made with credit card or Paypal at

www.folmc.org/get-involved/become-a-member/ (choose Potomac as your "Favorite Library")

Volunteer activities are welcome but optional for chapter members. If you would like to help, tell us what your interests are and we will put you in touch with the right people!

__ Advocacy in support of the library budget

__ Membership Recruitment

__ Newsletter

__ Special Events

__ Other _____