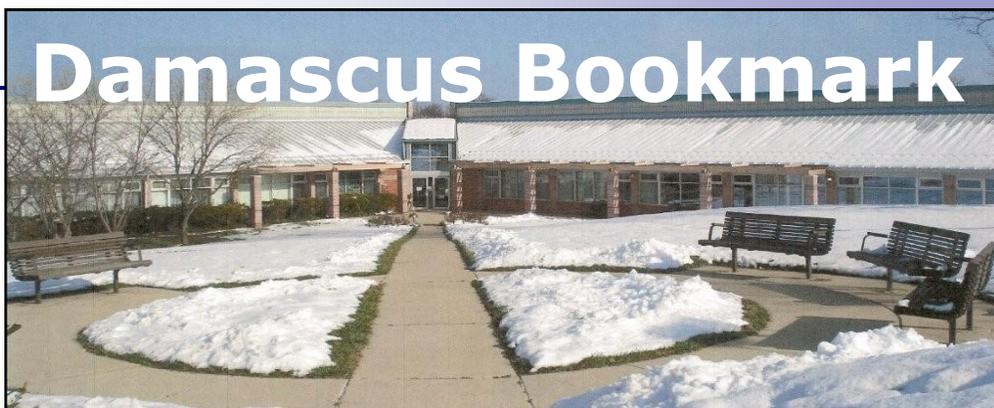


FOL Damascus  
Executive Committee

Earl Patrick - President  
Donna Bangor - First Vice President  
Renée Minnick - Second Vice President  
Nan Norton- Secretary  
Renée Minnick - Interim Treasurer



# TWELVE DAYS OF WINTER BREAK!

Wednesday, December 23 - Sunday, January 3

 **Wednesday, December 23 - 1:00, 4:00 and 6:00 pm. Celtic Harp.** Drop in to hear seasonal music on the flute and Celtic harp. The flutist and harpist will also answer questions about their instruments. All ages are welcome.

 **Thursday, December 24 - 10:30 am. Construction Crew DUPLO.** Calling all preschoolers, kindergarteners, babies, and toddlers. Drop in for an open session of imaginative construction. We supply the blocks, so please leave yours at home.

 **Saturday, December 26 - 2:00 pm. Book Character Bingo.** Play a combination of book trivia and bingo to win prizes. For children ages 8 to 17. Children ages 3-7 are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult who can assist them.

 **Sunday, December 27 - 2:00 pm. Build the Future Lego Open Session.** Drop in for a session of imaginative construction with Lego. We supply the blocks, so please leave yours at home. Just bring your ideas or take our challenge of the day! Ages 6-17, no younger siblings. Children age 10 and under must be accompanied at all times.

 **Monday, December 28 - 2:00 pm. Hypnotizers! By Futuremakers.** Create spinning, glowing light machines that hypnotize and amaze! Use motors, LEDs, batteries and simple circuitry to invent the machine of your dreams. All projects go home! All ages welcome. Under 8 must be accompanied by an adult.

 **Tuesday, December 29 - 10:30 am. Build a Gingerbread Man Trap.** Listen to the story of the Gingerbread Man, then build a trap to try to catch him. For children ages 3-8; ages 5 and under to be accompanied by an adult.

 **Wednesday, December 30 - 2:00 pm. Book Character Trivia Bingo.** Play a combination of book trivia and bingo to win prizes. For teens and children ages 8-12. Children ages 3 - 7 are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult who can assist them.

 **Thursday, December 31 - 11:30 am. Happy Noon Year's Eve!** Ring in the New Year early with stories, crafts, and a count-down celebration to ring in the "Noon Year"! For ages 3-8; ages 5 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

 **Sunday, January 3 - 2:00 pm. Coloring Tangles.** Coloring books for adults are the hot new activity. Join in the fun, reduce stress, and let your creativity loose as you color pre-printed designs and discover free-form doodling techniques. For adults, teens, and elementary age children.

*For information about these and other winter activities, call the library at 240 773-9444 or visit the library at 9701 Main Street.*



# Train Day 2015 - Another Success!



Patrons were greeted in the lobby by trains and welcome signs. All sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Damascus Chapter.



Train Day organizer Anita Fry takes a well-deserved rest with great-nephew Josiah.



LEGOs®!



One of many fascinating lay-outs presented by community residents.



Children's librarian Amy Alapati sets up a book display before beginning her train-themed story time.



Our conductors: Agency Manager Jan McHenry, local Damascan Linwood Shipley and his grandson Austin.



Children and adults were entranced by this elaborate lay-out made completely from LEGOs®!



## Winter Reading Suggestions for Adults

**A MAN CALLED OVE** by Fredrik Beckman **Fiction** 353 pages. If there was an award for Most Charming Book of the Year, this first novel by a Swedish overnight sensation would win. Ove is a curmudgeon, but wait until you get to know him. A warm and tender story about love, loss and second chances, peppered with memorable characters, and some beautifully black humor. Ove is a joy from start to finish.

**A THOUSAND DAYS IN TUSCANY** by Marlena de Blasi **Memoir** 368 pages. This memoir of the seasons in a small Tuscan village is rich with food, weather, romance and, above all, life. de Blasi and her husband move to Tuscany in search of “a place that still remembers real life-sweet and salt-each side of life dignifying the other.” They are introduced to the local customs: grape harvesting, truffle hunting, bread baking, etc. de Blasi digs into the meaning of life, and immerses her readers in life’s poignancy, brevity and wonder.

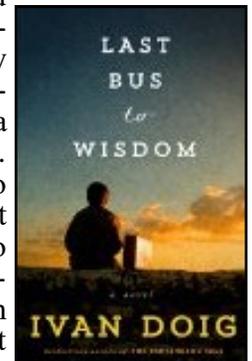
**CIRCLING THE SUN: A NOVEL** by Paula McLain **Historical Fiction** 384 pages. Beryl Markham, a record-setting aviator, and her relationships with safari hunter Denys Finch Hatton and Karen Blixen, who as Isak Dinesen wrote the classic memoir *Out of Africa*. This tale reveals the extraordinary adventures of a woman before her time. An engrossing story of love and adventure in colonial Africa, complete with gorgeous landscape, dissolute British ex-pats, and lots of derring-do with horses, motorcars and airplanes.

**THE TRUTH ACCORDING TO US** by Annie Burrows **Fiction** 528 pages. A charmer of a story about a small town in Depression-era West Virginia whose history is rewritten by a debutante on the run. Family histories, too, are unraveled, but mended by the fierce, strong women who dominate this delightful page-turner, a tribute to the power of love and forgiveness to heal even the most heartbreaking betrayals.

**EVERYTHING I NEVER TOLD YOU** by Celeste Ng **Mystery** 298 pages. “Lydia is dead.” From this first sentence, we know that the oldest daughter of the Chinese-American Lee family has died. Set in the 1970s in Ohio, this debut novel explores alienation, achievement, race, gender, family, and identity. As the police unravel what has happened to Lydia, the Lee family must uncover the sister and daughter that they hardly knew. Precisely and sensitively written.

**RIVAL QUEENS** by Nancy Gladstone **Biography** 424 pages. In Renaissance France, a story of two remarkable women, a mother and daughter driven into opposition by a terrible betrayal that threatened to destroy the realm. Catherine de’Medici was a ruthless pragmatist and powerbroker who dominated the throne for thirty years. Her youngest daughter Marguerite, the glamorous “Queen Margot,” was a passionate free spirit, the only adversary whom her mother could neither intimidate nor control. Treacherous court politics, poisonings, international espionage, and adultery form the background to a story that includes such celebrated figures as Elizabeth I, Mary, Queen of Scots, and Nostradamus.

**LAST BUS TO WISDOM** by Ivan Doig **Historical Fiction** 464 pages. Eleven-year-old orphan Donal Cameron must leave Montana and his beloved Gram when she is required to have surgery. Armed only with an autograph book and an active imagination, Donal boards a Greyhound bound for Wisconsin. After a memorable trip, he arrives to live with his Aunt Kate. It does not go well and Aunt Kate threatens to send him back west to an orphanage. Donal boards a bus again with an unexpected companion: Aunt Kate’s beleaguered husband Herman the German who destroyed the orphanage papers). A wide open and fun adventure.



**A PAINTED HOUSE** by John Grisham **Fiction** 480 pages. A quiet, contemplative story set in rural Arkansas in 1952. The narrator is a farm boy, Luke Chandler, age seven, who lives in the cotton fields with his parents and grandparents in a little house that has never been painted. The Chandlers farm eighty acres that they rent and hire a truckload of Mexicans and a family from the Ozarks to help harvest the cotton. For six weeks they pick cotton, battling the heat, the rain, the fatigue, and, sometimes, each other. Luke sees and hears things no seven-year-old could possibly be prepared for, and finds himself keeping secrets that threaten the crop and will change the lives of the Chandlers forever. A moving story of one boy’s journey from innocence to experience.

# Damascus Friends of the Library

The Damascus Bookmark is a publication of the Friends of the Library, Damascus Chapter. Nan Norton and Donna Bangor, co-editors.

Damascus Community Library  
9701 Main Street  
Damascus, MD 20872  
240 773-9444



## Ongoing Children's Programs



### Stepping Stones Story Time

Tuesdays at 10:30 am  
Wednesdays at 1:30 pm  
Ages: newborn to 5 years

### Construction Crew: DUPLO®

Thursdays 10:30 to 11:30  
Ages: newborn to 5 years

### Wags for Hope: Read to a Dog

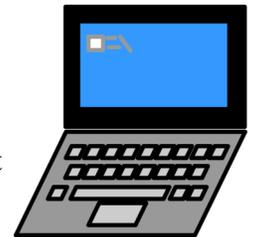
Third Saturday of each month at 2:00 pm  
Ages: 5 and up



## Computer Problems? Come to the library for help:

**Basic Computer Assistance** - drop-in for adults. Every Wednesday at 7:00pm.  
A volunteer helps with Internet, attachments, email, Word, etc.

**Computer Repair** - Pre-registration required - for adults. Fourth Saturday of most months from 10:00am to 1:00pm. On-site repair by a certified Microsoft volunteer.



## Book Discussion Group for Adults - Fourth Monday of each month

7:30 pm

Winter schedule:

December 21 - *Dear Life* by Alice Munro  
January and February titles are to be determined.

Check online for updates or call the library at 240-773-9444 for more information.

Yes, I would like to become a member of Friends of the Library, Damascus Chapter.

Yearly memberships: Individual - \$15; Family - \$25; Organization - \$35; Extra Gift\_\_\_\_\_. Make checks payable to FOL, Damascus

My/our name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City and State\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional donation\_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your check with this form and mail to:

Friends of the Library, Damascus Chapter

9701 Main Street

Damascus, MD 20872

- Or bring to the library circulation desk



### GO GREEN!

By receiving the Damascus Friends of the Library newsletter by email, you can save trees and postage costs. Please provide us with your email address. We never share your information.

