CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK:
Look What Montgomery County Libraries Offer!!!

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POETRY MONTH – TIME TO COMPETE: The world needs more poets!
The Teen Poetry Competition is sponsored by the MCPL Teen Advisory Group (TAG) and is open to teens ages 13-18. Entries must be received by April 23rd. Entries must be original work. The entries will be judged on creativity, mechanics and overall impact. The judges will rate poems in two categories: Open Category and Short Structure verse. Prizes will be awarded to the top-rated poems in each category and winners will be announced at the Poetry Celebration at Rockville Memorial Library on Saturday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m. details / application at: http://montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/teensite/teenwriting

REOPENING RECAP AND NEW PROGRAMS
The ribbon cutting was very well attended by the community and we were also happy that Town of Kensington Mayor Pete Fosselman, State Senator Rich Madaleno, State Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher and County Council (at-large) member George Leventhal were also in attendance. The community crowd spoke volumes to the elected officials. After the speeches and ribbon cutting attendees were treated to cake and music from the Scott Douglass Jazz Ensemble. Additionally our mural artists were hard at work making the downstairs area more inviting.
The theme of the mural is celebrating Literature via Art and was designed by local artists Katie Silky and Tina Frizzell. This literary wall is comprised of six vignettes by genre, much like you would see if you browsed through the stacks at the library, including Children's Classics, Mystery, Adult Classics, Poetry, Fables, Picture Books and a special shout-out to a few Maryland authors. The wall will also include quotes that weave in the literary theme. The artists are donating their time and talent, the KP FOL purchased the supplies. Katie Silky is a Walter Johnson HS graduate and studied illustration and painting at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She is skilled in using various media to do traditional, neo-traditional and abstract design work. Katie is a small business owner in Kensington – Silky Tattoos. Tina Frizzell has an Associate's degree in studio art. She specializes in lettering and graphic styles with a strong interest in traditional and neo-traditional style. Tina works full-time with Katie.

In addition to the new furniture and art the library is also offering new programs.

The English Conversation Club offers an opportunity for nearby residents to practice speaking English in a friendly and informal setting. This program starts on April 18th and will be held every Monday from 1-2:30 pm. Please share this information with friends/neighbors that might find this activity helpful.

[TEEN] Throw Back Game Night is now being hosted for teens from 12-18. Teens are invited to hangout, play throwback video games board games, and Legos, or just get some homework done. Starts Thursday April 14, and will be held every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from 6:00 -7:30 PM

College Workshop, Thursday, April 21st 6:30: The Library has also scheduled another College Workshop with Melissa Kupferschmid from Achieva Educational Consulting. This workshop will focus on Creating Your College List and will help students to identify their desired college preferences; to determine their college factors; to understand what "right fit" mans; to craft your college list; and to plan and execute productive college visits. This workshop is geared towards parents and students in 10th and 11th grades but all are welcome.
KP-FOL USED BOOK-SALE We are so pleased with our new/improved location and shelving for the on-going KP-FOL sponsored used book sale. The proceeds directly support our library programs and improvements. In May we are featuring cook books. Book donations are taken at the circulation desk. It’s a wonderful way to support your local library and recycle books!

KENNEDON DAY OF THE BOOK STREET FESTIVAL April 24, 11-4 pm

We are looking forward to celebrating books as literature, books as art, and books as music at the 11th annual Kensington Day of the Book Festival, please be sure to share this info with your friends and neighbors, the more the merrier!


Children’s Program, aka Ktown Reads: The children’s stage offers three great performances, plus storytelling including: The Great Zucchini, KinderJam, 123 Andres

Special Guest: The Festival is honored to welcome Special Guest Speaker Tuskegee Airman Col. Charles McGee USAF (Ret). Born in 1919, Col McGee received his silver wings as a single engine pilot and was commissioned second lieutenant in 1943, graduating at Tuskegee Army Air Field, Alabama, in Class 43-F. He flew fighter aircraft combat tours in three major military conflicts; 136 missions with the 302nd Fighter Squadron in Italy during WWII, 100 missions with the 67th Fighter Bomber Squadron in Korea, and 173 missions while commanding the 16th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron in Viet Nam. In 2007, President George W. Bush awarded McGee and all other surviving Tuskegee Airmen the Congressional Gold Medal. His life was chronicled in: Tuskegee Airman: The Biography of Charles E. McGee, Air Force Fighter Combat Record Holder by Charleen E. Mcgee, Ph.D.

Parking: There are two Town of Kensington public lots located at the Armory/Town Hall on Mitchell Street (1 block from the festival, off of Armory Avenue) and on Metropolitan Avenue on the north side of the railroad station. All parking is free.

See schedule and more information at: https://dayofthebookdotcom.wordpress.com/
AUTHOR SERIES: May 10th, 7-8 pm
Sky Above Clouds: Finding Our Way through Creativity, Aging, and Illness: Through their scientific research and clinical practice, husband and wife team Gene D. Cohen and Wendy L. Miller uncovered new clues about how the aging mind can build resilience and continue growth, even during times of grave illness, thus setting aside the traditional paradigm of aging as a time of decline. Cohen, considered one of the founding fathers of geriatric psychiatry, describes what happens to the brain as it ages and the potential that is often overlooked. Miller, an expressive arts therapist and educator, highlights stories of creative growth in the midst of illness and loss encountered through her clinical practice. Together, Cohen and Miller show that with the right tools, the uncharted territory of aging and illness can, in fact, be navigated. Sky Above Clouds tells the inside story of how attitude, community, creativity, and love shape a life, with or without health, even to our dying. Cohen and Miller draw deeply on their own lessons learned as they struggle through aging, illness, and loss within their own family and eventually Cohen's own untimely death. What happens when the expert on aging begins to age? And what happens when the therapist who helps others cope with illness and loss is forced to confront her own responses to these experiences?

STAFF FEATURE: Demeke Seyoum, Library Assistant Supervisor

Demeke began working with Montgomery County Public Libraries in May 1997 and has worked at a variety of branches including Bethesda, Little Falls, Aspen Hill, Quince Orchard, Twinbrook, Davis and Germantown. He has been at the Kensington Park library since April 2015. Demeke is originally from Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in East Africa. As part of his Maryland Library Associate Training, Demeke developed a process for moving high demand titles more quickly to library customers. He serves as a translator for Amharic speakers, and helped to select and catalog the new Amharic book collections at Silver Spring and Gaithersburg Libraries. He serves on the county’s African Affairs Advisory Committee and traveled to Ethiopia as a member of County Executive Ike Leggett’s Sister Cities delegation in 2012. Demeke is the convener of the Ethiopian Book Club and also of the monthly children’s Ethiopian language and culture program at Gaithersburg. In his free time, Demeke can be found spending time with his family and friends, doing community engagements and volunteer activities. He loves walking in the parks enjoying nature and listening music and world news.
TEEN WRITING PROGRAM RESUMES: KP Library is pleased to again be hosting a teen writing program on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 6:15 until 7:45 pm. The program is run by local writer Carolee Noury and sponsored by the Maryland Writers Association. Writing exercises include: Discovering techniques for creative writing / Experimenting with writing exercises / Getting constructive feedback on your writing / Learning how to revise your work. This is a great opportunity to meet others who share your love of writing.

STORYTIME ACTIVITY RESUMES: This popular program is held every Wednesday from 10:15 to 11:00 am for children 18 months - 5 years old (with adult caregivers). The program includes stories, books, rhymes, songs and stretches.

WHAT ARE LOCAL BOOK CLUBS READING? There are dozens of book clubs in Kensington and it is always interesting to see who is reading what. In the spirit of sharing we are providing the list below of books that are currently being read. Please share your bookclub reads at: kensingtonpark@folmc.org

*You Before Me, JoJo Moyes  
*Fortune Smiles, Adam Johnson  
*Standing Alone, Asra Nomani  
*So We Read On, Maureen Corrigan  
*Why We Make Mistakes, Joseph T. Hallinan

KENSINGTON PARK BOOK GROUP RESUMES @ KP LIBRARY: This activity is hosted by retired librarians and is open to all. Books are available at the KP library for checkout.

April 20, 11:15 Fear of Dying by Erica Jong  
May 18, 11:15 Black Ice by Lorene Cary

READING RAVES: Have you read a book recently that you really liked? In the spirit of sharing book recommendations, we encourage members to share! Tell us what you liked and why. Reading Raves are anonymous. Email your Rave to kensingtonpark@folmc.org

Our Souls At Night. Haruf, Kent. Fiction: The last book from this great western storyteller. Two lonely older people in need of a friend form a loving bond much to the surprise and consternation of their family and neighbors.
**Lanterne Rouge: The Last Man in the Tour de France.** Leonard, Max. Non Fiction. Well written history of the Tour de France and about some of the men, interesting characters all, who finished last in this challenging race.

**Sense and Sensibility.** Trollop, Joanna. Fiction. Trollop rewrote this Jane Austen novel as part of the publisher’s project to have well known contemporary authors redo each of the Austen novels. Not bad but not Jane.

**A Little Life.** Hanya Yanagihara. Fiction. This book was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and was a finalist for the National Book Award. But that’s not why I picked it up. It was a book discussion on Kojo Nnamdi’s show that caught my attention at the precise moment I was looking for something to read. Several of his guests, whose reading tastes were varied, put it in their top 5 of their 2015 reads. I read it as an ebook which worked well with Yanagihara’s writing style—she puts you in the ever present, as someone has pointed out; this book takes place in no particular time or possibly in every time over the last half-century. And I didn’t have to worry about dropping 720 pages on my foot. This story of four college friends whose bonds run deep and connect over their protective love of the steely and fragile central character seemed familiar to me while offering something quite other at the same time. The boys grow into men and into their professional careers, but the focus remains tightly on the emotional content. Themes of trauma, abuse, survival and grace, connection, and loss weave in and out of the essential story of love and friendship. It is absorbing, immersive, dramatic, verging on but not quite tipping over into bathos, and spellbinding.

**I Am Malala.** Yousafai, Malala. Autobiography. Malala is a young woman who has been in the news in the last several years. This autobiography tells us that her father was a teacher who believed in education for all and is the reason Malala was strong enough to stand up to the Taliban. This is a detailed explanation of life for young women under the Taliban regime in Pakistan and makes us realize and respect the freedoms we have in the United States.