

The Aspen Hill Library Community News

Published by the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library and the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee

* * Summer 2017 * *

Grand Re-Opening – Aspen Hill Library

July 15, 2017

Be there at 10 am!

Aspen Hill Refresh!

After being closed for 8 months for renovations, the Aspen Hill Library will re-open on Saturday, July 15. County Executive Ike Leggett will preside over the re-opening ceremony at 10 am. Everyone is welcome to attend. Light refreshments and music from the Steve Scott Project will follow the ceremony. Then tour our refreshed library! Check out books! Find out about summer reading and summer reading programs!

The refresh touches all parts of the library – even the outside.

The sidewalk from Aspen Hill Road has been rebuilt, railings have been added, curb cuts to the sidewalk have been added, and new ADA parking spaces have been created. A new book drop has been added on a new path on the right side of the front door.



When you enter, you'll see the new combined circulation and reference desk. The height of the desk is adjustable, so that library patrons sitting in chairs can talk directly to the library staff, just like we did when the reference desks were in the children's room and the adult section.

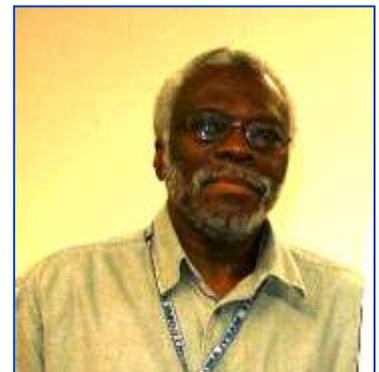
— More refresh news on page 4 —

New Librarian!

Ken Lewis is our library's Agency Manager (that's "Head Librarian" in old speak). He comes to Aspen Hill after many years of dedicated service as Agency Manager for the Little Falls Library, in Bethesda. Before Little

Falls, Ken worked in the Prince George's Library system.

Angelisa Hawes, who had been our Agency Manager since 2014 – and a great advocate for the Aspen Hill community – is now heading up the White Oak Library. We wish Angelisa much success in her new position and welcome Ken to Aspen Hill – a fantastic community!



*Aspen Hill
Friends of the Library*

folmc.org/aspen-hill

Chris Swan, President

Carol Petzold, Vice President

Eileen Smith, Secretary

Lewis Chabot, Treasurer

Betty Bell, Assistant Treasurer

Judy Tankersley, Membership

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*Library Advisory
Committee*

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/L
ibrary/board/aspenhillac.html

Elliot Chabot, Chairman

Althea Grey-McKenzie, Secretary

SUMMER PROGRAMS

ONGOING PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

TUESDAY TALES

These children's programs are at 11:00 am, from July 18th thru August 15th, in the New Children's Program Room. There'll be songs, stories and music for children up to five years old and their adults. Kids are welcome to stay and play in the new room, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

NEW! CREATIVE PLAY

Starting July 20th, from 11am to 12 noon, Pre-schoolers and their adults are welcome to enjoy the new Children's Program Room. Just drop-by and enjoy!

July 19 to August 9 – GRANDREADERS

For kids from kindergarten to first grade, who would like to practice reading with a grandparent or two. Stop by the New Children's Room from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. Sponsored by Interages of Montgomery County.



SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

July 15 – KESHIUS WILLIAMS with Stories and Music

Starting off this year's summer reading program at Aspen Hill, Keshius will tell stories and have sing-a-longs. Everyone is welcome at 2 pm, in the Downstairs Community Room.

July 19 and August 2 – MAKE A RECYCLED READING BUDDY

For kids from kindergarten to 5th Grade, attend and create your own living reading buddy! Supplies are provided, but space is limited! Registration is required. Presented in the Downstairs Community Room. **Sponsored by the Aspen Hill Friends.**

July 24 SPOONMAN

Come and enjoy outrageous impersonations, and see what you can do with spoons, at 5 pm, in the Downstairs Community Room. **Sponsored by the Aspen Hill Friends.**

July 26 – CREATIVE KIDS DRAMA AND LITERATURE

For children in grades 3 to 5, from 5:00 pm, enjoy the drama of fun and great literature. Space is limited, and registration is required. Presented in the Downstairs Community Room. **Sponsored by the Aspen Hill Friends.**

July 26 – Cook with Books

For kids from kindergarten to second grade, who will have fun learning about cooking with books. Registration is required, as space is limited. In the Downstairs Community Room at 6:00 pm. **Sponsored by the Aspen Hill Friends.**

July 29 UNDER THE SEA

Come and learn about life in our oceans and visit with LIVE sea animals. In the Downstairs Community Room at 2 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Knitting and Crocheting Club at Aspen Hill

by Betty Bell



The Knitting and Crocheting Club at the Aspen Hill Library got started around 5 years ago, when then Adult Services Librarian, Beth Chandler, asked Aleen Chabot if she would be willing to lead a knitting club at the Library. As an original Library Friend, an expert knitter, and a teacher, she happily agreed. The first meeting was in September 2012 with 7 adults and 7 kids in attendance. The club first met once a month, but by popular demand, meetings soon changed to twice a month, and expanded to include crocheting.

Over time many folks have joined this group, not only to learn to knit or crochet, but for the pleasure of getting together and visiting while working on projects. Many of the group also often knit or crochet hats, scarves, mittens, baby blankets and other projects, at the request of community groups, who supply the items to those in need.



This year, when the Aspen Hill Library closed for our refresh, the Club moved to the Olney Library. We have been pleased to have many folks from the Olney community join us, and to grow our Club and its fun. Now that we will be moving back to the Aspen Hill Library, the Olney Library community is planning their own Knitting and Crocheting Club. They will meet on different days, so that folks from Aspen Hill and from Olney will be able to be involved with both groups, as time and desire permit.



All that you need, to be part of this club, is the desire to learn to knit or crochet, or just to have the company of people who enjoy doing these hand crafts. We are so fortunate to have Aleen, as part of our group, who has the ability to teach anyone to knit regardless of age. Others in the group who crochet and knit will always help you get started or solve problems! Many new friendships have been formed from getting together at our Knitting and Crocheting Club.

We meet on Fridays, from 3 pm to 4:30 pm. Our July meetings will be at the Olney Library. We are planning to be back at Aspen Hill for the August meeting.

For more information on the club, please contact the Aspen Hill Library.

Annual Meeting in August? Saturday August 26 @ 1:30 pm

Every year, we hold our annual Friends of the Aspen Hill Library General Membership Annual meeting in the Spring, usually in April or May. This year, the Aspen Hill Library was closed for its refresh during April and May, and during June as well. What to do? We needed a date when we were sure the Library would be open – so the Board picked **Saturday August 26**. We'll start at 1:30 p.m. Please join us!

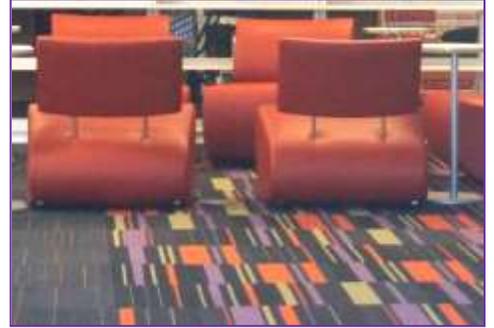
Please mark the date and time on your calendar. In honor of the Aspen Hill Library's 50th anniversary year, we hope to kick off our new **History of Aspen Hill Series** at the meeting. We plan to have a speaker who will take us back to the days when Aspen Hill was farms and woodlands. Join us on the 26th in the downstairs community room for the Annual Meeting, light refreshments, and a speaker!

Aspen Hill Library Refresh and Re-opening

(continued from page 1)

New Carpeting! New Furniture!

There is new carpeting through the upstairs. The children's room has new furniture throughout. The adult section has new chairs and the shelves have had a facelift. The study rooms have been reconfigured. In the back, what was the media room (and before that, it was the reference room) is now a new children's programming room – but, separate from the children's room.



Bathrooms on the Opposite Sides

Downstairs we have brand new bathrooms. BUT BE CAREFULL – the locations of the women's room and the men's room have been switched! In the downstairs community room, the carpet has been replaced with new flooring and a large screen monitor has been installed. A coffee machine has also been installed in downstairs.

Behind the Scenes Changes

The kitchen in the staff area has been renovated, including brand new appliances. The County did not have any funds for this, so the Aspen Hill Friends underwrote the cost. One other behind-the-scenes item is asbestos. Asbestos was discovered in the staff area during one of the early stages of the refresh. That problem has been remediated and should not be a hazard to staff or patrons.

New Lighting

One change that you should be seeing throughout the Library is new lighting. This was one of the very last features installed as part of the refresh and is something that the Aspen Hill community (and the Library staff) has been advocating for years. Gone is the deteriorating, dingy lighting in the Library. You spoke and the County Government heard!

Come join us on Saturday, July 15, at 10 am for the official unveiling. The Aspen Hill Library is back in business! The first children's program starts at 2:00, Keshius Williams telling stories and leading sing-alongs.



26th Aspen Hill Community Festival

The Aspen Hill Community Festival is coming back to the Aspen Hill Library on Saturday, **September 16**. Mark it on your calendar for a great time for the family. We also need volunteers to help plan and carry out this event. Please help us out and get in touch at aspenhill@folmc.org. We want to make this our best Aspen Hill Community festival yet!

☑ Candidates Forums ☒

2018 is an election year! We will elect the entire state government, including the Governor and the entire State Legislature. We will also elect the entire County Government, including the County Executive and the entire County Council. We'll also elect judges, the County Sheriff, the States' Attorney, Register of Wills, the Clerk of the Court, and half of the County School Board.



The Friends of the Aspen Hill Library, Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee, Aspen Hill Civic Association and other organizations throughout our community will be co-sponsoring a series of candidates' forums between now and the November 2018 elections

We plan to hold candidates forums at the Aspen Hill Library before next year's June 26th primary for County Executive, County Council, and Maryland State Legislature. We might even throw in a forum for U.S. House of Representatives. In the fall, we're planning to have a candidates' forum for the School Board candidates.

Once dates and times are set, we'll post the information in the Library and on the Aspen Hill Friends website at <https://www.folmc.org/aspen-hill>.

ASPEN HILL GARDEN CLUB & THE LIBRARY GARDENS



Since 1991, the Aspen Hill Garden Club has maintained the gardens in front of the Aspen Hill Library. The Garden Club (which also functions as the Landscape Committee for the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee) also worked closely with the County Department of Environmental Protection with its 2011 installation of the bio-retention pond on the Aspen Hill Road side of the Library.

During the recent library refresh, the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee asked the Garden Club to develop recommendations to the County Department of Public Libraries and the County Department of General Services on outdoor

areas on the Library property. The Garden Club recommended:

- Add 2 benches (1 near the front door and 1 by the garden by the front steps to the Library)
- Replace the dying crepe myrtle next to the front door with a new crepe myrtle
- Augment, aerate, and enhance the soil of the existing gardens
- Plant *pachysandra* on the slope below the path to the new book drop and plant *liriope muscari* and possibly *hosta* above the path.
- Plant specific trees and ground cover in and around the newly rebuilt handicapped parking area.
- Test and, if necessary, repair the water spigots around the building.



The Aspen Hill Friends and the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee are working with the Garden Club to get these recommendations implemented.

Book Depot coming back soon!

The Book Depot – the Aspen Hill Friends’ year-round book sale – will be returning to the Aspen Hill Library soon. We’re working out the details with the library administration, but we hope to have it operational shortly.



FALL BOOK SALE OCTOBER 28



10 AM TO 4 PM

Here’s another save-the-date! Saturday October 28 is the date that we expect to hold our welcome-back Book Sale at the Aspen Hill Library. *We need you there, because someone needs to buy these fantastic bargains!* We also need your donations of books! Our book sales and the Book Depot are the primary way the Aspen Hill Friends raise money to underwrite the children’s summer reading program, and assorted equipment, supplies, programs and events at the Aspen Hill Library.

Mid-County Citizen’s Advisory Board Award

Chris Swan, who has served as president of the Friends of the Aspen Hill Library for over a decade, was named Citizen of the Year by the Mid-County Citizen’s Advisory Board at the annual awards dinner of the Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce on April 26. In addition to her work as president of the Aspen Hill Friends and as a member of the Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee, Chris is also newsletter editor for the Strathmore Bel Pre Civic Association, has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Bel Pre Recreational Association, and now serves as the Recreational Association’s Recreation & Entertainment Committee chairman. Congrats to Chris!



50 Years of Aspen Hill Library Anniversary Celebration!

We Need Your Stories!!

The Aspen Hill Library is 50 years old this year! We want to preserve some of those 50 years of memories **and we need your help.**

We are going to try to put together a memory book in honor of the Aspen Hill Library’s first 50 years. Please share with us a story or memory of the Aspen Hill Library. It doesn’t have to be a long piece (but it can be) – a vignette will do. Send your recollections and experiences of our Library to aspenhill@folmc.org, and we’ll do the rest.



But what’s a 50th anniversary without a party? Don’t find out! Instead, **mark Saturday, October 7 on your calendar**, and starting at 10 am, we’ll celebrate this incredible community milestone!