

# friends

HELPING  
LIBRARIES REACH  
NEW HEIGHTS

Friends of the Library, Montgomery County • www.folmc.org



## The New FOLMC.org

On July 15, FOLMC unveiled its newly redesigned website, www.folmc.org. Visit the site on your computer, phone, or tablet, and check out our new design! The pages are easier to navigate and they look great on your mobile device.

made possible by a generous grant from  
Citizens Council of Montgomery County.

## Annual Membership Meeting

November 4, 7:30 p.m.  
Rockville Memorial Library

What does it mean to be a Friend of the Library, and what do your membership gifts and donations support? Mark your calendar and join us to meet FOLMC staff, board members, and fellow FOL members and learn more about what our organization has planned for the next year. We will review the past year's accomplishments and discuss the organization's goals for the future. If you're a new member or if you want to reconnect with us, the annual membership meeting is the perfect opportunity to do so. This is your chance to ask questions, make suggestions, and learn more about how we give back to Montgomery County.

Enjoy light desserts and a discussion about how FOLMC works collaboratively with the Montgomery County Library Board. No need to RSVP, just meet us at the library.



## Upcoming Events

This calendar represents only the events that FOLMC and its chapters have funded.

For a full calendar of library activities, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/).

**THURSDAYS, 10:30 A.M.**  
Chevy Chase: STEM Open Play

**FRIDAYS, 3:30 P.M.**  
Chevy Chase: LEGO Play

### SEPTEMBER

- 12 10 a.m., Potomac: Book Sale
- 12 10 a.m., Germantown: Book Sale
- 12 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Foreign Film Screening
- 15 7 p.m., Bethesda: Classics in Context Book Discussion
- 18 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Jefferson Cafe Article Discussion
- 19 10 a.m., Praisner: Book Sale
- 30 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Fiction, Memoir, Biography Book Discussion
- 30, 7 p.m., Kensington Park: Author talk with Leslie Maitland

### OCTOBER

- 8 11:30 a.m., Strathmore Mansion: John Feinstein Literary Luncheon
- 10 9 a.m., Rockville Best Western Hotel: F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival
- 10 10 a.m., Potomac: Book Sale
- 10 10 a.m., Germantown: Book Sale
- 10 10 a.m., Chevy Chase: Captain All Star Show
- 17 10 a.m., Praisner: Book Sale
- 20 7 p.m., Bethesda: Classics in Context Book Discussion
- 21 7 p.m., Kensington Park: Author talk with Dorothy Pugh and Karen Lottes
- 28 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Fiction, Memoir, Biography Book Discussion

## Officers

Ellen L. Berman, *President*  
Carol W. Leahy, *Vice President*  
Tom Thomson, *Secretary*  
Larry Friend, *Treasurer*

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# From the Executive Director and President of the Board of Trustees

*Ellen L. Berman and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW*

Each time we visit the FOLMC bookstores in Rockville and Wheaton, we are struck by the dedication and hard work of our long-term volunteers. Whether they are sorting books, assisting customers, or tending to the many tasks that keep the bookstores running smoothly, our volunteers make it possible for FOLMC to raise funds for the community. Our office volunteers and chapter leaders give back to the community by bringing services and programs to residents all across Montgomery County. The next time you attend a book sale at your local library branch, talk to the volunteers who work at the sales about the programs and services that their work funds. You'll be amazed to learn about the various projects and activities carried out by these devoted volunteers.

Our Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of working and retired professionals who have a passion for Montgomery County Public Libraries. They provide guidance, leadership, oversight, and extra pairs of hands to our small staff on a wide variety of projects.

Ever wonder how you can support libraries and meet other people who love them? FOLMC is currently seeking volunteers for its parent organization and its 17 chapter affiliates. There are many positions available, including leadership opportunities. You can serve on the FOLMC Board of Trustees, help run local book sales at your branch, or volunteer in our two used bookstores. We are currently looking for new board members with skills in fundraising, finance, human resources, and marketing. Give back to libraries that have given so much to you. Visit [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) or contact [staff@folmc.org](mailto:staff@folmc.org) for more information.



## Check It Out: Long Branch Digital Media Lab

*Check It Out* features a program, event, or project that your membership gifts, donations, and book purchases funded for MCPL.

Have you ever wanted to make a video with a green screen, play with the latest graphic design software, or simply learn how to take a selfie? In May 2014, FOLMC provided partial funding for Studio i, the Digital Media Lab at Long Branch, a 21st-century creative space for teens and other library patrons. Use Studio i's handheld video camera to shoot a scene in the green screen room, edit video on the latest version of iMovie software, amp up the background with a soundtrack in Garage Band, and add visual effects with Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator on one of the iMac desktop computers. Studio i has the latest versions of Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator, as well as Apple's iMovie, Garage Band, and iPhoto, on several iMacs, Macbook Pro laptops, and iPad Air tablets.

Studio i is a safe space in the Long Branch area where teens can go after school to express themselves and build something creatively. FOLMC is dedicated to funding programs and spaces for kids and teens in libraries, and Studio i has been a remarkable success in the Long Branch community thanks to your donations and book purchases.



## Board Spotlight Carolee Noury



I have loved to read for as long as I can remember, which means libraries top my list of favorite places. One of the best feelings is walking in and seeing all the books just waiting to be checked out. I have been known to trail through the FOLMC bookstore in Rockville delighted by the affordable and extensive selection, which is also how I discovered the organization. I decided to join the board because I value the County library system and all it offers—for me, books that aren't the easiest to find elsewhere, with the incredible assortment for readers of all ages and dependable resources that libraries provide. It's an honor to serve with others who are dedicated to supporting our libraries and, by extension, our communities.

I grew up in Windsor, NY, a small town in the southern part of the state. My favorite high school class was Creative Writing, which factored into my

decision to begin a teen writing group at my home library, the Kensington Park branch. At Kensington Park, I've had the opportunity to work with our terrific library staff. I'm particularly fond of their excellent book recommendations.

I'm a freelance writer and a board member of the Maryland Writers' Association. Previously, I worked in the mental health field in a variety of settings. In my free time, I write for fun, visit local parks with my family, and read—my interests are widely varied, but young adult fantasy is a large chunk of my to-be-read pile. I relish the adventure coupled with that time in life when characters are discovering who they are and what's important to them. Historical fiction ranks up there, too, with its combination of entertainment and education.

# Call for Nominees: Charles W. Gilchrist Award



Do you know a volunteer who has made a positive difference for libraries in Montgomery County this year? The Charles W. Gilchrist award is given in memory of former Montgomery County Executive Charles W. Gilchrist, who sought to encourage community participation in Montgomery County. It is presented to an individual, family, family foundation, corporation, or civic group that has demonstrated exceptional service to Montgomery County Libraries through volunteer and/or philanthropic support. FOLMC presents the award to the winner at the Library After Dark fundraising event held during National Library Week in April. The Gilchrist Award winner is chosen by a committee of library staff, supporters, and advocates, including the MCPL director, an FOLMC board member, a Montgomery County Library Board member, and a past award winner. The submission deadline for the award is November 30, 2015.

Congratulations to the 2015 Gilchrist Award winner, the Silver Spring chapter of FOLMC. The chapter demonstrated incredible dedication to its newly built and recently opened branch by raising more than \$250,000 for a new Early Literacy Center, Connection Corner, and Digital Innovation Lab. Past winners include United for Libraries President-Elect Susan Schmidt and Twinbrook Library volunteer Dave Scalzi.

If you know someone who has made a contribution to the MCPL system this year, visit our website at [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) or contact [staff@folmc.org](mailto:staff@folmc.org) for submission information.

## From the Stacks

### New Initiatives at the Bookstores

Fall is a busy season at our bookstore, and we have some new initiatives and changes to announce. Our Rockville location is now issuing email alerts when fresh comics are shelved. If you'd like to join this notification list, send an email to [bookstores@folmc.org](mailto:bookstores@folmc.org). This comes on the heels of our successful 4th of July comic book sidewalk sale during which we sold more than 2,000 comics. We appreciate the interest and response from the comic lovers in our community!

We have also made a change to the bookstore donation guidelines. As of July 20, we are no longer accepting audio cassette tapes for donation due to lack of sales. Goodwill Industries, including the storefront that neighbors the Rockville bookstore in the Randolph Hills Shopping Center, does still accept them.

Finally, we have ramped up our online offerings. We currently have more than 400 volumes for sale through the Amazon Marketplace, with more titles being added every week. Visit the bookstore page on our website ([www.folmc.org/bookstores](http://www.folmc.org/bookstores)) for a link to our Amazon store, and stay in touch by following us on social media @folmc and [www.facebook.com/folmc](http://www.facebook.com/folmc).

# From the Library Director

*Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director*



On September 24, County Executive Isiah Leggett will convene his second summit on the Library of the Future. The summit will provide an opportunity for energizing conversations with neighbors, County and State officials, and other stakeholders; and an occasion to celebrate visions and ideas for new and different perspectives about big questions as we plan and work together to ensure Montgomery County Public Libraries maintains its place in the forefront of library systems nationwide.

Recognizing the strength of having new and diverse voices at the table, Mr. Leggett has issued invitations to more than 1,000 individuals. Representing the many residential, ethnic, business and educational communities of Montgomery County, the participants will come together to engage in conversations that will help shape MCPL's strategic priorities and support the County Executive's policy initiatives which include: Responsive Service Delivery; Preparing Children to Learn and Live; and Ensuring Vital Living for All of Our Residents.

This day-long summit will provide an opportunity for Mr. Leggett and key library staff to learn what MCPL customers and County residents want from the public library and for residents to hear from an expert in the field, Susan Benton, president and CEO of the Urban Libraries Council. Participants will be able to engage in group discussions in person at the Silver Spring Civic Building (the hub for the summit); join virtually from Gaithersburg Library; or connect through social media using #MCPLFuture.

During the month of September leading up to the summit, MCPL will focus on gathering input from other residents through "man on the street" interviews and discussion sessions at Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools and the Gilchrist Center. Customers visiting local branches can also provide feedback, and on September 22 residents can ask questions and share ideas through "Live Discussion with the County Executive," his regularly scheduled online chat.

I hope you will be able to join this important conversation and help us create the Library of the Future. Every voice matters!

## Joint Advocacy Meeting November 18, 6:30 p.m., Rockville Memorial Library

Every year, FOLMC members work with the Montgomery County Library Board (MCLB) and Library Advisory Committees (LACs) to advocate for MCPL by testifying at public hearings, attending meetings with County officials, and ensuring that libraries receive the funding they need to provide essential services to County residents. If you're interested in getting involved with library advocacy, please join us, the MCLB, and the LACs for our annual joint advocacy meeting on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Rockville Memorial Library.

The evening will begin with a light dinner reception and an opportunity to mingle with County Council members and other County officials. Library Director Parker Hamilton will give the State of the Library Executive Address following the reception, then FOLMC and MCLB leaders will lead a brief discussion about next steps in library advocacy for the year.

If you are interested in learning more about our advocacy efforts, don't miss the joint advocacy meeting! Please RSVP by emailing [staff@folmc.org](mailto:staff@folmc.org).

## FOLMC CHAPTERS

### Aspen Hill

4407 Aspen Hill Road  
Rockville, MD 20853  
President: Chris Swan  
aspenhill@folmc.org

### Bethesda

7400 Arlington Road  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
Co-chairs: Sarah Fleischer &  
Joan Greenbaum  
bethesda@folmc.org

### Chevy Chase

8005 Connecticut Avenue  
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President: Steve Schmal  
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### Germantown

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President: Robert Fuss  
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### Kensington Park

4201 Knowles Avenue  
Kensington, MD 20895  
President: Liz Brennan  
kensingtonpark@folmc.org

### Little Falls

5501 Massachusetts Avenue  
Bethesda, MD 20816  
President: Jane Snyder  
littlefalls@folmc.org

## Chapter Spotlights

### KENSINGTON PARK

*President: Liz Brennan*

The Kensington Park chapter of FOLMC has had a busy and exciting year so far, thanks to the increased support of our members. We have been hosting monthly local author talks throughout the year, and we have an exciting lineup planned for the fall. Our past authors include Carl Hoffman, author of *Savage Harvest*; organization expert Marcie Lovett; historical romance author Emily Greenwood; and Barbara Glickman, author of *Maryland's Public Parks and Gardens*.

Our fall author series includes investigative reporters Leslie Maitlan, Dorothy Pugh & Karen Lottes, and local cook Jonathan Bardzik. For more information on dates, visit the FOLMC calendar of events at [www.folmc.org/events-calendar](http://www.folmc.org/events-calendar), or check the front page of this newsletter.

In April, we participated in the Kensington Day of the Book festival, with more than 50 authors and 100,000 attendees! It was a great success for the Kensington community and for our chapter, as well.

We have also started sharing "Reading Rave" book reviews written by our members and recommendations from area book clubs in our monthly newsletter. To become a member of the Kensington Park chapter, contact [kensingtonpark@folmc.org](mailto:kensingtonpark@folmc.org) or visit the FOLMC website.



# Chapter Spotlights

## GAITHERSBURG

*President: Patrick McGinn*

The beautiful new Gaithersburg library branch reopened in January 2014 after a long closure, and it is now one of the most used branches in the library system. After a brief hiatus while the branch was closed, the Gaithersburg chapter of FOLMC is looking for new volunteers to help revitalize our chapter. We are a small group of book lovers who hold ongoing book sales in the Gaithersburg branch, and the proceeds benefit projects for our library. We are looking for energetic board members to assist in governing our chapter and building our membership base. Does this sound like you or someone you know? If you love the Gaithersburg library and want to give back to your community, email us at [gaithersburg@folmc.org](mailto:gaithersburg@folmc.org).



## Chapter Book Sales

For a full list of book sales in library branches, visit the MCPL website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/about/bookdonations.html>

## FOLMC CHAPTERS

### Olney

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Olney, MD 20832

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### Potomac

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President: Edythe Wingate  
[potomac@folmc.org](mailto:potomac@folmc.org)

### Marilyn J. Praisner

14910 Old Columbia Pike  
Burtonsville, MD 20866

Co-chairs: Vicky Taheri & Nora Siegel  
[praisner@folmc.org](mailto:praisner@folmc.org)

### Quince Orchard

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### Rockville

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 100  
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### Silver Spring

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President: Becky Reeve  
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### Twinbrook

202 Meadow Hall Drive  
Rockville, MD 20851

President: Elaine Joselovitz  
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### White Oak

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President: Frank Altrichter  
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## LOCATIONS

### **ROCKVILLE BOOKSTORE**

Randolph Hills Shopping Center  
4886 Boiling Brook Parkway  
Rockville, MD // 301-984-3300

### **WHEATON BOOKSTORE**

Wheaton Library Lower Level  
11701 Georgia Avenue  
Wheaton, MD // 301-933-1110

**GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED**

