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NEW HEIGHTS

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First Annual Library After Dark Card Catalog to the Cloud



On April 18, the Rockville Memorial Library's doors will stay open after hours for you to celebrate National Library Week with FOLMC. Our first annual Library After Dark fundraiser starts at 7:30 p.m., and we want to see you there!

This year we are celebrating libraries' transition into the 21st century with the theme "Card Catalog to the Cloud." You know that Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) is more than a place to find your next favorite book. MCPL has made a strong commitment to new technology through programs, classes, in-branch resources, and the All Children Excel (ACE) initiatives.

The event will feature a wine tasting with local wines, performances by Adventure Theatre MTC and Mariposa Poetry, hors d'oeuvres, a dessert bar, and the presentation of two awards to an outstanding library professional and an excellent volunteer. We are also featuring a raffle of unique experiences with local authors. Each admission ticket (\$75 per person) includes three raffle tickets, and additional tickets will be available for purchase at the event.

Library staff make Montgomery County Public Libraries the special, vibrant community learning spaces that we love to visit. Whether they are leading an interactive story hour, managing the library system's collections, or recommending a new book for you to read, library professionals provide customer service, programs, and other services to everyone in the community. We are proud to honor children's librarian Amy Alapati as the first Library Professional of the Year at Library After Dark, an individual who has provided exemplary and visionary service to the MCPL system.

We will also present the Charles W. Gilchrist Award to our Silver Spring chapter, whose amazing fundraising efforts will greatly benefit the new Silver Spring branch.

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Tickets for Library After Dark are available at www.folmc.org or by calling our office at (240) 777-0020. Sponsorships opportunities available.

Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 14 Germantown chapter book sale
- 19 Literary Luncheon with Kathryn O'Sullivan
- 25 Ledo Pizza River Road Dine In Fundraiser

APRIL

- 2 Potomac chapter Great Decisions lecture series
- 11 Germantown chapter book sale
- 16 Literary Luncheon with Jeffery Deaver
- 16 Hollywood East Cafe Dine In Fundraiser
- 18 1st Annual Library After Dark
- 25 Aspen Hill chapter Library Meeting Day
- 25 Davis chapter Cantare program

MAY

- 7 Potomac chapter Great Decisions lecture series
- 9 Germantown chapter book sale
- 9 Davis chapter, Mark Jaster The Maestro program

Special thanks to our Library After Dark sponsors



Dr. David and Mrs. Carla Satinsky • Mr. and Mrs. Dennis and Diane Horn
The Law Offices of Shu-Ping Chan



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From the Library Director

Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director



In the FOLMC 2014 winter newsletter, I wrote about the strategies MCPL has developed to foster our mission of “offering free and equal access to services and resources that connect the people of Montgomery County to ideas and information which sustain and enrich their lives.” Guided by our vision to support, encourage and inspire our customers, we have employed these tools to get to know the residents of Montgomery County by assessing their needs and interests.

During these assessments, we learned that many residents wish to have materials in their first languages for recreational and educational reading and to share their heritages with their children. Since 1986, when MCPL first began purchasing adult and children’s books and periodicals in certain world languages, the makeup of the County’s population has changed significantly, and-- it is now majority minority.

Over the years, MCPL has introduced materials in eight different languages: Amharic, Chinese, Farsi, French, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Vietnamese. These languages represent the largest linguistic groups of new immigrants in the County as determined by data from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, Maryland- National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and Montgomery County Public Schools.

Location of these world language collections and the addition of any new language collections are determined by a review of

1. the most current census demographic information;
2. the percentage of the speaker population in the community;
3. the level of participation in County English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) programs and related programs for immigrants; and
4. a pattern of expressed demand, including individual requests from groups, ESOL teachers, and programs, and branches.

Check out our website, www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/collection/languages, for the location(s) of specific world language collections.

No matter what the language, reading is fun!



From the Executive Director and President of the Board of Trustees

Ellen L. Berman and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

At FOLMC, we talk a great deal about what we can help provide libraries so they can be responsive to the diverse needs of county residents and be relevant community institutions in the 21st century. The grants committee of our Board of Trustees works with the library department to identify funding opportunities for projects and programs that will enhance the library experience for library patrons and employees. Approving grants to fund programs that motivate children to read, train library employees in the latest technology, or pilot new media (e.g. VHS, DVD, online streaming videos) gives board members a great sense of satisfaction. Our 17 FOL chapters also work closely with their respective agency managers to offer unique programs at the branches, enhance library facilities and celebrate our cultural diversity by bringing the community together. Collectively, we add great value to the library system through dollars raised and volunteer hours donated. As you can see, libraries need community support, and most of all they need you. Please consider joining us as a member or as a volunteer today.



From the Stacks



Twice Told Tale

FOLMC is gearing up for its second annual Twice Told Tale Live Auction to be held on Saturday, June 6 in the Wheaton bookstore. A free, open preview will take place Friday, June 5 with auction items on display.

A full catalog of items will be available online and at each of our bookstores in the spring. FOLMC bookstore staff are working diligently to identify the rare and unusual items amongst the thousands of titles we receive daily. We will auction off signed copies of works by Ralph Steadman, Andy Warhol, Raymond Pettibon, and many other artists and authors. We also recently received a beautifully illustrated early American copy of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland that's sure to make any collector's day.

Wheaton Bookstore Manager Keith Fleeman is ready to rouse bidders again as our lively auctioneer. We look forward to a festive atmosphere celebrating our love of books. For more details, visit our website at, www.folmc.org.



Dine with FOLMC



MARCH 25 Ledo Pizza, 5245 River Road Bethesda
APRIL 16 Hollywood East Cafe, 11160 Veirs Mill Road, Wheaton

If you and your family love pizza or Chinese food and you need an excuse to go out, look no further. Thanks to the generosity of Ledo Pizza in Bethesda and Hollywood East Cafe in Westfield Shoppingtown Wheaton, you can enjoy a delicious, easy dinner and support FOLMC at the same time!

The River Road Ledo Pizza will donate 20% of all dine-in proceeds on Wednesday, March 25 to support FOLMC. If you don't have time to stay, let the staff know that you're with FOLMC when you pick up your carryout order.

Hollywood East Cafe will donate 15% of all proceeds on Thursday, April 16. Just tell the staff that you're with FOLMC when you place your order, and they will credit your purchase to us.

Our staff will be at both restaurants those evenings, so bring your family and come say "hello."



Board Spotlight Dennis Horn

Dennis Horn is one of FOLMC's newer board members, having joined the board in 2014 after several years of visiting the Little Falls Library. His passion for community service was kindled as a young man when he earned his Eagle Scout rank. He is involved in Christmas in April, the Best Buddies Bike-a-Thon, and many other community organizations.

Dennis participated in the "Mobile Device Basics" class at Little Falls, where a young student at a nearby middle school taught him how to download an ebook from the library's Overdrive system. He reflected on the experience, saying, "Someday someone may ask that kid to volunteer for a county board or run for Congress. If he says 'yes,' the library will have had a role in shaping his

character." At that moment, Dennis saw the far-reaching impact libraries have on his community and he decided to become more involved in supporting them.

He is a partner with Holland and Knight, a commercial litigation firm based in Washington, DC, and is the co-chair of the firm's DC practice group. His specialty is real estate law, and he regularly publishes magazine articles and book chapters on the subject.

History, biography, fantasy, and thrillers all have a place on Dennis's reading list, and he is currently reading his way through World War II. When not reading, and he enjoys cycling and gardening. Dennis and his wife, Diane, live in the town of Somerset.

Check it Out: Summer Reading

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

Summer is just around the corner, and FOLMC staff members are dusting off our flip flops and getting ready for summer reading. In 2014, your donations and book purchases fought the summer slide and encouraged 12,500 kids to read more than 70,000 books! FOLMC and our chapters sponsor programs, prizes, and decorations for kids at every branch throughout the summer to keep them learning while they're out of school. We've been funding MCPL's summer reading programs every summer for more than 25 years, so the library branches can bring in professional performers, STEAM-focused activities, and story hours to engage children. Visit our bookstores later this spring to purchase this year's summer reading t-shirts.

Without your membership gifts and visits to our bookstores, we would not be able to provide quality summer learning opportunities for kids in Montgomery County.

Thanks for your continued support!



Like FOLMC on Facebook!

If you want to keep up with our book sales, events, and cute animals we find on the internet, follow FOLMC on Facebook! It's the first place we post information about special sales at our bookstores, tickets to our events, and whatever is making us happy that week. It's also a great place to give us feedback and start a conversation. Find us at www.facebook.com/folmc, and don't forget to "like" us.



First Annual Library After Dark, continued

We received many nominations of candidates who serve the library in different capacities, and FOLMC and MCPL are fortunate to have the support of dedicated volunteers.

Tickets for Library After Dark are available through our website, www.folmc.org or by calling our office at (240) 777-0020. Sponsorships for this event are still available, as well. Library After Dark is a unique opportunity for your business to reach a large audience and support your community. Please call our office if you'd like to help sponsor the event. We look forward to seeing you there!



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Little Falls

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littlefalls@folmc.org

Chapter Spotlights

ASPEN HILL

President: Chris Swan

Come join the Aspen Hill chapter of Friends of the Library on Saturday, April 25 for Library Meeting Day! The Aspen Hill Library Advisory Committee meets at 10:00 a.m., followed by the Aspen Hill FOL's annual meeting at 11:00 am and lunch at noon. Enjoy a delicious boxed luncheon and an excellent luncheon speaker. Past speakers have included Washington Post columnist John Kelly, Allan Stypeck of Second Story Books, and Montgomery County authors Annette Klause and Bill Hammond.

The public is welcome to attend any or all of these Library Meeting Day activities. Aspen Hill chapter members enjoy their boxed lunches for \$7.00, and non-members pay \$12.00. Contact our chapter at aspenhill@folmc.org for this year's speaker and to reserve your lunch. It's sure to be informative, entertaining, and fun!

We will hold our spring book sale on Saturday, June 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will have an excellent selection of fiction and nonfiction titles for your summer and vacation reading. Books are sorted into more than 30 categories and priced to sell. We have history, memoirs, kids' books, classics, espionage, crafts, do-it-yourself, and books in more than 10 foreign languages. Proceeds from the book sale benefit the Aspen Hill Library.

Our meetings are open to all who would like to support the Aspen Hill library branch. Please contact aspenhill@folmc.org for information about our meeting dates, membership, and our programs.



Chapter Spotlights

DAVIS

President: Robert Owen

The Davis chapter of Friends of the Library had another successful year in 2014, with about 130 dues-paying members, a dozen or so board and committee members, and many volunteers who work daily on our honor-system book sales. Led by Karen Braun and Helen Stern, our book sales force handles hundreds of books each month, sorting and categorizing, pricing, marketing, arranging topical displays, and monitoring regular sales from carts of special and more valuable books. We also have two large, special sales each year in December and June. These sales provide the chapter with a steady flow of funds with which to supplement the programs and facilities of the Davis Library.

Part of our mission is to provide our library branch with tools and furnishings that make the library a nicer place to visit. We have always provided our children's librarian with supplies for crafts and activities, supported the summer reading program, and paid for landscaping improvements implemented by the local gardeners' club.

Friends of the Library and its chapters primarily provide enhancements to MCPL, but sometimes a need arises that the Montgomery County government is unable to address. In the past year, the Davis chapter purchased a computer table with a "power dome" and two book display carrels for the library floor, a color copier and supplies for staff use, and a new soft chair for the children's reading area. Our biggest expenditure, however, was for the refurbishment of all of the library chairs at a cost of nearly \$16,000. Although they were in poor condition, there was no prospect of their replacement or repair without our help.

On the program side, Howard Braun leads a committee which arranges for eight to 10 library programs throughout the year (music, puppets, animals, science, magicians, speakers), especially for young people, and we are looking to improve our programs for seniors and teens. In addition, we hold a very popular annual Community Day in June with multiple programs and activities, and support an after-school reading program in a local school.

Davis is scheduled for a "refresh" in 2017, and we look forward to assisting in that effort. The Davis chapter's board and members meet monthly, usually on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m., and all are invited to join us. For more information, to volunteer, or to receive agendas in advance, contact us at davis@folmc.org.

FOLMC CHAPTERS

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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

