

# friends

HELPING  
LIBRARIES REACH  
NEW HEIGHTS

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

## Celebrate the Magic of Libraries

On Saturday, April 9, we invite you to join us after hours at the Rockville Memorial Library for our second annual Library After Dark fundraiser. This year we celebrate the theme "The Magic of Libraries" to show how our support of libraries has helped enchant and delight Montgomery County residents for more than 30 years. The event will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will feature the illusions of Magician Peter Wood, an hors d'oeuvre and dessert buffet, wine selection, benefit raffle, and awards ceremony.

We are pleased to announce Honorary Chairs, Thomas and Barbara Harr, both dedicated library supporters and leaders. Mr. Harr, formerly the Library Regional Administrator for Special Services, recently retired as CEO of Family Services, Inc. Mrs. Harr served as the Potomac Branch Manager and MCPL Development Officer. Thank you to the Harrs for their commitment to libraries throughout the years.

This year we are excited to present three awards to highly-deserving recipients at Library After Dark. The Library Professional of the Year Award will be presented to Regina Holyfield-Jewett, Senior Executive Administrative Assistant to Library Director Parker Hamilton. An invaluable asset to the entire MCPL system, Ms. Holyfield-Jewett has demonstrated exceptional customer service and leadership qualities exemplifying the spirit of the award.

*continued on page 6*

### SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2016 LIBRARY AFTER DARK SPONSORS *(as of March 7, 2016)*

Thomas and Barbara Harr | Awo Sarpong Ansu and Kofi Ansu | Gary and Linda Berg-Cross  
Ellen Berman | Creative Associates International | Larry and Joan Friend | Parker Hamilton  
Diane and Dennis Horn | Aileen and Barry Klein | Carol Leahy | James Montgomery  
Janet and Ron Wolfsheimer | Rivka Yerushalmi | United Therapeutics



Tickets for Library After Dark are now available through our website, [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) or by calling our office at (240) 777-0020.

Tickets are \$75 each and all proceeds directly benefit FOLMC in support of MCPL. A special MCPL staff rate is available, please inquire.

## Featured Chapter Events

Visit our website for more upcoming events  
[www.folmc.org/events-calendar](http://www.folmc.org/events-calendar).

### MARCH

- 12 2 p.m., Rockville Memorial: Concert with Barbara Martin
- 13 2 p.m., Bethesda: The Power of the Teen Voice: A Panel of Teen Authors
- 14 10:30 a.m., Little Falls: Language Planet DC – Spanish Story Time
- 26 12 p.m., Potomac: Signs of Spring: American Sign Language
- 26 2 p.m., Quince Orchard: Spring Planting
- 28 6:30 p.m., White Oak: Chesapeake Critters
- 29 10:30 a.m., Bethesda: Journey into Spring with Echoes of Nature
- 29 11 a.m., Germantown: Incredible Insects
- 30 4 p.m., Potomac: Adventures with Raptors

### APRIL

- 2 12 p.m., Davis: Documentary Film Series
- 2 4 p.m., Aspen Hill: Eric Energy
- 9 2 p.m., Twinbrook: Adventures with Raptors
- 9 3 p.m., Quince Orchard: Light Painting Lab!
- 13 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Non Fiction Book Group
- 16 10 a.m., Marilyn J. Praisner: Book Sale
- 19 10:30 a.m., Chevy Chase: Bilingual Story Time with Lupe Marks

## Officers

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

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Clare Jacocks, *Membership & Database Coordinator*  
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Cheryl Peirce, *Operations Coordinator*  
Lance Salins, *Business Coordinator*

## Bookstores

### Managers

Keith Fleeman, *Wheaton*  
Leslie Rich, *Rockville*

### Staff

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| James Annable     | Bruce Hendrickson |
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| Harry Chow        | Mark Protic       |
| Patrick Daugherty | Paul Puebla       |
| Dana Eason        | Rodman Quill      |
| Lisa Goldstein    | Haili You         |

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

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

Thank you to everyone who gave to our 2015 year end campaign for a total of \$11,919. Your donations will help support programs and services that connect Montgomery County residents to valuable library resources. It is clear that you understand just how important libraries are to our community and those who rely on them. Take a look at a few of the notes we've collected from library patrons recently:

*"...I am looking for a job and have received assistance with resources including access to computers. The quiet and comforting environment is very peaceful. Thank you for providing book resources and respite."* D.B.

*"I have used library resources to learn new skills professionally, expose my children to the world of literature, cook new foods,...and attend puppet shows."* R.B.

*"It gives me hours and hours of company, information and knowledge, amusement, ideas, encouragement, resources, and delight. I have lived in countries where there are no public libraries, and that makes a tremendous difference in quality of life!"* P.L.

You are helping make these experiences possible through your donated dollars that pay for children's entertainment and educational programming, new library technology, performing and literary artists for cultural celebrations, and much more. Your combined efforts help create a rich environment for learning, sharing, and building a strong community.

Thank you again for your generous support, especially to those of you who are members and gave extra funds during this special time of year.

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 YEAR END DONORS

|                                  |                                |                             |                            |
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*If you think your name has been omitted in error, please contact us at (240) 777-0020.*

## Check It Out: Discovery Rooms

Have you ever wondered where the bright and colorful child-friendly furniture comes from in your branch's children's area? Or the games, puzzles, and other fun accessories? FOL Chapters generously fund many of the cheery enhancements to children's areas at their branches. Four branches are particularly fortunate to have one-of-a-kind Discovery Rooms which were partially or fully funded by their FOL chapters: Gaithersburg, Germantown, Marilyn J. Praisner, and Quince Orchard.

Discovery Rooms are specifically designed for children ages newborn to eight years to encourage learning through play. Chapters have outfitted them with interactive and fun learning tools for even the youngest of children. Children along with their adult caregivers can reserve the rooms ahead of time or are welcome to drop-in anytime the branch is open and the room is not previously reserved.

If you'd like to be involved with an organization that helps provide invaluable community resources like this, contact your local chapter. Chapters are always looking for engaged and motivated volunteers to support their branch.



*Germantown Library  
Discovery Room*

*Photos courtesy of MCPL.*

## Board Spotlight

### Outgoing Board Members Ellen Berman, Carol Leahy and Aileen Klein

After nearly 30 years of combined service, board members Ellen Berman, Carol Leahy, and Aileen Klein will retire this November. Each member has served three consecutive terms, the maximum allowed by the bylaws. Their vast contributions have had an indelible impact on the organization. We are proud to shine the board spotlight on this trio and showcase their remarkable accomplishments over the past decade.

Berman was introduced to the organization by friend and former board member, Frank Joseph. She has served as president for the past three years and chair of the board development and governance committee. Her accomplishments include refreshing core documents such as the articles of incorporation and bylaws. She also can be credited for helping to streamline operations to prepare for our application for national accreditation.

Leahy, who was recruited by former board president Steve Snapp, has served as vice president for nearly her entire board tenure. She is a well-regarded leader, especially in the arts and humanities community and has made many



connections to help advance our mission and create new partnerships. She has been instrumental in championing libraries to elected officials and recruiting new board members to serve in leadership roles.

Klein broke new ground by creating the chapter liaison committee that mentors chapter affiliates to support branch libraries. She is most proud of her work to reinstate the Twinbrook chapter after a several-year hiatus. She engaged members from the library's surrounding community to educate and inspire volunteer leadership that has resulted in a flourishing group of library supporters today.

FOLMC is grateful for their leadership, valuable insight, professional and personal connections, financial contributions, passion, and intellect that they brought to their roles. Join us in thanking and celebrating their contributions at our annual Library After Dark fundraising event on April 9.

To learn about board leadership opportunities, email Ari Brooks at [abrooks@folmc.org](mailto:abrooks@folmc.org).

# Twice Told Tale

FOLMC is gearing up for our third annual Twice Told Tale Live Auction to be held on Saturday, June 4 at our newly expanded Rockville bookstore. A preview will take place Friday, June 3 with auction items available on display. Our bookstore staff are working diligently to identify the rare and unusual items that are among the thousands of books we receive every day. Some highlights for this year's auction catalog include first editions of William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, and Edith Wharton. Also up for bid will be copies signed by past U.S. presidents and current presidential hopefuls. Rest assured there will also be mystery lots lurking about!

We look forward to a festive atmosphere celebrating our love of books. A full catalog of items will be available online and at the Rockville bookstore later this spring. For more details, visit our website at [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org).



## From the Stacks

FOLMC celebrated the official grand opening of the expanded Rockville bookstore on February 2 to much success. We had record sales including a children's story time, led by an MCPL librarian, and a coloring for all ages station in our new program space. We also hosted an after hours VIP Reception for FOLMC members and the local Randolph Hills Association which brought out board members, volunteers, staff, and our neighbors for a wonderful evening of networking and discovering the new space and its offerings.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our opening events. If you haven't seen the expanded space stop by soon to check it out. We have more than doubled our square footage to offer an even greater selection of all your favorite gently used magazines, music, movies, video games, comics, and of course books! We are also looking forward to hosting regular children's story times in partnership with MCPL and other events in our new program space.

Times are bittersweet at FOLMC as we prepare for the temporary closing of our Wheaton bookstore while the Wheaton library undergoes a complete renovation and is rebuilt and combined with the neighboring recreation center. The current closing date is scheduled for Sunday, March 13. As we prepare for closing, donations can no longer be accepted at the Wheaton bookstore and are now being redirected to the Rockville bookstore. We are pleased to share that the Montgomery County government has offered to provide us with an interim space at the old Silver Spring library during our closure. This is an exciting opportunity to continue our work in a neighboring community that will allow us to welcome new customers who live and work down county and remain convenient to our current customer base.

With so many changes we invite you to stay up-to-date by signing up for our monthly e-newsletter, where we highlight upcoming events and news (email [staff@folmc.org](mailto:staff@folmc.org) to join our email list), and visit our website at [www.folmc.org/bookstores](http://www.folmc.org/bookstores) and click on Bookstore News and Events. As always for the very latest information on bookstore happenings, follow us on twitter and facebook.

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# From the Library Director

Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director



## MCPL is strategically moving forward!

On January 30, 2016, County Executive Isiah Leggett officially reopened the Twinbrook branch of Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL). The branch closed in July 2015 to undergo a refresh, the first under the County Executive's Library Refurbishment Level of Effort Project.

The refresh project model provides a structured process to ensure that library services stay current, and the buildings' infrastructures remain safe and efficient. Work within the projects may include carpeting, painting, reorganizing interior layouts to create more useable space, updating restrooms, upgrading lighting to more energy efficient fixtures, and replacing worn and unusable furniture. Also included is the implementation of service and programming updates based on branch demographics and the evolving roles of libraries such as single service desks, computer labs, digital media labs, collaboration spaces, and emergent literacy areas.

With this new approach, we will complete refurbishments on 17 libraries during the six year Capital Improvements Program period. The refresh of the Kensington Park branch is nearing completion, and work is progressing with the designs for the refresh of Aspen Hill, Davis, and Little Falls branches.

I welcome you to stop by and check out the newly refreshed Twinbrook branch, and keep up to date on all refresh projects via our website ([www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library)).



## An Evening with Nadia Hashimi



FOLMC is thrilled to present An Evening With Nadia Hashimi on May 9. Nadia Hashimi is a pediatrician turned international bestselling author who has published two novels, *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* and *When The Moon Is Low*, with two more releasing in 2016. Dr. Hashimi was born in the United States to Afghan parents who left Afghanistan in the 1970s before the Soviet invasion.

This special event will be hosted at the historic Strathmore Mansion in North Bethesda and will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dr. Hashimi will discuss her life and works, highlighting how Afghan culture and its people are the centerpieces to her novels. Guests will also have an opportunity to meet Dr. Hashimi and have their books personally signed. Copies of her books will be available to purchase on-site. The evening will include catering and refreshments provided by Ridgewells and an opportunity to tour the beautiful art exhibitions in the Strathmore Mansion.

For more information about this event and to purchase tickets see the enclosed flyer or visit our website at [www.folmc.org](http://www.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  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
President: Steve Schmal  
chevychase@folmc.org

### Damascus

9701 Main Street  
Damascus, MD 20872  
President: Earl Patrick  
damascus@folmc.org

### Davis

6400 Democracy Boulevard  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
President: Robert Owen  
davis@folmc.org

### Gaithersburg

18330 Montgomery Village Avenue  
Gaithersburg, MD 20879  
President: Patrick McGinn  
gaithersburg@folmc.org

### Germantown

19840 Century Boulevard  
Germantown, MD 20874  
President: Robert Fuss  
germantown@folmc.org

### 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

### TWINBROOK

*President: Elaine Joselovitz*  
*twinbrook@folmc.org*

Friends of the Library, Twinbrook Chapter was thrilled to help celebrate the Twinbrook library's reopening ribbon cutting ceremony on January 30. The chapter provided refreshments for the well attended ceremony with remarks from County Executive Isiah Leggett and other community leaders. After undergoing renovations for several months, the Twinbrook library has been updated with, among many things, a new layout and technology boasting a new 3D printer and several new computers and laptops. There is a new teen section of books as well as a bigger preschool children's space where the chapter funded the restocking of fresh Legos and other items.

The Twinbrook Chapter is also proud to announce the reopening of their ongoing used book sale featuring an assortment of books, CDs, DVDs, and other affordable materials. The chapter proceeds from this ongoing book sale benefit the Twinbrook library by providing further enhancements.

For more information about the Twinbrook Chapter or to get involved, email [twinbrook@folmc.org](mailto:twinbrook@folmc.org).



*FOL Twinbrook Chapter volunteers: Kathy Deppe, Toby Altman, Elaine Joselovitz, and Brigitta Mullican. Photo Courtesy of Brigitta Mullican*



## Celebrate the Magic of Libraries, continued

The Charles W. Gilchrist Volunteer Award will be presented to the Maryland Writers' Association for their Teen Writing Clubs hosted in several MCPL branches. FOLMC will also present the inaugural Librarians' Choice Award to recognize the literary achievements of an author who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the literary community. The recipient will be announced at the event. Thank you to everyone who submitted nominations; FOLMC and MCPL are fortunate to have the support of dedicated volunteers to support our mission.

Individual and corporate sponsorships for this event are still available. Visit our website or call our office for more information. We look forward to seeing you there!

# Chapter Spotlights

## DAMASCUS

*President: Earl Patrick  
damascus@folmc.org*

At their February meeting, Friends of the Library, Damascus Chapter honored longtime volunteer Nan Norton. She wore many hats for the chapter serving as Board Secretary, Membership Chair, and Newsletter Editor, among others. As she retires, the Damascus Chapter and FOLMC would like to thank her for her outstanding service to the chapter and the library community.



*Damascus Library Branch Manager Jan McHenry, FOL Damascus Treasurer/ Vice President Renee Minnick, Nan Norton, and FOL Damascus President Earl Patrick. Photo courtesy of Jan McHenry.*

The Damascus Chapter sponsored another successful Train Day this past fall. The day included activities for all ages including a children's story time, model train layouts, and a special train-themed lunch.

Stop by the Damascus library this spring for regular events such as Read to a Dog: Wags for Hope--especially geared for beginner readers; and Basic Computer Assistance sessions for adults. The Damascus Chapter proudly sponsors the weekly Construction Crew Lego sessions for children ages newborn through five and the special Spring Break Lego Open Sessions for elementary age children.

For more information about these events and ways to volunteer with the chapter email [damascus@folmc.org](mailto:damascus@folmc.org).



*One of the many fantastic layouts presented by community residents. Photo courtesy of the Damascus Chapter.*

## 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

3500 Olney-Laytonsville Road  
Olney, MD 20832  
President: Salley Shannon  
[olney@folmc.org](mailto:olney@folmc.org)

### Potomac

10101 Glenolden Drive  
Potomac, MD 20854  
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

15831 Quince Orchard Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878  
President: Ed Hsu  
[quinceorchard@folmc.org](mailto:quinceorchard@folmc.org)

### Rockville

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 100  
Rockville, MD 20850  
President: Linda Grabel  
[rockville@folmc.org](mailto:rockville@folmc.org)

### Silver Spring

900 Wayne Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910  
Co-Chairs: Kathlin Smith and  
Harvey Valentine  
[silverspring@folmc.org](mailto:silverspring@folmc.org)

### Twinbrook

202 Meadow Hall Drive  
Rockville, MD 20851  
President: Elaine Joselovitz  
[twinbrook@folmc.org](mailto:twinbrook@folmc.org)

### White Oak

11701 New Hampshire Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
President: Frank Altrichter  
[whiteoak@folmc.org](mailto:whiteoak@folmc.org)





21 Maryland Avenue  
Suite 310  
Rockville, Maryland 20850-2389

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



## A BOOK TO LOVE AT **FRIENDS' BOOKSTORES**

### **ROCKVILLE BOOKSTORE – EXPANDED**

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

### **WHEATON BOOKSTORE – CLOSED 3/13**

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

### **GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED**

## MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIVING

FOLMC receives thoughtful contributions in memory of friends and relatives who have passed away, as well as to celebrate special occasions. The following gifts were received during 2015.

### **In memory of:**

Cynthia and  
Benjamin Burton  
JP Cassagnol  
Allen Cheever  
Edward 'Chris' Christiansen  
Gloria Dillon  
Joseph Fratantoni  
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### **In honor of:**

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Rebecca Strandberg's Clients

*If you think your loved one's name has been omitted in error, please contact us at (240) 777-0020.*

To give a gift in honor or memorial, visit our website [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org) and click the orange DONATE button in the top right corner. When entering your donation information, complete the field for special purposes and dedications. Be sure to include the name of your loved one or honoree so we can send an acknowledgement letter for your gift.