

friends

HELPING
LIBRARIES REACH
NEW HEIGHTS

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



Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 7:30pm
Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave.



Join us at the 6th Annual Library After Dark Gala, the premier library event of the year, as we honor those who help make MCPL a world-class library system.

This year, we are thrilled to announce:

B. Parker Hamilton Recipient: Eric Carzon

Charles W. Gilchrist Recipient: Carol W. Leahy

Cokie and Steve Roberts Award: Dedicated in honor of Cokie Roberts

We love libraries for the wealth of knowledge they provide to all in the community. Many of us are book lovers, but there is so much more to the library than its collection. Infants learn colors and shapes with toys at the early literacy centers, Go!Kits engage school children in STEM programs via tablets, teens learn to code on county computers, and adults can find a sense of community doing yoga, knitting, or learning a new language. Learn more about all that Montgomery County Public Libraries offers *Beyond the Book*.

The event features:

- Silent auction & delicious appetizers, desserts, wine, coffee, and teas,
- Chance to see Rockville Memorial Library after-hours,
- Opportunity to interact with leaders in Montgomery County.

Visit www.folmc.org to purchase tickets and for sponsorship opportunities.

**THANK YOU TO OUR
LIBRARY AFTER DARK SPONSORS**

Publisher	friends OF THE LIBRARY DAVIS CHAPTER
Reviewer	MC Montgomery County PUBLIC LIBRARIES TXTDESIGN
Editor	Gordon & Pamela Saussy
Author	Fitzgerald Auto Malls Parker Hamilton Laura and Ed Rich

Sponsors as of 3/3/2020

FOLMC Chapter Sponsored Events

Visit our website for more upcoming events: www.folmc.org/events-calendar.

MARCH

- ALL MONTH** – Silver Spring: Write to Your Favorite Author
- 18** 4:00PM Potomac: Dreamy Dreamcatchers
- 21** 11:00AM Connie Morella: Science & Stories – All About Hearts
- 28** 11:00AM Silver Spring: Makerspace – Musical Instruments*
- 30** 5:00PM Twinbrook: Coding Club

APRIL

- 4** 1:30PM Potomac: Making Lemonade – Entrepreneurship for Kids
- 4** 1:00PM Silver Spring: 3D Printing & Vinyl Record Adapters*
- 9** 10:30AM Chevy Chase: Handcrafters' Meetup
- 15** 1:00PM Little Falls: Literary Salon – Heading West
- 15** 4:00PM Potomac: Forever Terrariums
- 16** 4:00PM Connie Morella: Board Game Time

MAY

- 1** 3:00PM Aspen Hill: Knitting & Crocheting Club
- 13** 12:00PM Chevy Chase: Gentle Hatha Yoga
- 16** 3:00PM Marilyn J. Praisner: NIH Chamber Singers
- 20** 4:00PM Potomac: DIY Zip Pouches
- 28** 5:30PM Kensington Park: Homework Help
- 30** 11:00AM Connie Morella: Abracadabra Alex

*Just For the Record, A Vinyl Day pre-event

Officers

Tom Thomson, *President*
Fred Evans, *Vice President*
Pamela H. Saussy, *Secretary*
Eric R. Smith, *Treasurer*

Trustees

Lynn Abrahamson	Denise Neary
Awo Sarpong Ansu	Hannah Padilla, CPA
Tom Clark	Laura Rich
Frances M. Frost	Carla Satinsky
Rachel Maleh	Tony Spearman-Leach
James M. Montgomery	Kristen Theiss
Chuck Na	Martin White

Student Representative

Maraki Solomon

Counsel

Dennis M. Horn, Esq.

Office

Ari Z. Brooks, MSW, *Executive Director*
Lysette House, *Deputy Director*
Melly Kitenge, *Office Coordinator*
Lance Salins, *Director of Business Operations*

Bookstores

Managers

Carmen Jackman, *Assistant Manager*
Dan Kelly, *Wheaton Bookstore Manager*
Andrea Nakonechny, *Rockville Bookstore Manager*
Leslie Rich, *Antiquarian Specialist*

Staff

James Annable	Ceilidh Kern
Charlene Blaine	Will LeCorn
Susan Bobst	Paul McGolrick
Guy Brussat	Rodman Quill
Anthony Carter	Tom Skallerup
Claire Center	Patty Walker
Suzanna Dickson	Deb Weiner
Debra Dunn	Haili You
Nessia Ferneau	Grey Zalusky

Laura Rodini, *Editor*

friends of the LIBRARY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD (240) 777-0020
office@folmc.org

arts & humanities
council of montgomery county

FOLMC is supported in part by funding from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

From the President of the Board and the Executive Director

Tom Thomson and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

The Helping Hands Behind Our Libraries

Did you know that steel magnate Andrew Carnegie is behind many of our modern libraries?

Born dirt poor in Scotland, his family emigrated to Pennsylvania, where the ambitious teenager worked multiple jobs in a textile mill and at a telegraph office. There he was introduced to a small private library that a wealthy local, Colonel James Anderson, opened to employees every Saturday.

It made a lasting impression. Juggling jobs by day and studying at night, Carnegie believed that anyone could become successful so long as they worked hard enough. A library was the best possible gift for a community, he later said, because it gave people the opportunity to improve themselves.

After building, amassing a fortune and then selling Carnegie Steel, Carnegie devoted the rest of his life to philanthropy. Between 1893 and 1919, he provided more than \$1.3 billion (in today's dollars) in funding to construct over 1,600 libraries around the country. His grants were accompanied by design templates showcasing libraries as community centers which provided services for women and children—unheard-of at the time.

Wisely enough, the titan of industry also required that towns applying for his grants provide a business plan for their library's annual funding, thus ensuring its sustainability.

In sharing the story of Andrew Carnegie, we at FOLMC hope to inspire others to do good. And just like we do when we bring people together through our programs and events, we hope to inspire others to do even **more**, because philanthropy is a critical component in keeping our libraries alive.

Our Library After Dark Gala is more than a fundraiser; it is an opportunity to shine a light on the different kinds of support that makes the library what it is today. The capstone of our Gala is the presentation of the Gilchrist Award, now over 20 years old, which was created by the FOLMC Board of Trustees in recognition of exceptional philanthropic service to Montgomery County Public Libraries in the spirit of former County Executive Charles W. Gilchrist.

It is a remarkable legacy. We recognize all of the volunteers and donors whose tireless efforts support our Montgomery County Public Libraries, such as:

- Jan Jablonski, who helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to make the Noyes Library an accessible early childhood literary center, and
- Rita Lewi, an advocate for the Chinese American community who created the first Asian film discussion group at Quince Orchard Library and hosted librarians from Taiwan.

Public libraries were built on the shoulders of volunteers and philanthropists—and they continue to provide critical support. So come to our Library After Dark Gala to learn about the wonderful people making contributions to our community, and how you too can get involved! Just as Andrew Carnegie believed in libraries as a place to improve your life and build a brighter future, so it is our mission to sustain them.



From the Stacks

Vinyl Record Decorating

March 17 & April 7 | 5:00PM

FOLMC Wheaton Bookstore
11701 Georgia Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
(301) 933-1110

Visit the Makerspace at the Wheaton Bookstore and create your own unique artwork using unplayable vinyl records! Register at www.folmc.org



Board Spotlight Martin White



Why did you decide to join the FOLMC board?

I joined FOLMC because I share its mission of promoting lifelong learning in the community.

How did you hear about FOLMC?

As an immigrant, when I first moved into the area, Montgomery County Public Libraries offered me a place where I could network, access the internet, and read books. I met people like myself and shared ideas. One of my friends mentioned the volunteer work he was doing in the community, and it hit me that I should start giving back as well. There was no better place to start doing this than the Library system!

What is your hometown, professional background, where did you go to school?

I am originally from Malawi, a small country in South East Africa. I graduated from the University of Malawi, majoring in Business Administration, and have a Master's of Finance from Penn State. I am also a licensed CPA.

When did you move to Montgomery County?

I moved here in 2008, and I like how diverse and friendly the people are.

What do you like about it?

I like political and dystopian fiction.

What's on your nightstand? Favorite book?

I am currently reading *Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee. My favorite book is George Orwell's *1984*.

What are your other hobbies?

I enjoy running, cycling, playing soccer, and lately have been picking up a bit of golf.

What do you enjoy most of board service with FOLMC?

I enjoy everything we do—helping introduce people to the libraries to read and obtain knowledge, and putting books in young people's hands instead of losing them to the streets. I really admire the dedication and commitment of my fellow board members in their service to FOLMC as well.

Staff Spotlight



Patty Walker, Children's Specialist

FOLMC Wheaton Bookstore

Why did you decide to join FOLMC?

Back in 2016, I was walking home from work and noticed a sign that read "FOLMC Bookstore coming." This was the Old Silver Spring location on Colesville Road, so I went online and wrote Lance an email introducing myself as a potential book clerk, because I am interested in children's books and had experience working in a bookstore in college and handled the children's section. I've always loved children's books—in fact, my library growing up was the old Silver Spring Library!

What is your hometown, professional background, and where did you go to school?

I grew up a few blocks from the old Silver Spring Library, and I still live in the same house. My "day job" is as a medical editor for a company that supports clinical trials and global health, and I also work one weekday evening and Saturdays at the FOLMC Wheaton Bookstore.

What do you like about the new Wheaton Bookstore?

I love that it's such a social space. The Wheaton Library is down the hall, and there are basketball courts and a playground right outside our windows. The children's section is well lit, more compact, and easier to manage.

What do you like to read?

I try to read every night and on weekends—often two or three books at the same time—literary fiction, a children's novel, and sometimes a memoir.

What are you currently reading? Favorite book?

I just finished rereading *Little Women* along with *March* by Geraldine Brooks, which told us about the March family from the father's point of view after he "joins" the Civil War. It was interesting rereading the 1868 version of *Little Women* as an adult because you can pick up more of Louisa May Alcott's personality and what life was like for an intelligent woman living in the United States in the 19th century.

What are your other hobbies?

I volunteer as a dog handler at adoption events for a rescue alliance in DC. Like books, I can never get enough of dogs and have a German Shepherd mix and two Chihuahua mixes living with me and my family at home.

What do you enjoy most out of working with FOLMC?

It's a sweet feeling to hand a book to a child who's looking for a specific title and see her eyes light up.



friends OF THE LIBRARY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

Montgomery County
Public Schools 

From the Library Director

Anita Vassallo, MCPL Director



eLibrary News

In early January, MCPL exited the Maryland's Digital eLibrary Consortium for Overdrive in which it participated for collective ebook/audiobook purchasing and lending. The decision to do so was made after much research and thought regarding what was most beneficial for the residents of Montgomery County. MCPL will now independently manage its own Overdrive ebook collection, which gives us significant advantages.

Our customers will no longer have to wait behind residents of other counties on holds lists, and they will soon see a collection more tailored to their needs and interests. We are able to be more responsive to customer recommendations for material to add to our ebook/audiobook collection. Customers can submit purchase suggestions via the platform that will now come directly to MCPL.

Another advantage is being able to set some of our own policies, such as determining the number of checkouts and holds allowed. We have already increased that number, which was six under the consortium, to ten.

When we began this process, we committed to fulfilling all our customers' holds that were existing prior to exiting the Consortium, and we have kept that commitment. If our existing customers have bookmarked the Consortium's website or set up the Libby app on their phone, Overdrive will reroute their accounts to MCPL's new Overdrive site.

We are so excited that our customers will now have shorter wait times for materials, and we will be able to curate a collection that reflects our community.

Jumpstart Your Personal Finances



Saturday, April 4, 2020 at 7pm
Wheaton Library, 11701 Georgia Ave.

While we're only a few months into 2020, many New Years' resolutions to save more and spend less may have already gone up in smoke. But it's not too late to get back on track. Take part in the next Contemporary Conversations on Saturday, April 4 at 7PM at Wheaton Library featuring Michelle Singletary, an award-winning journalist and nationally syndicated personal finance columnist for *The Washington Post*. Ms. Singletary will provide an entertaining and informative presentation on understanding personal finances, money management, and how to take control of your financial affairs once and for all.

Contemporary Conversations is an author series that promotes discussion about cultural and current issues with journalists, authors, and other relevant speakers. This program, which is funded by FOLMC, is just one of the many ways our enhanced funds support MCPL.

Registration for this event is required. Visit www.folmc.org to reserve your spot.



FOLMC CHAPTERS

Aspen Hill

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

Chevy Chase

8005 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
President: Judy McGuire
chevychase@folmc.org

Connie Morella (Bethesda)

7400 Arlington Road
Bethesda, MD 20814
President: Joan Greenbaum
morella@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: Janet Brown
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: Katie Engen
kensingtonpark@folmc.org

Little Falls

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

Chapter Spotlight

QUINCE ORCHARD

President: Dawn Fairbanks

Friends of the Library, Quince Orchard Chapter (FOLQOC) raises money to enhance programs and patron experience at the Quince Orchard Library.

The Chapter's fundraising efforts have enabled the library to purchase printers, furniture, books, foam blocks for use in children's programming, and summer reading t-shirts for branch staff. FOLQOC also pays for upkeep of the plants in its popular Friends' Garden.

In the past year, the Chapter has sponsored events such as African Folktales, Teen Tech Week, the UTSAV annual Indian community festival, Bright Star Children's Theatre, the annual Chinese New Year celebration, and more.



Join the Chapter for its upcoming events, including:

- A seed planting program in the Friends' Garden, now in its fourth year, which will take place on Saturday, April 25.
- Biennial Quarry Earth Day at Aggregate Industries in Rockville on Saturday, May 2. Aggregate Industries is a major supporter of Quince Orchard Library, raising more than \$60,000 over the past 20 years, and its manager, Richard Freedman, won the 2018 Gilchrist Award for his support of FOLQOC and the library. There will be children's activities and more.

In addition, you can support the Chapter through its ongoing booksale inside the library—it takes place every day when the library is open, or by purchasing and inscribing your name on a memorial brick which is planted in the Friends' Garden outside the library.

Interested in volunteering with the Chapter? The next meeting will be in March and its Annual Meeting will take place in June. Dates have not yet been set; email Dawn Fairbanks, FOLQOC Board President, at quinceorchard@folmc.org for details.



Vision

Everyone in the County values, benefits from, and supports Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Mission

To strengthen, promote, and champion Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL), for it to better serve the learning interests and needs of the diverse and changing communities of the County, by

- **Raising** funds to enhance and supplement library programming, equipment, and services;
- **Increasing** public awareness of library resources and connecting local communities with their branch libraries;
- **Creating** volunteer opportunities for County residents to support MCPL;
- **Engaging** with the County's library support community to address the ongoing needs of the library system, and advocating for MCPL's budget to the County government.

Values

Education – we facilitate awareness of public library resources for everyone

Innovation – we embrace change and evolution of libraries

Service – we give back to our community

Integrity – we operate transparently as responsible stewards of public trust

Advocacy – we are champions for our library system



Save the Dates

- April 4 Michelle Singletary Contemporary Conversation, 7pm at Wheaton Library
- April 18 Just for the Record – A Vinyl Day, noon to 4pm at Silver Spring Library
- April 25 6th Annual Library After Dark Gala, 7:30pm at Rockville Memorial Library
- May 16 Gaithersburg Book Festival, 10am to 6pm at Bohrer Park*

**new location*

FOLMC CHAPTERS

Olney

3500 Olney-Laytonsville Road
Olney, MD 20832

President: Salley Shannon
olney@folmc.org

Potomac

10101 Glenolden Drive
Potomac, MD 20854

President: Edythe Wingate
potomac@folmc.org

Marilyn J. Praisner

14910 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866

President: Elizabeth Matthews
praisner@folmc.org

Quince Orchard

15831 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

President: Dawn Fairbanks
quinceorchard@folmc.org

Rockville Memorial

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 100
Rockville, MD 20850

President: Kathy Wessman
rockvillememorial@folmc.org

Silver Spring

900 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

President: Joseph House
silverspring@folmc.org

Twinbrook

202 Meadow Hall Drive
Rockville, MD 20851

President: Elaine Joselovitz
twinbrook@folmc.org

White Oak

11701 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20904

President: Paulette Wright
whiteoak@folmc.org

Chapter Booksales

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



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 – OPENED 9/8/2019

Wheaton Library and Community Recreation Center
11701 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902
(301) 933-1110

Get social with all the latest FOLMC news.

 Facebook.com/FOLMC  @FOLMC  @folmcmd

 Friends of the Library, Montgomery County



Board of Directors

Are you looking for a meaningful way to become more involved in your community? FOLMC invites library lovers to join our Board of Trustees. Apply online at www.folmc.org/support/volunteer-with-us/board-of-trustees-application/ or call (240) 777-0020 with questions.