

friends

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

HELPING
LIBRARIES REACH
NEW HEIGHTS

Fall 2015 Literary Luncheons

Fall 2015 marks our 28th annual Literary Luncheon series, in which FOLMC brings fascinating local and nationally-recognized authors to the Strathmore Mansion for intimate lectures, Q&A's, and lunches. Each year, our guests enthusiastically tell us how interesting the authors are and how unique this program is in Montgomery County. This year, we are continuing our partnership with the F. Scott Fitzgerald Festival, which celebrates different aspects of the quintessential Jazz Age author every October in Rockville with a two-day writers' conference. Our two authors this fall are very different, and both lectures are sure to be informative. We hope you will join us for one or both of our Literary Luncheons.

John Feinstein, October 8, 11:30 a.m.

with *F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival*

This year the F. Scott Fitzgerald Festival is honoring Richard Ford, author of *The Sportswriter* and many other novels. For our first Literary Luncheon, we are excited to host sportswriter John Feinstein, columnist for *The Washington Post*, regular TV and radio commentator, and author of more than 27 fiction and nonfiction books. Feinstein's 1986 book, *A Season on the Brink*, chronicles a year in the life of Bob Knight and the Indiana University basketball team; the book was later made into a film that aired on ESPN in 2002. Feinstein also writes a series of young adult sports mystery novels.



Mary Jo Putney, November 19, 11:30 a.m.



Mary Jo Putney is the bestselling author of more than 40 historical, contemporary, and fantasy romance series and novels, including the Silk Trilogy, the Guardian Trilogy, and her current series, Lost Lords. The Romance Writers Association awarded her the 2013 Nora Roberts Lifetime Achievement Award, and she has won two RITA awards for *Dancing in the Wind* and *The Rake and the Reformer*. Her novels are well-researched, detailed, and completely spellbinding. She is known for the psychological depth and rich characterizations of the men and women who live in her world. Putney's new Lost Lords novel, *Not Always a Saint*, will be released in September 2015.

Upcoming Events

This calendar represents only the events that FOLMC chapters have funded. For a full calendar of summer reading activities, visit MCPL's website.

WEDNESDAYS

Rockville Memorial:

Weekly book sale near Dawson's Market

JUNE

- 16 Rockville Memorial: Marcie Lovett, Professional Organizer & Productivity Consultant
- 18 Kensington Park: Author talk with historical romance novelist Emily Greenwood
- 20 New Silver Spring Library Grand Opening
- 20 Aspen Hill: Caribbean American Heritage Festival
- 20 Chevy Chase: Diane Macklin, Storyteller
- 22 Chevy Chase: Scinetellers
- 24 Germantown: Maryland Science Center
- 27 Rockville Memorial: Maryland Zoo: Amazing Adaptations
- 27 Praisner: Rainbow Interactive Theatre, The Brave Little Tailor

JULY

- 2 Germantown: Maryland Zoo
- 7 Germantown: Mutts Gone Nuts
- 8 Praisner: 1, 2, 3 Con Andrés
- 9 Rockville Memorial: Scinetellers Superheroes
- 11 Chevy Chase: Mark Jaster, mime
- 13 Chevy Chase: Maryland Science Center
- 15 White Oak: Design Your Own Superhero
- 18 Germantown: Blue Sky Puppets, Super Pig
- 24 Germantown: Under the Sea
- 25 Chevy Chase: 1, 2, 3 Con Andrés

continued on page 2

Officers

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

Trustees

Awo Sarpong Ansu
Gary Berg-Cross, Ph.D.
Sarah Guroff
Kelly Gardner Headd
Dennis M. Horn
Willard Jenkins
Aileen Klein
Larry Matthews
Carolee Noury
Amalia Rubin, *Student Board Member*
Carla Satinsky
Kristen Theiss
Cecilia Wu
Joel Yesley

Office Staff

Ari Z. Brooks, MSW, *Executive Director*
Carolyn Gresh, *Office Manager*
Maria Jones, *Program Coordinator*
Krystle Kline, *Development Coordinator*
Lance Salins, *Business Coordinator*

Bookstores

Managers

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

Staff

James Annable	Stanley Hyman
Barbara Anoskey	Judith Karo
Charlene Blaine	Brien Kinkel
Anthony Carter	Beth Klees
Harry Chow	John McAleer
Patrick Daugherty	Mark Protic
Barbara Dyko	Paul Puebla
Dana Eason	Rodman Quill
Tesfaye Getahun	David Stanton
Bruce Hendrickson	Haili You

From the Executive Director and President of the Board of Trustees

Ellen L. Berman and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

FOLMC celebrated National Library Week this year with our first ever Library After Dark fundraising event held at the Rockville Memorial branch on April 18. The event featured an awards ceremony that honored children's librarian Amy Alapati as Library Professional of the Year, the Silver Spring chapter of FOLMC as the Charles W. Gilchrist Volunteer of the Year, and Allen Kronstadt of A.R. Kronstadt Realty as the Community Partner of the Year. The event theme, "Card Catalog to the Cloud," highlighted the transformation of libraries into 21st-century institutions and how FOLMC has contributed funding for new technologies, programs, and materials for MCPL over the past 32 years.

We were pleased to welcome nearly 100 guests to Rockville Memorial Library that evening, including several local politicians, business leaders, and you, our members and supporters. The student singers of Adventure Theatre MTC moved everyone with their musical performance, and Mariposa Poetry provided a quietly poignant reading of original poetry. Other highlights included a demonstration of Go! Kits by the MCPL outreach team, which gave attendees a glimpse of one of the many initiatives funded by FOLMC, and decorative pieces such as a vintage card catalog.

We enjoyed meeting some of you for the first time and hope to see you at our many events throughout the year. If you were unable to attend this year, we hope you will be able to join us next year on April 9, again at Rockville Memorial, as we celebrate our achievements and honor the community members who give back to the library. Look for how to nominate your favorite library volunteer or donor in future issues of our newsletter and online.



Upcoming Events — *continued*

- 25** Silver Spring: Maryland Science Center Dinosaur
- 28** Germantown: Jo Romano, Superhero Magic
- 28** Rockville Memorial: Children's book sale
- 29** Rockville Memorial: Kaydee Puppets
- 29** Praisner: Flumpa the Frog, Science Rocks!

AUGUST

- 3** Chevy Chase: Maryland Zoo
- 5** Germantown: 1, 2, 3 Con Andrés
- 22** Germantown: Shazam Magic

Check It Out: AWE Computer Stations



Check It Out features a program, event, or project that your membership gifts, donations, and book purchases funded for MCPL. Each year, FOLMC provides hundreds of thousands of dollars to MCPL to meet the needs of library staff and patrons so that Montgomery County continues to have a world-class library system.

Games and education are a winning combination for kids. We are proud to fund innovative Early Literacy computer stations that provide a safe, fun learning environment for school-age children without connecting to the wider internet. These computers, called AWE Stations, have been designed to appeal to kids with touch screens, colorful keyboards, and literally millions of hours of different educational apps built in.

Plus, most of the stations your gifts have purchased have bilingual Spanish apps, including interactive ebooks, catchy musical games, and expeditions through Dora the Explorer's house. Art applications allow children to express their creativity, history apps take them on a journey through the past, and puzzle games build basic logic skills. AWE Stations are available at all branches except Kensington Park, Noyes, and Potomac. Silver Spring will have stations when the new branch opens on June 20, 2015.

As you can see, your membership gifts, donations, and bookstore purchases provide more than the programs that FOLMC puts on - you give free educational opportunities to children and families in your community.

Rockville Bookstore Expansion

FOLMC is overjoyed to announce that its Rockville bookstore will be expanding!

Over the past year the Rockville location has seen a steady increase in both sales and donations. If you have visited the bookstore in the past few months, you've no doubt noticed that we are bursting at the seams. The treasures that pile up daily on our doorstep have compelled us to expand our operations into the empty space next door. We've reached this juncture because of the incredible generosity of our members and patrons.

The bookstore will approximately double in size when the expansion is complete. Entryways will be built to unite the current space and the new, adjacent space to the left of the existing storefront. The new space will allow us to expand our children's and collectibles areas and feature a stage area for a variety of programming, including storytimes, author talks, crafting classes, and much more. Extra storage and processing areas will allow us to more seamlessly accept your wonderful donations.

Construction will commence this summer. Stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for updates!

From the Stacks

Mosaic

Celebrating Diversity through Creative Writing



Congratulations to the winners and honorable mentions of the 2014-2015 Mosaic: Celebrating Diversity through Creative Writing Contest. On May 27, FOLMC honored the 18 winners and honorable mentions at an awards ceremony and reception at Johns Hopkins University Montgomery County Campus. The students received Awards of Excellence from MCPL Director Parker Hamilton on behalf of County Executive Isiah Leggett. Lorna Virgili, president of National Hispanic Communications Group, emceed the ceremony, and author Monica Bhide gave the keynote address.

Mosaic is an annual creative writing contest open to all middle school students in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS). Students are encouraged to write about culture through their own experiences. Entries can be submitted in three categories:

essay, poetry, and short story. Through this contest, FOLMC works with MCPS to open the dialogue about student diversity and provide the opportunity for all sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-grade students to express themselves creatively.

2014-2015 winners and honorable mentions: Isabella Artino, Sam Bai, Arya Ghorpade, Hannah Ho, Gabriel Hudson, Emily Kombe, Catherine Lo, Daniela Moreira, Alexia Moser, Selva Ozer, Marjori Ramos, Anika Seth, Emmy Song, Meili Soriano, Jasmine Tran, Nafisat Uddin, Angela Wu, and Emily Zhao.

Board Spotlight Kristen Theiss



I have been a lover of libraries since age six when I learned to read. The library in my hometown of Rochester, Pennsylvania, was in an old house that had a wonderful window seat in the children's section. It was a great place to curl up on a rainy day and enjoy a good book. My love of reading and libraries continued into adulthood, and about 10 years ago I became involved with the Chevy Chase chapter of FOLMC. I held several different positions there and enjoyed my time as a volunteer, including chapter president. In addition, I was active with some "special projects" for the FOLMC including writing a section of the chapter handbook, serving on the strategic planning committee in 2014, and co-chairing the FOLMC 30th Anniversary celebration in 2012.

When I am not volunteering at the library, I work full time as a speech language pathologist for the

Montgomery County Public Schools. My position there as a preschool diagnostician and parent educator is very rewarding. Preschoolers are lots of fun!

I enjoy reading realistic fiction, historical fiction, biographies, cookbooks, travel books, and children's books. A relaxing evening for me is getting lost in a book with a good cup of tea or a glass of wine. I also enjoy traveling, baking, cooking, walking, bike riding, and watching the birds at my bird feeder.

As a new member of the Board of Trustees of FOLMC, I am looking forward to helping to plan events with the Programs and Marketing Committee as well as meeting chapter leaders and members with the Chapter Liaison committee.

From the Library Director

Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director



As MCPL prepares to close out fiscal year 2015 on June 30, I want to share with you the many exciting happenings through the year, and most especially, thank you for your continued support.

Our Summer Reading program was very successful – over 12,500 children and teens registered and read more than 80,000 books!

In September, you helped us promote National Library Card Sign-up Month by submitting a photo or video telling us what great services you use your library card for. During that month, MCPL registered 7,539 new card holders.

I convened MCPL's first Collection Summit on September 30. The purpose of this day-long, in-house summit was to examine policies and procedures for acquisition, delivery, and merchandising the collection, and to answer the question, "Are we giving our customers the materials they want when they want them?"

As of October 5, 16 branches now have expanded hours, joining the five branches whose hours were increased in FY13. In addition, four more branches are open on Sundays, bringing the total number of branches with Sunday hours to 13. These additional library hours and the \$50K for new materials came with an increase in library staffing to support the increased hours and collection. Approximately 39 merit positions and additional substitute staff have been added.

In November, MCPL was able to provide assistance to many residents by participating in the County's Employee Giving Campaign and its Community Service Day.

In January, we managed our unprecedented outage and began exploring ways to support our Integrated Library System network while preparing a contract to move to a cloud-supported system.

On February 18, MCPL, with the Library Board, Friends of the Library, and the Library Advisory Committees, celebrated the fifth annual Library Snapshot Day. This year, 17,157 people visited our branches; 37,693 items were checked out or renewed; 44,833 items were returned; 1,459 people used our public computers; 779 attended one of the 64 programs; and staff answered 11,462 questions.

In preparation for the opening of the new Silver Spring Library, the library building located on Colesville Road was closed to the public on March 15 in a ceremony commemorating 58 years of library service.

In April, MCPL's e-newsletter, Check Us Out, was published in a fresh new format. Not a subscriber? Visit our website, www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library, to sign up now.

What a year! And there's more to come. Stay tuned!

Seasoned Spellers: October 17

Calling all spelling enthusiasts! FOLMC will host the sixth Seasoned Spellers Senior Spelling Bee on Saturday, October 17 at Rockville Memorial Library. Adults age 55 or older are invited to participate in this exciting event. The first place speller is awarded a grand prize and declared Montgomery County's Champion Seasoned Speller! Vicky Taheri, our Marilyn J. Praisner chapter president, won the fall 2014 bee after 11 rounds of competition.

The bee will begin at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a reception with light refreshments. To participate in Seasoned Spellers, pre-register for the event at www.folmc.org or by calling (240) 777-0020 and submit a \$25 registration fee. The deadline for registration is Monday, October 12.

Seasoned Spellers is free and open to the public to watch. Contestants are encouraged to invite friends and family to attend and cheer them on. We guarantee it will be F-U-N.



Pictured: Vicky Taheri

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

ROCKVILLE

President: Linda Grabel

We have big news! MCPL has added weekend summer evening hours to several branches this year, including Rockville Memorial. Beginning Friday, May 29, and continuing through September 9, the library will be open until 9 p.m. If you are having a weekend evening library craving, please stop by. We plan to offer new and exciting evening programs this summer, which will be posted on the MCPL calendar and on our webpage, FOLMC.org/Rockville.

The Rockville chapter has two major book sales each year in the fall and the spring. This year, more than 800 people stopped in to our April book sale, and almost everyone made a purchase. We enjoy seeing all of our patrons, from the tiny ones who come with pennies and nickels saved up to buy their very own book to the people who buy box loads to give away to various charities in our area. Several of our customers also send books to other countries that do not have access to the wonderful free library system we are privileged to enjoy. Our next big book sale will be on Saturday, November 14, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Dawson's Market, in the Rockville Town Square, is holding a weekly Wednesday farmers/vendors market outside of their store, and the Rockville chapter is participating again this year by selling books. We are located in the breezeway between Dawson's and Gibbs Street, in the same location we had last summer. The market is open every Wednesday from May 6 to September 30 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. It is a lot of fun, so plan to have lunch out on Wednesdays and enjoy made-to-order crepes, burgers, hot dogs, and other great food. While you are waiting for your meal to be cooked, come over to our booth and buy some books or just stop by to say hello.

One of our programming highlights this year was a concert of classical music performed by very talented nine-year-old Evan Xue on the piano that our chapter purchased for the Rockville Memorial Library. The concert drew music lovers of all ages, and everyone was spellbound for the full 40-minute performance. Evan played beautifully, and he didn't need a single piece of sheet music.

The Rockville chapter meets regularly, and we welcome anyone who is interested in supporting the Rockville branch. Contact Linda Grabel at rockville@folmc.org for more information.

Pictured: Evan Xue



Chapter Spotlights

CHEVY CHASE

President: Steve Schmal

Although the Chevy Chase Library is a small branch, the Chevy Chase Chapter of the Friends of the Library is very strong. Our members maintain a deep commitment to the library, and they have enabled the chapter to provide a large amount of financial assistance to enhance the library and its services. Our chapter president is in the branch on most Saturdays to give information about the chapter and the programs we fund.

In the past few years, we have funded a portion of summer reading programs, supplies for year-round programs, furniture for the library, and other enhancements. We also contributed to the library's mini-renovation in 2010, particularly in revamping the teen section. Chevy Chase has dedicated volunteers who organize activities at the annual Chevy Chase Family Fun Day in August, so if you see us in the community please come say hello. We also sponsor annual Chinese New Year celebrations at our library and put together a holiday lunch to show our appreciation for our wonderful staff every year.

The Chevy Chase chapter meets monthly, and our meetings are open to everyone who wants to support our library branch. Please contact Steve Schmal at chevychase@folmc.org for more information about meeting times, membership, and volunteering with the chapter.



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
Co-chairs: Vicky Taheri & Nora Siegel
praisner@folmc.org

Quince Orchard

15831 Quince Orchard Road
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
President: Ed Hsu
quinceorchard@folmc.org

Rockville

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 100
Rockville, MD 20850
President: Linda Grabel
rockville@folmc.org

Silver Spring

900 Wayne Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
President: Becky Reeve
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: Frank Altrichter
whiteoak@folmc.org





21 Maryland Avenue
Suite 310
Rockville, Maryland 20850-2389

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



find

A BOOK TO LOVE AT
FRIENDS' BOOKSTORES

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

