

friends

CELEBRATING
35 YEARS!

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



Record Auction at the Rockville Bookstore on July 15

The Rockville Bookstore held its first Vintage Vinyl record auction in February 2017. We sold 53 lots and raised nearly \$1,000. The lot that earned the most, going for \$70, was *Kurzwellen* by Karlheinz Stockhausen. The record was one of the 1968-1969 performances of electronium and short wave radio and instrumental transformations.

The inaugural auction was such a success that the Rockville Bookstore will hold a second record auction on Saturday, July 15 at 12 p.m. *Soul Station* by Hank Mobley will be on the block as well as collectibles by the Beatles and Miles Davis. Visit our website for more details and a full catalog, which will be available a week before the auction.

Preview will be held on Friday, July 14 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Proxy and remote bids are welcome. Email bookstores@folmc.org to inquire about submitting bids.



FOL Chapter Sponsored Events

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

JUNE

- 10 2 p.m., Damascus: Summer Read and Learn Open House and Artists Reception
- 13 6:30 p.m., Kensington Park: June Author Talk – Peter Cozzens
- 17 11 a.m., Gaithersburg: Jacks are Wild
- 20 10:30 a.m., Olney: Tom Crowl's Reading in Progress
- 24 1 p.m., Davis: Arianna Ross – Dance Across Brazil
- 28 11 a.m., Germantown: Little Hands Signing – In My Neighborhood

JULY

- 1 3 p.m., Marilyn J. Praisner: Mad Science – Things that Go Boom!
- 3 3 p.m., Damascus: Harry Potter Anniversary Special – Charms
- 8 3 p.m., Rockville: Sciencetellers – Tall Ships and Pirate Tales
- 10 2 p.m., Olney: Science Spectacular with Eric Energy
- 12 4 p.m., Germantown: Cosmic Adventures – Traveling Planetarium
- 13 4 p.m., Little Falls: The Basics of Comic Book Art
- 17 1 p.m., Davis: Mini Science Pop-up Camp
- 21 3 p.m., Twinbrook: Lego Derby
- 22 10:30 a.m., Chevy Chase: Kaydee Puppets presents: The Three Pigs and Noddaberry Good Day!
- 31 10 a.m., Monday Morning Duplos

Oriole All-Star Kids Sweepstakes

Now through August 23 parents can visit any Maryland Whole Foods Market or FOLMC bookstore to register their children for a chance to be an O's All-Star Kid this season. Winners receive a VIP experience, to one of 12 home games, which includes four tickets to the game, an opportunity to be on the field during batting practice, special recognition as All-Star Kids, and an Orioles and Whole Foods Market prize pack. No purchase is necessary to enter. One application per child per visit. Children ages 7 to 14 are eligible.

Visit our bookstores to pick up an application and browse the sports section while you're there.



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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 Thompson and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW



April 8, 2017 was another proud moment in the history of FOLMC with the celebration of our 35th anniversary at our 3rd Library After Dark awards ceremony and fundraiser. The annual event took place at the Rockville Memorial Library, the crown jewel of Rockville Town Center, and one of the county's most dramatic library settings. The evening featured live music, whimsical entertainment, and an exciting silent auction. Over 110 friends, supporters, and partners gathered for a magnificent evening to raise funds and recognize those who contributed to the success of our award-winning library system.



From left, Mrs. Leggett, County Executive Isiah Leggett, Carol Leahy and MCPL Director Parker Hamilton

The evening began with a VIP reception for our honored guests before doors opened to the transformed library. This year's theme, *Libraries Open Doors*, was chosen to reflect the belief that libraries create opportunities by providing equal access to free information and resources.

The evening was hosted by WAMU's Tamika Smith who spoke heartfelt words of the importance of libraries to her life that opened

doors to a successful career in journalism. Honorary chair Art Holmes told of his humble beginnings that led to working on planning projects of multiple public libraries, including the Rockville Memorial branch. Matt Jablonski, son of Charles W. Gilchrist Award winner Jan Jablonski gave testament to his mother's amazing efforts with the Noyes Library Foundation that has raised thousands of dollars to keep the historic library open through major budget uncertainty for MCPL.

FOLMC was also delighted to present the Library Professional of the Year award to the County Executive's Library of the Future Summit Committee who demonstrated innovative leadership that engaged the entire community and inspired new thinking about the direction of library services. And finally Mayor Jud Ashman, who accepted the Community Partner Award on behalf of the Gaithersburg Book Festival, spoke of his commitment to FOLMC, inviting us to be literary partners since the festival's inception eight years ago.

If you missed this year's event, you can still donate by visiting www.folmc.org/donate to help raise \$35,000 in celebration of our 35th anniversary. Go to www.folmc.org/lad to view photos of this year's event and join our mailing list to stay connected.

Thank You to Our Generous Library After Dark 2017 Sponsors



Linda Amendt & Diane Gubernot | Ellen Berman | The Scott and Patrice Brickman Family Foundation
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FOLMC Special Membership Offer

Join or renew your membership by June 30

In addition to showing your support of libraries, membership in FOLMC has the added value of benefits such as discounts at our two used bookstores, special rates on event tickets, and advanced notice of programs such as our live rare book auction.

The first 100 people who join or renew at the \$50 level or higher will receive a tote bag. It's great for carrying your books to the beach for summer-time reading.

Join or Renew

- Online at www.folmc.org/join or
- Return the enclosed envelope and mail your membership to FOLMC, Attn: Membership Office, 21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310, Rockville, MD 20850 or
- Call (240) 777-0020 during business hours with credit card information.

For additional information or questions about your membership status, please contact staff@folmc.org or (240) 777-0020. Your role is vital in advancing our mission.

** 1 bag per membership*



Help Us Reach Our \$35,000 Goal!

JOIN OR RENEW
by June 30

FISCAL YEAR END MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Board Spotlight **Laura Rich**



Laura Rich's term started in January, and so far, she says, it has been a great experience. A library advocate since she joined the Friends of the Library Davis board several years ago, she is thrilled to be helping public libraries in Montgomery County. Laura recalls that when Borders bookstore shuttered in 2011, a friend said "libraries are next" and Laura was determined that it wouldn't happen on her watch. She said, "Davis Library is a wonderful place and when the opportunity came to help not only Davis but all Montgomery County Public Libraries, I jumped."

A long-term Montgomery County resident, Laura has an enduring connection with Davis Library. She happily recalls Coco, the large stuffed gorilla, who resided in the children's area at Davis Library and how a friend gave her a picture of Coco, after Coco was retired. "The Davis librarians gave wonderful recommendations for books for my children," she recalled. "They really picked up on what my kids liked to read so they kept wanting to come back to the library."

Laura grew up in New Jersey in a suburb of New York City and went to Douglass College, the all-women's school of Rutgers University. She then attended NYU School of Law and currently works for a federal agency.

Encouraging others to use library resources is important to Laura. You can usually find her at Davis Library during February's Library Lovers Month, where she organizes activities to promote library awareness. "Last year, we set up a table for patrons to make Valentine's Day cards. It was wonderful seeing patrons of all ages having fun together."

When not working, being with her family, or advocating for libraries, Laura loves to run and practice yoga. She says, "I love how there are so many wonderful running trails in Montgomery County and how, when you are done running, you can sit down and read a library book!"

Staff Spotlight: Ari Brooks



Executive Director Ari Brooks celebrated her 15 year anniversary at FOLMC this March. Ari is the brains and heart of this organization. FOLMC sat down with Ari to learn more about her and her love of books.

FOLMC: Why did you decide to join the FOLMC team?

AB: I joined 15 years ago. I was thrilled to see the job posting for the executive director position because I have an amazing love of libraries and wanted to give back to this institution that I so dearly love and cherish.

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

AB: I was raised on a tobacco farm in Southern Maryland by my great grandparents. My grandmother took me to the library frequently and I would spend hours in the children's room reading and playing with the doll house. It was a nice cool place to visit during the hot summer months. I have degrees from the University of Virginia and the University of Pennsylvania.

FOLMC: What do you like to read?

AB: My favorite author is Barbara Kingsolver because her books emphasize the very important relationship we all have with the environment. Today, I read a great deal with my children. We read my childhood favorites like *The Little Princess* and the classics. We just finished *Bud, Not Buddy*. *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto* by Michael Pollan is currently on my nightstand.

FOLMC: What are your other hobbies?

AB: My favorite hobby is reading and I enjoy spending time with my extended family on the Western Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. My two young daughters keep me busy with their various activities in which I find great joy fostering their love of reading, exploring local attractions, and cultural activities.

FOLMC: What's a fun fact about you?

AB: I still have my very first library card.



From the Stacks

His mother the Ice Queen. The only thing he still had of hers was a book: *Snow Crystals*, by W.A. Bentley. Inside were thousands of carefully prepared micrographs of snowflakes, each image reproduced in a two-inch square, the crystals white against a field of black, arrayed in a grid, four-by-three, twelve per page. Bound in cloth, it was a 1931 first edition her grandfather had bought at a rummage sale. She would page through it carefully, almost devotedly, occasionally calling David over to ask him his favorites.

The foregoing is an excerpt from *About Grace*, the debut novel of Anthony Doerr who would later win the Pulitzer Prize for his second novel, *All the Light We Cannot See*. Some trade paperback editions of *About Grace* bear six of Wilson Bentley's snowflake photomicrographs. Our Rockville Bookstore was fortunate enough to find a 1931 first edition *Snow Crystals*, similar to the one treasured by Doerr's protagonist. The copy donated to us is especially rare because it is complete with the original dust jacket. Very few of the original dust jackets have survived, their scarcity such that many book collectors and dealers are unaware that the first edition was issued with a jacket.

We are currently researching venues which may be interested in acquiring the rare title. Finding such treasures is one of the most enjoyable aspects of operating a community bookstore. We look forward to discovering more. Contact bookstores@folmc.org to join our mailing list to learn more about our two bookstores and visit our bookstores to find your own rare treasure.



From the Library Director

Parker Hamilton, MCPL Director



June 30, 2017, we will close out FY17, and with it, the first year of our FY17-20 Strategic Plan.

We have made significant inroads in our efforts for all to participate in creating a more Literate, Connected, Strong and Vibrant, and Delighted Montgomery County.

Some of our Strategic Goal accomplishments include:

- Go! Kits have been expanded to all 21 branches, and new themes have been added.
- New ADA Coordinator has been on the job for six months evaluating and making recommendations regarding MCPL's services to persons with disabilities.
- The Jan Jablonski Early Literacy Training Center was officially opened on March 11, 2017.
- Working with our partners, MCPL has expanded programming for adults/Seniors that allow them to effectively engage with technology.
- Created flyers to promote our services, programs and resources geared towards children and Seniors.
- For National Financial Literacy Month and Money Smart Week, MCPL in partnership with Montgomery County Employees Federal Credit Union and the County's Office of Consumer Protection offered free educational seminars and workshops on a variety of money-management topics.

- Created areas in all branches for local authors to share their work.
- MCPL has begun a podcast under the name MCPL – Library Matters. Each episode explores the world of books, libraries, technology, and learning.
- Working with partner organizations and County agencies to provide a broader range of resources to residents.
- In January 2017, MCPL held its first comic convention, MoComCon.
- Refreshed the Davis branch.
- During our annual Awards of Excellence reception, over 340 certificates were presented in recognition of exceptional work.
- Filled all 25 seats available for the Career Online High School (COHS) diploma program with our first COHS student graduating in March 2017.

A complete list of all accomplishments will be provided in our 2017 Report to the Community.

Check It Out

Each year FOLMC proudly sponsors MCPL's summer reading program. Summer Read and Learn reflects the national movement in libraries to combine reading and learning to prevent summer slide in multiple subject areas. This combined focus aims to:

- create a more rounded learning experience for kids and teens over the summer;
- encourage reluctant readers; and
- acknowledge that children and teens have different learning styles.

Summer Read and Learn offers targeted programming for four different age groups including:

Babies-Preschool (Birth-Age 5), Elementary School Age Children (Ages 6-12), Teens (Ages 13-17), and Adults (Ages 18+).

Participants have four tracks to complete: Move, Explore, Create, and Connect; and kids and teens receive prizes and incentives at each stage of completion.

A voucher for one free book at FOLMC Bookstores is one of the many prizes included. Learn more and sign up for Summer Read and Learn today through MCPL's website montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/kids. FOLMC Bookstores are also selling a limited supply of summer reading t-shirts in youth and adult sizes. Stop by soon to purchase yours. For bookstore locations and hours, visit www.folmc.org.



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Chapter Spotlights

DAVIS

President: Robert Owen

Davis Library Reopens

On Saturday, April 8 the Davis Library reopened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by a large crowd anxious to be back in their community home after a nine-month closure. Speakers at the ceremony included County Executive Isiah Leggett, MCPL Director Parker Hamilton, and County Councilmembers George Leventhal and Marc Erlich.

A small reception was hosted by Friends of the Library, Davis Chapter (FOLD).

Director Hamilton reiterated that the results of the refresh proves to be superior to the full renovation model, both by limiting closure periods and by reducing costs. Chapter President Robert Owen thanked the staff of the library for their efforts, urged all present to think about the next decade when significant community growth is expected and information technology is revolutionized, and reminded everyone to support their county public library system.

The newly remodeled Davis Library has a brighter and fresher look, with lighter colors, glass panels replacing solid walls in the children's area, and the addition of two small workrooms for tutors or group projects. Many of the changes were made to the original building, like a new roof, ADA-compliant bathrooms, and HVAC systems. The chapter filled in a few gaps too, providing funding for a staff kitchen refresh, a new bike rack, and additional furniture.

Now back in operation, the library will offer its full schedule of activities, from children's craft and reading activities to performances and book discussion groups. In-library book sales by the chapter will be slightly delayed while it restocks its shelves, but the annual Community Day with multiple activities was held as normal on Saturday, May 20. The chapter will also conduct its membership drive this month and continue to recruit volunteers. If interested, contact davis@folmc.org.



Chapter Spotlights

ASPEN HILL

President: Chris Swan

Our Library's Refresh – Working Hard for Our Library

Prior to closure, the Friends of the Library, Aspen Hill Chapter (FOLAH) worked with MCPL staff to ensure that the community's needs would be met and that the library's history would be preserved. The Knitting and Crocheting Club relocated to the Olney Library during the refresh, and many Aspen Hill historical pieces were dispersed to temporary locations. The chapter held an enormous book sale and took photographs to document the history of the building. FOLAH also bid a sad farewell to popular Branch Manager Angelisa Hawes, newly assigned to the White Oak Library.

During the refresh, the chapter collaborated with MCPL to ensure the library's refresh would be successful. Most of the public funding went to public areas. Filling that gap, the chapter financially supported new breakroom equipment for the library staff. FOLAH celebrated the library's reopening with refreshments and music, and extended a special welcome to new branch manager, Ken Lewis.

Post-Refresh

The Knitting and Crocheting Club, through temporary meetings at the Olney Library, has enabled the start of the Olney Knitting and Crocheting Club! The two groups intend to coordinate meetings. Exterior work during the remodel has impacted the gardens, which are maintained by the award-winning Aspen Hill Garden Club. FOLAH and the Aspen Hill Garden Club are working together to restore and replant the gardens.

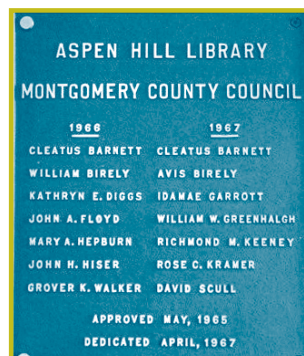
Congratulations to chapter president of over 10 years, Chris Swan, who received the 2017 Citizen of the Year Award from the Mid-County Citizen Advisory Board and the Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce. Chris has contributed new ideas, structure, leadership, passion, dedication, and hard work to FOLAH and to her neighborhood communities.

In the fall, Aspen Hill Library will celebrate its 50th anniversary, from 1967 to 2017. The chapter will help plan a big, fun, interesting celebration. Honorees will be long-time Library users and Friends members, many of whom have lived in the community since before the opening in 1967! FOLAH will also host the 26th annual Community Festival and sponsor the summer reading program.

The chapter is seeking more members who live in or near Aspen Hill. Chapter President Chris Swan says "we are friendly, fun, focused, and small but mighty! Your time and efforts will matter to us and to our community library. You can make a difference!" To join contact aspenhill@folmc.org.



State Delegate Bonnie Cullison (left) with Chris Swan



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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>



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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 – NOW OPEN!

at the Old Silver Spring Library
8901 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD
301-933-1110

GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED

Board Recruitment

Are you looking for a meaningful way to become more involved in your community?

FOLMC invites library lovers to join our Board of Trustees. Our Board is a dedicated group of working and retired professionals who have a passion for Montgomery County Public Libraries. They provide guidance, leadership, oversight, and an extra pairs of hands to our small staff on a wide variety of projects. We are in need of Board Members with a variety of backgrounds such as strategic planning, fundraising, human resources and marketing. Interested volunteers should complete the online Board Nomination Application at www.folmc.org/about/our-people/folmc-board-of-trustees-application/ or call (240) 777-0020 with questions. Elections will be held November 2017.