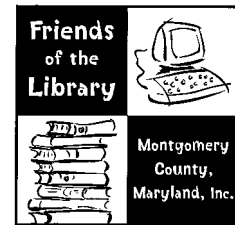


# Friends



Friends of the Library Newsletter • Montgomery County Maryland

(240) 777-0020

## 2001 Ways to Celebrate a 50th Anniversary

**3 MCPL Directors**  
Agnes Griffen, Norman Finkler  
and Harriet Henderson

**25 Montgomery County Authors**  
Mollee Kruger as Carrie Nation

**Ice Cream and Cake!**

**A Silent Auction & Gala**

**A Special Quilt**

**An All-night Read-A-Thon**

**photo credit: Janet Urrutia**  
**A Photography Contest**

**It's the end of 2001 and your last chance to donate \$1,000 to the FOL Endowment for the Future and save \$310 in federal income tax (if you're in the 31% bracket)**

**On to 2002!**

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

By Harriet Henderson,  
Director, Montgomery County Public Libraries

The Library system's strategic plan for 2001–2004 was developed with the assistance of library users, community organizations, and staff. The discussions began with our Structures process, and resulted in a plan that identifies five Key Results. Each of these Key Results have been featured in issues of the Friends' Newsletter.

*III. The library system will provide resources to help preschool children develop skills needed to enter school ready to learn.*

It seems so simple to say that all children will enter school ready to learn, but it's not at all simple to ensure that all children have access to the help they need in the early years. I don't remember how I learned to read, and, without guidance, I would have great difficulty knowing the most effective ways to help a child begin learning.

Research shows that children with limited learning skills come most often from families with the risk factors of poverty, parents with a limited education, single-parent homes, or homes with limited English skills. A 1998 study however, documented that 25% of U.S. children who entered kindergarten with limited learning skills came from families with none of these risk factors.

People may wonder why I focus so much on providing quality library services to preschool children. It's because 1) I've learned about the skills children need, and I know the public library and its resources are one of the best places for children to get these skills, 2) I've learned that children who enter school without the skills they need have great difficulty ever catching up, and 3) I have also learned that most parents (and librarians) don't know how to help their children most effectively. They may think exposure to books is enough—but it isn't. They may think reading to their child is enough—but it isn't. They may think coming to a storytime is enough—but it isn't. As the title of a 1999 report by Louisa Moats says, teaching reading is rocket science. Learning to read is not "natural"; it is actually a "code" to be broken by children as they understand the specific link between letter and sound. It is in the preschool years, starting from birth, that children develop the skills ultimately needed to break the code.

Why isn't exposure to books, reading to your children, or coming to storytime enough?

Studies show that the frequency of language interactions and vocabulary use from birth to age three is a key predictor of language skill and reading comprehension at grade three.

Studies show that children who are read to three times per week or more do much better in later development than children who are read to less than three times per week.

*Continued on page 10*

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends:

As we enter a new Montgomery County budget cycle, the Friends are getting ready to monitor and prepare comments concerning the fiscal year 2003 budget for our public libraries. The County's Office of Management and Budget has announced that we will face a substantial budget gap for FY 2003. In addition, the State's general fund revenues are below for the same time period last year.

What will this mean for Montgomery County public libraries? There is no doubt that all County agencies will be asked to find ways to cut their operating budgets and our community libraries will be effected. Our library department will be looking at their options—including staff reductions, diminished hours, abbreviated collections and diminished services.

What can you do? Stay informed about the Montgomery County budget process in the next few months through the Friends' newsletters and local newspapers. Be ready to write or call your local Councilmember to voice your concern for our community libraries. And, continue to support the Friends of the Library. Renew your membership. Send in a birthday present for the libraries and "Buy a Book."

If you won't value our libraries, who will?

Sincerely,  
Susan J. Schmidt



### Buy the Library a 50th Birthday present and get your name in a book.

When you contribute \$25 or more to the Friends of the Library through the Buy-a-



Book Program, your name or the name of the special person you choose to honor, will be printed on a bookplate and placed in a new book that will circulate throughout the Montgomery County Libraries' system.

**Turn to page 10 for details.**

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

By Diane Leatherman,  
Executive Director and Editor

Organizations, like people, go through stages of life. Perhaps when I came aboard, the Friends of the Library was a “young adult” looking for his/her place in life, but without a means of support. After seven and one-half years as Executive Director, I feel quite content that I am leaving the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, in a more developed state. Of course no Executive Director does it alone. It is a delicate balance between Board, staff, and Executive Director.

As I became the Friends’ Executive Director, the Friends were offered free space at Wheaton Plaza in order to open a used bookstore, thanks to efforts by former MCDPL Development Officer Barbara Harr. The bookstore would also offer some kind of community service. In spite of almost no funds, we did that—I wrote a note to then-FOL President, John Murdock, saying that I had signed an \$1,800 check for the carpet, while praying that there would be money for pay-



Diane Leatherman (above center) with Reading Is Fundamental children

checks. We offered free monthly programs by authors and small community service organizations. We sold books at very reasonable prices and raised enough funds to enable the Friends to really begin to financially assist the libraries.

One of the immediate results was the “Fund for Libraries.” This project was given a plain brown wrapper name in hopes that a wealthy donor might want to fund the award program and give it his or her own name. The Fund for Libraries offers each individual branch library an equal sum every year. (There’s still a naming opportunity for the right donor!) Currently the award is an unrestricted \$500 per year for all 23 branches. To quote Rita Gale, MCPL Public Service Administrator, “This fund is the best thing that happens to libraries all year!”

Not only did we raise funds from the Friends’ Store, we handled the funds responsibly (thanks to just-retired Friends’ Treasurer Judith Kellogg). When the County Attorney said that the Library Board could no longer handle the book sale at Wheaton Library, the Library Board had no qualms about handing the sale over to the Friends of the Library. They also donated over \$100,000+ to begin an Endowment for the Future to be operated by the Friends of the Library for Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Some of you may have noticed the little advertisement that first appeared in the 1995 issues of our newsletter. It gently reminds “Don’t leave without considering your legacy to the libraries.” The Friends’ “F” is adorned with a halo and wings. It was designed as a gift by Cheryl Parker of Hummingbird Press. We will never know for sure but it may well have been the inspiration for Lawrence J. Bloch’s generous bequest of almost \$700,000 for Montgomery County Public Libraries. Mr. Bloch left an equal gift to the District of Columbia Public Libraries. (See “Bloch Grants” article on page 6.)

Continued on page 11



### 2001 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

99 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850  
Tel: 240-777-0020 Fax: 240-777-0066

## The 50th Birthday Celebration Five for Fifty

*During this year's 50th Anniversary Celebration, the Friends of the Library have featured five Montgomery County authors in each issue of their newsletter.*

### Thomas B. Allen

Thomas B. Allen is a writer whose works include articles for National Geographic Magazine and books on a variety of subjects, ranging from military history to natural history. He is the author or co-author of 29 books. "For every one of those books," Allen says, "I started out the project by using the resources of my wonderful Bethesda Library." His most recent books are *Shark Attacks*, an analysis of where and why they happen, and *Remembering Pearl Harbor*, a National Geographic children's book described by the School Library Journal as "an ideal resource for units on World War II." Allen is the co-author, with Norman Polmar, of *Spy Book: The Encyclopedia of Espionage*, which is the principal source book for the International Spy Museum, which will open in Washington next spring. (Spy Book was also the subject of a Friends' Literary Luncheon in 1996).

As a frequent contributor to National Geographic Magazine, he has written on such subjects as Xinjiang China, Mongolia, Turkey, World War II (the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. Eighth Air Force), the search for the giant squid, the sinking of the U.S.S. Maine, and the Battle of Midway. The article was published in the Japanese, Israeli, Greek, and Latin American editions of the Magazine. His most recent Geographic Magazine article, on searching for Cuba's treasure ships, was published in July 2001. An article on old Cuba's gold-laden Treasure Fleets, appears in the July 2001 Geographic. He has other articles coming up in the December 2001 and June 2002 issues.

### Thomas L. Friedman

Mr. Friedman has been recommended to the Friends of the Library by MCPL Chief of Collection Development Kay Ecelbarger, who holds him in high regard. No one sees the work of as many authors as does a Chief of Collection Development. It is with good reason that he has been recommended.

Mr. Friedman's first book, *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, won the National Book Award and he has won the Pulitzer Prize twice for his reporting for *The New York Times*. Although he is Foreign Affairs columnist for the Times, Mr. Friedman and his family live in Montgomery County.

Thomas Friedman used his years of travel over the globe and interviews with people from all parts and many levels, to write *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, which appeared initially in 1999 and was re-issued, updated, in 2000. This is a very important book to read if you wish to understand today's world order, "Globalization."

### Mollee Kruger

A photograph of Mollee Kruger as Carrie Nation is on the cover of this issue of the newsletter.

Mollee Kruger says she was born in a library. The second-floor apartment in which her parents lived had once been a lending library during the 1920s. A partition separated the bedrooms, and there, overlooking Main Street in Bel-Air, Maryland, this Depression baby arrived too speedily for her mother to reach the hospital. To quote Mollee, "I am, therefore, I read. Consider me more than a Friend of the Library; I'm a live-in relative."

That unscripted beginning ushered in the checkered life of a writer. In the seven-plus decades that have followed her birth, there are not only six books of verse, but also articles for The Washington Post, television scripts, prize-winning short stories and essays, a syndicated weekly column of topical verse that ran for almost 20 years, historical commemorations, plays, Petrarchan sonnets, and radio commercials for the Orioles games. She has acted, directed, produced, sung and danced versions of her work. In fact she brought a group to the Friends' Store in Wheaton Plaza several years ago and performed in a special public programs about the First Ladies.

When a voice disorder hit her, she took up mime and "moved in mysterious ways to get the message across."

To quote Ms. Kruger, "A writer, especially a female, is shackled to the era in which she is born. Jane Austen did not have Doris Lessing's freedom of movement and thought. Emily Dickinson's anguish was a far cry from Dorothy Parker's. Willa Cather could not cover the territory of Joyce Carol Oates. Me? I'm a loose cannon like the twentieth century...my work reflects metamorphosis, molded by hard economic times, wars, prosperity, and the social commandments that have filtered through the smoke. The trick is not to become bogged down in self-pity and doubt. Neatness doesn't count; survival does. Writers are familiar with the term 'on spec'. Translation: write your damndest, captivate editors who would rather publish their friends, pray you'll discover El Dorado. Speculate with no guarantees. We freelancers go our bemused way year after year. We execute u-turns, navigate cul-de-sacs, choose life, and chug away toward the future. On spec. And even if I can never equal my heroes in the library, Gabriel Garcia

Don't leave without considering  
your Legacy to the Libraries.



For more information,  
call (240) 777-0019

Friends  
of the Library  
Montgomery County  
Maryland, Inc.

Marquez, Robertson Davies, and Bernard Malamud, I'll never give up the game."

Ms. Kruger's books include *Unholy Writ: Jewish Poems for the Non-Neurotic*; *More Unholy Writ: Jewish Verses and Vices*; *Yankee Shoes: A Light Verse Saunter Through Our Second Hundred Years*; *Daughters of Chutzpah: Humorous Verse on the Jewish Woman*; *Admiral of the Mosquitoes: Columbus and America in Light and Dark Verse*; *Ladies First: Rhymes and Times of the President's Wives and Other Female Fantasies*.

### Barbara Lefcowitz

I first met Barbara Lefcowitz at The Writer's Center (a wonderful contribution to writers here in Montgomery County), when it was originally located at Glen Echo Park (another—but then I am prejudiced), and I was a National Park Service Ranger there in the 1970s. She still teaches at The Writer's Center, now located in downtown Bethesda on Walsh.

Ms. Lefcowitz is many things: a poet, essayist, novelist, teacher and visual artist. She has been granted writing fellowships by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rockefeller Foundation and published at least eight books: her novel, *Red Lies and White Lies*, and numerous books of poetry, *The Politics of Snow*, *Shadows and Goatbones*, *The Wild Piano*, *The Queen of Lost Baggage*, *A Hand of Stars*, and *A Dish of Green*.



### Jan Pottker

Jan Pottker, writer and public speaker, is the author of recently published *Janet and Jackie: The Story of a Mother and Her Daughter, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis* (St. Martin's Press). This biography of Janet (Mrs. Hugh D.) Auchincloss is the first written about the mother of the former First Lady. Besides telling the story of Mrs. Auchincloss, the book details the relationship between a mother and the daughter who became the nation's leading female icon. She will be speaking about Janet and Jackie at the April 18, 2002 Friends' Literary Luncheon at Strathmore Hall.

The biography is Jan Pottker's seventh book. Her prior books include *Dear Ann, Dear Abby*, a joint biography of the nation's leading advice columnists; *Born to Power*, in which she profiles 50 heirs to America's leading family businesses; *Crisis in Candyland*, which tells the colorful story of the Mars family empire; and *Celebrity Washington*, a guide to the movers and shakers in the nation's capital. Her books have been reviewed by the national press, including in leading newspapers and magazines, and she has appeared on such nation-wide television shows as ABC's *Working Woman*, CNBC's *Business Today* and NBC's *Inside Edition*.

Jan Pottker holds a Ph.D. in sociology and education from Columbia University. She was born in Lake Forest, Illinois and has lived for the past twenty years in Potomac, Maryland with her husband, Andrew S. Fishel, who is Managing Director of the Federal Communications Commission. She is a Friends' Trustee and member of the Executive Committee; Ms. Pottker also serves as President of the Friends of the Library, Washingtoniana Division, Washington, D C Public Library. She and her husband have two daughters.

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*Editor's note: We hope you have enjoyed "meeting" the twenty-five assorted author/writers that we have introduced to you this year.*

### Young Adults

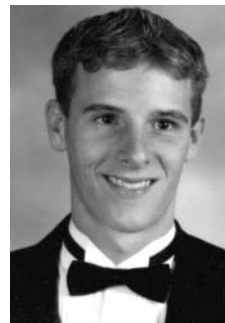
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*What do these young adults have in common?*

Carmen Bander	Jenn Benton
Catherine Carr	Constantyn de Wit
Justin Fauntroy	Michael Giacalone
William Harmon	John Junghans
Julie Kaufman	Lee KmJacob
Danielle Kubi	Tiffany McLean
Ian Muir	Tran-Chau Nguyen
Sheila Rajagopal	Maurice Ruiz
Abbie Spencer	Moshe Stern
Xuan Tiet	Yefan Zhao
Awais Zia	Umair Zia

Naomi Zuckerman

All won \$25 checks for participating in the Montgomery County Public Libraries' 50th Anniversary Scavenger Hunt for Young Adults! *Congratulations to these young people.*



### Another Winner

*The MCPL Staff Association awarded another undergraduate Staff Association/Friends of the Library Scholarship.*

This \$500 award was given to Christopher S. Burns this fall. Chris is enrolled in Colgate University, where he is a member of the varsity track team. He graduated from Springbrook High School as part of

the National Honors Society and was awarded an International Baccalaureate Diploma for his high marks. Chris worked at the White Oak Library for four years, right through high school.

*Continued on page 8*



## Teen Read Week

by Wendy Xu, Friends' Student Trustee

During Teen Read Week, author Laurie Halse Anderson visited Quince Orchard Library and Twinbrook Library to speak about her experiences as a writer. Ms. Anderson is the author of several young adult novels including *Fever* and *Speak*. Although Ms. Anderson's visit was part of a series of events for

Teen Read Week, there was a diverse audience with several teens expressing interest in pursuing a writing career. Ms. Anderson spoke about finding her voice during the earlier stages of her career and how she found the inspiration for her novels. She also answered questions on the publishing aspect of writing novels and her own writing schedule. To aspiring authors, Ms. Anderson gives this advice: "Try not to guess what would be popular, identify what's in your heart and what really counts—a story you want to tell."

*As we go to press the Friends have just received word that we are receiving a \$4,000 grant from the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust for YA programs!* Ms. Edwards was a YA librarian in Baltimore who studied teenage service in New York Public Library in order to institute some of her ideas here in Maryland. She believed teenagers should have full access to all of the library but that they needed some special direction and that small "showcase" collections of popular books would tempt young adults to browse, borrow and read. Over 30 years she developed an effective program for young adults and tremendous training for other librarians. She left a bequest that has made it possible for libraries throughout the United States to receive grants for creative YA programs.



Laurie Halse Anderson posed for a quick photo with Diane Monnier, MCPL Senior Librarian for Children and Adults

## Reading Is Fundamental

*Our RIF children, youngsters from HOC-assisted Tanglewood Apartments, were hosted at a wonderful Halloween party in the Chevy Chase Library by the Montgomery County Federation of Republican Women on October 30th. This group has continued to support our project over the years.*

We were also chosen by the national RIF office to receive 100 books for the children's Homework Club Resource Room. This was a project funded by Coca-Cola.

Every year we have helped with a Santa Shop, where the children "shop" for free and choose gifts for their parents. Maybe you can look in your drawers for items to donate to the Santa Shop—costume jewelry, photo frames, unused toiletries, small items that you are not likely to ever use. If you have such items, please call me, Diane Leatherman at the Friends office, (240) 777-0019. We will arrange to get them to the Santa Shop.



These RIF children had a great time at the Halloween party hosted by the Montgomery County Federation of Republican Women

## Bloch Grants

*Last year the Friends received a generous bequest of almost \$700,000 from the estate of Lawrence J. Bloch. Twice a year the Friends will make grants (Bloch Grants) to individual libraries to enhance existing library services; to promote outreach to our communities; to pilot new library services and delivery methods, and to support minor modifications to library facilities that would not be included in the annual MCPL budget process.*

The first Bloch Grant Selection Committee has made the following recommendations for the first cycle of funding:

### **Gaithersburg Library—\$5,140.00**

Purchase a 60 by 48-inch V-shaped sign that will be visible to drivers on Montgomery Village Avenue, Lost Knife Circle and Christopher Street in all directions. The addition of the sign will enable the Library to advertise programs in services in various languages. The Friends of the Library, Gaithersburg Chapter is contributing \$3,000 toward to cost of this project.

### **Silver Spring Library—\$5,500.00**

Fund a series of multicultural family programs at the Library. These programs will celebrate the variety of cul-

tures in the community, attract non-traditional library users and promote family literacy.

*Long Branch Library—\$9,221.00*

Fund Management software for a computer lab which will be open to the public when not in use as a lab. The software will help to ensure fair and equal public access to the public. This will also provide public access to the public. This will also provide a test for MCPL to assess the software's application across the system.

## **First Annual Los Nuestrós Series**

*Sponsored by Friends of the Library in Montgomery County Public Libraries with assistance from Live! @ your library, an initiative of the American Library Association, with major support from the National Endowment for the Arts, Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, and John S. and James. L. Knight Foundation.*



There is no cost for this series and no reservations need to be made.

### **La Familia**

Dr. Guillermo Olivós, a Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, emigrated to the U. S. after graduating from medical school in Peru, where he was born. For the past 20 years he has worked with multicultural populations. He has written several books, including *Apuntes y Reflexiones* and *La Familia del Aprendiz*.

The presentation will be in Spanish.

*Saturday, March 30th, 2002, 2 p.m.*

*Wheaton Library, 11701 Georgia Ave, Wheaton*

### **Frida Kahlo**

Dr. Barbara Mujica, author of *Frida*, an imaginative book based on artist Frida Kahlo's life, which explores a panoply of themes: competition between siblings, the meaning of marital fidelity, and the role of the arts in social activism. Dr. Mujica writes widely on Hispanic culture.

The presentation will be in English.

*May 4, 2002, 2 p.m.*

*Long Branch Library, 8800 Garland Ave, Silver Spring*



## **Starbucks ABC Drive for the second year**

*For the second year, the Friends received thousands of books gathered by Starbucks Coffee in their local stores.*

After making every effort to share with Montgomery County children's causes, we were able to ship children's



**Looking for your place in the world? Join the literary community at the Writer's Center.**

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book all over the globe, thanks to the generosity of Dora Gross, who donated money for postage.

## **LIBRARY & CHAPTER NEWS**

### **Aspen Hill**

*by Patrick Lacefield, Chapter Treasurer*

There are lots of ways to celebrate birthdays but the Friends of the Library, Aspen Hill Chapter, thought they would be, well, just a little different in marking MCPL's half-century mark.

Over 70 dedicated book lovers joined in to "read around the clock" in Aspen Hill Library's recent Read-A-Thon—reading aloud starting at 12 noon on a Friday and through the night to end at noon on the Saturday following, in an unbroken chain.

"We wanted to say 'Happy Birthday!' in a unique way and showcase the wonderful world of joy in reading," said Aspen Hill Chapter President Barbara Shaw.

Among the readers were County Council President Blair Ewing, Councilmembers Marilyn Praisner and Phil Andrews, State Senator Leonard Teitelbaum, Delegate Carol Petzold (reading the State of Maryland Constitution), County Corrections Director Arthur Wallenstein (reading poetry about prisons by Lord Byron), bestselling author (and a Friends' Five for Fifty author) Jay Winik, and folks ranging in age from 11 to 70. While most read in English, the Spanish, French, and Chinese languages were also heard.

Selections varied from Shakespeare's sonnets through Edgar Allan Poe to *Where the Wild Things Are*. A local author shared a part of mystery work-in-progress while a Sri Lankan poet recited his own romantic verse, causing a near-swoon among some in the audience.

The Aspen Hill Library community turned out in force to kick-off the 24 hours and marked the end with birthday cake for all. County Friends of the Library President Susan Schmidt and Montgomery County Public Libraries Director Harriet Henderson were on hand to wrap up the event and offer a hardy “well-done” to the marathon session.

## Fairland Chapter

*by Sue Perella, Chapter Co-Chair*

The Fairland Library was the winner of the Judges' Award for its float at the Annual Burtonsville Day celebration on September 29th. Volunteers, LAC, Friends, and staff members worked together to help make this a memorable day. Everyone enjoyed working on the float and dressing up children in costumes that represented various book characters such as Cat in The Hat. Members passed out free library “goody bags” along the parade route. In addition to the parade, the day was highlighted by various community and food booths, music and games. The Library hosted free health testing and information at its Health Fair that was sponsored by local hospitals. The LAC and the Friends of the Library held a large outdoor book sale. This is always a very successful event as everyone is looking for that special bargain book.



Silver Spring Library. Many people put forth considerable effort toward this, and the hard work paid off. The day was a big success. Highlights of the day included County council President Blair Ewing's eloquent remarks about our history and current challenges, and Gary Stith, Director of the Silver Spring Regional Services Center who talked about plans for the future library. The Friends presented acting Library Manager Milena Orchard-Hayes with a pastel drawing of the Library, commissioned for this celebration.

Our Annual Friends membership drive begins in January. Renewals will be sent during December. We urge you to support the Fairland Chapter and renew your membership.

## Little Falls Chapter

*by Susan J. Schmidt, Chapter President*

We invite you to our annual “Holiday Concert” on Saturday, December 8 at 10:30 a.m. Join pianist and Little Falls Friends' Board Member Myra Weinberg as we sing and enjoy many of your holiday favorites.

Don't forget that our Little Falls logo items—canvas bags, coffee mugs, and T-shirts—make wonderful holiday presents for your Friends and family.

This is the time when we ask you to renew your Friends' membership. Your support and encouragement enables us to provide enhancements for our community library that are not included in the County's budget. This year the Friends have presented literary programs, provide for staff appreciation, purchase extra copies of school reading list books, support the Little Falls Summer Reading Program presentations and lots more. Your membership is important to your library!

## Silver Spring Chapter

*by Nancy Pond, Chapter President*

Our energies this summer and fall have been focused on October 20th, when we celebrated the 70th birthday of

On November 7th we kicked off this year's Speaker Series, with Dr. Karen Shanor, clinical psychologist and radio talk show host from Silver Spring, who will discuss her book, *The Emerging Mind*. The program begins at 8 p.m. at the Library.

The second featured speaker scheduled this year is Bruce Lee, military historian and author who grew up in Silver Spring, who will join us to talk about the book he co-authored, *Pearl Harbor: Final Judgement*. This program begins at 8 p.m. at the Library on December 4th.

Our Vintage Silver Spring 2002 calendars are now available for sale at the Library. The cost again this year is \$7.

## Special Needs Library at Maryland Deaf Festival

*by Susan Cohen, Information Specialist*

On Saturday, September 29, 2001, two Information Specialists, Susan F. Cohen from the Special Needs Library (SNL) and Sue Nichols, Children's Information Specialist from Quince Orchard Library, represented Montgomery County Public Libraries at the Maryland Deaf Festival (MDF). Both Information Specialists are fluent in sign language.

The MDF is usually held every two years at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds in Gaithersburg, Maryland to showcase services from national, state and local levels, assistive technology for and by the Deaf



# FRIENDS BOOK SALES



PHOTOS BY BILL CLARKE

**Both** of the Friends' book sales use **volunteer services.**



## Friends' Store in Westfield Shoppingtown

(formerly Wheaton Plaza)  
Receiving and Selling Donated Books, Tapes and Records

The Friends Store is located in the old Social Security space outside Entrance #1. It is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m., and Sunday 11 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Unfortunately the Friends' Store will be closing on January 15, 2002, after seven and one-half years of service to Montgomery County and its libraries. Come by now for fabulous bargains in books, records, tapes.

The Friends appreciate all the positive comments about the store received from

our customers. The staff and volunteers of the Friends' Store over the past years have contributed greatly to the success of this store.



**We will be saying "Thank you" and "Good-bye" to the Friends' Store staff and volunteers and retiring Executive Director Diane Leatherman at the Friends' Store on Sunday, December 2nd from 2 until 6 p.m. All are cordially invited.**

At press time the Friends of the Library are looking for new store space.

## Wheaton Book Sale

Receiving and Selling Donated Books, Tapes and Records,  
new phone number:  
240-777-0688

This sale is located at Wheaton Regional Library at 11701 Georgia Avenue, on the lower level. It is open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, 1 to 4:30 p.m. (if the libraries are open.) Please note that the Wheaton Book Sale has a new phone number: **240-777-0688**. Beginning in 2002, the Wheaton Book Sale will no longer handle records or tapes.

Community and crafts representing deaf culture by the Deaf Community. Over 2,000 guests attended. Visitors came from many states on the East Coast, such as NY, NJ, Massachusetts, Delaware and MD. Over 150 people viewed the library exhibit and asked a wide variety of questions.

The library's presence at MDF offered a much-needed visibility in the deaf community. There were lots of opportunities to network, gather ideas for programs and collection resources, and to make contacts with the deaf community. SNL thanks the library department and the Friends of the Library of Montgomery County, Inc. for funding the exhibit and the attendance of the two Information Specialists.

The library exhibit's eye-catching tri-fold display, funded by the Friends of the Library, highlighted library and information services for the deaf and hard of hearing community. The credit for the design and photographs of the tri-fold display goes to Karen Seaton, SNL's Library Associate. TTY

for library and information service, interpreters for library-sponsored programs, availability of audio loops in meeting rooms of some libraries, and how to find accessible library services through the Montgomery County Public Libraries' website were all promoted.

The laptop PC was one of the attention-drawing features of the display. It was used to demonstrate the various web-pages from the library website via PDF files, thanks to Ana Rita Puertas-Meyers, Technology Management staff, who made this possible. Attention was given to the online library catalog, E-mail a Librarian, where to find TTY numbers, and where to find the phone number for interpreter requests for library sponsored programs.

The booth also included a number of handouts, which promoted library services and resources, many of which are funded through the Friends of the Library.



## Buy the Library a 50th Birthday present and get your name in a book.

When you contribute \$25 or more to the Friends of the Library through the Buy-a-Book Program, your name or the name of the special person you choose to honor, will be placed in a new book that will circulate throughout the Montgomery County Libraries' system.

YES, I want to help buy more books for the libraries. Here is my birthday gift. I understand that bookplates will be placed in new books in my name or the name of the person I choose to honor.

### GIFT LEVELS

- Epic \$500
- Classic \$250
- Bestseller \$100
- Novel \$ 50
- Short Story \$ 25

Other giving levels are available. For more information, please call the Friends of the Library office at 240-777-0020.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check made payable to **The Friends of the Library**

I prefer to charge my contribution  Visa/Mastercard

Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

This gift will be matched by my company. Enclosed is the completed form.

Please place this bookplate in a book at the \_\_\_\_\_ Library.

I would like information about the Endowment Funds.

This gift is in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday  Anniversary  Retirement

Birth of a Child  Other \_\_\_\_\_

This gift is in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Send an acknowledgement to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you. Your donation is tax-deductible.

## More From The Director's Desk

*continued from page 2*

Studies show that children need to develop narrative skills. They gain these skills through dialog and dialogic reading—in essence, don't just read the story but engage the child by asking questions as you go along about what comes next or what just happened. The child may even talk about something she remembers or wonders about and the more the child participates in the discussion the better.



Studies show that children must develop letter knowledge, which requires a variety of activities including pointing to and naming letters as well as taking words apart to put the letters together again.

Studies show that children who live in environments where adults have low vocabularies or low verbal interaction with children will enter school with much lower vocabularies. Adults need to know that this can be helped by activities such as reading with children from cereal boxes, signs or books and talking with children about daily activities.

None of these take great effort, but parents and caregivers do need to know what works and why. That's why we have charged Saroj Ghoting, as our Early Childhood Services Coordinator, to make sure library staff are trained in what works and why, to implement programs for parents in what works and why, and to integrate these activities as much as possible into library programs for preschool children. Montgomery County Government and Montgomery County Schools have an ambitious goal to increase the number of children who enter school ready to learn. As a key partner in this Early Childhood Initiative, the public libraries have a major role in training not only staff and parents but also child care providers and service providers, including home visiting programs, specialists who work with children with special needs, social workers, and the Literacy Council, to name a few.

## Special program sponsored by the Friends

*Paul Dickson, author of Sputnik: The Shock of the Century will be speaking at Wheaton Library December 13th, in the Atrium at 7 p.m.*

Mr. Dickson's book has received rave reviews for making the space race interesting and putting the public response to this Soviet threat—and the President's calming reaction—into a very ageless perspective. The Friends will make the book available for purchase and Mr. Dickson will be signing.

No reservations are required. The program will be filmed by CNN, a "new" for the Friends.

**Next newsletter deadline  
is February 1, 2002.**

## More From The Executive Director

*continued from page 3*

We have not forgotten to share. We began a RIF (Reading is Fundamental) project at HOC (Housing Opportunities Commission)-assisted Tanglewood Apartments. Many of our RIF children are part of newly immigrated families. We provide several events yearly and hundreds of new books from which the children choose their own.

Born to Read, another project to reach out to children through our libraries, began through generous gifts from a loyal, active Friend. The Friends continue to work to offer this language development program to a growing number of our Montgomery County Libraries.

And, in an effort to provide a continuum of services to youth of all ages, Teen Read Week, began a few years ago and has continued with financial assistance from the Friends. Teen Read Week reaches out to our Montgomery County Young Adults. This year a special part of Summer Reading was aimed at this group as well.

Although a large percentage of Montgomery County population uses the libraries, we have started to make an extra effort to invite new County residents into the libraries through programs aimed at specific growing populations, (for example, our Los Nuestrros series began this year).

Now it is time for a new person with a new perspective and ideas. I'll still be here, in Montgomery County, in the libraries from time to time, so we don't really have to say good-bye.

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*Diane Leatherman will be leaving her position as Executive Director for Friends of the Library, Montgomery County, Maryland Inc. at year's end after working for the friends since 1994. Diane joined the Friends at a turning point in the development of the organization, a turning point that she spearheaded with then President John Murdock and MCDPL liaison Barbara Harr. She recalls the initial job offer from the friends—including the proviso that there were only funds to guarantee her salary for one month. Given the success of FOL programs such as the Literary Luncheon and Los Nuestrros series, Summer Reading, and the recent award from the Margaret Alexander Edwards Trust, the organization has exceeded high expectations under Diane's directorship.*

*Among Diane's first accomplishments was the grand opening of the Friends' Store (at Wheaton Plaza) and the development of monthly public service programs and the Literary Salon. The former provided Friends' financial security and the later was one of many successful efforts to reach out to Montgomery County residents. The following year, Diane submitted a successful application and Friends' received a prestigious National FOLUSA/Baker Taylor Award. Further accomplishments include establishment of the Fund for Libraries and the Reading is Fundamental Project. In discussing her accomplishments in her tenure as Director, Diane considers her most important contribution to be the current solvency of the*

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Friends  
of the Library  
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Maryland, Inc.

*Friends organization and her work to provide readily available financial resources to Montgomery County Library Branches.*

*After resigning her position, Diane will launch a new freelance career, writing and consulting with nonprofit enterprises. In addition, Diane's second book, for children, based on the 1920s childhood of a Maryland farm girl, will be published in 2002 by The Baltimore Sun. We wish great success and good fortune for Diane in her new creative ventures.*

Beth Sunnucks, Business Manager

## Appearing in concert JOE DEVLIN



Local singer/songwriter and guitarist Joe Devlin has started a monthly Friends of the Library concert series to help raise funds for local FOL chapters. Joe performs uplifting original and classic hits from the 60s through the 90s. The concert series was started in May at the Gaithersburg Library and performances have already been held at Quince Orchard, Poolesville, Damascus and Little Falls.

Joe released two CDs in 2001. "Father and Son," which includes eight inspirational original tunes and two cover songs, was released in May. "Joe Devlin—Live" (released on October 26th at the Damascus concert) was recorded in preparation for the Gaithersburg Library Concert and contains original songs, plus classic hits from John Denver, James Taylor, and Don McLean (American Pie)...and more. Joe is offering to perform at any libraries within Montgomery county free of charge (based upon available dates). He will sell both CDs at the concerts to cover expenses and is willing to donate half of the proceeds from any "Joe Devlin—Live" CD sales back to the local FOL.

If you are interested in arranging a performance, please contact Joe at (301) 963-8365 or via Email at [josephdevlin@yahoo.com](mailto:josephdevlin@yahoo.com).



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Please indicate type of contribution:

I/We would like to become a Friend.

\$25    \$50    \$100    \$250    \$500    \$1,000    \$5,000

Please send this membership to my local chapter \_\_\_\_\_ (name of library).

*If you cannot afford one of these categories, please give to the best of your ability.*

I have included a check.

I wish to charge to my account \_\_\_\_\_ exp. \_\_\_\_\_

I am a member. Please consider this a renewal.

A copy of our current financial statement is available upon request by contacting the Friends of the Library office. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.

Your contribution to the Friends of the Library is tax deductible to the fullest extent under the law.

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