

Library News

From Friends of the Montgomery - Floyd Regional Library

Winter 2014 Edition

2014 Friends of the Library Membership Drive

The 2014 Membership Drive will be the week of January 19 – 25.

Who Can Be a Friend?

Individuals of all ages, families, and businesses throughout Montgomery County & Floyd.

How Can I Become a Friend?

Visit your local library or mail the form found in this newsletter. The Membership form may also be downloaded from our website.

Volunteers are needed for the Membership Drive, January 19 – 25.

If you are able to fill a 2 hour time slot, contact the following:

Blacksburg Library:

Berenice Escalera 315-4482

Christiansburg Library:

Marjorie Modlin 382-9621

Meadowbrook Library:

Steven Estrada 357-0795

**MEMBERSHIP
DRIVE** 

Thank you

Berenice Escalera, Membership Chair

2014 Board Members

Mary North, Montgomery President

Diane Wilson, Hospitality Chair

Steven Estrada, Vice President

Rochelle Johnson, Hospitality Co-Chair

Susan Keith, Secretary

Susan Day, Web Administrator

Jane Wills, Treasurer

Jeanette Staats, Newsletter Editor

Berenice Escalera, Membership

Kit Haggard, Floyd President

Linda Spivey, Staff Liaison



MONTGOMERY-FLOYD REGIONAL LIBRARY

From the desk of ...

Paula Alston, Director, Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library



I'd like to thank the Friends of the Library for all your support. We had a terrific summer full of great programs and crafts and it was all due to your efforts. We couldn't do it without you. Thank you! Also, a huge thank you for your contribution to the Foundation's Bountiful Basket Auction on November 7 and to the Floyd Friends for being a major sponsor. The Foundation is already planning for the 2014 Auction so watch for details. We would love to see YOU at the 2014 Bountiful Basket Auction.

In October, author Neil Gaiman gave a talk to the Reading Agency in London. You can read his lecture in its entirety at www.readingagency.org.uk. He talks about his love of reading and libraries and how important both are to our society. He reminds us that there are no bad authors, bad genres or bad books for children. As long as kids are reading, the what doesn't matter. Comic books, graphic novels, R.L. Stine—let them read what they are interested in. He said, "The simplest way to make sure that we raise literate children is to teach them to read, and to show them that reading is a pleasurable activity. And that means, at its simplest, finding books that they enjoy giving them access to those books and letting them read them." He ends his lecture

quoting Albert Einstein who was once asked how we could make our children intelligent. Einstein said, "If you want your children to be intelligent," he said, "read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales." So pick up a book tonight and read to your child.

Check out our website at www.mfml.org or follow the libraries on Facebook. But, whatever you do, keep on reading!

-Paula Alston

Mary North, President, Montgomery County Friends of the Library

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

May your year be blessed with many a fine book. If you have not made your resolutions, consider giving a membership to FOL to a friend or relative.

While some of us were enjoying the Thanksgiving holiday, one of the newest members of our board, Sue Hossack, was busy creating Montgomery County Friends' first on-line book sales account. The link to the ebay web site is, <http://www.ebay.com/usr/montgomeryfol> – check it out.

2013 was a good year; we gave almost \$28,000 to the library to fulfill their request for 2014. The money will pay for the summer reading programs and other programs throughout the year (including "Books for Babies") along with a new scanner (with keyboard and dedicated hard drive). The money will also fund author talks and writing programs and lap-top tables.

Our membership drive is coming soon, the last full week of January (19-25). Please note the piece by our new membership chair, Berenice Escalera, in this newsletter and volunteer to help with this important activity. We will have tables at all three branches of the Library during the week and will need friends to fill in blocks of time. You can email Berenice at talkto.be.nice@gmail.com.

You might want to make a note on your calendar of the 2014 Barter Theatre's production on Saturday, March 22 at 2PM. Evelyn Melia has a note about the performance in the newsletter.

-Mary North

Cathy Whitten, Library Branch Manager, Jessie Peterman Library

Greetings to all our members of the Floyd Friends of the Library!

Because of your generosity, the Friends were able to donate \$2500 to the MFRL Foundation for the library's future growth. Among those who have made donations or joined at the Gold level since our last newsletter are Ed Gralla and Randy Schwartz, Sarah and Peter Vandenburg and Anne Wilmot. In addition to the donation to the Foundation, the Friends have also committed to the purchase of a scanner like the one that has been here on loan from the Library of Virginia. This will enable community members to come in and scan their genealogical records without giving them up and yet the rest of the community will have access to the photos, information, letters and family trees.

Just a reminder: our next meeting will be held on January 9, 2014 at 3:30 here at Jessie Peterman Library and our annual membership drive will be held at the end of January. Keep in mind that your membership is good for the calendar year and so needs to be renewed each year. We count on you all!

We can't let this opportunity go by without mentioning the loss of one of our long-time and much-loved members, Jackie VanGunten. Jackie was a bundle of energy who was ready and willing to take on any task the Friends asked. We miss her greatly.

-Cathy Whitten

From the Blacksburg Library

The Blacksburg Library recently received a new circulation desk to replace the desk that had been in place since the 1996 building renovation. While fortunate that the old desk held up as long as it did, the library staff enjoy a more modern desk to assist in better serving the patrons - thanks to MFRL Library Director Paula Alston and the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors!

The new desk offers many improved features including a raised height which makes it more comfortable for staff; a curved shape which increases security and closes the public access to the staff work room; updated technology features for charging circulating devices; more space to store items including the Wii, PS3 and Xbox games; designated display shelving for browsing; and a forward facing design that enables staff to more readily see and greet patrons as they enter the library!

More enhancements and changes are also in the works to the public space. Two new tables and eight chairs have been put into use and more are on the way. These new tables are power-ready, a feature that has been in demand as more patrons come to the library for wireless access and to work on their devices. Also, keep an eye out for a new Express Check-out machine which will offer fast service to patrons on-the-go who may also want to take advantage of nearby self-service holds. Patrons will find the Express touch screen easier to use and will also appreciate an updated scanner.



Last but not least, look for changes to the layout of the library. The magazine shelving has been an area for improvement as it blocks the view of part of the library. In keeping with advice we've received from the Blacksburg Police Department, making changes to this area will increase visual awareness and security! We'll also have additional seating areas and new magazine display units to improve the accessibility of the magazine collection.

The Blacksburg Library thanks our patrons for their patience as we continue to make improvements to the library. Many thanks to the Board of Supervisors for the one time expenditure that has afforded us a new circulation desk!

Blacksburg Library Staff pictured: Emily B., Circulation Specialist; Susan, Circulation Specialist; Cathi, Library Services Specialist; Cathy Prati, Assistant Branch Manager; Elizabeth Sensabaugh, Branch Supervisor; Shelley, Circulation Specialist; Emily A., Library Services Specialist; Lorraine, Circulation Specialist; Joanna, Children's Assistant; Dale, Circulation Specialist; Mary, Library Services Specialist; Pearl, Circulation Specialist; and Duncan, Circulation Specialist



Formal/ Prom Dress Drive.

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January 1- March 1, 2014. We are preparing for our second annual *Prom Dress Extravaganza*. Last year we had a good turn out and we are looking forward to another wonderful program. Juniors and seniors had the opportunity to select a dress. We had a large variety of dresses for them to choose from. You can help us, do you have a formal dress you'll never wear again taking up valuable real estate in your closet?

Donate your gently worn, clean formal to Meadowbrook Public Library. Look for more information to come about our Prom Dress Exchange.

The Emperor's New Clothes

Montgomery County Friends of the Library will bring The Barter Theatre to Blacksburg's Lyric Theatre on Saturday, March 22, 2014 at 2 PM. The production will be "The Emperor's New Clothes," geared to children ages 5 - 12. Let your neighbors know, bring children and grandchildren, to enjoy the tale a very vain Emperor hoodwinked by two clever tailors.

**Blacksburg, VA 24060
200 Miller Street**

MONTGOMERY-FLOYD REGIONAL LIBRARY



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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Blacksburg, VA 24060
Permit no. 49

2014 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership year is January-December.

Dues received October – December are good through the following year.

Name _____

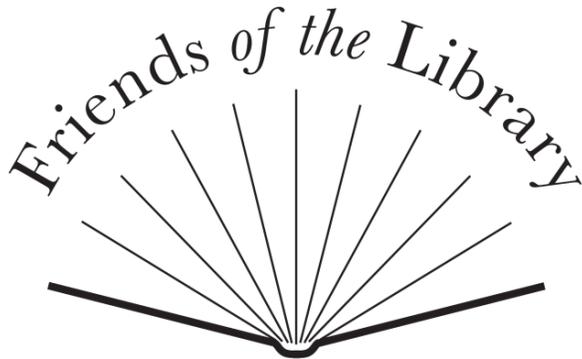
Street Address _____ City _____ ZipCode _____

Phone _____ Email _____

___ Check here if you do not want to be on our Friends of the Library Listserv.

Suggested Membership Contribution:

() \$15 Individual () \$20 Family () \$25 Business () Other _____



MONTGOMERY-FLOYD REGIONAL LIBRARY

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Make checks payable to:

Friends of MFRL (Montgomery Floyd Regional Library)

Mail to:

Friends of the Library
125 Shelton Street
Christiansburg, VA 24073

or Bring to your nearest library branch.

We need your help with Friends' activities. Check below for volunteer opportunities.

Membership Drive in January

Help sign up members at: _____ Christiansburg Library
_____ Blacksburg Library
_____ Meadowbrook Library

Book Sales

Help with book sale at: _____ Author's Readings
_____ Christiansburg Library
_____ Blacksburg Library
_____ Meadowbrook Library

Friends Socials

_____ Bring refreshments for a social

Fundraisers

Help with: _____ Garden Tour (July)
_____ Other Fundraisers

Officers or Committees:

_____ Serve on Friends Board _____ Hospitality Committee _____ Nominating Committee
_____ Membership Committee _____ Newsletter Committee

2014 FLOYD FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP

(Membership period consists of the calendar year January - December)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please show your support by renewing your membership to the Friends of the Library through either a single or family membership or a greater level of support.

- () \$10 Single () \$15 Family () \$25 Bronze Friend
() \$50 Silver Friend () \$100 Gold Friend () \$1000 Lifetime Membership

Make checks payable to Floyd Friends of the Library and mail with this completed form to:
Friends of the Library, P. O. Box 69, Floyd, VA 24091

We need your help with Friends activities!

Please check one or more volunteer opportunities.

- ___ Sign up members at library
- ___ Bring refreshments for events
- ___ Make telephone calls to members
- ___ Plan new fundraisers
- ___ Help maintain the flower beds around the library
- ___ Write promotional material for events
- ___ Serve on Friends Board
- ___ Help with events

What time of day would you be most likely to attend meetings?

___ Mornings ___ Afternoons ___ Evenings ___ No Preference

(Call the library at 745-2947 to see if the group is meeting)

