



FRIENDS OF THE LAUREL LIBRARY

December 2007

President's Message

Once again, we are asking that you renew your commitment to the Laurel Branch Library. Since 1996, we've worked with our branch librarians and staff and with County Library staff to support our very busy facility. We've spoken on behalf of our library at meetings of the Board of Library Trustees and at County Council and County Executive budget hearings. We've funded a wide variety of activities, equipment and supplies for the library. This year, we'll continue to provide funding and to promote the Library's expansion. Please join with us in this effort by sending in your renewal form.

Pat Behenna

New Web Site and Newsgroup

Thanks to our new webmaster, Sue Zwicker, the Friends of the Laurel Library have a new website - <http://www.pgfol.org/>. She has also set up a new online newsgroup which allows members to receive periodic postings of Laurel Library news, meetings, volunteer opportunities, and other items of interest to Friends members.

To subscribe, send an email to **pgfoll-subscribe@yahoogroups.com** Leave the subject line and body blank.

You will receive a confirmation request email, giving you the option to either "Join the group," or "join the mailing list instead." Joining the group requires that you have a (free) Yahoo account, but will give you access to all the group's Web tools such as Message Archives, Polls, Files and Photos. Joining the mailing list is a good option if you just want to stay informed and do not wish to have a Yahoo account.



Your Contributions Make a Difference

This year, your contributions have been used to continue our support for the Laurel Branch. The Friends of the Library funded:

- ✧ The Library's 40th Anniversary Celebration, which featured a scrapbook, face painting, a puppet show and magician in addition to an opening ceremony attended by Councilman Dernoga, Mayor Moe, and representatives from the Library and County Executive.
- ✧ Two special programs for children and adults - the Cullen School's Irish Dancing program and author, Mary Downing Hahn
- ✧ New furniture for the Children's Room
- ✧ All of the Summer Reading Program events at the Laurel Library
- ✧ Multi-media displays
- ✧ The Teen Job Zone

Thank You, Councilman Dernoga

Friends of the Laurel Library is grateful for the continued support of Councilman Tom Dernoga, who awarded the Friends of the Laurel Library a generous grant that will be used to provide programming, especially for teens. We are also grateful for the time and energy Councilman Dernoga is spending on our library expansion plans.

Telling Your Story

FOLL is considering offering a series of four workshops, 2 hours each, this spring or next fall on how to write memoirs or an autobiography. A group of 20 participants is needed. More information to follow.

Thank You FOLL Members

Five members helped library staff county patrons as part of a recent library use survey. Thank you Ethelyn Bishop, Brenda Coker, Joan Goldenberg, Betty Murphy, and Beth Root.

All Board members and several additional FOLL members brought refreshments of our Welcome Roy! Reception. Thank you Margaret Filon, Steve Labash, Diana Sowle, and Board members.

Maryland AskUsNow!

Did you know you have instant access to Reference Librarians, 24 hours a day from the PGCML Home page (<http://www.prcg.lib.md.us/>). Maryland AskUsNow! is a 24/7 live online interactive service for the residents and students of the state of Maryland. Questions from outside of the state that are about Maryland are also accepted. It uses the expertise of trained librarians to provide answers to questions, research guidance, and help navigating the Internet.

The librarian should be able to take you to useful websites and will communicate with you using Internet chat. A normal session lasts between 5 and 20 minutes. Complex questions may not be able to be answered within this time frame. During the chat, the librarian may suggest that your question be forwarded to an expert or your local library for an answer via e-mail. Follow-up replies by e-mail can be expected within 72 hours.

Two Laurel Branch librarians - Sarah Palmer and Arlene Ogurick are among the librarians answering questions.

Next Meeting

Monday, January 28, 2008 at 7:30 pm in the library meeting room. All members are encouraged to attend.

The New Laurel Library

The County Library System is now in the active planning stage for our Laurel building. The possibility of enlarging the current facility is being looked at again. Building next to the current facility is being considered. And, a plan for having the library in the new mall may still be offered.

We'll let you know when specific proposals are made.

Did You Know?

Our library has adult and children's books in five languages in addition to English. The languages are Chinese, French, German, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Officers and Board Members

Pat Behenna, President
Larry Bird, Vice-President & Membership
Beth Root, Secretary
Betty Murphy, Treasurer
Sue Zwicker, Webmaster
Eileen Menton, Past President and Newsletter Editor
Millie O'Laughlin, Public Relations

Roy Joynes, Branch Manager

Laurel Library	507 7th Street
301-776-6790	Laurel, Maryland 20707
TDD 301- 776-6311	
Open: Mon.-Thur., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.	
Fri., 10 a.m.- 6 p.m.	
Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.	
Sun., 1-5 p.m.	