Save the Date: The 2017 SUMMER GARDEN TOUR is . . .

July 8, 2017

Plan now to visit these seven lovely places!
Thanks from the Friends to the following dedicated, skillful, and generous gardeners:

Dave Angle and Diane Relf
1866 Den Hill Road
Christiansburg, VA

Terry and Paula Golden
2095 Plank Drive
Blacksburg, VA

Scott and Barbara Hagood
4116 Old Town Road
Shawsville, VA

Tom and Lisa Hammett
2751 Ellet Road
Christiansburg, VA

Bill Ryan and Debbie Plunkett
3592 Old Town Road
Shawsville, VA

Dennis and Linda Schnecker
2791 Yarrow Road
Blacksburg, VA

Phil and Georgette Wickham
2438 Fishersview Road
Shawsville, VA
Happy holidays, everyone.

I hope you are looking forward to 2017! Just a reminder that if you need a passport, we are the place to be. We are a designated acceptance agency at three locations: Christiansburg, Blacksburg and the Jessie Peterman Library in Floyd. Take a look at our passport page to see what you need to bring with you, then call 382-6969 extension 210 for an appointment, and we can start you on the way to your international travel.

There have been some recent changes to the Christiansburg Library. We were able to expand the teen area and add more shelving in the adult fiction. Montgomery County made much needed improvements to the sidewalk in front of the building. Coming up in Blacksburg: new shelving for the books on CD and DVDs, new camera system, ceiling mounted projector in the community room and best of all, new carpeting!

The holiday season is always a good time to say thank you to all our supporters. Our Friends groups have been so generous to us once again. Their support funds the summer reading programs, all our crafts and the food we provide at various programs and functions and many other programs. You can support the Friends by shopping in their book sales in each of the libraries and by joining them for a small annual fee. It all comes back to us.

The MFRL Foundation held their 4th annual Basket Auction on 11/4 at the Blacksburg Library. It was a great evening of wonderful baskets and good friends. We’d like to offer our heartfelt thanks to all our basket donors, the basket committee, the musicians who played the night away and our great auctioneer, Steve.

The Floyd Endowment also provides much needed support to our book budget at the Jessie Peterman Library. They are always there when we need some help. Now you can see why we value and love all our supporters...as well as our patrons. MFRL—we are one lucky library system!

Whatever you do, keep on reading.

Ellen Hall, President, Friends of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library

At our November Friends Board meeting, we voted to allocate nearly $27,000 to the four public libraries in Floyd and Montgomery Counties for use in 2017. We were able to give the libraries this gift because of the Garden Tour tickets you purchased, the used books you bought, and the memberships you renewed in 2016. Thank you all so very much!

I hope you are now eager to join in the membership drive either by renewing your own membership or by helping at one of the renewal tables at the libraries. Please note the article in this issue on the drive with information on how to volunteer. This year’s drive runs from January 22 to the 28 and is our most important time for attracting new members. Most of the money from membership dues goes directly to support programming for children, teens and adults.

Wishing all of you the best of health and the best of reading in 2017!
Thank You!  Thank You!  Thank You!
The following businesses have already committed to sponsoring major events in 2017.

**Summer Garden Tour**
Crow's Nest Greenhouses

**Summer Reading Program**
The Adventure Club * Rainbow Riders

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**Leap Forward into the New Year at the Blacksburg Library**

Blacksburg library has recently had a major transition! Our dear supervisor, Elizabeth Sensabaugh, has left MFRL after 16 wonderful years to take the Directorship at Radford Public Library. While we miss her terribly, we wish her well on her journey and know that she will do great things for Radford.

We have so many great programs to offer for the winter! We will kick it off with a “**Resume Updating & Interview Skills Workshop**” on Thursday, January 12, 2:00 p.m. at the Blacksburg Library. New River Community College Academic Counselor Peggy Dunn will provide attendees with an opportunity to update resumes, work on their interviewing techniques, and improve overall job seeking skills.

Next, join us on Thursday, January 12, at 6:00 p.m. for Dr. Matthew McCarthy, DO “**Direct Primary Care**” program as he discusses innovative and unconventional approaches to healthcare for the New Year.

Next up, Janelle Anderson, Life Coach at Emerging Life Coaching, returns Tuesday, January 17, 6:00 p.m. to help us ‘pump up our positivity’ and maintain a ‘be happy’ attitude throughout the year.

And Finally, all types of writers can share their work in the new “**Creative Writing Workshop**” on Monday, January 16 and Monday, January 30 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

**Save the Date!**
Melody Warnick, author of **This is Where You Belong**, will join us on Thursday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m to discuss her work.
And, you don’t want to miss the!
The 4th Annual Blacksburg Restaurants’ Chili Crawl held Thursday, February 23 from noon until 2:00 p.m.

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

There are a lot of great programs throughout Montgomery County at all our local libraries to kick off 2017. Mark Your Calendars today for the events you want to make sure not to miss!
The front of the library looked festive for the holidays by all of the lovely greenery in the front of the Meadowbrook Public Library. Bonnie Wimmer has been arranging the greenery for many years, and we appreciate her donating her time and her artistic skill; the greenery was donated by an anonymous donor who lives in Eastern Montgomery.

Friends of the Library-Holiday Book Sale was held at the Meadowbrook Public Library - Thursday, December 1 through Sunday, December 4 - during library hours. Lots of bargains with the price of only $5 for paper grocery bags were sold. A special thank you the wonder women behind this bag sale: Ruth Heinzelmann and Leslie Zaronsky, Friends of the Library volunteers.

The Meadowbrook Public Library has a crafting room that is available for individuals to bring their crafts and relax. This room has many wonderful books for you to check out and to inspire your next creation. The crafting room was made possible by the generous donation of Margaret Roston in memory of her mother Mary C. Roston.

Quilting Marathon. Saturday, January 28, 8:00 a.m.

to 8:00 p.m. The Meadowbrook Quilters will be hosting a quilting marathon. The public is invited to see these skilled individuals quilting. The group will be working on individual projects. This is a great opportunity for you to see their handiwork; you may bring your quilting projects or questions, and they will help you. This program is open to ALL AGES!

Prom Dress Drive! February 1-March 31. Do you have a formal dress you’ll never wear again? Donate your gently worn, clean formals to any of The Montgomery-Floyd Regional Libraries for our Prom Dress Extravaganza! Dress donations need to be received by March 31, 2017. For more information call Cindy Minnick at 268-1964.

2017 Membership Drive scheduled for the week of January 22nd - 28th

Ninety of our members have already renewed for 2017. Are you one of them? Please check your mailing label. It will include the line “Renewed through 2017” if you have already renewed.

Who Can Be a Friend?
Individuals of all ages, families, and businesses throughout Montgomery and Floyd Counties.

How Can I Become a Friend?
Visit your local library or mail the form found in this newsletter. You can now even renew online at http://www.mfrlfriends.org/membership.html.

Volunteers are needed for the Membership Drive, January 22 – 28.
If you are able to fill a two hour time slot, contact one of the following.

Blacksburg Library: Christiansburg Library: Meadowbrook Library:
Evelyn Melia 998-0786 Linda Greaver 392-5421 Ruth Heinzelmann 268-5475

Thank you so very much to all our members! Your dues are used to conduct special programs including the Summer Reading Program for children, teens, and adults, as well as extensive programming at each of the public libraries in the Montgomery-Floyd regional system.
Christiansburg News & Upcoming Events

We kicked off Fall this year at the Christiansburg Library with our 30th anniversary celebration, which took place on September 24th. Mayor Mike Barber and local authors stopped by to kick off the event, where we also served tasty treats and hosted a variety of activities including face painting, crafts, and lawn games. This was a big milestone for us, and the entire Christiansburg Library team worked hard to create an event that would show our appreciation for 30 years in such a wonderful community.

This winter we are gearing a lot of programming toward our senior population. In January we will be hosting an Alzheimer’s program, which will feature a discussion centered on Lisa Genova’s novel Still Alice and a presentation by Heather Gearhart, VP of Health Care Services at Warm Hearth Village. There will also be “Going out Green,” an environmentally friendly burial program presented by the Funeral Consumers Alliance of the Virginia Blue Ridge in January.

The library’s stay and play environment is being enjoyed by both children and caregivers alike. We now host a monthly coffee break program for caregivers, which gives them the chance to relax and enjoy treats while the little ones play.

Also, we will be celebrating the art students from local schools in December and January. The Artist in Residence for December will be Christiansburg High School students, while January will feature art from students at Christiansburg Elementary School.

Floyd Friends!

Thank you to all our loyal Floyd friends!

Please keep in mind that we are always looking for people to serve as officers of the group.

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 12th at 3:30 PM. (Inclement weather date is January 19th)

If you’re interested or want to know more about an office, please join us in the Community Room or contact either Kit Haggard at kfhaggard@yahoo.com or Cathy Whitten at cwhitten@mfrl.org or 745-2947.

2016 Friends of the Library Board Members

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<td>Susan Keith, Secretary</td>
<td>Phyllis Eschenmann</td>
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<td>Sam Hicks, Treasurer</td>
<td>Jo Brown, Co-Garden</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Cole</td>
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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
January 22nd—28th
at your local library or mail in the enclosed membership form