



# THE CITIZEN

The Newsletter of Citizens for Maryland Libraries

PO Box 18213, Halethorpe, MD 21227

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## Laurel Branch



The Prince George's County Memorial Library welcomed the public into the new 31,000 sq. ft. Laurel Branch on November 28, 2016. The magnificent branch was designed by the architectural firm, Grimm & Parker, to provide a modern space for discovery. Built for \$14 million, the branch offers 52 computers, meeting and conference rooms and a drive through service window.

The dinosaur-themed children's area features a full-size Nanotyrannus fossil replica beneath a glass floor, adjacent to a reading room where a baby saber-toothed cat's footprints climb the walls. A seated island shaped like a volcano is nearby, where lava carpet appears to have erupted from its crater. "We put a lot of thought and energy into creating this destination," said Michael Gannon, PGCML's Chief Operating Officer. "Research has shown that children need to play in order to prime their minds to learn to read, so we've got some early literacy interactive things built into the shelving."

The branch also offers the comfort of a fireplace in the reading room.

### SHARE YOUR STORY!

Do you have a story suggestion for the next issue of The Citizen? Does your library have an event or activity you would like The Citizen to cover? If so, please email your ideas to Lynn Wheeler at [lwheeler@carr.org](mailto:lwheeler@carr.org).

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# Message from the President

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## Libraries: Always Part of My Life

*Kristen Pironis, President, CML*

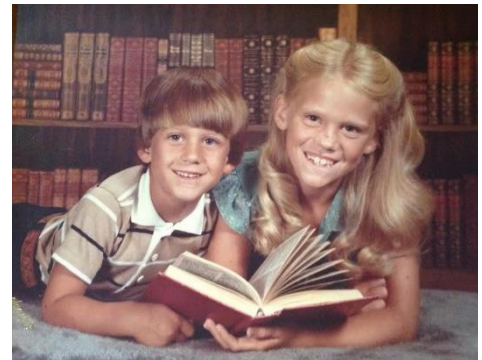
I am not a librarian. I have never worked in a library. And, I am still learning what it means to be the president of Citizens for Maryland Libraries. That said, I am thrilled to be part of this large and diverse community of library supporters.

When I was growing up, our family moved quite a bit. At each new home, my mother took my brother and me to get library cards in our new town. Before the boxes were unpacked, before we hung curtains or figured out which neighbor had a pool, we were card-carrying members of the library and of the community. A family photo of my brother and me reading together is pictured on the right.

When I moved to Kent Island twelve years ago, before we unpacked all of our boxes and even made a trip to the grocery store, we went to the library. I still carry that same card and Kent Island, the community and its library, is my home. A few years ago, one of the librarians in the branch suggested I apply to be a board member for Queen Anne's County. It seemed like the right time to give back to the community that had become home to me. In 2012, I joined the Queen Anne's County Library Board. In that time, I have been lucky to meet incredible people who give of their time, talent and treasure to make our county's libraries better. During this same time, I met a few members of the CML board at the Maryland Legislative Day in Annapolis. Again, I was struck by how invested and committed the board members were to advocating for libraries across the state as well as helping those who advocate on behalf of libraries.

From the volunteers to paid staff, from friends to trustees, this community of library supporters in Maryland is strong, and getting stronger. Thank you for welcoming me to this extended community. I look forward to meeting with you and working with you, to growing this community and advocating for your library and mine.

*—Originally published online as CML Advocate February 2017*



*Above: Kristen Pironis*

## Faces & Places

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*Above: Congressman Ruppersburger with Maryland library advocates*

## National Library Legislative Day

CML President, Kristen Pironis was among the delegation of Maryland library advocates who met with Congressman Dutch Ruppersburger on May 2, during National Library Legislative Day.

On July 20, Congressman Ruppersburger wrote, "As a new, and perhaps unusual appropriations season for Fiscal 2018 gets underway, I believe it is important for my constituents to be aware of my priorities. That is why, today, I am writing to remind you of my consistent support for full funding of the Institute of Museums and Library Services (IMLS)."

Thank you, Dutch!



Left: Library After Dark Gala held by the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County; Above: New CML Executive Director, Sarah Avant

## Libraries After Dark Gala

*Lysette House, Membership & Database Coordinator, Friends of the Library, Montgomery County*

Friends of the Library, Montgomery County (FOLMC) hosted its 3rd Annual Libraries After Dark Gala on April 8, 2017 at the stunning Rockville Memorial Library. This year's theme was "Libraries Open Doors" and celebrated those who work hard to make Montgomery County Public Libraries such an amazing resource for the county's diverse needs. FOLMC was honored to present Retired Major General Arthur Holmes and Mrs. Wilma Holmes as the Honorary Chairs and WAMU's Tamika Smith as Master of Ceremonies. Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett and First Lady Catherine Leggett were among the distinguished guests. Mr. Leggett has worked to ensure that the libraries maintain an adequate funding and has helped grow the library budget since the Great Recession of 2006.

Guests enjoyed an evening of casual elegance and whimsical entertainment as FOLMC awarded: the Charles W. Gilchrist Volunteer Award to Jan Jablonski, co-founder of Noyes Children's Library Foundation; the Library Professional of the Year Award to the County Executive's Library of the Future Summit Committee; and the Community Partner award to the Gaithersburg Book Festival.

Save the date for next year: April 14, 2018! For more information, check us out at [www.folmc.org](http://www.folmc.org)

## CML Welcomes new Executive Director, Sarah Avant

Citizens for Maryland Libraries (CML) is pleased to announce that Sarah Avant has been named Executive Director. With more than a decade of experience in public libraries and a commitment to community service, Sarah is ready to begin work with the members of CML and the board.

"Sarah's experience with libraries and her enthusiasm for her work will serve us well as we gear up for our conference this fall," said Kristen Pironis, president of CML. "As only the fourth Executive Director in CML's history, she has a big job ahead of her, but the board is confident she is up to the task."

After accepting the position, Sarah said, "I've always been interested in education. Though I studied elementary education in school, I soon realized my passion for education was really a passion for sharing a love of lifelong learning. I believe in the mission of public libraries and am excited about every day of work. I see firsthand how public libraries are changing lives, every single day. I am sincerely looking forward to working with Citizens for Maryland Libraries and the opportunities presented to garner public support by increasing awareness of the daily successes in our libraries."

Sarah received her Master of Science in library science from Clarion University, and her undergraduate degree from Towson University. She received further training through the Maryland Library Leadership Institute and the Library Association Training Institute. She has been a member of the Maryland Library Association since 2005 and the American Library Association since 2009. In addition to taking on the role of CML Executive Director, she will continue as the reference supervisor at Calvert Library in Prince Frederick, MD.



# Nominations for CML Board

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## Slate of Officers

### **President – Kristen Pironis**

An avid reader and writer, Kristen Pironis found a home in libraries at a young age. Her support of libraries—and the communities they serve—grew as her family made Kent Island their home in 2008. She joined the Board of Trustees for the Queen Anne's County Library in 2012. She is also a member of the Friends of the Queen Anne's County Library group. In 2014, she joined the CML Board and is currently serving as President.

### **Vice President – Pat Hofmann**

Pat Hofmann served as the director of Calvert Library for 15 years before retiring in 2013. She served as the ALA Councilor for the Maryland Library Association. She continues to be a passionate advocate for libraries. In her role as CML liaison to the Maryland Library Association's Legislative Panel, she often presents compelling testimony to the Maryland Legislature on library issues. Ms. Hofmann received the prestigious Maryland Library Association Award in 2015 for sustained outstanding service to the organization.

### **Treasurer – Stuart Ragland**

Stuart Ragland has served as treasurer of CML since 2011. He has worked at the Enoch Pratt Free Library / Maryland State Library Resource Center since 1994. He is a member of Howard County Friends, ALA, and MLA. Since 2009 he has served as the chair of the MLA Technology Committee. He received CML's Davis McCarn Award for innovative technology in 2013. Mr. Ragland is also in nomination for another three-year term on the CML Board.

### **Secretary – Marjorie Rhoden**

Margie Rhoden is retired from a career as Reference Librarian at the Calvert Library. Her interest in gathering information and research led to her presenting research at international library conferences. Since retiring, Ms. Rhoden has served on the Board of the Charles County Library and on the board of Citizens of Maryland Libraries .

## Nominees for Board Member

### **Jay Bansbach**

Mr. Bansbach recently retired from a career as administer for PreK-12 school library media programs for the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), which included the MDK12 Digital Library - a purchasing consortium for digital content. In addition, he provided technical assistance to local school systems and assisted with professional development for Maryland school librarians. Jay worked with representatives from local school districts, college and university school library media programs, and state and national organizations to promote information/media/technology literacy education and broaden access to digital content for schools statewide. He collaborated with the public library community to promote advocacy for school libraries and to help provide 24/7 access to instructional resources for students and teachers. Mr. Bansbach has served and continues to serve in numerous national offices and committees with the American Library Association, American Association of School Librarians, and the Council of State School Library Consultants. Locally, he served on the Maryland Instructional Technology Advisory Council, Maryland Library Association Legislative Panel, State Library Resource Center Commission, Maryland Advisory Council on Libraries, and on the advisory for the Weinberg Library Project. He serves on the Maryland Library Leadership Institute Steering Committee, the MLA Author Awards Committee, and the Maryland Association of School Librarians board.

### **Karl Schwalm**

Karl Schwalm is a retired family physician, having practiced in Oakland, MD (Garrett County) for thirty years. Dr. Schwalm has been Board Chair of the Ruth Enlow Library of Garrett County for three years and the Garrett County Health Planning Council for two years. He also serves on the Drug Free Communities Coalition, the Board of the Garrett Re-

## Nominations for CML Board (con't)

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gional Medical Center and the Adult Guardianship Review Committee. “My purpose in joining the Citizens for Maryland Libraries would be to add a voice for small rural libraries at the state level.” Dr. Schwalm is nominated for his first term on the Board.

### Jane Terebey

Jane Terebey recently retired from a career as a library associate for Caroline County Public Library. She served as Caroline County's liaison for Maryland Humanities' One Maryland One Book program. As part of that program, she initiated the adaptation of two selections for Readers' Theatre, which were produced in Caroline County's Public Schools as well as in a few other counties. She is a great promoter of partnerships to leverage limited resources for maximum advantage. Ms. Terebey is nominated for her first term on the CML Board.

### Lynn Wheeler

Lynn Wheeler is the Executive Director of the Carroll County Public Library. Her numerous professional affiliations include the Maryland Library Association, serving as President in 2013; Public Library Association, American Library Association, and Citizens for Maryland Libraries, serving as President 2003-2006. She is chair of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. She received the Carroll County Human Relations Commission Award in 2014. Lynn Wheeler is currently serving on the CML Board of Directors as Vice-President. She is nominated for her 2nd term on the Board.

## CML Award Nominations Sought

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Each year CML presents the following awards and grant. Nominations are now being accepted for:

- **The Marion Satterthwaite Award** in recognition of outstanding advocacy efforts for libraries.
- **The Davis McCarn Award** for innovative use of technology to enhance library service.
- **The Outstanding Library Employee Award** to recognize a library staff member who has made exceptional contributions in the area of public service.
- **Mary Lou Dewey Advocacy and Awareness Grant.** This \$500 grant is awarded to a CML member Friends organization to support projects that encourage citizens to use and support Maryland libraries.

Nominations are being accepted through **November 20, 2017**. Go to [www.citizensformarylandlibraries.org](http://www.citizensformarylandlibraries.org) for criteria, list of previous award recipients and online nomination form.

## Nettie B. Taylor Scholarship

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In memory of former Maryland State Librarian, CML founder and Board member, the CML Board established a scholarship to sponsor participants in the newly named Nettie B. Taylor Maryland Library Leadership Institute. This year, the scholarship supported 50% of the tuition for two students:

Laura Hicks, media specialist, Frederick High School, Frederick, MD

April Wathen, teacher librarian, George Washington Carver Elementary School, Lexington Park, MD



# Maryland Association of Counties

## ANNUAL CONFERENCE



The Maryland Libraries exhibit booth at the 2017 Maryland Association of Counties (MACO) Conference was a busy place.

Maryland VIPs checked out the digital technology on display at the Maryland libraries booth. Nearly 2,000 people attended the MACO Conference, held on August 16-19, at the Roland Powell Convention Center in Ocean City

Photo 1- Governor Hogan was presented with a jigsaw puzzle created with the laser cutter on display.

Photo 2- David Brinkley, Maryland Secretary of Budget and Management, a voracious reader stopped by to talk books with friends.

Photo 3 - Gathered around Carroll County Public Library's laser cutter are CCPL staff members Bob Kuntz and Jen Bishop with Calvert Library director, Carrie Plymire, and Carroll County Director of Management and Budget, Ted Zaleski

Photo 4 - Yumi Hogan, First Lady of Maryland, was welcomed by Sneaks and friends

Photo 5 - Young people lined up to try virtual rock climbing at the booth.

Photo 7 - Senate President, Mike Miller, with Calvert Library Director, Carrie Plymire, and CML Treasurer, Stuart Ragland.





## Capital Grants

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The Allegany County Library System celebrated the grand re-opening of the South Cumberland Branch (pictured right) on September 15, 2017. The extensive renovation was made possible through the State funded County Library's Capital Grant Program administered through the Maryland State Library. The Capital Grant Program celebrated its 10th anniversary last year. Current projects underway include:

Annapolis Branch, Anne Arundel County Public Library  
Westminster Branch MakerSpace, Carroll County Public Library  
Northeast Library, Cecil County Public Library  
Aberdeen Branch, Harford County Public Library  
Walkersville Branch, Frederick County Public Libraries  
Leonardtown Branch, St. Mary's County Library  
Hancock Branch, Washington County Free Library  
Berlin Branch, Worcester County Library

Program goals include geographic diversity in grant distribution and stimulating local support for public library development. Over the past ten years, \$45,025,000 has been authorized to assist public library projects in 20 counties, leveraging more than \$300,000,000 in local matching funds.



## Enoch Pratt Central Renovation

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The Enoch Pratt Free Library Central Library/State Library Resource Center is midway through a \$115 million renovation to the 84 year-old building. The thorough and meticulous work will preserve the architectural heritage while improving the building's infrastructure to increase opportunities for learning, research, creativity and civic engagement. It will complement the Pratt's significant print collection with the latest technologies, welcoming a vibrant future while preserving a cherished historic landmark. The renovated space will include expanded training and conference facilities, a new Teen and Young Adult wing, an expanded children's department and a designated Job/Career Center. The Central Library remains open during construction, which is scheduled to be completed in 2019.

The State financed \$99 million of the renovation costs. The remainder is being funded by Baltimore City and through private donations.



## Overdrive Fights Opioid Epidemic

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Above: Steve Potash

## Overdrive Provides Free Resources to Fight Opioid Epidemic

In response to the growing opioid epidemic, OverDrive, the Maryland Digital eLibrary Consortium's content vendor donated 68 titles focused on opioid addiction, recovery and prevention. The new collection is available 24/7 via computer, e-reader, tablet, phone or other mobile device with a Maryland public library card.

Steve Potash, President and CEO of Overdrive, Inc. was awarded the McCarn Award from Citizens for Maryland Libraries in May 2017, in recognition of his 30 years of work to develop an effective digital platform for ebooks, audiobooks and other digital media for libraries, schools, government agencies, colleges and universities worldwide.

Steve has also generously donated \$1,000 to CML.

## New Mobile Services

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### Library Service on the Move in Maryland

This year, two new mobile service vehicles are on the road in Maryland. Charles County dedicated its new bookmobile in May 2017. The Mobile Library will offer custom, state-of-the-art services to residents of Charles County who cannot easily access one of four branches. The Mobile Library started its county wide debut tour in May.

The Enoch Pratt Free Library unveiled its Mobile Job Center in April 2017, bringing job searching tools to 14 neighborhoods in Baltimore where unemployment is 50% or higher. The vehicle, which provides 13 computers with online access, databases and staff expertise was made possible through a partnership with BGE and Exelon Corporation.





# Maryland STEM Festival

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## Libraries Play Key Role in Maryland STEM Festival

The 2017 Maryland STEM Festival takes place from October 31 to November 12. Now in its 3rd year, the STEM Festival is the brainchild of Phil Rogofsky, director, who has worked tirelessly to engage partners in providing learning activities throughout the state to encourage students of all ages, regardless of background and experience, to take a greater interest in STEM with the hope they will pursue a STEM based job or career. This year, more than 50,000 people are expected to participate in the 450 events offered.

"Phil Rogofsky recognized that STEM education is capable of improving kids' lives and our regional economy alike, but that's not what makes his work so exceptional," said U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin, "Rather, it is the sheer number of hours Phil has devoted to reaching out to educators, corporations, community leaders, media outlets, volunteers and students that has allowed his concept to grow into a viable success."

Libraries throughout Maryland are front and center in offering activities during the STEM Festival to engage people in science, technology, engineering and math.

Multiple libraries are participating in the Capture the Flag Ethical Hacking Cyber Security Competition on Saturday, November 4, from 11:00 – 4:00 PM. <http://www.magicinc.org/events/2017/4/22/capture-the-flag-ethical-hacking-cyber-security-competition>

This year the STEM Festival closing ceremony will be held at the Thurmont Regional Library, at 2:00 pm on Saturday, November 12. For a complete listing of Festival activities, go to <https://marylandstemfestival.org>



*Clockwise from top left: STEM activities at Carroll County, Caroline County, Frederick County, Cecil County, and Wicomico County.*



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PO Box 18213

Halethorpe, MD 21227

Kristen Pironis, President

Lynn Wheeler, Editor

Lisa Picker, Design

## Calendar

October 15-21, 2017 – National Friends of Libraries Week, sponsored by United for Libraries [http://www.ala.org/united/events\\_conferences/folweek](http://www.ala.org/united/events_conferences/folweek)

February 9-13, 2018 – American Library Association Midwinter Meeting, Denver, CO, <http://2018.alamidwinter.org/>

March 20-24, 2018 – Public Library Association Conference (PLA), Philadelphia, PA, [www.placonference.org/](http://www.placonference.org/)

April 8-14, 2018 – National Library Week, sponsored by ALA <http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek>

May 2-4, 2018 – MLA/DLA Annual Conference, Hyatt-Chesapeake, Cambridge, MD

May 7-8, 2018 – National Library Legislative Day, Washington, DC <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advleg/nld>



love your library

A perfect time to show  
your love for our libraries.

**Library Legislative Day**  
**Annapolis, MD**

Date To Be Announced

## Membership Application

Yes, I want to join Citizens for Maryland Libraries (CML) and continue to work  
for the best possible public library service for all the people of Maryland.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Memberships

_____ Individual – Basic	\$15
_____ Individual – Supporter	\$25
_____ Individual – Contributor	\$50
_____ Individual – Benefactor	\$100
_____ Organization (Friends Group)	\$25
_____ Corporate – Benefactor	\$200

### Lifetime Membership

_____ Individual – Lifetime	\$750
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**Yes, I would like to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support:**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Mary Lou Dewey Library Advocacy Fund**

\_\_\_\_\_ **James Partridge Award**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Nettie B. Taylor Leadership Fund**

*CML is a 501c3 organization. Membership dues are tax deductible. Checks should be made payable to CML.*

**Mail to: Citizens for Maryland Libraries, PO Box 18213, Halethorpe, MD 21227**

**[www.citizensformarylandlibraries.org](http://www.citizensformarylandlibraries.org)**