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Two local librarians to attend Leadership Institute

Amy Ford and Jill Hutchison from St. Mary's County Library have been selected by the Maryland Library Association to attend the eighth Maryland Library Leadership Institute, July 14-18, 2008 at Riverfront Conference Center on the Donaldson Brown Estate in Port Deposit, Maryland. The emphasis of the Institute is to develop individual leadership skills and to create a leadership network.

A limited number of applicants are chosen each year to receive this training. "To have two librarians selected from the same system speaks volumes for these two professionals and for our library system," states Library Director Kathleen Reif who nominated both librarians based on their demonstrated interest in leadership and commitment to library services. Ford is an adult services librarian at Lexington Park Library. Jill Hutchison is the children's services librarian at Leonardtown Library.

Mary Anne Bowman, Branch Manager of Charlotte Hall library attended the Institute in 2005. The Institute helped her to recognize she "was not just a manager, but also a leader in the library." As a result of this training, she "takes personal responsibility to assess the environment, look to the future, embrace change, empower others and take risks to make our library even better than it already is."

The Board of Library Trustees is proud to be able to support the professional development of the library staff so that the citizens of St. Mary's County can look forward to even better library services.

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