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SPELLERS OF ALL AGES COMPETE AT FARM FAIR

(Belcamp, Maryland – August 6, 2015) The annual Literary Spelling Bee at the Harford County Farm Fair was filled with excitement for spellers and readers alike. Hosted by Harford County Public Library, 46 participants from children through adult competed in this year's event on August 2.

Children enjoyed spelling words like "monkey" from *Curious George* and "gravity" from *Thea Stilton and the Star Castaways*. Adults were challenged with words like "pugnacious" and "reminiscent." All participants were given a small prize from the Library and Farm Fair ribbons were awarded to those who finished in first through sixth place. The first, second and third place winners were also allowed to choose a new book from the Library plus the Library mascot, Tales, was in attendance to take pictures with the winners.

Winners in each category were:

Entering Grades 1-2:

- First Place – Aidan Atkins
- Second Place – Alex Hinkle
- Third Place – Joy Chaillou
- Fourth Place – Emily Clingan
- Fifth Place – Haylie Brown
- Sixth Place – Mattingly Cosgrove

Entering Grades 3-4:

- First Place – Lea Echegaray

- Second Place – Ethan Ryan
- Third Place – Maya Modi
- Fourth Place – Rebecca Thompson
- Fifth Place – Isabella Scurti
- Sixth Place – Hannah Parayil

Entering Grades 5-6:

- First Place – Will Nettles
- Second Place – Lizzy Kelly
- Third Place – Madelyn Phelps
- Fourth Place – Mark McMullin
- Fifth Place – Dominic Franco
- Sixth Place – Adrien Amrhein

Entering Grades 9-12:

- First Place – Vijay Modi
- Second Place – Khiyali Pillalamarri
- Third Place – Darren Witkowski
- Fourth Place – Tara Elias
- Fifth Place – Wyatt Graham

Adults:

- First Place – Janet Parker
- Second Place – Mary Lynn Bazek
- Third Place – Paul Amrhein
- Fourth Place – Aravinda Pillalamarri
- Fifth Place – Aimee O’Neill
- Sixth Place – Shanise Lewis

Harford County Public Library operates eleven branches located throughout Harford County, Maryland. The library serves over 181,000 registered borrowers of all ages and has an annual circulation of over 3.8 million. Harford County Public Library is committed to connecting people with information and promoting the love of reading within the community.

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Photo caption #1: Winners from the 1st and 2nd grade category at the Literary Spelling Bee. Left to right: Aidan Atkins (1st place), Alex Hinkle (2nd place), Joy Chaillou (3rd place), Emily Clingan (4th place) and Mattingly Cosgrove (6th place).

Photo caption #2: Participants and winners from the 3rd and 4th grade category at the Literary Spelling Bee pose with Tales, the Harford County Public Library mascot. Left to right: Dylan Phelps, Kathelyn Hauf, Lillian Walker, Hannah Parayil (6th place), Lea Echegaray (1st place), Ethan Ryan (2nd place), Maya Modi (3rd place), Rebecca Thompson (4th place), Isabella Scurti (5th place), Avni Parsa, Narya Sharma, Jaansi Parsa and Nadia Atkins.

Photo caption #3: Winners from the 5th and 6th grade category at the Literary Spelling bee pose with Tales, the Harford County Public Library mascot. Left to right: Dominic Franco (5th place), Lizzy Kelly (2nd place), Will Nettles (1st place) and Adrien Amrhein (6th place).

Photo caption #4: Winners from the 9th through 12th grade category at the Literary Spelling Bee pose with Tales, the Harford County Public Library mascot. Left to right: Khiyali Pillalamarri (2nd place), Vijay Modi (1st place), Darren Witkowski (3rd place), Wyatt Graham (5th place) and Tara Elias (4th place).

Photo caption #5: Winners from the Adult category at the Literary Spelling Bee pose with Mary Hastler, the Harford County Public Library CEO. Left to right: Mary Lynn Bazek (2nd place), Janet Parker (1st place), Paul Amrhein (3rd place), Shanise Lewis (6th place) and Aravinda Pallalamarri (4th place).