

## board report

By Laurie Whitman,  
Board member

After 23 years and 9 months, the Library's much-loved children's librarian, Meb Ingold (aka Marion Eleanor Benesch), will retire. She has been an immeasurable asset to our library and everyone will miss her spirit and love of children and books.

Graduating from Grinnell College with an American Studies major and education minor, Meb began her professional career teaching first, second, and third grade in the states of Hawaii, Illinois, Ohio, and Florida. She retired from education to become a full-time mom. When her daughter was in kindergarten, Meb began volunteering at the school library. Before coming to our library, she spent five years working at the La Grange Library in the children's department. Meb started library school shortly before joining our library.

For those of us who have been here long enough, Meb began working at the Library when it was located in the basement of the Forest Road School East Building. She helped to design the children's department in our current building. With her experience and knowledge of both children and books, she

also had input into the overall design of the building. Under Meb's direction, the children's area has become a fun, colorful, friendly, and busy place.

As the head of the Children's Department, Meb



buys books, plans Story Times, and oversees general operations. She attributes the success of the department to her hard-working and imaginative staff.

"I am blessed with a wonderful staff," says Meb. "We have grown together and become a mighty unit."

Staff members include Debra Holmes, Kathy Houcek, and Jeri Murguia, Kathy's daughter.

Under the leadership of Meb, the Library was the first in

the former Metropolitan Library System to feature a "Read to the Dogs" program, now a wildly popular staple of our library.

"The kids love it. And it is not only for beginning readers: we have 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade kids who read to the dogs.

We had 2 dogs and 12 kids at the last session." There are usually three dogs in attendance and both dogs and readers love the sessions.

Meb is currently serving her first year of a three-year term on the Rebecca Caudill Young Reader's Book Award committee. This annual award, given in honor of Rebecca Caudill, who lived and wrote in Urbana, Illinois for 50 years, is presented to a book voted as best by Illinois students in grades 4 through 8. The committee is comprised of librarians and teachers of young readers who read all

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There will be an open house honoring Meb on Sunday, August 28 from 2- 4pm. The public is invited to wish her well as she begins a new chapter in her life. The party will feature punch, refreshments, and musical entertainment.

### Summer Reading Thanks

Children who reached their reading goals this summer received a generous array of prizes. These rewards included a certificate for a free movie at Classic Cinemas theaters, a free pass to the DuPage Children's Museum, a free session at Flying High Gyms, \$15 in game tokens at Enchanted Castle, and a free ticket to a Kane County Cougars baseball game. Our wonderful Friends of the Library were the supporters of our craft activities and the end of Summer Reading party which featured Mystic Drums. Thanks much to these wonderful supporters of our children's Summer Reading program!

### Holiday Story Times

A 4-week series of Holiday Story Times is planned for November 21 through December 16. Watch for more information in November.

## A Fond Farewell

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of the nominated books and narrow the field to 20. As a committee member, Meb has to complete 50 titles by September 1.

Certainly anyone who imagined that Meb would spend years sharing her love of children's books to everyone she meets was correct. Some feel that she may drift over to read some adult books, but is sure to return to children's books eventually. Of course, such people are of the opinion that children's books are inherently superior.

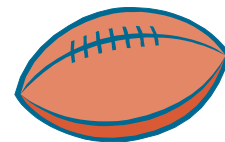
As far as retirement goes, Meb will join the bell choir at her church, continue to do docent work at the Brookfield Zoo, and possibly begin volunteering with the Community Nurse Health Association in downtown La Grange. She will also continue with her stitching and embroidery to ensure that her "creative juices get used."

In Meb's own words, she considers herself a "book pusher." It is often that a parent of a young child will thank her for making a reader of

## Books and Brownies

*Mondays, September 12,  
October 3, and  
November 7 at 4pm*

Books and Brownies will be held on the first Monday of each month at 4pm. Students in 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grade will stir up a batch of brownies. As the brownies bake, a chapter book will be read. Once the brownies have cooled enough, everyone gets a warm, luscious treat to enjoy as the last chapter is read. Registration begins one week in advance of each session.



## Football Fun

*Monday, September 19 at 4pm*  
Football fans in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to a football extravaganza just in time for the start of the season. Make a banner for your favorite team! Games, contests, and football trivia are also in store. Please register beginning September 12.



## Story Times

Fall Story Times will begin Monday, September 12 and continue through October 28.

**Preschool Story Times**, for children ages 3 through 5, will be held on Monday mornings at 10:15am, Tuesday mornings at 10:15am, and Tuesday afternoons at 1pm. Each 30-minute story time includes stories, songs, fingerplays, and a short video story.

**Story Times for Toddlers**, for children ages 2 through 3½, will be held on Wednesday mornings at 10:15am. Each 20-minute story time will include stories, songs, fingerplays, and activities designed for little ones with short attention spans.

Special Story Times are planned for day-care providers who look after a number of children. These sessions are appropriate for children ages 2 through 5, and will take place on Fridays at 10:15am.

Registration for Fall Story Times will begin on Tuesday, September 6. Parents may register in the Children's Department or by calling the Library at 352-0100.

## Trees, Trees, Trees!

*Monday, October 17 at 4pm*

A tree-mendous time will be had by all at this special program. Participants in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades will learn all about trees, the wonderful natural resource right in their neighborhoods. Kari-lynn Stachowicz will provide the field guides necessary to help students identify trees by using the beautiful leaves they drop. Registration will begin on October 10.

## Teen Read Week – Picture It October 16-22, 2011

### Campfire Telestrations

Wednesday, October 19  
at 6:30pm

In celebration of Teen Read Week, let's eat s'mores while playing Telestrations around a campfire. Since we'll be hanging out on the back patio, make sure you have something comfy on which to sit.

### Picture It Movie Night

Saturday, October 22 at 7pm

On the last night of Teen Read Week, we'll watch *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World*. As this is an after-hours program, you must sign up by Wednesday, October 19.

### Anime Club

Mondays, September 12,  
October 10, and November 14  
at 4:30pm

We're still looking for a club name! Eat pocky, watch anime, and have fun!

### National Gaming Day

Saturday, November 12, 2011

Join us for our third straight year of 6 straight hours of table, board, and video games! Snacks and pizzas will be served.



## Check out some of the YA Department's eagerly awaited titles

#### Books

*Crossed* – Ally Condie (November)

*Every You, Every Me* – David Levithan (September)

*Inheritance* – Christopher Paolini (November)

#### Video Games

*Batman: Arkham City* (October)

*Uncharted 3: Drake's Deception* (November)

For a complete list of new materials, visit [www.lplibrary.org/teens/whatsnew.php](http://www.lplibrary.org/teens/whatsnew.php) or stop by the Young Adult Department for a print copy. Updated monthly.

## Don't have time to stop by the Young Adult Department? Visit online instead.

1. Library website – [www.lplibrary.org/teens](http://www.lplibrary.org/teens)
2. Instant Messenger – screen name “lplya”
3. Facebook – [www.facebook.com/lagrangeparklibrary](http://www.facebook.com/lagrangeparklibrary)
4. Twitter – for micro-updates related to all things YA. [twitter.com/lplya](http://twitter.com/lplya)
5. YouTube – for fun videos of previous and current YA programming. [www.youtube.com/user/lplibrary](http://www.youtube.com/user/lplibrary)
6. Shelfari – [www.shelfari.com/lplya](http://www.shelfari.com/lplya)
7. Goodreads – [www.goodreads.com/lplya](http://www.goodreads.com/lplya)

All programs are for  
grades 7-12.  
Please sign up with  
Sam at the  
reference desk.

### Teen's Top Ten

Don't forget to stop by the Library between August 22 and September 16 to vote in the Teens' Top Ten poll – goody bags will be given out! The tallied vote will be announced during Teen Read Week.

### Pixel Club

With three laptops, an XBOX 360, a Wii, a PS3, and an iPad 2, there's always something for everyone at our after-hours gaming club. Since this club meets on alternate Fridays after the Library closes, you must have a permission slip to join.



Thank you to the  
Friends of the Library  
for sponsoring  
You Are Here!,  
the Young Adult Summer  
reading program!

## Where to Start – The Basics of Good Genealogy Research

*Presented by Jane Haldeman, It's Relative*

*Monday, October 3 at 7pm*

Do you want to know about your family's history but don't know how to get started? This lecture will teach you about the first steps for gathering information about your family and how to record that information. You will learn about the many records and resources available and where to begin looking. This program is sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.



## Michigan Beach Towns

*Presented by Nancy McCully  
Monday, September 19 at 7pm*

Warm sandy beaches, blue water, sailboats, towering sand dunes, sunsets and lighthouses... you will find all these things in the beach towns of Western Michigan. You will also find John Jacob Astor and the fur traders, Joliet and Marquette, Native American villages, 19<sup>th</sup> Century forts, and lumber camps. Join us as we explore the longest continuous stretch of freshwater beach in the world. This program is sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

In order to provide ample seating and refreshments, we ask that you register for our programs.

Visit [www.lplibrary.org](http://www.lplibrary.org), stop by, or give us a call at 352-0100 to register.

## Defensive Driving Class

*Monday, October 10 and*

*Tuesday, October 11*

*from 12-4pm*

If you are 50 years of age or older, you will want to freshen up your driving skills by attending this two-day, eight-hour class presented by the AARP. Many automobile insurance companies offer discounted rates to those who have the certificate earned by taking this class. There is a cost of \$14.00 per person for materials (\$12.00 per person for AARP members). We need a minimum of 10 people to offer the class and we have a maximum of 20 spaces. Please call the Library at 352-0100 to register.

## Vintage Holiday Cookbooks

*Presented by Amy Alessio*

*Sunday, November 6 at 2pm*

Everyone remembers recipes from beloved family members, especially ones from the holiday season. Cookbook collector and librarian Amy Alessio will share photos and stories of cookbooks from 1940-1980 that evoke delicious memories from many cultures. She will also have some treats and recipes for you. This program is sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## The Art of Marc Chagall: Paintings, Mosaics, Stained Glass

*Presented by Dr. Michelle Paluch-Mishur*

*Monday, October 17 at 7pm*

Last year the famous "Chagall Windows" returned to the galleries of the Art Institute of Chicago after a five-year absence. This program marks the occasion by examining the career of Marc Chagall, one of the world's most beloved artists. Art historian and professor Dr. Michelle Paluch-Mishur discusses Chagall's distinctive style and his major themes. Going beyond the "Windows," Dr. Paluch-Mishur presents many important paintings and projects Chagall completed, including another Chicago favorite – *The Four Seasons* mosaic. This program is sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## Soul of the Navajo Nation

*Presented by Bill Helmuth*

*Monday, November 7 at 7pm*

Born of an 1868 treaty with the U.S. Government, the Navajo Nation, centered mainly in New Mexico and Arizona, is still a mystery to most Americans. Come with Bill Helmuth on this amazing journey into the heart and soul of the Nation as you visit its homes, schools, and trading posts. You will also see Navajo ceremonies, meet Navajo rug makers, and discover new meaning in the remarkable scenery of Shiprock, Mesa Verde, and Monument Valley. This program is sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## Take Charge of Your Health: Live Well, Be Well

*Fridays, September 16 to  
October 21 (6 weeks)*

*from 10:30am to 1pm*

Older adults are invited to join a series of free classes to help them learn to thrive, not simply survive, with chronic health conditions. Take Charge of Your Health is a six week interactive series of workshops sponsored by AgeOptions (the Area Agency on Aging of Suburban Cook County) and made possible through a grant from the US Administration of Aging and the Illinois Department of Public Health. Participants will learn about coping with the fatigue, frustration, pain, and isolation that may be related to ongoing health conditions; exercising to maintain and improve strength, flexibility, and endurance; using medications; communicating with family, friends, and health professionals; practicing good nutrition; evaluating new treatment options; and problem-solving around ongoing health conditions. The free class sessions meet 2 ½ hours per week for six weeks.

The Library's book discussion group meets in the second floor Conference room on the third Tuesday of every month

at 2pm. Please join us as we share some laughs, make new friends, and read great books. Copies of the book are available at the Circulation desk one month before the meeting.

The settings of our Fall selections include a barrier island off the coast of North Carolina, rural Norway, and various kitchens across Europe and America.

September 20 *The Watery Part of the World* by Michael Parks  
In this novel, two parallel stories unfold. In the first, set in the 1800s, Vice President Aaron Burr's beloved daughter Theodosia disappears off North Carolina's coast after her ship is attacked by pirates. In the second, set 150 years later, the three remaining residents of a tiny Outer Banks island prepare to leave their home for the mainland. Is there a connection between these two events?

October 18 *He Who Fears the Wolf* by Karin Fossum  
This police procedural will be our group's first foray in to the wildly popular genre of Scandinavian noir, first brought to our attention by Stieg Larsson's *Millennium Trilogy*. Fossum, often called Norway's queen of crime, has written a book where the strangeness of the crimes are matched by the strangeness of the criminals.

November 15 *Blood, Bones & Butter: the inadvertent education of a reluctant chef* by Gabrielle Hamilton  
This memoir is written by the chef and owner of New York's acclaimed restaurant Prune. It follows her 20-year journey through numerous kitchens as she strives to find meaning and purpose in her life.

**"The richest person in the world - in fact all the riches in the world - couldn't provide you with anything like the endless, incredible loot available at your local library."  
- Malcolm Forbes**

## First Monday Movies 10:30am in the Community Room

First Monday movies are older movies you probably haven't seen in many years. At the Library you'll be able to view them on a large screen – not quite as large as a theater, but larger than television. Join us to relive these classic movies.

September 5 – No movie. Library closed for Labor Day

October 3 – *Dial M for Murder*  
Starring Ray Milland and Grace Kelly

November 7 – *Brigadoon*  
Starring Gene Kelly, Van Johnson, and Cyd Charisse

## The Green Corner Get Your Garden Ready for Next Spring

Now that we're harvesting the last vegetables from our gardens, it is a great time to prepare for next year. The following tips might make gardening next spring a little easier:

In vegetable gardens, remove old plants and put them in your compost pile. Do a final weeding and mulch with chopped leaves or grass clippings. These mulches can be turned into the soil in the spring. Think about crop rotation.

In perennial gardens, weed and put down a good layer of mulch.

When you mow your lawn for the last time this year and you're bagging the clippings, remember your gardens or compost pile. If you're mulching, this will be great for your grass.

Picking up fruit from the ground helps reduce the chance that pests will overwinter and cause problems for you next year.

Bring in pots that may crack in the cold weather. This includes pots made of materials such as ceramic, terra cotta, and certain plastics.

Now's the time to prepare new garden beds for next year. Cover grassy areas with five layers of newspaper. Soak the newspapers with water and then cover with mulch. In the spring, the grass will have decomposed and you'll be ready to work the soil and plant.

Doing these chores in the fall will save you time in the spring!

You can find more information on fall gardening in these books and magazines:  
*Chicagoland Gardening*, *Fine Gardening*, and *Organic Gardening* can be found on our magazine shelves.

*Complete Compost Gardening Guide* by Barbara Pleasant (631.875/Ple)

*Continuous Bloom* by Pam Duthie (635.932/Dut)

*Gardening Basics for Dummies* by Steven A. Frowine (635/Fro)

*Gardening Month by Month in Illinois* by William Aldrich (635/Ald)

And for the dead of winter, these books will tide you over until you can get back in your garden:

*1001 Gardens You Must See Before You Die* (712/One)

*The Gardener's Bedside Reader* (635/Gar)

*The Literary Garden* (635/Lit)

*My Favorite Plant: writers and gardeners on the plants they love* (635/My)

## Friends of the Library

Help the Friends Celebrate

National Friends of the Library Week, October 16-22

The Friends of the Library is a volunteer group which provides financial support to the Library. This is accomplished through yearly membership dues and proceeds from the Friends' bookshop, which is stocked with a variety of donated materials. Friends of the Library members give support to the Library by attending meetings and staffing the bookshop.

Our membership is always growing and we invite you to join. Membership dues are available at a variety of levels, including Senior Friend (\$5), Good Friend (\$10), Family Friend (\$25), Best Friend (\$50), and Lifetime Friend (\$200).

The Friends hold meetings at 7pm on the second Tuesday of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend of the Library, applications are available and the annual dues are tax deductible to the maximum extent allowable by law. Also, if you would like to donate your gently used books, magazines, CDs, or movies on DVD or VHS, we will gladly accept them. If needed, arrangements can be made for pickup. Call the Friends at 708-352-0100 or email [friends@lplibrary.org](mailto:friends@lplibrary.org).

### visit the Friends' Book shop in the library

Donated Books, Magazines, CDs, DVDs,  
and Tapes are for sale at low prices!

Proceeds help support Library programs  
and special services

#### Hours:

Monday - Thursday 10 am - 9 pm

Friday and Saturday 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday 1 - 5 pm

Located on the first floor (directly behind the elevator).

For more information: 708-352-0100

## Film Discussion Group

Join the Film Discussion Group on alternate Fridays at 7pm for presentations of films on our large screen, followed by brief discussions.

September 9 *Win Win* (2011, dir. Tom McCarthy; 106 min.) From McCarthy, writer/director of Film Discussion Group favorites *The Station Agent* and *The Visitor*, comes this charming film that concerns the relationship of a slightly crooked lawyer-cum-wrestling coach and his unexpected teenage protégé.

September 23 *13 Assassins* (2010, dir. Takashi Miike; 126 min.) This rip-roaring, hugely entertaining Samurai adventure is like the Japanese stepchild of *Home Alone* and *The Wild Bunch*. It's a (relatively) restrained film from startlingly prolific schlockmeister Miike.

October 7, October 21, and November 4 *Carlos* (2010, dir. Olivier Assayas; 330 min.) In this three-part film, Édgar Ramírez plays Carlos "The Jackal," arguably the most infamous terrorist of the 1970s and '80s. Ramírez's masterful performance anchors this electrifying movie. Due to the length of this film, it will be shown over three evenings.

November 18 *Meek's Cutoff* (2011, dir. Kelly Reichardt; 104 min) Reichardt follows her acclaimed drama *Wendy and Lucy* with this hardscrabble, meditative Western. As in *Wendy and Lucy*, Michelle Williams turns in a stunning performance.

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## September is Library Card Sign-Up Month Enriching Your Wallet

Each September, libraries across the nation reach out to members of the community and encourage them to sign up for a library card. Your library card is the smartest card in your wallet. If you don't have one already, get one today. In these tough economic times, your library card gives you free access to books, CDs, DVDs, and much more.

It's easy to get a card. Fill out an application and present it along with a picture I.D. and a second item with your current address (utility bill, mail addressed to you, etc.). Children under 18 must bring a parent or guardian to get a card. To renew a card all you need is a photo I.D. If you lose your card, the replacement charge is \$1.

During the month of September, the Library and the La Grange Park Business Association have teamed up to offer library card incentives. Show your La Grange Park Public Library card at participating businesses and receive a bonus. A list of these special offers will be available at the Library and on our website at [www.lplibrary.org](http://www.lplibrary.org).

## Computer and Technology Classes

### Computer Basics

Thursdays, September 1 and 8 at 6pm

Tuesdays, September 6 and 13 at 11am

This hands-on class is designed to introduce essential computer skills to those who may not have used a PC in several years (or ever). If you jump on a kitchen chair when confronted with a mouse or don't know a computer icon from a religious painting, we'll be able to help you out. Each class will consist of 2 90-minute sessions. 5 spaces are available for each class, and registration is required. Priority for this class will be given to La Grange Park residents.

### Email Essentials

Tuesdays, September 27 and October 4 at 11am

Thursdays, October 13 and 20 at 6pm

If you're familiar with how to wield a mouse and navigate a computer, but want to learn how to use email more effectively, this hands-on class is for you. We'll focus on how to use web-based email services to send, receive, and manage mail. Each class will consist of 2 90-minute sessions. 5 spaces are available for each class, and registration is required. Priority for this class will be given to La Grange Park residents.

### Internet Fundamentals

Tuesday, October 18 at 11am

Thursday, October 27 at 6pm

Thursday, November 10 at 6pm

Tuesday, November 15 at 11am

Whether you want to use the internet to get directions, find travel deals, or watch silly puppy videos, this hands-on class will help you. Special emphasis will be placed on search strategies and electronic safety. 5 spaces are available for each class, and registration is required. Priority for this class will be given to La Grange Park residents.

### Cell Phone Q&A

Thursday, September 15 at 7pm

In this program, our expert staff will be on hand to answer any questions you might have about using your mobile phone, whether it's a powerful smart phone or a plain old "dumb" phone. We'll also demonstrate some of the cool things you can do with smart phones and tablets. No registration is necessary for this session; feel free to just drop in.

**"When I got my library card,  
that's when my life began."  
- Rita Mae Brown**

## Downloadable Books Now Available!

The Library now offers best-selling and classic audiobooks, eBooks, music, and video 24/7 from [www.mediaondemand.org](http://www.mediaondemand.org). You can browse the collection, check out with your library card, and download to PC, Mac, and many mobile devices. To get started, you will need to install free software. For audiobooks, music, and video, download OverDrive® Media Console™; for eBooks, you'll need Adobe® Digital Editions. Titles can be enjoyed immediately or transferred to a variety of devices. Titles automatically expire at the end of a one or two-week lending period. The collection contains thousands of popular fiction and non-fiction titles for children, teens, and adults, and is guaranteed to have something for everyone. If you have questions, please contact the Reference Desk.

## Deutsch für Kinder

### Sundays, October 2 – November 27 at 2pm

Learning German at an early age fosters intellectual growth and a better understanding of other cultures and languages. It is personally satisfying and helps to build confidence. German is the most widely spoken language of the European Union. Over 90 million people use German as their first language. German is still the leading language of science, literature, art, philosophy, and history. Give your child the opportunity to develop enthusiasm for a foreign language. This fall, the La Grange Park Library will offer German classes for children ages 6 through 12. We provide a fun and easy learning experience which includes games and videos.

## Books Recently Added to Our Fiction Collection

*The Arrivals* by Meg Mitchell Moore

*Dead Reckoning* by Charlaine Harris

*Delta Solution* by Patrick Robinson

*Folly Beach* by Dorothea Benton Frank

*Miss New India* by Bharati Mukherjee

*Now You See Her* by James Patterson

*Queen of Kings* by Maria Dahvana Headley

*Quinn* by Iris Johansen

*Spider Web* by Earlene Fowler

*Then Came You* by Jennifer Weiner

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### ***Off the Shelves***

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#### Library Hours

Monday through Thursday 10am - 9pm  
Friday and Saturday 10am - 5pm  
Sunday 1pm - 5pm

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E-mail: [info@lplibrary.org](mailto:info@lplibrary.org) • [www.lplibrary.org](http://www.lplibrary.org)

Library Board meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month  
at 7pm. Visitors are welcome.

**Board of Library Trustees:** Cathy Foster, President; James Seguin, Vice  
President; Ann Lee, Secretary; Mary Dominguez, Treasurer; Susan Fagan,  
Mary Lou Hurley, and Laurie Whitman, Members.

Dixie Conkis, Executive Director  
Joan Lux, President, La Grange Park Friends of the Library  
Gabe Oppenheim, Copy Editor  
Andrea Barnish, Red Street Studio, Newsletter design

**Bequests:** Those who wish to help assure the continuation and growth of  
our programs, collections and services by means and mention in your will  
should contact the Executive Director for more information.

**Disability Accommodation:** If you or your child needs an accommodation  
for a disability to attend any program, please phone the Library at least five  
working days prior to the scheduled program.

## Homebound Service

If you are a La Grange Park resident temporarily or permanently confined to your home, the Library can deliver books and other materials to you. All you have to do is let us know what you'd like to borrow, and our friendly volunteers will deliver items to you every other Thursday. For more information or to sign up, please call the Library at 352-0100.

## Long Range Plan

The Library's Strategic Plan of Service for 2011-2014 was approved by the Board of Trustees in June. The process of developing this plan began with a community survey in September 2009 and also included staff meetings and focus groups. To view the plan, please visit [www.lplibrary.org](http://www.lplibrary.org). We would once again like to thank all those who participated in the survey and focus groups.

## Library Closings

September 5 – Labor Day  
November 25 – Thanksgiving