

off the shelves

summer 2014 volume 29 number 2



Laughing with Courageous Thoughts

Friday, June 27, 7 pm

The La Grange Park Library is pleased to present the world premiere of *Laughing with Courageous Thoughts*, a one-act play by Rob Melnyk. This one-woman show, starring television and stage actress Del Ellison, tells the true story of one of the most extraordinary women of the 20th century, Ruth McComb.

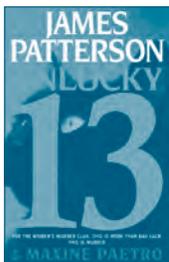
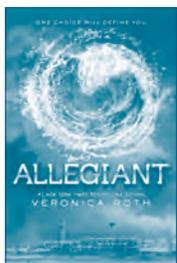
Ruth was a fashion designer who abandoned her career to thrust herself into an obsessive, dangerous adventure. She became the subject of international headlines and controversy. While she is lit-

tle-known today, the achievements of this early pioneer of female empowerment stand beside those of great adventurers like Amelia Earhart and Lawrence of Arabia. A question and answer session will follow the performance.

This performance is presented in memory of Lorraine Kawalek, a longtime friend of the Library. Ms. Kawalek, the Village of La Grange Park's first female trustee, sponsored Nadine's Festival of the Arts at the Library, in memory of her daughter.



Del Ellison



Lucky Day Collections: Popular Books with No Wait!

Can't wait to read the newest James Patterson thriller or the conclusions to the hottest teen trilogies? Our new Lucky Day collections in the Teen and Adult departments feature copies of popular books that you can check out with no delay. Since the books can only be checked out for a week and can't be reserved, there's a great chance that you'll find titles with huge waiting lists ready to be checked out right now. Visit the Library today to see if it's your lucky day!

spotlight

Tangled Bookmarks (Grades 7-Adult)

Wednesday, July 9, 7 pm

We're excited to bring back the talented Christine Thornton for Tangled Bookmarks! Tangling is a popular form of drawing that's fun and relaxing... and produces amazing, intricate results. No art experience required! Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library. **Limit 25. Registration required.**

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children's programs

Registration for our summer activities is always a week in advance. Get more information and sign up at the Children's Desk, online at lplibrary.org, or by calling 708-352-0100.

Paws to Read

Monday, June 16-Friday, July 25

Registration begins Monday, June 2

Fetch a good book and join us for our summer reading program! Babies through 5th graders can sign up in the Children's Department, set a goal, and receive a reading log. Come to the Library to report your progress, and win a different prize from our treasure chest each week. Everyone who reaches their reading goal by July 25 will get a final prize, be entered in our drawing, and receive an invitation to our summer party on July 29, which will feature The Great Scott's Comedy and Illusion Show.



We'll also have weekly contests, surprises, and a full schedule of activities for children, including story times for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers; programs for grade-school kids; movies; and crafts. Details will be available in the Children's Department and at lplibrary.org.

Keep Reading All Summer Long

Studies have proven again and again the advantages of encouraging kids to read over the summer. Current research proves that increased summer reading reduces summer learning loss. We see proof of this every year! In addition to our summer reading program, we offer other opportunities for kids to keep up their reading skills over the summer.

Book Buddies

Sign up by Saturday, May 31
This six-week program gives beginning readers going into 1st through 3rd grades a chance to practice and improve their skills while reading with an older student. Book Buddies sessions are scheduled during the summer reading program, and time reading together counts toward the reading goals for both participants. Sign up to be paired with a buddy, and get ready to read!

Reading Garden Coming to the Library

La Grange Park Girl Scout Morgan Kraus is heading a project to create a new reading garden adjacent to the patio behind the Library. The garden will be open to all who enjoy reading outdoors. Donations are being accepted at the Library and online at lplibrary.org. Morgan's work on this project will qualify her for the prestigious Gold Award, the highest achievement in Girl Scouting. Questions can be directed to Morgan at lgpreadinggarden@gmail.com.

Planning a Trip this Summer?

Whether you're traveling near or far, send us a postcard from your vacation destination! Or, take along our summer mascot, Stan Flatley, and send us a photo of him while you're gone. When you return home, come to the Children's Department to see your destination on our giant map, and we'll give you a special prize. You can participate in Paws to Read! from anywhere in the world by logging into lplibrary.org to report your reading progress. The Children's Services staff will give you the details when you register.

Safe Sitter® Babysitter Training Course

Mondays and Tuesdays,
June 16-17 and 23-24,
June 30-July 1, and
July 7-8, 1-5 pm

Designed for 11-15 year-olds, the Safe Sitter Babysitter Training course teaches infant and child care, leadership and problem-solving skills, safety and emergency management, and business skills. There will be a fee for this program, and participants must attend both sessions in the same week to be certified. Register in person at the Children's Desk starting Monday, June 2.

Read to the Dogs

One morning a week, beginning readers can come to the Library to read to one of our specially trained therapy dogs. Each child reads from the book of his or her choice for fifteen minutes, while a furry friend listens.

Volunteers Needed

Need service hours? Like working with little kids? Volunteer in the Children's Department! Students entering 6th grade and up can sign up in May to help out with our summer reading program. Work at the Children's Desk, assist with our activities, or do odd jobs for the staff – it's all important work, and we need you! Get more information at the Children's Desk.

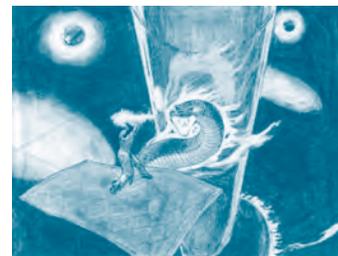


Paws to Read at the La Grange Park Library (Grades 7-12)

Monday, June 9-Friday, July 18

Sign-up begins Monday, June 2

Join the Young Adult summer reading program! Read anything and everything for a total of 12 hours to win a prize. A complete list of activities will be available at sign-up.



An Evening with Comic Book Artist Gene Ha (Grades 7-12)

Wednesday, June 25,
7-8:30 pm

Eisner Award winner Gene Ha (*Mae*, *Fables*, *Justice League*) will talk about being a comic book artist. Afterwards, he'll answer questions and do quick sketches. Supplies will be provided for anyone who wants to draw alongside him. Registration required.

Half-Yearly Gaming Day (Grades 7-12)

Saturday, June 21,
12:30-4:30 pm

It's time for our summer gaming afternoon. Snacks, games, and more snacks! Registration required.

Chess Club (Grades 7-12)

Mondays, June 9, July 14,
and August 11, 4:30-5:30 pm

Chess Club is an informal meeting of the minds (plus snacks!). Registration suggested.

Pixel Club (Grades 7-12)

Fridays, June 13, July 11 and
25, and August 8, 4:45-6 pm

With 2 laptops, XBOX 360, Wii U, PS3, 3DS, and iPad 2, there's always something for everyone. Since this club meets after the Library closes, *you must bring a signed permission slip to attend (one time only)*. Pick one up at the Reference Desk.

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We're excited to bring back the talented Christine Thornton for Tangled Bookmarks! Tangling is a popular form of drawing that's fun and relaxing... and produces amazing, intricate results. No art experience required! **Limit 25.** Registration required.

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Timey-Wimey Club (All Ages)

Mondays, June 16, July 21,
and August 18, 7-8 pm

Calling all *Doctor Who* fans! Join us for monthly viewings of episodes, starting with the 50th Anniversary episode, *The Day of the Doctor*. Registration suggested.

The Mortal Instruments (Grades 7-12)

Saturday, August 9, 7-10 pm

We'll kick off this evening by making temporary rune tattoos, followed by a viewing of *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*. As this is an after-hours program, *a signed permission slip is needed to attend*. Pick one up at the Reference Desk. Minimum 5.

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

1. Library website – lplibrary.org/teens
2. Facebook – Search for “La Grange Park Public Library Teen Department”



Please sign up online or at the Reference Desk

AARP Defensive Driving Class

Monday, June 9, and Tuesday, June 10, 12-4 pm

If you are 50 years of age or older, freshen up your driving skills at this two-day, eight-hour class presented by AARP. Many car insurance companies offer discounted rates to those who have the certificate earned by taking this class. There is a cost of \$20 per person for materials (\$15 for AARP members). We need a minimum of 10 people to offer the class and have a maximum of 20 spaces. **Registration required.**

Colonial America In Virginia

Presented by Sonia Lawrentz

Monday, June 9, 7 pm

In this fascinating slide presentation you'll visit Jamestown, Williamsburg, Yorktown, Richmond, and other locales steeped in the history of America. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

Medicare Seminar

Presented by Bill Scanlon

Thursday, June 12, 6:30 pm

In this seminar you'll learn about Medicare changes, how to select the least expensive Medicare plan and the best Medicare supplement and Part D drug plans, and how to avoid making mistakes in selecting a plan.

A World Gone Mad: World War I and World War II

Presented by Jim Gibbons

Monday, June 23, 7 pm

Historian Jim Gibbons will take you through two of the most catastrophic episodes in United States history, highlighting significant events that thrust the nation into unwanted wars. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

Please register for programs in person, at lplibrary.org, or by calling 708-352-0100.



The Surrealist World of René Magritte

Presented by Jeff Mishur

Monday, July 14, 7 pm

The paintings of Belgian Surrealist René Magritte have fascinated viewers since before the Second World War. In this slide lecture, art historian Jeff Mishur discusses Magritte's relationship to the Surrealist movement and places a variety of his paintings in historical context. An exhibition of Magritte's works is at the Art Institute through October. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

The Basics: Memory Loss, Dementia, and Alzheimer's

Presented by the Greater Illinois Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association
Monday, August 4, 7 pm

If you or someone you know is affected by Alzheimer's disease or dementia, it's time to learn the facts. This program will provide information on detection, causes and risk factors, disease stages, treatment, and much more.

Timey-Wimey Club

Mondays, June 16, July 21,
and August 18, 7 pm

Calling all *Doctor Who* fans! Join us for monthly viewings of episodes, starting with the 50th Anniversary episode, *The Day of the Doctor*.

Paws to Read!

Adult Summer Reading
Program

Sunday, June 1-Friday, July
18

Why should kids have all the fun? Anyone 18 and over can enjoy the benefits of spending time with a good book. Read three books – that's just one every other week – and it can be any book you'd like. Audiobooks and ebooks count, too. Fill out a reading log (or use our online reading logs at lplibrary.org) and let us know if you liked your books. Completed reading logs will be entered into our gift bag drawing.

If you need a suggestion for a book, stop in and see us. For more ideas, follow Kate, our Adult Services Director, on GoodReads at goodreads.com/KateZ.

Our summer selections are set in the United States and Haiti. Books are available one month before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

June 17 *Going Clear: Scientology, Hollywood, and the Prison of Belief* by Lawrence Wright

This revealing and disturbing account of the Church of Scientology's history is written with a calm, neutral stance. It's a fascinating look at a religion long shrouded in mystery.

July 15 *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein

This year's summer reading program theme is **Paws to Read!** This funny and uplifting book is narrated by Enzo, a family dog who shares his experiences and reflections as only a dog can.

August 19 *Claire of the Sea Light* by Edwidge Danticat

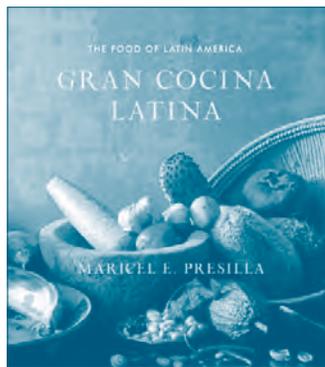
On the night Claire, a 7-year-old Haitian girl, is given away by her father in the hopes of securing a better life for her, she disappears.

Cookbook Club

Gran Cocina Latina by Maricel E. Presilla

Thursday, July 24, 6 pm

When we explore a cookbook, it's potluck meets book discussion! Sign up at the Reference Desk, pick a tasty recipe from our enticing selection (we'll keep track to avoid duplicates), and prepare it for the program. We'll sample lots of good food, talk about what worked and what didn't, and select future cookbooks. Our summer selection features an encyclopedic array of authentic Latin American recipes, ranging from Argentinian empanadas to Cuban beans and rice. **Register in person by July 17.**



Dr. Vic's Health and Wellness Book Club

Tuesdays, 7 pm

Want to look young, be fit, and have a brain like Einstein? Dr. Vic Manzo will lead discussions about books that will take you on a journey towards optimal health.

June 17 – Introduction to the club

July 15 – *Obsessed: America's Food Addiction – and My Own* by Mika Brzezinski

August 19 – *Wheat Belly: Lose the Wheat, Lose the Weight, and Find Your Path Back to Health* by William Davis

Computer and Technology Classes

Tech Tutors

iPad irritation? Windows 8 weirding you out? Sighing at your smartphone? Sign up for a 30-minute session with one of our tech experts and we'll help you solve your electronic woes! **Advance registration required at the Reference Desk or by calling 708-352-0100.**

Tech Tutors on the Road

Bethlehem Woods, Saturday, June 28, 9 am-5 pm

Plymouth Place, Saturday, July 19, 9 am-5 pm

Can't make it to the Library? We'll be at local retirement communities this summer for first-come, first-served tech tutoring.

Computer and Technology Classes

We're taking a break from computer classes this summer, but they'll return in the fall. Talk to us at the Reference Desk by July 15 to let us know what kinds of classes you'd like to see.

What's New

Stop by and ask one of our friendly staff about additional new titles that may be of interest to you. Call or check the online catalog on our website (lplibrary.org) for availability or to reserve a copy for pickup.

The Care and Management of Lies by Jacqueline Winspear

China Dolls by Lisa See

Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage by Haruki Murakami

The Heist by Daniel Silva

The Long Way Home by Louise Penny

The Matchmaker by Elin Hilderbrand

Nantucket Sisters by Nancy Thayer

Personal by Lee Child

The Queen of the Tearling by Erika Johansen

Top Secret Twenty-One by Janet Evanovich

Bike Fest

At the Village Market

Saturday, June 7, 9-11 am

Bike over to the La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce's 4th annual Bike Fest to register your bike with the village, get a tune-up, and learn about bike safety. Participants will be entered into a drawing to win t-shirts and other cool prizes! The Library will be there with a fun activity.





Friends of the Library News

In 2013, Friends of the Library members volunteered a total of 2,867 hours. The Friends support the Library by sponsoring programming, donating equipment, and funding a variety of other services with Bookshop proceeds.

Friends of the library

Destination: Thank You!

By Laurie Whitman, Library Trustee

We held our 2nd annual fundraising trivia night, *Destination: Trivia*, on March 1. The event raised \$3,500, which will be used to update the computer/board game area in the Children's Department. Eighty-five attendees braved snow to engage in friendly competition spurred by our delightful Master of Ceremonies, Drew Walker of US99.

This evening would not have been possible without the staff and volunteers who wrote questions, baked items for the bake sale, set up the event (and cleaned it up afterwards), and lent a hand in myriad other ways.

We would like to thank the following businesses, organizations, and individuals for their contributions to the fundraiser:

Gold Sponsor
MB Financial Bank

Round Sponsors
Duplex Electric
Hitzeman Funeral Home
Sikich, Inc.
Cathy Foster, Realtor,
Charles Rutenberg Realty

Raffle Prize Donations
Angel Spirits
CatNap from the Heart
DeVries Market
Gail Allport
Imagine Art Studio
La Grange Park Fire Department
Lettuce Entertain You
Massage Envy
Sue Coombs
US99 WUSN
Veni Vidi Val
Wanderlust

Thank you to all!

This summer, whether you're taking a vacation, looking for some outdoor fun, or keeping your kids entertained, you're sure to find something at the Friends Bookshop. We have books on travel, gardening, sports, and more, bargain priced from \$0.10 to \$3. You'll also find magazines, puzzles, DVDs, and other great items.

The Bookshop is generally open the same hours as the Library. Knowledgeable volunteers are always ready to help. Donations are accepted and arrangements can be made for pickup by calling 708-352-0100 or emailing friends@lplibrary.org.

Goodbye Ursula, Hello Roberta

Ursula Stanek, the Library's Circulation Services Director for over fifteen years, retired in April. She was replaced by Roberta Richter (formerly the Library's Business Manager) as Circulation Director. Roberta is eager to bring her wealth of circulation experience and passion for customer service to her more public role. Ursula will be missed, but Roberta will carry on the proud tradition of friendly service Ursula helped establish.

"A library is not a luxury but one of the necessities of life."

- Henry Ward Beecher

visit the friends' bookshop in the library

Donated books, magazines, CDs, DVDs, and tapes are for sale at low prices! Proceeds 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

Please donate your gently used books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs. If needed, arrangements can be made for pickup by calling 708-352-0100 or contacting Joan Marino, President of the Friends, at friends@lplibrary.org.

Film Discussion Group

Fridays, 7 pm

Do you enjoy talking about movies after the credits roll? Join us for free screenings of great independent, foreign, and documentary films on our HUGE screen, followed by brief discussions.

June 13 *The Past* (2013, dir. Asghar Farhadi; 130 min.) In this acclaimed drama from the director of Film Discussion Group favorite *A Separation*, an Iranian man arrives in France to finalize his divorce and soon learns secrets about his ex-wife.

June 27 (No film)

July 11 *Blancanieves* (2012, dir. Pablo Berger; 104 min.) The story of Snow White is told in this delightful, modern pastiche of silent cinema.

July 25 *Taking Off* (1971, dir. Milos Forman; 93 min.) Famed director Forman's first English-language film offers hilarious satire of early Seventies counterculture.

August 8 *I am Divine* (2013, dir. Jeffrey Schwarz; 90 min.) This documentary, about trash film legend Divine, is alternately uproarious and poignant.

August 22 (No film)

3D Movie: *The Lego Movie*

Sundays, June 22 and July 13, 3 pm

The 3D effects are astonishing, the surround sound is cranked up, and the popcorn is fresh when we show 3D movies. Kids and adults will be equally charmed by the hilarious action in this awesome film! Please register to reserve your 3D glasses. Limit 12.

neighbor news

La Grange Public Library Luscious Tastes of Summer

Monday, July 14, 7 pm

Chef Lisa Williams returns to show us some luscious summer treats! She'll make (and we'll sample) a ceviche, a trio of bruschetta, and chiffon cake with fresh berries and whipped cream. You'll leave with recipes and inspiration! Registration required by calling the La Grange Library at 708-215-3200 by July 10. (5 min/50 max)

For additional programming at local libraries, visit lagrangeli-brary.org and fordlibrary.org.



Meet Margarita and Beatriz Barrera

The Library staff meets many interesting people every day. We thought you'd like to meet them, too!



How long have you been visiting La Grange Park Public Library?

Margarita: For one year. We used to live in Cicero, but I'm originally from Michoacan, Mexico. We always loved taking our three girls to the library. When they were young, we went to the library every day and participated in their programs.

What do you like best about the Library?

Margarita: It's a beautiful place here. The personnel are friendly, and we feel very relaxed here. There's so much here for me to read. I love the Library.

Where are we most likely to find you when you're not at the Library?

Margarita: Home, spending time with my daughters.

Beatriz: Home, studying or reading. I'm working on my Associate Degree in science at Harold Washington College. After that I'll transfer to Loyola or IIT for medical engineering.

Do you prefer a physical book or an eReader?

Margarita: I like traditional books.

Beatriz: I like traditional books also. I like having a bookshelf and being able to see what I've read.

What is your favorite thing about reading?

Margarita: Learning about history.

Beatriz: You get different points of view from people. Your mind becomes expanded to things you never knew or thought about.

Do you have any book or movie recommendations?

Margarita: I love historical movies. I also like the movies *Perfume* and *Quills*.

Beatriz: I have a lot of favorite books. *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* is one.

Is there any book you're looking forward to reading?

Beatriz: I'm currently reading *The Hobbit*, and I'm going to read *Hollow City*, by Ransom Riggs, which is the sequel to *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*.

La Grange Park Friends of the Library
555 N. La Grange Road
La Grange Park, IL 60526-5644

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Library Hours

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

Phone 708-352-0100 • Fax 708-352-1606

Email: info@lplibrary.org • www.lplibrary.org

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

Board of Library Trustees: Cathy Foster, President; Ann Lee, Vice
President; Laurie Whitman, Secretary; Sheryl Cox, Treasurer; Mary Lou
Hurley, Danielle Johnson and Rachel Weaver Rivera, Members.

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

Requests: 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.



Dixie Conkis Honored

Executive Director Dixie Conkis (second from right) was
celebrated at the Village of La Grange Park's annual Arbor
Day ceremony on May 16. A beautiful Star Magnolia was
planted in recognition of her many years of service to the
Library and community.

Library Closings

July 4 – Independence Day
August 22 – Staff In-service