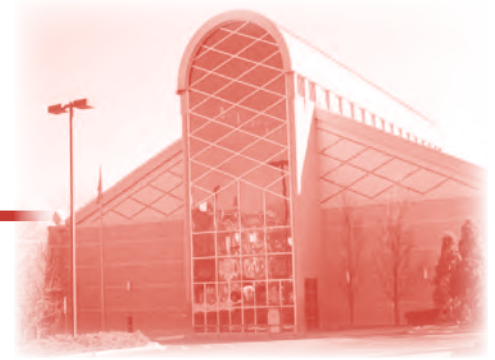


# off the shelves

winter 2014 volume 29 number 4



## Winter Reading Recommendations

By Laurie Whitman,  
Library Trustee



It's that time of year again, time to curl up and read in front of a fire or under a fuzzy throw. I love every season of the year for reading, but there is something special about jumping into an adventure on a dark winter evening.

I try to read a book for every year of my life – I made it one year – when I was 48. I daresay I don't come close anymore, but I do love to read and would like to pass on some of my favorites of this year. Please note that I never buy books: I am a devoted library patron.

- *A Star for Mrs. Blake* by April Smith. A little known episode in U.S. history.
- *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman. A story that will keep you rapt as you struggle between what is right and wrong.

- *One Summer: America 1927* by Bill Bryson. An interesting account of the year 1927 and the events that shaped our history. Reads like prose though it is non-fiction. A trip worth taking.
- *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. I love this book. It will have you thinking about choices for a long time.
- *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Charbonnet Zevin. The reader gets involved with these lovely characters.
- *The 100-year-old Man Who Climbed out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson. A lovely adventure and our December Books Alive choice.

Is there a book lover or a library lover on your Christmas list? Or someone who is particularly hard to buy for? Has there been a new birth in your family? A retirement? Something to commemorate? Make shopping easy this year and consider the La Grange Park Public Library Holiday Wish List. You may give a gift in someone's honor or choose books of interest to the recipient. Please take a look at the donor form in this newsletter or online (click "donate or pay fees" at the bottom of [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org)) and see if there is a category that is important to you or a friend. It's a lifelong gift.

## spotlight

### Only in December

Don't miss these special programs for our youngest patrons!

### Toddler Dance Party!

Wednesday, December 17,  
10:15 am

Toddlers and Preschoolers are invited to come dance their sillies out. The party will include music, bells, shakers, and bubbles! Snacks will be served after the dancing stops. Register in person, at [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org), or at 708-352-0100. Ages 2 - Kindergarten

### Once Upon Some Messy Fun

Tuesday, December 23,  
10:30 am

Roll up the carpet! Miss Tracy returns for a special holiday craft program. She mixes sensory science, art, and story fun. Wear old clothes! Ages 3 - 8.

## in this issue...

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# children's programs

## Winter Story Times

Registration for our 10-week winter Story Time session begins on January 2, and the stories begin the week of January 19th. Register one time for the entire session. Babies through Kindergarteners are sure to have a great time!

**Preschool Story Time, Ages 3-Kindergarten**  
Tuesdays, 1:30 pm, or  
Fridays, 10:15 am

We will sing songs, learn new fingerplays, and read some wonderful stories from our collection. Caregivers wait nearby in the Library while the children attend.

**Toddler Time, Ages 2-3½ and their caregivers**  
Wednesdays, 10:15 or 11 am  
Toddlers and their grown-ups will enjoy some fun stories from our collection, and learn new songs and fingerplays.

**Baby Story Time, Ages 3-23 months and their caregivers**  
Tuesdays, 10:15 or 11 am  
Enjoy rhymes, games, very short books, and more. Programs will last about 20 minutes. Attend either session each week, depending on when baby is napping.

**Family Story Time**  
Tuesdays, 6:30 pm  
Bring the whole family for an evening of stories, songs, and activities for all ages, followed by a simple, make-and-take craft. Programs last about an hour.

## After-School Programs

### Monday Kids Club

Monday Kids Club returns to the Library every Monday at 4 pm for kids in grades K-3! Sign up for each of these great weekly activities:

### Crafty Kids

December 1, January 5, and  
February 2

Crafty Miss Kerry is very creative! She offers an easy, make-and-take craft.



### Books and Brownies

December 8, January 12, and February 9

Do you like books? Do you like baking? Join Miss Margaret and see what she's making! Mix up something yummy, then read and discuss an easy chapter book from our collection.

### Mad Science Mondays

December 15, January 19

Will this be the year that we blow up the building? Sign up and find out! Freaky science experiments and weird effects abound.

### Brick Builders

December 22, January 26, February 23

Our Lego® club returns for kids in grades K and up. Use our Legos to build whatever you can think of! At the end of the hour we will collect your creations for display until next month, when we'll do it all over again.

### Monday at the Movies

Vote for your favorite holiday movie during December, and we will show the winner on Monday, December 29 at 1 pm! Voting starts December 1.

### Thermonuclear Thursdays

Thursdays are the bomb at the Library, when big kids rule at 4 pm!



### Don't Be Board

December 4, January 8,  
February 5

Chess, checkers, Magic, Monopoly, any kind of game – as long as it's analog! Grades 4-12.

### Flying Needles

January 15 & 29, February 12 & 26, and March 12 & 26  
Learn to knit, purl, and create something all your own. Needles, yarn and instructions will be provided. **Limit: 6 participants in grades 4 – 6.**

**G<sup>3</sup>**

December 18, January 22,  
February 19

Our electronic gaming group is for kids in grades 4-6. Play on our PS3 and Wii U, or bring your DS and hook up with your friends.

## Super Saturdays

Come to the Library on the first Saturday of every month for one-time-only programs!

### Read to the Dogs

December 6, 10:30

Read to the Dogs returns to the Library for one Saturday only, preceded by a presentation about Paws With a Cause®. Bring a package of dog biscuits to donate. Register by phone the week of December 1st for a 15 minute slot. **Ages 5 and up.**

### Meet Hugo Kringle

January 3, 10:30

Musician and storyteller Mike Anderson will present a fun and funny all-ages show about Santa's younger brother to wrap up your holidays.

### Architecture for Kids

February 7, 10:30

Frank Lloyd Wright played with Froebel blocks as a child and learned about shapes, patterns, structure, and harmony. An expert from the FLW Trust will bring Froebel blocks to the Library for an introduction to architecture for kids. **Grades K-6.**



Girl Scouts®

### Attention Scouts!

The Children's Department now has a complete selection of official handbooks and resource guides for both the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America available for checkout.

Sign up by phone at  
708-352-0100, at  
[lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org), or at the  
Children's Desk.

## teen programs

### Stitches 'n' Snitches (Grades 7-12)

Wednesdays, December 3,  
January 7, and February 4  
at 4:30 pm

Knitting and Harry Potter or knitting and gossip! It doesn't matter, as long as you're there to knit. And maybe, just maybe, we'll have tea and scones. Registration suggested.



### Don't Be Board (Grades 4-12)

Thursdays, December 4,  
January 8, and February 5  
at 4 pm

We've got Apples to Apples. We've got Telestrations. We've got Operation. The point is we've got a lot of board and table games. Registration suggested.

### All the places you can find the YA Department online

1. Library website – [lplibrary.org/teens](http://lplibrary.org/teens)
2. Facebook – Search for “La Grange Park Public Library Teen Department”
3. Instagram – [instagram.com/lplya](http://instagram.com/lplya)
4. Tumblr – [lplya.tumblr.com](http://lplya.tumblr.com)

### Get your homework done with Tutor.com – free with your LPPL library card

This fall, La Grange Park students have logged onto *Tutor.com* for help with algebra, chemistry, English, and Spanish composition! A La Grange Park student had this to say after a tutoring session: “I had my hesitations about working online with someone, and not face-to-face, but it worked completely fine and was helpful!”

Professional tutors are available for students in grades K-12 from 3 to 10 pm, 7 days a week. What can *Tutor.com* do for you? Log in through our website on your computer or mobile device, and find out!

### Pixel Club (Grades 7-12)

Fridays, December 12 and 26, January 9 and 23, and  
February 6 from 4:45-6 pm

With two laptops, XBOX 360, Wii U, PS3, 3DS, and iPad 2 there's always something for everyone. Registration suggested.

### Timey-Wimey Club (All Ages)

Mondays, December 22,  
January 26, and February 23  
at 7 pm

Calling all Doctor Who fans! Join us for a monthly viewing of Doctor Who episodes and DW-related crafts. Registration suggested.

### 6th Annual Rockin' New Year's Eve (Grades 7-12)

Monday, December 29  
at 7 pm

There's Rock Band to be played and fun to be had! Registration suggested.

### Suggestion Box Mash-Up (Grades 7-12)

Tuesday, December 30  
at 2 pm

Let's put your excellent suggestions to good use! Join us for an afternoon of food, anime, games, drawing, and whatever else you suggested. Registration required.

### 3D Movie: Guardians of the Galaxy (Grades 7-12)

Friday, January 2 at 2 pm  
Join us for this 3D showing of *Guardians of the Galaxy*. Limit 12. Registration required.

### Stop in from the Cold (Grades 7-12)

Monday, January 19 at 2 pm  
Join us for this gathering of hot chocolate, books, movies, games, etc. Basically anything that will keep us out of the cold! Registration suggested.

### Chocolate Connoisseurs (Grades 7-12)

Thursday, February 12  
at 4:30 pm

Can you tell the difference between Hershey's and Dove? Find out in this chocolate tasting extravaganza! Registration required.

Please sign up at [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org) or at the Reference Desk.

Get Live Homework Help®





### 3D Movie: *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*

*Saturday, December 6, 1:30 pm*  
The 3D effects are astonishing, the surround sound is cranked up, and the popcorn is delicious when we show 3D movies on our giant screen. We'll help you catch up with the adventures of Bilbo Baggins and friends before the third Hobbit movie hits theaters. Please register to reserve your 3D glasses. Limit 12.



### The Making of *Gone with the Wind*

*Presented by Leslie Goddard, PhD*  
*Monday, January 12, 7 pm*  
75 years after its blockbuster premiere, the film *Gone with the Wind* continues to inspire passionate devotion. This illustrated talk includes photographs from the making of this film as well as short clips from the final version. We'll review the story of how it was made, the accuracy of its history, and its lasting influence in shaping popular understanding of Civil War history. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

### The Big Bands: Past, Present, Future

*Presented by Steve Cooper*  
*Monday, February 9, 7 pm*  
Bandleader and La Grange Park resident Steve Cooper will present a video program of big bands from the earliest bands to current bands and what's in store for the future. This program features rare films and video clips of big bands and singers. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.



### A Christmas Canvas: Paintings of the Nativity Story

*Presented by Jeff Mishur*  
*Monday, December 8, 7 pm*  
Around the holidays, the images that surround us promote extended shopping hours and doorbusters. This program will emphasize images that are central to the meaning of the season. Images that deal with the Nativity will be shown, discussed, and compared with one another to reveal the multiple layers of meaning that can be conveyed within the same subject matter. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

### Cookbook Club *My Paris Kitchen* by David Lebovitz

*Thursday, January 15, 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. Dozens of elegant French and French-inspired recipes are featured in this winter's book. Register in person by January 8.

Please register for programs in person, at [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org), or by calling 708-352-0100.

### Holiday in the Park

*Saturday, December 13, 1-4 pm*  
*Community Park District of La Grange Park*  
*1501 Barnesdale, La Grange Park*

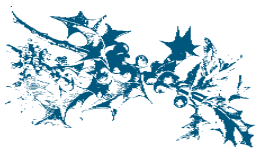
This event sponsored by the La Grange Park Chamber of Commerce features music, snacks, games, crafts, and other winter activities. The Library will have a story time. Come join us for some snowy fun.

### AARP Tax-Aide Needs Volunteers for the 2015 Filing Season

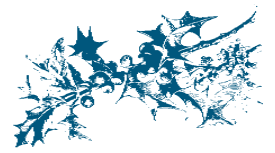
Looking for a rewarding opportunity to make a difference in your community? The AARP Tax-Aide Program is now seeking volunteers for the upcoming 2015 filing season. It's not necessary for you to be an AARP member or have a tax or accounting background to volunteer. However, some knowledge of your own personal tax matters is very helpful. All returns are prepared on computers, thus volunteers should be somewhat computer literate. Training classes will be held in January 2015.

This income tax preparation and assistance is offered to low and middle income individuals with special attention to those 60 years and older.

To volunteer, visit the [aarp.org/taxaide](http://aarp.org/taxaide) website.



# Holiday Wish List



We hope that the La Grange Park Public Library has enriched your family's life this year. More than 3/4 of our village residents regularly use the Library! The average user saves \$450 a year by taking advantage of what we have to offer.

Library use is climbing as more residents are discovering our many free services beyond books. Your contribution will make it possible for us to expand our collection and services at a time when demand is growing.

If you choose items from our Wish List, we will place a plate with your message in each item purchased. We will send a card to those you designate for Memorial or Honor gifts.

For more information about what we offer and to donate, please visit [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org). Thank you for helping us enrich lives in our community!

The Staff and Board of Library Trustees  
La Grange Park Public Library District

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>Gift</u>	<u>Total</u>
___	Wherever needed		\$ _____
___	\$20	Children's Book	\$ _____
___	\$20	Young Adult Book	\$ _____
___	\$25	Movie/Music	\$ _____
___	\$30	Fiction/Nonfiction Book	\$ _____
___	\$50	Audiobook	\$ _____
___	\$50	Special Item	\$ _____
	<b>Total Amount</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

Please print clearly

Bookplate message: Donated by

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Send Memory/Honor notification to:

Please make checks payable to the La Grange Park Public Library.

Fill in the information and forward it with your payment to:

La Grange Park Public Library  
555 N. La Grange Road  
La Grange Park, IL 60526

Your donation is tax deductible as provided by law.



## So Long to The Big Read and Welcome ReDiscover!

The Big Read, a one-book-nine-library event has had a successful 10-year run. With the ever increasing challenge of picking just the right book, loved by all, and the huge popularity of the programs, it was decided to change things up a little.

Modelling itself after a humanities festival, ReDiscover is a theme-centered,

program-driven event. The theme for spring 2015 is Celebrating Home. In mid-March through April, programs, book discussions, and films that celebrate home will be offered for all age groups, from toddlers to adults.

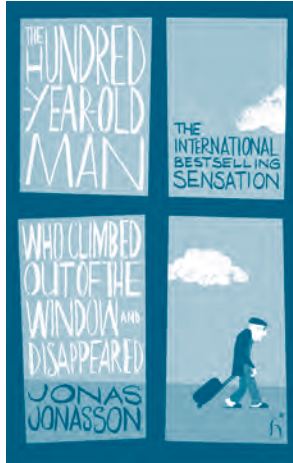
Several books will be featured, and for the first time we can include a classic. The

top five books are: *At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson, *Howard's End* by E. M. Forster, *Under the Tuscan Sun: At Home in Italy* by Frances Mayes, *Home* by Marilynne Robinson, and *The Hundred-Year House* by Rebecca Makkai.

Look for details in the next issue of the newsletter.

Our winter selections traverse the world and are set in Sweden, 1936 Berlin, the Japanese POW camps of WW II, and modern day Russia. Books are available one month before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

**December 16** *The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window and Disappeared* by Jonas Jonasson  
After a long and eventful life Al-lan Karlsson ends up in a nursing home. Desperate to avoid his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration, he escapes out his window to the bus station, and embarks on a wild and hilarious journey.



**January 20** *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption*  
by Lauren Hillenbrand

The author of *Seabiscuit* brings us the biography of Louis Zamperini, an athlete at the 1936 Berlin Olympics and American airman. After his bomber crashes in the Pacific during World War II, he survives 47 days on a life raft, only to be picked up by the Japanese and interned in the most brutal POW camps. Eventually repatriated and suffering PTSD, he goes on to heal and forgive his persecutors.

**February 17** *Tatiana: an Arkady Renko*  
novel by Martin Cruz Smith

In Smith's latest Arkady Renko novel, the police investigator's new Russia is overrun with gangsters, billionaires and Chinese shipbuilders. Renko seeks the truth after the apparent suicide of crusading investigative journalist Tatiana Petrovna. Smith is a master storyteller who has brought us one of crime fiction's greatest detectives.

Looking for the perfect holiday gift? The Friends of the Library Bookshop has a wide selection of gently used hard cover and paperback books available at bargain prices. Choose from history, biography, romance, mystery, thriller, and more. If you're getting ready to set your New Year's resolutions, the Bookshop has self-help, diet, and exercise books to help you reach your goals! We also have a huge assortment of books for kids and teens and a great selection of DVDs, puzzles, and magazines.

The Bookshop is generally open the same hours as the Library. Knowledgeable volunteers are always available to help you, and sales support the Library.

### 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 at [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org) for availability or to reserve a copy for pickup.

#### Fiction

*The Boston Girl: A Novel* by Anita Diamant  
*Fiercombe Manor* by Kate Riordan  
*Funny Girl: A Novel* by Nick Hornby  
*In Plain Sight* by Fern Michaels  
*The Magician's Lie: A Novel* by Greer Macallister  
*Moriarty* by Anthony Horowitz

#### Non-fiction

*Neil Patrick Harris: Choose Your Own Autobiography* by Neil Patrick Harris  
*Fixing Illinois: Politics and Policies in the Prairie State* by James D. Nowlan and J. Thomas Johnson  
*How to Cook Everything Fast* by Mark Bittman  
*Killing Patton: The Strange Death of World War II's Most Audacious General* by Bill O'Reilly and Martin Dugard

## 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.

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, at [friends@lplibrary.org](mailto:friends@lplibrary.org).

The Friends of the Library is looking for volunteers to staff the bookshop. Please contact  
Joan Marino,  
President of the Friends,  
at [friends@lplibrary.org](mailto:friends@lplibrary.org).

## Computer and Technology Classes

### Tech Tutors

iPad irritation? Wiggled out by Windows 8? Stymied by 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, January 17, 9 am-1 pm

Plymouth Place, Saturday, February 28, 9 am-1 pm

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

### Computer Classes

Five spaces are available for each of the following classes. **Registration required at the Reference Desk or by calling 708-352-0100.** Everyone is welcome, but priority will be given to La Grange Park residents who have not previously taken our computer classes.

### Introduction to Windows 8.1

Thursday, December 4, 6 pm

Tuesday, December 9, 11 am

If you can't wrap your brain around Windows 8 despite being comfortable with previous versions, this class will set you straight. Learn how to use the new Start screen, mouse gestures, hot corners, and charms to get the most out of this operating system.

### eReader/Tablet Workshop

Thursday, January 8, 6 pm

Tuesday, January 13, 11 am

Do you have a new Kindle, Nook, or iPad? Bring it to this session and we'll show you how to download free ebooks and audiobooks from the Library. If you're interested but don't have your own gadget, we'll have some on hand for you to try.

### New! #Twitter

Thursday, February 19, 6 pm

Tuesday, February 24, 11 am

If you're curious about the popular social network Twitter but don't know a hashtag from a hole in the ground, join us at this hands-on session. We'll teach you Twitter basics like following, retweeting, and more. If you don't have an account, we'll help you sign up for the service.

**"A library is a house of hope.  
It's a place where we all, whatever our situation,  
can feed our ideas and develop our dreams."  
- doug wilhelm**

## 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.

December 12 *The Wind Rises* (2014, dir. Hayao Miyazaki; 126 min.) This beautiful animated film (the famed director's swan song) depicts the life of an aeronautical engineer who dreams of being a pilot.

December 26 *Snowpiercer* (2014, dir. Bong Joon Ho; 126 min.) Revolution brews on a train circumnavigating post-apocalyptic Earth in this action-packed satire from the director of Film Discussion Group favorites *The Host* and *Mother*.

January 9 *The Dog* (2014, dir. Allison Berg and Frank Keraudren; 100 min.) The life of the bank robber immortalized by *Dog Day Afternoon* is explored in this fascinating documentary.

January 23 *Los Angeles Plays Itself* (2004, dir. Thom Andersen; 169 min.) Hundreds of film clips are used to illustrate how depictions of the world's most filmed city have evolved in this documentary that's a must-see for movie lovers.

February 6 *Frank* (2014, dir. Lenny Abrahamson; 95 min.) In this strange, fact-based comedy, a young musician finds himself in a band whose leader never removes his giant fake head.

February 20 *Elena* (2014, dir. Petra Costa; 80 min.) Ms. Costa searches for answers about her late sister in this ethereal documentary.

## neighbor news

### La Grange Public Library Jazzes Up the Holidays

Monday, December 8, 7 pm

Acclaimed singer Petra van Nuis returns with her husband, guitarist Andy Brown, to deck our halls with holiday warmth. Petra has become our annual holiday gem! Jazzweekly.com calls Petra's voice "charming, unassuming and completely guileless." For more information call 708-215-3200. (5 min/ 60 max).

For additional programming at local libraries, visit [lagrangelibrary.org](http://lagrangelibrary.org) and [fordlibrary.org](http://fordlibrary.org).





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

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### **Off the Shelves**

is a quarterly publication of the  
La Grange Park Public Library District  
555 North La Grange Road  
La Grange Park, IL 60526-5644

### 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](mailto:info@lplibrary.org) • [www.lplibrary.org](http://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; Dorren Gersten-Briand, Julie Gies, and Mary Lou Hurley, Members.

Dixie Conkis, Executive Director  
Joan Marino, President, La Grange Park Friends of the Library  
Susan Fagan, Newsletter 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.

### **Did You Know...**

...that the Library has two places for you to return your materials? There is a 24-hour drive-up return located at the front of the building. There are also returns in the lobby. The indoor returns are on your left side as you enter, under the TV monitor. If any of your items are overdue, don't worry! The fines are added to your account when they are checked in and you can pay them when you visit or you can go to [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org) and pay from your computer or mobile device.

### **Popular Movies Now Available on Library's Roku Box**

If you want to watch the latest blockbusters but don't want to wait in a long line for the DVD, check out the Library's Roku 3, which lets you stream hundreds of recent movies and TV shows to any HDMI-equipped television. See the titles available at [bit.ly/LPPLDROKU](http://bit.ly/LPPLDROKU). It's a great way to get an entertainment fix for the holidays! Any adult La Grange Park Library cardholder may check out the Roku for one week. Visit the Reference Desk to reserve the device.

### **Library Closings**

Friday, December 5 – In Service Day  
December 24-25 – Christmas Holiday  
December 31-January 1 – New Year's Eve/New Year's Day  
Monday, February 16 – Presidents Day