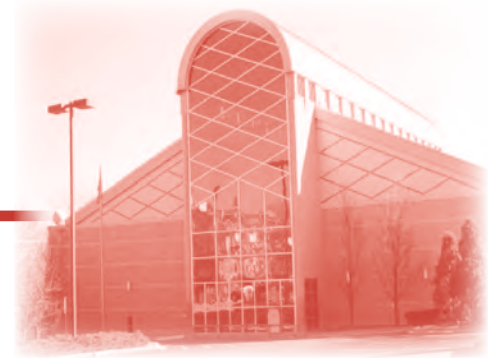


# off the shelves

winter 2015 volume 30 number 3



## Readers' Advisory at Your Service

By Laurie Whitman,  
Library Trustee

Though libraries are changing in scope, there is still one constant: books. For an avid reader, "What am I going to read next?" is the eternal question. Our Library has the perfect solution in its Readers' Advisory (RA) service.

Adult Reference Librarian Daina Aukstuolis and the rest of the reference staff serve as our astute advisors to readers. They will interview you, get an idea of what genres you enjoy and what movies you like to help you pick your next title. RA can also recommend read-a-likes from our backlist.

Reading lists are compiled from professional book journals including *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, and *Publish-*

*ers Weekly*. Daina is a member of the Adult Reading Round Table (ARRT) that publishes the useful Popular Fiction List. Patrons are invited to browse *Novelist Plus*, accessible at [lplibrary.org/online-resources/](http://lplibrary.org/online-resources/). Available to all patrons at the Reference Desk is *Book Page*, generously provided by the Friends of the Library. It is a great resource, complete with reviews and the 'best of' in different genres.

Insofar as how book selections are made for our collection, Daina selects fiction and Kate Zdenek selects non-fiction. Many of the same resources that are used for Readers' Advisory are also used in book selection. Local authors and multiple copies

of bestselling titles are high priority items. Patrons can also suggest book purchases at [lplibrary.org/contact-us/](http://lplibrary.org/contact-us/).

With chilly weather and longer evenings upon us, nothing keeps you company like a good book. Be it book, Nook, iPad or Kindle, Readers' Advisory at the Library will be happy to help in your quest for the next good read.

Should you wish to do your own "advisory" we recommend:

- [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com)
- [npr.org/books](http://npr.org/books)
- [readinggroupchoices.com](http://readinggroupchoices.com)
- [openingthebook.com/whichbook](http://openingthebook.com/whichbook)
- [earlyword.com](http://earlyword.com)
- [millions.com](http://millions.com)

## Only in December in Children's

**Karen's Nature Tales**  
Ages 2-5 and their caregivers  
Wednesday, December 9,  
10:15 am

How do animals stay warm in winter? Find out how they survive in cold weather, and touch and feel different kinds of animal body coverings.

**Toddler Dance Party!**  
Ages 2-K  
Wednesday, December 16,  
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.

**Holiday Makers**  
December 21 – January 5  
Stop by the Children's Department during the holiday season and make crafts from a great year of children's programs. No need to register – just drop in!

**Holiday Story Time**  
Ages 2-5  
Wednesday, December 2,  
10:15 am

Start your holidays with seasonal stories, rhymes, and fingerplays. Wear your holiday best!

## in this issue...

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- 5 Holiday Wish List
- 6 Library Patron Interview
- 7 Computer & Tech Classes  
Film Discussion Group
- 8 Library Knitters & Crocheters

# children's programs

## Monday Kids Club Grades K-3 Mondays, 4 pm

**Crafty Kids**  
*December 7, January 4, February 1*

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

**Books and Brownies**  
*December 14, January 11, February 8*

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 21, January 18*  
Freaky science experiments and weird effects abound.

**Brick Builders**  
*December 28, January 25, February 22*  
Our monthly LEGO® brick club returns for kids in

Registration for our ten-week Winter Story Time session begins on December 28, and the stories begin the week of January 10. Register one time for the entire session.

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

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

## After-School Programs

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.

**Leap Day Party**  
*February 29*  
Leap Day only comes once every four years, so we're celebrating with crafts, games, and a little science.

**Maker Madness  
for Big Kids**  
**Grades 4-6**  
*Thursdays, 4 pm*

**Tech Time**  
*December 3, January 7, February 4*  
Explore the world of technology! We're making circuit boards, exploring QR codes, and playing with stop motion video on the first Thursday of every month.

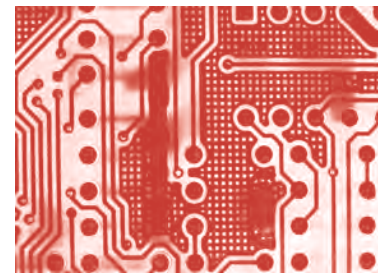
**Flying Needles**  
*January 14 & 28, February 11 & 25, March 10 & 24*  
Learn knitting basics and

have fun at the same time! Needles, yarn and instructions are provided. A new session starts on January 14 and meets every other Thursday. Limited to 6 participants.

**G<sup>3</sup>**  
*December 17, January 21, February 18*  
Our popular Galactic Gaming Group returns. Bring your friends on the third Thursday of every month and play our PS3 and WiiU games on giant screens.



"Scurry Up and Read" during our Winter Reading Program. Babies through 6th graders can earn weekly prizes as they keep track of the books they read. Everyone who reaches their reading goal will receive a free book from the Friends of the Library Bookstore! Register in person at the Children's Desk starting January 11<sup>th</sup> and report your books by February 26<sup>th</sup>.



## Winter Story Times

**Toddler Time**  
**Ages 2 - 3½ and their caregivers**  
*Wednesdays at 10:15 or 11:00 am*

Toddlers and their grown-ups will enjoy fun stories, learn new songs, and do fingerplays.

**Baby Story Time**  
**3 - 23 months and their caregivers**  
*Mondays or Tuesdays at 10:15 or 11 am*

Enjoy rhymes, games, very short books, and more. Programs will last about 20 minutes.

**Family Story Time**  
*Tuesdays at 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.

**Register in person at the Children's Desk, sign up online at [lplibrary.org](http://lplibrary.org), or call us at 708-352-0100.**

## teen programs

### 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)
5. Twitter – [www.twitter.com/lplya](http://www.twitter.com/lplya)



Get your homework done faster with *Tutor.com* - free with your LPPL library card

This year, 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 11, January 8, and February 5, 4:45-6 pm

Gaming, gaming, gaming! *Rock Band 4*, *Super Smash Bros for Wii U*, and *Apples to Apples* are just a few of the games we play. Plus, snacks!

## Anime Club

### Grades 7-12

Thursdays, December 17, January 21, and February 18, 7 pm

Anime and snacks. ‘Nuff said!

## Timey-Wimey Club

### All Ages

Mondays, December 28, January 25, and February 22, 7 pm

Calling all Doctor Who fans! Join us for a monthly viewing of Doctor Who episodes. And snacks and Doctor Who-related crafts.

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

## Finals Cram Jam

### Grades 9-12

Sunday, December 20, 5-8 pm

One night only! The Library will stay open an additional three hours so you can cram facts into your brain! Coffee and hot chocolate provided. Must have your LT or RB school ID.

## 7th Annual Rockin' New Year's Eve Eve

### Grades 7-12

Wednesday, December 30, 7 pm

There's Rock Band to be played and fun to be had! And party hats and snacks! Registration required.

## Winter Bookmarks

### Grades 7-12

Monday, January 4, 2 pm  
Craft your own bookmark. Oh, and we'll definitely be using Shrinky Dinks!

## Teen Advisory Board

### Grades 7-12

Monday, January 18, 5 pm  
Do you love the YA Department? Do you want to help make it the best it can possibly be? Then TAB is the place for you! Suggestions, volunteering, and of course, pizza!



## Teen Job Fair

### Grades 9-12

Saturday, February 27, 1-4 pm

Looking for a job? Want to volunteer? Need help with your resume? The Teen Job Fair is the place to be! Local businesses, including Q-BBQ, The Hot Dog & Burger Co., and Brookfield Zoo will be on hand to answer questions about employment with their business.

## children's programs

### Super Saturdays

Come to the library on the first Saturday of every month at 10:30 for our series of one-time-only programs.

### Create a Winter Scene

#### Grades K-6

December 5

Use graham crackers, candies, sugar cones and icing mortar to create your scene. All ingredients will be supplied – just bring your creativity and your appetite!

### Read to the Dogs

#### Ages 5 and up

January 2

Read to the Dogs returns to the library for one Saturday only, preceded by a presentation about **Smoky the War Dog**, a heroic Yorkshire terrier who served in WWII and went on to become one of the first therapy dogs. Call

the library during the last 2 weeks of December to sign up for your 15 minutes to read to the dogs.

### Stories and Dance

Ages 4-10

February 6

Kelly Stokes of the Salt Creek Ballet will present her audience-participation version of Little Red Riding Hood, and teach aspiring dancers some ballet basics.



## Are You Prepared for a Disaster?

Presented by Beth Randall

Monday, January 18, 7 pm

Disasters occur in many different ways – job loss, serious illness, or natural disasters like tornados, floods, or blizzards. Are you organized enough to overcome such an event? Professional organizer Beth Randall will help you be prepared no matter what might happen. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## Tangled Snowflakes – A Drawing Workshop

Ages 15 and up

Presented by

Christine Thornton

Monday, December 21,

7-8:30 pm

Tangling is a popular form of doodling that's fun, relaxing, and produces amazing results. No art experience required! Come learn about tangling and make a beautiful snowflake tangle with Christine Thornton's guidance and your own creativity.

Registration required.

## #DiscoverWill: Illinois Libraries Celebrate Shakespeare's First Folio 50-Minute Hamlet

Performed by The Shakespeare Project of Chicago

Monday, February 8, 7 pm

Adapted by Jeff Christian, "50-Minute Hamlet" presents Shakespeare's most enduring tragedy. Utilizing just two actors, "50 Minute Hamlet" contains many of The Bard's most famous lines and speeches while retaining much of his saga's pathos, poetry and passion. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## Long Term Care Planning

Presented by Sev Meneshian, CFP

Saturday, February 20, 10:30 am

When it comes time to plan for high long-term care costs, it's important to consider different strategies to offset this major financial risk. In this lecture you'll learn the nuts and bolts of long-term care insurance policies and how to find the type for your situation.



## Cookbook Club Honey & Co. by Itamar Sruulovich and Sarit Packer

Thursday, January 14, 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 book this winter is filled with vibrant Middle Eastern cuisine perfect for fans of Yotam Ottolenghi's cookbooks (like us!). Register in person by January 7

## Programs for All Ages



## Star Wars Marathon

Friday, December 18 and Saturday, December 19,

10 am-5 pm

If you're as excited as us about the new Star Wars movie (in theaters December 18<sup>th</sup>), you'll surely want to catch up on the previous escapades of C-3PO and his clever buddy R2-D2! We'll be showing all 6 movies back-to-back (Episodes 1-3 on Friday; 4-6 on Saturday). Drop in for a lightsaber duel or two! Snacks and crafts will be available.



## The Story of Smoky the War Dog

Presented by Adrian and

Denise Bingham

Saturday, January 2,

10:30 am

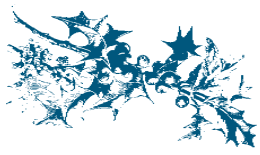
From a lucky chance discovery at the bottom of an abandoned fox hole in Papua New Guinea during WWII to becoming a famous entertainer, a decorated war hero and the world's first official Therapy Dog of record, Smoky's story is nothing short of amazing. Suitable for all ages. Sponsored by the La Grange Park Friends of the Library.

## 3D Movie: Jurassic World

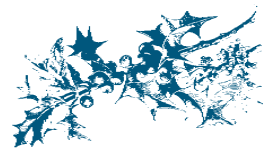
Saturday, January 16, 2 pm

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. If you're a fan of giant dinos wreaking havoc, this exciting film will be a treat! Please register to reserve your 3D glasses. Limit 15.

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



# 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 bookplate 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>		\$ _____

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:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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.

## Holiday in the Park

Saturday, December 12, 12-3 pm

Community Park District of La Grange Park

1501 Barnesdale

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 special holiday story time. Come join us for some snowy fun.

## Food for Fines

December 1-15

Turn food into fine forgiveness! For each item of non-perishable, non-expired food you donate, we will waive one dollar in fines accrued for overdue La Grange Park Library items, up to ten dollars. Donated items will go to BEDS Plus in La Grange.



Mary Pat Flaherty, winner of the Kindle Fire HD donated by Zabinski Consulting Services.

**Congratulations to Mary Pat Flaherty and Loretta Nyhan, winners of the Library Card Sign Up Month giveaway**

## Holiday Shopping with the Friends

Make sure you stop by the Friends' Bookshop to do some of your holiday shopping. If you'll be shopping from the comfort of home through Amazon, start at the Shop's Amazon Smile page: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2961755>. A portion of your purchase price will go to the Friends which they generously pass on to the Library in the form of funding for programs and services.

### books alive

*Book Discussion Group  
Third Tuesday of the month,  
2 pm*

Our winter selections are set in a village in Germany, the North Pole, and Appalachia. Books are available one month before the meeting. All are welcome to attend.

**December 15** *Snow White Must Die* by Nele Neuhaus  
In this captivating contemporary police procedural, Tobias Sartorius returns home after a decade in prison for the murders of two young women. A local girl disappears, could the crime be connected to the events of 10 years ago? In the village the two lead investigators encounter a wall of silence as yet more girls go missing.

**January 19** *In the Kingdom of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the U.S.S. Jeannette* by Hampton Sides  
Our non-fiction selection chronicles the 1879 expedition of American naval officer George Washington De Long through the Bering Strait to the North Pole, which at the time was the last unmapped area of the globe. Like the expeditions of Shackleton and Scott the voyage was treacherous and tragic.

**February 16** *Long Man* by Amy Greene  
This book based on real-life historical events, chronicles 3 days in the town of Yuneetah. The Tennessee Valley Authority has plans to dam the Long Man River, providing electricity to rural Appalachia, at the expense of the town which is being flooded as a three-year-old and her dog disappear.

## Meet Library Patron Jenny Kales

**How long you have you been visiting the La Grange Park Library?**  
Seven years, since we moved to LGP. One of the first things I did was get a library card for myself and my daughters.

**What do you like best about the Library?**  
I'm a writer and I find it peaceful to get work done on the Library's second floor. I love the high ceilings and big windows. I really enjoy the great children's programs at the Library – my kids have participated in many of them. And I love browsing for books.

**Where are we most likely to find you when you're not at the Library?**  
Ferrying my kids to their many activities, checking out local restaurants and bands with my husband, baking, reading of course, watching British TV mysteries – and writing. I've finished my first novel (a cozy mystery) and am working on a new book now.

**Do you prefer a physical book or an eReader?**  
The convenience of an

eReader is a definite plus (especially for someone who reads as much as I do) but there's something special about a physical book. I like both.

**What is your favorite thing about reading?**  
Reading takes you to other places, cultures and worlds, both real and imaginary. It's both an escape and an engaging, educational journey.

**Do you have any book recommendations?**  
I like mysteries and suspense, so anything by Ruth Rendell and Ann Cleeves (both have new books out soon, though Rendell is sadly no longer with us.) I enjoy cozy mystery authors Leslie Meier and Linda Reilly (both have new novels). For contemporary fiction, I loved *Big Little Lies* by Lianne Moriarty and *Paper Towns* by John Green. And last but not least, *I'll Be Seeing You*, WWII-era historical fiction by friend and fellow La Grange Park resident, Loretta Nyhan.



## 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@lplib.org](mailto:friends@lplib.org).

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

## Computer and Technology Classes

### Tech Tutors

iPad irritation? Wiggled out by Windows 8? Stymied by your smartphone? Sign up for a 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

**Plymouth Place, Tuesday, December 15, 1-5 pm and Saturday, February 6, 9 am-1 pm**

**Bethlehem Woods, Saturday, January 9, 9 am-1 pm**

Can't make it to the Library? Gabe will visit local retirement communities for first-come, first-served tech tutoring, to teach you everything from how to use your new touchscreen device to how to download free eBooks from the Library.

### eReader/Tablet Workshop

**Thursday, January 7, 6 pm**

**Tuesday, January 12, 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, audiobooks, and music from the Library. If you're curious but don't have your own gadget, we'll have some on hand for you to try.

### Privacy for Social Networking

**Thursday, February 4, 6 pm**

**Tuesday, February 9, 11 am**

As social networks continue to grow in popularity, so do concerns about what is shared on those services. In this hands-on class, we'll help you sort through the privacy settings of your accounts.

## New Fiction: Winter

### December

*Ashley Bell: A Novel* by Dean R. Koontz

*Tom Clancy Commander in Chief* by Mark Greaney

*Forgotten Soldier: A Pike Logan Thriller* by Brad Taylor



### January

*The Guest Room: A Novel* by Chris Bohjalian

*The Bitter Season* by Tami Hoag

*The Swans of Fifth Avenue* by Melanie Benjamin

### February

*Midnight Son: A Novel* by Jo Nesbo

*Cometh the Hour* by Jeffrey Archer

*Into Oblivion: An Inspector Erlendur Novel* by Arnaldur Indridason

## 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 11 *Amy* (2015, dir. Asif Kapadia; 128 min.) The life of late singer Amy Winehouse is depicted through home movies and other footage in this affecting documentary.

January 8 *Mommy* (2014, dir. Xavier Dolan, 139 min.) In this unusual drama from Quebecois wunderkind Dolan, the troubled relationship of a mother and son is transformed by outside forces.

January 22 *Meru* (2015, dir. Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi; 87 min.) A group of mountain climbers attempts an extremely difficult climb in this harrowing documentary.

February 5 *About Elly* (2009, dir. Asghar Farhadi; 119 min.) In this mystery from the director of Film Discussion Group favorites *A Separation* and *The Past*, a woman disappears during a weekend trip.

February 19 *When Marnie Was There* (2014, dir. Hiromasa Yonebayashi; 103 min.) A young girl makes a mysterious friend in this beautifully animated film (possibly the final film from the famed Studio Ghibli).

## neighbor news

### Lightsaber Workshop

**Saturday, December 5, 1 - 2 pm**

The E.D.G.E. Theatre will hold a workshop to teach lightsaber stage combat. Space is limited so registration is a must! This workshop is for children ages 7 and up. Please register online or call the La Grange Public Library at 708.215.3200.



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

**Community Park  
District of La Grange  
Park presents  
Shrek Jr.  
December 11-13**



## Postal Customer La Grange Park, IL 60526



### **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; Dorren Gertsen-Briand, Treasurer; Julie Gies, Mary Lou Hurley, Laurie Whitman, and David Swainson, Members.

Kate Buckson, 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.

### **Library Knitters and Crocheters**

Using donated yarn, members of the community knit and crochet blankets and other cozy items to donate to the Community Nurse Association. Gail, pictured here, has crocheted dozens of blankets for CNA and has finished several hundred since she began crocheting. The group meets the second Thursday of each month at 10:30 am on the second floor. All are welcome, no experience necessary! Donations of yarn are always needed.



### **Library Closings**

Thursday, November 26 – Thanksgiving  
Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve  
Friday, December 25 – Christmas Day  
Thursday, December 31 - January 1 – New Year's Eve/  
New Year's Day  
Monday, February 15 – Presidents' Day