



Check It Out

The monthly newsletter of the Des Plaines Valley Public Library District

Crest Hill Library 1298 Theodore Street Crest Hill, IL 60403 815-725-0234
Lockport Library 121 East 8th Street Lockport, IL 60441 815-838-0755
<http://www.dpvlib.org>

FEBRUARY 2007

**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY!**

Library Hours

Mon-Thu: 9am—9pm
Fri & Sat: 9am—5pm
Sun: 1—5pm

Board Meeting

At Lockport:
Community Room
Tuesday, Feb. 20
@ 7:00 p.m.

Book

Discussion Groups

Lockport

2nd Tues. @ 10:30 a.m.
2nd Thurs. @ 6:30 p.m.

Crest Hill

3rd Tues. @ 11 a.m.
4th Tues. @ 7 p.m.
See p. 3 for details.

Test Preparation @ Your Library From the GRE to the GED

If you are planning to take a standardized test, we have a dynamite resource to help you prepare for it. A wide variety of sample tests and test preparation materials are available through our **Testing & Education Reference Center (TERC)**. TERC is accessible from any PC with Internet access via our library's homepage at <http://www.dpvlib.org>. So, you can use it from home or from one of the library's public access computers (library card required.)

Practice tests and downloadable preparation manuals are offered for a large number of tests. Here is just a sampling:

High School: GED, COOP, HSPT, ISEE, SSAT

College Entrance: ACT, SAT, PSAT

College Credit: AP, TOEFL

Graduate Entrance: GRE, GMAT, MCAT, MAT, LSAT

Nursing: NCLEX

Civil Service & Licensing: EMT, Police, Firefighter, Real Estate, U.S. Citizenship, Civil Service, Postal, State Trooper

Military Entrance: Air Force Officer Qualifying Test, Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB)

From our homepage, click on the link to Online Databases and scroll down to the Testing & Education Reference Center. For access from any PC besides a library public access computer, you will need to have your library card number. Then, choose the green Test Preparation tab and you'll open up a world of possibilities for higher education and future careers.

Test preparation is just one section of TERC. If you are searching for information about colleges, graduate schools, and specialty career programs, you will find it on TERC. Current information on nearly 4,000 accredited colleges and universities across the United States and Canada are included. You can use a variety of search criteria to find your perfect match: institution name, location, tuition, average GPA of incoming freshmen, religious denomination, and more.

Tax Forms @ The Library

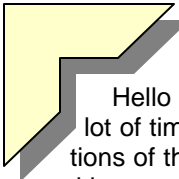
The Library provides a supply of the most requested forms from both the Internal Revenue Service (Federal) and the Illinois State Department of Revenue. Due to the large number of individual forms, it is not possible to keep every form on hand. If we don't have what you are looking for in stock, the reference librarians can help you find the forms you need on the IRS or Illinois Department of Revenue websites at a cost of 20 cents per printed page. Certain specially printed Federal forms can only be obtained by calling the IRS at: 1-800-TAX-FORM.

You can also access and print out tax forms from your home computer or from a library public access computer from the following sites: <http://www.irs.gov> (IRS) and <http://www.revenue.state.il.us> (Illinois). Many of these e-forms may also be filled out right on your computer and then printed out.

Please note that the library does not provide any tax preparation software, nor can the staff advise patrons on tax related issues or questions.

We do, however, have manuals available for check-out:

- *The 2007 Turbo Tax Income Tax Handbook: The Complete Guide to Tax Breaks.* Call No. 343.7305Tur at Crest Hill and Lockport.
- *Lower Your Taxes — Bigtime*, by Sanford C. Botkin. Call No. 343.7305Bot at Lockport.



The Director's Corner

Hello again! As your new director, I have been spending a lot of time getting to know the staff and the day-to-day operations of the library district. Though I will continue to evaluate and improve our libraries, I am also looking forward to building and improving upon the positive relationships we have with our district communities of Crest Hill, Lockport, and Romeoville. The more I network and connect with you the public, the more opportunities I see for the library to make a bigger difference in the lives of you, our District residents. As anyone who talks to me will know, we have big plans for the future of this District and there is always room for more input. In fact, if you have a wish list for the future of our library facilities, collections, or services, please do not hesitate to share it with me by telephone (815-838-0755) or via email spointon@dpvlib.org.

This month's quote comes from a man named Charles Medawar: "***Librarians are almost always very helpful and often almost absurdly knowledgeable. Their skills are probably very underestimated and largely underemployed.***" Let's think about that as we plan the future of our libraries!

Get the Scoop On
St. Valentine's Day

@ Your Library

Here are some interesting facts about St. Valentine's Day that we'd like to share with you....

- About 3% of pet owners will give Valentine's Day gifts to their pets. (*Yes, I'm one of those people*)
- 73% of people who buy flowers for Valentine's Day are men, while only 27 percent are women.
- About 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are exchanged in the US each year. Women purchase 85% of all Valentines Day cards.
- Richard Cadbury invented the first Valentines Day candy box in the late 1800s.
- Alexander Graham Bell applied for his patent on the telephone on Valentine's Day, 1876.
- In olden days, there was a myth associated with St. Valentine's Day that went like this: On February 14, the first man an unmarried woman laid her eyes on would be her future husband (*talk about a disaster waiting to happen!*)

Anyhow, have a Happy Valentine's Day!
B. Krakovec

Hundreds of Reference Books Added...Virtually

Recently, 594 high quality reference books covering a wide array of subjects were added to our collection. They take up no space and were purchased for a fraction of what the print books would have cost. They are called the **Gale Virtual Reference Library** and are accessible to you as a library cardholder via any computer with Internet access, either at the library or at your home or office. They are searchable by keyword and are updated on a regular basis.

What kinds of books are included? Here's a short list: *A Financial History of the United States*, *Africa: An Encyclopedia for Students*, *American Inaugurals: The Speeches, The Presidents, and Their Times*, *American Revolution Reference Library*, *Animal Sciences*, *Bowling*, *Beatniks*, and *Bell-Bottoms: Pop Culture of 20th Century America*, *Colonial America Reference Library*, *Computer Sciences*, *Countries of the World and Their Leaders* -Yearbooks for 2004, 2005, and 2006. *Datapedia of the United States: American History in Numbers*, *Diseases and Disorders* (10 volumes each dealing with a different disease from acne to West Nile Virus), *Encyclopedia of Buddhism*, *Encyclopedia of Disability*, *Encyclopedia of India*, etcetera! Well, you get the idea!

You'll find authoritative articles on thousands of subjects with extensive bibliographies and links to high quality information available on the Web.

Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society

On Saturday, February 24, 2007 the Lockport Area and Genealogical and Historical Society will hold its membership meeting at the Lockport Library, 8th and Hamilton St in Lockport. The meeting will begin at 9:15 a.m. in the Bengston Room of the library. Our guest speaker will be Tina Beaird and the topic will be "Preserving Family Heirlooms". The program is free and open to the public. Any questions, please contact Gary Ward (815) 838-2327.

Up and Coming Book Discussions...

Our book discussion groups meet monthly at the Lockport and Crest Hill libraries. New members are always welcome. Books are available for pick-up one month before the discussion dates from the respective libraries. For more information, please call Head of Reference Shannon Pohrte @ 815-838-0755.

Lockport Mornings, 10:30am, 2nd Tuesdays

- Feb. 13: *Virtues of Leadership*, by William Bennett
- March 13: *The White Rock*, by Hugh Thomson...The intriguing narrative of the author's search for the "lost city of the Incas."
- April 10: *The Cat Who Brought Down the House*, by Lillian Jackson Braun
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Ravenous Readers, 6:30pm, 2nd Thursdays @ Lockport

- Feb. 8: *Reading Lolita in Tehran*, by Azar Nafisi
- March 8: *The Red Tent*, by Anita Diamant...The Biblical Dinah, daughter of Jacob, relates her story and the intimate stories of the women who raised her.
- April 12: *The Poet*, by Michael Connelly
-

Crest Hill Evenings, 4th Tuesdays @ 7 p.m.

- February 27: *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid*, by Bill Bryson...An amusing look at growing up during the 1950s in the mid-west.
- March 27: *Running With Scissors*, by Augusten Burroughs
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Crest Hill Daytime, 3rd Tuesdays @

 11 a.m. This newly formed group will meet for the first time on Feb. 20.

- Feb. 20: *The Dive From Clausen's Pier*, by Ann Packer...A beautifully written story of one woman's journey to self-knowledge.
- March 20: *The True Story of Hansel and Gretel*, by Louise Murphy.

Rock Your Winter Blues Away @ the Library

AC Rock...Chicago's premiere four-part male *a cappella* vocal group will perform at both the Lockport and Crest Hill libraries on Saturday, February 10.

See you @ Lockport at 10 a.m. See you @ Crest Hill at 1:00 p.m. For more information contact Jane Gardner at 838-0755, jgardner@dpvlib.org or Patty Kulesza at 725-0234, pkulesza@dpvlib.org.

For Children @ The Crest Hill Library

- **Valentine Celebration: Wednesday, February 14 @ 4:30 p.m.** Children will play *I LUV U* Bingo and make a sweet craft. For ages 3 and up. Young children need to be accompanied by a parent or older sibling to help with the craft. Sign up now. Limited to first 50 kids. Free!
- **Story-Time: Starts Week of February 5!** Story-Time is a literacy-based program featuring weekly themes with books, games, and crafts! Children ages 3 to 6 are welcome to participate. Choose from one of the following 45-minute sessions: Mondays at 10 a.m., 1 p.m., or 6:30 p.m.; Tuesdays at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. Meets Feb. 5/6 to May 7/8. Fee for 14-week program: \$10/residents; \$15/nonresidents. Register now!
- **Bookin' With Baby: Starts Feb. 6 and 7!** A free, weekly, lap-sit program designed for children ages 3 months to 2 years-old with a parent or guardian. Choose from one of two 30-minute sessions: Tues. @ 10:30 a.m. or Wed. at 10:30 a.m. Meets Feb. 6/7 to May 8/9. Register now!
- **Cat In The Hat Birthday Party: Saturday, March 3 @ 11 a.m.** Join us as we celebrate the Cat's 50th birthday with celebrity readers, stickers, bookmarks, a raffle, and a cake. Everyone invited.

For more information contact **Patty Kulesza**, Crest Hill Library's Children's Librarian, 815-725-0234.

For Children @ The Lockport Library

- **After School Craft Days:** An after school craft program for children in grades one to five from 4 to 5 p.m. Coming up...**February 21 — St. Patrick's Day theme.** Registration is required. Free.
- **Terrific Twos: Mondays, February 5 to May 7** — This 30-minute program is for children ages 24 to 36 months and parents/caregivers. Monday: 10 am or 11:00 am. Registration required. Free.
- **Toddler Time: Thursdays, February 8 to May 10; or Fridays, February 9 to May 11** — For children ages 3 months to 3 yrs with parents/caregivers. Thursdays: 9:30 am, 10:30am, or 6:00 pm; Friday Mornings: 9:30 or 10:30am. Registration required. No fee. Limited to 20 per time.
- **Story Time: Monday evenings, February 5 to May 7; Tuesdays February 6 to May 8; Wednesdays February 7 to May 9.** This class is for children ages 3- to 6-yrs.
Monday Evening 6:15 pm to 7:00 pm; Tuesday Morning 10:00 am to 10:45 am
Tuesday Afternoon 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm; Wednesday Morning 10:00 am to 10:45 am
Wednesday Afternoon 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm. Registration required, Craft fee \$10.00 per child, Non residents \$15.00 (craft fee \$10.00 plus \$5.00 non resident fee). Limited to 20 per time.
- **Cat In The Hat Birthday Party: Saturday, March 3 @ Noon.** Everyone is invited to join us celebrate the Cat's 50th birthday with celebrity readers, stickers, bookmarks, a raffle, and a cake.

For more information contact **Jane Gardner**, Lockport Library's Children's Librarian, 815-838-0755.

The Des Plaines Valley Public Library District is subject to the requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals who require certain accommodations in order to observe and/or participate in the library's activities, or who have questions regarding the facilities are requested to contact Scott Pointon, Director, at 815-838-0755 or 815-725-0234, promptly to allow the Des Plaines Valley Public Library District to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.