



# 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>

MAY 2007

HAPPY  
MOTHER'S DAY!

Closed on Monday,  
May 28 for Memorial  
Day

### Library Hours

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

### Board Meeting

At Lockport:  
Community Room  
Tuesday, May 15  
@ 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.

## Hit the Road With an Audio Book!

With the weather finally warming, our thoughts are turning to the great outdoors. Hopefully, you'll be able to plan a road trip this spring or summer. Be sure to take along a book or two to wile away the time when you arrive at your destination. For the ride there, however, nothing passes the time quicker than an audio book. We have a great selection of titles on both cassette and compact disc.

Consider one of the following....

**Classic/Family** — Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The story of a young girl growing up in the South who learns the true meaning of justice. 12.5 hrs. on 11 CDs @ Crest Hill and Lockport.

**Mystery/Thriller** — Margaret Truman's *Murder in Havana*. A Capital Crimes mystery featuring political intrigue, double-crossing operatives, and a trip to Cuba. 11 hrs. on 10 CDs. @ Crest Hill and Lockport.

**Non-fiction/Military** — Tom Clancy's *Every Man a Tiger*, featuring General Chuck Horner, the commander of U.S. and allied air assaults during Operation Desert Storm. 21 hours on 17 CDs. @ Crest Hill

**Psychological Suspense** — Dean Koontz' *Intensity*. A young woman is pitted against a murderous sociopath. 11.5 hrs on 10 CDs. @ Crest Hill & Lockport.

**Horror** — Stephen King's *Cell*. Terrifying violence is unleashed across the world when a single pulse is transmitted to every cell phone on the planet. 12.5 hrs. on 11 CDs. @ Crest Hill and Lockport.

**Humor** — Dave Barry's *Money Secrets*. Miami Herald columnist Dave Barry will have you laughing all the way to your destination. You won't arrive any richer, but you will be a lot happier. 5 hrs. on 5 CDs. @ Crest Hill and Lockport.

**Non-fiction/Science** — Bill Bryson's *A Short History of Nearly Everything*. In this entertaining adventure of the mind, Bryson talks about science in terms that everyone can understand. 19.5 hrs on 13 cassettes @ Crest Hill and Lockport.

**Love Story** — Nicholas Spark's *True Believer*. When a New York journalist investigates a paranormal graveyard mystery, he finds true love. 10 hrs. on cassette @ Crest Hill and on CD at Lockport.

**Kids/Family** — J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* books. On cassette and CD at Crest Hill and Lockport.

## May Is National Barbecue Month!

We won't be grilling up any burgers here at the library, but we have cookbooks and information on all things related to good grilling. Here are just a few to whet your appetites.

*Grilling & Barbecuing: Food and Fire in Regional American Cooking — The Everything Barbecue Cookbook: Over 100 Mouth-Watering Recipes for Grilling Just About Anything — Great Taste, Low Fat Grilling — Better Homes and Gardens Gas Grill Cookbook — Let the Flames Begin: Tips, Techniques, and Recipes for Real Live Fire Cooking.*

Find them shelved in  
641.5784.

## Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society Chamber After Hours

On Wednesday, May 16, 2007 the Lockport Area Genealogical and Historical Society and the Lockport Chamber of Commerce will host "Chamber After Hours" at the Community Room of the Lockport Library from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Anyone having questions can contact Gary Ward (815)838-2327.

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Check out our budding artists!  
**3rd Annual Children's  
Art Show**  
May 5 and 6 @  
Lockport Library

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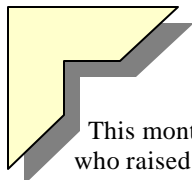
## Public Records on Your Desktop

Ever wonder what the price of the home down the street sold for or what new businesses started up in Lockport last year? The **Public Records Electronic Database** available on our library's website has these answers and a whole lot more.

This database compiles public information from Will, Cook, Du Page, and surrounding counties. It includes four databases: new homeowners, new business licenses, foreclosures, and bankruptcies. All of this information is compiled so that it can be searched with as much detail as you like.

You can use the **Public Records Electronic Database** from any computer that has an Internet connection. Just go to our library's homepage — your portal to information not freely available on the Web at <http://www.dpvlib.org>. On the right hand side of the screen there is a gray box with a link called: **Use Our Online Databases**. Click on this link and then scroll down through the list of databases and choose the **Public Records Electronic Database**. You will need to enter the first five digits of your library card number. From there, choose one of the four searchable databases.

Then choose a county and other parameters to narrow your search. If you need assistance, just call the library and ask for the Adult Services reference librarian.



## The Director's Corner

by Scott Pointon

This month we celebrate many important things, from the mothers who raised us to those brave Americans who have died in our nation's service. We even recognize the entire month as a celebration of "Older Americans." Here in our libraries we are hoping to start our own tradition – the celebration and rebirth of our Friends group. The Friends of the Library (FOL) is a non-profit organization that supports and promotes the library. Though FOL groups often raise money for library projects by conducting used book sales, they do much more. Friends members also act as library advocates in the community, attend meetings to voice library concerns, write support letters to the newspaper, contact legislators about library related issues, and so much more.

Though our FOL group has existed for many years, its membership has dwindled to the point that they are in danger of dissolving. I am hereby calling on all of our newsletter readers to consider joining this group, and to consider taking a leadership role in its rebirth. We currently have a handful of officers, but we are in dire need of the right person to step forward and become the new President of the Friends of the Library. Quote of the month:

*"Fall seven times, stand up eight."* - Japanese Proverb

# Talk About Books!

With Mother's Day just around the corner, I thought an exploration of mother-daughter books would be of interest. I've picked some of my more unusual favorites that definitely don't have your typical warm and cuddly "Mom" as the central character.

Here are some books about mother-daughter relationships that are filled with the joy and tragedy of growing up, finding love, overcoming disaster, and all the other stuff that life is made of.

**Chocolat: a novel** by Joanne Harris. When the beautiful and mysterious Vianne moves to Lansquenet and opens a chocolate shop across from the church, the inhabitants of the tiny village find themselves torn between the solemn law of religion and the joyful rewards of Vianne's confections. The relationships between the mothers and daughters in this book are both tragic and magical. If you've seen the movie, the book will only make you want to watch it again...and let's not forget about Johnny Depp.

**At Crest Hill – FIC HAR**

**Crooked Little Heart** by Ann Lamott. A close-knit family from Marin County, California, the Fergusons struggle to cope with the trials and tribulations of life, while thirteen-year-old Rosie, obsessed with becoming a tennis champion, embarks on a desperate cycle of cheating.

**At Crest Hill & Lockport – FIC LAM**

**Little Women** by Louise May Alcott. This novel is one of Louisa May Alcott's most beloved books. "Little Women" follows the March sisters—Meg, Jo, Amy, and Beth, during the Civil War. But, as you'll read, their relationship with their mother is an essential part of the story. (This was the first real adult classic I read and I'll forever have a soft spot for Mrs. March).

**White Oleander: a novel** by Janet Fitch. At age twelve, Astrid has her world destroyed when her mother is sentenced to life in prison for murdering her lover. The story of how Astrid re-makes herself as a survivor is a harrowing and inspiring journey. **At Crest Hill & Lockport – FIC FIT**

Happy Mother's Day and happy reading.

B. Krakovec

# 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 Manager of Adult Services Shannon

Pohrte @ 815-838-0755.

**Lockport Mornings, 10:30am, 2nd Tuesdays**

- May 8: *True Believer*, by Nicholas Sparks...When big city journalist meets small town southern librarian, the sparks fly while he investigates the graveyard mystery that brings them together.
- June 12: *Saving Lives and Saving Money*, by Newt Gingrich...Former Speaker of the House relates his views on reforming healthcare.

**Ravenous Readers, 6:30pm, 2nd Thurs. @ Lockport**

- May 10: *Blink: The Power of Thinking Without Thinking*, by Malcolm Gladwell...A collection of interesting studies of how and why the judgments we make in the "blink of an eye" can be our best judgments.
- June 14: *Slaughterhouse Five*, by Kurt Vonnegut...Part science fiction and partly based on Vonnegut's own experiences as a POW during the fire bombing of Dresden, this 1969 novel is the author's best.

**Crest Hill Daytime, 3rd Tuesdays @ 11 a.m.**

- May 15: *The Bonesetter's Daughter*, by Amy Tan...While caring for her aging mother, a first-generation Chinese-American discovers an unexpected tumultuous past.
- June 19: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, by Mitch Albom...A beautiful story that explores the meaning of life.

**Crest Hill Evenings, 4th Tues. @ 7 p.m.**

- May 22: *Thread of Grace*, by Mary Doria Russell...An historical fiction based on the true story of a small Italian town that sheltered 40,000 Jews from execution at the end of WWII.

# Gardening Program For Children—May 19

**"Step Into Spring"** — a make-it and take-it program for children ages 5 and up will be presented by the **Will County Master Gardeners** from the University of Illinois Extension Center on Saturday, May 19 at **both libraries at 10 a.m.** Children will learn about soil, plants and flowers during this one hour program and receive a plant for their own gardens to grow at home. This program is free and limited to 50 children. **Sign-up for this fun gardening adventure begins on May 1 at the respective libraries.** For more information contact **Patty Kulesza**, Crest Hill Library's Children's Librarian, 815-725-0234.

## Crest Hill Bookmark and Coloring Contest Winners

Congratulations to all the winners of our Bookmark and Coloring Contest co-sponsored by Crest Hill Library and Liberty Tax Service.

**Bookmark Design Winners** (Each winner's bookmark design will be distributed at Crest Hill Library and Liberty Tax Service)

1st Place — Colin Reum-\$20.00 gift card Barnes and Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Box, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate; 2nd Place — Emily Shoop-\$15.00 gift card, Barnes & Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Box, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate; 3rd Place — Megan Vargo-\$10.00 gift card, Barnes & Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Box, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate; 4th Place — Lauren Brannick

### Bookmark Design Honorable Mentions

The following students received an Award Certificate, Liberty Tax Goody Box & Pizza For "U" Gift: Katherine Hahn, Haillie Hall, Alexia Karales, and Zachary Shoop

### Coloring Contest Winners

1<sup>st</sup> Place Flavio Ochoa-\$15.00 gift card Barnes & Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Bag, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Rishad Dharani-\$10.00 gift card Barnes & Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Bag, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Jisela Martinez-\$5.00 gift card Barnes & Noble, Liberty Tax Goody Bag, Pizza For "U" Gift and Award Certificate

### Coloring Contest Honorable Mentions

The following students received an Award Certificate, Liberty Tax Goody Bag & Pizza For "U" Gift: Audrey Collofello, Madilyn Karales, Nolan McNabb, Sebastian Pantoja and Madison Paprzycki

## For Children @ The Lockport Library

**Registration starts May 14, 2007 for the Seven Week Summer Sessions of Story Time, Toddler Time and Terrific Twos.**

- **Toddler Time — Ages 3 months to 3 years with Parent or Caregiver.** Tuesdays, June 12 to July 31. Times: 10 to 10:30 am, 10:45 to 11:15 am and 6 to 6:30 pm. No fee.
- **Summer Story Time— Ages 3 to 6 years.** Wednesdays Starting June 13 to August 1. Times: 10 to 10:45 am, 1 to 1:45 pm, and 6 to 6:45 pm. Limit 25 per time session. Cost is \$5.00 craft fee, Nonresident fee includes Craft Fee \$10.00.
- **Terrific Twos — Ages 24 months to 36 months.** Thursdays, June 14 to August 2. Times: 10 to 10:30 am and 10:45 to 11:15 am. Limit 25 per time session. No fee.

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*