



explore the opportunities Preview

News and Information From Mount Prospect Public Library

January/February 2011

Achieve Your Goals in 2011

May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions!
—Joey Adams

Every year we make a New Year's resolution or two, but how often do we stick to them? One of the best strategies for staying on course is to draw on support and information. Don't go it alone; let the Library help.

IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH

Whether it is weight loss, exercise, or, better yet, a combination of both, the Library has online resources and traditional materials to help you meet your goal. Try starting with the number 613—no, that is not the number of pounds you want to lose or calories you want to burn—it is the section of the Library that can help you pick a diet or exercise routine. Whether you are looking for a book or a video, 613 is the universal code that will unlock a world of resources. Move a little farther down the aisles to 641 and you will find cookbooks filled with healthful recipes.

Going online opens the door to hundreds of additional resources. Take a look at *MedlinePlus*, a web resource

listed on our Research & Reference page that offers information from noted experts, such as the National Institute for Health and the Mayo Foundation. Help comes in many forms: videos, tutorials, and articles.

Perhaps you are looking to join a gym? When shopping for a health club, you'll want to consider several points, including what its members say about it, where it is located, how much memberships cost, the contract terms it offers, the facilities and equipment available, and the classes and amenities offered. *Chicago Consumers' Checkbook*, available through our Research & Reference web page, offers ratings and reviews of local health clubs to help you make the best selection.

GET CONTROL OF YOUR FINANCES

Do you need to start with the basics? *Standard & Poor's NetAdvantage* offers a section called *Financial Literacy Now*. Available on our Research & Reference



page, *Financial Literacy Now* includes articles, written in layman's terms, that explain credit scores, budgeting, refinancing, rolling over an IRA, and much more. If you have children and the cost of college is looming large, then you may be interested in the *Smart Saving for College* section—it explains financial aid terms, savings vehicles, and a wealth of other information.

When you are ready for more advanced money strategies, the Library provides you with free access to *Morningstar*, an investment research service where you will find comprehensive

—see 2011 Goals on page 3

SIGNIFICANT New Year's Day DATES

10,000 B.C.

First calendar was developed using the moon. A month is calculated based on the appearance of a new moon.

45 B.C.

Julius Caesar declares January 1 New Year's Day.

1200

Many European countries continue to celebrate New Year's Day on March 25.

1582

Pope Gregory XIII re-declares January 1 as New Year's Day.

1752

England and its colonies in America move New Year's Day to January 1.

January 1, 1890

First Tournament of Roses Parade is in Pasadena, California.

December 31, 1907

First New Year's Eve ball is dropped at Times Square in New York.

We will open a book.
Its pages are blank.
We are going to put words
on them ourselves.
The book is called *Opportunity* and
its first chapter is *New Year's Day*.
—Edith Lovejoy Pierce

ALL AGES WINTER READING PROGRAM

Read Up a STORM

Tuesday, February 1 to Monday, February 28

Join a flurry of fellow readers as we chase down good books this February. Read a book, fill out a slip, and you'll be entered into one of our raffle drawings. No reading logs; read whatever you like. If you need a suggestion, stop in and we will gladly make a recommendation. So drift into the Library during the month of February to let us know what you are reading, and you could be a winner of a fabulous raffle prize.

ADULTS: Donate a new hat, scarf, or mittens for a child in need to earn an extra raffle ticket!

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The Library will be closed:

Saturday, January 1
New Year's Day

Adult Events

(R) Registration required (NR) No registration necessary

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Please sign up for programs on the Internet at www.mpppl.org/events, at the Library, or by calling 847/253-5675, unless otherwise noted (NR). Priority registration is given to Mount Prospect cardholders for programs with limited attendance. Please have your MPPL card when registering. *The Library requires at least a one-week notice if special accommodations are needed.*

Generating Leads for Your Business or Job Search

Thursday, January 6, 7 p.m.

Focus your efforts with detailed lists of companies to target for business or job opportunities. Reference librarians Patricia Smolin and Anne Shaughnessy will show you how to tap into ReferenceUSA and LexisNexis to build lists of prospective clients or employers based on a range of criteria, including location, industry, sales, and size. This hands-on demonstration will have participants manipulating queries and information on a PC, so experience with a PC and Microsoft Excel is strongly recommended. *Space is limited.* (R)

Escape From Clutter

Tuesday, January 11, 7:30 p.m.

Eliminating clutter and organizing your stuff will help you free up time to enjoy the important things in life. Learn how to tame the clutter and gain control of your kitchen, office, and even your kids' toys and mementos. Thinking of downsizing? Get practical and realistic tips on how to tackle the task. (R)

Culinary Knife Skills

Tuesday, January 18, 7:30 p.m.

Knife skills are important for every person who cooks, not just professional chefs. Learning to perform these tasks safely and efficiently is an essential part of cooking. This demonstration will show you the proper way to handle and use the most important piece of equipment in your kitchen—your

knife. You will learn the difference between the basic cuts—including dice, julienne, and mince. Knife safety, care, honing, sharpening, and making a knife purchase will be discussed as well. *This class is for adults ages 18 and up.* (R)

Consumer Rights

Wednesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m.

What rights do you have when the bill collectors come calling? Maybe you've heard those commercials offering assistance in "getting out of debt" or for debt consolidation. Do they really help? Kenneth Grayer, president and CEO of Financial Management Institute, will explain your rights, how to deal with aggressive collection agency tactics, and answer your questions. Mr. Grayer has over a decade of experience working as the Director of Training and Education for some of Illinois' biggest account receivable firms and will give you a "behind-the-scenes" look at collection tactics. (R)

Computer Learning Lab: E-mail, Internet, and Office 2007

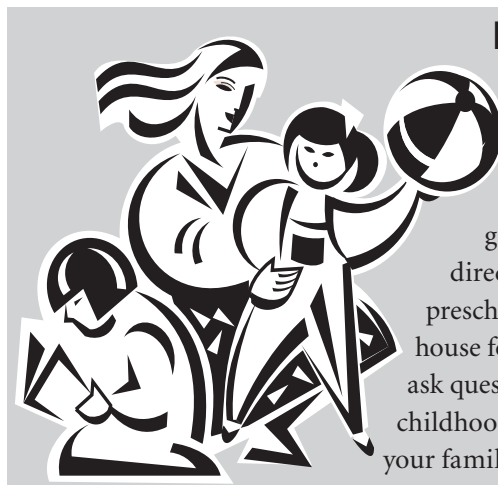
Tuesday, February 1, 4-6 p.m.

Have you taken a computer class but still have questions? Get answers during this open lab where a computer trainer will be available to answer your specific questions about any one of the topics covered in our regular computer classes: E-mail, Internet, Word, Excel, or PowerPoint. Use this time (and our computers) to practice skills or work on a project with the confidence that a tutor is available to help you. *No registration required; stop in anytime between 4 and 6 p.m.* (NR)

New Zealand: The Youngest Country on Earth

Tuesday, February 1, 7:30 p.m.

Enjoy a pictorial journey to New Zealand. Learn about its history and food, and experience the unique mix of Maori and European cultures. See Kiwifruit Country, fields of steam, sheep shearing, the awesome kauri (gum) tree, and one of the last Timeball Stations. Get close to colonies of gannets, albatrosses, yellow-eyed penguins, and seals. Along the way you'll visit the towns of Auckland, Rotorua, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. (R)



Preschool/Child Care Information Night

Tuesday, January 25, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Attention, all parents! Here is a great opportunity for you to talk with directors and teachers of Mount Prospect preschools and child care centers. The open house format of the evening allows you to ask questions and learn more about early childhood programs and services available to your family. *No registration is necessary, so bring your friends!* (NR)

Online Resources for Do-It-Yourself Projects

Wednesday, February 2, 7 p.m.

Enjoy making home improvements or car repairs yourself? Do you like to cook? Shopping for a bargain? Learning a foreign language? Librarians Steven Browne and Anne Shaughnessy will show you exclusive Library web resources that offer information and/or step-by-step instructions that can help you tackle almost any project. This hands-on training session will take place in the Computer Training Room. Computer and keyboarding experience are recommended. *Space is limited.* (R)

30-minute Chocolate Desserts

Tuesday, February 8, 7:30 p.m.

Chocolate lovers, rejoice! Pastry Chef Rose Deneen will demonstrate quick and easy chocolate desserts, including chocolate mousse and white chocolate raspberry trifle. Recipes and tasting samples included. *There is a \$2 nonrefundable fee due at registration, and space is limited.* Please sign up at the Registration Desk (no phone or online registrations). (R)

Putting Audiobooks on Your MP3 Player

Thursday, February 10, 4-5:30 p.m.

Forget cassettes, forget CDs—digital audiobooks are the latest technology for listening to a book. *MyMediaMall* is an online service offered by MPPL that allows you to download audiobooks to your home computer. Take the book wherever you go by transferring the recording to your MP3 player. Bring your MP3 player and Library card and you will be on your way to harnessing the power of this new technology. *Space is limited to 13 participants.* (R)

Art Appreciation: The Cultural Influences of the Early 20th Century

Tuesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m.

The Great Migration, Harlem Renaissance, and the Jazz Age fueled the creative side of the cultural movement that occurred between World Wars I and II. As Chicago's Bronzeville neighborhood flourished so did the art of some of the most influential African American artists: Henry Ossawa Tanner; Aaron Douglas; Walter Ellison; Archibald Motley, Jr.; Jacob Lawrence; Faith Ringgold, and others. Art Historian Jeff Mishur will discuss these artists and several styles practiced by African American artists within the context of major European and American art movements of the early 20th century. (R)

Tap Into the Positive Side of Conflict

Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 p.m.

Conflict is inevitable at home and at work. One of the keys to successful resolution is being prepared for the conflict. In this practical session, Diane Decker, certified professional facilitator and author, will help you identify your normal response to conflict, explore ways to use your strengths, and create an individual plan for using the five steps for managing conflict. (R)

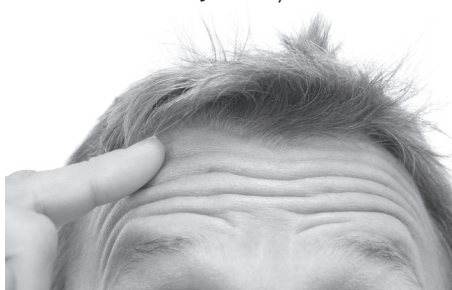
Getting to "You're Hired" Workshop

Monday, February 28, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

This full-day workshop, presented by Illinois workNet, will focus on effective techniques for getting a job. Experienced staff will provide expert guidance on writing résumés and cover letters. Learn how to prepare for the interview, review common interview questions, and discuss effective ways to answer them. Mock interviews and "elevator speeches" will be conducted. *A lunch break will be scheduled; please plan to bring a lunch.* (R)

Your Opinion Matters!

We are currently conducting an online survey to help us better understand how the community uses the Library. You can access the survey from our home page. Please take 5 minutes to give us your input. The survey will be available the entire month of January.



Senior Session

Health and Long-term Care Advance Directives

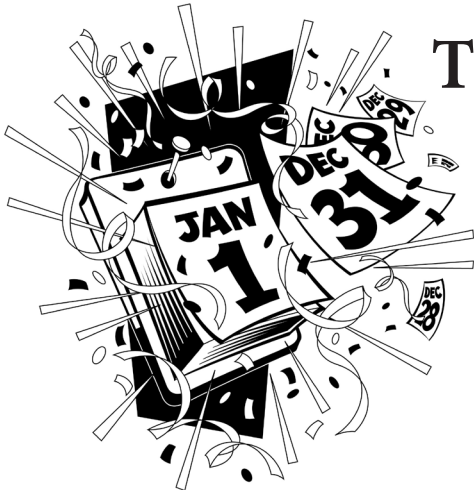
Tuesday, January 18, 1:30 p.m.

What kind of medical care do you want if you are too ill or hurt to express your wishes? Get the information you need to make the appropriate and deliberate decisions regarding your future. Robyn O'Neill, Senior Attorney/Regional Ombudsman for the Legal Assistance Foundation, will discuss living wills, power of attorney, the Health Care Surrogate Act, and long-term care options—all critical concerns for aging adults. (R)

Books to Beat the Winter Blues

Tuesday, February 15, 1:30 p.m.

Let Cathleen Blair, our Readers Advisory Coordinator, help you discover some great heartwarming stories. She will focus on titles and authors that will lift your spirits during these short, dark winter days. Whether you prefer fiction, nonfiction, the classics, mysteries, or something else, Cathleen will offer a suggestion that is bound to suit your taste. (R)



The Ball Drop at Times Square

At the turn of the 20th century, owners of New York’s tall buildings would celebrate the opening of their newly built skyscrapers with fireworks. When Adolph Ochs finished construction on his new building on 42nd Street that would house the *New York Times*, he followed suit and inaugurated his building with an enticing fireworks display from the rooftop of his 18-story building on New Year’s Eve 1904. The massive display attracted over 200,000 spectators, overshadowing the traditional midnight bell ringing celebration at Wall Street’s Trinity Church. The success of the event and the publicity it generated for the *New York Times* encouraged Ochs to repeat the stunt yearly. In 1907, New York City banned rooftop fireworks so Ochs commissioned the construction of an iron and wood ball weighing about 700 pounds. Embedded with 100 25-watt light bulbs, this ball was suspended from a flagpole at the top of the Times

Trivia Question

What was the original name of Times Square before Adolph Ochs moved the headquarters of the New York Times to his newly constructed building on 42nd Street in 1904?

Answer: Longacre Square

The Birth of New Year’s Traditions

building and released at the stroke of midnight, sliding down the pole. This time-ball dropping was not a new phenomenon. For almost 75 years, it had been used as a signal by which ship captains and passersby would set their clocks. The first time-ball was installed atop England’s Royal Observatory at Greenwich in 1833. This ball would drop at 1 p.m. every afternoon, allowing the captains of nearby ships to precisely set their chronometers (a vital navigational instrument). At one time there were as many as 150 time-balls around the world; today fewer than 60 are still standing. Ochs may have adapted his vision from Washington D.C.’s United States Naval Observatory. Though the *New York Times* moved its headquarters long ago, the tradition has lived on.

Today’s Tradition

For over 100 years the Times Square ball has been dropped annually, with the exception of two years: 1942 and 1943. During World War II, blackout restrictions prevented the illumination of the ball. During those two years, crowds still gathered at Times Square to honor the occasion with a moment of silence and bell ringing, harkening back to the pre-Ochs tradition of “ringing out the old and ringing in the new” at Trinity Church. Over the years the ball has undergone many changes, from the original 1907 wood and iron construction to wrought iron in 1920 to aluminum in 1955. Along the

Goals in 2011

—continued from page 1

information. You can take the helm of your financial future by educating yourself with *Morningstar’s Investment Classroom*. It offers over 100 courses that promise to help you build and improve your mutual fund/stock portfolio in no time. Learn about stocks, funds, and portfolio building. Each course can be completed in about 10 minutes and includes a quiz at the end.

If you prefer a traditional classroom setting, then mark your April calendar for *Money Smart Week*, April 2-9. An initiative of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Money Smart Week presents educational financial programs throughout Chicagoland. Libraries, including MPPL, and other partners will be offering programs dealing with financial issues throughout the week.

GET ORGANIZED

Here are three easy steps to get you on the path to organization. First, learn how to dig yourself out from under the clutter with our January 11th program, *Escape From Clutter*. Second, make a plan. Browse the 640 materials of the Library’s Reference area for a host of ideas from *Heloise*, *Good Housekeeping*, and even the people behind the *Idiot’s Guide* series.

Third, be sure you are signed up for MPPL’s e-mail notification! E-mail notification means we will send you a notice two days before your materials are due, so you won’t have to keep track of your due dates, plus you’ll have time to return or renew your materials before you incur any fines (which also helps you meet goal #2, get control of your finances). You can sign up for e-mail notification by adding your e-mail address to your profile in My Account, or call the Library for help in signing up.

ADD A LITTLE FUN TO YOUR DAY

A great resolution, which may be easier to stick to than the three listed above, is to enjoy life more. Take in a suburban museum (don’t forget the free passes available in Youth Services—again, helps you meet goal #2, get control of your finances), watch a DVD of a favorite old TV show, or pick up a new hobby. MPPL’s online *Hobbies and Crafts Reference Center* offers step-by-step, illustrated instructions, along with a list of supplies, to get you started on any number of projects. If your passion is a good story, then talk to one of our staff. We will be happy to help you find something to tickle your fancy or, at least, warm your heart.

way, computerization, strobe lights, and increased energy efficiency were added, not to mention increased girth. The current ball is a 12-foot geodesic sphere composed of a combination of Waterford crystal triangles and LED lights that can produce over 16.7 million different colors and utilizes 3,500 lighting cues to orchestrate the colorful moving patterns. At 11:59 p.m. on New Year’s Eve the ball begins its 1-minute descent down a 77-foot pole, reaching the bottom at exactly 12 a.m. This event is watched by millions of people across the globe.

Auld Lang Syne

The song “Auld Lang Syne” is attributed to 18th century Scottish poet Robert Burns, though Burns admits he found a fragment of an old folk ditty, restored it, and added new verses. “Auld lang syne” is Scottish dialect for “old long ago.” How did this Scottish poem, turned into a song, become aligned with the traditional American New Year’s Eve celebration? The answer takes us back to Times Square. Beginning in 1929, bandleader Guy Lombardo and

His Royal Canadians would close their New Year’s Eve performances at the Roosevelt Hotel with this traditional Scottish tune. Lombardo grew up in western Ontario, an area of Canada with a significant Scottish heritage, and was familiar with the song, even though Americans at the time were not. In a bit of musical acknowledgment, Lombardo may have stuck with this particular song as a way of subtly recognizing his radio sponsor, Robert Burns’ Panatela cigars. In 1948, CBS broadcast the first televised presentation of the New Year’s Eve celebration and ball drop in Times Square, cutting away to Lombardo’s midnight performance of the song. Lombardo and his band became a fixture on these New Year’s Eve telecasts, and this yearly television exposure helped ingrain “Auld Lang Syne” into American culture.

Sources
www.timessquarenyc.org/nye/nye_ball.html
Encyclopedia of Christmas & New Year’s Celebrations, 2nd Edition, by Tanya Gulevich.

BOOKS AND CONVERSATIONS

Books are available 30 days prior to each discussion at the Fiction/AV/Teen Desk. (NR)

Food for Thought



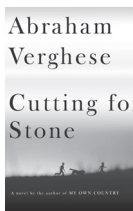
The Big Sleep

by Raymond Chandler

Wednesday,

January 5, 1 p.m.

In one of the classic detective novels that established the genre, Phillip Marlowe is up to his dossier in blackmail, mayhem, and murder in one of Chandler's most compelling mysteries.



Cutting for Stone

by Abraham Verghese

Wednesday,

February 2, 1 p.m.

Twin brothers born from a secret love affair between an Indian nun and a British surgeon in Addis Ababa, Marion and Shiva Stone come of age in an Ethiopia on the brink of revolution, where their love for the same woman drives them apart.

Coffee, Books, & More

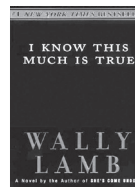


The Pluto Files: The Rise and Fall of America's Favorite Planet

by Neil deGrasse Tyson

Wednesday, January 19, 10 a.m.

Pluto is entrenched in our cultural, patriotic view of the cosmos, and one man is on a quest to discover why. *The Pluto Files* is an exploration of the controversy surrounding Pluto and its planet status by a renowned astrophysicist at the heart of the controversy.



I Know This Much Is True by Wally Lamb

Wednesday,

February 16, 10 a.m.

Dominick Birdsey, a forty-year-old housepainter living in Three Rivers, Connecticut, finds his subdued life greatly disturbed when his identical twin brother Thomas, a paranoid schizophrenic, commits a shocking act of self-mutilation.

MOVIES AND MORE

Movies @ MPPL



Eat, Pray, Love

[2010; Rated PG-13; 133 minutes; Drama]
Starring Julia Roberts, Javier Bardem, James Franco.

Directed by Ryan Murphy.

Wednesday, January 5, 7 p.m.*

Thursday, January 13, 1 p.m.

Newly divorced and at a crossroads, Liz Gilbert steps out of her comfort zone, risking everything to change her life, embarking on a journey around the world that becomes a quest for self-discovery. In her travels, she discovers the true pleasure of nourishment in Italy; the power of prayer in India; and, finally and unexpectedly, the inner peace and balance of true love in Bali. (R)

***Note:** Due to the length of this movie, the start time is 7 p.m.



Secretariat

[2010; Rated PG; 116 minutes; Drama]
Starring Diane Lane, John Malkovich, Scott Glenn.

Directed by Randall Wallace.

Wednesday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 10, 1 p.m.

Based on the remarkable true story, *Secretariat* chronicles the spectacular journey of the 1973 Triple Crown winner. Housewife and mother, Penny Chenery, agrees to take over her ailing father's Virginia-based Meadow Stables despite her lack of horse racing knowledge. Against all odds, Chenery—with the help of veteran trainer Lucien Laurin—manages to navigate the male-dominated business, ultimately fostering the first Triple Crown winner in 25 years and what may be the greatest racehorse of all time. (R)

Movie Discussion

The Last Days of Disco

[1998; Rated R; 113 minutes; Comedy]
Starring Mackenzie Astin, Kate Beckinsale, Chloe Sevigny.
Directed by Whit Stillman.

Wednesday, January 12, 6:30 p.m.

Set in the late 1970s during the waning days of the disco craze, this is the story of a group of young men and women living, working, and playing in New York City. These yuppies must grow up, put their days of glitter-ball nightclubbing behind them, and learn to live as responsible adults. (NR)

High Fidelity

[2000; Rated R; 114 minutes; Comedy]
Starring John Cusack, Iben Hjejle, Jack Black, Catherine Zeta-Jones.
Directed by Stephen Frears.

Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.

Based on the best-selling cult novel by Nick Hornby, this story follows the midlife crisis of Rob Gordon, a thirty-something used records store owner faced with the reality that he's growing up. When Rob's longtime girlfriend dumps him for another guy, he must go on a soul-searching, fact-finding mission with the aid of his wacky, offbeat staff, in an effort to reclaim the girl of his dreams and reorganize his life. (NR)



Have you seen the most recent winners?

The 83rd Academy Awards® will take place Sunday, February 27, 2011 at Hollywood's Kodak Theatre. Check out these past winners or ask the

Fiction/AV/Teen Desk staff for further suggestions.

2009 ★ The Hurt Locker

2008 ★ Slumdog Millionaire

2007 ★ No Country for Old Men

2006 ★ The Departed

2005 ★ Crash

Coffee & Conversation

Friday, January 21, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, February 18, 7:30 p.m.

Coffee & Conversation, the Library's monthly current events discussion group, provides an open, nonpartisan forum for community members to share their views. This moderated discussion strives to encourage greater understanding of diverse

viewpoints and offers a venue where people can participate in honest discussion.

The evening's coffee is generously provided by Starbucks Coffee, Mount Prospect. (R)

LIBRARY LIFE

January

Winter Reading Program:
Read Up a Storm

Handcraft a Beaded Necklace &
Earring Set: Jewelry Workshop

SUPER Saturday!: Sea Beast Puppet
Company Presents "Surf and Turf"



February

Friends of the Library Book Sale
Culinary Knife Skills

SUPER Saturday!: Smarty Pants' *Wild
About Reading* Balloon Show

Features subject to change.

AVAILABLE ON
www.mppl.org

JANUARY

1 Library Closed for New Year's Day
Saturday, January 1

2 Tales With Tails Registration
Begins, Sunday, January 2 📍

5 FOOD FOR THOUGHT Book
Discussion, *The Big Sleep* by
Raymond Chandler, Wednesday,
January 5, 1 p.m. (NR) 📍

MOVIES @ MPPL: *Eat, Pray, Love*
Wednesday, January 5, 7 p.m. 📍📺

6 Winter Storytime Lottery Ends
Thursday, January 6 📍

Generating Leads for Your Business
or Job Search
Thursday, January 6, 7 p.m. 📍

10 BOOK CHAT @ CARIBOU
Book Discussion, *People of
the Book* by Gwendolyn Brooks
Monday, January 10, 7 p.m. (NR) 📍

11 Escape From Clutter
Tuesday, January 11, 7:30 p.m. 📍

12 MOVIE DISCUSSION: *The
Last Days of Disco*, Wednesday,
January 12, 6:30 p.m. (NR) 📍

13 MOVIES @ MPPL: *Eat, Pray,
Love*, Thursday, January 13,
1 p.m. 📍📺

15 SUPER SATURDAY:
*Smarty Pants' Wild About
Reading Balloon Show*
Saturday, January 15, 11-11:45 a.m. 📍

17 CHAT & CHEW: *Gregor the
Overlander* by Suzanne Collins
Monday, January 17, 1-2 p.m. 📍

BOOK VOYAGERS: Get Well Soon
Monday, January 17, 4:15-5:15 p.m. 📍

18 SENIOR SESSION: Health
and Long-term Care Advance
Directives, Tuesday, January 18,
1:30 p.m. 📍

Open Storytime, Tuesday, January 18,
6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

Culinary Knife Skills
Tuesday, January 18, 7:30 p.m. 📍

19 Open Storytime, Wednesday,
January 19, 9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

COFFEE, BOOKS, & MORE
Discussion, *The Pluto Files: The Rise
and Fall of America's Favorite Planet*
by Neil deGrasse Tyson, Wednesday,
January 19, 10 a.m. (NR) 📍

Consumer Rights
Wednesday, January 19, 7:30 p.m. 📍

20 Regular Library Board Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 7 p.m.

21 Open Storytime
Friday, January 21,
10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

Friends Book Sale: *Members Only
Night*, Friday, January 21, 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Coffee & Conversation
Friday, January 21, 7:30 p.m. 📍

22 Friends Book Sale, Saturday,
January 22, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

23 Friends Book Sale, Sunday,
January 23, noon-4:30 p.m.

25 Open Storytime, Tuesday,
January 25, 6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

Preschool/Childcare Information
Night, Tuesday, January 25,
7:30-8:30 p.m. (NR) 📍

26 Open Storytime, Wednesday,
January 26, 9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

28 Open Storytime
Friday, January 28,
10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

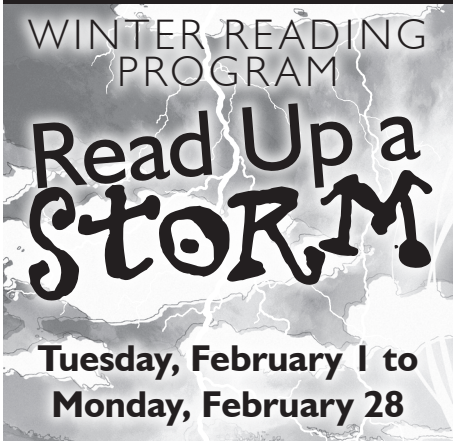
29 Put ♥ Into Your Valentine Cards
Saturday, January 29,
1 p.m.-2:30 p.m. 📍

Adult 📍 Teen 📺
Youth 📍 All Ages 📺
(NR) No registration necessary

Please sign up on the Internet at
www.mppl.org/events, at the Library,
or by calling 847/253-5675.

Registration is required for all programs except those denoted by
(NR). Programs are held at the Library unless otherwise noted.
Fees, when applicable, must be paid at the Registration Desk and are
not refundable unless the program is canceled. *The Library requires
at least a one-week notice if special accommodations are needed.*

FEBRUARY



1 Winter Reading Program:
Read Up a Storm, Tuesday,
February 1-Monday, February 28

Computer Learning Lab: E-mail,
Internet, and Office 2007
Tuesday, February 1, 4-6 p.m. (NR) 📍

Open Storytime, Tuesday, February 1,
6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

New Zealand: The Youngest
Country on Earth
Tuesday, February 1, 7:30 p.m. 📍

2 Unbelievable Chocolate Raffle
Wednesday, February 2-
Sunday, February 13

Open Storytime, Wednesday,
February 2, 9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

FOOD FOR THOUGHT Book
Discussion, *Cutting for Stone* by
Abraham Verghese, Wednesday,
February 2, 1 p.m. (NR) 📍

Online Resources for
Do-It-Yourself Projects
Wednesday, February 2, 7 p.m. 📍

MOVIES @ MPPL: *Secretariat*
Wednesday, February 2, 7:30 p.m. 📍📺

4 Open Storytime, Friday,
February 4, 10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

5 Duct Tape Creations
Saturday, February 5, 2-3:30 p.m. 📍

8 Open Storytime, Tuesday,
February 8, 6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

30-minute Chocolate Desserts
Tuesday, February 8, 7:30 p.m. 📍 \$2 fee

9 Open Storytime, Wednesday,
February 9, 9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

MOVIE DISCUSSION: *High Fidelity*
Wednesday, February 9, 6:30 p.m.
(NR) 📍

10 MOVIES @ MPPL: *Secretariat*
Thursday, February 10,
1 p.m. 📍📺

11 Open Storytime
Friday, February 11,
10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

CREATE-A-CRAFT: Hearts & Crafts
Friday, February 11, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
(NR) 📍

12 SUPER SATURDAY: A Musical
Journey, Wiggleworms-style!
Saturday, February 12, 11-11:45 a.m. 📍

Friends "Cookbooks Only" Sale,
Saturday, February 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

15 SENIOR SESSION: Books to
Beat the Winter Blues, Tuesday,
February 15, 1:30 p.m. 📍

Open Storytime, Tuesday, February 15,
6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

Art Appreciation: The Cultural
Influences of the Early 20th Century
Tuesday, February 15, 7:30 p.m. 📍

16 Open Storytime
Wednesday, February 16,
9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

COFFEE, BOOKS, & MORE
Discussion, *I Know This Much Is
True* by Wally Lamb, Wednesday,
February 16, 10 a.m. (NR) 📍

Mad Scientists Club, Wednesday,
February 16, 4:30-5:30 p.m. 📍

17 Regular Library Board Meeting
Thursday, February 17, 7 p.m.

18 Open Storytime
Friday, February 18,
10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

Sesiones de cuentos en Español/
Spanish Storytimes
Friday, February 18, 6-6:30 p.m. (NR) 📍

Coffee & Conversation
Friday, February 18, 7:30 p.m. 📍

21 Spring Storytime Lottery
Begins, Monday, February 21 📍

CHAT & CHEW: *Flipped*
by Wendelin Van Draanen,
Monday, February 21, 1-2 p.m. 📍

BOOK VOYAGERS: Fun With Friends
Monday, February 21, 4:15-5:15 p.m. 📍

22 Open Storytime
Tuesday, February 22,
6:30-7 p.m. (NR) 📍

Tap Into the Positive Side of Conflict
Tuesday, February 22, 7:30 p.m. 📍

23 Open Storytime
Wednesday, February 23,
9:30-10 a.m. (NR) 📍

25 Open Storytime,
Friday, February 25,
10:30-11 a.m. (NR) 📍

Sesiones de cuentos en Español/
Spanish Storytimes, Friday,
February 25, 6-6:30 p.m. (NR) 📍

28 Last Day to Read Up a Storm
Monday, February 28

Getting to "You're Hired" Workshop
Monday, February 28, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. 📍

Youth Activities

(R) Registration required (NR) No registration necessary

Page 6

Please sign up for programs on the Internet at www.mppl.org/events, at the Library, or by calling 847/253-5675, unless otherwise noted (NR). Priority registration is given to Mount Prospect cardholders for programs with limited attendance. Please have your MPPL card when registering. *The Library requires at least a one-week notice if special accommodations are needed.*

SUPER Saturday! —for all ages

Smarty Pants' Wild About Reading Balloon Show

Saturday, January 15, 11-11:45 a.m.

Take a trip around the globe to encounter the world's wildest balloon animals! Along the way you'll meet a banana-crazed monkey, a giant octopus, and a fierce shark. The finale will blow your socks off when a massive balloon volcano really erupts! (R)

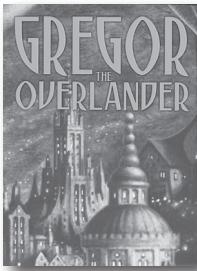
A Musical Journey, Wiggleworms-style!

Saturday, February 12, 11-11:45 a.m.

Join Old Town School of Folk Music's Linda Robertson for a special concert in honor of **African American Heritage Month**. Linda will delight children and families with her music featuring the guitar, African djembe drum, rain stick, and frog guiros. In 2006, she released her award-winning CD, *Come and Go With Me*. This program is sponsored by the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation. (R)

Chat & Chew —for 4th-6th graders

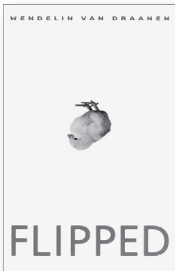
Chew on some good food while chatting about a great book! Spend an hour talking about favorite characters, villains, and story lines while participating in theme-related activities. Books are available at the Youth Services Desk. (R)



Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins

Monday, January 17, 1-2 p.m.

When eleven-year-old Gregor follows his little sister through a grate in the laundry room of their New York apartment, he hurtles into the dark Underland beneath the city. There, humans live uneasily beside giant spiders, bats, cockroaches, and rats, and Gregor's arrival has just triggered an epic battle among them. Gregor wants no part of the conflict; he just wants to find his way home. But a strange prophecy foretells a role for him in the Underland's future, and he realizes it might be the only way to solve the biggest mystery of his life.



Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

Monday, February 21, 1-2 p.m.

The first time she saw him, she flipped. The first time he saw her, he ran. And from the second grade to the seventh, that's how it was. She says, "My Bryce. Still walking around with my first kiss." He says, "It's been six years of strategic avoidance and social discomfort." But in the eighth grade, suddenly everything turns upside down—and nothing will ever be the same again!

How successfully did this book translate to the big screen? We'll watch a clip from the movie and talk about how it compares to the book!

Create-a-Craft —for all ages

Children under age 9 must be accompanied by an adult. No registration is necessary; just drop in. (NR)

Hearts & Crafts

Friday, February 11, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Drop into MPPL to make sweet cards and gifts for Valentine's Day.

Book Voyagers —for 1st-3rd graders

This group is for young adventurers who like to listen to stories, eat snacks, and participate in fun activities. Limited to 30 voyagers. (R)

Get Well Soon

Monday, January 17, 4:15-5:15 p.m.

Ah...ah...ah...choo! It's no fun to be sick, so join us for stories about ways to get through those looooooooong, tiring days. (R)

Fun With Friends

Monday, February 21, 4:15-5:15 p.m.

The more we get together, the happier we'll be! Invite a friend and join us as we explore friendship.



Open Storytime January 18-February 25

Tuesdays, 6:30-7 p.m., Wednesdays, 9:30-10 a.m., Fridays, 10:30-11 a.m.

Children ages 6 and under and their families are invited to attend these sessions that feature stories and songs. *An adult must accompany children under the age of three.* (NR)

Sesiones de cuentos en Español/ Spanish Storytimes

viernes, 18 de febrero, 6-6:30 p.m.

viernes, 25 de febrero, 6-6:30 p.m.

Uno, dos, tres, ¡Ándale! Apresúrese en pasar una divertida media hora con sus pequeños escuchando cuentos, canciones, y rimas en español. Además de risas y diversión, los niños recibirán actividades para llevar a casa. Recomendado para niños de 3-7 años, pero todos son bienvenidos. *Un adulto deberá acompañar a niños menores de 3 años.* Registración no es necesario. (NR)

Storytime Lottery

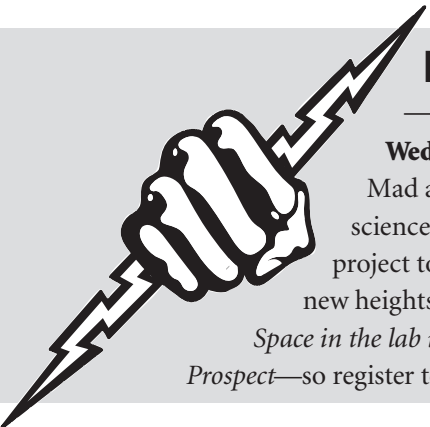
Due to the popularity of these storytimes, *registration is determined by lottery and is reserved for Mount Prospect cardholders.* To participate in the lottery, please sign up in person at the Youth Services Desk.

Winter Lottery Ends

Thursday, January 6 is the last day to register for our Winter storytime lottery. Please stop by the Youth Services Desk with your Library card.

Spring Lottery

From February 21-March 3 parents can register their children—birth through age six—for the Spring storytimes. This session, with a variety of times and age groups, will run March 14-April 22.



Mad Scientists Club

—for 3rd-5th graders

Wednesday, February 16, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Mad about science? Join us for fun hands-on science explorations and even create an amazing project to take home. Your imagination will reach new heights with these high-flying experiments!

Space in the lab is limited to 20 scientists who live in Mount Prospect—so register today! (R)



Preschool/Child Care Information Night

Tuesday, January 25, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

See program details on page 2.



Teen Zone

News and activities for students and teens in grades 6-12!

Please sign up for programs on the Internet at www.mpppl.org/events, at the Library, or by calling 847/253-5675, unless otherwise noted (NR). Priority registration is given to Mount Prospect cardholders for programs with limited attendance. Please have your MPPL card when registering. *The Library requires at least a one-week notice if special accommodations are needed.*

Put ♥ Into Your Valentine Cards

Saturday, January 29, 1-2:30 p.m.

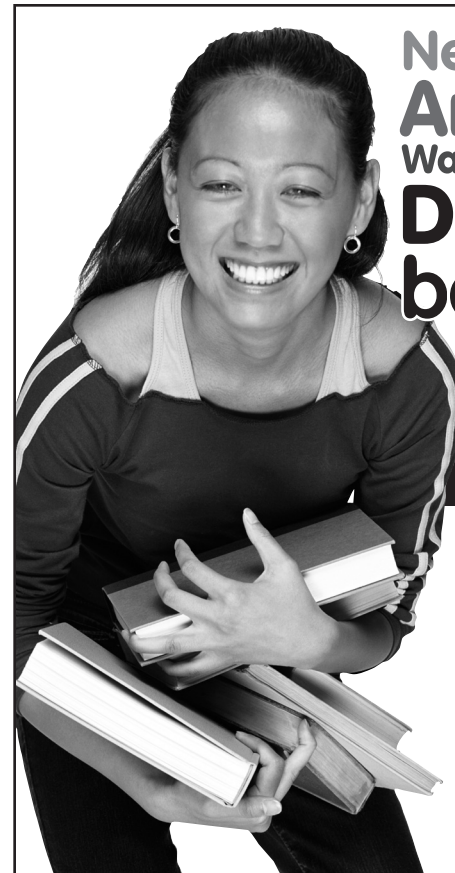
Make a statement from your heart with handcrafted Valentine's Day cards. Papercrafter Tina Gary will show you how to make these simple, yet creative, cards you can give to that special someone. We'll provide all the supplies along with some sweet treats to help get your creative juices flowing. (R)



Duct Tape Creations

Saturday, February 5, 2-3:30 p.m.

You'll be forever stuck on duct tape with these clever craft projects. Bring your friends and your creativity to this fun duct tape craft program! We'll connect you with all the tools you need to bring the next greatest duct tape invention to life. The most talented will take home a prize, and everyone is guaranteed a good time. Snacks will be provided. (R)



Need help with those?
Arms too short?
Want to supersize your order?
Do you need a bag with that?

Bags for sale at the CIRCULATION DESK

All proceeds benefit:



Ready to trace your family roots? Keep your passport handy

By Elizabeth Pope

Chris Haley thought he had nothing left to learn about his family tree. "Genealogy has always been my first love," says Haley, an archivist with the state of Maryland.

Besides, his uncle Alex—that would be the late Alex Haley—traced the family back to African slave Kunta Kinte and recounted the tale in his best-selling novel, *Roots*. The saga became a hit 1977 television miniseries that produced an explosion of interest in genealogy.

So when a friend convinced him to take a DNA test through Ancestry.com, Haley shrugged and swabbed his cheek, expecting no surprises. Months later, he learned his genetic profile closely matched someone named Baff in Wales. "I always knew I had a European ancestor," says Haley. In his novel *Queen*, Alex Haley mentioned an ancestor descended from William Baugh (a variation of Baff), a Scottish overseer on an Alabama plantation who fathered a child by a female slave. "Still, I never expected that genetic proof would substantiate the oral history," Chris Haley adds.

Haley started e-mailing his new cousin, June Baff-Black, who had submitted her father's DNA sample to Ancestry.com. After a couple of

e-mail exchanges discussing their shared interests in theater, the arts, and genealogy, Haley announced that he was Alex Haley's nephew—"you know, the guy who wrote *Roots* and got millions of people interested in family history," he says. From their first phone call, the pair shared a warm rapport, and a few days later, Haley flew to London to meet his new cousin and her family. "If I walked past June, I never would have thought I was related to this lady and her redheaded son," says Haley. "But

"If I walked past June, I never would have thought I was related to this lady and her redheaded son," says Haley. "But we all got along like long-lost sisters and brothers. Meeting her is one of the highlights of my life." —Chris Haley

we all got along like long-lost sisters and brothers. Meeting her is one of the highlights of my life."

Roots fever has gotten a big boost from the prime-time NBC show *Who Do You Think You Are?* that follows celebrities as they travel the globe researching their family trees. The first season featured Sarah Jessica Parker, Brooke Shields, Lisa Kudrow, Matthew Broderick, Susan Sarandon, Spike Lee, and football star Emmitt Smith.

A trip abroad to an ancestor's

homeland can help uncover a whole new branch of the family tree, clarify connections, and eliminate erroneous names, says Ginger Aarons-Garrison, director of Time Travel tours. "I'm traveling with one woman who is looking for proof that she's related to Grace Kelly, the actress who was of Irish descent," says Aarons-Garrison, who specializes in Ireland and Britain. "I lay the groundwork ahead of time, contacting the churches, locating cemeteries and local experts. That saves people time and money."

Preparation for an overseas research trip is critical, particularly for those unfamiliar with language and customs, adds James Derheim, owner of European Focus, who organizes tours in Germany and other countries. The American trait of friendly spontaneity—dropping by churches and municipal offices unannounced to see records—doesn't win much respect in Germany, says Derheim, who scouts clients' trips up to a year in advance. "If you write in advance, doors are flung open, the red carpet is rolled out, and people are waiting to see you," he says. "In some cases, local historians may have already done some research for you."

A few years ago, Derheim arranged for his client, Lisa Fox and family, to meet with two historians and a church minister in a small German village in northern Hesse. "One of the



historians started to speak excitedly because he suspected we were related," says Macedon, N.Y.-based Fox. "I was in a tizzy, I was so excited." When the connection was confirmed, Fox was invited to the local historian's home for coffee and cake. Since then she has hosted members of the new branch of the family in the United States.

Haley's newly discovered Scottish cousins have already visited him in Annapolis, Md., where he is director of the Study of the Legacy of Slavery in Maryland. "This is also where Kunta Kinte landed after he was captured and then sold to a Southern plantation owner," says Haley. "My uncle Alex would have loved the fact that the family story has come full circle."

Elizabeth Pope, who is based in Portland, Maine, writes for *The New York Times*, *AARP*, and other publications. A longtime genealogy addict, she has traveled many miles in search of her elusive ancestors.

A free version of Ancestry.com is available to use in the Library, *Ancestry Library Edition*. Stop by the Reference Desk for more information.

THE UNBELIEVABLE CHOCOLATE RAFFLE

FEBRUARY 2-13

This year's event will be
Sweeter Than Ever!

Winter will taste a whole lot sweeter when the fourth annual Unbelievable Chocolate Raffle gets underway on Wednesday, February 2. Sponsored by the Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation (MPPLF), this 12-day event features twelve sumptuous baskets designed for the chocolate lover in all of us.

This year's baskets range from "Cupid's Delight," a heart-filled collection sure to please the chocolate-craving valentine on your list, to "Bliss for Two," a basket featuring a gift certificate to the luxurious chocolate buffet at the award-winning Peninsula Hotel in downtown Chicago. Other baskets include "Cupcakes & More," a tower of sweet surprises topped off with a gift certificate to Mount Prospect's Central Continental Bakery, and "Brain Candy," a kids-themed basket featuring four passes to Legoland Discovery Center in Schaumburg.

"There's really something for everyone," says Katy Rossi president of the MPPLF and one of the organizers of this year's chocolate raffle. "One of our most popular baskets is a baking basket which is filled with everything you need to create dozens of fabulous cookies, brownies, and your favorite chocolate treats."

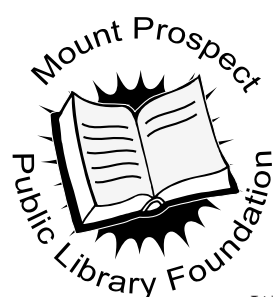
Raffle Ticket Info

Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

Tickets can be purchased from an MPPLF Foundation volunteer or inquire at the Registration Desk.

Baskets will be displayed in the lobby of the Library. Raffle tickets will sell for \$1 each or six for \$5. Tickets can be purchased from a MPPLF volunteer or inquire at the Registration Desk. The drawing will be held on Sunday, February 13 beginning at 2:30 p.m. *Winners need not be present to win.*

All proceeds from the Unbelievable Chocolate Raffle will benefit the Foundation, which raises funds for special programming and events at the Library that otherwise would not be available through public funding.



We did it!
...Thanks to You!

The Mount Prospect Public Library Foundation wishes to gratefully acknowledge all those who contributed to our recent appeals campaign. Thanks to your generosity, we reached our endowment fund milestone of \$200,000. We couldn't have achieved it without you—thank you.



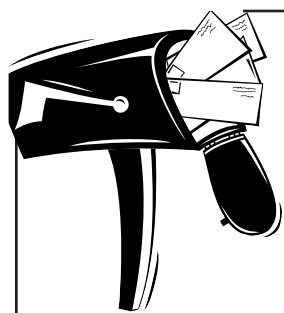
Stock up on great books at bargain prices...

The Friends Winter Used Book Sale!

Saturday, January 22, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sunday, January 23, noon-4:30 p.m.

Don't miss out on some great deals at the Friends of the Library's winter used book sale.

Funds raised through book sales help the Friends support additional Library programs, events, and services.



No Federal Tax Forms in the Mail!

For 2010 federal tax filing purposes, the IRS is no longer mailing paper forms to individual taxpayers. The IRS is encouraging the electronic filing of tax forms; however, they will continue to accept paper forms.

According to the IRS.gov website, there are numerous free options available for taxpayers:

- Taxpayers can still get the necessary forms and instructions online at IRS.gov or by visiting local IRS offices, participating libraries (including Mount Prospect), and post offices. The closest IRS offices are in Schiller Park (5100 River Road) and Downers Grove (2001 Butterfield Road).

- Individuals making \$49,000 or less can use the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program for free tax preparation and, in many cases, free electronic filing.

- Individuals aged 60 and older can take advantage of free tax counseling and basic income tax preparation through Tax Counseling for the Elderly

Only 8% of individuals who filed tax returns last year received tax packages in the mail. The rest either used a paid tax professional, software, or e-filed their tax returns. Individuals taking advantage of the e-file program generally receive their refunds in half the time compared to returns filed on paper—even faster when tax refunds are deposited directly into one's bank account.

MPPL will offer paper copies of the most popular tax forms as well as assist in printing those more obscure forms that may be needed. Additionally, tax filers can use the e-net computers on the second floor to either file electronically or print needed forms. Reference staff are always available for assistance.

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Library Hours
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Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday noon-5 p.m.

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The Board of Library Trustees meets the third Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Library. Meetings are open, and the public is welcome to attend.

Marilyn Genter, Executive Director
Cathy Hill Deane, Deputy Director
Frank Corry, Deputy Director



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011