

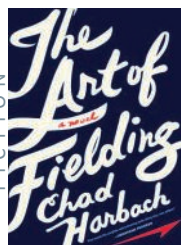
# Marathon County Public Library NEWSLETTER

January-March, 2012

## The Best Books of 2011

*Recommended for Your Consideration*

In case you missed them, we've perused the New York Times, NPR, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and others to bring you the most highly-rated titles below! View the complete list and request any of these books online at [www.mcpl.us/bestbooks](http://www.mcpl.us/bestbooks) or call 715.261.7200

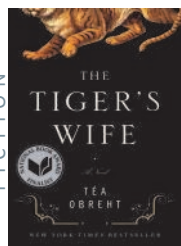


### **The Art of Fielding**

by Chad Harbach

At a small college in Wisconsin, Henry Skrimshander seems destined for big league baseball stardom, but with a ball thrown disastrously off course, he upends the lives of five people.

FICTION



### **The Tiger's Wife**

by Téa Obreht

Set in the war-torn Balkans, a young doctor recalls a series of interlinked tales — some historical, others magical — with a recurring tale of a blind woman who was befriended by a tiger.

FICTION

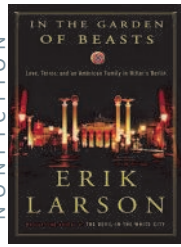


### **Catherine the Great**

by Robert K. Massie

A biography of Catherine the Great, an obscure 14-year-old German princess who traveled to Russia, destined to become one of the most powerful women in history.

BIOGRAPHY

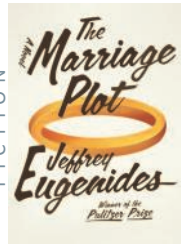


### **In the Garden of the Beasts**

by Erik Larson

William E. Dodd becomes America's first ambassador to Hitler's Germany, and he and his family move to Germany in 1933 — a year that proved to be a turning point in history.

NONFICTION



### **The Marriage Plot**

by Jeffrey Eugenides

College grad Madeline falls in love with a quirky loner and is simultaneously pursued by a religious studies major. Filled w/ literary allusions as Madeline debates the virtues of love and marriage.

FICTION



## "Change is Good..."

*Ralph Illick — Library Director*

Change is good. We hear this mantra often, but is it really good? The late Carl Sagan would likely remind us that change is the only constant in the universe, so we might do well to accept change if we hope to keep our personal world balanced. On that note, we will be making some very healthy changes at the

Marathon County Public Library this year, and we believe that those changes are going to help us to help you get the very best use from your libraries.

Many of you are migrating to smaller information devices such as notepads, Nooks, Kindles, and similar handheld units. Remember to make use of our Overdrive digital download service that allows one to download e-books, audio books, videos, and music to your device. ([www.mcpl.us/overdrive](http://www.mcpl.us/overdrive))

For those who have not yet tried this technology, we now have several different types of tablets available for in-house checkout at our Wausau Headquarters, as well as e-readers you can take home from all nine MCPL locations. Call, email, or stop by, and let us show you! ([www.mcpl.us/devices](http://www.mcpl.us/devices))

#### Available @ MCPL Wausau

(2-hour, in-house checkout only)

- Apple iPad 2
- Asus Eee Pad Transformer
- Samsung Galaxy Tablet
- Blackberry Playbook

#### Available @ All MCPL Locations

(14-day checkout)

- NOOK Color
- NOOK Simple Touch
- Kindle Touch
- Kindle Keyboard
- NOOK (1st Ed.)
- Kindle (4th Gen.)

## A New Story Room!

*Now Open at the Wausau Library*

Our weekly storytimes are an important service offered at all nine MCPL locations, providing early literacy, fun socialization, sing-alongs, arts & crafts, and more!

At the end of 2011, we unveiled a new Story Room in the Children's Area at MCPL Wausau, featuring a fun "under the sea" theme, room for many more children, project tables, and a new Smart Board!



(A Smart Board is a large, touch-sensitive, interactive computer screen that many schools have started to use in their classrooms. It serves as a conventional whiteboard, plus offers learning software, drawing, activities, video playback, etc.)

The goal is to create a constructive learning atmosphere where children and their parents can not only experience regularly-scheduled Library programming, but also read, play, and experience educational technologies whenever the Library is open. Next time you're in Wausau, feel free to stop by and check it out!



300 North First Street, Wausau, WI 54403  
715.261.7200 | [info@mcpl.us](mailto:info@mcpl.us) | [www.mcpl.us](http://www.mcpl.us)  
Locations: Wausau, Athens, Edgar, Hatley, Marathon City, Mosinee, Rothschild, Spencer, and Stratford

**PLEASE NOTE:** All MCPL Locations will be **CLOSED Fri., March 9, 2012** for Staff Development For all 2012 Library Holiday Closures, visit [www.mcpl.us/about/locations](http://www.mcpl.us/about/locations)

# Marathon County Public Library UPCOMING EVENTS

January-March, 2012



## Story Times

**Preschool Storytime** (3-5 years old)

- MCPL Wausau -- Wed. & Thu., 10:30am
- MCPL Mosinee -- Wed., 10:00am

**Family Storytime** (all ages)

- MCPL Wausau -- Sat., 10:30am
- MCPL Athens -- Tue., 10:00am
- MCPL Edgar -- Thu., 9:30am
- MCPL Hatley -- Tue., 10:30am
- MCPL Rothschild -- Wed., 10:30am
- MCPL Spencer -- Wed., 10:00am
- MCPL Stratford -- Wed., 10:15am

**"Play & Learn" Family Storytime**

- MCPL Wausau -- Fri., 9:30am

**Tales for Twos** (24-35 months old)

- MCPL Wausau -- Tue., 9:45am & 10:30am
- MCPL Mosinee -- Tue., 10:30am

**Book Babies** (0-23 months old)

- MCPL Wausau -- Mon., 9:45am & 10:30a

(more info.: [www.mcpl.us/childrens](http://www.mcpl.us/childrens))



## Computer Classes

We are offering free classes this Winter-Spring, **Mondays, 10:00-11:30; Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00; Thursdays, 2:00-3:30.** These classes are intended for those who have rarely (if ever) used these technologies before, and include:

- **Introduction to Computers**
- **Introduction to Internet**
- **Intro. to Microsoft Word 1**
- **Intro. to Microsoft Word 2**
- **Intro. to Microsoft Excel**
- **Intro. to Microsoft Publisher**
- **Intro. to Microsoft PowerPoint**

Call **715-261-7230** or email [ref@mcpl.us](mailto:ref@mcpl.us) to check availability and sign up.

(more info.: [www.mcpl.us/classes](http://www.mcpl.us/classes))



## Featured Events

**C = Children | T = Teens | A = Adults | S = Seniors**

**Movie Night** (PG-13 | 133min)

(A) Mon., 1/16/2012, 6pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Family Fun Night!** | *Stories, Crafts, Refreshments*

(C) Mon., 1/16, 6:30pm @ MCPL Edgar

**Children's Matinee** (PG | 103min)

(C) Fri., 1/20, 10am & 2pm @ MCPL Wausau

**The Snowy Day: Anniversary Party**

(C) Sat., 1/21, 10:30am-12pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Hawaiian Luau Beach Party!**

(C) Mon., 1/23, 6:30pm @ MCPL Mosinee

**Movie Night** (PG-13 | 106min)

(AT) Tue., 1/24/2012, 6pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Meet Alice in Dairyland!**

(C) Sat., 1/28, 10:30-12 @ MCPL Marathon

**Children's Matinee** (G | 105min)

(C) Sat., 1/28, 1pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Alaska!** | *A Virtual Vacation*

(S) Mon., 1/30, 10:15am @ MCPL Wausau

**Book Sale** @ MCPL Wausau

Fri.-Sun., 2/3-2/5; Thu., 2/2 [Members Only]

**Making Valentines** | w. *Rene of 'Stampin' Up'*

(AS) Tue., 2/7, 9:00-10:00am @ MCPL Spencer

**Lets Decorate! Cookies, Cakes & More**

(AS) Wed., 2/8, 1:30-2:30pm @ MCPL Edgar

**Family Fun Night!** | *Valentine Fun!*

(C) Mon., 2/20, 6:00-7:00pm @ MCPL Edgar

**Finding Money for College: Completing the FAFSA**

(TA) Thu., 2/23, 7:00-8:00pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!**

(C) Sat., 2/25, 10:30am-12:30 @ MCPL Wausau

**Teen Tech Week** | *Activities TBA*

(T) Sun.-Sat., 3/4-10 @ MCPL Wausau

**What's it Worth?** | *Antiques Appraisal* [\$10]

(AS) Sat., 3/10, 9am-4pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Volunteering** | *Older Americans Day*

(S) Wed., 3/14, 1:30-2:30pm @ MCPL Edgar

**Writing Your College Essays**

(T) Thu., 3/15, 7:00-8:00pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Spring Fling!** | *Crafts, Dolls, Fashion Show!*

(C) Sun., 3/18, 1:30pm @ MCPL Wausau

**Family Fun Night!** | *Spring is in the Air!*

(C) Mon., 3/19, 6:00-7:00pm @ MCPL Edgar

(more info.: [www.mcpl.us/events](http://www.mcpl.us/events))



## Book Clubs

**The Room: A Novel** by Emme Donaghue

Wed., 1/25, 11:00 AM @ MCPL Rothschild

**Tale of Two Cities** by Charles Dickens

Wed., 1/25, 12:00 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**Night Road** by Kristin Hannah

Thu., 1/26, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Marathon

**Freedom Flyers** by J. Todd Moyer

Wed., 2/8, 12:00 PM @ MCPL Edgar

**Dreams of Joy** by Lisa See

Thu., 2/9, 6:30 PM @ MCPL Athens

**Winter Garden** by Kristin Hannah

Tue., 2/14, 2:00 PM @ MCPL Hatley

**The Black Cat** by Martha Grimes

Wed., 2/15, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**Sarah's Key** by Tatiana De Rosnay

Mon., 2/20, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Mosinee

**Year of Wonders** by Geraldine Brooks

Mon., 2/20, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Stratford

**Cocktail Hour Under the Tree of Forgetfulness**

Mon., 2/20, 6:30 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**Unbroken: a World War II Story of Survival**

Wed., 2/22, 11:00 AM @ MCPL Rothschild

**Prime of Miss Jean Brodie** by Muriel Spark

Wed., 2/22, 12:00 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**Story of Beautiful Girl** by Rachel Simon

Thu., 2/23, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Marathon

**The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein

Tue., 3/13, 2:00 PM @ MCPL Hatley

**First They Killed My Father** by Loung Ung

Wed., 3/14, 12:00 PM @ MCPL Edgar

**Quickening** by Michelle Hoover

Mon., 3/19, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Mosinee

**The Dry Grass of August** by Anna Jean Mayhew

Mon., 3/19, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Stratford

**Small Gods** by Terry Pratchett

Mon., 3/19, 6:30 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**The Black Path** by Asa Larsson

Wed., 3/21, 1:00 PM @ MCPL Wausau

**Sarah's Key** by Tatiana De Rosnay

Wed., 3/28, 11:00 AM @ MCPL Rothschild

**Native Son** by Richard Wright

Wed., 3/28, 12:00 PM @ MCPL Wausau

(more info.: [www.mcpl.us/bookclubs](http://www.mcpl.us/bookclubs))

Marathon County Public Library, 300 N. First St., Wausau, WI 54403 | 715.261.7200 | [info@mcpl.us](mailto:info@mcpl.us) | [www.mcpl.us](http://www.mcpl.us)

Locations in Wausau, Athens, Edgar, Hatley, Marathon City, Mosinee, Rothschild, Spencer, and Stratford