



For Immediate Release

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WHO: One Book, One Freeport
WHAT: **Free books and programs for community**
WHEN: January and February 2011
WHERE: Freeport Public Library

One Book, One Freeport

FREEPORT, Illinois – The Freeport Public Library is excited to join thousands of libraries across the country in offering One Book, One Community programs. **One Book, One Freeport** is handing out free copies of the book “Playing with the Enemy” by Gary Moore to any Freeport resident.

- Free Book Days are January 8 and 15, 2011 from 11 AM to 2 PM at the Freeport Public Library. Author Gary Moore will be present on January 8 to sign books.

One Book, One Freeport also offers a dynamic range of programs and book discussions to explore many of the topics in “Playing With The Enemy.”

- Author Gary Moore will not only be available for the book signing on January 8, but he will return for a free public presentation in February.
- To tell his experience with baseball in the 1940s, Negro Leagues Baseball Legend, Art “Superman” Pennington will give a dynamic presentation on Martin Luther King Day, January 17, at Jeannette Lloyd Amphitheater.
- Helen Wyatt, a player for the Rockford Peaches, will discuss her experiences in baseball in the 1950s on February 10 at 7 PM at the Freeport Public Library
- The Freeport Art Museum is proud to partner with One Book, One Freeport to bring the original curator of the U-505 exhibition at the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Keith Gill, for a special program at the museum.
- Mark Herman from Midway Village Museum in Rockford will provide a living history presentation on the history of baseball, bringing historic gloves, balls, bats and uniforms from the late 1800s. This program is scheduled for February 15 at 7 PM at the Freeport Public Library.
- Dr. Edward Finch, Director of the Stephenson County Historical Museum, will give a talk on February 8 at 7 PM at the Freeport Public Library, focusing on Freeport during WWII and what made our community unique.
- Winneshiek Playhouse proudly presents a readers theater production of “Bleacher Bums” on February 25 and 26 at 7:30 PM.

Visit www.freeportpubliclibrary.org/onebook for more information.

The mission of One Book, One Freeport is to encourage a shared reading experience, foster a sense of community and promote literacy to people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds and economic levels. "Playing with the Enemy" was selected for its universal appeal and readability. This semi-biographical story centers around the author's father when he was a young man growing up in rural Illinois in the 1930s and 1940s. Drafted by the Brooklyn Dodgers at age 16, he is on his way to achieving the American Dream when World War II erupts and changes the path of his life. "playing with the Enemy" is the story of a man who came from great poverty, inspired everyone around him, but who must ultimately face the end of one dream to find a new one.

"I first read this book because it was about baseball, and I am a huge baseball fan. But as friends and colleagues read the book, men and women from very different backgrounds, I realized this book touched everyone who read it, baseball fan or not, because it was such a human story. We can all relate to it on some level. One Book, One Freeport thought it was the perfect book for our program and we are looking forward to sharing it with the entire community," says Pat Vorwald, Head of Adult Services for the Freeport Public Library.

One Book, One Freeport is grateful to the community partners, sponsors and donors who have made all these programs possible. Sponsors include: the Freeport Library Foundation and the Freeport Community Foundation.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to **One Book, One Freeport**, please mail checks to: One Book, One Freeport c/o Troy Lessman, State Bank, 1718 S. Dirck Drive, Freeport , IL 61032.