






Sharon Public Library Monthly Newsletter October 2024



Mass Center for the Book
2024 READING CHALLENGE

A monthly book challenge for adults!



October's Challenge:

A book about a time in history you'd like to know more about

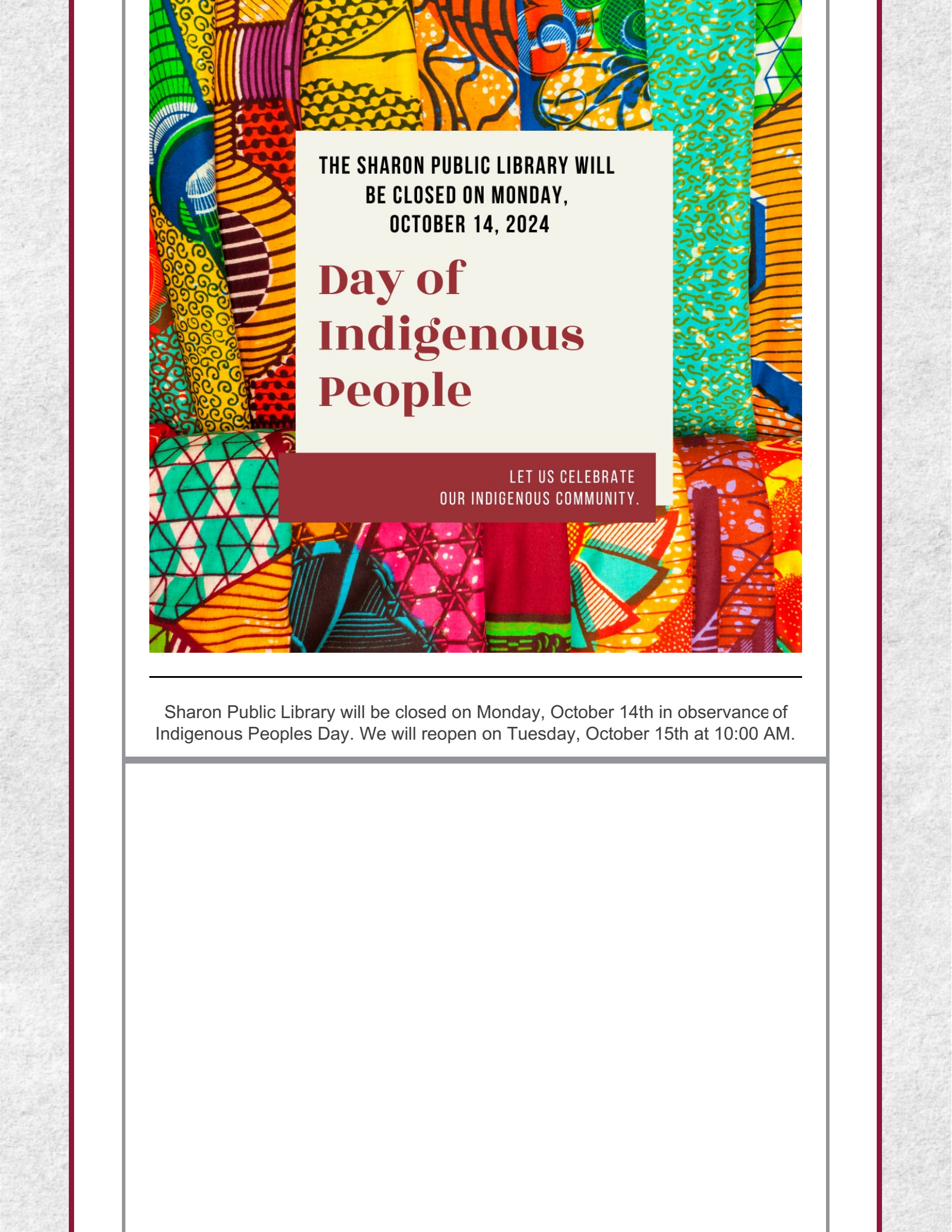


Announcements

New Library Project

All questions about the project should be directed to the [Sharon Standing Building Committee](#) via the Town's website. The SSBC page is regularly updated with meeting agendas and minutes. The public is always welcome to attend these meetings, which are also recorded by [Sharon Cable TV](#).

Construction updates and photos may be found at the Town's website under [Quick Links - Building Projects - Library Project In Progress](#).



THE SHARON PUBLIC LIBRARY WILL
BE CLOSED ON MONDAY,
OCTOBER 14, 2024

Day of Indigenous People

LET US CELEBRATE
OUR INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY.

Sharon Public Library will be closed on Monday, October 14th in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, October 15th at 10:00 AM.



Sharon Public Library
will open late

at 1:30 PM on
Friday, October 18

due to Town Employee training



Due to Town-wide Employee Training, the Sharon Public Library will have a delayed opening of 1:30 PM on Friday, October 18.

Online Spotlight



MANGO

Celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day with Mango! Mango is committed to preserving endangered and indigenous languages, such as the languages below (click to enlarge).

Did you know?

- According to UNESCO, nearly half of the world's estimated 7,000 languages will likely cease to be spoken in the next hundred years.
- In 2019, the United Nations General Assembly dedicated it the International Year

- of Indigenous Languages (IYIL), raising awareness for the world's disappearing Indigenous languages.
- As of March of 2022, UNESCO declared 2022-2032 International Decade of Indigenous Languages (IDIL) as a means to continue the preservation, policy support, and revitalization of Indigenous languages.

These courses are available for free to everyone, allowing native speakers to connect to and honor their heritage and helping enthusiastic learners gain a better appreciation of the culture.

We encourage you to explore and engage with these invaluable linguistic resources!

Learn an Indigenous Language Today!



Chaldean Aramaic

Indigenous to: Mesopotamia, Iraq
Status: Shifting
Spoken: Middle East, U.S., W. Europe



Cherokee

Indigenous to: Eastern North America
Status: Definitely Endangered
Spoken: North America



Dzongkha

Indigenous to: Bhutan, South Asia
Status: Vulnerable
Spoken: Bhutan



Hawaiian

Indigenous to: Hawaii
Status: Critically Endangered
Spoken: Niihau, Hawai'i Islands, Hawaii



Irish

Indigenous to: Ireland
Status: Definitely Endangered
Spoken: Ireland



Potawatomi

Indigenous to: Great Lakes region, N.A.
Status: Critically Endangered
Spoken: North America



Shanghaiese

Indigenous to: Shanghai, China
Status: Shifting
Spoken: Shanghai, China



Scottish Gaelic

Indigenous to: Scotland
Status: Definitely Endangered
Spoken: Scotland



Tuvan

Indigenous to: Tuva, South Siberia
Status: Vulnerable
Spoken: Tuva, South Siberia



Yiddish

Indigenous to: Central, Eastern Europe
Status: Definitely Endangered
Spoken: U.S., Israel, Russia

Collection News

History Room Update

WHAT IS AN ARCHIVE?

An archive is where firsthand facts, data, and evidence from letters, reports, notes, memos, photographs, and other primary sources are stored. Anyone can access these materials to do research or learn about past events.



WHERE DO I GO?

Head to the Sharon Public Library's Home Page and hover over "Online Resources." You will find SPL's entire digitized archive, organized by item type and subject matter.

Online Resources

Digitized Sharon History

Digitized Sharon Newspapers

HOW DO I FIND THINGS IN AN ARCHIVE?

The Archivist will help you when you're there in person. However, when you're online you can search our databases: The Digital Commonwealth, Digitized Newspaper Archive and the Internet Archive.



Digital Commonwealth
Massachusetts Collections Online

THE DIGITAL COMMONWEALTH

This website hosts the SPL's images. Here you can find photographs of Sharon's: historic buildings, schools, old homes, library, hotels, stores, natural disasters and more.

THE INTERNET ARCHIVE

Accessed by clicking on "Digitized Sharon History," the Internet Archive hosts the SPL's yearbooks, vital statistic collections and more!



SHARON'S DIGITIZED NEWSPAPERS

Here you can find the Sharon: Advocate, Sentinel, Transcript, Enterprise, Ozone and the Times Advocate. Full newspapers from 1883 to 2022 are available.





WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE ARCHIVE?



Programs



Rockridge Cemetery Walk

Archival Theory and Practice Sessions

Introduction to Genealogical Research

Archiving Your Personal Collections

Native American Crafts (All Ages)



Any suggestions?

Email

anathanson@sharon.ocln.org



Out of the Archives



In preparation for the new Library, we have embarked on a project to organize our local history archival collection. Some very interesting items are being unearthed and will be featured as part of this monthly newsletter by our Archivist, Arielle Nathanson.

This month's feature is:

Witch Marks and Mayhem

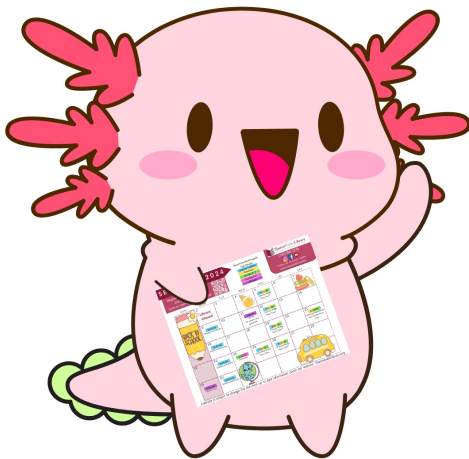
Most people in New England have heard about the Salem witch trials, but the connection to Sharon is not well known. Two of the town's oldest families were embroiled in this historic conflict. The Esteys, well known in Sharon as farmers and soldiers, had one of their own branded a witch. Goody, Cummings and Nurse Estey were the three sisters destined to meet that terrible fate. Once the debacle had passed, the Esteys fled to Sharon, where there was far less hysteria. The other family involved were the Capens. Parson Capen of Topsfield, tried to use logic to defend the sisters and stop the trials. He ultimately failed and his brother,

Ebenezer Capen, moved to Sharon not long after.

Witches in general equated imminent death. Therefore, it was only natural that no one wanted to risk a rumored witch entering their home. The Puritans, being the superstitious people they were, had many deterrents. If a family was willing to set their front door upside down, then that would keep all manner of witches away. Everyone knows that witches can't enter a house with such a confusing door. If that solution poses too much trouble, then the head of the household can keep a bag of salt under their bed. Not enough salt in the house? No problem...

[[link to full article](#)]

Youth Services



Looking for information about youth programs and services? Sign up for our Youth Newsletters by clicking the appropriate button below.

**Sign up for Birth - 5th Grade
Newsletter**

**Sign up for Teen/Tween
Newsletter**



8th Annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Folks of all ages can show off their pumpkin painting skills for a chance to win a Ward's Berry Farm gift card. This year, we ask that participants **do not carve** their pumpkins to help them last longer on display. Paint, embellish, and adorn your pumpkins as you please!

**Sign up for a
pumpkin!**

Upcoming Programs



In-person

Tech with Tim: Password Management 101

**October 2 at 6:00 PM
SPL Community Room**

Curious how to create a strong password? Where to safely store passwords? What to do if a password is compromised? If you can trust Google's Password Manager? And what dual authentication is? If you've had these questions and more, Tim Lumnah is here to help with the basics and inspire confidence in password protection.

Tim runs his own business that helps people keep up with the fast pace of today's technology. He started professionally helping people with tech by building websites and later became the go-to person for tech assistance when the IT department couldn't resolve an issue before starting his current project, ComputerTutor.

This is a beginner-level course.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



In-person

Local Author Muhammad Zaman on "We Wait for a Miracle: Health Care and the Forcibly Displaced"

**October 3 at 6:30 PM
SPL Community Room**

With over a 110 million people forced to leave their homes due to conflict, persecution, climate change and economic collapse, forced displacement is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. Refugees, people displaced from their homes within their own countries and stateless communities face acute challenges - including accessing healthcare.

This book, written in an accessible language for a broad audience, focuses on communities in three distinct parts of the world, South Sudan, Venezuela and Pakistan, shares moving stories of individuals and care givers in these places, and in doing so helps us think of our individual and collective responsibility in protecting the most vulnerable.

Sharon resident Muhammad Hamid Zaman is Professor of Biomedical Engineering at Boston University. He is also the inaugural director of Center on Forced Displacement, a university wide center at BU, that supports new ideas, technologies, scholarship, awareness, and solution identification that will improve the human condition of vulnerable persons, in all parts of the world, who are

forced to leave their homes.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



Virtual

Massachusetts' Paranormal Past with Christopher Daley

**October 4 at 4:00 PM
via Zoom**

This one-hour slide presentation, led by Christopher Daley, combines contemporary photographs of various sites with historical images to create a captivating narrative. It weaves together historical facts, legends, and myths, offering a fresh and intriguing perspective on real events and the haunting tales that emerged from them.

The lecture covers the following topics:

- The Haunted Hoosac Tunnel (North Adams & Florida)
- The Curse of Giles Corey (Salem)
- The Old Pilgrim Burial Ground (Plymouth)
- The Ghost of the Eunice Williams Bridge (Greenfield)

Funded by the Friends of the Sharon Public Library.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



Virtual

Elections in Real Time: Current Events in a College Classroom

**October 7 at 2:00 PM
via Zoom**

Aren't you curious about what young people are talking about regarding current events and, specifically, this election cycle? If so, join Professors Racheal Cobb and Robert Rosenthal of Suffolk University as they conduct their "Elections in Real Time" class live for us to view and participate in! They and their students will discuss the current events of the day and we can ask questions and make comments. It will be like going to university without the tests and the cafeteria! We hope you can join us for this very unique and timely opportunity.

Rachael V. Cobb, Ph.D. is Chair and Associate Professor of Government at Suffolk University. Cobb specializes in U.S. elections, election administration, electoral politics, civic engagement, and political participation. Robert Rosenthal, PhD is the Associate Professor & Chair, Advertising, Public Relations & Social Media at Suffolk University.

*Presented in partnership with Ashland Public Library.
Sponsored by the Friends of the Ashland Public Library.*

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



Virtual

Getting Started with Libby: A Free Webinar by OverDrive

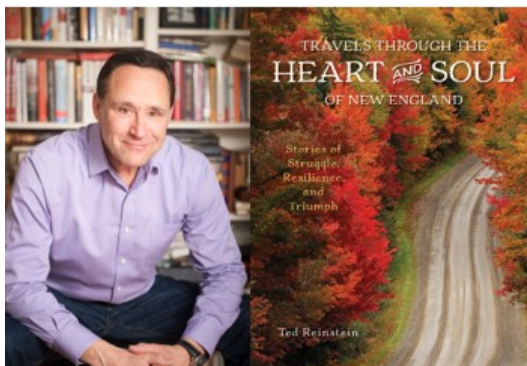
**October 16 at 2:00 PM
via Zoom**

From downloading the app & signing in, to searching & borrowing titles, placing holds, adjusting reading settings, and more, OverDrive's Libby experts are here to get you started. The session will close with a mini-quiz and live Q&A.

Presented by OverDrive for library patrons worldwide.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



In-person

Author Ted Reinstein: Travels Through the Heart and Soul of New England

**October 22 at 6:30 PM
SPL Community Room**

An evening with Ted Reinstein, who will discuss his latest book, *Travels Through the Heart and Soul of New England: Stories of Struggle, Resilience, and Triumph*.

Journalist and author Ted Reinstein has reported all around New England for 25 years, telling the colorful stories of this historic yet ever-changing corner of America. Now, he condenses his countless travels into a single, unique labor of love: a journey through the heart and soul of New England, meeting the most

memorable people—and their unlikely stories—all along the way. People whose struggles, toughness, triumphs, and humor not only define the very essence of New England, but represent the timeless best of America as well.

It's a legendary part of America that's often caricatured, but rarely caught with such real-life candor and intimacy. Indeed, the Old Mainer in the tired-old joke was wrong: you can get there from here. And along the way, see New England in a whole new light, through the stories of some everyday Americans you'll never forget.

Following the program, copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.

[More information here](#)

Registration Required.



Virtual

The Origins and Evolution of Project 2025 with Professor Brian Conley

**October 23 at 7:00 PM
via Zoom**

Project 2025 has been in the news lately but, for some, it seemed to come out of nowhere. Join Professor Brian Conley of Suffolk University, as we delve into the history of this document and its origins during the Reagan Years. For instance, called, "Mandate for Leadership", Edwin Feulner, who led the Heritage Foundation when it was first written, explains that the idea for such a policy book originated at a 1979 meeting of Heritage's Board. Professor Conley will help us understand the origins of the Mandate which led to the current Project 2025 document.

We look forward to having a respectful dialogue about this important subject with an expert in the field.

*Presented in partnership with Ashland Public Library.
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[More information here](#)

Registration Required.

Ongoing Programs



Sharon Public Library Book Discussion Group

In-person

All are welcome to join this drop-in group at any time;
there is no obligation to attend all meetings.**
We read across many genres and enjoy lively discussion!

October's book is: ***The Library Book* by Susan Orlean**

(Copies are available at the Adult Circulation Desk and on [Libby by Overdrive](#))

Questions? Susan Eggimann | seggimann@sharon.ocln.org | 781.784.1578 x1422

2024-2025 Book Titles and Meeting Dates

[Sign up for our SPL Book Discussion Group Newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date with meeting announcements and book selections.

****The SPL Book Discussion Group** meets September to June on the 4th Thursday of each month @ 1:00 PM in the Library's Community Room.
No registration required!



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or [Android/Google device\(s\)](#).

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