Diversity and Discussion Book Club
Cospnsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library and the Needham Human Rights Committee

Life, Animated by Ron Suskind
Thurs., September 13th 7:30 PM
Imagine being trapped inside a Disney movie and having to learn about life mostly from animated characters dancing across a screen of color. "A fantasy? A nightmare?" This is the real-life story of Owen Suskind, the son of the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Ron Suskind and his wife, Cornelia. An autistic boy who couldn’t speak for years, Owen memorized dozens of Disney movies, turned them into a language to express love and loss, kinship and brotherhood. The family was forced to become animated characters, communicating with him in Disney dialogue and song until they all emerge, together, revealing how, in darkness, we all literally need stories to survive. *October 11, 2018—Tomorrow Will Be Different* by Sarah McBride

Documentary Film: Life, Animated (Rated PG, 93 minutes)
Sun., September 16th 2:00 PM
Owen Suskind was a boy of considerable promise, until he developed autism at the age of 3. As Owen withdrew into his silent state, his parents almost lost hope that he would find some way to interact with his world in some meaningful way. However, that way was found through animated films, especially those of the Walt Disney Company, which provided Owen a way to understand the world through its stories to the point of creating his own. This film covers the life of Owen and how he manages to become as functional as possible with the help of Disney and his family to the point of having his own life. However, Owen soon learns as well that there is more to real life than what Disney can illustrate in animation even as his family prepares itself for an uncertain future with him. Based on this year’s One Book, One Community Read, this film is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library.

Keynote Speaker: Laura Kessel
Wed., September 5th 7:30 PM
Laura Kessel, M.S., CCC-SLP, ATP, is a speech-language pathologist and an augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) specialist. She is currently the AAC Specialist for the Public Schools of Brookline, MA, serving students ages 3-22, as well as an AAC/AT Consultant for AT for Education. Ms. Kessel will delve into what it means to use symbols to communicate (including language), and how we all assign meanings to different symbols in our lives. She will discuss how Owen happened to assign meaning to Disney characters and phrases. She will also talk a little bit about AAC and how a lot of individuals on the spectrum and with other needs use symbols to communicate, etc., as well as some of the intervention strategies that are used with this disorder. Part of the One Book, One Community Read, this program is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library, with financial support from the Library Foundation of Needham.

Book Discussion Schedule
Thurs., September 6th 7:30 PM
Sun., September 9th 2:00 PM
Tues., September 18th 7:30 PM

FRIENDS’ Fall Booksale
Friday, September 28th
12:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Saturday, September 29th
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Sunday, September 30th
1:00 - 4:00 PM
Sunday is Bargain Day: all items are half-price and a brown bag is $8.00.

For further information about upcoming events, go to www.needhamma.gov/library or call 781-455-7559.
Programs in September

Bob Begin: The Cocoanut Grove Fire
Tues., September 11th 7:00 PM

In November of 1942, America was fully involved in the struggle posed by the 2nd World War. The news on all fronts was depressing...and in Boston, the city was full of servicemen and women in uniform. Trains, buses, all forms of public transportation were crowded with people coming and going. People in Boston, as elsewhere, wanted a break: a few hours of fun, dancing, a drink or two...anywhere to escape the war. And there were places where one could go to celebrate an anniversary, a wedding, a reunion, or a dreaded goodbye prior to shipping out. The Cocoanut Grove was just the place. On the night of Nov. 28, 1942, over 1,000 people were at the Cocoanut Grove, where a fire would break out and turn a night of celebration into one of horror and sadness. 492 would die with hundreds more severely wounded. This fire would be one of the worst in America’s history. It would also be the catalyst for a complete overhaul of firefighting and fire prevention standards. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Four Score and Seven—Civil War America
with Dr. Gary Hylander
Thurs., September 20th 7:30 PM

The Civil War, also referred to as the War Between the States, began on the morning of April 12, 1861, when Confederate gunners opened fire on Fort Sumter, a Union Fort in Charleston Harbor. Major Anderson surrendered the Fort without a single casualty. It was a bloodless opening to the bloodiest war in American history. This fall, Dr. Hylander will discuss the generalship and strategy of the war, Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln’s thoughts on Reconstruction and the events surrounding his assassination. Also to be considered will be the constitutionality of succession and whether or not the Confederate South had any real chance for victory. This is the first of four lectures, and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Upcoming Teen/‘Tween Events...

Wash It with Washi! Teen/‘Tween Washi Tape Crafternoon
Thurs., September 6th 4:00-5:00 PM

‘Tweens and Teens are welcome to join in the fun in the Community Room for a Crafternoon dedicated to getting ready for school. Using Washi Craft Tape and Duct tape, decorate and embellish a jar for pencils and pens as well as the writing implements themselves (wrap a pencil with fun colors may help you study better than a boring old yellow No. 2 pencil). Turn a pen into a flower with duct tape, or even make a wallet with some. Make going back to school more colorful with some crafts. No registration required. Contact Erin at the Adult Reference Desk with any questions (781-455-7559 x2). Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Teen/‘Tween Movie: Newsies (Rated PG, 2 hours, 1 minute)
Mon., September 10th 3:00 PM

In this musical, homeless New York City newsboy Jack “Cowboy” Kelly befriends two newcomers to his trade, brothers David and Les Jacobs. When publisher Joseph Pulitzer sets new rules that make it harder for the young newspaper salesmen to make a buck, the boys go on strike. Bryan Denon, a journalist who’s sympathetic to their plight, gives them some tips in public relations, as the newsboys’ battle grips the city. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

Game Day for ‘Tweens and up
Thurs., September 20th 3:30 PM

Gaming Hour is back! Teens and ‘Tweens are once again welcome to come to the Needham Free Public Library’s Community Room for a monthly Gaming Hour Program! There will be games and puzzles of all sorts including a few to get you moving on the XBox One. If there is a game that you have and want to bring with you, feel free. No registration is needed for this monthly event. If you have questions, contact Erin at the Adult Reference Desk (781-455-7559 x2). Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

Thanks to the Friends of the Needham Public Library for providing financial assistance in the production of this Newsletter.
Upcoming Book Discussions

Bookventurers Book Club for Grades 3-5**
Sat., September 29th  3:00 - 4:00 PM
This month’s title is *Mr. Lemoncello’s Library Olympics* by Chris Grabenstein. **Registration is requested, in person or call 781-455-7559, ext. 204. ● Read the book ● Discuss it with other kids ● Participate in book themed activities ● Make new friends! ● Enjoy book themed snacks.

Family Book Club for K-2nd graders**
Sat., September 22  2:30 - 3:30 PM
The Boo-Boos that Changed the World: A True Story About an Accidental Invention (Really!) by Barry Wittenstein, and Earmuffs for Everyone! How Chester Greenwood Became Known as the Inventor of Earmuffs by Meghan McCarthy, and The Marvelous Thing that Came From a Spring: The Accidental Invention of the Toy that Swept a Nation by Gilbert Ford. Come read these three unusual picture books about everyday inventions: Band-Aids, Slinky Toys, and Earmuffs. And, then make your own invention using everyday objects, like paper, toothpicks, pipe cleaners, plastic lids, etc. Use your imagination, be creative, and INVENTIVE! Books available at the Children’s Desk. Please attend and participate with your child. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library. **Registration Required.

NPL Book Group
Tuesday, September 11th  1:00 PM
*A Higher Call: An Incredible True Story of Combat and Chivalry in the War-Torn Skies of World War II* by Adam Makos
December, 1943: A badly damaged American bomber struggles to fly over wartime Germany. At the controls is twenty-one-year-old Second Lieutenant Charlie Brown. Half his crew lay wounded or dead on this, their first mission. Suddenly, a Messerschmitt fighter pulls up on the bomber's tail. The pilot is German ace Franz Stigler—and he can destroy the young American crew with the squeeze of a trigger... What happened next would defy imagination and later be called “the most incredible encounter between enemies in World War II.” The U.S. 8th Air Force would later classify what happened between them as “top secret.” It was an act that Franz could never mention for fear of facing a firing squad. It was the encounter that would haunt both Charlie and Franz for forty years until, as old men, they would search the world for each other, a last mission that could change their lives forever. ●October 9, 2018—*Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns ●

NPL Evening Book Club
Wednesday, September 26th  7:00 PM
*Playing with Fire: The 1968 Election and the Transformation of American Politics* by Lawrence O'Donnell
From the host of MSNBC’s The Last Word with Lawrence O’Donnell, an important and en-thralling new account of the presidential election that changed everything, the race that created American politics as we know it today. The 1968 U.S. Presidential election was the young Lawrence O’Donnell’s political awakening, and in the decades since it has remained one of his abiding fascinations. For years he has deployed one of America’s shrewdest political minds to understanding its dynamics, not just because it is fascinating in itself, but because in it is contained the essence of what makes America different, and how we got to where we are now. *Playing With Fire* represents O’Donnell’s master class in American electioneering, embedded in the epic human drama of a system, and a country, coming apart at the seams in real time. ●October 17, 2018—*It Can’t Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis ●

ALL NEW Book Club for Grades 6 - 8!
Wed., October 24th  7:00-8:00 PM
The first book will be *Firegirl* by Tony Abbott (a short book to get the group going). Your help is needed to give the group a name and to come up with titles for future meetings. Typically, meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of every month in either the Young Adult Room or the Community Room, unless a conflict arises, or attendees feel strongly about meeting another day or time. So please attend and attend often! Sign-ups for each month will be made available at the Reference Desk on the second floor along with copies of the books to be discussed for easy pick-up.
Contact Young Adult Librarian Erin at the Adult Reference desk, 781-455-7559 x2, with questions and to sign up for meetings.

This Month in the Friends’ Gallery

**Marguerite Swartz & Dan DesPlaines**
What’s happening this month in the Children’s Room...

Children’s Story Times in September

Terrific Toddlers for ages 1-2 years
Tues., September 4, 18, 25 10:00 AM
Stories mixed with songs, rhymes, fingerplays, rhythm and sensory activities.

Babies & Books for up to one year
Tues., September 4, 18, 25 11:00 AM
Babies and their adult caregivers explore the rhythms and patterns of speech with songs, lap games and a story or two.

Drop-In Child’s Play for ages 0-2 years
Wed., September 5, 12, 19, 26 10:00 AM
Songs, rhymes, lap games, books and more in this interactive program.

Pre-School Palooza for ages 3-6 years
Mon., September 10, 24 10:00 AM
An interactive themed storytime with picture books, music and movement, followed by a craft (45 min.). Children who are ready may attend independently.
Caregivers are also welcome.

Chinese Storytime for ages 5 and under
Sat., September 8 10:00 AM
This is a drop-in program for ages 5 and under and is led by a group of Chinese-speaking mothers. The program consists of 45 minutes of reading, followed by a simple craft.

Pre-school Crafts for ages 2+
Thurs., September 13 10:30-11:30 AM
Drop-in for age appropriate Make-N-Take Crafts!

Yoga for Children ages 5-9
Sat., September 15 10:30 AM

Children’s Programs in September

Make Music with Stacey Peasley: for ages 2-5
Wed., September 5 11:00 AM
Mon., September 17 11:30 AM
Join Stacey Peasley for a fun-filled half hour of music and song for children and their caregivers.

Sing-Along with Ed Morgan
Fri., September 14 3:00 PM
Thurs., September 20 10:30 AM
For children 2 years and up accompanied by an adult. This is a drop-in program—please arrive on time.

Music with Sarah for ages 5 and under
Tues., Sept. 11 (ages 2-5) 10:00 AM
Tues., Sept. 11 (ages 2 and under) 11:00 AM
Join Sarah Gardner and bring your little ones to play instruments, sing & dance along. Become part of our little library band!

Funding for Music Enrichment Programs provided by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Crazy 8s Club**

Wednesdays, Sept. 26th — Nov. 28th
K-2nd Grade 3-5th Grade
3:30-4:15 PM 4:30-5:15 PM

Join Bedtime Math’s Crazy 8s Club, where you’ll build stuff, run and jump, make music, make a mess...it’s a totally new kind of math club. Space is limited.

**Registration required. Sign up is for all 8 sessions. There will be no sessions on October 10th and November 21st.

Tinker Thinkers for Ages 6+**

Every Other Tuesday, Sept. 25 – Feb. 12
4:00-5:00 PM

Children will create their own original invention which they may wish to enter in a Young Inventors competition. The winning invention from the library club may progress to a Young Inventors Regional competition if desired. **Registration is required. Space is limited and attendees are expected to attend all sessions.
Dinoman: Dinosaurs!
Tues., September 11  4:00 PM
Dinosaur tracks lead right to the library as Dinoman—with magic, mayhem, and magnificent props, including giant inflatable dinosaurs—leads a trip through the Mesozoic era. The program is fun and informative for ages 4 and up. Participants will learn about the age of the earth, how it is divided into eras, how fossils are formed, dinosaur behavior, and the newest discoveries. Sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.

Children’s Movie: Disney’s A Wrinkle in Time (Rated PG, 115 minutes)
Wed., September 19th  2:00 PM
Encore Showing: Fri., September 21st  3:15 PM
A new kind of space travel has been discovered, and Meg’s scientist father is at the forefront of the new developments. But then he disappears, leaving her to solve one of the biggest mysteries of all time. Luckily, she’ll have some help along the way. With her brother and a friend by her side, she will embark upon a great adventure. And with Mrs. Which, Mrs. Who and Mrs. Whatsit giving her guidance, she will be able to find her father before it’s too late. Sponsored by the Needham Free Public Library.

Library Hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Fridays 9:00 am - 5:30 pm
Saturdays 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sundays 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Contact the Library at 781-455-7559

STEAM Programs in September

Coding Clubs

Kid Coders Club for Children ages 5-7**
Mondays: Sept. 17–Oct. 29  4:00-5:00 PM
Children will learn logical thinking skills and engage in coding activities using games, robots, online puzzles and Scratch Jr. Children need to bring their own laptop or notebook computer. Unfortunately, Scratch Jr. does not work on tablets—but will run the other programs and activities. **Registration is required. Space is limited and attendees are expected to attend all sessions.

Code Breakers Club for ages 8+**
Thursdays: Sept. 20–Nov. 8  4:00-5:00 PM
Children will learn coding through online games and puzzles and create projects using Scratch. Children need to bring their own laptop or notebook computer. Scratch does not work on tablets. **Registration is required. Space is limited and attendees are expected to attend all sessions.

Girls Who Code Club for Grades 5 & Up**
Thursdays: Sept. 27–April 11  6:00-8:00 PM
Calling all girls grades 5 and Up! Bring your own computer and we will provide the rest. Join the club and the fun. Learn to code, and collaborate on joint projects. **Registration is required. Space is limited and attendees are expected to attend all sessions.

Creation Station Hours
Mon.-Tues.  5:30 - 8:30 PM
Wednesday  5:30 - 8:30 PM
Thursday  3:30 - 5:30 PM
Friday  3:30 - 5:00 PM
Saturday  9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
Sunday  1:00 - 6:30 PM
Early Release Days  1:00 - 8:30 PM

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The one-stop reading app for your local library
2019 McIver Lecture Series

Artificial Intelligence & the Road Ahead with Professor David Alan Grier

Sun., October 14th 2:00 PM

How should you think about artificial intelligence? The answer to that question depends on your point of view. If you are interested in thought and consciousness and the likelihood of displacing human beings, you will find yourself involved in a debate that is speculative, open ended and a little disconcerting. If you are concerned about your job or the jobs of your children, you will be involved in a discussion that is more concrete and based in economics. This talk will look at some of the recent successes of artificial intelligence, discuss their impact upon jobs and work, and suggest how you might think about the longer term issues. David Alan Grier is a writer, author and speaker on issues of technology, society, & organizations. He is the author of numerous, award-winning books on computing and society, including *When Computers Were Human*, the story of how we organized computation before we had machines do it. He has been employed by George Washington University in a variety of professional and administrative roles. He is currently an associate professor in the Center for International Science & Technology Policy of the Elliott School of International Affairs. *This is the first of three lectures and is sponsored by the Trustees of the Needham Free Public Library in memory of former director Vivian D. McIver.*

Teen/“Tween Interactive Movie: Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (Rated PG-13, 2 hours, 13 minutes)**

Sat., October 20th 1:30-4:30 PM

Something mysterious is leaving a path of destruction in the streets of 1926 New York. Threatening to expose the wizarding community, Newt Scamander arrives in the city nearing the end of a global mission to research and rescue magical creatures. When unsuspecting No-Maj Jacob Kowalski inadvertently lets some of Newt’s beast loose, a band of unlikely heroes must rescue the missing beasts before they come to harm, but their mission places them on a collision course with Dark forces. **Registration is required. To register call 781-455-7559, option 2. Please ask for Erin (Reference) for more information about this exciting event.**

Tales from the Home of the World’s Worst Weather

Sun., October 21st 2:00 PM

Bitter cold, dense fog, heavy snow, and record winds: Mount Washington is known worldwide for its unpredictable and dangerous weather. For a mountain its size, why is Mt. Washington called the “Home of the World’s Worst Weather”? Join Mount Washington Observatory’s Will Broussard for an investigation into the unique life and work of weather observers stationed at the observatory year-round. We will explore how the mountain’s weather works and what it can tell us about New England’s own weather patterns. This program will include interactive demonstrations, weather instruments, stunning photography, and video footage from the summit. This exciting program is appropriate for adults and children alike. Sponsored by the Friends of the Needham Public Library.

Four Score and Seven—Civil War America with Dr. Gary Hylander

Tues., October 23rd 7:30 PM

The Civil War, also referred to as the War Between the States, began on the morning of April 12, 1861, when Confederate gunners opened fire on Fort Sumter, a Union Fort in Charleston Harbor. Major Anderson surrendered the Fort without a single casualty. It was a bloodless opening to the bloodiest war in American history. This fall, Dr. Hylander will discuss the generalship and strategy of the war, Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln’s thoughts on Reconstruction and the events surrounding his assassination. Also to be considered will be the constitutionality of succession and whether or not the Confederate South had any real chance for victory. *This is the second of four lectures, and is sponsored by the Library Foundation of Needham.*