

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROSELAND READS TOGETHER

One city, one book. In 1996, a group of people in Seattle came up with an idea to have a citywide collective reading experience. It was called "If All Seattle Reads" and everyone was asked to read the same book. The plan was to create a citywide book group that might foster a sense of community through discussions of literature. The program was so successful that Seattle has repeated it each year for several years now.

Then, a nationwide social phenomenon occurred. Lots of cities were doing the same thing. Chicago inaugurated its own version called, "One Book, One Chicago." Peoria called theirs "Peoria Reads." Toronto, Buffalo, Rochester, Cleveland and many other cities have held similar events. And, dozens of other places are in the planning stages for their own one-book-for-all program.

Now the idea has come to Roseland and its called "Roseland Reads Together." The Roseland Free Public Library plans to celebrate its 30th Anniversary by inviting Roseland families to participate in a Borough-wide reading activity. Basically, everyone in Roseland is going to read the same book. Participants will be asked to take a pledge to stop everything, gather the family, and enjoy some old-fashioned togetherness and the pleasures of a book.

Who's invited to participate? Roseland residents and those with paid non-resident library memberships. Young and old. Singles. Families with kids. Families without kids. Families with grown-up kids.

But, what's the book? To find out, you will need to visit the Roseland Library starting the week of April 15th. At that time, participants can sign the pledge and pick up a paperback copy of the book to keep and enjoy. Gather the family. Read a chapter a night. Take turns reading out loud. Read it cover to cover. Most of all, we want "Roseland Reads Together" to be an event in your home.

Then, on Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., everyone who participates is invited to the Roseland Library to attend a celebration with festivities based on the book.

The Board of Trustees invites everyone to help celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the Library by taking part in this borough-wide reading event.

For further information and details call, Judith Lind, Director, Roseland Free Public Library 973-226-8636 or visit www.roselandnj.org and click on 'Library.'