

# FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

## FRIENDS OF THE EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARY

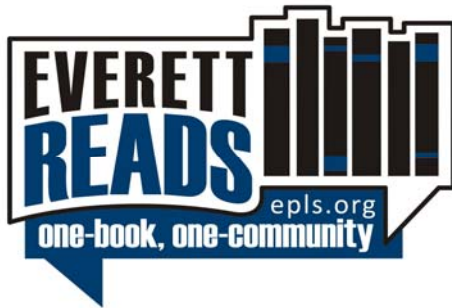
VOLUME XX, ISSUE 1

WWW.EPLS.ORG/FRIENDS

JANUARY, 2012

EILEEN SIMMONS, EDITOR

### EVERETT READS THE ABSOLUTELY TRUE DIARY OF A PART-TIME INDIAN



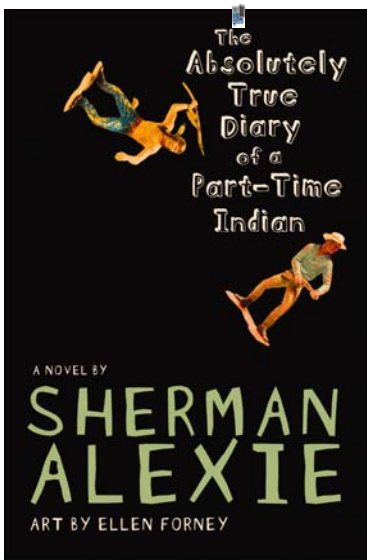
Everett Reads! is the Library's community reading program, now in its second year. This year we chose Sherman Alexie's *The*

*Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* for our month-long February program celebrating reading and community.

Not sure if Alexie's story told from the perspective of a 14-year-old boy growing up in poverty on the rez is for you? Consider what *The New York Times* says: "For 15 years now, Sherman Alexie has explored the struggle to survive between the grinding plates of the Indian and white worlds. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* may be his best work yet. Working in the voice

of a 14-year-old forces Alexie to strip everything down to action and emotion, so that reading becomes more like listening to your smart, funny best friend recount his day while waiting after school for a ride home."

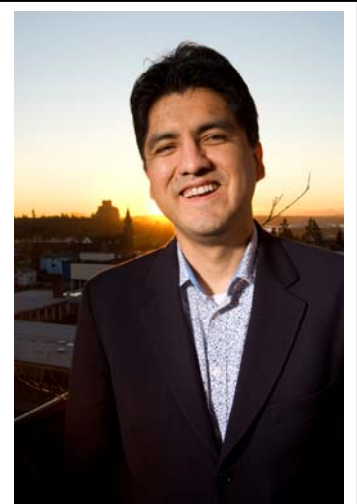
There will be programs throughout the month, from book discussions to a presentation on the history of the Tulalips, to a weekly Sunday movie, including two films by Alexie. You'll find a complete list of events at [www.epls.org](http://www.epls.org). Check out the book, and join the conversation!



#### Save the Date! Sherman Alexie to Speak

Join us at the Everett Performing Arts Center on Saturday, February 4, at 7 p.m. to hear author Sherman Alexie speak about his National Book Award winner *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*—and whatever else he feels like talking about! If you've never heard Mr. Alexie speak before, you should know you're in for an evening that will be both educational and highly entertaining.

Alexie is the author of 22 books, and has won a PEN Faulkner Award, a PEN Hemingway Special Citation, a PEN Malamud Award for Excellence in the Art of the Short Story, and both the Audience Award and Filmmakers' Trophy for *Smoke Signals* at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival.



### Books You've Always Meant to Read: A Different Kind of Book Club Experience

Most of us have a list of classics we've always meant to read, but somehow never quite get around to. If that sounds like you, the library is experimenting with a new program called *Books You've Always Meant to Read*, beginning in March with Charles Dickens' masterpiece, *David Copperfield*, followed by Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and Conrad's *Secret Agent*.

If you're interested in the book of the month, pick up a copy and read it. The next step is to attend the guest lecture at

the end of the month where a local scholar will lead a discussion of that month's book.

Ed Skoog, (*on the right*) a poet and instructor at Everett Community College, will kick off the series with *David Copperfield* in the Main Library Auditorium on Wednesday, March 28 at 7 p.m. Ed's poems have appeared in the *Paris Review* and the *New Republic*, and his poetry collection, *Mister Skylight*, was published by Copper Canyon Press.

Each month will feature a different novel and a different speaker, each with his own liter-



ary preferences. You can attend one program or the entire series. If response is good, we plan to continue the series in the fall. We hope you'll check this out.

### More Computer Classes By Popular Demand



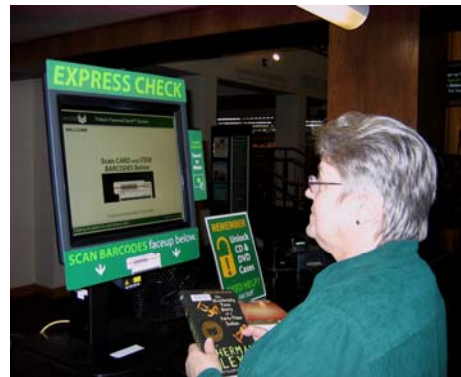
We've added more computer classes in 2012, focusing on the things you want to know—whether you're just getting started or hoping to learn about Excel. Sign-up at the reference desk or call 425-257-8000 for more information.

### A Remodeling Project with Something for (Almost) Everyone

We're delighted to announce the completion of our Main Library teen zone project. Thanks to this remodel, largely funded by grants and donations, we have a new area just for teens, improved picture book and family reading areas, better visibility in the stacks, and a new Activity Room. The Activity Room is available for the community to use when library programs aren't scheduled. Teens found it immediately, and it's fun to see them reading and studying, just as we had hoped they would.



### Check It Out ... with Express Check



Everett Public Library patrons can now check out their own materials. We planned to implement this service in 2008, but the economy put a stop to that. Four years down the line, we went back to the drawing board. The result is a basic self-check set-up for both libraries that functions well—albeit minus some of the features we'd hoped to have. Give it a try next time you're in the library.

### THE SECOND ANNUAL LIBRARY SPELLDOWN!



75 adults took to the stage to raise money for the library. Congratulations to the Spellaphobics (left).

### TAX HELP IS COMING!



Trained volunteers will be available at the Main Library by appointment to prepare tax returns for middle- and low-income individuals free of charge from February 6 through April 9.

To make an appointment, come to the Reference Desk at the Main Library or call 425-257-8000. Sign up begins on Tuesday, January 17.

### FRIENDS OF THE EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARY, 2010-11

The Friends of the Everett Public Library is a 501(c)3 organization. We raise money to enable the library to provide programs and services outside its normal budget. The Friends also provide volunteer support at various events.

### The Friends are proud to report the following activities for 2011:

- Spelldown: A Spelling Bee for Grown-ups
- Prizes for Summer Reading Program
- Volunteer help at the Mayor's Award
- Helped fund activities such as Elder Fair and National Night Out

### Join the Friends; Support the Library

*Memberships renew in January*

*Your contribution makes a difference.*

**Friends of the Everett Public Library**

**P.O. Box 5654, Everett, WA 98206**