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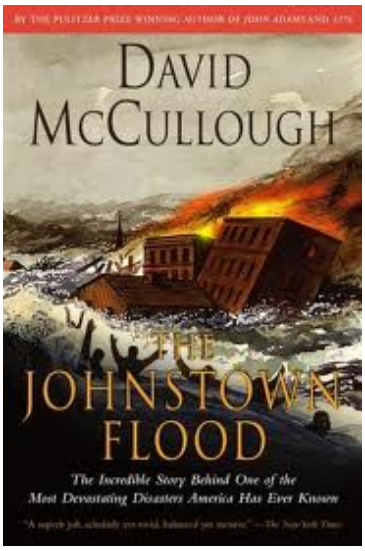
Books Plus for July



Although summer officially began just last week, it seems as though it's been hot and dry forever. As we water our gardens and lawns, it's hard to envision a major flood. But join us for a discussion about *The Johnstown Flood*--still the deadliest flood in US history. It happened in 1889 when the South Fork Dam (fourteen miles upstream from Johnstown, Pa.) failed. The American Red Cross, which Clara Barton had founded in 1891, led the relief effort with Barton herself taking charge. The flood caused many sociological repercussions because the community that was spared included summer homes of many millionaires including Andrew Carnegie and Andrew Mellon, while the community below that suffered had many poor Irish and German immigrants.
This was David McCullough's first book. McCullough went on to win two Pulitzer Prizes for later biographies of Truman and John Adams.

Books Plus meets the first Sunday of each month. All are welcome. Join the discussion or simply come to listen.

No registration necessary. **Drop in.**

2 p.m., First Sundays

See the upcoming schedule below.

July 1 - *The Johnstown Flood*[1] *by David G. McCullough*

Discussion Leader: Sarah Bowman

Graced by David McCullough's remarkable gift for writing richly textured, sympathetic social history, The Johnstown Flood is an absorbing, classic portrait of life in nineteenth-century America. It also offers a powerful historical lesson for our century and all times: the danger of assuming that because people are in positions of responsibility they are necessarily behaving responsibly. - Book description

August 5 -- *Snobs* [2] by Julian Fellowes

Discussion Leader: Dory Lynch

"Julian Fellowes, the writer of the popular mini-series Downton Abbey, penned this comedy of

manners about the British aristocracy in the 1990s. "I couldn't put *Snobs* down: Who could resist a great story of a beautiful, ambitious girl on her climb to the turreted top of the castle-hopping set? As witty as he is smart, Julian Fellowes is the Oscar-winning, Oscar Wilde of the minute." -Plum Sykes

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Posted by Sarah B. on Jun 26, 2012

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