

Clifton Park & Halfmoon Read

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release!

From: The Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library
475 Moe Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065

Contacts:

JoAnne Robbins: (518) 952-7077 CliftonParkJosie@gmail.com

Linda Conklin: (518) 373-4123; lconklin@nycap.rr.com

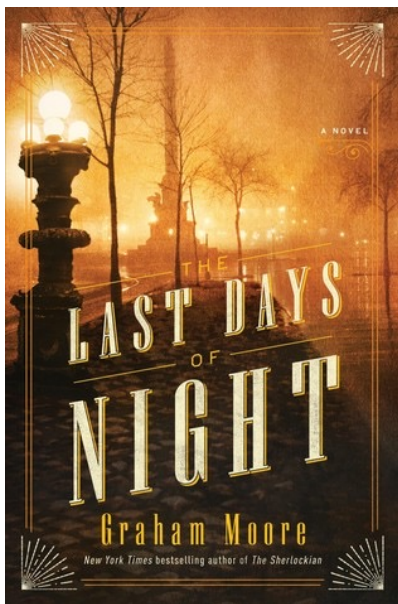
Jim Foster: (518) 371-8622 jfoster@sals.edu

Title of the Event: **Season 7 Kickoff: War of the Currents**

Date: **Saturday, January 20, 2018**

Time: **2 PM**

Location: **Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library**



'War of the Currents,' a fascinating presentation by Chris Hunter, Vice President of Collections and Exhibits at The Museum of Innovation and Science, Schenectady, NY (miSci), kicks off Two Towns-One Book's seventh community read celebrating this year's winning book, *The Last Days of Night*, set in New York, 1888. Author Graham Moore fictionalized the true story of a young lawyer named Paul Cravath who took a case that seemed impossible to win. Paul's client, George Westinghouse, had been sued by Thomas Edison over a billion-dollar question: Who invented the light bulb and holds the right to power the country?

Chris Hunter will explore the Capital Region's connection to the development of the electrical industry; how Edison came to Schenectady; how Westinghouse enters the electrical industry; William Stanley's pioneering AC transformer and Demonstration; Elihu Thomson and Thomson-Houston's competing AC system; the importance of Tesla; the PR and legal battles that led to the electric chair; and the creation of GE and how that ended the war of the currents. He will highlight the true story of the public relations battle between Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse, utilizing the resources of miSci's technology archives. Registration is requested.

TTOB Project Partners include: Town of Clifton Park, Town of Halfmoon, Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library, CAPTAIN Youth and Family Services, Shenendehowa Central Schools, Southern Saratoga YMCA, Halfmoon Senior Center, and Clifton Park Senior Community Center.

Community members interested in volunteering for project activities or events should contact Linda Conklin at lconklin@nycap.rr.com. Visit our website, <http://www.twotownsonebook.org> for additional information.