



# Lake County Library News

## Lake County Reads *Bermuda Schwartz*

Lake County Library System is on the Bermuda Schwartz Dark 'n Stormy World Tour for Bob Morris' new release. Bob says "I'm calling it the Dark 'n Stormy tour because Dark 'n Stormies are the national cocktail of Bermuda. And Gosling's Rum, made in Bermuda, is a sponsor of the tour. I'll be making Dark 'n Stormies along the way." In this latest novel, "A young scuba guide, scouting new dive sites in the shipwreck-laden reefs that rim Bermuda, makes a fatal discovery: Below these waters lies a treasure more valuable than gold or jewels. And some people are willing to kill for it. Enter Zack Chasteen, knockabout palm-tree farmer, and his inscrutable Taino associate, Boggy. Zack is soon crossing paths with a secret sect of religious zealots who are hoping to complete a bloody and tumultuous 2,000-year-old quest."

Join your library staff, reading groups and friends and enjoy this "ripping good yarn" (*Booklist*).

You will have a chance to meet Bob at



Bob Morris' *Dark 'n Stormy World Tour*

the Festival of Reading opening on March 17th.

For those of you who want an opportunity to have dinner with Bob and enjoy his hilarious and unusual brand of humor, The Friends of the Leesburg Library will be hosting the annual dinner with the author, *A Taste of the Tropics*, on Thursday, March 15th in the Venetian Gardens to kick off the festivities. Tickets to this fun filled experience can be purchased at the Leesburg Public Library.

## Let's Do Lunch!

The Annual Author's Luncheon with best selling author Tamar Myers will be held at Lake Reception on Friday, March 23rd. Tamar, published by Harper-Collins, successfully mixes humor, mystery, and great recipes. She is the author of two ongoing mystery series, and 24 mysteries. One is set in Pennsylvania and features Magdalena Yoder, an Amish-Mennonite sleuth who runs a

bed and breakfast in the mythical town of Hernia. The other is set in the Carolinas and centers around the adventures of Abigail Timberlake, the proud owner of an antique store, the Den of Antiquity. She will speak on "the secret life of a mystery writer" Please join us for this delightful and hilariously funny lady. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the W.T. Bland Public Library.

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### Appearing at the 2007 Festival of Reading

#### Cookbook authors

- Pam Brandon
- Maria Baez Kijac
- Viviana Carballo
- Patti Lawson
- Roniece Weaver
- Dan Strehl

#### Mystery authors

Tamar Myers

Charles Benoit

Nancy J. Cohen

Mary Anna Evans

Elizabeth Becka

Lynn Sholes & Joe Moore

Bob Morris

All Festival of Reading events are **FREE** with the exception of the luncheon and dinner.

## East Lake County Library



Come One, come All! to the 3rd Annual East Lake County Library Bluegrass Festival. This year's event will be held on Saturday, March 24th from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. This has become the East Lake Library's big event and the grand finale

for the Festival of Reading. Each year it has become bigger and better. In the past we had such groups as the Blackwater Creek Bluegrass Band, the Down Home Cloggers, the Sunshine Gospel Travelers, Russell Scram and Ken Skeens. This year we have added Pure Country Band, which performs Old-time Country and Gos-

pel Music. Bill Good, author of *By the Light of the Lighter Pine*, subtitled *A Cracker Collection of Short Stories about Natural Florida* will perform and speak. His works promote environmental education and responsible and sustainable development and growth that extol the beauty and majesty of Florida's heritage and Natural environment.

In addition to all of this there will be a face painter from Happy Faces of Orlando and various food such as hotdogs, hamburgers, shaved ice, etc. for sale. For a fun family oriented day come on out to the East Lake Library in Sorrento and sit a spell and enjoy some great music. Other acts are being booked at this time so if you know any musicians interested please call the East Lake Library at 352-383-9980.

## Astor County Library

Thursday evening at 6:30, families in Astor will be having dinner with the Watford family in the library. As the patrons enjoy their meal they will hear how the Watford family wrote and published their first book, *\$100 Worth of Trouble*.

On March 24th at 11 a.m., the Astor Library is honored to present Gaspar Antonio Xiu, author of several

books on Mayan history. Gaspar is a direct descendant of the ruling Mayan Xiu, one of the tribes who occupied Mexico when the first Conquistadors arrived in Mexico. The patrons will be treated to a sample of tacos, the taste of Mexico. The library will provide an interpreter for our English-speaking patrons.

## Mary Anna Evans

Mary Anna Evans, published by Poisoned Pen Press, has degrees in physics and engineering, but her heart is in the past. Her series character, Faye Longchamp, lives the exciting life of an archaeologist, and Mary Anna envies her a little. The first Faye Longchamp novel, *Artifacts*, won the Benjamin Franklin award for the best mystery novel published by a small press in 2003. It also won the Florida Historical Society's Patrick D. Smith Florida Literature Award, and it was recognized by the Voice of Young America as an "Adult Mystery with Young Adult Appeal." *Publishers Weekly* quotes "Evans' second archeological mystery *Relics* is every bit as good as her debut, *Artifacts* ....Faye makes a compelling heroine, and she's supported by an interesting array of suspects."

Tony Hillerman: "We mystery lovers who've enjoyed *Artifacts* and then decided that *Relics* was even better may not believe this, but Ms. Evans has done it again, and *Effigies* is the best one yet. Again, she makes a lesson in our past a fascinating read."

Ms. Evans will be featured in a special "Deadly Tea" at the W.T. Bland Library on March 20th at 3 p.m. and will be "Digging Up Mysteries" in the Leesburg Public Library at 7:00 p.m. Delicious refreshments provided.





# Elizabeth Becka



Elizabeth Becka, published by Hyperion Press, has published three short non-fiction articles and taught an online workshop titled “Forensic Science for the Mystery Writer.” She’s a member of Sisters In Crime and Mystery Writers of America and in her life as a forensic specialist (yes, she’s a tad schizophrenic) she’s a member of the American Academy of Forensic Scientists, the Florida Division of the International Asso-

ciation for Identification, and is certified by the American Board of Criminalistics. Her novel, *Trace Evidence*, is the first in a series. Forensic Scientist Evelyn James deals with a set of bizarre deaths in the Cuyahoga River, a rookie homicide detective, the mayor of Cleveland, a local mobster and her own teenage daughter. The second in the series, *Unknown Means*, will be published in early 2008. “Trace the Evidence” with Elizabeth at the Fruitland Park Library on Wednesday, March 22nd at 2 p.m.

## News from Citrus Ridge County Library

Excitement is building at the Citrus Ridge County Library since construction began on the new library. Since late October, workers have been busy clearing land, laying footings, building walls, pouring floors, and setting beams. Furniture and color selections are being made, and we will soon begin tagging the existing collection for security purposes. We have an extra \$100,000 to spend on an Opening Day Collection that will be interfiled with existing materials.

Hopefully, we will be moved in by next Christmas. In other news, we hired Kerri Bottorff as the Youth Services Librarian [a new position for us]; and she, along with her assistant Eleanor Tierney, have been planning a lot of children’s programs. A weekly lapsit story time for children under 3 years old, a Scrabble Club one Saturday a month, regular movie days, and Reading with Buff the dog are just some of the programs now being offered.

## March 19 is Adrian Fogelin Day! by Linda Goff

You may be asking yourself, “Who is Adrian Fogelin and why is March 19 her day?” The answer is that this is the day this award-winning author, who writes some of the best fiction books around for readers in grades 3 – 8, will be speaking at Oak Park Middle School, Carver Middle School, Mount Dora Middle School and the Tavares Civic Center next to Tavares Public Library. If you haven’t read at least one of her books, you truly are missing out on something special. Not convinced yet? Then I suggest you check out her web site at [www.adrianfogelin.com](http://www.adrianfogelin.com) and read the “Meet Adrian” section. Then after you’ve enjoyed her books, read the “For Readers” section. If you aren’t lucky enough to attend one of the three middle schools Adrian will be visiting, do your best to come to Tavares Community Room next to Tavares Public Library from 6 – 8 p.m. on March 19 for a chance to meet Adrian in person. And the program is free, too. In the

meantime, here’s a summary of why she was chosen as this year’s *Lake County Reads!* chapter book author. ADRIAN FOGELIN is the author of *The Real Question*, *The Big Nothing*, *Sister Spider Knows All*, *My Brother’s Hero*, *Anna Casey’s Place in the World*, and *Crossing Jordan*, which was named an ALA Best Books for Young Adults; a VOYA Top Shelf for Middle School Readers; and an Honor Book, IRA Notable Books for a Global Society. She lives with her husband in Tallahassee, Florida. If the characters in her books feel very real to you, it’s because they are based on people and places she encounters in her every day life. Who knows, maybe something she sees here in Lake County will turn up in a one of her books someday.



*All Festival of Reading events are **FREE** with the exception of the luncheon and dinner.*

## The Soul Food Pyramid



Roniece Weaver, is co-founder and executive director of Hebni Nutrition Consultants, Inc., co-developer of the *Soul Food Pyramid*, and co-chair of the Cultural Diversity Committee for the Central Florida American Diabetes Association. Mrs. Weaver will

share her passion for healthy lifestyle change at the Festival of Reading opening and at a special appearance at the MLK Center on Tuesday, March 20th at 11 a.m. For information on this free seminar, please call 352-735-7180.

## Gary Corsair to Appear in Lady Lake

Lady Lake Library is honored to have local author Gary Corsair as their featured guest for the Lake County Library System Festival of Reading program. Gary Corsair is well known as an award winning local newspaper writer, but perhaps should be best known for his book: *The Groveland Four: The Sad Saga of a Legal Lynching*.

This book is a true account about an event that took place in Lake County in 1949 which shocked the nation and required National Guardsman to be deployed to Lake County. *The Groveland Four* is the author's product of exhaustive research into Lake County's most notorious Civil Rights cases. It is also an accounting of how one man, the Lake County Sheriff, could so dominate the lives of the people in the county.

A 17-minute movie documentary based on Gary's

book will be shown, then he will discuss how he found the story, researched it and set about to write it. Gary will also talk about the perils of self-publishing and offer tips on getting a book published.

The program will also feature a writing contest. Participants should submit a one page fiction piece similar to true crime. Entries will be judged by a panel of judges including Gary Corsair, and prizes will be awarded to the top 3 entries. Winners will get their work published on the web and in the library.

The program will be held at the Lady Lake Library on Tuesday, March 20th at 2:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

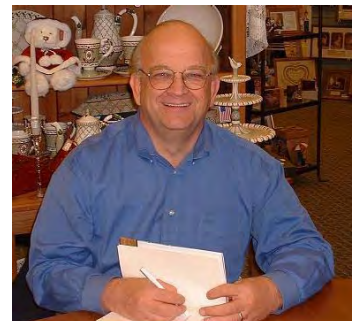


## Cooper Library Book Club

The Cooper Memorial Library Book Club meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7p.m., in the Genealogy Room at the library. The January meeting will be used to select the books to be read for the remainder of the year. February's book, however, was selected in December; it is *1776* by David McCullough; at the January meeting, there will be some books available to check out.

All meetings are open to the public. Any interested

person may attend. The reading list for 2007 will be available at the Cooper Library reference desk after the January meeting. Reference Librarian Caryl Harris is the library liaison for the Book Club.



Cooper @ Cooper



*A library is a feast to which we are all invited...Katherine Paterson*

## Apocalyptic Thriller Authors Return



Last year Lake County Reads featured *The Grail Conspiracy* and authors Lynn Sholes and Joe Moore. They will be returning this year for two spectacular events with an exciting new Cotton Stone mystery *The Last Secret*. Reviews are already in for this book.

"Superb thriller. Lynn Sholes and Joe Moore write some of the best apocalyptic thrillers on the market

today." ~ Harriet Klausner, *Review Centre*. "Demonic possession, strange suicides, and Biblical prophecy collide in *The Last Secret*, an intelligent religious thriller with bite. Once again, Cotton Stone proves herself to be a heroine for the new millennium. A female Indiana Jones with a press pass! Insightful, engrossing...but more importantly, a suspenseful thriller from first page to last!" ~ James Rollins, *New York Times* bestselling author.

*The Hades Project*, the third in the series is coming in the fall of 2007.

## Marion Baysinger Library

On March 19th at 6 p.m. the library will present *The South American Table*. This event will feature Maria Baez Kijac, on a food writer, cooking instructor, culinary historian, judge for the Slow Food Awards, kitchen director for PBS' *American Family Kitchen* and author of *The South American Table*. Learn how to make authentic Spanish food. Food samples from her book will be available.

If you feel at home on the range, then mosey on over to the library and hear about *The Trail Hand* on March

20th at 7p.m. by Groveland author, R.W. Stone. The Publisher is Five Star. He will be available for a book signing.

On Saturday the 24th from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. The library will offer a special view of pirates by author Kevin McCarthy. The *Practical Potwatcher* columnist from *The Daily Commercial*, Mary Ryder will give a follow up presentation on the food history of pirates. At 1, Wayne Hoskings will present a kite adventure. Caribbean treats will be available.

## A Winespeak in Clermont

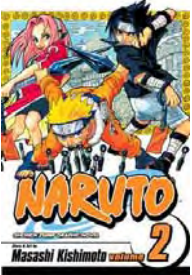
Cooper Memorial Library will kick off their 2007 Festival of Reading events on March 17 with a *Winespeak and Tasting Event* at Bacchus Vino Etcetera, a retail wine shop in downtown Clermont. This not-to-be-missed event will be the first of a week-long celebration for the Lake County Library System Festival of Reading, whose theme this year is "A Taste of Reading". The event will feature Keith Mullins, owner of Bacchus Vino, who will give a presentation on the many different wines of the world and also provide a wine tasting for everyone to sip and enjoy. There will also be a list of books and items on wines and viticulture that are available in the library for checking out.

This event will be a fun way to start a week-long celebration of books and reading so plan to attend and enjoy and bring your friends to the Bacchus Vino Etcetera on March 17th at 2 p.m.

The wine shop is located in the heart of downtown Clermont at 692 W. Montrose St. and interested persons can contact Keith at 352-394-9805 for further information.



## Are you an otaku? by Donna Gray-Williams



For those not in the know that means a *serious fan of anime and manga*.

For those of you already clued in, you can help the clueless by adding your reviews and recommendations to the Anime/Manga Corner on the Teen Lib page of the Lake County Library System website [www.lakeline.lib.fl.us](http://www.lakeline.lib.fl.us)

For instance: Have you read the Fruits basket manga or watched the videos? (Yes) Don't the videos have a lame ending? (Yes) Who's your favorite character? (Kyo) What's up with Akito? (Could he really be a fe-

male?) Will Tohru be able to break the Sohma curse? (Yes) Don't you just love Black Haru? (Yes) Naruto's now showing on Cartoon Network's Toonami. Are you watching it? (Yes) Have you watched ahead on Youtube to see what will happen? (Yes) Do you read the manga or read the new episodes in Shonen Jump? (Both) Do you like the anime or manga best? (Both) Did you know that Naruto was first published in Japan in 1999? (Yes)

That's what one person thinks, but what about you? What else do you read and watch? What do you like? Don't be shy. Come on—Share!!!

## Bookmark Design Contest 2007 by Linda Goff

Calling all K-12 students who live in Lake County or attend Lake County Schools! You could be a winner in the 8th annual Lake County Library System Bookmark Design Contest! We're looking for original artwork submitted to us on 3 X 8 inch unlined paper and attached to our official entry form. Complete rules and entry form can be picked up at any of the 13 libraries in the Lake County Library System or check it out online at our library system's website at [www.lakeline.lib.fl.us](http://www.lakeline.lib.fl.us) Deadline for submissions is February 16, 2007.

This year's theme is anything related to libraries or to books with our library system web address displayed somewhere in your design. You might show a picture of yourself enjoying something at your local public library or reading a favorite book. Hey, you could

even draw a picture of yourself using a computer to look at our website online.

Twelve winners will be chosen: 4 from elementary schools, 4 from middle schools and 4 from high schools. These winning bookmarks will be reproduced in full color and available to the general public at each public library in the Lake County Library System. Each winner will be honored on Saturday, March 17, during a special ceremony from 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. at Venetian Gardens, 109 E Dixie Avenue, in Leesburg. This ceremony will be part of our annual Festival of Reading kick-off event which begins a week-long celebration in our libraries featuring visits from published authors.

We can hardly wait to see your entries!

## Teen Read Week Contest Winners by Angela Cook

Umatilla Public Library announces the winners from our teen bookmark contest which began during Teen Read Week 2006. Three winners were chosen from the Umatilla High School entries, and three from the Umatilla Middle School entries. Cash prizes donated by the Friends of the Library were awarded to each of the first, second, and third place winners. The high school winners were: first place Morgan Nelson

(pictured); second place Adam Parkinson; and third place Kim Bacon. The middle school winners were: first place Courtney Gainer; second place Brittany Cook; and third place Ashley Mosher. All entries were great, and we thank the many teens who participated.



## Leesburg Public Library by Barbara Morse



This year's Festival of Reading celebration will kick-off at Venetian Gardens in the City of Leesburg. The administration and staff of

Leesburg Public Library and the City of Leesburg are very excited about hosting this event for 2007 since the City is also celebrating their Sesquicentennial, 150 years since Incorporation. The City plans to spend the entire year marking this major event. Each month has a theme for the City to celebrate and the Library is participating whenever possible. For instance, December 31st was the first *First Night* and buttons were available at the Library. January was celebrated with a *Pioneers Festival* weekend on the 6th and 7th. The first Leesburg Pioneer Certificates were awarded during that event and will continue in upcoming months to be awarded to "any person, regardless of his or her place of residence, who provides proof that he or she has an ancestor who settled in Leesburg and its environs by the time Leesburg was chartered in July 1875". The Library staff and volunteers have committed to helping residents trace their pioneer roots. As noted by Frank Stivender, one of our pioneer family members during a recent Daily Commercial Forum on Lake Front TV, "The Library is a great place to start your research." January will also include the Martin Luther King celebrations with promotion through the Sesquicentennial events.

The month of February is designated for Family Tradition and Cultural Heritage and will be celebrated with a "Taste" of all different cultures of people that have settled in Leesburg during the past 150 years. The event will be held on Feb 27th in the Towne Square. At the time of this printing, some of that is still in the planning stages. How appropriate that the Mardi Gras, Party in the Streets, event will be Feb 16 & 17.

The Reading Festival fits in perfectly for the month of March which is designated for Art and Culture. The City's Fine Arts Festival is traditionally held early in March and our Taste of Reading in Venetian Gardens will follow that event to round out the March celebrations. This will be a huge event with the participation and cooperation of our Sesquicentennial committee members and the City's Recreation and Parks department.

Most exciting for the Library and the City of Leesburg will be the possibility of moving into a brand new building! There have been some delays but we are getting closer and closer to seeing it to completion. They have started doing the site work and have installed the bridge over the dry retention area. At the time of this printing, the drywall is up, the interior is being painted, the second floor exterior stucco is being painted, the furniture has been chosen, along with the cafe vendor.

This is a great year for the City of Leesburg and for the Leesburg Public Library!

## Umatilla Public Library

Check the website for updates on *Local Author's Day*, March 21st from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Poisoned Pen Press author Charles Benoit will be the guest speaker at this event also featuring Colleen Avelli and locals Annette Bruce, Liza Pilsitz, Stella Balandran, Jesse Golden and Jeffrey Lamb.

The Friends of the Umatilla Library is hosting the 8th annual City Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, March

3rd, with a huge book sale at the Library. Maps of all the locations of yard sales in Umatilla will be available in Umatilla at City Hall or at the Umatilla Library on March 2nd and 3rd. The Library will have a few vendors on hand in addition to the used books for sale.



Author Charles Benoit

**Wendy R. Breeden,  
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Articles submitted  
by library staff

Judy Buckland, Editor

## A Taste of Reading

Sample the wide variety of authors and events offered in this year's Festival of Reading. Events will include nationally known authors in a variety of genres such as: mystery, food preparation, nutrition, home life and poetry. Many of the events will include samples of recipes included in the books. Small children through young adults will be treated to two award winning authors and events with edible crafts. Please ask family and friends to support literature, arts and culture by attending. All of the library events are free, the luncheon and dinner have a minimal charge. Your library is all about encouraging imagination and preserving ideas. [www.lakeline.lib.fl.us](http://www.lakeline.lib.fl.us)



*Did you know that when you search the library catalog, click on a participating author's book, you will be linked to that author's Festival of Reading events?*

### More exciting authors!

- Jackie K. Cooper
- Nancy Butler-Ross
- Michael Suib
- Colleen Avelli
- Steve Kronen



## Nancy J. Cohen

Lake County has a unique opportunity this year to learn from a master. Nancy J. Cohen, author of nine Bad Hair Day Mysteries will share her expertise on writing in three free presentations.

[Writing the Whodunit: Mystery Writing 101](#) will be held at 2, Thursday, March 22nd at Creative Hair Design located just down the street from the Fruitland Park Library. *How cool is that?*

[Story Development: How to Jump-Start Your Plot](#) along with her new best-selling release *Killer Knots* is offered at the City of Tavares Public Library on Thursday at 7 p.m.

[Writing Fiction for Fun and Profit \(aka Telling Lies for a Living\)](#) will be at the W.T. Bland Public Library on Saturday the 24th at 10 a.m. Ms. Cohen will host the Writer's Reception that afternoon at 2 p.m. Winners from the Mount Dora Writer's Competition will receive their awards.

Nancy J. Cohen, published by Kensington Press, made her debut onto the publishing scene with futuristic romance novels written as Nancy Cane. Her first book, *Circle of Light*, won the Holt Medallion Award. The *Bad Hair Day* series features South Florida beauty sa-

lon owner and hair-stylist Marla Shore, who untangles murder clues with sass and style under the sultry Florida sun. Nancy's books have been nominated by RT Book Club for a Reviewer's Choice Award and have made the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association bestseller lists. *Dead Roots*, *Perish by Pedicure* and her latest *Killer Knots* are next in this series that Publisher's Weekly calls "fast-paced and jaunty". Nancy is listed in *Contemporary Authors*, *Poets & Writers*, and *Who's Who in U.S. Writers, Editors & Poets*. She is an active member of Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, Romance Writers of America, Novelists, Inc., and The Author's Guild.



*Spooks with Rita and Nancy*

