

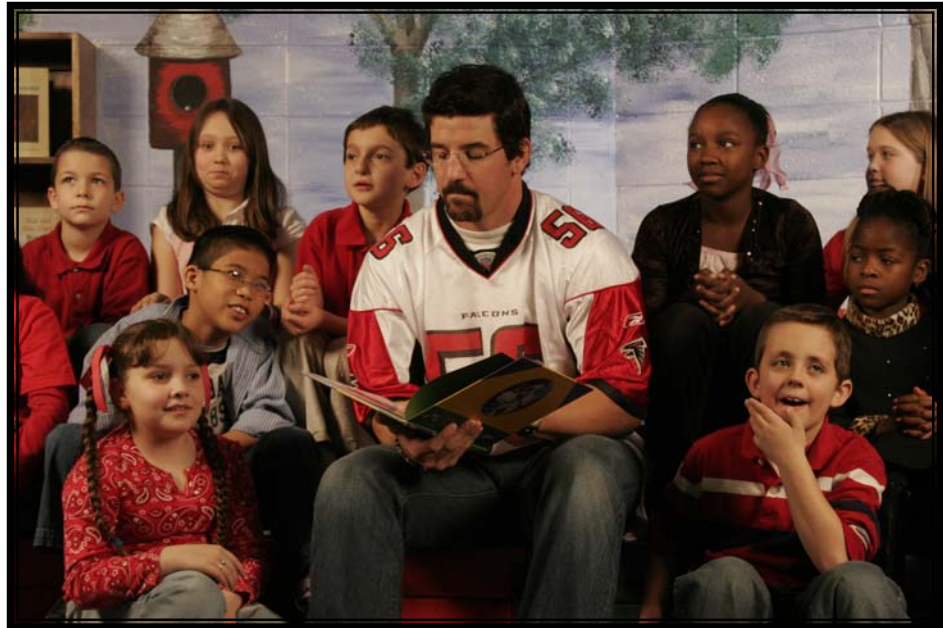
# Media Matters

A newsletter for people who care about library media programs

## Atlanta Falcon Keith Brooking for Georgia Read More

### Inside this issue:

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Atlanta Falcon Linebacker Keith Brooking recently read to a group of children at Tyrone Elementary in Fayette County for our latest **Georgia Read More** program.

Keith read *Detective LaRue* by Mark Teague. This Georgia Read More program will be available very soon on the GaDOE website as well as on Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Keith has strong ties to Fayette County. He was born in Senoia and graduated from East Coweta High School. After high school he graduated from Georgia Tech. Keith has been a Falcon for seven years. We appreciate him donating his time to be a part of The **Georgia Read More** program.

Who's next?

Ashley Bryan, Dan Cathy, Chuck Leavell.

### Questions?

Are you retiring this year?

Were you teacher or media specialist of the year in your school or system?

Please let Judy Serritella know at:

jserrite@doe.k12.ga.us

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April 2006



## Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration

I'm SO excited to share what's happening here at Midvale! Before the February break I decided that a great way to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and RAA Day would be to have students enter a "Bake a Cake for Dr. Seuss" contest. I sent home a flyer before the break and got an article posted in the school newsletter about the contest. I sent home another flyer as a reminder on Monday afternoon.

During our Tuesday PTA program I had no less than 6 different families tell me how excited their children were about baking a cake for Dr. Seuss! One said they had checked out every Dr. Seuss book they could get for ideas. Another said they had gone to Home Depot to get advice on how to build a really tall cake!

The awards were:

The **Daisy-Head Maysie Award** (best use of flower decorations), The **Gerald McGrew Award** (best use of animal decorations), The **King's Stilts Award** (the tallest cake), **Thing 1/Thing 2 Award** (the most unusually decorated cake), and the **Cat-In-The-Hat Award** (the most "seussian" cake). The judges also had the option of creating their own awards for any cake they loved that didn't necessarily fit into any of the categories.

I wish you could have seen my face the morning the cakes started coming in - we had over 65 cakes sitting all over the cafeteria and they were the most creative, beautiful, happy cakes I have ever seen! One little girl made hers in the shape of Horton's head. One little boy created a cake about the Sneetches with stars and beach balls. We had lots of Cat Hats in the most beautiful red and white - some big, some small, some bent, some tall! The King's Stilts award went to a family that recreated the cover of "Ten Apples On Top" and they figured out how to stack 10 red-iced cupcakes on top of the base!

Please visit our school's website to see the pictures. If you visit the website, please send me a little note so that I can create a bulletin board of responses to our beautiful cakes! <http://www.dekalb.k12.ga.us/~midvale> Click on the "Students" tab at the top of the page to see the pictures.

Susan Grigsby, Teacher-Librarian  
Midvale Elementary School  
Atlanta, Georgia  
[susan.grigsby@gmail.com](mailto:susan.grigsby@gmail.com)

Merchuria Chase Williams, Danny Schnitzlein, and Judy Serritella read to children at Fernbank on Dr. Seuss' birthday.

Dr. Williams read *There Was an Old Woman Who Swallowed a Fly*, Danny read his own book *The Monster Who Ate My Peas*, and Judy read *How Does a Dinosaur Say Goodnight?*



On Dr. Seuss' Birthday, our School TV News reporter wore the red and white hat and read a commercial for "Dr. Seuss' Birthday - Read Across America Day."

The reporter loved the spring in the hat and giggled pulling the spring up and down. Afterwards about three students used the springy hat as a toy, and it was fun!

It definitely was an attention getter and we all needed the uplift on a blue day. Circulation was boosted a little, it appeared, because of it. Afterwards, we put the hat on display on top of a pile of books at the door of the media center with a note saying "Read Across America Day."

Nick Hopper  
Fitzgerald High School

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## Nuns vs. Librarians

A team of three librarians from Boone County (Ky.) Public Library took top honors in a spelling bee for the fourth year in a row on March 9, defeating the former champions, the Benedictine Sisters of St. Walburg Monastery in Villa Hills, Kentucky, who came out of retirement for the challenge. The annual Corporate Spelling Bee for Literacy in Northern Kentucky raised some \$15,000 that goes to promote literacy services in three counties.

BCPL Director Cindy Brown told *American Libraries* that her team only missed one word, "quenelle," which is a small seasoned ball of pounded meat. Under the spelling bee rules they were allowed to stay in for another round because the team had contributed an extra \$50 for a single, second chance. The competition went for 12 rounds, but Brown said, "The sisters went down with the word 'chimopelagic'" which refers to marine organisms that only dwell near the surface during winter. The BCPL team spelled that word correctly, then scored the win with "trinitrotoluene" (TNT).

The library and monastery teams were featured on NBC's *Today Show* on March 10 after publicity for the showdown in the *Cincinnati Post* emphasized the nuns' return after retiring as multiyear champs in 2001. "It's a great thing that something like this can make the headlines instead of death and destruction," Brown said in the March 10 *Post*.

The BCPL team consisted of Brown, Library Technology Coordinator Michelle Foster, and Youth Librarian Mary Roy. More than 20 teams competed, including competitors from Campbell County Public Library and Kenton County Public Library, the third-place winner.

More information on this story can be found at:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/nuns\\_vs\\_librarians](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/nuns_vs_librarians)

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=1703907>

Martin Savage in reporting the Nuns vs. Librarians story on NBC said this was a contest between those who believe in the good book and those that believe every book is good.



It has long been acknowledged that the library has the power to transform lives.

As part of its latest editorial initiative, *Woman's Day* magazine is collecting stories on how the library has changed reader's lives. Women readers, age 18 and over, are asked to submit their stories in 700 words or less.

Deadline: May 10, 2006.

Send stories to: [womansday@ala.org](mailto:womansday@ala.org).

More information: <http://www.ala.org/ala/pio/campaign/sponsorship/wdchangelives.htm>

## Books for Gulf Coast Libraries

### 10,000 Books... because a good story revives the spirit!

Help restock the libraries of schools devastated by Hurricane Katrina! Donate a new book for children or young adults by May 31, 2006.

A good book really CAN help revive the spirit — and so does helping others in need!

<http://www.crbsls.org/books-for-gulf-coast-libraries.html>



## Arbor Day!

Celebrate Arbor Day on April 28, 2006!

### What is Arbor Day?

Arbor Day is a nationally-celebrated observance that encourages tree planting and care.

While most states celebrate Arbor Day in April, Georgia celebrates Arbor Day on the third Friday in February.

<http://www.arboday.org/states/index.cfm?state=GA>



April 2006



**We will lead the nation in  
improving student  
achievement.**

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**<http://doe.k12.ga.us>**

Georgia Read More has inspired me and my fellow teachers. Our idea is to have 20 teachers read the Georgia Picture Book Nominees next year and record them for the morning announcements.

We will then show the videos after the morning announcements on Wednesdays and advertise them as Wonderful Wednesdays.

This will get more teachers involved in the program and will allow classes to do other things in the media center when they visit instead of just having a GA book award nominee read.

Stacy McClure  
Ellijay Elementary

Congratulations to Catherine Massey, Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher at Douglas County High School in Douglasville, and her students! Ms. Massey worked with her FCCLA members to create something similar to our Georgia Read More program. Two students, Candace Griffin and Brittney Baum, read to third graders in the after school program at Eastside Elementary. The club members plan to recruit students from their high school to let the third graders read to them.

They have named their project "Douglasville Read More," and hope that what they are doing will have a special impact on the students as well as themselves.

## Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers

Kathleen Woods

Ta Dah! The high school students of Georgia have spoken. The winning author from the 2005-2006 list of nominees for the Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers is L.A. Meyer for Bloody Jack, an adventure story about a young girl who goes to sea on a British Navy sailing ship disguised as a boy.

The honor books this year are Imani in Never Say Goodbye by Jackie Hardrick, a fast moving story about real social issues confronting high school students in an urban school, and Shattering Glass by Gail Giles, a suspense filled story that explores the mechanics of social structure and the corruption of power in a group of high school boys.

The Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers is in its third year, and a growing number of high school students across Georgia are reading books on the list and voting to select the winning authors.

The new list of nominated books for 2006-2007 is available at the Georgia Peach Book Award web site which is linked from the GLMA web site, and the Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl web site. (Or do a Google search on Georgia Peach Book Award.) The list this year includes some attention grabbing nonfiction titles, a book with a soccer theme, and a humorous detective novel.

Each year's list of nominated books is selected by a committee of four high school Media Specialists and four young adult public librarians. Information about criteria for selection of books is available on the Georgia Peach Book Award web site.

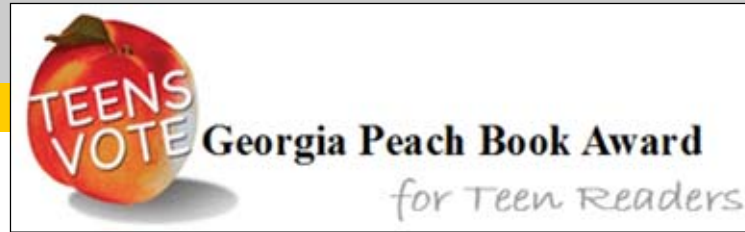
Additional information available on the web site includes ballots for student votes, a tally sheet for libraries to report their student vote totals, and suggestions for program promotion.

The Georgia Peach Book Award for Teen Readers is supported by GLMA, GLA, GAE, the Georgia Department of Education, and Georgia Public Library Service.

<http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/pandp/media/peachbookaward.htm>

The new list of nominees is on the following two pages.

April 2006



47 by Walter Mosley. Number 47, a fourteen-year-old slave boy growing up under the watchful eye of a brutal master in 1832, meets the mysterious Tall John, who introduces him to a magical science and also teaches him the meaning of freedom. SLJ, BL

Acceleration by Graham McNamee. Stuck working in the Lost and Found of the Toronto Transit Authority for the summer, seventeen-year-old Duncan finds the diary of a serial killer and sets out to stop him. SLJ, BL

The Amulet of Samarkand by Jonathan Stroud. Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace. SLJ, BL

The Burn Journals by Brent Runyon. Brent Runyon was fourteen-years-old when he set himself on fire. This is a true story. In *The Burn Journals*, Runyon describes that devastating suicide attempt and his recovery over the following year. He shares his thoughts and hopes and fears about what it means to want to kill yourself and how it feels to struggle back toward normality. SLJ

Code Talker by Joseph Bruchac. After being taught in a boarding school run by whites that Navajo is a useless language, Ned Begay and other Navajo men are recruited by the Marines to become Code Talkers, sending messages during World War II in their native tongue. SLJ, BL

A Crack in the Line by Michael Lawrence. Sixteen-year-old Alaric discovers how to travel to an alternate reality, where his mother is alive and his place in the family is held by a girl named Naia. SLJ, BL

Day of Tears by Julius Lester. When gambling debts and greed enter into the Butler household, Pierce Butler decides to host the biggest slave auction in American history and breaks a promise by selling Emma, his most-valued slave and caretaker of his children—a decision that brings about unthinkable consequences. SLJ, BL

Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin. After fifteen-year-old Liz Hall is hit by a taxi and killed, she finds herself in a place that is both like and unlike Earth, where she must adjust to her new status and figure out how to "live." SLJ, BL

The Haunting of Alaizabel Cray by Chris Wooding. As Thaniel, a wych-hunter, and Cathaline, his friend and mentor, try to rid the alleys of London's Old Quarter of the terrible creatures that infest them, their lives become entwined with that of a woman who may be either mad or possessed. SLJ, BL

Home of the Braves by David Klass. Eighteen-year-old Joe, captain of the soccer team, is dismayed when a hotshot player shows up from Brazil and threatens to take over both the team and the girl whom Joe hopes to date. SLJ

Jude by Kate Morgenroth. Still reeling from his drug-dealing father's murder, moving in with the wealthy mother he never knew, and transferring to a private school, fifteen-year-old Jude is tricked into pleading guilty to a crime he did not commit. SLJ, BL\

Looking for Alaska by John Green. Sixteen-year-old Miles' first year at Culver Creek Preparatory School in Alabama includes good friends and great pranks, but is defined by the search for answers about life and death after a fatal car crash. SLJ

Lulu Dark Can See Through Walls by Bennett Madison. When someone steals her purse and her identity, high-school junior and reluctant girl sleuth Lulu Dark investigates. SLJ, BL

Odd Thomas by Dean Koontz. Over the course of two days, Odd Thomas, his soul mate Stormy Llewellyn, and an assortment of allies make their way through a dark, terrifying world in which past and present, and life and death collide as they try to avert a cataclysm. LJ

Peaches by Jodi Lynn Anderson. Three teenaged girls from very different backgrounds, thrown together to pick peaches in a Georgia orchard, spend a summer in pursuit of the right boy, the truest of friends, and the perfect peach. SLJ, BL

Spellbound by Janet McDonald. Raven, a teenage mother and high school dropout living in a housing project, decides, with the help and sometime interference of her best friend Aisha, to study for a spelling bee which could lead to a college preparatory program and four-year scholarship. BL

Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach. Roach delves into the many productive uses to which cadavers have been put throughout history. Donating one's body to science has long been a respected practice. Those curious enough to find out what really happens to a body that is donated to the scientific community can do so with this book. SLJ, BL, LJ, PW

Tending to Grace by Kimberly Newton Fusco. When Cornelia's mother runs off with a boyfriend, leaving her with an eccentric aunt, Cornelia must finally confront the truth about herself and her mother. SLJ, BL

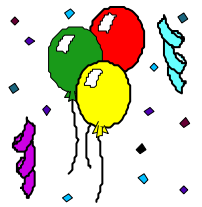
Under the Persimmon Tree by Suzanne Fisher Staples. During the 2001 Afghan War, the lives of Najmal, a young refugee from Kunduz, Afghanistan, and Nusrat, an American-Muslim teacher who is awaiting her husband's return from Mazar-i-Sharif, intersect at a school in Peshawar, Pakistan. SLJ, BL

Who Am I Without Him: Short Stories about Girls and the Boys in Their Lives by Sharon G. Flake. A collection of short stories about teenage girls and the issues they must deal with in their relationship with boys. BL



# April 2006

## GaDOE Library Media Services



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
						<b>1</b> April Fools Day!																																																																																																	
<b>2</b> Hans Christian Andersen born: 1805-1875	<b>3</b> Birthday of Washington Irving: 1783-1859 What did he write?	<b>4</b> Can you name a poem by Maya Angelou? She was born in 1928.	<b>5</b> Who is Booker T. Washington? Born in 1856 and died in 1915.	<b>6</b> When did Robert Perry and Matthew Henson reach the North Pole?	<b>7</b> William Wordsworth born: 1770-1850	<b>8</b> Hank Aaron did something exciting on this date in 1974. What was it?																																																																																																	
<b>9</b> When did Marian Anderson sing at the Lincoln Memorial?	<b>10</b> The Gift of the Magi is published: 1906 What year?	<b>11</b> Who is Jackie Robinson? Why is today significant?	<b>12</b> Beverly Cleary born: 1916 <a href="http://www.beverlycleary.com/index.html">http://www.beverlycleary.com/index.html</a>	<b>13</b> Who was the 3rd President of the United States? What color was his hair?	<b>14</b> President Lincoln shot: 1865	<b>15</b> The Titanic sinks: 1912 How many people were on board?																																																																																																	
<b>16</b> Wilbur Wright born: 1867-1912	<b>17</b> Daffy Duck debuts: 1937	<b>18</b> What happened on this date in 1775?	<b>19</b> Oklahoma City Federal Building bombed: 1995	<b>20</b> 1st detective story published: 1841 What was the story?	<b>21</b> Birthday of the author of Jane Eyre.	<b>22</b> Birthday of Henry Fielding: 1707-1754																																																																																																	
<b>23</b> The Bard was born: 1564-1616	<b>24</b> Library of Congress established: 1800 Who gave his entire collection of books to the LOC?	<b>25</b> Suez Canal construction begins: 1859 How long did it take to complete?	<b>26</b> Who is I.M. Pei? Who is Frederick Law Olmsted?	<b>27</b> Coretta Scott King's birthday: 1927-2006	<b>28</b> Lois Duncan born: 1934- How many books has she written?	<b>29</b> 1st African American college chartered: 1854																																																																																																	
<b>30</b> Element 101 was discovered on this date. What is Element 101?	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">March</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		March							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">May</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		May							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
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*Children want to do what the grownups do. Children should learn that reading is pleasure, not just something that teachers make you do in school. Beverly Cleary*