

PASCO SCENE

Book Fair To Benefit Library And Showcase Local Authors

By **MELISSA HENNEY**
Tribune correspondent

From hard-boiled tales of mystery and suspense to contemporary and historical, Marshall Frank is a publisher and author who brings personal experience to his work — and to his readers.

"I have two suspense novels that are national bestsellers. I completed my 'viral/disease' book," he said. "My 30 years in police work, including 12 years in homicide, give me an advantage in other writers in my genre, and, hopefully, lots of suspense derived from the human struggle with crime."

"My nonfiction books address stimulating topics in a very direct manner which informs the reader of new data and points of view outside the box."

Frank's newest book, a memoir titled "From Soldier To Theater," has been called "one of the best books of the year" by Florida Today. It's one of the books to sell present at The Book Fair.

Frank, 67, even planned the Sunday that will showcase Florida authors and their work.

The fair, held by the Pasco Council of the Florida Writers Association, will benefit the New Port Richey Public Library.

"It's an opportunity to market their work and find out what readers are reading, seeing, seeing, seeing," Frank said.

"And readers love book fairs and love meeting the authors, even more, and this gives them a rare opportunity to do just that."

Event organizer David Clark, president of the Pasco New Port Richey chapter of the Florida Writers Association, agrees that the fair will also benefit the writers and readers.

"It's a charitable event for the benefit of the library fund and a wonderful opportunity to meet the authors and network," she said. "I believe the fair will benefit readers who will have the opportunity not only to find great fiction and nonfiction, but to meet with the authors and discuss what inspired them to write it."

"For children, it will present a love of reading from the children on up. It's good for the writers to meet with their critics. They are the ones we write for. Many a good idea is born in just such a function."

The fair, Clark said, will include works representing a variety of genres, ranging from children's books to Christian meditation, to mystery, suspense, to personal memoirs to suspense.

Aside from Frank, participating authors include D'Sa's Sengupta, children's author D.H. Gray, paranormal romance suspense writer Susan Haley, winner of the 2002 Delta Award for her novel version of "Risky Day People"; Susan Harris, award-winning author of the suspense novel



Photo from Marshall Frank
Author Marshall Frank will be at the Friends of the New Port Richey Public Library book fair to talk about his latest book.

THE BOOK FAIR

SOME BACKGROUND: The Book Fair, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday at the New Port Richey Public Library, 3000 South St., New Port Richey, will showcase the published work of Florida authors.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS: In order to participate in the fair, each author will be asked to donate \$5 to the Friends of the New Port Richey Public Library.

A LITTLE HISTORY: This marks the first time the Pasco Council, New Port Richey chapter of the Florida Writers Association has hosted a book fair. Frank, author and featured book fair author Marshall Frank describes the association as "a statewide organization that provides a variety of resources for writers, editors, agents and publishers to interact and help one another."

GET INVOLVED: For information about the Book Fair, contact organizer David Clark at 352-944-6400.



Award-winning thriller writer John M. Taylor will participate in the book fair at the library.

"Condemned," award-winning thriller writer John M. Taylor, has written "The Third Brother" and "Condemned" (published by HarperCollins). "Condemned" is a suspense novel by author Linda White-Francis.

"For me getting to do a book signing is an extreme privilege because it is a wonderful opportunity to talk to people who love to read," said White-Francis, a fiction writer whose stories appear in the anthology "Shadows: Fiction Stories, Journeys of the Heart," "Secret Whispers of the Distant" and "Seven Challenges."

"The greatest pleasure as a writer is in introducing my work to a reader who loves the narrative genre and can't wait to read my love story."

White, a longtime Gryffindor student and current education, agrees she will offer her newly published book, "Tapestry — Septentennial, an Anthology of Its History Through Education," at the book fair.

"The fair organized by David Clark is an opportunity to showcase Florida authors to readers and enjoy perspective from us too," White said. "Authors are often introverted and look at life through many lenses. Their characters or plot's unique points, so I also support the opportunity to share our life sources of reads and ourselves in writing with each other will be a tremendous opportunity for the authors as well," she said.

At the book fair, each author will have 15 minutes to speak about his or her book or to read a portion.

She at this event, David Clark, president of the Pasco New Port Richey Public Library, will be present to receive donation checks to the New Port Richey Library fund. A gift to the library fund also will be presented.

"The Pasco Branch has done so much already for the New Port Richey Library and for our entire community," said Amy Stone, current and current director of the New Port Richey Public Library. "Not only do they continually fund Florida authors as well as an annual writers' conference and book projects like the upcoming author's fair here, but they also give generously to the library's volunteer organization that aids and promotes the New Library. So, not only is it great fun to collaborate with a group as strong and organized as Amy, Paula, and the library staff, it's also fun to have our association with this top-notch group."



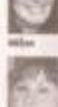
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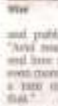
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