‘Eden Rise’ tackles civil rights conflict

Acclaimed historian turns his talents to fiction

Hazel Green native Robert J. Norrell has received much acclaim for his historical works. *Up from History: the Life of Booker T. Washington* was met with national praise when it was published in 2009. *Reaping the Whirlwind: The Civil Rights Movement in Tuskegee* won the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award in 1986.

Now Norrell has turned his talents to fiction. He will talk about his first novel, *Eden Rise*, on Sunday, April 14, at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the Main Library, 915 Monroe St. Admission is free. Books will be available for sale and signing.

Norrell’s protagonist, Tom McKee, is a white college freshman who becomes embroiled in private and public racial conflicts when he returns to his Alabama Black Belt home in the racially charged summer of 1965.

George Singleton, author of *The Half-Mammals of Dixie*, calls *Eden Rise* “one of the best Civil Rights-era novels I’ve read since Lewis Nordan’s *Wolf Whistle*,” and says, “Norrell has summoned the exemplary storytelling voices of both Harper Lee and John Grisham.” Allen Wier, author of *Tehano*, cites Norrell’s “keen sense of place and the nuances of character” and calls the novel “realistic and haunting.”

For details, contact Sophie Young at syoung@hmcpl.org or 256-532-2362.

Meet the Author: Robert J. Norrell

April 14

2 p.m.

Main Library auditorium
Dr. Susan Kirkpatrick Smith, former Huntsville resident and Grissom High School graduate, is associate professor of anthropology at Kennesaw State University. She began research in Greece in the 1990s, studying ancient skeletons from a cemetery at the foot of the Acropolis in Athens. Since 2006 she has returned to Greece each summer to continue her research. She has conducted her own forensic experiments, often using bones from the butcher shop.

On March 24 Dr. Smith will present the final FOL Forum for 2013, STORIES BONES TELL, at 2 p.m. in the Main Library auditorium. She says that forensic anthropology gets all the glory. From the television show “Bones,” to the Jefferson Bass novels about the Body Farm at the University of Tennessee, forensics is where the glamour is! But where do the TV writers and the authors get their information? They turn to archaeologists and anthropologists who have engaged in years of research on skeletons from archaeological digs – research that unfolds life in the distant past and solves crimes in the present. Of interest, Susan is the daughter of Barbara Kirkpatrick, a faithful Friend for many years. (Remember the forums are free; refreshments are served.)
Library Literacy Guild gets busy
New group supports reading by donating books to kids through Manna House

Manna House puts food in the stomachs of local underprivileged students. The Library Literacy Guild has teamed up with Manna House to put new books in the children's hands to feed their minds.

The Guild was founded in November 2012 to support the Huntsville Library Foundation. The goal of the Guild is to promote literacy through the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library system.

“Our first project has been to place age-appropriate books and local branch information into backpacks of students receiving food for the weekend,” said Amy Gandy, Foundation development director.

“Working through Manna House, we identified seven schools that we will be working through to distribute books and library information. It is our goal to put books in backpacks at least four times this year.”

The Guild has raised more than $10,000 through generous donations of charter members and a grant from Wal-Mart. These funds purchased more than 2,500 books for distribution within our community.

Charter members of the Guild are Susan Anderson, Kathy Chan, Kay Eastin, Amy Gandy, Kim Johnson, Carol Jones, Elizabeth Jones, Sarah Lauren Kattos, Liz Laney, Rosemary Lee, Jean Salter, Cheryl Shultz, Ruchi Singhal, Sangeeta Singhal, Christina Tabereaux, Marcie Wingo, Allen Young, 4Site, Inc., and the Junior League of Huntsville. For more information, contact Amy at agandy@hmcpl.org or 256-532-5954, or Kim at kimfjohnson@comcast.net or 256-682-6824.

Rick Bragg returns to Huntsville for Vive le Livre

A popular Alabama author will headline the 2013 edition of Vive le Livre, the Huntsville Library Foundation’s popular annual fundraiser. Pulitzer Prize winner Rick Bragg is the guest speaker for the event, which will be held on Thursday, September 12.

Rick is the author of three best-selling memoirs about his family and the working class people of the Appalachian foothills: All Over But the Shoutin', Ava's Man and The Prince of Frogtown. A native of Calhoun County, he worked at several newspapers before joining The New York Times in 1994. He currently teaches journalism at the University of Alabama and is working on a biography of Jerry Lee Lewis. He lives in Tuscaloosa with his wife and stepson.

Good food, fun, information set to boost Monrovia

The Friends of the Library group at the Monrovia Public Library has planned three fundraising events that offer good food, a fun way to exercise, and valuable information that could save your life.

Dine at Texas Roadhouse, 121 Jeff Road, on Tuesday, March 5, between 4 and 10 p.m., and 10 percent of the cost of your meal will be donated to the library. Stop by the library to pick up the flyer you must present.

National Weather Service representatives will share weather preparedness information at the Monrovia Library on Thursday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m. FOL will give away an “Everything About Weather” basket that includes a weather radio, flashlight, rain jacket and dozens more weather-related items. Tickets to win the basket are on sale now for $1 each at the Monrovia Circulation desk. All money raised goes to the Monrovia Library Building Fund to help build a children’s addition to the library.

Friends members are planning the inaugural Monrovia Library Walk-A-Thon for early May in Phillips Park, located next to the Monrovia Library. You'll be able to help the library meet its growth goals as you pursue your health goals.

For details on these events, contact Cindy Hewitt at 256-489-3392 or chewitt@hmcpl.org.
Small Business Lunch & Learn:
Smart Landscaping
March 4, noon
Main Library
Diane Hansen, Master Gardeners of North Alabama, will discuss how to use the Internet to find good info.

How to Do Things:
AL.com for Seniors
March 12, 10-11 a.m.
Main Library
Learn how to get free local news online. Bring your own laptop, smartphone or tablet if you have one.

How to Do Things: Introduction to Weaving Bands on the Inkle Loom
March 12, 6:30-8 p.m.
Main Library
Crystal Kitchens of Huntsville Fiber Guild leads class for ages 14 and up. Registration required, 256-532-2362.

How to Do Things: Filing Your Taxes
March 19, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m.
Main Library
Tax adviser Tom DeLong discusses changes in the tax code, IRAs, declaring dependents and more.

Seminar: Understanding Diabetes
March 21, 2 p.m.
Bessie K. Russell Library
Nutritionist Victor Owens discusses risk factors, signs and symptoms.

Studio Night: Recycled Book Arts
March 21, 6 p.m.
Bailey Cove Library
There will be at least three different crafts to make and take. Sign up in advance at 256-881-0257.

Introduction to Braiding Rugs
March 22, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Madison Library
Learn how to prepare fabric strips, braid the strips and lace the braids into round and oval rugs. Fee is $5. Sign up at 256-461-0046.

Hertha Heller Forum:
“Stories Bones Tell: From Forensics to the Greek Islands”
March 24, 2 p.m.
Main Library
Dr. Susan K. Smith, associate professor of anthropology at Kennesaw State University, talks about her research and forensic experiments.

Health Forum: Colorectal Cancer
March 26, 11 a.m. to noon
Main Library
Amy George of Clearview Cancer Institute talks about symptoms, treatment and prevention.

How to Do Things: Bollywood Dancing
March 26, 6:30-8 p.m.
Main Library
Richa Singh shows how to dance like a Mumbai film star. Details at 256-532-2362.

Laptop Learners Computer Classes: Skype
April 1, 10 a.m.
Eleanor E. Murphy Library
Sign up at 256-881-5620.

Small Business Lunch & Learn:
Using WordPress
April 1, noon
Main Library
Justin Givens of Image in a Box discusses how to use WordPress, one of the most powerful website platforms, to take control of your website needs.
Professional Training Resources
The Reference department hosts monthly professional development workshops for entrepreneurs, nonprofits and writers. Admission is free, and no registration is required. Bring a sack lunch; drinks will be provided. For more details, contact Tina O’Driscoll, 256-532-5972 or todriscoll@hmcpl.org, or visit hmcpl.org/reference.

Laptop Learners Computer Classes:
Excel 1
April 8, 10 a.m.
Eleanor E. Murphy Library
Sign up at 256-881-5620.

Write Right Lunch & Learn:
Journaling
April 9, noon
Main Library
Angela Walker explores the types of journals, writing techniques and benefits of journaling.

How to Do Things: Introduction to Spinning on a Drop spindle
April 9, 6:30-8 p.m.
Main Library
Melissa Lehman of Huntsville Fiber Guild shows how to spin yarn. Supplies provided. No experience required. Details at 256-532-2362.

Studio Night: Painting with Sherlock!
April 18, 6 p.m.
Bailey Cove Library
Design and make your own Sherlock Holmes-inspired painting. Supplies provided. No fee; donations appreciated. Sign up at 256-881-0257.

Health Forum: Parkinson's Disease
April 23, 11 a.m. to noon
Main Library
Kandess Anderson, CRNP, discusses symptoms, treatment and research.

Nutritious Meals on a Budget
April 25, 2 p.m.
Bessie K. Russell Library
Nutritionist Victor Owens tells how to shop smart.

Weave a Melon/Egg Basket
April 26, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Madison Library
Learn how to handle reed, make a god’s eye and shape a ribbed basket. Fee is $14. Sign up at 256-461-0046.

HMCP L Puppet Troupe
April 27, time TBA
Panoply, Big Spring Park
Don’t miss your chance to see our summer reading promotional show, Dig Into Reading: Dinosaur Extravaganza!

FRIENDS EVENTS
Upcoming events for the Friends network.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY NEEDS YOU!
JOIN NOW. IT’S EASY!

Use the membership form below and mail it to the address at the bottom.

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Address: _______________________

NEW ☐ RENEWAL ☐
☐ Senior/ Student $15
☐ Individual $20
☐ Family $25
☐ Good Friend $50
☐ Best Friend $100
☐ As a member, I'd like to volunteer in the bookstore.

Phone: _________________________

Please make checks payable to FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY, and mail to:

Friends of the Library
P. O. Box 443
Huntsville, AL 35804
Out on a branch: Showers Center Library

Storytelling times and learning games add fun to afternoon homework sessions

Showers Center Public Library manager Lillie Cawthron (pictured at right) and fellow librarian Debra Humphrey are experts at reading stories to young listeners. But sometimes one of those little listeners has so much energy that he’s asked to read the story to the group. Whether reading or listening, the kids are learning, and they’re having fun.

Located in the Richard Showers Recreation Center, 4600 Blue Spring Road, the library is a popular gathering place for all ages in the community. Stop by any afternoon after school, and you’ll see kids working on their homework, reading, or playing games that challenge their minds and promote cooperation. Stop by anytime, and you’re likely to see adults at the computers, perhaps working on their résumés or applying for a job.

Upcoming events at the Showers Library include a Crane Book Sale the week of March 5-12 during regular library hours. Crane Books will set up shop in the library and offer patrons a good way to build their personal libraries.

The Showers Friends of the Library group is only a couple of years old, but its members are active and enthusiastic about promoting their library. The Friends will sponsor the third annual Walk-A-Thon fundraiser on Saturday, April 13, starting at 8 a.m. on the Showers Center grounds. It’s a good way to get some exercise while helping the library to share its love with the community. The exercise will be particularly beneficial in light of another popular ongoing Showers Friends fundraiser: Krispy Kreme doughnut coupons. For more details, contact Lillie at lcawthron@hmcl.org or 256-851-7492.

Community Read 2013: Sherlock Holmes

It’s been more than a hundred years since Sir Arthur Conan Doyle introduced master detective Sherlock Holmes to an eager reading world. As the recent Robert Downey Jr. movies, the British TV series “Sherlock” and the American series “Elementary” show, Holmes is more popular than ever.

HMCPL jumps on the Holmes bandwagon with Community Read 2013: The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes. Join us throughout the month of April as we reconnect with Conan Doyle’s original hero through a series of lectures, movies, games and craft programs for all ages. Find a full schedule of events at hmcl.org.

Women usually play minor roles in Holmes’ world – with one major exception, Irene Adler in “A Scandal in Bohemia.” Lee Shackleford, assistant professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and author of the play Holmes & Watson, will focus on “Uncovering Irene Adler,” on Saturday, April 6, at 7 p.m. at the Main Library. Shackleford is a writer for stage, screen, and radio with more than 150 produced scripts to his credit.

Local novelist Stephanie Osborn will talk about her Displaced Detective series, a time-travel take on Holmes, on Saturday, April 27, at 3 p.m. at the Bailey Cove Public Library. On Sunday, April 28, at 4 p.m. at the Main Library, she will discuss the research that went into her novels, everything from the cutting-edge science of M theory to what the well-dressed Victorian gentleman wore.

Library WishList helps make dreams come true

Librarians help people in all areas of our community pursue their dreams every day. You can help boost our offerings in the areas of education, entertainment, economic development and more by participating in the Library WishList program: http://www.librarywishlist.com/wl/WishList_Home.cfm?x=89769530.

Just choose an item you’d like to sponsor, make a contribution and soon you’ll see it in use in your library. Our dream is to make your library an even better place for you and your children, and everyone else who visits.
In Memory:

Donations to the Library & Special Thanks

Lillie Alderman by Rebekah Frank
Gloria Allen by Anita Bean
Elizabeth Atwood by Anita Bean
Ted Brostrom by Mr. and Mrs. George Royer
Ted Brostrom by John and Barbara Kirkpatrick
Ted Brostrom by Anna Sherwood
Ted Brostrom by Shirley and Dick Miller
Ted Brostrom by Sally Howard and Ancel Sherrard
Ted Brostrom by Erica Wiesman
Ima Buckelew by Beth Buckelew
Cornelia Butler by John Ed Butler
Thomas Cotton by Sue, Brian and Julie Hogan
Melba Davis by Theresa Taylor
James “Pat” Gardner by Norm and Marilyn Walker
Mr. Bill Heidish by Virgil and Gerry Schaffer
William Heidish by Mr. and Mrs. Sam J. Tumminello, III
William Heidish by Brian and Aggie Patz and Children
William Heidish by Carol J. Daily
William Heidish by Peggy A. King
William Heidish by Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority
Larry Johnson by Robert and Mary Spencer
William Whaley Jones and Joseph Paul Jones by The Teel and Smith Families
Kaleb Maxwell Jordan by Brenda and Danny Jordan
Robert C. Martin by W. Jackson and Pamela Faircloth
Robert C. Martin by Betty and Lan Richardson
Robert C. Martin by Friends at the David J. Sencer CDC Museum
Robert C. Martin by Wesley Sunday School Class, Latham United Methodist Church
Robert C. Martin by Fred and Jo Wojtalik
Robert C. Martin by Jan and Greg Smith
Robert C. Martin by William and Susan Barton
Robert C. Martin by Betty and Roy Willis
Robert C. Martin by Virginia H. Cook
Robert C. Martin by Catherine and George Abraham
Robert C. Martin by Mr. and Mrs. Dorothy Mapes
Robert C. Martin by Bill Carnes
Robert C. Martin by Ernest and June Young
Robert C. Martin by Mr. and Mrs. Billy Martin
Robert C. Martin by Blanche C. Sloan
Robert C. Martin by The Huntsville Hearing Aid Center
Robert C. Martin by Gerald Bennett
Benjamin Matthews, III by Lakshmi and Ramu Nallamala
Mildred Smoot McCall by Robert L. McCall
Mr. Joe Milberger by The Cesura Book Club
Ralph Murphy by John and Jency McCoy
Kirk E. Paradise by Jared Cassidy
Mr. Ronald Pidgeon by Kathy Lockridge
Shirley Harks Porter by Twickenham Town Chapter DAR
Col. (Ret.) Ivan R. Prince by Mary Walton and Robert Dudley
Kelly Rich by Pediatric Gastroenterology Associates
Mary Bridget Sammon by H.E. Francis

Carol Ann Samples by Genie and Bob Miller
Victims of Sandy Hook Elementary School by Beck McDowell
Victims of Sandy Hook Elementary School by Martha Brigman
Robert Schuffert by The Huntsville Photographic Society
David N. Sington by Genie and Bob Miller Miller
David Sington by George and Lou Larson
Dr. Charles L. Smith by Genie and Bob Miller
Jakob Smith by Pediatric Gastroenterology Associates
Cynthia Snow by Bill and Bonnie Jones
Dorothy Thrasher by Genie and Bob Miller
Margery Hinshaw Walton by Twickenham Town Chapter DAR
Marguerite Watson by Bill Nunn
Marguerite Watson by Helen Middleton
Marguerite Watson by Merrie DePierre
Marguerite Watson by Jean and Norman Bradley
Marguerite Watson by Frank and Barbara Chappell
Marguerite Watson by Mr. and Mrs. James H. Daughtrey
Marguerite Watson by Mary Ann and Salvador Arias
Marguerite Watson by Diane and Marc Smith
Marguerite Watson by Janice Colvard
Marguerite Watson by John Watson
Marguerite Watson by Special Technology Group

In Honor:

Leola Harden by Phoebe Burns
The Physicians of the Heart Center Inc. by Dr. Joshua Krasnow
John and Kim Johnson by Bryan and Ann Laue
Amy McBride King by Jane A. McBride
Mary Lee and Lee Prout by Freya and Loch Neely
Jane Williams by Freya and Loch Neely

General Gifts:

Lois Ray Alcott *** William Barksdale *** Hester Bass
Neva Beasley *** Alexander Black *** Mrs. Kay O. Cornelius
J. M. Duke *** Mr. Frank W. Du Vall
Robert and Carol Churchill *** The Evening Literature Group
Linda Alcott Maples *** Harold Pastrick *** Micayla Sparkman
Audrey Sullivan *** The Twickenham Study Club
R.J. Young