



***The Lost Treasure of Lincoln County* author coming to the Jonas Branch of the Lincoln County Library in July for Summer Reading Program**

Nancy Sifford Alana, author of *The Lost Treasure of Lincoln County*, will be at the Jonas Branch of the Lincoln County Library for a presentation and book signing on Wednesday, July 11, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. *The Lost Treasure of Lincoln County: A Great American Adventure* will keep elementary children on the edge of their seats and teach them about pride in America all at the same time.

In this historical fiction, two boys venture out on a thrilling hunt for a treasure buried over a hundred years ago in Lincoln County. Jonas and Dale are ten years old and live across the street from each other. They also happen to be best friends and spend lots of time outdoors, exploring all around their neighborhood and enjoying the simplicity of a small town in the summer of 1958.

While playing around a nearby creek, Jonas and Dale discover an old box buried in the mud of the creek bank. Inside the box, the boys discover an old photo with the name “Sifford” written on the back and the date 1840 and a yellowed sheet of paper with what appears to be a treasure map drawn on it. With the help of the local historian, Mr. Harry Sifford, the boys find more than just a buried treasure. They learn about local history and develop a pride in America that continues with them as they grow into young men.

The boys learn about the Lincolnton Flood of 1916, the Battle at Ramsour’s Mill, and the life of early settlers to America and Lincoln County. They also discover that Lincoln County was named after Gen. Benjamin Lincoln and about the gold coin mint in Charlotte.

The theme of American pride is woven throughout the novel as the boys learn about Jonas’ grandfather who was in World War II and about the pride the early settlers had as they helped to shape America into the United States.

The 4th of July parades in Lincolnton are also included as a major community event showing how Lincolnton celebrates America.

The author, **Nancy Sifford Alana**, is a descendant of John Sifford who settled in Lincoln County in the early 1800s. She is a retired teacher and principal who resides in Granbury, Texas. She visited Lincolnton in 1989 to learn about the area in which her ancestors once lived. She met Rev. Clarence Sifford, a distant cousin, on her visit. He showed Alana and her family around Lincoln County. Little did she know that years later she would be writing a book set in Lincoln County.

Nancy Sifford Alana is passionate about teaching an appreciation for the greatness of America to children. She has been visiting schools in Texas and speaking with students about her book. "Lincolnton may be far from Texas," she said, "but the students I have spoken to are well aware of its location after reading the book." Alana continued, "Their letters have told me they enjoyed reading the book and learning about the great adventures Jonas and Dale had in Lincolnton. The students realize that information about our history and ancestors can be just as valuable as the gold coins found in the buried treasure chest."

Alana will be available to sign copies of her book on July 11 from 4:00 -6:00 p.m. Books can be purchased for \$15 at the library on the day of her visit. The library is located at 306 W. Main St in Lincolnton.

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