



Right in Our Own Backyard

LOCAL FLAIR AT THE BOOK FESTIVAL

BY DANA SPECTOR
ASSISTANT EDITOR

This year's book festival is all about the lucky number seven. Seven local authors will present their seven respective books at the MJCCA's Book Festival Nov. 2 - Nov. 17.

First, see Jeffrey Stepakoff at noon Nov. 4 discussing his new book, "The Melody of Secrets." Stepakoff, an Atlanta native, received a BA in Journalism from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "The Melody of Secrets" invites readers to meet young Maria and James Cooper as they grow together through time and navigate the challenges of evolving relationship.

Presently, he speaks around the country, teaches dramatic writing at Kennesaw State University, and is

hard at work on his fourth novel for St. Martin's Press.

Second, Clark Howard, popular consumer expert and host of the nationally syndicated Clark Howard Show will join the Book Festival at 8:15 p.m., Nov. 6. He is well known for advising consumers on ways to save more, spend less, and prepare their finances for the future. In that same vein, he has authored several books on consumer tips and bargains.

His financial advice books have made top 15 on the New York Times Best Seller lists. Now he will speak directly to us about his most recent book "Living Large for the Long Haul."

Third, Clifford Graubert, Atlan-

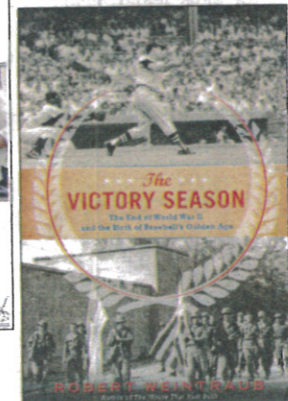
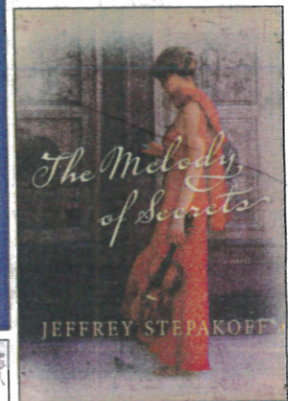
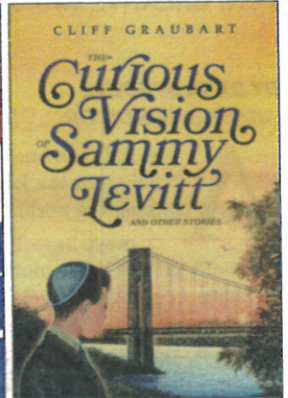
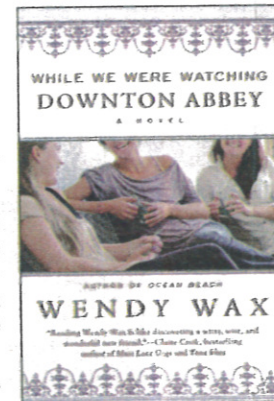
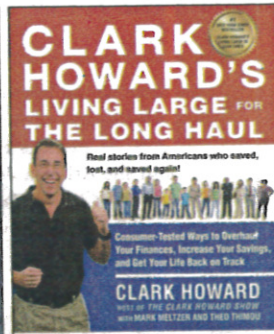
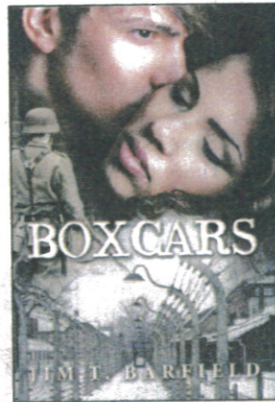
ta's literary mogul and author of "The Curious Vision of Sammy Levitt and Other Stories" will grace us with his presence on Thurs., Nov. 7 at 10:30 a.m. His efforts developed Atlanta's literary culture, a bibliophile's dream.

Fourth, meet Wendy Wax author of "While We Were Watching Downton Abbey," Sat., Nov. 9 at 9 p.m. Wax's stories are a must-read for Downton Abbey fans. You should meet the woman herself!

Fifth, is lawyer Jim Barfield. In addition to practicing law out of the oldest commercial building in Fulton County, Barfield has a great passion for music. He is a published folksinger and songwriter who occasionally performs at bar functions, seminars, conventions and private gatherings.

He will present his latest book "Boxcars" Sun., Nov. 10 at 4:30 p.m. as part of the Southern Writer's Showcase.

Also in the showcase is Lee N. Katz. His first book, "How Not to Hire A Guy Like ME: Lessons Learned from CEOs' Mistakes," is filled with poignant wisdom, hilarious stories and business advice from a guy who's seen it all.



Finally don't miss Decatur native Robert Weintraub's "The Victory Season: World War II, the Homecoming, and the Birth of Baseball's Golden Age." Weintraub brings the little-known tales of ballplayers at war to light. See him and other authors in The Big Leagues series Sun., Nov. 17 at 4:30 p.m.

All these authors and more next month at the MJCCA's Book Festival! See you there!