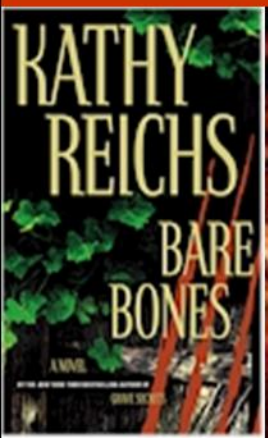
Columbia County Reads Together

GEORGIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

KATHY REICHS LIVE!

Saturday, April 18, 2009 at 7:00 PM
Jabez S. Hardin Performing Arts Theatre
Evans, GA
(Doors will open at 6:30 PM)
Book Selections Are:

Bare Bones
Break No Bones



Reading and
Growing Together
In Columbia County,
Georgia

Look inside for more dates and activities!

About the Program

Columbia County Reads Together is in its third year! This program attempts to bring the entire community together through discussion of book selections with a unifying theme. This year's author, Kathy Reichs, is a Forensic Anthropologist whose Temperance Brennan novels reflect her work in crime scene investigation. The selection committee has chosen two of Dr. Reich's eleven novels to focus discussions on: *Bare Bones* and *Break No Bones*. Children's selections focus on bones related to archaeology and the teen selections focus on Poe's short stories involving murder mystery.

Come on Columbia County, Join the Discussion!

How to Find Out More

Columbia County Reads Together Blog
columbiacountyreads together.blogspot.com

Columbia County Library Online
www.columbiacountyga.gov/Index.aspx?page=2434

www.myspace.com/columbiacountylibrary

Kathy Reichs Online
www.kathyreichs.com/

Phone the Columbia County Library, Reference Desk
706-863-1946

How to Participate

Bare Bones
Book Discussions
February 10, 6:30 PM
Euchee Creek Library
AND
February 19, 11:30 AM
Columbia County Library

Break No Bones
Book Discussions
March 16, 6:30 PM
Columbia County Library
AND
March 24, 6:00 PM
Harlem Library

Teen Discussion on Poe's
Murders in the Rue Morgue
The Purloined Letter
March 19, 6:30 PM
Columbia County Library

"Digging up Bones"
Children's Story Time
April 14, 9:30 AM
Harlem Library

April 15, 10:30 AM
Euchee Creek Library

April 18, 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM Booktalk
Columbia County Library

Join Us...

For an Evening of Food, Discussion and Book Signing with Kathy Reichs

April 18, 7 PM

(doors open at 6:30)

Jabez S. Hardin Performing Arts Center
7022 Evans Town Center Blvd.
Evans, GA 30809

About the Books

(From the Paperbacks)

Bare Bones

"Down time" is not a phrase in Tempe Brennan's vocabulary. A String of disturbing cases has put her vacation plans on hold; instead, she heads to the lab to analyze charred remains from a suspicious fire, and a mysterious black residue from a small-plane crash. But most troubling of all are the bones....Tempe's daughter's new boyfriend invites them to a picnic—a pig pickin'—in the North Carolina countryside, where a cache of bones turns up. But are they animal or human? X-rays and DNA may link the crimes, but they can't reveal who is closing in on Tempe and her daughter—and how far they will go to keep her from uncovering the truth.

Break No Bones

Among the ancient remains in a Native American burial ground, Tempe discovers a fresh skeleton—and what began as an ordinary teaching stint at an archeology field school in Charleston, South Carolina, fast becomes a heated investigation into an alarming pattern of homicides. The clues hidden in the bones lead to a street clinic where a monstrous discovery awaits, and Tempe—whose personal life is in upheaval, with two men competing for her—can't afford any distractions as she pieces together a shattering and terrifying puzzle.

About the Author

Kathy Reichs's first novel *Déjà Dead* catapulted her to fame when it became a *New York Times* bestseller and won the 1997 Ellis Award for Best First Novel. Her other Temperance Brennan novels include *Death du Jour, Deadly Décisions, Fatal Voyage, Grave Secrets, Bare Bones, Monday Mourning, Cross Bones, Break No Bones, Bones to Ashes, and Devil Bones* (August 28, 2008).

From teaching FBI agents how to detect and recover human remains, to separating and identifying commingled body parts in her Montreal lab, as a forensic anthropologist Kathy Reichs has brought her own dramatic work experience to her mesmerizing forensic thrillers. For years she consulted to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner in North Carolina, and continues to do so for the Laboratoire de Sciences Judiciaires et de Médecine Légale for the province of Québec. Dr. Reichs has traveled to Rwanda to testify at the UN Tribunal on Genocide, and helped exhume a mass grave in Guatemala. As part of her work at JPAC (formerly CILHI) she aided in the identification of war dead from World War II, Korea, and Southeast.

Dr. Reichs is one of only seventy-seven forensic anthropologists ever certified by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology. She served on the Board of Directors and as Vice President of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, and is currently a member of the National Police Services Advisory Board in Canada. She is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte.

Dr. Reichs is a native of Chicago, where she received her Ph.D. at Northwestern. She now divides her time between Charlotte, NC and Montreal, Quebec.

Questions for Discussion

1. As a forensic anthropologist, Reichs' knowledge adds authenticity to the scientific detail in her novels. How did the scientific detail impact your reading? Is the language too graphic, complicated, or plot hindering?
2. Drug and animal trafficking are central to the plot in *Bare Bones* just as human organ trafficking is central to the plot in *Break No Bones*. What are your feelings on these subjects? Is one crime more heinous than the others?
3. Reichs is astute at rapid-fire dialog. How does this technique move the plot along and engage the reader?
4. How does Tempe Brennan's relationships with her daughter, Katie; her colleague/love-interest, Ryan; and her estranged husband, Pete add dimension and believability to her character?
5. Do you feel Reichs focuses more on plot development or character development?
6. Tempe's involvement is often met with resistance from local authorities who may or may not have the requisite medical knowledge such as she has. Do you think this conflict is realistic? On the flip, her initial reaction to Winborne, the journalist, is one of disdain. Is her initial description of and reaction to him justified? Does he eventually redeem himself?
7. In *Break No Bones*, Tempe's friend, Emma, is sick and eventually dies. Are her reactions to her friend's illness typical for a person so familiar with death?
8. What are you thoughts on Tempe's romantic interests? Which relationship is the most important to her and can you explain or justify her indecisiveness?
9. Reichs' characters use colorful and inventive terminology and her novels are peppered with such phrases as, "Throw some steaks on the Barbie and crack out the beer," or " I clicked on the roof light in my Mazda, dug my mobile from my pack, and checked for a signal." Is there a purpose to Riechs' particular choice of words or phrasing?
10. With eleven successfully published and well-read novels, how much shelf-life does Tempe Brennan still have? Is the media market oversaturated with CSI-related media?

Submit your own questions for discussion at
columbiacountyreadstogether.blogspot.com