




Local author's new book explores murder, history



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Journalist, anchor, teacher and new author George Bauer is putting all of his career titles to use in *The End of Paradise*.

In the book, Bauer brings to the surface the true story of a 1996 slaying of a 17-year-old Canadian girl while on vacation on the Atlantic islands of Bermuda. Many people are unaware of this murder because of Bermuda's desire to keep its reputation as "paradise."

Bauer found himself being inspired to write this story because he and his wife visit Bermuda every year.

"It's a beautiful place. We were actually there the year this tragic event happened," he said. "It was a traumatic event— a summer in paradise that ends tragic. It was hard for Bermuda because it markets itself as a paradise with no crime — and then this happens."

A veteran journalist, Bauer felt the story needed to be told in novel form.

He said, "As a journalist, I like telling stories and many people don't know this story. I've spent 30 years as a journalist and keep telling these stories — and stepped away to tell it in a different way. It's nice to be able to write it in different angles to tell the story."

While writing *The End of Paradise*, Bauer felt compelled to convey a deeper message to readers.

The book is about a teenage Canadian girl going on vacation of a lifetime. It quickly turns into a nightmare, however, as she was abducted and murdered.

"I discovered that women are still victims even in a place seen as a paradise. It's a message to educate women on the dangers that are out there," said Bauer.

Bauer is putting the finishing touches on a historical novel based on one of the worst and most deadly wildfires in a lumber town in northern Wisconsin. Peshtigo takes readers on a journey back to 1971 when more than 1,000 people died during the wildfire.

After being based in Atlanta for many years, Bauer and his wife moved to Thomasville in January.

"I'm happy to be here. It's a nice little town in the midst of farmland, and it's interesting to see business being conducted here. Thomasville has a soft spot in my heart," said Brauer. "I've lived in big cities and now a small town — very nice for a change."

Bauer has worked as a project producer and writer at The Weather Channel; editor, writer, reporters, producer and CNN.com contributor at Cable News Network (CNN); creator and host of "The Seasoned Traveler," national and foreign news editor and anchor at Christian Science Monitor; field producer of "The Osgood File" at CBS News; news editor and reporter with the Associated Press Radio in Washington, D.C.; producer, radio and television news at British Broadcasting Corporation in London, UK.; news reporter and anchor at National Public Radio, Washington, D.C.; along with anchoring for various PBS and NPR television and radio stations.

His accolades include receiving the Peabody award for his CNN team's coverage of the gulf oil spill in 2011; Peabody team award for CNN coverage of the 2008 election; Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) finalist for "Money and Politics" series in 1997; Sigma Delta Chi Award for Investigative Journalism - "Money and Politics" in 1996; Ohio State Award for "Cities that Work" series in 1994; and Corporation for Public Broadcasting Award with a Rocky Mountain Emmy in 1994.

Bauer has taught college classes at Thomas University as a public speaking instructor and Southwest Georgia Technical College, where he taught English Composition and Rhetoric classes.

The End of Paradise is available on Amazon and at the Bookshelf.

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