

## Roswell Reads Rick Bragg

Roswell Reads has an unprecedented announcement for 2019. The Steering Committee has chosen the entire collection of work by one classic Southern author: Rick Bragg. We invite community and neighborhood book clubs to join “Roswell Reads Rick Bragg” by choosing one of his works, from his classic *All Over*

*But the Shoutin’* to his most recent *The Best Cook in the World: Tales from My Momma’s Table*. Details will be coming soon about the Literary Luncheon, Writing Workshop, Community Event, Book Discussion and Children’s/Family programming. You won’t want to miss meeting this iconic author! Register here:

<http://roswellreads2019.eventbrite.com>

### About the Author

Rick Bragg (1959- ) is a noted journalist and writer who won the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 1996 for his coverage of the Oklahoma City bombing for the *New York Times*. His most lasting contributions, however, are likely his family stories. Initially, Bragg believed his family stories would be important only to himself and his immediate family, but they have garnered wide appeal among people who see

themselves and their own families reflected in the characters and settings.

Rick Bragg was born in Piedmont, Alabama and grew up in and around Possum Trot, near the Jacksonville (AL) area. His father, a Korean War veteran, was largely absent from the household and died in 1974. His mother supported the family by picking cotton, taking in laundry, and cleaning houses in the area; she allegedly denied herself a new dress for 18 years to provide for her family. His relatives were also very involved in his young life, and greatly influenced his personal and emotional development.

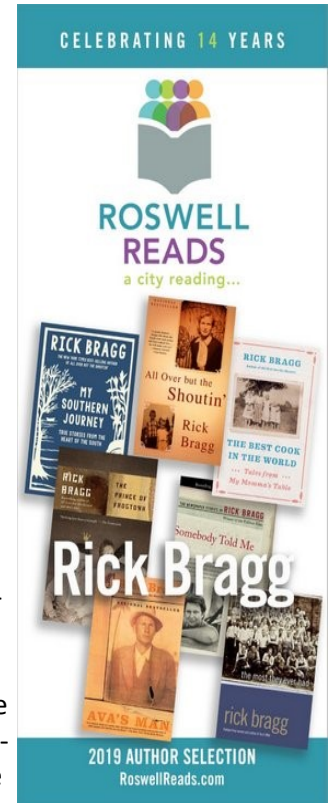
After graduating from Jacksonville High School in 1977, Bragg took a job and attended night courses for six months at Jacksonville State University. In 1980 he was hired as a reporter for the *Anniston Star* and from 1986 to 1989, he worked as a reporter at the *Birmingham News*. He left in 1989 to work for the *St.*

*Petersburg Times* as a correspondent. His assignments during those years included coverage of Hurricane Andrew, the political and socioeconomic turmoil in Haiti, and the riots in Miami.

In 1992, Bragg was awarded Harvard University’s Nieman Fellowship, which provided tuition-free career development education for working journalists and led to his job with the *New York Times*. Beside his Pulitzer Prize, he is the recipient of the American Society of Newspaper Editors Distinguished Writing Award and more than 50 writing awards in 20 years. Bragg, who lives in Alabama, now works as a writing professor at the University of Alabama’s journalism program in its College of Communication and Information Sciences and writes a column for *Southern Living*.



Roswell Reads Steering Committee members at City Hall Monday night, proudly holding the City Proclamation for Roswell Reads 2019.



# President's Letter and Construction Update

Dear Friend,

On August 21<sup>st</sup> 2018, our library closed; here is what's happened since then and what you can expect to see happen next.

As you may already know, the permitting for the original renovation was in process when the architects were informed that Roswell's business and historic community wanted a raised-roof on the edifice which backs onto Norcross Street. To cover the additional cost, 1.8 million dollars were found in contingency funds. As a result, the architects had to go back to the drawing board and begin the design and permitting phases once again, causing a delay of approximately six additional months. Our current target date to reopen is September, 2019.

We understand and appreciate the high level of commitment of the many people involved---program managers, architects, engineers, estimators, contractors, and vendors---all of whom are working to make our Roswell library something of which we all can be proud. We hope the additional months of inconvenience will be overshadowed by the years of service the new and improved library will provide.

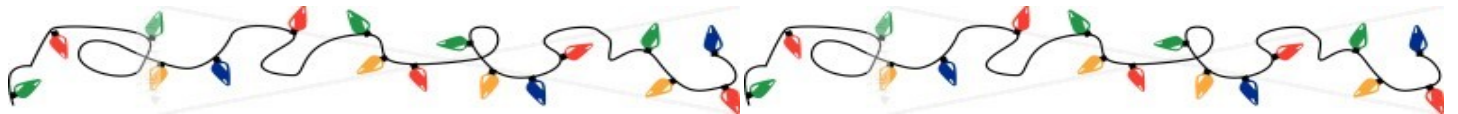
Several, though not all, of our traditional programs are continuing. Please visit our website ([forl.net](http://forl.net)) for existing programs and their locations. We are pleased that our ever-popular Summer Reading programs will be held in the Osage room at Bulloch Hall.

Join us for Mystery Book Club at 6:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month but December at the Milton Library and/or our Noonday Nosh Book Club at 12 noon on the third Tuesday of the month at the Alpharetta Library. All are welcome.

Roswell Reads has a wonderful author and season of events planned for the community. The best place to keep up with the Roswell Reads programming and associated activities is on our Friends' website: [forl.net/roswell-reads/](http://forl.net/roswell-reads/)

Best wishes to you for good health and enjoyable reading in 2019.

*Cora Cramer*



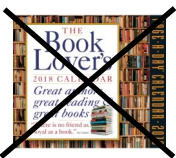
## Noonday Nosh Book Club Meeting at the Alpharetta Library

Jan: **The Dovekeepers** - Alice Hoffman  
Feb: A book by Rick Bragg - To be decided upon  
March: **Americanah** - C. N. Adichie



## Mystery Readers' Book Club Meeting at the Milton Library

Jan: **The Unpleasantness at the Bellona Club** - Dorothy Sayers  
Feb: **Stone Cold** - David Baldacci  
March: **The Dry** - Jane Harper



Unfortunately, we can no longer offer the Book Lover's Calendars; they are no longer being published! We're very sorry!



*Thank you so very much!*

As a result of the closing of the Roswell Public Library for renovations, many of our programs would have been left homeless were it not for the gracious hospitality of people in the following locations:

- The Alpharetta Public Library
- The East Roswell Public Library
- The Milton Public Library
- The Roswell Senior Center (on Warsaw Road)

*Save the Date!*

Our Annual Meeting will be Monday, May 13th, from 2-4.  
Yes, it's early, but put it on your 2019 calendar and know we'll remind you again!