

Local Author Writes a Rainbow



Local writer and publisher, Patricia Atchison has just released her first children's book. The book is entitled, "Little Blue Penguin" and is the story of a stuffed penguin that is lost at the zoo and then found again. Throughout Little Blue Penguin's adventures his emotions are expressed through shining colors, as his feelings change, so too does the colour he emits. It is a heartwarming story that children and adults alike will enjoy reading.

Patricia has lived in Water Valley for the last ten years. She just recently ceased publishing and editing the "Canadian Teddy Bear News" magazine to pursue her dream of writing. Writing is something Patricia has enjoyed her entire life and is currently in the process of looking for a publisher for two of her youth fiction books and is writing a third. One of her youth fiction books, based on war orphans that emigrated to Fairbridge Farm School in Duncan, BC, has earned her a top 50 rank in the 2007 Annual Canadian Aid Literary Award Contest. The contest is in conjunction with BookLand Press and the entry fees go towards the purchase of wheelchairs. If Patricia wins, BookLand Press will publish the story. Patricia has also been

awarded the Brendon Donnelly Award for children's literature and will be releasing another children's book next summer about a duck named McKenzie.

Patricia's inspiration for "Little Blue Penguin" came years ago in 1991, when her own daughter lost a stuffed penguin at Heritage Park. Through her research Patricia discovered that there really are Little Blue Penguins that live in the Sub-Antarctic regions south of New Zealand. They are also known as "Fairy Penguins" or "Little Blues" due to their small stature and blue-grey feathers.

The book is illustrated by Jo-Anne Jagers, an artist from Rocky Mountain House. Jo-Anne will also be illustrating Patricia's future children's books.

The book is available online from www.woodlilypublishers.com

Patricia will also have the book for sale at the Bears paw Christmas Market Oct.26-28, and the Cremona Christmas Fair, Dec.1, where she will be in attendance for signings. Join Patricia at Buddy's Bookshoppe for both author and illustrator signings in Rocky Mountain House on Nov.5, and Bentleys Books in Cochrane will host Patricia at a book signing during the day on Nov. 16.

