After finishing his first book, Jeremiah Jones, an Eastonville native, already has plans to write several more stories.

THE WRITE WAY

Jeremiah Jones, an aspiring writer from Eastonville, will have a book signing at Writer’s Block Bookstore Sept. 29.

TROY HERRING
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

On the third floor of the Orange County Public Library, Jeremiah Jones writes... and writes... and writes... a never-ending stream of words that fill the pages of his book. The steady flow of words is the rhythm of his life, a constant beat that drives his passion for writing.

The public library is a quiet sanctuary, a place where creativity and imagination flourish. It’s here that Jeremiah finds inspiration for his latest work, a novel that he hopes will capture the hearts and minds of readers like you.

Jeremiah’s journey as a writer began with a simple thought: to share his stories with the world. His first book, “Gloria’s Oasis,” is a testament to his determination and dedication to his craft. He hopes to continue this journey by publishing several more books in the future.

“I was just writing—it was the best moment of my life,” Jones said of when he received the first copy of his book. “To be a published author—to be someone that has achieved this kind of accomplishment—is great. It took a while for me to embrace it... I think when I would anguish myself and be like, ‘This is what I need to do.’”

The publication was the culmination of two years of work, which was filled with the usual stresses of writing—meeting deadlines, editing, and finding a flow. But despite the difficulties, Jones remained committed to his craft and the joy it brought him.

“People of all ethnicities are featured in this book, and no matter who you are, there is a character you can relate to. I just wanted to set a platform that young adults could use—I felt like doing it through a book was one of the greatest ways...”

See Jones Page 14
Jones

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

ter you can relate," Jones said. "I just wanted to set a platform that young adults could use — I felt like doing it through a book was one of the greatest ways, because there are still a lot of adults out there who read, as well as young adults."

THE JOURNEY TO GLEDEN OAKS

The themes in Gleden Oaks are purposeful and hold meaning for Jones, who has faced uphill battles his entire life.

As a child, Jones was placed into foster care at age 3. For the next 12 years, he bounced from various group homes as he looked to find his place in the world.

Although there were some difficulties Jones experienced in the foster system — such as feeling overlooked when it came to his talents — overall, it wasn't as bad as what many have endured. Instead, Jones met a diverse group of people and was taught life lessons that helped him develop through his early years. It also would be the time when Jones discovered his passion for the written word.

When he was in the fourth grade, Jones scored a five out of six on the FCAT writing test — a result that his teacher informed him was the best in class. From there, Jones was hooked on writing, although he wasn't sure there would be in future in it.

"I went to middle school later in life, and I had a little short story called, 'The Magic Basketball,'" he said. "It was about a basketball that could talk — but I crumbled it up and threw it away, because I was like, 'I'm never going to be a book author.'"

"Then when I got older, I tried it (writing)," he said. "I was living in a one bedroom apartment — I was 22 years old at the time — and I started writing, and I said, 'This could be my why, but what should I talk about?'"

Needless to say, Jones found the talking points he sought, and his pen took off.

With his first book now complete, Jones already has plans to turn Gleden Oaks into a trilogy and also is planning an autobiography. It's a large task — especially considering he also is taking classes as Mid-Florida Tech to become an electrician. But that doesn't seem to concern him at all.

"It's a great passion that I have — a talent that I recognize in myself," Jones said of his writing. "I feel like a good way to put out a great message is to use my pen — to use my knowledge and to use the things within me."