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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

BOOKS FOR KEEPS TO HOLD 6TH ANNUAL CHARITY BOOK SALE AUGUST 11-AUGUST 21

ATHENS, GA. – August 2, 2016 – Coming soon, book lovers can find fantastic deals on used books while supporting literacy efforts in the Athens community.

Books for Keeps will host its sixth annual BFK Book Sale August 11 through August 21 at Homewood Village Shopping Center, Suite 1, 2405 Jefferson Road. This two-weekend sale is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Athens-based nonprofit. It helps fund Books for Keeps' annual book distributions, which place books in the hands of children from low-income families.

This year's sale is of critical importance to the organization, which recently announced a major expansion at the June meeting of the Clinton Global Initiative. In satisfying a commitment to reach 14 new elementary schools by 2019, Books for Keeps will add four schools to its service roster in 2017, including Cleveland Road and Whitehead Road elementary schools.

All books at the sale are donated to Books for Keeps. After sorting through donations and keeping those books that can be used in the organization's K-12 book giveaway program, Books for Keeps hosts an annual sale with the remaining books.

An estimated 25,000 books for adults and children will be priced to sell from \$.25 to \$3. Prices will be reduced throughout the sale, culminating in a bag sale on Sunday, August 21, when patrons can fill up a grocery bag full of books for \$5 or a BFK tote for \$25.

The full schedule of the sale is as follows:

Thursday, August 11: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Sneak Preview Night - \$10 admission fee this night only. \$3 adult hardbacks, \$2 adult paperbacks, \$2 for all children's books, plus a large 50-cent selection. Enjoy refreshments donated by Taziki's Mediterranean Grill.

Friday, August 12: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Opening Day - \$3 adult hardbacks, \$2 adult paperbacks, \$2 children's books, and 50-cent discount books.

Saturday, August 13: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - \$3 adult hardbacks, \$2 adult paperbacks, \$2 children's books, and 50-cent discount books.

Sunday, August 14: 12 to 4 p.m. - \$2 adult hardbacks, \$1 adult paperbacks, \$1 children's books, and a 25-cent discount books.

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Saturday, Aug. 20: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. - \$2 adult hardbacks, \$1 adult paperbacks, \$1 children's books, and 25-cent discount books.

Sunday, Aug. 21: 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., Bag Day - Fill a plastic grocery bag for \$5, or a canvas BFK tote for \$20. Our Teacher Free-for-All is from 4 to 5 - bring a valid public school ID or proof of nonprofit status and cart away excess books for FREE!

Books for Keeps thanks our lead sponsors Athens Banner-Herald and OnlineAthens.com, BookScouter.com, JOMA Construction, Allstate – Merryn Walker Agency; with additional support from: Bill & Camilla Bracewell, Fairway Outdoor Advertising, and Robins Financial Credit Union.

For more information, contact leslie.hale@booksforkeeps.org or (706) 410-1912.

Books for Keeps started as one woman's effort to help a child who loved to read but had no books at home. It grew from a grassroots movement into a research-based program to end summer slide by ensuring children have access to books when school lets out. The nonprofit was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization in 2011, and has since given away 240,000 books in Georgia.

Books for Keeps distributes books to students ranging from pre-K through 12th grade. The flagship program, *Stop Summer Slide!*, is based on a University of Florida study that found allowing economically-disadvantaged elementary school children to self-select 12 high-interest books at the beginning of summer had an impact on reading achievement statistically similar to attending summer school.

Books for Keeps distributed more than 50,000 books in spring 2016 to children in Athens, Atlanta, and Warrenton, Ga., focusing on 11 elementary schools with high percentages of low-income families. It has plans to expand to 14 additional schools in the next three years, reaching more than 11,000 children with more than 140,000 books annually. Find Books for Keeps at booksforkeeps.org, on Facebook at facebook.com/booksforkeeps, and on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/BFK_Athens) and [Instagram](https://instagram.com/BFK_Athens) @BFK_Athens.

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