



The Award Winning

**Jimmy Carter Library & Museum**

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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## **Author Book Signing Program Resumes** ***First Event “A Legacy of Madness” on January 17<sup>th</sup>***

**Atlanta, GA.** – The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library Author Series resumes on Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Join journalist Tom Davis for a harrowing journey into his family’s history with mental disorders. Davis, who was a Rosalynn Carter Mental Health Fellow, is the author of *A Legacy of Madness: Recovering My Family from Generations of Mental Illness*. The reading and book signing is co-sponsored by the Carter Center Mental Health program and will be held in the Carter Museum Theater at 7:00pm. It is free and open to the public.

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter says “*A Legacy of Madness* breaks down the barriers of silence that shroud mental illnesses within families for generations ... By sharing the story of his family history and his own personal journey, Tom Davis provides hope and inspiration to others.”

Davis's book tells of his journey to uncover, and ultimately understand, the history of mental illness that led generations of his suburban American family to their demise. Investigating his mother's history led to Davis's grandfather, a top administrator at one of the largest psychiatric hospitals in the country; his great-grandfather who died of self-inflicted gas asphyxiation during the Depression; and his great-great grandmother who, with her eldest son, completed suicide one tragic day. Ultimately, four generations of family members showed clear signs of depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and alcoholism—often mistreated illnesses that test one's ability to cope. In the end, we witness Davis's powerful transition as he makes peace with the past and heals through forgiveness and compassion for his family--and himself.

Also, mark your calendar for February 28<sup>th</sup> for an opportunity to meet “King Peggy.” Peggy Bartels will tell her own charming real-life fairy tale of an American secretary who discovers she has been chosen king of an impoverished fishing village on the west coast of Africa. *King Peggy: An American Secretary, Her Royal Destiny, and the Inspiring Story of How She Changed an African Village* chronicles Bartels’ astonishing journey as she suddenly finds herself king to a town of 7,000 souls on Ghana's central coast, half a world away. Upon arriving for her crowning ceremony in beautiful Otuam, she discovers the dire reality: there's no running water, no doctor, and no high school, and many of the village elders are stealing the town's funds. To make matters worse, her uncle (the late king) sits in a morgue awaiting a proper funeral in the royal palace, which is in ruins.

You won’t want to miss this incredible story on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Carter Museum Theater. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, call 404-865-7109. You can keep up with the Carter Library events on the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library page on Facebook and follow the CarterLibrary on Twitter. . If you wish to unsubscribe to these news releases, simply email [tony.clark@nara.gov](mailto:tony.clark@nara.gov) and put “UNSUBSCRIBE” in the subject line.