

BEST-SELLERS

HARDCOVER FICTION

- WICKED PREY**, by John Sandford. (Putnam, \$27.95.) Minneapolis detective Lucas Davenport deals with mayhem from the Republican convention.
- CEMETERY DANCE**, by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child. (Grand Central, \$26.99.) FBI agent Aloysius Pendergast investigates the murder of a Times reporter.
- DEAD AND GONE**, by Charlaine Harris. (Ace, \$25.95.) Sookie Stackhouse searches for the killer of a werewolf.
- THE 8TH CONFESSION**, by James Patterson and Maxine Paetro. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) The Women's Murder Club investigate a pair of killings.
- FIRST FAMILY**, by David Baldacci. (Grand Central, \$27.99.) Former Secret Service agents, now PIs, search for a child abducted from a party at Camp David.
- PYGMY**, by Chuck Palahniuk. (Doubleday, \$24.95.) Terrorists from a totalitarian country enter the Midwest disguised as exchange students in this satire.
- THE HOST**, by Stephenie Meyer. (Little, Brown, \$25.99.) Aliens take control of most humans, but one woman won't surrender.
- TEA TIME FOR THE TRADITIONALLY BUILT**, by Alexander McCall Smith. (Pantheon, \$23.95.) No. 10 in the No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series.
- ASSEGAI**, by Wilbur Smith. (Thomas Dunne/St. Martin's, \$27.95.) Hunting guide in British East Africa on the brink of World War I spies on a German client and his mistress.
- THE LAST CHILD**, by John Hart. (Minotaur, \$24.95.) Teen searches for his vanished twin sister.
- JUST TAKE MY HEART**, by Mary Higgins Clark. (Simon & Schuster, \$25.95.) A prosecutor with a transplanted heart finds her life at risk trying a murder case.
- SUMMER ON BLOSSOM STREET**, by Debbie Macomber. (Mira, \$24.95.) More on life and love from a Seattle knitting class.
- ROAD DOGS**, by Elmore Leonard. (William Morrow, \$26.99.) Cundo Rey and Jack Foley are out of prison and ready for action.
- LOVER AVENGED**, by J. R. Ward. (New American Library, \$24.95.) A vampire ally hides his mixed blood. No. 7 in Black Dagger Brotherhood series.
- LOTTING WITH INTENT**, by Stuart Woods. (Putnam, \$25.95.) N.Y. cop turned lawyer Stone Barrington takes a case in Key West.

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

- RESILIENCE**, by Elizabeth Edwards. (Broadway, \$22.95.) Dealing with cancer and the infidelity of her politician husband.
- LIBERTY AND TYRANNY**, by Mark R. Levin. (Threshold Editions, \$25.) Conservative manifesto from a talk-show host.
- ALWAYS LOOKING UP**, by Michael J. Fox. (Hyperion, \$25.99.) Actor struggles with Parkinson's disease, works with his foundation.
- OUTLIERS**, by Malcolm Gladwell. (Little, Brown, \$27.99.) Why some people succeed.
- THE GIRLS FROM AMES**, by Jeffrey Zaslow. (Gotham, \$26.) Enduring friendship among a group of women.
- THE END OF OVEREATING**, by David A. Kessler. (Rodale, \$25.95.) How sugar, fat, salt affect mind and body.
- LOSING MUM AND PUP**, by Christopher Buckley. (Twelve, \$24.99.) Memoir of his parents, Patricia and William F. Buckley.
- COLUMBINE**, by Dave Cullen. (Twelve, \$26.99.) Full account of the 1999 school massacre.
- A BOLD FRESH PIECE OF HUMANITY**, by Bill O'Reilly. (Broadway,

Book sale books space at F&M

Setup help needed next Sunday

The Friends of Lancaster Public Library used-book sale is set for June 8-10, with Franklin & Marshall College Alumni Sports & Fitness Center hosting the big fundraiser for the first time.

Roughly 250,000 used books, records, audio and video discs and tapes, and sheet music will be offered at bargain prices. Though many items are individually priced, most hardcovers are still \$1 and most paperbacks are 50 cents, said Friend Pat Ditzler.

This year, "we will have lots of sports books ... and something special

for movie lovers. A private collection of 152 John Wayne movies, including 72 rare ones from 1925-1972, was donated for this sale," reported Friend Ruth Lewis.

Sale hours are 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Tuesday and 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Wednesday, half-price day. Admission is free; parking is free in F&M's lot at 931 Harrisburg Pike.

Sale setup begins at 12:30 p.m. Sunday, June 7. Those willing to help may park and enter the center off Race Avenue. No book dealers or children under 12 will be admitted Sunday.

The sale, now in its 56th year, started in the library and lately filled Manheim Township's Overlook Roller Rink every spring and fall. Now a book sale will be held once a year, but it will be nearly twice the size of those sales.

The sales, each of which raised around \$100,000 for the cash-strapped library, succeeded due to residents' volunteer help, book donations and book purchases, as well as the patronage of far-flung book dealers.

For more information, contact Friends at 295-1950 or at redrosebooks@aol.com. ■

Lots to 'LOVE' in Jim Zervanos' debut novel about a Greek-American family

BY JO-ANN GREENE
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The 2002 romantic comedy flick "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" turned a spotlight on contemporary Greek-American culture. Now Lancaster native Jim Zervanos is refocusing the attention with his big-in-theme but not-so-fat novel.

"LOVE Park" is the coming-of-age story of late-blooming Peter Pappas, a third-generation Greek-American. As he nears his 27th birthday, Peter is still living in the basement of the suburban Philadelphia home occupied by his parents, teenage sister, widowed grandmother and bachelor uncle. Each has a secret, but Peter seems saddled with all the guilt.

The Temple University graduate works as a house painter and dreams of publishing a book on Philadelphia's public art, including the city's iconic LOVE sculpture. The project was inspired by an ex-girlfriend, whom he let get away because her Irish background wouldn't meet with family approval. Now his older brother, a successful doctor, has the nerve to bring home a Jewish girl.

Peter once thought he might be called to the Orthodox priesthood like his father. Then he experienced a crisis of faith that grows even more critical after he encounters one of his father's needy parishioners, a sexy widow whom the lonely man-child finds hard to resist.

Comparisons to "The Graduate," "Portnoy's Complaint" and "Rabbit Run" are inevitable, but Peter is a more sympathetic protagonist, redeeming himself and others as he learns to forgive and finally to demand that others live up to the standards they set for him.

Uncovering family secrets, Peter grows and haltingly moves forward, adopting a new outlook, much as his immigrant ancestors must have had to do.

This is no immigrant story, though. "It's an American novel before it's ... a Greek-American novel," Zervanos says.

First novels, especially, are often seen as thinly veiled autobiographies. Zervanos makes one thing clear, from the start: "I'm not this guy."

True, he and Peter share an ethnic and religious heritage and, Zervanos allows, a "curiosity and interest in religion and faith."

But Zervanos is the son of a physician (Dr. Nikitas J. Zervanos, of



Jeff Ruppenthal/Sunday News

Lancaster native Jim Zervanos displays his novel, "LOVE Park," in Steinman Park.

Lancaster), not a priest. His house sheltered only his parents and their children, not an extended family. And while the Manheim Township High School graduate now lives with his wife in Philadelphia, he is a Bucknell, not a Temple, graduate.

So there. The 39-year-old Zervanos is both a writer and a teacher of English and creative writing at Penncrest High School in the Rose Tree Media School District. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in writing from Warren Wilson College and attended the Breadloaf Writers Conference.

Though many creative writing teachers advise, "Write what you know," Zervanos says he finds that "a dead end" and "rather boring."

"Write what you want to know more about" was his approach to "LOVE Park." In the case of Peter, "making him a seeker was something I could identify with," the author explained. But the plot is "a series of predicaments that I only lived through while writing the book."

Biblical and mythic themes come through in the book, noted Zervanos,

as only an English teacher could. He wasn't even conscious of many of the nuances that readers pointed out, he said.

"When you're tapping into something that seems true, there are going to be these other stories" evoked. Sampson's is an example of one of them, only in reverse. Peter's empowerment starts shortly after the widow, Daisy/Delilah, a hair stylist, shears him of his shaggy locks.

The late writer Helen Papanikolas saw Zervanos, whose short fiction was published previously, as a Greek-American Saul Bellow. Novelist Eleni N. Gage called his book an "engrossing debut novel ... an ode to the city of Philadelphia." And National Book Award finalist Charles Baxter called it "both funny and moving."

Jim Zervanos will sign his 280-page hardcover, published by Cable Publishing at \$24.95, 5-8 p.m. on First Friday, June 5, at Bed & Bath Affair, 641 Harrisburg Ave.; 7-9 p.m. Friday, June 12, at Dogstar Books, 529 W. Chestnut St.; and 7-9 p.m. Saturday, June 20, at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 1700-H Fruitville Pike.

CHECK IT OUT!

To better understand the news coming out of the Middle East, get a feel for the culture with these novels from the new-book shelf at the Duke Street Library.

- THE WRITING ON MY FOREHEAD**, by Nafisa Haji. When a young American Muslim woman attends a wedding in Pakistan, she learns the truth about her family, giving her the courage to live a freer, less traditional lifestyle.
- THE VIRGIN OF SOLITUDE**, by Tahmineh Modarres. Iranian teenager Nuri and his Austrian grandmother face dramatic changes in their life in Tehran on the eve of revolution.
- THE NIGHTINGALE**, by Morgana Gallaway. Lella, a translator in a U.S. military hospital near Mosul, is torn by her love of an American, concern for abused patients, and fear that her father is sheltering insurgents.
- SECRET SON: A NOVEL**, by Laila Lalami. When he discovers his real father is a wealthy businessman, Youssef moves from the slums of Casablanca to a luxury apartment. When forced back there, he becomes a target for recruitment by a fringe Islamist group.
- VALLEY OF STRENGTH**, by Shulamit Lapid. Fleeing a pogrom with her elderly uncle, insane brother and infant in the 1870s, Fania marries a widower in Galilee and faces the hardships endured by early Jewish settlers.

Froggy's back; this time with 'Gosling'

BY JO-ANN GREENE
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Any youngster eagerly anticipating the arrival of a baby but put off by its inexplicable wailing will relate to "Here Comes Gosling!"

Lancaster author Sandy Asher's new picture book is the third starring Froggy and Rabbit.



It shows how plans for a pleasant afternoon — complete with picnic lunch, toy and favorite books — can quickly be forgotten when baby's distress signal is sounding.

But what to do? Neither the parents, Goose and Gander, nor Rabbit can figure out Gosling's problem.

What's more, the frightened Froggy takes it personally: "That baby does not like me."

But as always, Froggy is too attuned to his inner life to be stifled for very long by the outer one. He unself-consciously resumes

Novel take on Amish forgiveness springs from personal trauma

BY JO-ANN GREENE
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drunk driver in 1994 while in Colorado and left unable to walk for nearly a year.

The driver wrote to say he was sorry, but she says she didn't

