

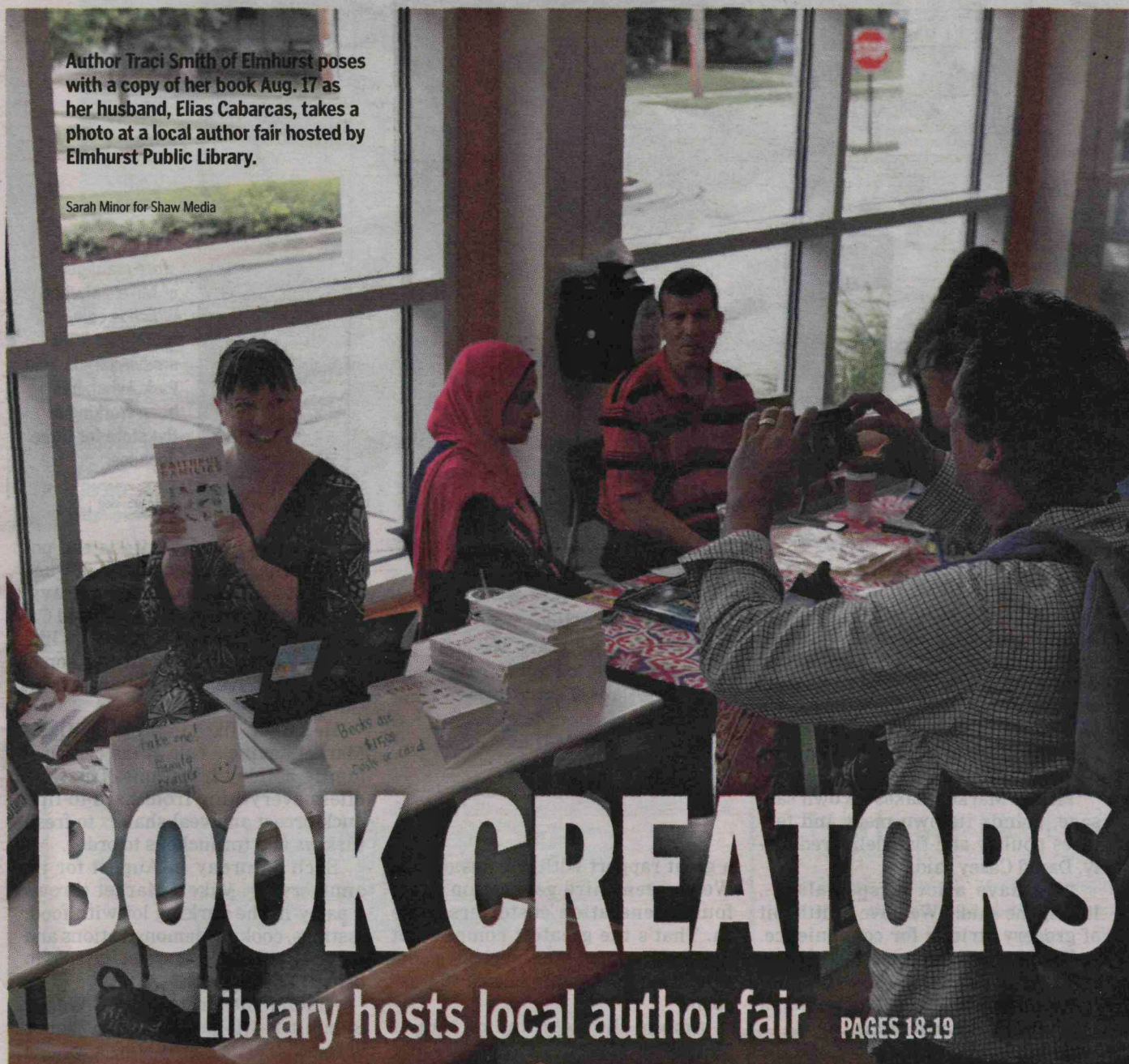
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ELMHURST

# Suburban Life

Author Traci Smith of Elmhurst poses with a copy of her book Aug. 17 as her husband, Elias Cabarcas, takes a photo at a local author fair hosted by Elmhurst Public Library.

Sarah Minor for Shaw Media



## BOOK CREATORS

Library hosts local author fair **PAGES 18-19**

## Meaty milestone: Mike's Market in Villa Park celebrates 50th anniversary

By **RENEE TOMELL**  
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**VILLA PARK** – In a rare feat, long-time butcher shop and gourmet food purveyor Mike's Market celebrates its 50th anniversary in Villa Park with Saturday festivities through August.

"I have good staff and great customer support," said owner David Casey of Villa Park. "We have members of our staff that have [worked here] some 30 years, some 20. A lot of us grew up in the ... store. I remember the day when I was the youngest guy."

The business was launched by brothers-in-law Mike Casey and Mike Kelly, who opened Mike's Market in April 1969 in downtown Villa Park. After 18 months, Kelly left to open a store in Park Ridge, and Casey carried on with a staff of four, including his son, Dan. In 1974, Mike Casey's 13-year-old son, David, joined the family business. He remains at the helm today, joined by Mike Casey's grandson, Joe Lane, who is general manager.

Mike's Market employs 28 local butchers, slicers, sandwich makers and cashiers.

"It's kind of neat," David Casey said about yet another generation of the

See **MIKE'S MARKET**, page 2





**ABOVE:** Stacia Miksys (left) and Jessical Yako, Elmhurst Public Library desk clerks, talk with author Julie M. Gentile on Aug. 17 during a local author fair at the library.

**ABOVE, RIGHT:** Author Lorenzo Fiorentino signs a copy of his book Aug. 17 at a local author fair hosted at the Elmhurst Public Library.

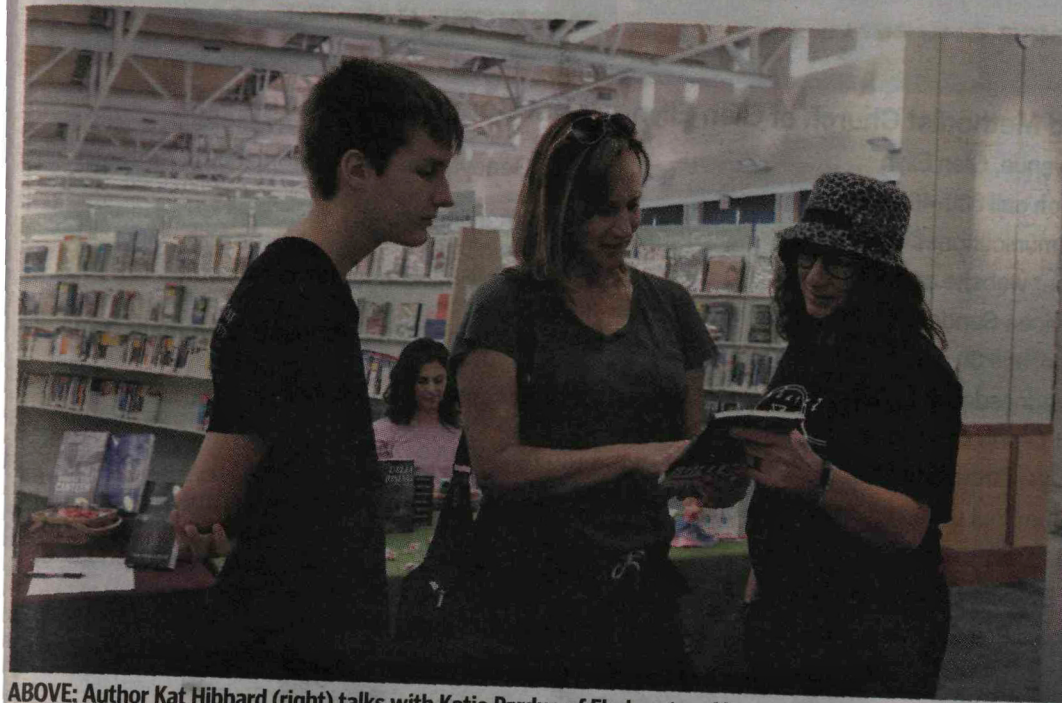
**RIGHT:** Area authors interact with attendees at the local author fair at the Elmhurst Public Library.

Photos by Sarah Minor for Shaw Media





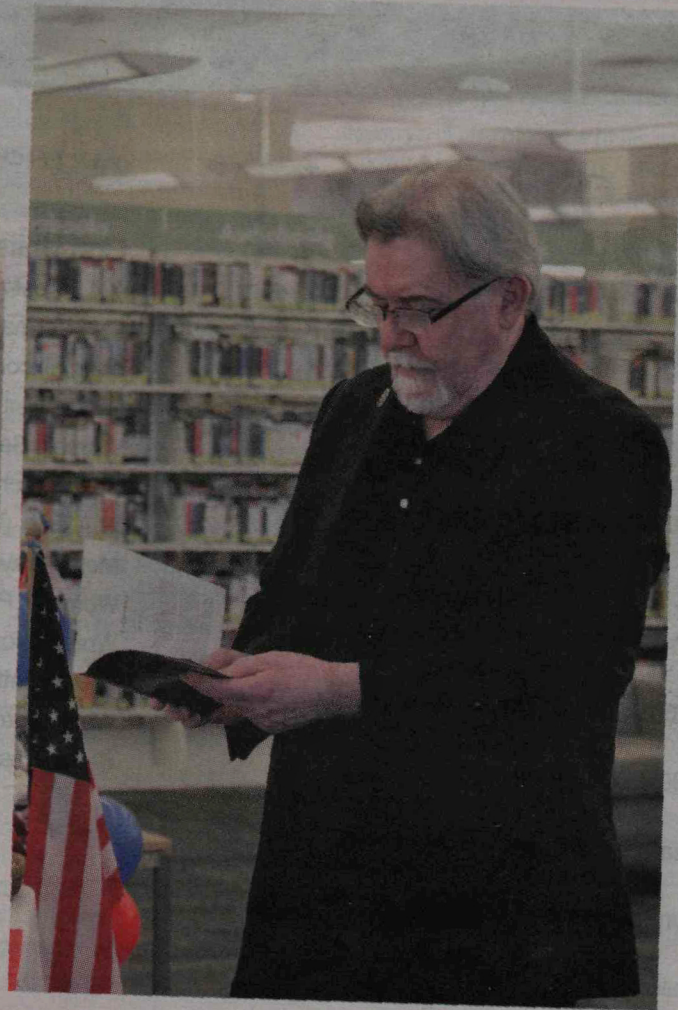
# A look at their books



**ABOVE:** Author Kat Hibbard (right) talks with Katie Pardue of Elmhurst and her son, Ben, 14, about her book, "Bullets: Growing Up in the Crossfire," on Aug. 17 at a local author fair at the Elmhurst Public Library.

**RIGHT:** Author J.L. Callison of Aurora looks at a fellow author's book during the local author fair.

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