



Forsyth Herald **NEWS**

Forsyth County author publishes 'Big Cats'

by Logan Thomas
write the author
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FORSYTH COUNTY – Donna Bowman always wanted to be a writer.

It was the first career she can remember aspiring toward. However, she didn't really start writing until she became pregnant with her first child in 1983.

"I started wanting write something for her and children," she said. "The idea just grew and grew."

For 26 years, the writing bug matured and improved by writing everything from company publications to her own newspaper column to a small book to help children learn how to wear a hearing aide.

Now, Bowman can go to major bookstores to see her children's book, "Big Cats," on the shelves.

"It's absolutely incredible," she said. "Even now, with the book right here in my hands, it's like being in a dream."

"Big Cats" is a colorful, interactive nonfiction book published by Intervisual Books. Editor Peggy J. Shaw said Bowman was the "ideal writer" for the book.

"She's talented, cares about accuracy, did not mind the seemingly endless revisions that book editors can require, and she has a true passion for big cats," she said. "I know that in her personal life, she takes trips often to places like Yellowstone to gather more information for her nature books and stories. Donna doesn't just write about nature. She gets out there in it."

When first approached to write the next book in the five-book series including books on dinosaurs and sharks, Bowman was told the first draft had to be finished in 30 days. She immediately hit the books.

"I did a ton of research," she said. "I just lived in research books for that time. I contacted different people to sort out the facts. They wanted the book to include unusual facts and that's what I live for. For me to find nuggets of gold and have the editors excited really encouraged me. I wrote around the clock."

Writing at all hours is nothing out of ordinary for Bowman.

"I'm a bit of a writeaholic," she said. "To write for 24 hours straight is not unusual for me."

