

Having a zipping good time

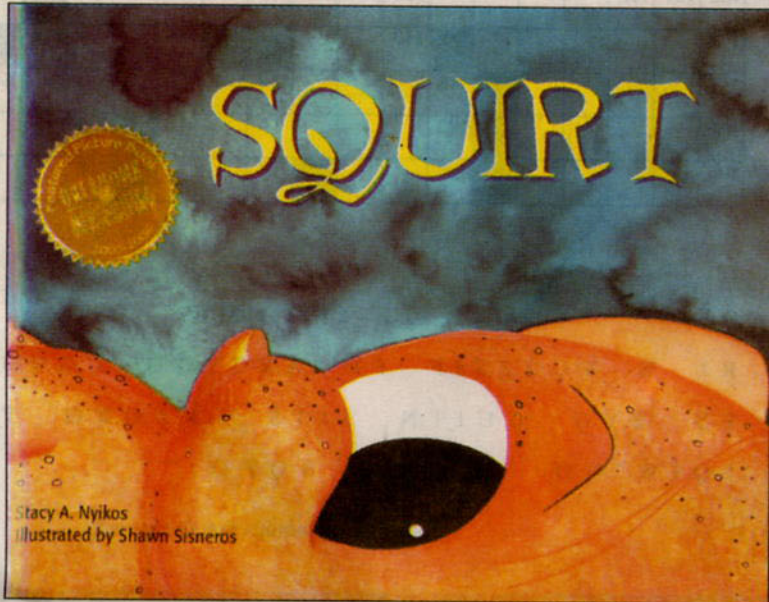
Squirt, the lovable young TV-watching holoclam, is having a swimmingly good summer.

More commonly known as a squid, he made his debut in a hardcover children's book when his creator, author Stacy Nyikos, appeared at the summer kids' day celebration at the Oklahoma Aquarium and Riverwalk Crossing, both in Jenks.

Squirt's adventures as a ship's captain, battling pirates and storms in a youngster's world filled with his mother's kitchen gear and invisible foes, spring to life in the full-color drawings of Shawn Sisneros, a Tulsa artist and gallery owner.

Nyikos will sign copies of "Squirt" (Stonehorse Publishing, \$15.95), from 1-3 p.m. Saturday

SEE **BOOKNOTES** H-7



Stacy A. Nyikos
Illustrated by Shawn Sisneros

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Tulsa World July 3, 2005 H-7-8

BOOKNOTES:

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at Steve's Sundry, Books and Magazines, 2612 S. Harvard Ave.

Squids are from a family with the illustrious name of cephalopod, which means, literally, head-foot. They are cousins of octopus, nautilus and cuttlefish. The back of the book provides facts about squids, such as their ability to zip around, squirt ink to hide and change into all sorts of fun colors.

A citywide drawing contest is planned for September at participating schools. Three winners at each school will receive an autographed copy of the book.

First prize is a sleepover at the aquarium, second prize is a birthday party there, and third prize is a one-year youth membership to the aquarium.

Writing good novels

Margaret Golla will conclude her three-part workshop covering Donald Maass' "Writing the Breakout Novel" at 1 p.m. Saturday for the meeting of Romance Writers Ink at OSU-Tulsa, 700 N. Greenwood Ave., North Hall Conference Center, Room 258.

Advanced plot structures, including groups and generationals; theme; thrillers; whole life and cross-over fiction will be discussed.

She will include what authors face after the book is written: agents and editors, the pitch, outlines, success, sequels and beyond. Golla balances her writing between a career in medicine and her family, including an active preschooler.

The meeting is open to interested writers of any genre. For more information, e-mail: jackiekramer7@juno.com.

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