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### **Barbara Higgins-Dover Reading and Signing Scheduled at Oread Books**

September 19, 2007 (LAWRENCE, KS) – Barbara Higgins-Dover, author of the recent children’s book *Catfish Cookies*, will present a reading and signing from 10:30 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, October 6, 2007, at Oread Books on level 2 in the Kansas Union on the KU campus in Lawrence. The author will present a short activity for children based on themes from the book, followed by the reading. The event is free and open to the public.

*Catfish Cookies* is the story of a little blue catfish named Rippler who lives in the Kansas River near Bowersock Dam at Lawrence, Kansas. Rippler faces bullying from big, mean catfish, but learns to believe in himself. Author Higgins-Dover relates Rippler’s story to the resourcefulness she learned from her grandparents, Richard and Theda Higgins, who made their living from fishing in area rivers and operated a bait shop and fish market in North Lawrence. The title of the book comes from Grandma Higgins’ recipe for “catfish cookies” – catfish lard optional.

*Catfish Cookies*, illustrated with original watercolors by Gabrielle Iversen, interweaves the children’s story of little Rippler’s adventures with environmental awareness. Fascinating information about the natural and historical aspects of the river make the book an accessible springboard for discussion of river protection. *Catfish Cookies* is the first Kaw Valley River Roots title published by the Kaw Valley Heritage Alliance of Lawrence, Kansas, a non-profit organization focused on protecting and conserving the cultural and natural resources of the Kansas (Kaw) River Valley.

Barbara Higgins-Dover, a Lawrence native, is an educational curriculum design specialist who received a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and a Master’s of Science in Education from the University of Kansas. She grew up visiting her grandparents’ fish market and helping her grandmother cook.

Gabrielle Iversen is an artist and art teacher from Lawrence, Kansas. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Humboldt State University and is currently an art education graduate student at Lewis & Clark University in Portland, Oregon.

Oread Books is a full-service, independent bookseller located on the University of Kansas campus in Lawrence on the second floor of the Kansas Union. As a non-profit organization in the division of Student Success, all proceeds are given back to KU through student programs and activities.

The selection and events at Oread Books are reflective of the campus community, always current and representing diverse points of view.