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Home in the Cave wins Gelett Burgess Award

Local Author Awarded Gold Medal in National Book Competition

Mount Pleasant, SC – Sylvan Dell Publishing children’s picture book *Home in the Cave* by author Janet Halfmann and illustrator Shennen Bersani has won gold in the growing-up category of the Gelett Burgess Book Awards.

The Gelett Burgess Children’s Book Award highlights excellence in family-friendly books covering the broad expanse of children’s existence—helping them grow socially, emotionally, ethically, intellectually, and physically. Each year Gelett Burgess Children’s Book Awards are given to 40 books in 4 distinct classifications: Lifestyle, Arts and Letters, Society and Culture, and Education. The Gelett Burgess Center is active in seeking the best books that enhance creative development. The Center also provides scholarships and grants to organizations making a difference in books and media for children.

Home in the Cave is a tale of Baby Bat who never wants to leave his home until one night he falls from his nest and Pluribus Packrat is there to save him. They explore the corners of the cave and Baby Bat learns how he helps the animals around him. After the night of adventure, Baby Bat practices flapping his wings, he is ready to leave the cave to hunt insects with his mom!

Janet Halfmann is the award-winning author of thirty-five fiction and nonfiction children’s books, including *Home in the Cave*, *Fur and Feathers*, and *Little Skink’s Tail* for Sylvan Dell. Other recent titles include *Eggs 1, 2, 3: Who Will the Babies Be?*; *Star of the Sea: A Day in the Life of a Starfish*; *Good Night, Little Sea Otter*; and *Seven Miles to Freedom: The Robert Smalls Story*. Janet is a member of the Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. Before becoming a children’s author, she was a daily newspaper reporter, children’s magazine editor, and a creator of coloring and activity books for Golden Books. Janet is the mother of four and the grandmother of four. When she isn’t writing, she enjoys gardening, exploring nature, visiting living-history museums, and spending time with her family. She grew up on a farm in Michigan and now lives in South Milwaukee, Wisconsin. For more information, visit her website: <http://www.janethalfmann.com>.

For image requests or more information about **Home in the Cave** contact Heather Williams at heatherwilliams@sylvandellpublishing.com or visit www.sylvandellpublishing.com.

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