

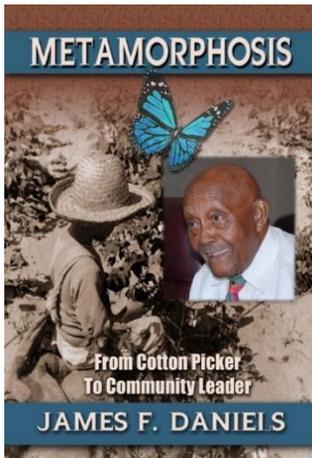


NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local author to discuss his memoir



James Daniels, a prominent Daytona Beach resident and former plantation worker, will discuss his memoir, "Metamorphosis," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, at the Daytona Beach Regional Library at City Island, 105 E. Magnolia Ave., Daytona Beach.

He will sign books after his presentation. Refreshments will be served.

Daniels was born in 1928 on a cotton plantation in Cordele, Georgia. He was the third child of Franklin and Marietta Daniels, who were descendants of slaves and had lived on the same plantation all their lives. When he was 11, his family, which included 12 brothers and sisters, moved to Ormond Beach, where he was treated with unexpected respect by white people.

Throughout his teen years, Daniels and his siblings worked at a variety of jobs at the grand old hotels in Ormond Beach. He also caddied at a country club. After graduating from high school and attending Florida A&M University, he got married and returned to the area.

Daniels looks back on his 80-plus years of living in the South. He named his book "Metamorphosis" because it covers how he grew from a young plantation worker picking nutgrass at the feet of older cotton pickers into a successful adult and community leader.

According to notes on the back of his book: "James Daniels' 'Metamorphosis' is one of the most poignant accounts that you'll ever read of a black male growing up in the Jim Crow South. But it's also an engaging chronicle about overcoming barriers of class and race through hard work and seizing opportunities to achieve the American Dream. Anyone interested in the African American experience, U.S. race relations, and attaining the American Dream should read this memoir."

Reservations are not required for this free program, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Daytona Beach Library. For more information, contact Lorri Davis at ljdavis@volusia.org or 386-257-6036, ext. 16154.

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