



THE EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MUSEUM of EAST TENNESSEE HISTORY  
Making history personal

**For Immediate Release**

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October 23, 2019

***“A Fortress and a Legacy: The Gift of a WWII Bombardier’s True Story to the Daughter He Never Knew”***  
**A Brown Bag Lecture and Book Signing with J. Ross Greene**

**PROGRAM:** *“A Fortress and a Legacy: The Gift of a WWII Bombardier’s True Story to the Daughter He Never Knew”* / a Brown Bag Lecture with J. Ross Greene

**DATE:** Noon, Thursday, November 7, 2019

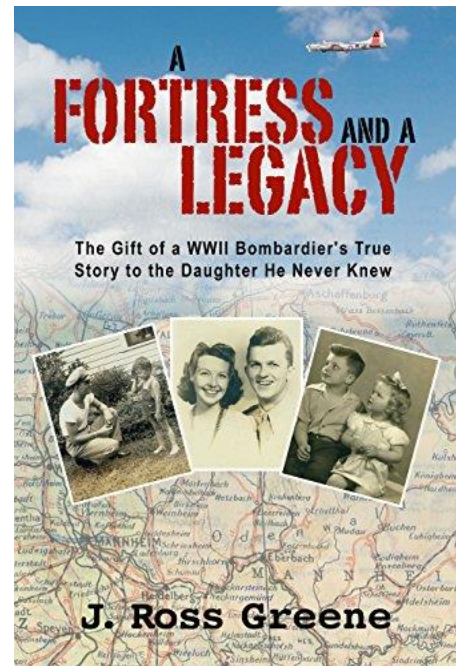
**LOCATION:** East Tennessee History Center  
601 South Gay Street  
Knoxville, TN 37902

**ADMISSION:** FREE | Attendees are encouraged to bring a “brown bag” lunch

**(Knoxville, TN)** *“For years I longed to know my father’s story and be close to him in some way. A Fortress and a Legacy has given my family a vibrant picture of my father-my hero-for generations to come.”*

Rosalind Perrin Davis  
*Daughter of Ross W. Perrin, Jr.*

In a Brown Bag Lecture on Thursday, November 7, J. Ross Greene will discuss his new book, *A Fortress and a Legacy: The Gift of a WWII Bombardier’s True Story to the Daughter He Never Knew*. At the heart and soul of the story is a collection of more than 1,000 letters exchanged between Knoxville native and B-17 bombardier Lt. Ross W. “Bud” Perrin and his bride, Thelma, who was both Miss Knoxville and a 1940 Miss America contestant. The author recalls childhood memories of his uncle and namesake. Six-plus years of extensive research, including retracing his uncle’s footsteps through Europe and interviewing over 200 WWII veterans, has resulted in a captivating book and oral presentation that have stirred the imagination and emotions of thousands of people across the U.S. and Europe. Greene runs a financial consulting firm in Atlanta, Georgia, and is the nephew of “Bud” Perrin. A book signing will follow the lecture.



The lecture is presented by the East Tennessee Historical Society and sponsored by the Gentry Griffey Funeral Chapel and Crematorium. The lecture and book signing are free and open to the public and will begin at noon, Thursday, November 7, at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a "Brown Bag" lunch and enjoy the lecture. Soft drinks are available. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at [www.EastTNHistory.org](http://www.EastTNHistory.org).

**End Release**