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Local author's latest book underscores joys of giving

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By **GREGG L. PARKER**
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Children's book author Kim Dozier wants her readers to know that Christmas is about giving, not getting.

Her new book, "When Santa Said, "No! No! No!" shows that holiday joy depends on thinking of others. "(In the book), the Gimmee Gotchas have overtaken the children, Santa is sad, and things look bad," she said.

Her book was inspired by a visit last year to the Chattanooga Choo-Choo. The Dozier daughters asked Santa for one item. "Santa nearly fell out of his sleigh," she said, "and wished more children understood the joy from thinking about others."

Dozier has dyslexia and a problem with stuttering. "I've had to learn how to slow down and bring books to life," she said. "This curse has turned into a great blessing because it has helped children and adults hear how much fun reading can be."

Dozier's husband, Mike, makes her manuscript ready for the printer and handles technical issues, such as paying taxes. Mike helps Kim "get to all of the schools and other speaking engagements. This might not sound like much, but, (with my) dyslexia, he's a major help," she said. "I would literally be lost without him."

Dozier's other books include "The Forgetful Princess," "The Ear-Less Kingdom," "Where's Dwight Dragon?" "The Confused Tooth Fairy," "The Backwards Wizard," "Princess Stinky Feet" and "Prince Not-So Charming."

When working on a new book, she said, "I pretty much wait for inspiration to be flung upon me. Sometimes, it hits at 3:30 in the morning."

She began writing children's book in 2002 when she sat at the computer, started typing and produced a story.

Dozier is a native of Chickamauga, Ga. She moved to Madison in 1990 when she married Mike, an employee at Intergraph Corp. Their daughters Ashlyn, 10, and Makenna Joy, 5, attend Athens Bible School.

"Our little books have traveled around the world," Dozier said. She said Chick-fil-A Corp. has requested her books to review for its Kid's Meal program.

Dozier's book/CD set is \$10. For more information, call 721-0200 or visit www.mkadesigns.com.

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