

**J anuary 2022**



# Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

Pulaski County In The Civil War

About this time a sentiment in opposition to the war began to be manifested. The editor of the Pulaski County Democrat, a young attorney named Rufus Magee, adopted ultra measures in espousing the cause of his party. His paper had much to do with the feeling in the county hostile to the war. The Knights of the Golden Circle also made their appearance, and added their influence to the general ill-will. It was nothing unusual to hear men publicly state that they would not assist, by a solitary dollar, a continuance of the most unjust war. The names, "Copperhead" and "Abolitionist" began to have a sting, and more than one black eye and bloody nose resulted from an injudicious use of them. Butternut breastpins became fashionable. The "nigger" and all his sympathizers were made the objects of suggestive ridicule. "Secessionist" was the word that was flaunted in the face of many, but nothing good was thereby accomplished. It only served to array, unnecessarily, neighbor against neighbor.

**READ MORE...**

(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down the first page to the post.)

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**News of Pulaski County in the Civil War from a Descendent**

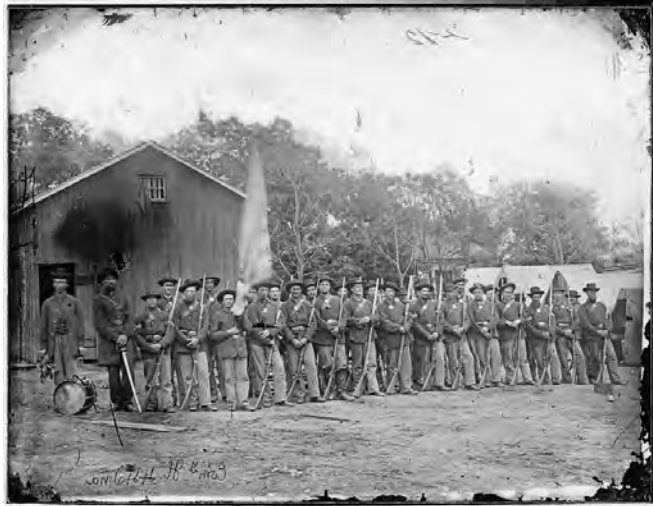
*Submitted by David Budd*

*Photo: Company H, 44th Indiana Infantry, flkr*

I thought I would pass along what I know, to help fill in some of the record.

Company K, of the 20th, pulled more than a few from Beaver Township. I can confirm the following:

- Bussard, Philip (my gr-gr-grandmother's brother - killed at Gettysburg)
- Corbin, Calvin J (my gr-grandfather's brother-in-law)
- Herrick, William (my gr-grandfather's brother)
- White, George D (my gr-grandmother's brother)
- White, Nathan (Karen's gr-gr-grandfather)
- White, Samuel J (Karen's gr-gr-gr-grandfather's brother)



I can not confirm other individuals, but many of the other family names on the Co K roster could be found in Beaver township back then. It's a good bet Emanuel Hoover (recruit) has some connection to Emanuel & Mont Hoover at Pulaski.

Did you know, the 20th has the distinction of having exchanged fire with the ironclad Merrimack?

Many of the Co K men's families provided soldiers in other units.

Phillip Bussard's (pronounced Byuzard') brothers, Daniel & William, were both in Co A, 150th IN. Daniel died at Wheeling, WV. William died at Frederick, MD. He was just 17. Their brother George was in Co I, 83rd IN. He survived.

Cal Corbin's half brother, William Poole, started out in Co B, 87th, but became captain of Co G. Their brother-in-law, Robert Budd (my gr-grandfather), was also in Co B, 87th.

William Herrick's brother, Joseph (my gr-gr-grandfather), was in Co C, 83rd. Their brother, Henry, was in Co H, 46th. Nathan White's brother, George W White, was in Co F, 128th IN. Their brother, Henry, was in Co G, 46th.

Their father's brother, George White, was in Co K of the 12th Cavalry, and died at Eufaula, AL.

Nathan's future in-law, Arthur Wheeldon, (Karen's gr-gr-grandfather) was in the 95th Ohio. He moved to Beaver Twp after the war. Art was captured twice, and spent time at Andersonville Prison.

(Yes, that's right, there were three George Whites, all from Beaver Twp. The one was not related to the others, as far as we know.)

Invite Others To Join

**EVENTS**  
Mark Your Calendar

<b>January 15</b> Snow Date January 22	<b>Register by 5:30, Game starts at 6:00.</b> Mystery prizes for top 3 teams!	<b>It's Raffle Night at the VFW.</b>	<b>TriVIA</b>	What new weapon was introduced in the Battle of the Somme?
 <p><i>Light Up Our Legacy</i></p> <p>We'll break after each 20 questions so you can buy food, drinks &amp; raffle tickets!</p>			<b>First Come, First Served</b> 1 Machine Gun 2 U-Boat 3 Poison Gas 4 Tank (VFW Trivia)	This newsletter publishes on the 15th, so we hope your calendars were already marked for TRIVIA! at the VFW!  <i>This event will be held in the community hall, and is appropriate for persons of all ages.</i>
Pre-register at <a href="http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia">www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia</a>		<b>Winamac VFW Post 1728</b> Limited to 30 teams of 4, \$50 per team.		

The VFW sponsors Horse Races a few times each year. This one will benefit the Memorial Swinging Bridge! Come out for a great time!

*Due to the location inside the VFW, this event is not appropriate for persons under the age of 21.*



**Horse Races at the Winamac VFW**

**Friday, February 11, 7:00 - 9:30 PM**

*Light Up Our Legacy*

**Proceeds benefit the Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**



We are still taking art objects from local (and not-so-local) artisans, whatever you do. Photography, sketches, acrylics, oils, watercolors, sculptures, carving, quilts, whatever! At this point, we have over 60 items, including 25 items from Eastern Pulaski Community School Corporations art class.

Join us! Sunday, February 27, Celebration Station, 2:00 start time. Light refreshments will be served. (We ask only for a free-will donation.)

We are working on an online bidding option. Stay tuned! (E-newsletters are going out every now and then with items that will be in the auction.)

*Greatest Generation of Pulaski County*

Our Boys contains stories of the members of the military from the Greatest Generation of Pulaski County. It was built and is managed by Pulaski County Native Jim Phillips. Each month, we will link to his website (bottom left) and to a specific story or section (bottom right) on the site. Take your time grazing.

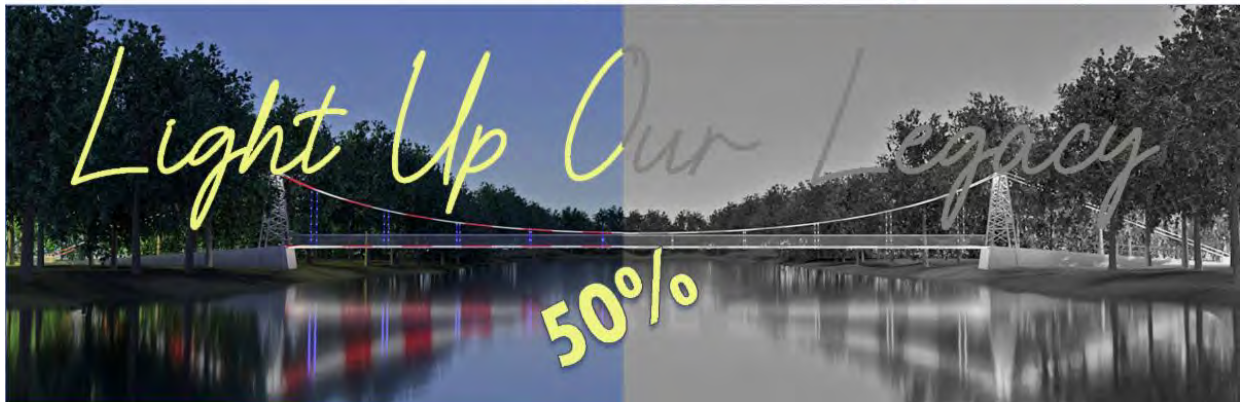
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Except for those who knew them intimately, their stories are unknown. Today, nearly all are gone, as are their contemporaries and elders. Except for a few family members, none of us can know anything about them, **except what can be gleaned from the public record.**

### War Stories Brothers In Arms

## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project



### *Take A Look At Our Donors!*

Our donors are amazing! Go to the website to see who believes in what we are doing!

**Donor Page  
Registry Of Lights  
Memorials & Honorariums**

### We Got A Grant!

The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project recently received a \$20,000 grant from the Community Grants Fund through the Community Foundation of Pulaski County. This grant, for illuminating the county’s veterans’ memorial, is intended to move Pulaski County toward its aspiration of becoming a community that is thriving and growing.

Leaders with the Project announced the winning grant from the Community Foundation just in time for the new year. Greg Henry, Chair, praised the project,

known as “Light Up Our Legacy.” He is grateful for the Community Foundation’s grant opportunities.

In reaction to the news, he said, “We intend to honor all Pulaski County veterans. The group has been actively fundraising for about a

year now, but many of us have been eager to see this happen for much longer. This grant has given us a real boost at the end of the year and will give us energy to reach our goal in 2022.”



In the photo are Project members Kyle Hurd, Chris Schramm, Cindy Hinkle, Kathi Thompson, CFBC Board member Kay Beall, and Project members Greg & Brenda Henry.

Another grant at the end of the year has the Project dancing! Fulton County REMC gave a grant to light the veterans' memorial in December.



## *Donations & Memorials*



Your contribution would mean a lot!

Please go to our **Donation page** or use this QR Code. Make it a one-time gift, or make it monthly.

Consider making it in honor of or in memory of someone special.

## You can own a piece of the bridge!

You can buy-a-light for \$50.

- Do it for yourself.
- Do it with a group (for example, a fourth grade class can buy one and own it forever; an alumni class can buy one for each class member).
- Give it as a gift.
- Buy one or more for a veteran.

### Do it here!

*The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project is sponsored by the VFW Post 1728 of Winamac IN, EIN 35-6042820, a 501(c)19 organization, and as such, any contribution is tax deductible. No goods or services are provided in exchange for contributions.*



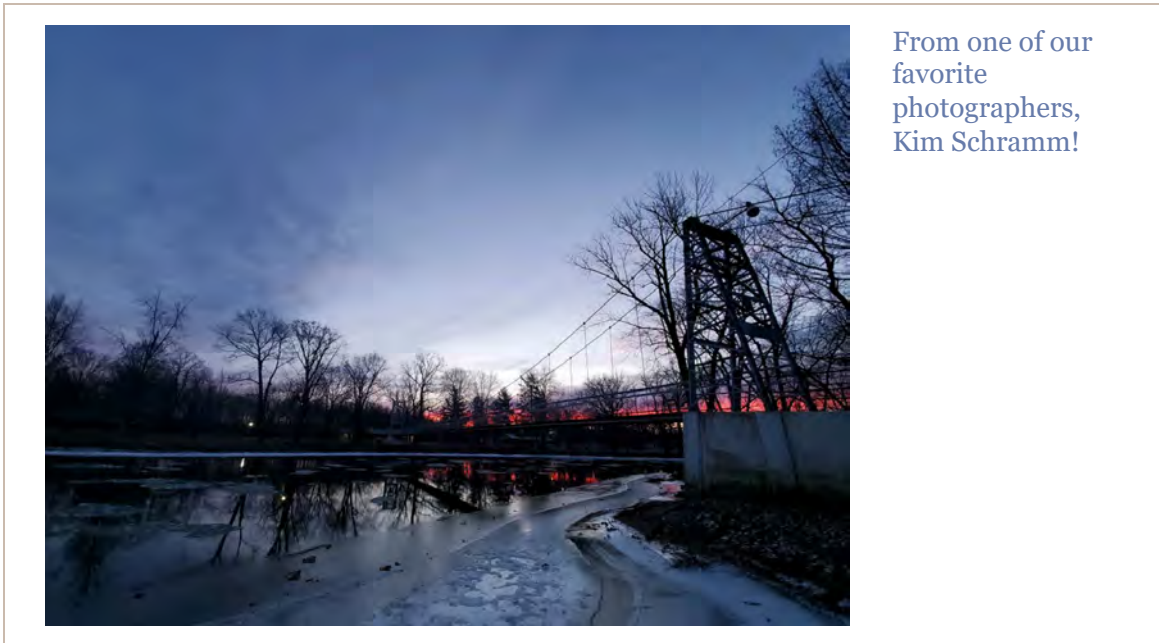
## Photo Gallery

If you have photographs to share, share **via email**.





These photos were taken by Carmin Ruff, early in the morning, with freezing fog.



From one of our favorite photographers, Kim Schramm!

## *What Do You Mean? Lights?*

The computer-managed lighting system on the suspension and suspender cables will have the ability to glow in multiple colors. They are hooded LED lights and have a rated life of 50,000 hours. That's about ten to eleven years averaging twelve hours per night, but they won't be on for more than five to seven hours a night. The lights on the towers and underneath the bridge will have a rated life of 150,000 hours. That's about twenty-five to thirty years averaging twelve hours per night, but again, they won't be on for more than five to seven hours per night. All of the lighting fixtures carry a five-year warranty. They are fully enclosed to guard against flooding.



## About Us



Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

Text To Join The  
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MSBRIDGE  
to 22828



### Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

PO Box 14, Winamac IN 46996

Greg Henry (574) 242-1031

Kathi Thompson (574) 270-0128

**Email**

**Website**

**Facebook**

**Instagram**

**YouTube**

Featured in the following online inventories:

**BridgeHunter**

**Bridgemeister**

**Structurae**



February 2022



## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

Pulaski County In The Civil  
War

History of the Gateway to the Town  
Park

Early in 1864, the enlistment received a new impulse. About two-thirds of a company were furnished for the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment, and about the same number for the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth. Thus the enlistment went on during the year 1864, quite a great many going out as recruits for the old companies. The One Hundred and Forty-second secured about half a company from the county. Companies A and H of the One Hundred and Fifty-first were almost wholly from Pulaski, the men being mustered in January and February, 1865. About the 15th of April, 1865, the welcome order was received to cease enlisting.

**READ MORE...**

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We will take a little trip down memory lane for this, giving a history of the park as well as the gateway. Along the way we'll touch the Winamac Conservation Club's stone fireplace, the historic pavilion, the artesian well, and the Memorial Swinging Bridge. Just a bit on that, because readers of this newsletter get a lot of that history already. This month, Part 1, the Winamac Park.

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**Join us on Sunday, February 27, at Celebration Station  
(downtown Winamac), starting at 2:00.**



### **OFF-SITE BIDDING**

We will not have an on-line option. We will, however, have an option to call-in your bid BEFORE the auction. If there is a piece (or pieces) for which you want to bid, you will need to talk to Carmin Ruff, the coordinator. She will explain the process to you (minimum bid, maximum bid, how you will pay, etc.) and will handle that bid for you at the auction when your item(s) come up.

Carmin's number is 574-242-8345, or you may send an email: [carminruff@gmail.com](mailto:carminruff@gmail.com). Bids must be submitted directly to Carmin. Please don't ask a friend to have her call you. You must contact her directly. The due date for calling in your bid is Wednesday, February 23, at noon.

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### **NO LONGER ACCEPTING ART OBJECTS**

As this e-newsletter will send on February 15, the date for submitting art objects has passed.

#### **A Note from our Art Auction Coordinator, Carmin Ruff**

Over 20 students from Winamac Community High school art classes created and donated artwork for the Veteran's Memorial Swinging Bridge Art Auction. All I have to say is WOW what a talented group of young men and ladies.

What a testament that each of these young members of our community were willing to donate and be involved in a community project! Thank you to high school Art Teacher Natalie Dickinson for collaborating with us for this project!



When we began working on this project I had no idea how many wonderfully talented and artistic people we have in this community! I am so thankful and humbled that they are willing to donate their beautifully made creations toward our efforts to Light up Our Legacy!

Invite Others To Join

# EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

March 10, 2022

An invitation-only free light supper to educate and inspire! We want to light up our legacy by focusing on veterans from the west side of the county. If you would like an invitation, call 574-270-0128, or send an email to [info@memorialswingingbridge.com](mailto:info@memorialswingingbridge.com).

March at Meadow Springs  
An Invitation-Only Event  
Thursday, March 10, 6:30

Memorial  
Swinging Bridge  
Project



Help us light our  
VETERANS' MEMORIAL!  
[www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com)

If you want to receive  
an invitation, please call  
or text 574-270-0128

Saturday  
March 12

Register by 5:30  
Game starts  
at 6:00.

Mystery  
prizes!

TriVia



Pre-register at [www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia)

Winamac VFW  
Post 1728

Games We Intend To Play:  
Potawatomi - Indiana - Pulaski County  
American Flag - WWI (The Great War)  
Just Trivia - Fun Facts

Limited to 30 teams of 4.  
\$50 per team.

March 12, 2022

Test your wits!  
Test your skills!  
Bring a team and spend an evening dazzling us with your knowledge! Pre-register at <https://memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia/>

*Greatest Generation of Pulaski County*

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month, we will link to his website (bottom left) and to a specific story or section (bottom right) on the site. Take your time grazing.

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## War Stories Critters

# Take A Look At Our Donors!

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## Donor Page Registry Of Lights Memorials & Honorariums

ANONYMOUS

\$5,000

*Thank You For Lighting Our Legacy!*

STANDARD INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

\$2,500

*Thank You For Lighting Our Legacy!*

# Donations & Memorials

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Please go to our **Donation page** or use this QR Code. Make it a one-time gift, or make it monthly.

Consider making it in honor of or in memory of someone special.



## You can own a piece of the bridge!

You can buy-a-light for \$50.

- Do it for yourself.
- Do it with a group (for example, a fourth grade class can buy one and own it forever; an alumni class can buy one for each class member).
- Give it as a gift.
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<i>Light Up Our Legacy</i>		Final Game, Final Service	1 Machine Gun	2 U-Boat
We'll break after each 20 questions so you can buy food, drinks & raffle tickets!		Winamac VFW Post 1728	3 Pelong Tub	4 Tank
Pre-register at <a href="http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia">www.memorialswingingbridge.com/register-for-trivia</a>		Limited to 30 teams of 4 \$50 per team.	5 WWI Trivia	

<b>Horse Races at the Winamac VFW</b>	
<b>Friday, February 11, 7:00 - 9:30 PM</b>	
<i>Light Up Our Legacy</i>	
<b>Proceeds benefit the Memorial Swinging Bridge Project</b>	



A great time was had by all! The winners were the Richard Smokers. Coming in second place

was The Gang, and third place was taken by The Thermometers!

What a howling good time!

There are several videos on our Facebook page, but to give you a flavor of the night, here is a link to the one that tells you how crazy our hosts are! **Our Hosts.**

Watch for future races! Pick your horse and stick with it!

# Photo Gallery

If you have photographs to share, share **via email**.



Great winter photos from one of our favorite photographers, Kim Schramm!



## *What Do You Mean? Lights?*

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March 2022



## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

### Pulaski County In The Civil War

May 3, 1861, 42,034 men for three years (regular army). (During the summer or early autumn of 1861, six regiments of State troops were put into the field by the energy of Gov. Morton; but when their term of service had expired, they were mustered into the service of the United States. These regiments were from the Twelfth to the Seventeenth inclusive. It was also during the same time that the six months' regiments, from the Sixth to the Eleventh inclusive, re-organized and entered the three years' service. For this reason, no further calls were made until July, 1862.)

#### **READ MORE...**

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### History of the Gateway to the Town Park

We aren't there yet. We're still taking a trip down memory lane, and today we'll focus on the west side.

The story of the artesian well begins on a cold February evening in 1887 when residents met at Vurpillat's Hall. They shared dreams of future wealth in oil and natural gas, as Indiana was in the middle of a natural gas boom. Companies were drilling on the west side of the county, and discoveries of both oil and natural gas had been made. The Winamac Gas & Oil Company was formed on that February night. In June, they sank a well on Water Street in search of oil. Oil was not found, but water was!

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Invite Others To Join

## *Response To A Letter To The Editor*

THIS WAS SUBMITTED TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE PULASKI COUNTY JOURNAL AND WAS PUBLISHED ON FEBRUARY 23, 2022

A Letter to the Editor (*Pulaski County Journal*, Feb. 16, 2022) asked many questions about the Memorial Swinging Bridge Project “Light Up Our Legacy.” We are always happy to answer questions. This is a huge, county-wide undertaking, and it is important to us that the community understands it.

The letter’s author raised over a dozen inquiries. But unfortunately, the available newspaper space does not provide an opportunity for us to respond with complete answers. However, the committee has composed a full response to the issues raised in the letter and has published it on the Memorial Swinging Bridge website <https://memorialswingingbridge.com/>

In the last three years, our enthusiastic and dedicated committee members have contributed untold hours to researching the history of the bridge and the county veterans to whom it is dedicated, along with planning the lighting project and the rededication event in July 2023 – and the many and varied fundraisers to facilitate the project.

Since fundraising began for the project in late 2020, the committee has raised \$165,534 – over half of its \$300,000 goal. Several more fundraisers, including an art auction, are planned in the next few weeks. Community members, businesses and organizations have been most generous and supportive.

As with the letter in last week’s paper, we receive many repeat inquiries into the project as people learn of it. We always stand ready to address any questions as they are raised. We are easy to find, as we have a significant presence in the community: in person, by traditional mail or email, in our published brochures, at our events, and through our extensive traditional and electronic media outreach.

You may contact us at any time via email, at [info@memorialswingingbridge.com](mailto:info@memorialswingingbridge.com). You may also call Greg Henry (574-242-1031) or Kathi Thompson (574-270-0128).

Memorial Swinging Bridge  
*Light Up Our Legacy* Committee

## *Greatest Generation of Pulaski County*

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**War Stories**  
**Distinguished**  
**Service Cross**

## Road To Be Named In Honor Of Gutwein

**STATEHOUSE (Feb. 18, 2022)** – "Brave," "selfless," "heroic" and most important, "brother," are the words State Rep. Doug Gutwein (R-Francesville) used to describe Capt. Ronald D. Gutwein on the floor of the Indiana House of Representatives this week.

Capt. Gutwein served in the Vietnam War as a helicopter pilot. He received two Silver Star Medals for his courage and bravery when he delivered infantry troops through enemy controlled territory numerous times while facing hostile fire, and received the Purple Heart. Capt. Gutwein earned four Bronze Stars, two Army Commendation Medals, and was nominated for the Distinguished Service Medal, the second-highest decoration the U.S. awards for heroism.

Now, Rep. Gutwein, the youngest of five boys raised in Francesville, is working alongside one his House colleagues to cement his brothers legacy in stone by naming a bridge on I-65 after



the local war hero. The Indiana House of Representatives on Monday, Feb. 14 voted unanimously in favor of those efforts.

"This was very emotional for me as I reflected on our years growing up together and our time in the military," said Gutwein, who also served in the Vietnam War. "Ron was brave and selfless, and wanted to always help others. I'm so proud of him, and although he has been gone for many years now, I miss him very much. Naming a bridge after him would be an incredible way to honor his memory and life of service."

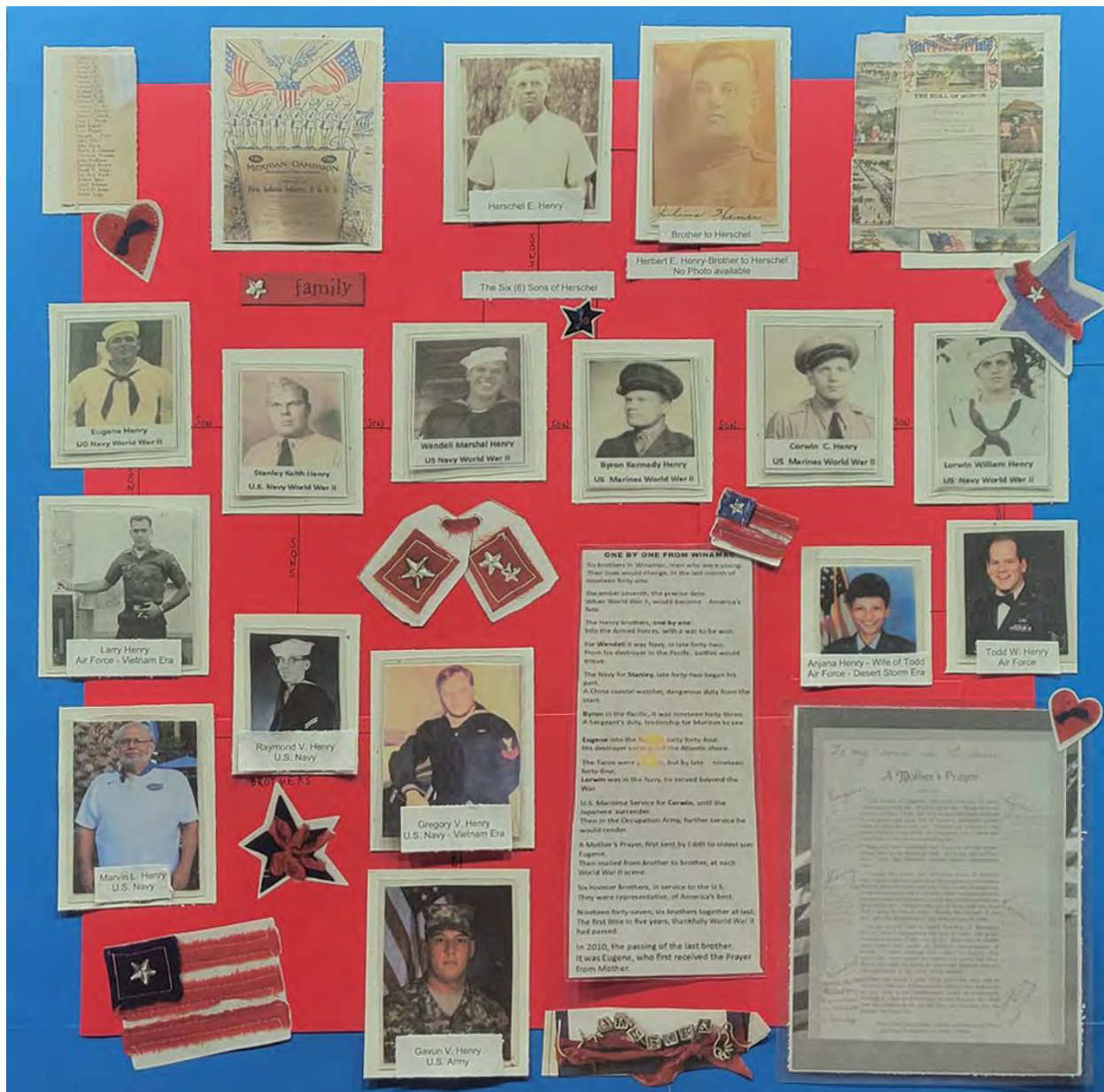
A graduate of Francesville High School, Capt. Gutwein attended Moody Bible Institute before enlisting in the United States Army as a private and working his way up to the rank of captain. Upon leaving the Army, Capt. Gutwein continued to serve the country as an aviation safety consultant to U.S. allies in the Middle East. He also worked as a civilian pilot, where he flew medivac missions for the Mayo Clinic in Minnesota until his untimely death in 1985.

"We Vietnam veterans are getting up there in age, and each year younger generations are becoming further removed from that war and the important lessons it taught our country about how we treat those who serve," Gutwein said. "My brother is a prime example of someone from a small town who served his country in a big way. He is an example for others to follow and an inspiration."



## The Henry Family - Proud In Service

The Henry family has put together a photo remembrance of their family in service, from the Mexican Border Skirmish through today. This collage includes the six Henry brothers who served during WWII.



# EVENTS

The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project has been holding fundraisers fast and furious since December 1, 2020. As we enter the last year of our fundraising (we must have what we need by March of 2023), these events will fade away.

We have been overwhelmed by the community's support of this project! And I'm sure you will love it when we are no longer knocking on your doors asking for handouts.

February saw the one and only Art Auction. What a great day! March will be the last of a series of Trivia games. We will have one more Golf Scramble in the fall, and of course, we'll have another river ball drop this summer! We had our second successful invitation-only light meal event, with one more to come in September.

Several other events are scheduled as we go through the year. Watch for them as they are announced and help us Light Up Our Legacy!

Today, we report on a few events "past."



This was a great day for the Project, and a great day for the community! Over 25 pieces of art from Eastern Pulaski Community High School students, over 125 pieces of art in total. The Project cleared nearly \$16,000 with the assistance of Jab Kopka from Kopka Auction Service. THANK YOU!

Note: This was our first and last foray into the world of art and auctions!

The complete auction catalog, including donor, artist, item, winning bidder and bid price, can be found at the top of the [Art Auction page](#) on our website.



We held our last Trivia game on the 13th! It was a fun run, and we're sorry to see it go, but we must move on! THANK YOU to everyone who chose to play the game!

Our winners, whose photos can be found on our [Trivia page](#), are:

- April 2021: Dixie Chicks (but they had a hard time remembering their name....)
- June 2021: Half & Half
- January 2022: The Richard Smokers
- March 2022: Once again, Half & Half!

Thanks also go to Willie DeGroot for helping us set up multiple devices, to Tippy's for providing a space (for the first two games), and to the the VFW for providing a space (for the last two games).

March at Meadow Springs (Francesville) was a great success! Thank you all for supporting this project, to illuminate our war memorial!

We will have one more invitation-only event on September 10, 2022. This will be held at Celebration Station in Winamac. While this is



invitation-only, we invite YOU to request an invitation! Please call (574.270.0128) or send an email:

[info@memorialswingingbridge.com](mailto:info@memorialswingingbridge.com).

## Take A Look At Our Donors!

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### **Donor Page Registry Of Lights Memorials & Honorariums**

Thank you, Kersting's Cycle Center for your generous contribution! Front row, from the Project, Alvin & Rana Parish and Greg Henry, Sandy Kersting, and again from the Project, Karen Fritz and Brenda Henry. In the back, Kersting's Crew!



Al Breyfogle, representing the Breyfogle family, presented a check to the Project in honor of his wife, Sharon, and his son, Brad "Boomer" Breyfogle. We are grateful for the gift and the honor he bestowed.

Al is joined by Project members Greg Henry and (back) Rana & Alvin Parish, Brenda Henry, Cindy Hickle and Melanie Berger.



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- Buy one or more for a veteran.

### Do it here!



*The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project is sponsored by the VFW Post 1728 of Winamac IN, EIN 35-0827207, a 501(c)19 organization, and as such, any contribution is tax deductible. No goods or services are provided in exchange for contributions.*

# Photo Gallery

If you have photographs to share, share **via email**.



This photo was submitted by Phil Byers. From left to right, Ennis Byers 1892-1977, Vivian (Phillips) Byers 1910-2007, and Febe (Alva) Byers 1940-2018, all of Medaryville. The photo was taken in 1964 by Sgt. Philip Byers, son of Ennis & Vivian, while on leave from the U.S. Army.



Let's get ready for spring with this photo from last year!

## What Do You Mean? Lights?

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## About Us



Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

Text To Join The  
Email List  
MSBRIDGE  
to 22828



### Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

PO Box 14, Winamac IN 46996

Greg Henry (574) 242-1031

Kathi Thompson (574) 270-0128

**Email**

**Website**

**Facebook**

**Instagram**

**YouTube**

Featured in the following online inventories:

**BridgeHunter**

**Bridgemeister**

**Structurae**

April 2022



## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

### Pulaski County In The Civil War

Pulaski County's Role Of Honor of military service members is quite extensive. The first soldier to die, as listed in this particular reference, died at Cheat Mountain in western Virginia in November 1861, seven months following the fall of Fort Sumter. From the same reference, the last soldier to die was in Grenada, Mississippi in October 1865, six months following the treaty signed at Appomattox Courthouse.

**READ MORE...**

*(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down to the post.)*

### History of the Gateway to the Town Park

We're still not there, but we're getting close! Next month, I promise! This month, we give a thumbnail sketch of the pavilion, the Winamac Conservation Club and a major donor to the park, Richard Rogers.

**READ MORE...**

*(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down to the post.)*



Invite Others To Join

**Motorcycle Ride** **50/50**  
**May 14th** **at VFW**

**\$20 Rider / \$10 Extra Rider**  
**Registration starts 12:30**  
**Winamac Town Park, 262 East Old SR 14**  
**Kick Stands Up at 2:00**  
**Ending at the Winamac VFW**  
**Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Brats, Drinks**  
**available for purchase**  
**Questions Call 574-595-0394**

*Memorial*  
**Swinging**  
**BRIDGE**  
**FUNDRAISER**

**63 Miles**  
**3 Stops**  
**Including a Stop**  
**at Kerstings**



## *Greatest Generation of Pulaski County*

Our Boys contains stories of the members of the military from the Greatest Generation of Pulaski County. It was built and is managed by Pulaski County Native Jim Phillips. Each month, we will link to his website (bottom left) and to a specific story or section (bottom right) on the site. Take your time grazing.

**Our Boys**

**War Stories**  
**Bronze Star**

The veterans of World War II earned the title, “Greatest Generation”. Nearly 75% were born between 1916 and 1927. They were children during the “Noble Experiment” and the “Great Depression”, and faced a World War as adults.

Except for those who knew them intimately, their stories are unknown. Today, nearly all are gone, as are their contemporaries and elders. Except for a few family members, none of us can know anything about them, **except what can be gleaned from the public record.**

## *Military History Moment*

### **World War II Memorial at Star City School**

This memorial was installed at Star City School in 1948. When most of the school was demolished, the memorial went to Star City West Cemetery. In this photo, you can see two brass plaques, and the newspaper below gives a complete inscription. Only one plaque remains today. (See photos, below.)



## War Memorial is Dedicated at Star City

### *Stone and Court are Erected as Tribute to Servicemen of Community*

*By Mrs. C. L. Reed*

*Pulaski County Democrat, June 3, 1948, page 2*

The dedication of the Star City War Memorial Court, in connection with the Memorial Day program Sunday afternoon, was an impressive event. The memorial embraces the area on the school grounds between the school building and the gymnasium. The main feature of the court is a native boulder set far back into the enclosure. A bronze tablet on the stone carries this inscription:

*In honor of the men and women who left the Star City community to serve their country in World War II and in memory of the three who gave their lives.*

*Robert E. Fahler, Inf.  
David L. Jones, Navy  
Richard B. Reed. A.A.F.*

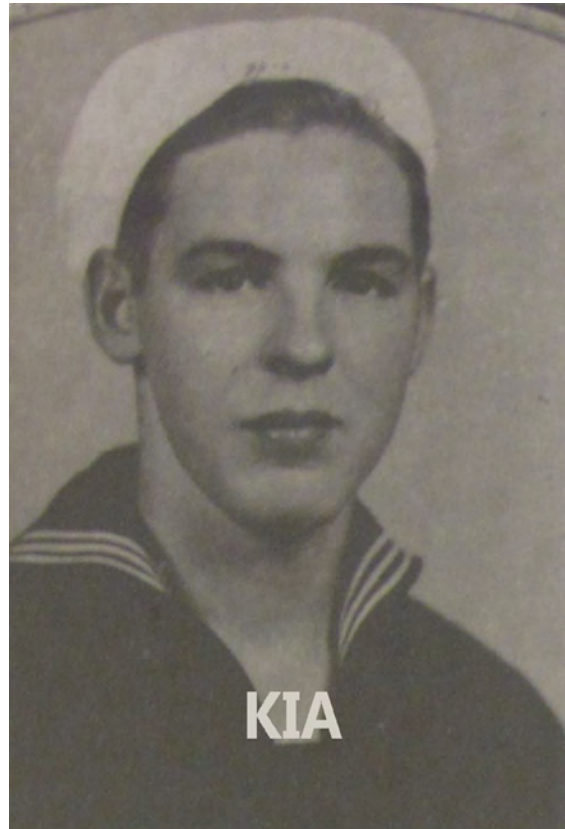
*They fought for Peace with Honor.*

A long narrow cement walk connects the boulder part of the memorial to a circular base for the 60-foot flag pole. On three sides of this are curved benches of Bedford Stone, each with a gold star for the three young men who gave their lives. Shrubs and plants next to the buildings add beauty along with sides and front. The space behind the boulder forms a stage, and laurel and flower boxes outline the front of the area.

### **Honored at Services**

This was the setting for the services Sunday afternoon. American flags on standards and potted red geraniums around the flag pole made up the decorations. Music was furnished by the Star City band and a male trio.

The Rev. O. B. Davis gave the Memorial Day address, and the Rev. John Paul Jones, formerly of Star City, gave the dedication talk. A folded flag lay on each stone bench



**David Jones**



**Robert Fahler**

until being presented to the families of the deceased veterans by former members of the same branches of service – Darin Sayers, A.A.F.; Roger Lincoln, Navy; and George Hoesel, Infantry. Mrs. Clark Reed placed the wreath on the memorial.

The War Memorial committee was made up of representatives of each community organization, including churches and school, and the construction was financed with subscriptions by interested groups. Suitable plantings will be made from time to time. The committee consisted of Mrs. Reed, Mrs. Maud Wirick, Mrs. Frank Stephens, Floyd Knebel and Dwight Surber. In charge of the Memorial program this year and dedicatory services were Mrs. Stephens, Mrs. Sylvia Geier, Mrs. Tom Densborn and Mrs. Fred Cords.



**Richard Reed**



For more information on these three young men, who died far too young, visit Jim Phillips' Facebook page, [HERE](#).

# River Ball Race on the Tippecanoe

Sunday 07/24 6:00 PM Winamac Town Park Rain Date 07/31

1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$1,000 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$200 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$100 Tickets \$20

Balls will be dropped into the river at the park and will float to the finish line at the Swinging Bridge. Need not be present to win

All proceeds benefit **Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**  
Tickets available from committee members or at Winamac VFW

For info or tickets call Greg Henry 574-242-1031 License #002802

## *Take A Look At Our Donors!*

Our donors are amazing! Go to the website to see who believes in what we are doing!

**Donor Page  
Registry Of Lights  
Memorials & Honorariums**

### **SUCH EXCITING NEWS!**

We had a wonderful late February through March - busy but filled with excitement - both with individual donors and with events. This period of time put us close to 2/3, but - SUCH EXCITING NEWS is coming!

Watch the papers for more soon!

## *Donations & Memorials*

Your contribution would mean a lot!

Please go to our **Donation page** or use this QR Code. Make it a one-time gift, or make it monthly.

Consider making it in honor of or in memory of someone special.



## You can own a piece of the bridge!

You can buy-a-light for \$50.

- Do it for yourself.
- Do it with a group (for example, a fourth grade class can buy one and own it forever; an alumni class can buy one for each class member).
- Give it as a gift.
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## Military History Moment

### Memorial Day Service at the Memorial Swinging Bridge

*This clip, provided by Jim Phillips, is from the Winamac Republican, May 30, 1929.*

It relayed information about a memorial service honoring the dead from The Great War, WWI.

This was a time when the bridge was remembered as a veterans' memorial, a time when - every year - the community gathered at the Memorial Bridge to honor veterans from Pulaski County.

Perhaps this can once again become an annual program.

The Winamac memorial services will be held at the high school auditorium beginning at 10 o'clock. Following music and an address the gathering will form in line of march to go to the memorial footbridge, where the beautiful custom of strewing flowers on the water for those who died at sea will be observed.

The program at the footbridge will be as follows:

"Nearer My God to Thee" ----- Band  
 Prayer ----- Rev. J. E. M. Cloud.  
 Scatter flowers on water ----- Scouts.  
 Salute ----- Firing Squad.  
 Taps.

The lines will again form and the march made to the cemetery, where taps will be held over the graves of George Reddick and Milton Ewing, and decoration of graves will take place.

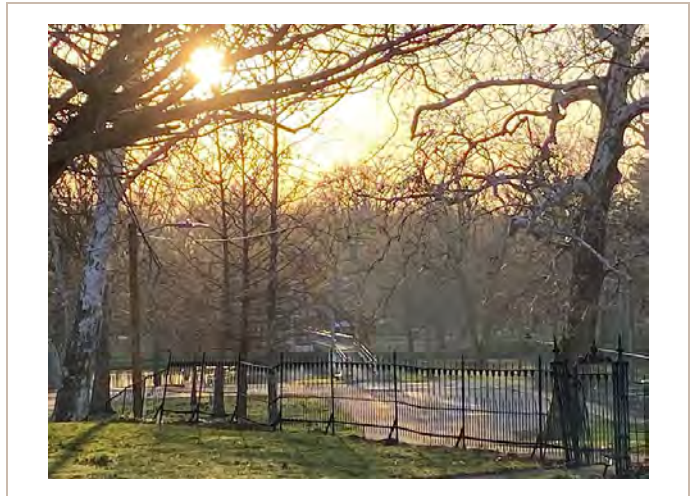


# Photo Gallery

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It's SPRING! Enjoy these photos from Greg Henry!





## *What Do You Mean? Lights?*

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*About Us*

May 2022



## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

### Pulaski County In The Mexican-American War

We're going to back up now, after seven installments of the Civil War, to the Mexican-American War, 1846 - 1848. This information comes from the same source, The Counties of White and Pulaski, Indiana, published by Battey in 1883.

So far as can be learned, no man, then a resident of Pulaski County, served his country in the war with Mexico. A company was organized at Logansport. Another was organized at Crown Point. Doubtless, each of these companies contained men who, sometime in the past, made Pulaski County their abiding place. The following is as perfect a list as could be procured by the writer of the men who served in the Mexican war, and who have since resided in the county. There may be some mistakes in this list.

**[READ MORE...](#)**

### History of the Gateway to the Town Park

Finally, we reach the gateway to the park, the reason this series was begun four months ago. We hope you have enjoyed the little romp through the histories of the park, artesian well, pavilion, Winamac Conservation Club, and a major donor, Richard Rogers.

Now, finally, the gateway.

This gateway is beautiful. There are no other words for it. Well ... graceful, majestic, historic ... those words apply as well.

**[READ MORE...](#)**

*(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down the first page to the post.)*

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Tickets available from committee members or at Winamac VFW

For info or tickets call Greg Henry 574-242-1031 License #002802



### Memorial Swinging Bridge Ride!

We had a ride! This was our first attempt. Who knows? We might do it again next year!

# *Greatest Generation of Pulaski County*

Our Boys contains stories of the members of the military from the Greatest Generation of Pulaski County. It was built and is managed by Pulaski County Native Jim Phillips. Each month, we will link to his website (bottom left) and to a specific story or section (bottom right) on the site. Take your time grazing.

## **Our Boys**

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Except for those who knew them intimately, their stories are unknown. Today, nearly all are gone, as are their contemporaries and elders. Except for a few family members, none of us can know anything about them, **except what can be gleaned from the public record.**

## **War Stories Purple Heart**

## **Henry Family in WWII - A Mother's Prayer**

The words are barely legible in this forum, but what comes through loud and clear is a mother's love. Mrs. Henry would send the letter to her oldest, and it went from brother to brother, in order of age, would be signed, and eventually ... a mother's love was returned.



To my sons in the service,  
**A Mother's Prayer**

*Eugene,*  
 June 11, 1944  
 Forwarded  
 to Stanley

God, Father of Freedom, look after that boy of mine, wherever he may be. Walk in upon him. Keep his mind stayed on Thee. Talk with him during the silent watches of the night and spur him to bravery whenever called upon to face the cruel foe. Transfer my prayer to his heart, that he may know the lingering love I have bequeathed to him as an everlasting gift.

*Byron*  
 March 11, 1944

Keep my boy contented and inspired by the never-dying faith in his Mother's God. He is my gift to Freedom. May that Freedom forever remain untarnished, God.

*Stanley*  
 May 21, 1944

Through the lonely and confusing hours of training and combat, and throughout all the long days of a hopeful Victory, keep his spirit high and his purpose unwavering. Make him a proud pal to all with whom he comes in contact and make his influence a noon-day light wherever his duty takes him. Nourish that boy of mine with the love that I gave to him at birth. Satisfy the hunger of his soul with the knowledge of this daily prayer of mine.

*Lorwin*  
 Oct 1, 1944

To my country and to world Freedom, O Heavenly Father, have I bequeathed this boy of mine. He is my choicest treasure. Take care of him. Keep him in health and sustain him under all possible circumstances of events. I once warmed him under my heart. You warm him anew under his shelter and under the stars. Touch him with my smile of cheer and comfort and my full confidence in his every brave pursuit.

*Wendell*  
 June 16, 1944  
 Forwarded  
 on June 16  
 to Stanley

Silent and alone, I pray, God, but I am only one of millions of Mothers whose prayers stream day and night to you. This is our Gethsemane. Lead us victoriously through it. And lead that boy of mine through his. Fail him not—and may he not fail You, his Country, nor the Mother who bore him.

*Mar. 1944*

(From The News Sheet, official publication of Pennsylvania Federation of Music Clubs.)



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**Donor Page  
 Registry Of Lights  
 Memorials & Honorariums**

# Donations & Memorials

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You can buy-a-light for \$50.

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## Photo Gallery

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Families get together...



Prom photos are taken...

**And we have some fun with Art in the Park!**



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Rhiannon Armstrong



*Light Up Our Legacy*

JoLynn Behny & Friend



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Bowman Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Renee Calabrese & Eevie



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Deanna Cole, Arik & Kira



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Crissinger Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Day Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Eaton Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Silvia Fornal



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Mel & Marsha Good



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Greg & Brenda Henry



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Paul Hoffman



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Kelsie Zellers & Adley



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Jordan Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Sarah & JJ Mitchell





*Light Up Our Legacy*

Olds Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Parish Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Sarah Paulsen & Friends



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Sarah & Mary Paulsen, Skylar



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Aaron Paulsen



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Stella & Dennis Pitcher



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Malissa & Judith Poor



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Sam Pugh, George Knebel



*Light Up Our Legacy*

REACT



*Light Up Our Legacy*

REACT



*Light Up Our Legacy*

REACT



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Tim & Melinda Roth



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Schambers Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Dylan & Anne Rebeck-Scott



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Dave Scott



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Whitlee Scott



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Judy Shank



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Brittany Stepp



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Scott Straw



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Swartzell Family



*Light Up Our Legacy*

Tribe Members & Henry's

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## *About Us*

**Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**  
PO Box 14, Winamac IN 46996

June 2022



## Memorial Swinging Bridge Project

### Tippecanoe River: Flowing With A Purpose

Tippecanoe. This humble stream has helped elect a national president and named a small species of fish unique to its waters. Meandering through eight of Indiana's northern counties, the Tippy, as it is fondly called, becomes a "liquid necklace," stringing together its pearls along the way. Its name is attached to villages, towns, cities, townships, counties, lakes, battlefields and parks along its path. Early treaties use it as a reference point on the face of a poorly mapped, infant state. Famous as a battlefield, just a few years later, it was ignored as America attempted to connect the Atlantic with the Gulf of Mexico by a system of waterways. Now, it is globally recognized as one of the nation's most important rivers. Here in Pulaski County, it is certainly our most storied, and important body of water.



**READ MORE...**

*(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down the first page to the post.)*

# DDAY: A LOCAL VETERAN REMEMBERED

D-Day remembered ...

By Karen Clem Fritz

*Reprinted from the June 5, 1999 issue of ExPRESS*

The news the free world had been waiting for at the height of World War II was broadcast at 9:33 a.m. London time, June 6, 1944 while most Americans were sound asleep.

The brief press release said, "Under the command of General Eisenhower Allied naval forces, supported by strong air forces, began landing Allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France."

... Among the troops was a 19-year-old rural Winamac farm boy, Gerald, Rife, who, over his father's objections, had joined the army 11 months earlier before completing high school.



**READ MORE...**

*(If this link doesn't work, go to [www.memorialswingingbridge.com](http://www.memorialswingingbridge.com) and scroll down the first page to the post.)*

Invite Others To Join

## OUR BOYS LIGHTS

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# EVENTS

This will be our last summer / fall season to raise money! You can look forward to never seeing us with our hands outstretched again! But for now, please put these events in your calendars!



**First Prize \$1,000!**  
**River Ball Race**  
 Sunday 07/24 6:00 PM Winamac Town Park  
 1<sup>st</sup> Prize \$1,000 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize \$200 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize \$100  
 Balls will drop and will float to the finish line at the Swinging Bridge  
 All proceeds benefit **Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**  
 Tickets available from committee members or at Winamac VFW  
 Need not be present to win **Tickets \$20** For Info call Greg Henry 574-242-1031  
 Rain Date 07/31 License #002802

Sunday, July 24



**Taco Bout It!** **Saturday, July 30**  
**Celebration Station**  
 All proceeds benefit **Memorial Swinging Bridge**  
**Save The Date**  
**More Details To Come**

Saturday, July 30



**Pork Chop Dinner**  
**Saturday August 6**  
 Broasted Chop, Cheesy Potatoes  
 Green Beans & Roll  
 Details Coming Soon!  
 Winamac VFW  
 Proceeds support  
**Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**

Saturday, August 6



**PADDLES UPI**  
**PADDLE AUCTION PARTY**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 27**  
**3:00 UNTIL FINISHED** License #002802  
**\$10 per Paddle** (that's your ticket in - there is a limited number)  
**\$5 for extra Paddles** (at the door, for as long as they last)  
**CONTACT LARA FULGHAM** larafulgham@gmail.com **574-595-0980**  
 At the Winamac VFW, to benefit the **Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**

Saturday, August 27



Saturday, September 10



Saturday, October 8

# OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! Go to the website to see who believes in what we are doing!

**Donor Page**  
**Registry Of Lights**  
**Memorials & Honorariums**

Carroll White REMC presented checks that put us over the 70% level! Thank you so much for your support!



A group of volunteers are joined in this photo by members of the REMC Board of Directors during the presentation of the check.

Brenda Henry, Cindy Hickle, CWREMC Board Member Tina Davis, Greg Henry, Kathi Thompson, CWREMC Board Member Gary Gerlach, and CEO Cathy Raderstorf.

Your contribution would help us light this 100-year-old veterans' memorial, so it's meaning will never again be forgotten.



Please go to our **Donation page** or use this QR Code. Make it a one-time gift, or make it monthly. Consider making it in honor of or in memory of someone special.

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- Do it for yourself.
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# PHOTOS

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Over the first week of June, the Knebel cousins, originally from Star City, enjoyed four days of reconnecting. Ten of 14 living first cousins (and a few spouses) met in Indianapolis. On Saturday, June 4, the 'Knebel Charter' bus took them on a day's worth of sites special to the

family. One of those special places was the Memorial Swinging Bridge. Here they are, pictured on a beautiful spring day, with the bridge in the background.



Boy Scouts, members of the Winamac High School football team, American Legion, VFW, Memorial Swinging Bridge Committee and many individuals placed hundreds of grave flags before Memorial Day, honoring veterans with their time, their presence and their energy.







They traveled the county, paying tribute to veterans from every era of service.

# ABOUT US

**Memorial Swinging Bridge Project**  
PO Box 14, Winamac IN 46996  
Greg Henry (574) 242-1031  
Kathi Thompson (574) 270-0128

**Email**  
**Website**  
**Facebook**  
**Instagram**  
**YouTube**

**Memorial is Featured in the following online inventories:**

**BridgeHunter**  
**Bridgemeister**  
**Structurae**