

January 2023



The e-newsletter will continue to go out monthly until the lights are on. Following the celebration on July 3, there will be one last newsletter, and then the e-news will go quietly away. Our web domain is paid through 2025, so it will remain active for a while.

OUR BOYS

A website managed by Pulaski County native Jim Phillips.



Rural Pulaski County in northwestern Indiana had two competing weeklies. They reported on the men and women in the armed services during World War II, including these 72 fallen veterans memorialized in the bronze plaque on the court house lawn. Another 88 also with connections to Pulaski County died in service.

In World War II there were over 400,000 deaths among over 16 million U.S. service men and women. Just after World War II, the government issued a pamphlet on how families could get the remains of their fallen loved ones returned. It was titled "Tell Me About My Boy". This book contains the last story of each fallen serviceman connected to a single rural community. For them, there will be no more stories, sweet or funny, of a husband, son, father, or grandfather.

There are also wartime stories of survivors, as well as the view their folks back home got of the war.

Close your eyes and imagine nearly every man between 18 and 25, including relatives, loved ones, friends, coworkers, and even store clerks. "Our Boys" were to be gone for no one knows how long. Or gone for – ever.

Website published by Jim Phillips.

OWN A PRINT BY A LOCAL ARTIST

We have several prints of the bridge by Don Kegarise. Don generously donated the prints to us in late 2020 for use as necessary to raise funds for this project. We used them during several events, including the art auction.

We have a few left and are making them available for \$10 each. The prints are a standard size for framing (16x20). If you are interested, call or text 574-270-0128, or send an email to info@memorialswingingbridge.com.



OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! If you are interested in seeing who they are, check out these pages.

Donor Page
Registry Of Lights
Memorials & Honorariums

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.

ABOUT US

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

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

BridgeHunter
Bridgemeister

Email
Website
Facebook
Instagram
YouTube

Structurae

THIS PROJECT FUNDED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Indiana Housing and Community Development Association (IHCDA) Creating Places, empowering local placemaking projects through crowdfunding, access to matching grants and hands-on project coaching for over six years.

The Community Foundation of Pulaski County, Inc., made possible by generous donors since 1997.

Carroll White REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

Fulton County REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

The Luminous Fund, a donor advised fund, partnering with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (CFGFW).

February 2023



The e-newsletter will continue to go out monthly until the lights are on. Following the celebration on July 3, there will be one last newsletter, and then the e-news will go quietly away. Our web domain is paid through 2025, so it will remain active for a while.

OUR BOYS

A website managed by Pulaski County native Jim Phillips.



Rural Pulaski County in northwestern Indiana had two competing weeklies. They reported on the men and women in the armed services during World War II, including these 72 fallen veterans memorialized in the bronze plaque on the court house lawn. Another 88 also with connections to Pulaski County died in service.

In World War II there were over 400,000 deaths among over 16 million U.S. service men and women. Just after World War II, the government issued a pamphlet on how families could get the remains of their fallen loved ones returned. It was titled "Tell Me About My Boy". This book contains the last story of each fallen serviceman connected to a single rural community. For them, there will be no more stories, sweet or funny, of a husband, son, father, or grandfather.

There are also wartime stories of survivors, as well as the view their folks back home got of the war.

Close your eyes and imagine nearly every man between 18 and 25, including relatives, loved ones, friends, coworkers, and even store clerks. "Our Boys" were to be gone for no one knows how long. Or gone for – ever.

Website published by Jim Phillips.

OWN A PRINT BY A LOCAL ARTIST

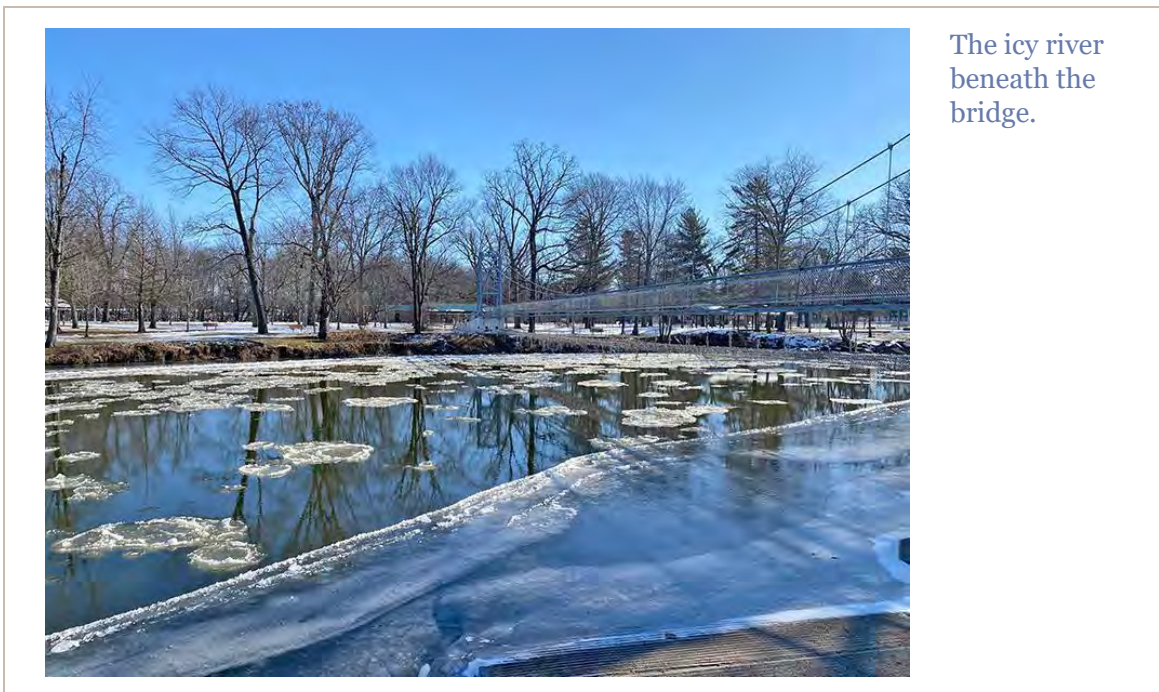
We have several prints of the bridge by Don Kegarise. Don generously donated the prints to us in late 2020 for use as necessary to raise funds for this project. We used them during several events, including the art auction.

We have a few left and are making them available for \$10 each. The prints are a standard size for framing (16x20). If you are interested, call or text 574-270-0128, or send an email to info@memorialswingingbridge.com.



PHOTOS

Winter photos from Greg Henry.



The icy river
beneath the
bridge.

West side of the park: sculpture,
Heron.



West side:
Sculpture,
Catfish, and
(across the
river) the
historic
Pavilion.

OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! If you are interested in seeing who they are, check out these pages.

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

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.

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

THIS PROJECT FUNDED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Indiana Housing and Community Development Association (IHCDA) CreatINg Places, empowering local placemaking projects through crowdfunding, access to matching grants and hands-on project coaching for over six years.

The Community Foundation of Pulaski County, Inc., made possible by generous donors since 1997.

Carroll White REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

Fulton County REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

The Luminous Fund, a donor advised fund, partnering with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (CFGFW).

March 2023



More details will be forthcoming!

This e-newsletter has LOTS of photos of the bridge repairs and renovations, managed by the Town of Winamac. So please scroll down and take a look!

OUR BOYS

A website managed by Pulaski County native Jim Phillips.



Rural Pulaski County in northwestern Indiana had two competing weeklies. They reported on the men and women in the armed services during World War II, including these 72 fallen veterans memorialized in the bronze plaque on the court house lawn. Another 88 also with connections to Pulaski County died in service.

In World War II there were over 400,000 deaths among over 16 million U.S. service men and women. Just after World War II, the government issued a pamphlet on how families could get the remains of their fallen loved ones returned. It was titled “Tell Me About My Boy”. This book contains the last story of each fallen serviceman connected to a single rural community. For them, there will be no more stories, sweet or funny, of a husband, son, father, or grandfather.

There are also wartime stories of survivors, as well as the view their folks back home got of the war.

Close your eyes and imagine nearly every man between 18 and 25, including relatives, loved ones, friends, coworkers, and even store clerks. “Our Boys” were to be gone for no one knows how long. Or gone for – ever.

Website published by Jim Phillips.

OWN A PRINT BY A LOCAL ARTIST

We have several prints of the bridge by Don Kegarise. Don generously donated the prints to us in late 2020 for use as necessary to raise funds for this project. We used them during several events, including the art auction.

We have a few left and are making them available for \$10 each. The prints are a standard size for framing (16x20). If you are interested, call or text 574-270-0128, or send an email to info@memorialswingingbridge.com.



PHOTOS

Photos in fog, Kathi Thompson; work continuing on bridge, Greg Henry.





A foggy Sunday morning, from Janet Onken.



From the Pulaski County Journal

Photos from the March 1, 2023 Pulaski County Journal.

From the March 8, 2023 Pulaski County Journal, reporting on the meeting of the Winamac Town Council on February 13.

"Town manager Brad Zellers explained to the council that work on the swinging bridge will resume in the coming week. He said that Russell Abbott repaired some welds on the bridge and the crew will resume the decking and painting."

In another note from that same meeting:

"In addition, later on in the meeting, the town council approved Ordinance #1 of 2023, an ordinance establishing the town of Winamac swinging bridge donation fund."

Bridge work picks up again



Work has started again on the Memorial Swinging Bridge with spring just around the corner. Repairs were paused briefly due to the wrong size boards being placed on the footbridge. Things have since been ironed out and work is to wrap up in time for the lighting of the bridge this spring.

The ordinance was presented so they can receive donations for the repair and maintenance of the Veteran's Memorial Swinging Bridge in the town park.

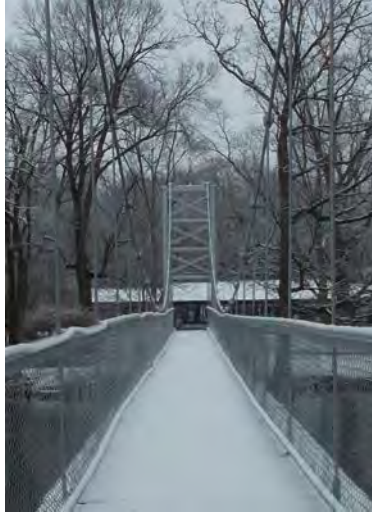
It is a perpetual fund and expenditures can be made from the fund only for the purposes set forward in the ordinance. Those purposes include providing repair and/ or maintenance to the bridge for pedestrian use and safety and any other purpose that the town council approves in an open, public meeting."



These photos, taken by Greg Henry on 03/10/23, show real progress on the bridge. Painting of the steel has been completed, the netting has been removed, and decking (made of composite) is being laid. Workers hope to be done with decking "in four good weather days." After that, the tower bases will be painted white, plaques will be done in bright silver with black lettering, and both ramps will be taken out and replaced with concrete.



These photos from Janet Onken capture the fact that it is still winter in Indiana! You can see the decking is almost completed; the bridge is still not open to pedestrians.



The plaques on both ends of the bridge are given new life!



Tower bases and walkways are painted white.



Looking up through the towers; pedestrians really wanting to start going across, and a view across the river from the bridge.



OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! If you are interested in seeing who they are, check out these pages.

[Donor Page](#)
[Registry Of Lights](#)
[Memorials & Honorariums](#)



The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project was pleased to receive a check from Doral, LLC (Mammoth Solar). Shown here are (back) Ethan Oswald, Doral; Norm Welker; Nick Cohen, President & CEO of Doral; Stan Czech, Commander, VFW (financial sponsor of the Project); and Cindy Hickle, MSB Project. (Front) Ran Rabi and Ed Baptista of Doral. Notice the improved look of the bridge, still closed to traffic, but once again a bright silver with a bright white foundation.



Lightstream was an early donor, weighing in with a pledge that paid out in 2021, 2022, and now, 2023. Thank you so much! With the completion of this pledge, you are a major contributor. We appreciate the early and continued support!

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.

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

THIS PROJECT FUNDED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Indiana Housing and Community Development Association (IHCDA) CreatiNg Places, empowering local placemaking projects through crowdfunding, access to matching grants and hands-on project coaching for over six years.

The Community Foundation of Pulaski County, Inc., made possible by generous donors since 1997.

Carroll White REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

Fulton County REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

The Luminous Fund, a donor advised fund, partnering with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (CFGFW).

April 2023



More details will be forthcoming!

We have more photos of the bridge renovation project moving forward to completion!

OUR BOYS

A website managed by Pulaski County native Jim Phillips.



Rural Pulaski County in northwestern Indiana had two competing weeklies. They reported on the men and women in the armed services during World War II, including these 72 fallen veterans memorialized in the bronze plague on the court house lawn. Another 88 also with connections to Pulaski County died in service.

In World War II there were over 400,000 deaths among over 16 million U.S. service men and women. Just after World War II, the government issued a pamphlet on how families could get the remains of their fallen loved ones returned. It was titled “Tell Me About My Boy”. This book contains the last story of each fallen serviceman connected to a single rural community. For them, there will be no more stories, sweet or funny, of a husband, son, father, or grandfather.

There are also wartime stories of survivors, as well as the view their folks back home got of the war.

Close your eyes and imagine nearly every man between 18 and 25, including relatives, loved ones, friends, coworkers, and even store clerks. “Our Boys” were to be gone for no one knows how long. Or gone for – ever.

Website published by Jim Phillips.

OWN A PRINT BY A LOCAL ARTIST

We have several prints of the bridge by Don Kegarise. Don generously donated the prints to us in late 2020 for use as necessary to raise funds for this project. We used them during several events, including the art auction.

We have a few left and are making them available for \$10 each. The prints are a standard size for framing (16x20). If you are interested, call or text 574-270-0128, or send an email to info@memorialswingingbridge.com.



PHOTOS



The bridge is open to pedestrian traffic!!!! Work still continues in this photo.



Crew from Southern Road & Bridge, a company from Tarpon Springs, Florida,



discussing next steps in Memorial's renovations.

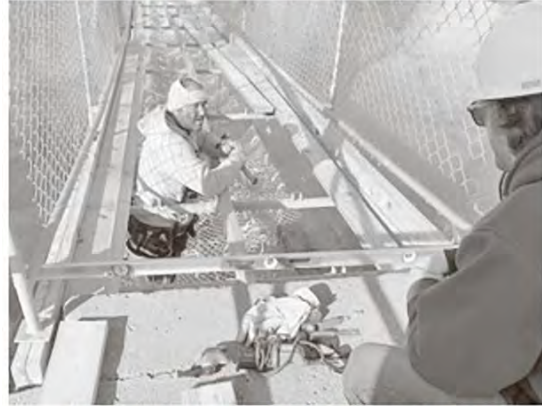
The article below is from the April 5 issue of the Pulaski County Journal.



The Town electrical crew moves in to work with the light project's general contractor, Associated Controls & Design, and "old" lights are removed from the towers.



With bridge repairs complete, project looks to light installation



The repairs to the Veteran's Memorial Swinging Bridge wrapped up in late March. The tower bases were painted white, the plaques were painted silver with fresh black lettering and all of the steel has been repainted. New composite decking has also been laid. The bridge is now open to foot traffic.



Since repairs have been completed, the focus is now on the installation of the lights this spring. Winamac Town Manager Brad Zellers and the town electric crew recently met with Mike Brubaker of Associated Controls + Design and his crew on planning out the lighting of the bridge. Also in attendance was park manager Aaron Spanley.

OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! If you are interested in seeing who they are, check out these pages.

[Donor Page](#)
[Registry Of Lights](#)

Memorials & Honorariums

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.

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

THIS PROJECT FUNDED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

Indiana Housing and Community Development Association (IHCDA) CreatiNg Places, empowering local placemaking projects through crowdfunding, access to matching grants and hands-on project coaching for over six years.

The Community Foundation of Pulaski County, Inc., made possible by generous donors since 1997.

Carroll White REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

Fulton County REMC Operation Round Up, a voluntary customer-funded program providing assistance to communities.

The Luminous Fund, a donor advised fund, partnering with the Community Foundation of Greater Fort Wayne (CFGFW).
