



Messenger

KYGMC

HOME OF THE KSB MINIATURES COLLECTION & THE OLD POGUE EXPERIENCE

MAYSVILLE, KENTUCKY

FALL/OCTOBER 2021



READ ON! AND KYGMC'S WORLD WAR II & THE HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT

THE VIEW FROM SECOND AND SUTTON



Autumn has arrived on Second and Sutton Streets and the Museum Center has exciting plans for the fall season. Fall is a

great time to encourage your non-member friends and family to join the *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center!*

The new fall exhibit, **World War II and the Holocaust**, part of *Read On!* (our annual community read) is now open in the Wormald Gallery. Our educational programs for the fall months are set and promise to provide our community a focus on reading, literacy and history within the framework of the community *Read On!* program. Our feature book for 2021 is *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah with books available in the Atrium. Special thanks to our *Community Read Committee*, Tandy Nash and Joyce Weigott, and the museum staff for their efforts with the community reading focus and literacy within the framework of World War II and the Holocaust during October.

Special thanks to the many Museum

patrons, staff and foundations that have supported the events for 2021 including: *The Josephine Ardery Foundation, The Hayswood Foundation, Kentucky Humanities, International Paper* and *The Charles E. & Mary Elizabeth Scripps Foundation.*

Seminars, movies at the *Russell Theatre* along with numerous school events and public library events highlight the *Read On!* program for 2021. Check the *Read On!* calendar for full details of the many activities and stop by the Museum to pick-up your complimentary copy of, *The Nightingale*, by Kristin Hannah.

Kaye Browning's *Catherine Palace*, the largest piece in the *KSB Miniatures Collection* is now on display in the Atrium until December 31st. We welcome members of the *International Guild of Miniature Artisans* to the Museum October 22nd-25th for their study program.

Your *Sustaining Fund* donations have allowed the museum to expand our services to area schools including *Museum Scouts* and our *Gateway Virtual Resources* program allowing for

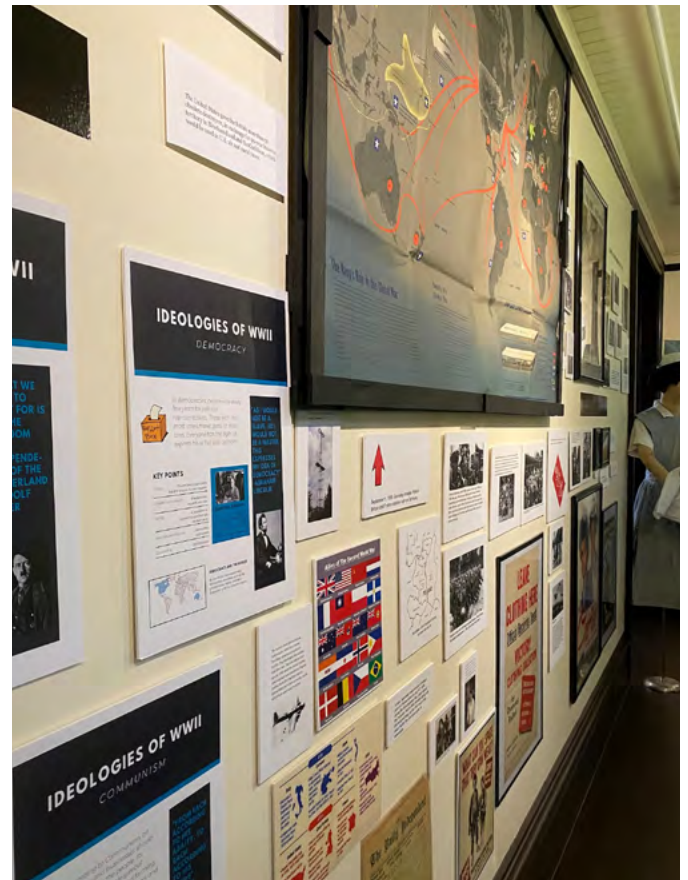
virtual tours of the Museum.

Summer of 2021 was a time of riverboats, group tours and bus tour visits returning to Maysville. We continue to welcome groups and local visitors from throughout the country as well as numerous international guests to view our exhibits, *The KSB Miniatures Collection, The Old Pogue Experience* and to use the *Research Library.*

Thank you for making the summer of 2021 a special time for your Museum.

We are looking forward to the exciting activities, exhibits, the community *Read On!* events and special events planned for fall! As always, we thank you for your support, for being a member and for building the legacy of the *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center.*

C.J. Hunter IV,
Executive Director



Miniature of the Month

By Kaye Browning



its distinctive fairy-tale appearance thanks to the hundreds of architects, painters and sculptors who realized the fantasies of its three mistresses: Empress Catherine I (for whom the palace is named), Peter and Catherine's daughter, Elizabeth Petrovna, and later, Catherine II, known as 'Catherine the Great,'" explains Robert. "It's the perfect example of Russian Baroque, a style which was considered to have reached its peak in this building."

Since the palace was massive in size, Robert, owner of The Modelroom, chose to replicate just the central bays and six of its many rooms. Much of his work was based on viewing the actual rooms and examining artifacts, historical records and photographs. He spoke with experts, historians and architects in his planning, but the room with the least details would prove to be far more interesting to him than he imagined—the SnuffBox, a small room once tucked away among the second-floor apartments which had been lost to wartime bombs.

The tiny room remains today one of the most talked-about rooms in the real palace despite the fact that the one-time private chamber of Catherine the Great has not yet been reconstructed. Did she make plans to overthrow her husband in this room? Is it where she had her true-or-not-so-true clandestine rendezvous or where she simply chose to get away from it all? No one knows for sure—not even its dimensions—but Catherine, herself, described the room as a "snuffbox," in white, blue and bronze, writing "the white and blue is of glass, and the design is arabesque."

Robert was able to locate a complete set of contemporary photographs and a tattered 19th century painting of the room from which to base his design. "The 'Snuffbox' was so named because of its diminutive size and exquisite decorations," he says. "It was paneled in sheets of white and blue glass from the Imperial Glass and Crystal factory in St. Petersburg and embellished with eagles, medallions, garlands and friezes of gilded bronze. We were able to re-create the extraordinary white glass walls, overlaid with ormolu, an effect not seen since the room was destroyed in the war."

Like the Snuffbox, many parts of imperial history have to be left to the imagination, but it's all part of the allure. Robert immersed himself in provenance for the project, but was captivated envisioning the unknown, especially for Catherine's most personal space. It's a pastime many visitors to the KSB Miniatures Collection find themselves doing when viewing *Catherine Palace*.

***Catherine Palace* will be on display at KYGMC through December 31st, 2021.**



The Snuffbox in *Catherine Palace* by Robert Dawson

Fueled by facts, conjecture and pure fascination, *Catherine Palace* is one of the most famous architectural structures in the world.

The miniature by Robert Dawson is just as distinguished in the miniatures world so I'm pleased to announce it is again on display. Due to its extensive size it has only been displayed three times since its donation in 2015.

Inspired by the legendary residence of the Russian czars, it was held in a private collection for years. Since arriving at KYGMC, thousands of visitors have traveled here to see a glimpse into how Russian royalty lived—and how the talented English miniaturist brought the storied castle to life.

Robert's journey to create *Catherine Palace* began in 2002 when he was commissioned by collector Carole Kaye to re-create the Russian castle in 1/12 scale. A year later, he found himself in St. Petersburg wandering the rooms of the great estate. "It got

READ ON! *The Nightingale*

AND

The WWII and the Holocaust Exhibit

BY TANDY NASH



This year's **Read On!** book is *The Nightingale*, by Kristin Hannah! If you haven't participated before, *KYGMC*, *International Paper*, *The Josephine Ardery Foundation*, *The Charles E. and Mary Elizabeth Scripps Foundation*, the *Hayswood Foundation* and *Kentucky Humanities* have made it

possible to give free books to high school literature classes, adult book clubs and adult members of the community to promote literacy. You can pick the book up at the museum, Fleming and Mason County Public Libraries or any of the venues for our Read On! events. *The Nightingale* is historical fiction that touches on many themes and tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, by ideals, passion and circumstance, each embarking on their own dangerous path toward survival and freedom in German-occupied war-torn France. Besides giving us a lesson about World War II as it occurred in France and how it affected ALL of its people, it is a novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit.

For most of us, living in a war zone is something few Americans know anything about. Unless you've served in the military, you are probably pretty complacent about security and safety. I would say that September 11, 2001 when the World Trade Center became the target of a massive terrorist attack that took the lives of 3,000 people (approximately), was as close to London's Blitz with intense bombing by Nazi Germany's Luftwaffe as we've come. The Blitz, however, lasted for 8 months with 348 German bombers and 617 fighters targeting London within 2 hours of the first day! What if war came to our nation and town, where troops

were on the ground! No matter who you are, your life would be in danger. How would you react? Would you just keep a low profile and go about your daily lives even if that meant dodging check points and moving in the shadows?

Resistance was "the smuggling of messages, food, weapons, sabotage, and actual military engagement. It was willful disobedience, such as continuing to practice religious and cultural traditions in defiance of the rules, or creating art, music, poetry inside ghettos and concentration camps. For many, simply maintaining the will to live in the face of abject brutality was an act of spiritual resistance."

When thinking about resistance, consider when and where an act took place; the immediate consequences of one's actions to self and family; the degree of control the Nazis had on a country or local population; the cultural attitudes of particular native populations toward different victim groups historically; and the availability and risk of potential hiding places.

If you visit the KYGMC WWII and Holocaust exhibit, you will see information on several resistance fighters, some of them famous like iconic entertainer of the Jazz Age, Josephine Baker. She housed resistance fighters at her French chateau and supplied them with visas. She attended parties and diplomatic functions, including parties at the Italian embassy that brought her into the orbit of high-ranking Axis bureaucrats. She collected information on German troop movements and what harbors or airfields were in action. She wrote down intelligence on her hands and arms, pinning notes inside her underwear knowing she would never face a strip-search. She carried over 50 classified documents and secret intelligence to General Charles de Gaulle by writing the information down in invisible ink on her sheet music.



Louis Jourdan was too young for army service. He was making a film when Italy declared war on France. He spent a year on a work gang and was ordered to make German propaganda films, which he refused to do, and fled to join his family in unoccupied France. His father was arrested by the Gestapo and months later he escaped and joined the French resistance. Louis, along with his family, worked on illegal leaflets, helping print and distribute them. You might have seen Louis Jourdan in Alfred Hitchcock's, *The Paradine Case* (1947) or *Letter from*

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an *Unknown Woman* (1948), but I remember him in *Gigi* (1958) and *Octopussy* (1983).

Charles E. “Chuck” Yeager was a military test pilot who was the first person to fly faster than the speed of sound. He joined the Army Air Forces directly out of high school from West Virginia. In March 1944, while on his eighth mission, he was shot down over German-occupied France. Members of the French underground helped him avoid German forces. “He taught the Maquis (as French resistance was called) to make home-made bombs, a skill he learned from his dad (who was a well digger). Yeager escaped to Spain through the Pyrenees with their help. He also helped another airman, who lost a leg, escape with him.”

During WWII, pilots who were helped by resistance groups during evasion couldn’t return to air combat in the same theater. The reason was that if the pilot were downed and captured, he could reveal information about the resistance. Since the allies were already in France and the Maquis were openly fighting against the Nazis, Yeager argued there was little that he could reveal that the Nazis would learn. Eisenhower agreed and returned him to flying status. By the end of the war, he was a fighter ace credited with shooting down at least 12 German planes, including 5 in one day.

We think of Audrey Hepburn in a black dress eating “Breakfast at Tiffany’s”. Operation Market Garden was the invasion of the Netherlands which left British paratroopers stranded. Teen-aged Audrey kept a “Red Devil” (member of the 1st Airborne Division- Britain) hidden in the cellar and she also ran food and messages to other downed pilots. She transported supplies, medicine and worked as a translator because she could speak fluent English. “In retaliation for another act of resistance, Audrey was [randomly] rounded up with other girls, to be taken to Germany to work in kitchens. She escaped from that and basically went into hiding after that, because it was too dangerous out in the street.” Her family hid in the same cellar that housed their “Red Devil” guest. After food was depleted, they ate tulip bulbs. When those were gone, they ate weeds until they were liberated by the Canadians.



All Germans cannot be characterized as Nazis. Those opposing the Nazi regime were motivated by such factors as “the mistreatment of Jews, harassment of the churches and the harsh actions of Himmler and the Gestapo.” “Unlike the more coordinated Italian Resistance, Soviet Partisans, Polish Underground state, Greek Resistance, Yugoslav Partisans, French Resistance, Dutch Resistance, and Norwegian Resistance Movement, the German resistance consisted of small isolated groups that were unable to mobilize widespread political opposition. German resistance included individual attacks on Nazi authority, sabotage and the successful disclosure of information regarding Nazi armaments factories to the allies.”

Visit the **WWII and Holocaust exhibit** to learn more about the resistance and the brave people who endured occupation. Other events for Read On! include:

- October 1-31st:** Code Escape Room at the Fleming County Library
- October 15th:** Screening of “Monuments Men” at the Russell Theatre, 7:30PM
- October 22nd:** Screening of “Escape to Victory” at the Russell Theatre, 7:30PM
- October 23rd:** Saturday Seminar at KYGMC, 10:30, featuring Arwen Donahue, “This is Home Now: Kentucky’s Holocaust Survivors Speak” (Please RSVP)
- October 23rd:** Online Concert: “Degenerate Music: Concert of Forbidden music of the Nazi Era”
- October 26th:** “Scarce-i-Tea” Event at 6:30PM, KYGMC Campus (Please RSVP)
- October 30th:** 9AM - 5PM, WWII Encampment and Weapons Demonstrations at the KYGMC Courtyard

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MARLA'S MUSINGS: WWII AND THE DISTILLING INDUSTRY

By Marla Toncray



When America declared war on Japan after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, the nation was in need of all types of military supplies.

Parachutes, mosquito netting, tanks, airplanes, Jeeps, rifles, munitions, food rations and more.

American companies answered the call of duty by converting manufacturing and textiles plants into war production facilities. President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the *War Production Board* for the purpose of coordinating this wartime effort in January of 1942 by **Executive Order 9024**. It was in existence from 1942 until it was dissolved in 1945, following the defeat of Japan.

The WPB directed conversion of industries from peacetime work to war needs, allocated scarce materials, established priorities in the distribution of materials and services, and prohibited nonessential production. It rationed such commodities as gasoline, heating oil, metals, rubber, paper and plastics.

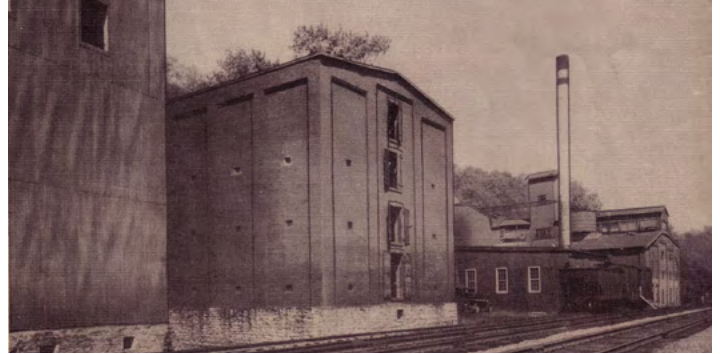
The WPB also assumed control of the distilling industry during the war and oversaw the transition from producing beverage alcohol to industrial alcohol.

What, you may ask, is industrial alcohol?

“Industrial alcohol is distilled ethyl alcohol (C₂H₅OH), normally of high proof, produced and sold for other than beverage purposes. It is usually distributed in the form of pure ethyl alcohol, completely denatured alcohol, specially denatured alcohol and proprietary solvent blends. Pure ethyl alcohol is used in laboratories and in industry for its sanitizing, cleaning and solvent properties. Many medicines, food products, flavorings and cosmetics could not be produced without it. It is used to process vaccines, compound tonics, syrups, tinctures, liniments and antiseptics as well as being vital in the manufacture of pharmaceuticals such as chloroform, atabrine and barbiturates. It is used in the production of adhesives, cosmetics, detergents, explosives, inks, hand cream, plastics and textiles. There are literally hundreds of products and uses for this chemical” (definition according to Washington State Liquor Control Board).

The role of distilleries during the war was to produce this 190 proof alcohol.

In Maysville, the *Pogue Distillery*, which was owned at that time by *Schenley Distilleries*, of Chicago, was part of this wartime effort.



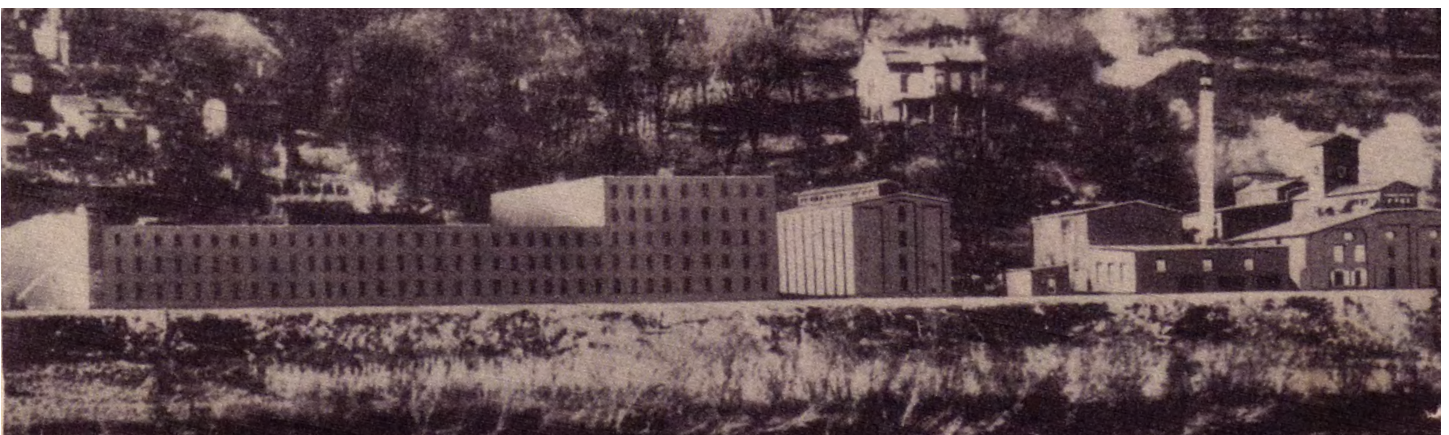
According to Bourbon Historian Michael Veach, the distilling industry produced 44% of the 1.7 BILLION gallons of industrial alcohol during WWII.

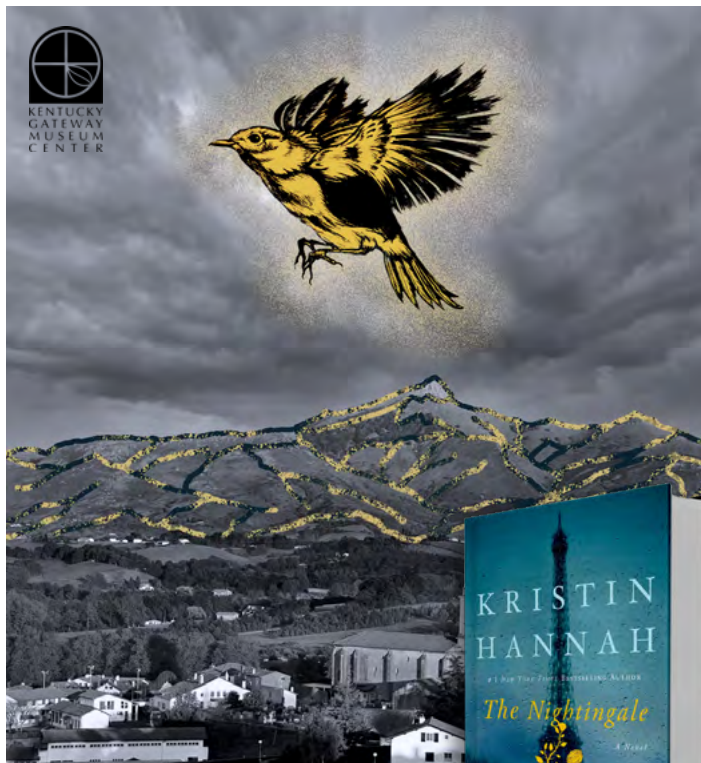
The uses for this 190 proof industrial alcohol included the following: 126 million gallons to make antifreeze; 66 million gallons to make tetraethyl lead which was mixed with gasoline for an octane booster; 75 million gallon for plastics used in the aviation industry; 115 million gallons of lacquer (to protect metal from rust) and insecticide for the South Pacific; and 30 million gallons for medical supplies.

The largest amount of industrial alcohol went to the production of smokeless gunpowder for ammunition (200 million gallons) and synthetic rubber for tires, hoses, waterproofing, etc. (1.2 million gallons).

The manufacture of a Jeep required 23 gallons; 19 ¾ gallons were needed to produce one 16-inch naval shell; and one gallon was needed to make 64 hand grenades or two 155mm Howitzer shells.

In 2020, the *Pogue Distillery*, and others in Kentucky, lent a helping hand during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic by once again producing this 190 proof industrial alcohol for sanitation purposes.





Read On! Kristin Hannah's
The Nightingale

A Month-Long Community Read & Supporting Exhibit

Calendar of Events

- 9/11 - 10/30: WWII and Holocaust Exhibit at *Kentucky Gateway Museum Center*
- 10/1: "The Nightingale" books available at KYGMC, MCPL and FCPL
- 10/1 - 10/30: Code Escape Room at the Fleming County Library (Reservations Needed)
- 10/1 - 10/30: WWII in Fleming County Exhibit at Fleming County Public Library
- 10/5: Seminar "The Nightingale and the Carpetbaggers: U.S. Military support for the French Underground" Presented by Marty Shadler, 6PM - 7PM at KYGMC (Seating Limited, Please RSVP)
- 10/7: "A Night in Paris" 6:30 - 8:00PM - Read On! Kick Off in Museum Parking Lot with Free Entertainment
- 10/8: Screening of the Film "Casablanca" 7:30PM at the Historic Russell Theatre
- 10/15: Screening of the Film "Monuments Men" 7:30PM at the Historic Russell Theatre
- 10/16: Saturday Seminar - "This is Home Now: Kentucky Holocaust Survivors Speak," Presented by Arwen Donahue, 10:30AM at KYGMC (Seating Limited; Please RSVP)
- 10/22: Screening of the Film "Escape to Victory" 7:30PM at the Historic Russell Theatre
- 10/23: Chainsaw Artists Reproduce the Cover of The Nightingale at Mason County Public Library
- 10/23: Concert "Degenerate Music: Concert of Forbidden Music from the Nazi Era" 7:00PM at the Washington Opera House
- 10/26: "Scarce-i-Tea" Event, 6:30PM at KYGMC (Seating Limited, Please RSVP)
- 10/30: WWII Encampment, Uniform & Equipment displays, Weapons demonstrations, 9AM - 5PM on KYGMC Grounds

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors!

 This project is partially funded by Kentucky Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this event do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or Kentucky Humanities.
The Josephine Ardery Foundation, The Hayswood Foundation, Kentucky Humanities, International Paper and the Charles E. & Mary Elizabeth Scripps Foundation

KYGMC ACQUISITIONS:

Cyrus Harris' *A Map of the State of Kentucky and the Tennessee Government Compiled from the Best Authorities* (1796)



Cyrus Harris' 1796 map is one of the earliest maps of Tennessee and Kentucky printed in the United States and one of the earliest obtainable maps of each of these states.

The map was engraved by **Amos Doolittle**, one of the most important 18th Century American engravers. Among the more interesting features of the map are the detailed treatment of the early roads in the region. The map shows military reservation boundaries, Indian boundaries, early towns, roads, rivers, mountains, lakes, Indian villages, counties and a host of other details. The map appeared in Jedidiah Morse's *American Universal Geography*.

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PLEASE NOTE

Following CDC COVID-19 and Commonwealth of Kentucky Regulations:
It is recommended all individuals wear a mask indoors. Unvaccinated
individuals should remain masked at all times while in the Museum Center,
or follow current CDC regulations and recommendations. Thank you!

A THREE-PART WORLD WAR II SCREENING EVENT

Casablanca - Friday, October 8th - 7:30PM

Monuments Men - Friday, October 15th - 7:30PM

Escape to Victory - Friday, October 22nd - 7:30PM

The Russell Theatre - 9 E Third St, Maysville, KY 41056

FREE ADMISSION TO THE PUBLIC

Concession Fees to Benefit the Russell Theatre

Special Thanks to Our Sponsors!



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