

COMMUNITY COLUMNIST

Local author on the right track



KAREN KUHLMAN

Karen Kuhlman is a Fort Mitchell resident whose interests include family, the people of Kentucky and current events. Reach her at KarenKuhlman@fuse.net.

As a certain age of life approaches, and retirement can be seen just over the horizon, many of us ask ourselves questions about what we will do with those golden years we've heard so much about.

Baby boomers have elevated introspection to an art form, or so we think, and our old Scouting motto of "Be Prepared" becomes ever more important as we boldly go where plenty of others have gone before. Medical science and technology will make it possible for us to select from a variety of options that were beyond the reach of preceding generations.

Barry Kienzle of Villa Hills is a study in successful planning for that next phase of life. Growing up in Covington as one of seven children, he kept his nose clean and to the grindstone and didn't let a childhood bout of polio keep him from excelling in his studies at St. John's Elementary, Covington Catholic and Northern Kentucky University.

His efforts merited him the title of CPA, and he has been using his skills for the Paul Hemmer Cos. in Fort Mitchell for 27 years. Today, he is Hemmer's CFO and sits on the boards of directors for the Northern Kentucky University Foundation and the Bank of Kentucky.

Barry's talents have been put to good use throughout his career, composing business and financial procedures, reviewing contracts and so on.



Barry Kienzle's first novel is "The Crossings."

Always in the back of his mind, though, was a desire to try his hand at a novel.

Barry was touched by the poignancy of his father's boyhood and astounded by the details of his adventures. Conversations with his father, George, planted a seed for a story that he believed deserved to be told. He let the ideas for plot and characters play around in his head for a while, and when a story began to crystallize, he set out on a journey that would last four years and culminate in the publication of his first novel, "The Crossings."

Barry hoped that his years of writing experience would come in handy, and indeed they did. Long established habits of organization helped him lay out his story and kept him on track. The longer he worked on his manuscript, the more he came to comprehend the enormity of the task ahead.

The tale he wanted to tell was that of a 12-year-old boy growing up in Latonia during the Great Depression. The Holy Cross student had a dream

of experiencing the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, so he devised a transportation scheme that called for hopping a boxcar and riding the rails all the way from the L&N Railroad's Decoursey Yard to the Crescent City. A daring adventure for a child, and an exhilarating ride for the reader!

Authors give a lot of credit to those whose support has made their literary endeavors possible. Barry is no exception as he expresses gratitude to his wife, Mary Jo, for understanding the passion he had for his project. She became an expert at keeping herself occupied, graciously accommodating his need for huge amounts of time for writing and researching every nugget that was to find its way into print.

He devoted himself to learning all that he could about the Depression-era people and places of Northern Kentucky and New Orleans. He authenticated each detail, right down to the jockey who was riding on Opening Day at the old Latonia Race Track, the L&N's routes and schedules, weather conditions, phases of the moon and Mardi Gras Parade routes. He rode the rails from Northern Kentucky to New Orleans vicariously via Google Earth, getting a bird's eye view of landmarks and scenery along the way.

When all was said and done, he was a pretty happy guy as he put the finishing touches on his manuscript and sent it off to local publishing professional Ericka McIntyre of Black, White and Re(a)d Editorial Services. Ericka helped Barry see his story's strengths and weaknesses. Her guidance helped him perfect his work, resulting in a rarity these days: A book that will actually be published!

"The Crossings" will be released this spring by Headline Books Inc. and you can learn more about it at www.BarryKBooks.com. This exciting tale has broad crossover appeal. Youngsters will be taken with the fledgling hero's bold adventures. Older generations will be touched by the bravado engendered by childhood heartbreak and will likely recall old sidekicks whose flights of fancy led to some pretty improbable escapades. The impeccable historical research results in the authentic storytelling of an era that some have never known and others will never forget.

Barry Kienzle has positioned himself well for a run at a second career when retirement finally does arrive. Even as he awaits the debut of "The Crossings," he has an idea for his next novel, so he's letting the characters tinker around in his brain for a bit while he decides what will become of them. Judging from his first effort, they're in for some pretty exciting times. ■

Barry Kienzle has positioned himself well for a run at a second career when retirement finally does arrive. Even as he awaits the debut of "The Crossings," he has an idea for his next novel, so he's letting the characters tinker around in his brain for a bit while he decides what will become of them. Judging from his first effort, they're in for some pretty exciting times. ■

CINEMARK Purchase Adv Tix @ cinemark.com **ravecinemas**

CINEMARK OAKLEY STATION

3025 Disney St. (Behind Target & Sam's Club) • 800-326-3264 + 3222#

X6 ROBOCOP XD [PG-13] 11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45

THE WOLF OF WALL STREET [R] 11:05, 2:50, 7:20

FROZEN [PG] 11:15, 1:50, 4:25

AMERICAN HUSTLE [R] 7:00, 10:05

THE MONUMENTS MEN [PG-13] 11:10, 12:30, 1:55, 3:15, 4:40, 6:00, 7:25, 8:45, 10:10

PHILOMENA [PG-13] 11:30, 7:10

RIDE ALONG [PG-13] 11:55, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35

WINTER'S TALE [PG-13] 11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 10:00

THE LEGO MOVIE [PG] 11:00, 1:25, 3:50, 6:15, 8:35

THE LEGO MOVIE 3D [PG] 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55

ROBOCOP [PG-13] 12:25, 3:05, 5:45, 8:25

ABOUT LAST NIGHT [R] 12:00, 1:10, 2:25, 3:35, 4:50, 6:00, 7:15, 8:25, 9:40

VAMPIRE ACADEMY [PG-13] 1:50, 4:20, 9:30

ENDLESS LOVE [PG-13] 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

WESTERN HILLS 14

5870 Harrison Avenue • Green Township • (513) 574-2048

FROZEN [PG] 4:35, 10:00

THE MONUMENTS MEN [PG-13] 12:00, 3:15, 6:30, 9:30

PHILOMENA [PG-13] 1:50, 7:10

LONE SURVIVOR [R] 12:30, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50

AUGUST: OSAGE COUNTY [R] 1:40, 4:40

RIDE ALONG [PG-13] 12:05, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25

THE NUT JOB [PG] 1:35, 4:00, 6:50, 9:25

LABOR DAY [PG-13] 4:20, 9:55

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT [R] 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30

WINTER'S TALE [PG-13] 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:40

THE LEGO MOVIE [PG] 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

THE LEGO MOVIE 3D [PG] RealD 3D 12:15, 3:00, 5:30, 8:15

ROBOCOP [PG-13] 1:30, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05

ABOUT LAST NIGHT [R] 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20

VAMPIRE ACADEMY [PG-13] 7:35, 10:15

ENDLESS LOVE [PG-13] 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10

FROZEN SING-ALONG [Not Rated] 1:55, 7:20

MILFORD 16

1-275, Exit 59 A, Rt. 50 • Milford Pkwy • (513) 248-2847

FROZEN [PG] 1:40, 6:45

FROZEN 3D [PG] RealD 3D 4:15, 9:15

AMERICAN HUSTLE [R] 12:10, 9:20

THE MONUMENTS MEN [PG-13] 11:20, 12:55, 2:10, 3:45, 5:10, 6:35, 8:00, 9:30, 10:45

PHILOMENA [PG-13] 11:05, 6:25

LONE SURVIVOR [R] 11:10, 1:55, 4:55, 7:45, 10:35

JACK RYAN: SHADOW RECRUIT [PG-13] 3:30, 6:40

RIDE ALONG [PG-13] 12:25, 2:55, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25

THE NUT JOB [PG] 11:00

LABOR DAY [PG-13] 1:45, 6:55

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT [R] 11:25, 4:20, 9:35

WINTER'S TALE [PG-13] 11:05, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:15

THE LEGO MOVIE [PG] 11:00, 12:40, 1:30, 3:10, 4:00, 6:30, 8:10, 9:00

THE LEGO MOVIE 3D [PG] RealD 3D 11:50, 2:20, 4:50, 5:40, 7:15, 9:45, 10:40

ROBOCOP [PG-13] 11:40, 1:15, 2:40, 4:10, 5:30, 7:00, 8:20, 9:55

ABOUT LAST NIGHT [R] 11:55, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05

VAMPIRE ACADEMY [PG-13] 1:25, 3:55, 9:05

ENDLESS LOVE [PG-13] 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40

FROZEN SING-ALONG [Not Rated] 11:10

FLORENCE 14

7860 Mall Road • Florence KY • (859) 282-6619

THE HUNGER GAMES: CATCHING FIRE [PG-13] 10:10

FROZEN [PG] 2:05, 7:25

AMERICAN HUSTLE [R] 12:35, 7:05

THE MONUMENTS MEN [PG-13] 12:40, 3:35, 6:45, 9:55

PHILOMENA [PG-13] 12:50, 6:35

LONE SURVIVOR [R] 1:00, 4:00, 7:30, 10:30

RIDE ALONG [PG-13] 1:45, 4:20, 7:35, 10:20

THAT AWKWARD MOMENT [R] 1:55, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30

WINTER'S TALE [PG-13] 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05

THE LEGO MOVIE [PG] 12:30, 2:30, 3:20, 6:20, 8:05, 9:35

THE LEGO MOVIE 3D [PG] RealD 3D 1:40, 4:25, 5:15, 7:15, 10:15

ROBOCOP [PG-13] 12:45, 3:40, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20, 10:25

ABOUT LAST NIGHT [R] 12:30, 2:35, 5:30, 8:20

VAMPIRE ACADEMY [PG-13] 3:25, 9:40

ENDLESS LOVE [PG-13] 1:55, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30

FROZEN SING-ALONG [Not Rated] 4:40

SHOWTIMES VALID 2/18/14 ONLY

Assistive Listening and Captioning System Avail

LAWRENCEBURG CHEVROLET

NEVER PAY MORE THAN \$49 over invoice on any new Chevrolet

www.lawrenceburgchevrolet.com
Invoice price may not reflect dealer cost

UC Health Nephrology

UC Health Nephrology announces that Loren Cohen, MD, is leaving the UC Health practice. Patients seen by Dr. Cohen may remain with UC Health and may schedule another appointment by calling **513-475-7525**.

The medical records of Dr. Cohen's patients will remain with UC Health unless the patient directs otherwise. Patients may arrange to receive their medical records or to have them transferred by calling **513-475-7525**.

uhealth.com

UC Health

CE-0000585983

DONATE YOUR CAR

Wheels For Wishes
Benefiting
MAKE-A-WISH
Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana

*Free Vehicle Pickup ANYWHERE
*We Accept All Vehicles Running or Not
*We Also Accept Boats, Motorcycles & RVs
*100% Tax Deductible

WheelsForWishes.org Call: (513) 655-5476

BRYANT HEATING & COOLING

(859) 904-4640
www.bryanthvac.com

Tune-Up SPECIAL

\$64.95

26 POINT INSPECTION & SAFETY CHECK OF YOUR HEATING or A/C SYSTEM

BRYANT HEATING & COOLING
(859) 904-4640

*Offer expires 02/28/14. Some restrictions may apply. Call for details. Not valid with any other offers or promotion with existing customers.
CE-0000579072