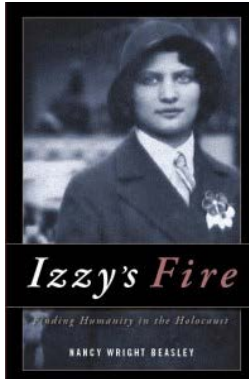


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After constant prodding from my friends, I've finally joined the insanity of the Technological Age. Ten years after the first publication of "Izzy's Fire: Finding Humanity in the Holocaust," I'm venturing into the newsletter world. Wish me luck!



Nancy Wright Beasley

Izzy's Fire: Finding Humanity in the Holocaust

Newsletter Launch - August 2015

“... but they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. – Isaiah 41:30

Like *Izzy's Fire*, this newsletter has been a long time in the making. It took seven years to research and write “Izzy,” which was first published in 2005. It’s a good time now, 10 years later, to share some highlights of that journey with you, my loyal friends and fellow bibliophiles.

Countless people—so many I can’t name them all—have never wavered in support of my work. There is no one more responsible for the success of “Izzy” than Neil November, a Richmond philanthropist and patron of the

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Neil's belief in me has, many times, been the only thing that has kept me going. My friend from the very beginning until now, he has helped in every imaginable way, starting with introducing me to Carole Weinstein, another avid arts supporter in Richmond, who generously underwrote the original publication of *Izzy's Fire* in January 2005.

A multitude of others have helped in myriad ways, but Neil has been my bedrock, making not only trips to Lithuania and Israel possible to promote my ongoing work, but also underwriting several Holocaust conferences and my graduate education at Hollins University, where I earned an MFA in children's literature in 2011.

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The Little Lion: A Hero in the Holocaust, my thesis at Hollins, is a historical novel about a teenage Jewish boy named Laibale Gillman who was instrumental in saving his brothers, their mates and a niece from Kovno Ghetto (where about 40,000 Jews met their deaths in Lithuania during the Holocaust). *The Little Lion* will be published in 2015. Although Laibale is a character in *Izzy's Fire*, this is not a sequel, but rather a stand-alone story about Laibale's struggle to save his family.

I'm excited to tell you that Swift Creek Mill Theatre has optioned the stage rights, and playwright Irene Ziegler is currently adapting the book for the stage production. Curtains will open Jan. 28, 2016, and close March 5, 2016. Tickets are available at swiftcreekmill.com. Reduced group rates are available. I'll have copies for book-signing events by fall 2015 and will also be on hand to sign the first edition of the newly released book at Swift Creek.

To answer numerous requests, I plan to share some of my travel adventures and pictures in upcoming newsletters, writing about interesting folks I've met along the way, so stay tuned. However, you can unsubscribe.

I'll close the launching of this newsletter by bowing, again, to the literally hundreds of folks who have helped me so often and so unselfishly. I'm reminded of the time the Israelites were engaged in a battle. They succeeded as long as Moses held up his outstretched arms. When he became exhausted, two men, standing beside Moses, each held up one of his arms, allowing the Israelites to prevail. While I'm certainly no Moses, I've lost count of the times so many of you have helped support me until I somehow succeeded. As my wonderful mother, Beulah Mae Wright, of blessed memory, used to say when I was assisting her, "Thanks for all the good help. You'll get your reward in heaven."

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Author, Journalist

UPCOMING EVENTS

"The Little Lion" should be available by the fall 2015. I'll let you where you can reserve your copy in future updates.

Nancy Wright Beasley was a speaker at Ferrum College's 2015 Holocaust Conference. For photos and other information regarding the author, see www.nancywrightbeasley.com.

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Newsletter Launch - July 2015

Author presentations and book signings: nancy@nancywrightbeasley.com

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