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Local Author's Book: A Lifeline For Sexually Abused Victims

Published author, Kittye Sharron is unique, even the spelling of her names. With an 'e' at the end of her first name and 2 'r' s in the middle of her second, she presents her work very much the same, in a most unusual way. Up front and personal, she gets to the heart of the matter.

This author, a Mona Shores graduate, and her husband reside in Muskegon. She proudly states, "I've been transplanted from the cotton fields of Arkansas, transferred to the fruit orchards of Michigan, and transformed by the journey! It's what made me who I am today; and I'm a survivor!"

She was born in 1948 and raised by a single, divorced mother. Kittye Sharron survived childhood sexual abuse and divorce; as well as Pheochromocytoma disease, thyroid cancer, breast cancer, kidney cancer and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, those are just a few of the topics she writes about.

This author has overcome many hardships and strives to inspire others to rise above the difficulties in their lives. She does this so delicately in her first published book, *The Longest*

Letter: Incredible Hope.

The book is a lifeline for those who have been sexually molested. It begins with graphic, mature content which exposes the voice of an 8 year-old victim who remained silent for 40+ years. In an effort to reach out and help another she discovered a dark world leading to a concrete jungle and into an underworld of sex, crime, prostitution, drugs, maybe even murder! This riveting story of a homeless person will keep you on the edge of your seat. The events were based on a true story.

Kittye Sharron enjoys writing real life short stories and poetry. An age progression children's book is currently being worked on, as well as her up-and-coming book, "It's All in Your Head: The Gene that Stumped the Doctors." Watch for more from this author. She has a desire to reach an audience for whom hope is difficult to grasp because someone they love and care for is "sucking the very life out of them!" Her aim is to provide clarity and ways to cope by providing personal solutions toward victory.



Kittye Sharron, with her mother (for whom the book was dedicated,) at The First Book Signing which took place on April 28th at Toast 'N' Jams in Muskegon. A Second Book Signing was held on May 4th at Grand Traverse Pie Company.

Marsh Field Celebrates 100 Years

"First Baseball Game at Historic Marsh Field Was Played on May 4, 1916"

MUSKEGON, Mich., April 27, 2016 – On May 4, 1916 the Muskegon Reds of the professional Central League played the first baseball game at brand-new Marsh Field and lost 4-0 to visiting Terre Haute.

Although the Muskegon Reds lost the home opener over 5000 eager fans jammed the new field to welcome the home team. A huge parade from the Muskegon Hotel to the ballpark was staged with automobiles and open trucks.

100 years later Marsh Field continues to be the principal home for Muskegon baseball and is by far the oldest minor league ballpark still in use in the state of Michigan.

On Tuesday, May 4, 2016 – 100 years to the day - another baseball game will be played on historic Marsh Field between Muskegon High School and Muskegon Catholic Central High School.

The community is invited to attend to watch these two storied high school baseball teams do battle and also participate in special ceremonies celebrating the 100th anniversary. The festivities begin at 6:30 pm.

In 1915, local industrialist, civic leader, and baseball enthusiast Charles W. Marsh, formed a group

of investors who purchased 4 square blocks of wooded property in the center of town at the corner of Peck Street and Laketon Avenue and built the first-rate facility suitable for minor league baseball.

Over the years Marsh Field has been the home of the Muskegon Lassies of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, the old Muskegon Clippers, a farm team of the New York Yankees and the Muskegon Reds a farm team of the Detroit Tigers.

A new chapter in the history of Marsh Field began in 2010 when maintenance and control of the baseball facility was turned over to Len Piasecki, Pete Gawkowski, and Jim Grevell. Since their takeover Marsh Field has been reborn with a complete makeover of the playing field, many improvements to the grandstand structure & parking lot, a new scoreboard, and a steady summer-long menu of games at many levels.

Over 200 baseball games are played at Marsh Field annually including High School, youth baseball and a variety of tournaments. Marsh Field is also the home of the Muskegon Clippers, part of the Michigan Summer Collegiate Baseball League, which features college players from Junior Colleges to Division 1 Universities playing in a wooden bat league. The Clippers were league champions last year and begin their 2016 home campaign on June 1, 2016.

Many events will be held throughout the year at Marsh Field to commemorate its 100th anniversary. •

Nominations Sought For Muskegon Young Professionals

Nominations are currently being sought for the fourth annual *Future 15* awards program. This program recognizes 15 outstanding, up and coming young professionals making a difference in the Muskegon Lakeshore region. Nomination forms are available electronically at www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016future15 or at the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce office.

The *Future 15* is produced by the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the Greater Muskegon Jaycees. The 15 finalists will be celebrated at a Chamber Business After Hours event on June 16, 2016 at The Deck on Pere Marquette Beach.

The nomination criteria is as follows: Business, Non-Profit, Government or Service-oriented

professionals who are under 40 years of age as of Dec. 31, 2016 are eligible for recognition and those recognized must live or work in Muskegon County. Recipients are eligible every three years to be part of the *Future 15*.

The first three years of this program produced more than 150 young professional nominations.

"It's important that these young professionals be recognized by their community for their leadership and innovation," says Cindy Larsen, President of the Muskegon Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce.

If you would like more information about the *Future 15*, contact the Chamber office at 231.722.3751 or visit www.muskegon.org.