
PRESS RELEASE

BADGER BOOKS INC.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW BOOK HONORS WISCONSIN WORLD WAR II HEROES

OREGON, WI, November 10 -- Some 300,000 Wisconsin men and women served this country in World War II. A new book profiles 14 of those who played a small part in a massive war.

The Hero Next Door by Kristin Gilpatrick, released this spring by Badger Books Inc., comes at a time of renewed interest in the sacrifices made by World War II veterans, fueled by Tom Brokaw's national bestseller and the campaign by Wal-Mart stores to establish a World War II memorial in Washington.

In *The Hero Next Door*, readers can meet:

- A seaman from Tomahawk who rescued downed airmen and stranded Marines with a "flying boat;"
- A radar operator from Milwaukee who survived 29 hours alone in the Indian Ocean;
- A gunner from Pardeeville who escaped through the French Underground after he parachuted from his burning plane;
- A Marine from Beloit who survived the bloody sands of Iwo Jima;
- A pilot from Baraboo who flew his hometown into history in the bombing, and atomic bombing, of Japan.
- Two brothers from Elroy, one fighting on the ground in Europe, the other in the skies above.

In many cases, the sacrifices made by these veterans were long forgotten as they came home to lead normal, productive lives. Now, as many of them are reaching old age and dying, *The Hero Next Door* reminds us of their courage.

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Waubesa Press

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Online catalog: <http://www.badgerbooks.com>

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The Hero Next Door

Fact Sheet

TITLE: *The Hero Next Door*

PUBLISHER: Badger Books Inc., P.O. Box 192, Oregon, WI 53575; Phone: 800-928-2372; Fax: 608-835-3638; E-Mail: books@badgerbooks.com; Web site: www.badgerbooks.com

PUBLICATION DATE: April 2000

AUTHOR: Kristin Gilpatrick

PAGES: 284 pages, includes photos

FORMAT: 5.5 x 8.5 trade paperback

PRICE: \$14.95

ISBN: 1-878569-66-X

SUMMARY: Profiles of 14 World War II heroes from Wisconsin.

DISTRIBUTION: Available from Wisconsin bookstores, Amazon.com, Ingram, Partners, Baker & Taylor and The Bookmen.



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About the Author

Kristin Gilpatrick Halverson has had a passion for writing she since can remember, scribbling bits of poems and prose on notebooks and napkins since elementary school.

She was born Aug. 26, 1968, in Edgerton, Wis., to educators Robert and Barbara Gilpatrick, and lived in Baraboo, Wis. When she was five, the family moved to Cedarburg, Wis., where she graduated high school in 1986. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1990 with a double major in journalism and Spanish, having studied a semester in Valladolid, Spain. Her love telling stories of the “everyday” people who made history has been a passion since college.

She put that passion to paper as a reporter for the *Kewanee Star Courier* daily newspaper and editor of the weekly *Northern Ogle County Tempo*, both in Illinois, before becoming lifestyles editor and columnist for the *Baraboo NewsRepublic* and *Portage Daily Register*. She won nine press association awards. Since February 1997, she’s been magazine editor for the Credit Union Executives Society, Madison, Wis., while free-lancing stories for *The Capital Times*, Madison.

For the past 12 years, she has also been a big sister to two girls in Big Brothers/Big Sisters programs. She married her best friend Steven L. Halverson, an Edward Jones investment representative, on Oct. 25, 1997. They live in Monona, Wis.
