

# 60-cent Old Fashioneds and other tales of Manitowoc tavern history Nov. 8 at library

Emily Ellerman, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin Published 10:47 a.m. CT Nov. 4, 2017



(Photo: Provided)

Manitowoc holds its share of rich and unique history, from the shipbuilding industry to a 20-pound chunk of Russian satellite from Sputnik 4 falling from the sky into the streets of downtown.

Historically speaking, it's no secret Wisconsin residents have a deep love for making any occasion an opportunity to unwind with their spirit of choice, and Manitowoc is no exception. At one time, Manitowoc had the most taverns per capita of any city in the United States. We were never just a collection of taverns, though.

Taverns were neighborhood gathering places — places people could stroll to after a hard day on the job and enjoy an adult beverage with their friends and neighbors. They were also places where you could gripe about your boss, discuss the events of the day or fine tune your argument about why the Bears were a blight on professional football. They were the public gathering places for each unique neighborhood.

After founding, and eventually leaving, a Madison-area business in 2008, Manitowoc native Joe Kazda began his quest to collect and share Manitowoc's long history of taverns and breweries.



An old school old fashioned at Drink Winsconsinly in Milwaukee, Wis., on Monday, September 25, 2017.

(Photo: Alexandra Wimley/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin)

Initially, Kazda thought he wanted to write a book, but he soon realized this would always be an ongoing project, so he opted to start a nonprofit website, [manitowoctavernhistory.org](http://manitowoctavernhistory.org). This website houses hundreds of vintage tavern photographs, archived memorabilia and historical information from the 1800s to the present.

With an interactive map page, markers indicate locations of past and present taverns. And with the help of a few good friends, local organizations and Manitowoc residents, Kazda has been able to give us a glimpse of the past and how things used to be.

"Growing up in Manitowoc, I was exposed to 'tavern life' attending family celebrations in the late '50s, and eventually becoming a paying customer once I was allowed in them at 18 years old," Kazda said. "After I moved from Manitowoc upon graduating from Lincoln High School in June of 1974, I took notice in my yearly return visits of how things were continually changing with the closing of one tavern and the opening of another. I wish that I was writing it all down."

Kazda's father frequented Del's Cardinal Bar in the 1940s, which we now know as Shoot the Bull. A sample of the cocktail menu from 1960 displays prices only older generations can fondly reflect upon. A Wisconsin favorite, the Old Fashioned, would have only cost you 60 cents!

Kazda's mother, on the other hand, worked at Automatic Hostess, known locally as Manitowoc Wired Music Studio, in which an offsite studio with a bank of turntables and a record library supplied music to local taverns on demand via telephone.

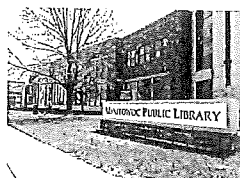
Manitowoc played a huge role in the malting and brewery business as well. With the flourishing German population and their growing desire for quality beer, William and Natalie Rahr — who immigrated to America from Germany in 1847 with a background in brewing — were able to establish quick success with the Eagle Brewery.

Kunz & Bleser Brewing Company also had beginnings in Manitowoc. Founded in 1847, they eventually changed their name to what would become a local classic: Kingsbury Breweries Company.

I've just barely scratched the surface on this town's unique beverage history. If you're thirsty for more knowledge, join us at 6 p.m. Nov. 8 in the Balkansky Community Room at Manitowoc Public Library as Kazda gives a presentation on our local tavern history. Areas of conversation will include the beginnings of Manitowoc, the start of the first tavern (1830s), the rise of the first breweries (late 1840s), and the people and industries that fueled the growth of a business district that would eventually support nearly 100 taverns at its peak during the 1950s, before dropping off slightly in the 1960s.

Cheers!

Emily Ellerman is marketing technician at Manitowoc Public Library.



The Manitowoc Public Library April 25 in Manitowoc. (Photo: Josh Clark/USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin))

# Human trafficking topic of Monday event at library

Kristin Stoeger

Special to USA TODAY NETWORK - WISCONSIN

Manitowoc Public Library will wrap up its last Domestic Issues Mini-Series session with a community discussion about "Human Trafficking in Our Community" — a tragic and growing problem in our area.



Stoeger

Human trafficking is the trade of humans — modern-day slavery — most commonly for the purpose of forced labor or sexual exploitation. It's one of those uneasy topics most everyone agrees is a horrible thing. However, most everyone is also quick to point out it certainly couldn't be happening here — not in our hometown.

However, that would be woefully inaccurate. It's far more prevalent than you'd think. Even in northeastern Wisconsin.

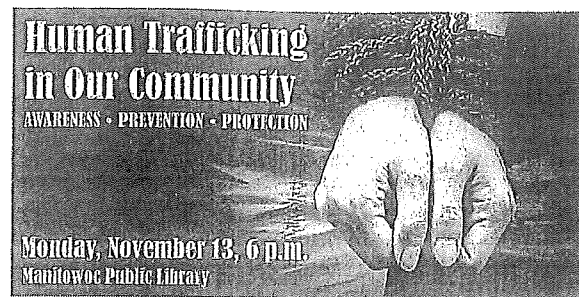
The question remains: what can I, just a regular, everyday person, do about it? Well, open and constructive conversation is an important, necessary step in the right direction.

In this spirit, Manitowoc Public Library is hosting an open forum/panel discussion regarding "Human Trafficking in Our Community" at 6 p.m. Monday in the Balkansky Community Room.

Discussion participants include Detective Erik Kowalski, Manitowoc Police Department; Julie Ribley, CASA director at Lakeshore CAP; and Kris Pierce of 5-stones, an Appleton-based non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about sex trafficking in Wisconsin.

The evening will begin with a screening of the 5-stones short film, "Innocence Sold," which is appropriate for those ages 12 and older. It features three short films: the story of Sabrina (a high school student lured into sex trafficking), her trafficker, Matt, and her friend, Andrea. This film was produced and filmed in the Fox Valley to educate people about the dangers of sex trafficking.

Following the short film, panelists will introduce themselves, which will lead directly into a discussion with the panel, led by a moderator with prepared questions. Following the discussion will be a Q&A session



"Human Trafficking in Our Community" is set for 6 p.m. Monday at Manitowoc Public Library. PROVIDED

with the audience.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and participate in this crucial conversation. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about this growing concern right in our own backyard, how to recognize the signs, and learn some ways to curb the growth of human trafficking in our community.

With the completion of our Domestic Mini-Series, the conversation will be shifting focus again onto our Great Decisions Foreign Affairs series. This popular series returns for its 11th year at Manitowoc Public Library! We are happy to continue partnering with the League of Women Voters to bring this educational series to our community.

Great Decisions is a grassroots world affairs education program that brings together communities from across the nation to discover and discuss foreign policy issues. Over the course of eight weeks, scholars will introduce each issue, and participants may explore their own views and those of the group. Supplemental briefing books will once again be available for purchase.

Starting in the first week of February, we will introduce a new topic each week on Monday nights at 6 p.m. Mark your calendars. And don't forget to join us for our final Domestic Issues Mini-Series discussion on human trafficking on Monday. Admission is free.

More can be found at [manitowoclibrary.org](http://manitowoclibrary.org).

Kristin Stoeger is library director at Manitowoc Public Library.

# Want to get published? Manitowoc author shares tips on publishing a book

Amanda Linsmeier, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Published 6:21 a.m. CT Nov. 15, 2017



(Photo: Provided)

Reading and writing have always been passions of mine. As a Manitowoc Public Library employee, and a published author, I'm here to help writers navigate their way through the world of publishing. I'm self-published as well as published traditionally — a "hybrid" author.

After writing your manuscript, and polishing it with the help of critique partners or volunteer readers, you may be wondering what your options are for publication. Many writers dream of seeing their books on the shelves of Barnes & Noble, on the *New York Times* Bestseller List, and popular book blogs.

Traditional (or trade) publishing with one of the "Big 5" is the hardest avenue of publication, but one where those things are more likely to happen. These publishers—Hachette, Macmillan, HarperCollins, Simon and Schuster, and Penguin Random House — and their hundreds of imprints make up the majority of trade publishing. They offer better marketing and more press. They pay generous advances, and for everything from cover art to editing. However, you'll have less control, such as input on design, release date, or branding. Also 99.9 percent of these publishers will require you to have a literary agent, who's basically the gatekeeper between publishing houses and writers. Agents take 12-15 percent commission, but they'll negotiate the best possible deal for their authors.

To obtain an agent, you'll need to pitch your manuscript through a query letter — numerous resources on queries and agents can be found online. You can keep track of your query list on [querytracker.net](http://querytracker.net). I'm querying agents now — I'd love to be published with one of the Big 5!

If you want another option, try boutique publishers, such as Penner Publishing, which published my novel, *Ditch Flowers*. Most small presses don't require an agent, so you can submit directly to them. The advances will likely be small (if they exist at all), there won't be as much buzz about your books in the literary community, and you'll have to do more promotion on your own.



(Photo: Getty Images/iStockphoto)

Sometimes the books are Print-On-Demand, and bookstores may not accept them. Yet, you may have more creative control, and a more personal relationship with staff. As with trade publishers above, you don't pay to be published here.

Lastly, more and more writers turn to self-publishing. It's a great option for the independent and detail-oriented. I'm the proud independent (indie) author of three books. Self-publishing through Createspace, or Ingram (to name two) involve slightly different details, but my advice remains the same. You're the publisher, but you don't have to DIY everything. Hire out jobs you're not equipped to handle. I'm not great at technical stuff, so I pay someone to format my manuscripts. Unless you've got a background in design or are "really" good at it, hire a cover designer. Covers are one of the most important factors in whether someone will read your book — let alone purchase it. Pre-made covers range from about \$20 to \$200 on [Etsy.com](http://Etsy.com).

Copy editing or developmental editing can be a costly investment, but it's worth every penny.

Publishing on your own is rewarding, but can also be stressful and expensive. Another downside? There's a stigma concerning indie publishing from some. If you believe in your work, and it's as strong as you can make it, well, that's all that matters.

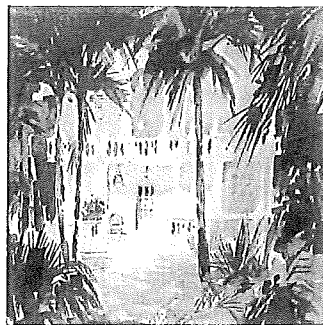
It's an amazing thing to write a book, short story or poem, let alone have the courage to put it "out there" in the world. Books and stories are important. As a reader I'm grateful to the creators who've given me their words. As a writer, I'm grateful I get to create.

*Amanda Linsmeier is a materials management page at Manitowoc Public Library.*

# Watercolors by late Manitowoc artist to be auctioned at Manitowoc Public Library

Sherry Ewert, For USA TODAY NETWORK-Wisconsin

Published 7:14 a.m. CT Nov. 25, 2017



(Photo: Provided)

(Greetings from the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library!)

As I'm sure you are probably aware, The Friends exist to support and promote MPL. We have more than 150 members who advocate for library services. We're involved in volunteering and fundraising to help support many of the programs and events provided by the library.

Our biggest fundraisers, by far, are our used book sales, which are held twice a year — once in January and once in July (usually during Krazy Daze).



"Red Chair with Sea Things," one of the watercolor paintings by late Manitowoc artist Helen Baertschy that will be auctioned off Dec. 1-23 at Manitowoc Public Library. (Photo: Provided)

I'll return to the pages of the *Herald Times Reporter* at a later date to talk more about the book sales, but today I'd like to address a project that's just around the corner.

The Friends have an upcoming fundraiser that will be taking place in December. It's a smaller fundraiser made possible by Dorothy Trembly, who has donated three paintings by local artist Helen Baertschy. Helen passed away in December 2015 at age 92, leaving many of her lovely watercolors and oils behind. Helen was always a firm believer in the powerful positivity of libraries, so Dorothy felt it fitting some of Helen's work be donated to the Friends for fundraiser purposes.

Dorothy provided us with a bit more information about Helen Baertschy for those who may not be familiar with her interesting personal history or her work:

*Helen was an artist all her life. She was a graduate of Chicago Art Institute. She was a member of the Rahr-West Art Museum, the Plymouth Art Center, The Wisconsin Watercolor Society, and in her later years, a member of the Manitowoc Senior Center Watercolor group.*

*Helen and her husband, Chad, spent most of their lives in the Chicago area. When they retired, they spent time in Florida, bought a large sailboat, and sailed to the Caribbean. From there, they hired a crew and sailed off to the Mediterranean, where they spent a year.*

*Upon returning, they found keeping a sailboat in Chicago very expensive, so they checked out marinas to the north. They found a great price in Manitowoc, and in 1988 they bought a house and stayed.*

*Helen painted oils, acrylics and pastels, but she was known in this area for her watercolor portraits and landscapes.*

*Helen entered and won many art shows throughout the U.S. Her favorite story was when she entered a painting in a small juried show in the Chicago suburbs and was rejected. Later that year, she entered that same painting in a juried national show, and won second place.*

Helen's three paintings will be up for sale via a silent auction Dec. 1-23 at the library. A minimum bid will be in place for each of the three works being auctioned off.



Any of these three works would make a wonderful Christmas gift for a lover of watercolor paintings — or any art lover, for that matter! So stop in at MPL during December and take a look at Helen's paintings. Better yet, put in a bid on one or all of them! Once you see them, I have no doubt that's precisely what you'll be inclined to do.

All proceeds go to the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library.

Sherry Ewert is president of the Friends of Manitowoc Public Library.