



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:**

Angela Mapes Turner (President)

(260) 908-6726

[eckhart.library.foundation.elf@gmail.com](mailto:eckhart.library.foundation.elf@gmail.com)

## LIBRARY FOUNDATION HONORS 80<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY WITH AUTHOR PRESENTATION

Auburn, IN—June 6, 2024 marked the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-Day, the historic day in 1944 when Allied troops stormed the beaches of Normandy during World War II. To honor this memorable day, Eckhart Library Foundation donors received a special invitation to attend an author presentation with Barbara Olenyik Morrow of her book *Army Guy, Red Cross Gal* co-authored by Ellen England.

Based on a collection of letters written by Bill Husselman and Mary Brandon, England's parents, the book tells the story of two Auburn natives determined to serve their country and win the war. During her presentation, Morrow described how she tried to put their experiences in historical context and include experiences of the war from a woman's perspective. She shared their ties to the Auburn community.

Much of the research for the novel was conducted locally, including through Eckhart Public Library at Willennar Genealogy Center.

"This novel is a great example of the impact our library can have across generations as a source of community history," said Eckhart Library Foundation board president, Angela Mapes Turner. "We were honored to offer this experience to show our gratitude for the donors who support our mission to provide steadfast support of the library, as well as to observe the anniversary of D-Day."

The Eckhart Library Foundation, created in 2018, partners with donors to ensure literacy, learning, and a place for all—forever, through steadfast support of Eckhart Public Library's critical operations and infrastructure. In 2024, the foundation has pledged \$100,000 to the library for infrastructure needs and professional development. The organization works closely with both the library and the Friends of Eckhart Public Library Inc. to ensure the many collections, artwork, and history of the library can be enjoyed by the community for generations to come.

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*Author Barb Morrow presents to attendees at D-Day event*

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