

March 7, 2025



Gangster Series—available through: [Amazon](#), [Indie Book Stores](#), [Barnes & Noble](#), [Walmart](#)
Customer Reviews: [Amazon Author](#), [Goodreads](#)
Website: www.bettybrandtpassick.com
Facebook: <http://facebook.com/BettyBrandtPassick>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/BBPCOM>
LinkedIn: <https://linkedin.com/in/bbpassick>

Contact: bbpassick@comcast.net

Gangster Blog

Editor's Choice Award of Literary Excellence



London, UK – 21 February 2025 – Renowned historical fiction author Betty Brandt Passick has been featured in the latest issue of Reader’s House magazine, a prestigious literary publication that showcases best-selling, award-winning, and exceptional authors from around the world. In an in-depth interview, Passick delves into her literary jour-

ney, the inspiration behind her gripping novels, and her unique storytelling approach that blends historical fact with compelling fiction. The magazine praised both Passick and her works, highlighting her ability to weave intricate narratives that bring history to life. In recognition of her literary excellence, Reader’s House also awarded her the prestigious "**Editor's Choice Award of Literary Excellence**", an honour reserved for a select group of outstanding authors. Reader’s House magazine, Issue 49: <https://readershouse.co.uk/issue-49>.

New Program (in person/virtual): “Prohibition / Al Capone/ Booze-running”

Thank you, Justin Davie, for the opportunity to present (virtually) on "Prohibition/Al Capone/Booze-running" during your 3 WVHS sophomore social studies classes on March 6th.

The most often asked questions by students:

- How long did it take to write this book?
- Who were the major booze-runners in the Fairbank area?
- What stories did you learn from interviews with locals about Louie La Cava?



(more information, see attached)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editor's Choice Award of Literary Excellence 1

New Program (in person/virtual):
“Prohibition/ Alphonse Capone/ Boozerunning” 1

A Personal, Devastating Loss 2

Whose life will be changed — YOURS?.... 2

Author Events 2

Gangster Series



2021

2017

Book #3: 2025!

A Personal, Devastating Loss...

My life is at a standstill since the death of our eldest granddaughter, Brittany, on February 1st, following a long battle with cervical cancer. She represented a beautiful soul to those of us who knew and loved her best. Her absence has left a huge void in our lives. Mourning her loss is a son, plus countless family and friends. The death of a grandchild is the most profound loss my husband and I have ever experienced. (I'll resume writing book #3 in the gangster series as soon as I am able.)



Whose life will be changed — YOURS?

The deadline to enter the Wapsie Writing Contest is fast approaching (**March 15**).

Entering a writing contest is a great way to grow one's writing skills.

When I was a young girl of about 11 years, I took the initiative to corre-

spond with renowned Iowa poet [Lillian Dirksen](#), whose poems I found published in the *Sumner Gazette* (my grandmother subscribed to the paper). Several times I wrote to ask for feedback on my poems, and to my surprise she always took the time to respond and offer a few kindly-worded suggestions. I'm certain she never knew how her words *infused hope* in that little girl, who dreamed of one day growing up to write books.

My first poem was published in the *Des Moines Register* in 1982, "In Between Fall and Winter"...four (4) books have followed.

Writing contestants receive positively-worded feedback from the judges (as requested). Judging is done by writing / teaching professionals and avid book readers.

Wapsie Writing Contest

Do you consider yourself a storyteller? Do you have a great story you've always wanted to put to paper and share with others? Showcase your storytelling ability in the:

3rd Annual Wapsie Writing Contest

Subject: Of your choosing
Length: 100-1500 Words
Genre: Nonfiction, Fiction, or Poetry
Format: MS Word

3 Age Categories:
Adults — 19 years and older
Youth — 12 to 18 years
Children — 11 years and under

Judging: by Committee
Cash prize to Winner! (each category)
Published in regional newspapers.

Submissions: lbpasick@comcast.net

Contest Rules: BettyBrandtPassick.com

CONTEST STAGES:

- 1) Submission: **Jan. 1st**
- 2) Deadline: **March 15th**
- 3) Judging: **After March 15**
- 4) Winners' Announced: **May 15**

(more information, see attached)

Author Events

2025

(March-April)

— **CANCELLED Sat., Mar 15, 10-3 (Booksigning)**, [Perfectly Mayer Craft & Gift Market](#), Mayer Lutheran High School, 305 5th St NE, Mayer, MN

— **Sat., Mar 22, 12-6** (Booksigning), [1st Annual Literary Libations—a Local Festival of Authors](#), Lift Bridge Brewing, 1900 Tower Drive W., Stillwater, MN

— **(Pending) Tues., Mar. 25, 1 pm** (11 am California time), International Talk Show:

[Briggs on Books w/Mike Briggs](#), "Gangster(s) in Our Midst, The Untold Story"
— **Mar. 26, 8 pm CST** (9 pm EST), [Dragon's Den POD-CAST w/Glenda Dawson](#), "Why I chose to write about crime"

— **Tues., Apr. 1, 6:30 pm**, "Author Spotlight," [Twin Sisters in Crime](#), St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E 42nd St., Mpls, MN

— **Tues, Apr. 8, 10:30-noon** (Workshop), "Writing a Crime Novel" [Denver Public Library \(65th anniversary\)](#), 100 Washington St., Denver, IA

— **Sat., Apr. 12, 10-2 pm**, [Mystery and Crime Book Fair](#), St. Michael City Hall Council Chamber, 1800 Town Center Dr, St. Michael, MN

— **Thurs., Apr. 17, 6:30 pm**, "Literary Locavore" (reading, 3 authors), [Nakomis Library](#), 5100 34th Avenue S, Mpls, MN

— **Mon, Apr. 21, 7 pm** (Author talk/radio broadcast), [MN Mystery Night](#), Frank Weber in conversation with Betty Brandt Passick, "Lucky's 13 Pub, 1352 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota, MN