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# YOUR LIFE

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**WEDNESDAY**  
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An old ticket window on display in the newly expanded memorabilia hall at the Muncie Fieldhouse. The hall includes many historical photos, yearbooks, and trophies. PHOTO BY CHRIS BASKIN FOR THE STAR PRESS



SHARON AND MOBLE

## Future authors get advice from professional

By JOHN CARLSON  
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**MUNCIE** — An auditorium full of rookie writers and their parents get some early advice on their literary careers at the Young Authors Conference at Wilson Middle School on Monday.

The event featured children's book writer and illustrator Kanna Kana.

"Do I have a weird name or what?" the personable author, a native of Japan and resident of Bloomington, asked the crowd, getting some laughs.

Author of 18 published books including *The Wolf's Chicken Shave*, *Ready for Anything* and *My Lucky Day* (two others are now in the works), she offered a primer on the writer's life.

"Revising a story is difficult," she said, in a presentation that saw her read from half new work with her finely drawn characters appeared on a screen. "Revision is a must if you want to be a good writer."

She also played a CD of another work of hers, one in which her characters' voices were provided by Hollywood stars no less august than Mary Tyler Moore and Tom Archer.

Kana also discussed her creative process, beginning with a picture of an old notebook in which she had first mentally fleshed out the words for one of her books.

Noting she probably revises her writing "100 times," she went on to show illustrations of the thumbnail sketches she then draws, and then the slightly more refined "sample" or "dummy" drawings she creates and, again, revises.

Her final step was illustrated by her finished paintings.

Speaking of which, she noted she sometimes has no idea how to, for example, draw dancing frogs.

The solution? "In that case," said Kana, whose books have been translated into 14 languages, "I use my sons to be models for me."

Well, she did when they were younger, anyway.

It was an attentive audience that heard her presentation. It was a talented one, too, such kindergarten to seventh-grade among the 180 people present having earned their way there by writing and illustrating a book identified as best in their grade.

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# PURPLE PRIDE

Open house to celebrate expansion of Central's Memorabilia Room



One of hundreds of trophies on display in the newly expanded memorabilia hall at the Muncie Fieldhouse.

By JOHN CARLSON  
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**F**rom the iron-barred ticket window mounted in a wall to the purple blazer of late, great super fan Herbie Hank, a new attraction at the Muncie Fieldhouse honors Central High School's history and Bearcat pride.

It's the Muncie Central Alumni Memorabilia Room.

The most special item in it? "Everything's special," said Joan Scrivnor, one of a team of six people who have turned the room into a reality, expanding it from 800 square feet to an impressive facility three times that large.

The others spearheading the project include Jay and Shirley Pittenger, the latter of whom is regarded as its curator. Larry Campbell, and Tom and Mary Raiser. All are Central graduates but Mary, who considers herself a Bearcat by marriage.

Committee members credit Marilyn Moore with launching the idea back in 2004.

"She was the dreamer," said Shirley, noting that the room's dedication will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday during an open house set for 2.5 p.m. "She's going to cut the ribbon."

As Shirley spoke, her fellow workers sat in a comfortable seating area at the center of the room. But rest-

ing on their laurels, or anything else, hasn't been common for them while preparing for the room's opening.

"We've been in here every day, putting pictures up or something," Shirley said.

Her husband agreed.

"It's a work in progress," Jay said. "We're not done yet."

Maybe not, but so far 4,000 items connected with CHS history have come in. If you count newspaper clippings and such, and about 1,130 items have actually been catalogued. From small to large, they offer some arresting attractions and images, such as the huge color portrait of the 1982 champs, a team on which Tom played.

"It was just up there with all the other junk," Mary said, of the surprising find.

A 1938 1500 team portrait nearby, meanwhile, also serves as a poem to Bearcat image, including the image of Tom's father, Floyd, who was an assistant coach with that team.

The collection isn't limited to sports items, though. Other things on display include Paul Harold's 1923 Bearcat sweater, mugs, buttons, jewelry, play books, door bucks and even an old cafeteria door, items representative of the school's social, academic, musical and extracurricular activities.

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Tom Raiser hangs an old newspaper article in the newly expanded memorabilia hall at the Muncie Fieldhouse.

### IF YOU GO

#### MUNCIE CENTRAL HISTORY

**WHAT:** Muncie Central Alumni Memorabilia Room

**WHERE:** Muncie Fieldhouse

**DEDICATION:** 2:30 p.m. Saturday

**OPEN HOUSE:** 2.5 p.m. Saturday

**ONLINE:** See a photo gallery at [www.thestarpress.com](http://www.thestarpress.com)

"Once a Bearcat, always a Bearcat."

JOAN SCRIVNOR assisted in starting memorabilia room

"This was such a wonderful opportunity for children... to be part of such an educational experience and meet a real author and illustrator."

DEBORAH BROWN East Washington Academy second-grade teacher

### TODAY'S POLL QUESTION

Q: Did you graduate from a Delaware County high school?  
Yes: No: I don't graduate

### MONDAY'S RESULTS

Q: Are you tired of seeing Taylor Lundy?  
I didn't eat any 57.4% | No 33.3% | Yes 7.4%

Results as of 5:30 p.m.  
Total votes: 68

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