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College student's artwork
On cover of newly-published book

For Immediate Release

A newly published memoir introduces readers to farm life and a small Iowa town in Grant Wood Country. In *'naked! One of 13* Michael Boos records his first 12 years, much of which was spent "where the Wapsipinicon River meets Buffalo Creek...in a small Iowa town named for a 19th century Indian maiden, Anamosa."

Born during World War II, the author "was raised in a transitional period when:

- tractors replaced horses,
- large families were no longer needed to operate and manage a farm,
- single-room schools were becoming scarce and rural school districts were being consolidated,
- the population flow was from rural to small town to cities, and
- electric cooking ovens were replacing wood-fueled ones."

He describes how it was to be "be raised in a family of 13 children with four older sisters." At that one-room school, he was taught by his mother.

Boos later attended a "parochial school under the watchful eyes of the Sisters of Mercy and the evil eyes of Father Simon." The economy of that small town was dominated by a state prison.

He rooted "for the Chicago White Sox in a town divided in support of the equally dismal Chicago Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals."

The artwork of a senior at Calumet College of St. Joseph (CCSJ) in Whiting, IN is featured on the cover of the book. Theresa Ross of Highland, IN recreated the one-room schoolhouse.

She attends the college where Boos works as the executive director of the bi-state Association for the Wolf Lake Initiative (AWLI).

Boos met the student last fall when she won the student art competition at the Greening of the Arts Show. The show is co-sponsored by AWLI and Calumet College.

At the time, Boos was editing the book's manuscript and thinking about the cover design. A month or so later Ms. Ross showed him her painting of the Annunciation. He was impressed and commissioned her to do the schoolhouse painting for his book.

Boos also is author of *Over the Line: Trials & Triumphs*, the 20-year history of AWLI and the Wolf Lake watershed. It was published in 2019 by BookLocker.

'naked! One of 13 was published by Thorn Creek Press, as will be the second volume of his memoir. It will be available later this year.

A resident of Chicago, the author has spent more than 50 years in the field of communication as a journalist and public relations consultant. In his years, he has advised the late Chicago mayor Harold Washington, the late Ed Sadlowski of the United Steelworkers of America, and Nancy Pelosi and the California Democratic Party.

He earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Iowa.

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