

**Author of *Izzy's Fire: Finding Humanity in the Holocaust*  
NANCY WRIGHT BEASLEY**

Thursday, March 10<sup>th</sup>  
7:30 p.m.

Combs Hall, Room 111  
University of Mary Washington  
Fredericksburg

Superb writer and member of Virginia Press Women, Nancy Beasley wrote her first article about the newly established Virginia Holocaust Museum in 1998. The stirring stories within the Richmond museum motivated her to begin researching the experiences of a courageous woman and her Jewish companions' survival story during WWII.

Beasley's book recounts the story of five Jewish families who survived the Holocaust by living in a 9'x12'x4' underground hole, some of them for seven months, their lives sustained by a poor Catholic farm family. The story is told through the voice of Edna Ipson, wife of Israel "Izzy" Ipson. The 93-year-old Edna now lives in Richmond.

Formerly residing in Fredericksburg, Beasley, too, makes Richmond her home. She is currently a writer for *Richmond Magazine*. Beasley's journalist career spans 25 years, including seven years as a state correspondent for *The Richmond News Leader*. She has written national award-winning columns and articles for many publications. She also teaches at Virginia Commonwealth University.

VPW and the University of Mary Washington are co-presenting this Women's History Month public lecture. Nancy Beasley will share her interesting process by which she journeyed from her Holocaust Museum article to the moving interviews that led to her book. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the lecture.

\*This event is free and open to the public.