

# THE BLUE EYED SIX

A DOCUMENTARY FILM



FILM PROGRAMME

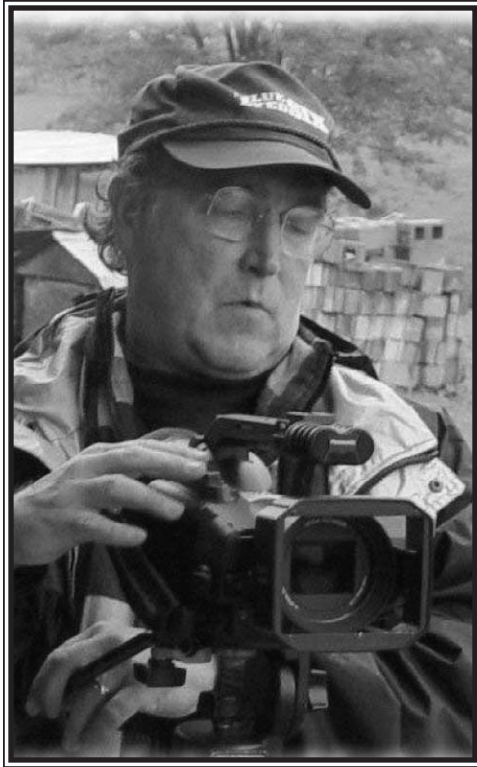
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The Blue Eyed Six ~ A Documentary Film  
~Film Programme~  
Sunday, May 20 Edited by Michael S. Lazorcik and Ian Bonner  
12:00 NOON ADMIT ONE  
at the Allen Theatre, Annville, PA  
PA HISTORIC DRAMAS

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# Note from the Director



What makes the Blue Eyed Six such a compelling story? One hundred and twenty-seven years after the last hanging, and here we are, fascinated by the story. Is it the catchy name? Is it the brutality of the times? Or is it a look back to a simpler time when things were black and white? You did something wrong, you faced the consequences. With today's television programs of law and court dramas with forensic proof, justice finds itself facing far more possibilities. It is no longer simply black and white. The color of Justice today is gray. Maybe we long for the simple truths of yesteryear.

Edna Carmean's book on the Blue Eyed Six opened the closet door and turned on the light. She dusted off the story and brought it out into the open. When we did the play, she remarked with an understanding smile that the characters were brought back to life. She and her husband enjoyed arriving in the limousine that my brother Bruce and I provided. What a wonderful lady. We were graced by her presence. And we dedicate this premier to her memory and to that of former President of the Lebanon County Court of Common Pleas, Judge, G. Thomas Gates, who also honored us by his portrayal in the role of the Reporter in the play. Those of you who saw the play might remember when Tom Gates, in the Reporter's role, walked downstage in front of the last three Blue Eyed Six who were about to be hanged, and said to the audience, "The thing about hanging is...you've gotta relax."

History is who we are. It's our pride. It's our business, too. It's a big reason Tourism is the second biggest industry in Pennsylvania. Our not for profit organization, Pennsylvania Historic Dramas, will continue to tell stories based on true events like The Prince of Cornwall, Milton Hershey and The Blue Eyed Six. We thank you for being our audience. Every one of our stories has you in mind.

I would like to thank my wife, Lanette, and my daughter, Meagan, for their support.

Brian W. Kreider  
Director

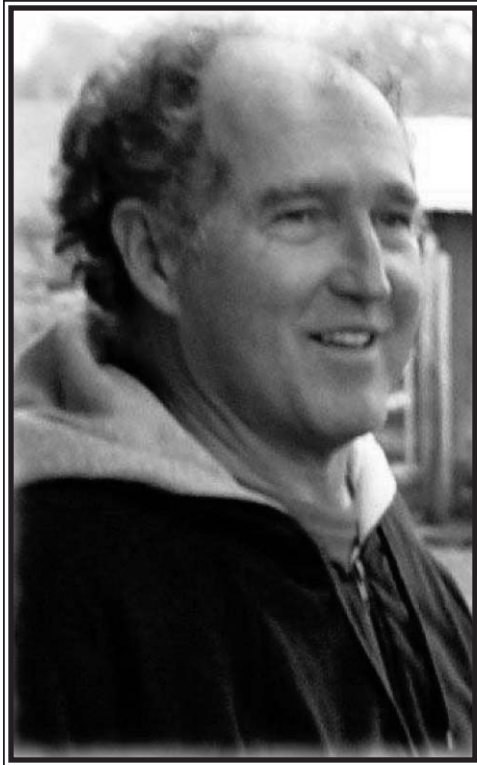
# THE BLUE EYED SIX



**They were as poor as field mice. One of them had eleven children.  
A life insurance payoff would solve everything.**

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC DRAMAS PRESENTS  
A KREIDER BROS. FILM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SIMONE ASSOCIATES, INC.  
"THE BLUE EYED SIX" WITH A RECURRING GUEST FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA PARTNERS IN THE ARTS (PPA), ADMINISTERED BY THE BERKS ARTS COUNCIL.  
FEATURING FRANK PASTUCK, KEVIN D'ARCO, COTY MARTIN, JOHN MATARAZZI, ART MOSHOS, AND CRAIG NORRIS.  
MANAGED BY WILLIAM J. MCGILL. MUSICAL PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVE GARMAN. EDITED BY BILL SIMONE. MUSIC BY JOE TROJICAK. STUNO DESIGN BY ZACK SIMONE.  
COSTUMES BY KAREN DUNDORE-GULOTTA AND JOAN DUNDORE. ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS IAN BONNER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER BRUCE W. KREIDER.  
WRITTEN BY BRUCE W. AND BRIAN W. KREIDER. DIRECTED BY BRIAN W. KREIDER.  
[www.theblueeyedsix.com](http://www.theblueeyedsix.com)

# Note from the Executive Producer



I have always loved theater because a producer can do so much even on a limited budget. Theater is a powerful medium. You can reach many people with any important message related to fundamental issues such as philosophy and/or politics. I have always liked the early Greek plays where the actors would present their cynical views of the leaders of the time and get away with it in the name of art, but the audience would be influenced and their new attitudes would shape the political life of the time, many times improving it.

I would like to see more of people's various perspectives on life than we see now. Some of the weirdest stuff makes it to Broadway and gets awards, even though the stuff doesn't make much sense. The medium could be used more effectively.

This film explores an important aspect of life-insurance; that is it shows how the powers-at-be were able to change the insurance laws, through this case, so that instead of the people insuring each other, the insurance companies were able to have the exclusive rights to establish policies. Though this was more organized and established a reserve, it switched the profits from the people to the companies. Was this motive a part of the conviction and executions?

While making this film, I've been fortunate to gain a new bounty of lasting friendships and to have fulfilled lifelong goals. I'd be hard-pressed to say, I wish I were doing something else. Working on this film with my twin brother Brian has been another positive scene in my life's play.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce W. Kreider". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

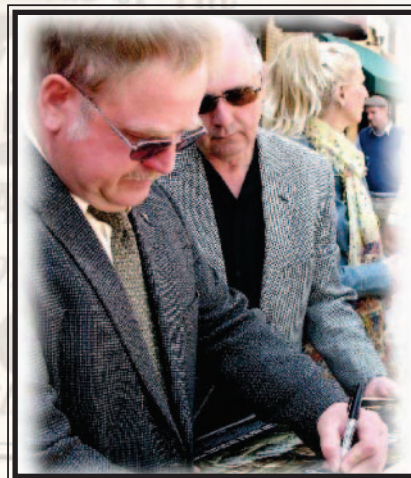
Bruce W. Kreider  
Executive Producer

# The World Premiere



**MAY 20, 2007 – ALLEN - THEATRE ANNVILLE, PA**

On May 20, 2007, nearly 2,000 people attended the World Premiere of the Blue Eyed Six film. The first show was the for the cast, crew and their guests. The next five shows were for the public. Originally, there were only two shows scheduled for the public, but due to the great demand, three more were added--the final one being added only two days before the premiere, which sold out in less than a day. Enthusiastic film-goers and historians alike lined the red carpet on East Main Street in Annville outside the historic Allen Theatre. A show was scheduled every hour and a half. Patrons exited through the coffeehouse to meet and greet the actors and producers of the film. A wide array of souvenirs were available--as the actors signed autographs.



# The World Premiere

MAY 20, 2007 – ALLEN - THEATRE ANNVILLE, PA

At day's end, the launch of the Blue Eyed Six Documentary film was complete--just the beginning of the road to the rest of the world seeing this piece of important Pennsylvania history.



# History of the Blue Eyed Six



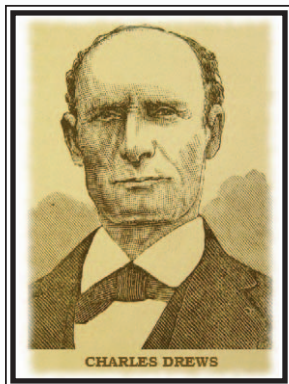
## ISRAEL BRANDT

Israel Brandt was born in Northern Lebanon Township, Lebanon County, PA, on the 27th of May, 1833. His father had a small piece of land, which he worked on, and also did a favorable business in carpentry and was considered a handy man who could work at almost anything. Maybe it was his ability to ply his many trades that lead him to discontent in the many jobs he labored at.

Young Israel started school at the age of eight and continued until he was fifteen years old. He was then sent to a tailor by his father where he apprenticed for three years. After years of outfitting the residents of South Lebanon Township with proper attire he grew restless. Seeking a change, he packed his bags and found his way to the state of Indiana. He worked on a farm, gathering the yields of the earth for a few years. Again he struggled with discontent and headed back to his old hunting grounds of North Lebanon Township.

In 1857, Brandt married and tried to settle down. At this time he seemed enamored with the military, so he enrolled with the Myerstown Dragoons, under Captain Donges. This crack company of part-time soldiers excelled in their drill routines and the military band where their sweet chords of music were a popular attractions at holiday parades. However, when the first guns thundered on Fort Sumter in 1861 and the war rose in the horizon, this company voted by a large majority to stay home and not fight for the Union. Corporal Brandt voted for war and his courage was never questioned.

After the commencement of the war Brandt moved to Lebanon and kept the Washington House for two years, without any incident of note. He then sold his hotel business and moved west to do farm work in Illinois. At this time, while tending a threshing machine, he lost his left arm. He remained in Illinois eighteen months, when he journeyed to Iowa, and remained a short time looking around for some business suited to his maimed condition. Being unsuccessful, however, he came back to Lebanon and stayed three weeks with his father. He then moved to Cold Spring Township and went into business he seemed to like the best, keeping the Cold Spring Hotel for two years followed by the Half-Way House in East Hanover Township for five. Then, in 1871, he moved to Union Township and built the Brandt Hotel at St. Joseph Spring. There was nothing worthy of note during his years of catering to the appetites of his costumers as well as serving up beer and whisky to the thirsty public. He was known to have been a pretty good costumer himself, earning the moniker of a "jolly good fellow," until the time of the Raber tragedy.



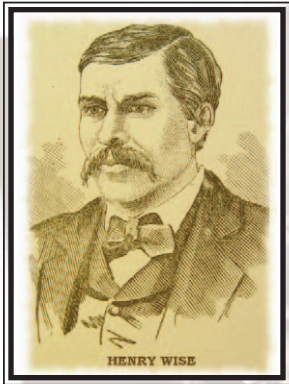
## CHARLES DREWS

Charles Drews was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany in 1820. He was Brandt's neighbor and a man that did not practice his trade. After a good common school education in his native Germany, he had five years of training in his father's trade as a butcher. But after his Army service he lost interest in butchering and decided to come to America. His father, reluctant to lose his only son, gave his blessing and eight hundred dollars with which to make a start in the new country. His passage to New York cost thirty-four dollars and the rest of his money was stolen, so he arrived penniless. He was a guillible young man and had similar bad luck in America. When he finally arrived in Lebanon County Pennsylvania, he was a ragged tramp and penniless once more. He worked at a succession of jobs---as a mason, carpender, farm hand, wood cutter, iron worker. It was while he was working at an iron furnace in Pine Grove that he was married to Sabina Kreiser, who bore him eleven children.

When the Civil War began, Drews enlisted in the 93rd Pennsylvania Volunteers and served four years, from 1861 to 65.



After the war, back in Lebanon County again, he slipped into his old groove of day laborer, occasional farm, road work or wood cutting. There is no record of his employment as a butcher, the field of his trade.

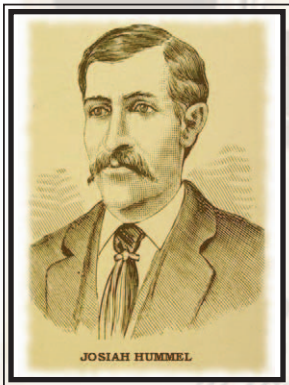


### **HENRY WISE**

Henry Wise was born in Monroe Valley on 4 June 1845, and lived with his parents until he was ten years old, when the family moved to Fishing Creek Valley, a distance of 6 miles from the Brandt's house where he was a regular visitor. Henry's parents were poor, honest, hard working people. They emigrated to America from Germany. He married Nancy Hauer when he was nineteen, and she but a mere sixteen, years old. Nancy proved to be a faithful and devoted mother, and to whom he was fondly and deeply attached. She bore him eight children. Henry's house was located just northwest of his parents home, along the road leading from Greenpoint to Indiantown Gap, a distance of approximately 7 miles.

Henry worked at several jobs, when he was fourteen years of age he began cutting railroad ties for his father at the Gold Mine Gap, in fact he was quite skilled at his trade and could split out a railroad tie faster than the rest. He prided himself and would often wage bets as to his skill. When he was seventeen he worked in the Rausch Creek coal-mines, he was equally talented there but, the coal mines required long arduous hours and meant being away from his family. Henry was a dreamer and would often talk of moving west to his friends and anyone else that would listen, however an anticipated move would cost money and that was the one thing Henry did not have, it took all the resources he could to provide for his large family.

This man forms one of the most important factors in the terrible tragedy for which he was convicted and suffered a humiliating death on the gallows. He was neither the originator of the plot in the crime against Joe Raber, or did the actual killing. In fact, according to his testimony, he knew nothing of the murder at the time it was committed. Yet the ingenious part he played in effecting the insurance on the life of old man Raber, his shocking confession shortly after conviction, and his subsequent testimony in the trial of Zechman, stamped him as the most remarkable character of this confederacy of criminals.



### **JOSIAH HUMMEL**

Josiah Hummel was born in Lebanon County on 19 March 1849. His parents were descendants of Teutonic pioneers who came to this country nearly a century and a half before the crime in which Josiah was involved in. Josiah, like other boys also went to school only in the winter time, he had quite a reputation as a slow learner; in his teacher's words, he was "careless and indolent" in his studies. He grew tired of farming when he was twenty-one and started to learn the trade of boiler-making, but soon tired of that too and turned to working in the Brookside, Calmary and Lincoln coal mines.

He was a member of Jacob's Lutheran Church, about three miles south of Pine Grove, and was confirmed in the faith of that church. However, he was a Christian only in name. Although his family belonged to the church, he did not seem to be a religious man. In 1877 he went to Wooster, Ohio, in quest of work, but not succeeding he returned to the mountains. He knew Brandt from the time the latter kept the Cold Springs Hotel. Josiah was the tallest of the six and measured nearly six feet in height.

Josiah was thought to have a quiet, inoffensive disposition. He was a loner, a heavy drinker, and a lover of hunting. Josiah had very few friends being the loner that he was, but he was a very handsome man and did fancy the ladies in the surrounding area. He was easily talked into things by neighbors wanting him to do something for them, and may have been easily convinced to do what turned out to be his eventual downfall.

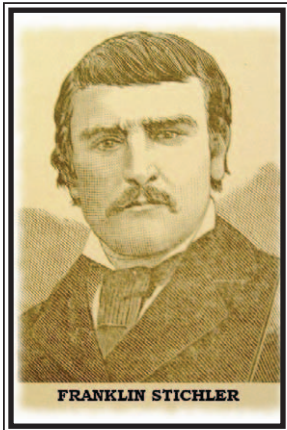


### **GEORGE ZECHMAN**

George Zechman was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania on 15 August 1849. George, also like his two neighbors, Henry and Josiah, also only went to school in the winter time. He left school at the age of seventeen for a brief fling at boating on the Susquehanna river, then, like Hummel, he came back home and started to work in the mines, continuing there for several years. When his partner was killed in a mine accident George gave up that line of work and started teaming horses in Fishing Creek Valley.

Unlike the others, George had a pleasant disposition. He was known as a user of liquor but a heavy user of tobacco and enjoyed the chewing thereof. George was twenty-two years old when he married. Before his marriage, he had been fond of dancing, but now he led a more sedate life. He and his wife were active members of the Lutheran church in Fishing Creek Valley, where he taught a Sunday School class. Mrs Zechman was a frail woman and was often ailing. She had borne her husband six children in seven years of their marriage. George, also like the others, was a frequent visitor at Brandt's tavern, either singly or in the company of the others.

George was the only one of the Blue Eyed Six to receive a re-trial. With money from his wife's family a Philadelphia Lawyer, Francis Wades Hughes, was hired to defend him. He was found not guilty of the crimes he was charged with and was subsequently released, although many have questioned that decision. He and his wife quickly departed the court and returned to Fishing Creek Valley, in the mountains.



### **FRANKLIN STICHLER**

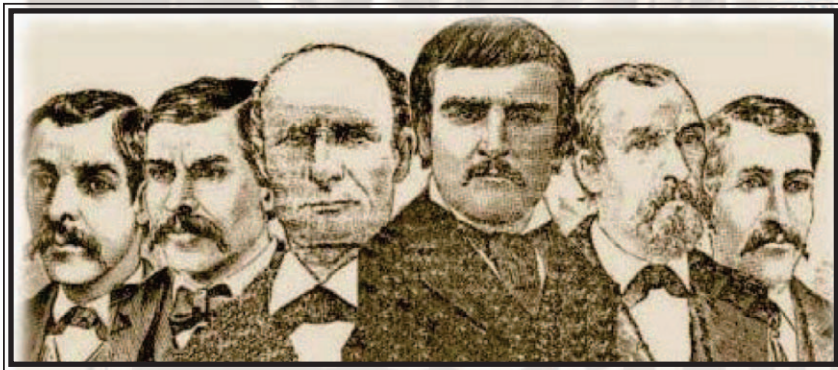
Franklin Stichler was born in the Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania., on 16 October 1859. He lived just one half mile from St Joseph's Spring in his parents house, where he was born. His father was a charcoal burner, a hard line of work in those days to which Frank was introduced before he could walk, when his father carried him to the pits on his back. When he was nine years old he started school and continued off and on for two winters. He was a trial to the teacher, for he spent most of the time engaging in pranks. He had barely learned to read and write by the time he was eleven and quit school to do a man's job with his father at the charcoal burners. Except for a short time in the coal mines, this continued to be his only occupation.

Frank grew up to be a handsome young man, with large blue eyes, square chin, thick black hair and mustache. The bushy black eyebrows that grew in a straight line across his forehead gave him a fierce appearance which belied his youth. He was short and stocky, with a strong build and erect gait. Bold and aggressive in nature, he had a quick temper and a reputation for wild behavior. He was also known for his generosity and free-spending when he had money. And he was noted as a woman-chaser, one who cut a romantic swath with the girls at Indiantown Gap, while managing to remain unmarried. Frank moved into the Brandt home and some neighbors wondered why Frank had moved to a place only a half mile from his family, especially from his mother, who was very devoted to her son. But he was not one to consider public opinion. Frank began having an affair with Lena, the second daughter of the Drews', who came home for a long visit. Lena was blond and pretty and just nineteen years old. She had not seen much of her family since she was eight years old, when she was sent away to live in what turned out to be a succession of households, serving as a hired girl. She was now married, but her husband, Joseph Peters, had joined the army. It was soon noticed that there was a strong attraction between Frank and the new girl next door. Frank was in and out of the Drews home as if it were his own, and he and Lena were seen together enough for the neighborhood gossip to start. They were seen together often. Frank being the youngest of the six, never had been married and had no children.



**LEBANON COUNTY JAIL** In 1815, a jail was built on the site of the current Lebanon Farmers Market (just a block from Lebanon's Courthouse, which stood at 8th and Cumberland Streets). The jail was crude, at best. Its worst features were the dungeons located in the basement of the jail. In 1850, the dungeons were condemned by a grand jury and divided into prison cells. The jail did not have public water until 1871. Although the prisoners which including the most infamous criminals in the Commonwealth, The Blue Eyed Six, stated repeatedly that they were well cared for in jail, the evidence makes this conclusion

questionable. In 1879, a representative from the State Board of Public Charities, during a visit, pronounced the jail to be the worst in the Commonwealth. The jail contained fourteen small rooms, six in the lower area and eight on the upper. One room was set aside for a sitting room, another set aside for a bathroom. This room was never used for its intended purpose since the water supply was insufficient and drainage not so effective. In the remaining twelve cells, there had sometimes been housed as many as seventy prisoners. During the time of the State Representative's visit, all cell doors were wide open and all prisoners, including six of them under sentence of death, roamed about the cells, corridor and attached yard with no appearance of discipline.

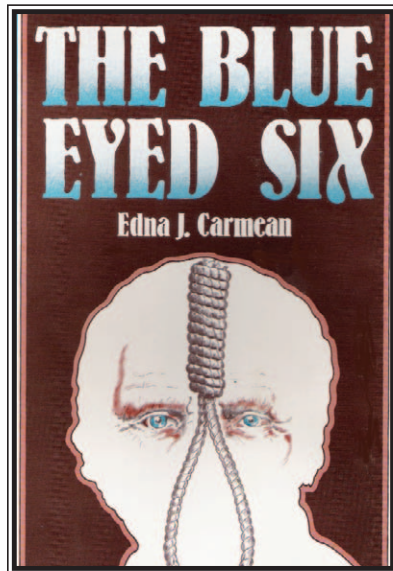


APRIL 20, 2007. The Kreider boys are at it again. Co-writers and producers of the play about Milton Hershey, identical twins Bruce and Brian are returning to their original production of the 1994 successful stage play, The Blue Eyed Six, with a documentary film. The Blue Eyed Six is the most famous insurance murder trial and execution in Pennsylvania history. In the late 1880's, Lebanon had been a quiet town until six rogues from Indiantown Gap got their names and pictures plastered on every major newspaper from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia and from Baltimore to New York. It seems the insurance industry was being challenged, as the trial was deemed the high water mark of what became known as death insurance. "A person

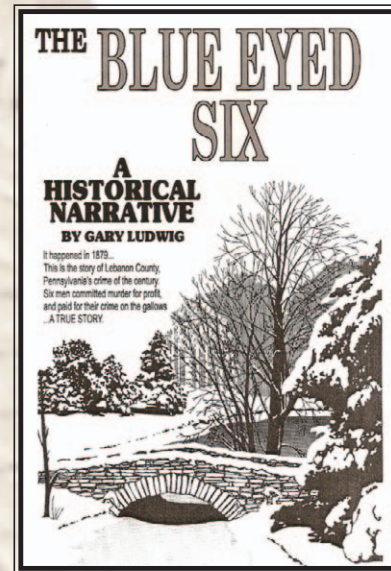
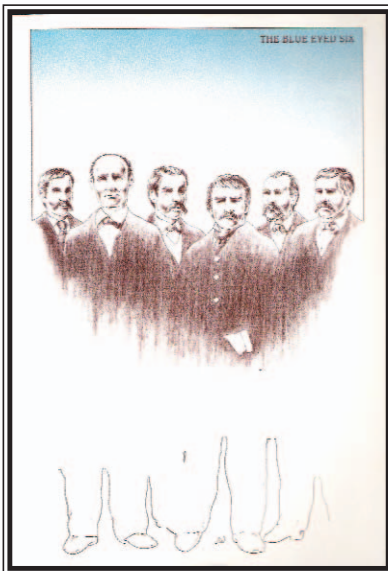
could take a life insurance policy out on a perfect stranger as long as the stranger signed the agreement remarked Bruce Kreider, Producer." The gang of six raided farms, stole livestock and robbed travelers who made the mistake of veering off the main thoroughfare between the county seats of Lebanon and Harrisburg. But that was pale in comparison to their condemnable crime. On December 7, 1878, the body of old Joseph Raber was found floating in the icy waters of Indiantown Creek near St. Joseph's Spring. The gang might have escaped the noose had it not been for one of them becoming too fond of a local 19 year-old married woman named Magdalena Peters. Her jealous husband, Joe Peters, turned the lot in to the Justice of the Peace in Hummelstown. The fact that he was drunk, it was practically dark and he happened to be AWOL from the army made no difference. The investigation revealed life insurance policies had been taken out on Raber who was frail and expected "not to last very long." Coupled with their inability to pay the premiums, some members of the gang decided to hurry up the payoff. Five of the six were hanged, which according to the late Lebanon Judge, G. Thomas Gates, was an unusual verdict when actually only two of them supposedly drowned the victim. The facts in the case didn't add up but came close enough for the outcome the court wanted, as did the insurance companies. Pennsylvania had become synonymous with the gallows because of the hangings of the Molly Maguires in nearby Carbon and Schuylkill Counties according to Gates' book, "A History of Hangings in Lebanon County."



# The Books



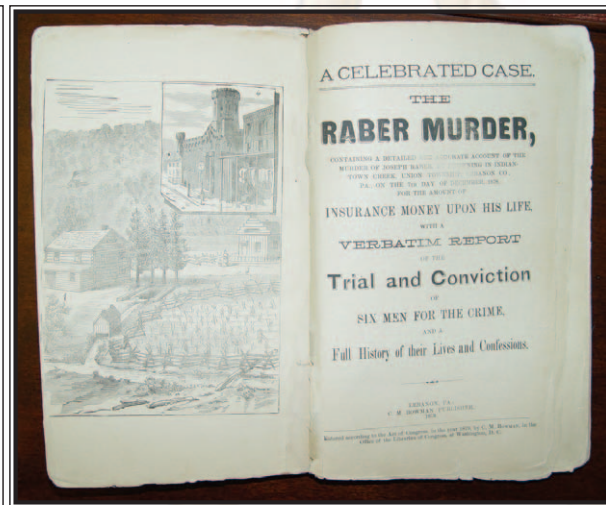
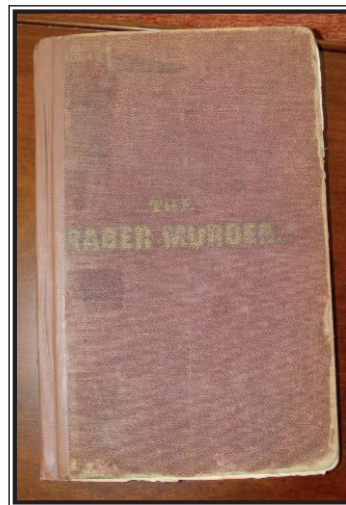
Second Edition of Edna Carmean's book, 1981



Originally published as a series of magazine articles in 1979.



A collection of newspaper accounts from 1880.



Published in 1879 by C.M. Bowman.

These are the published works about the Blue Eyed Six.

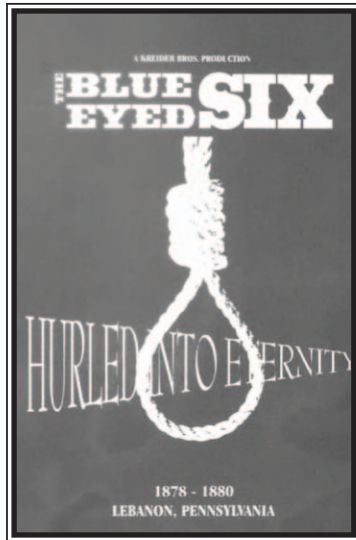


Portraits by Robert "Doc" Soliday



The Blue Eyed Six song by Robert "Doc" Soliday & Dale Miller (1980).

# The Play



The Kreiders wrote *The Blue Eyed Six: Hurlled Into Eternity* from 1993-1994 and with an enthusiastic local cast put the play on at the old State Theatre on East Cumberland Street. Tickets sold so fast, the twins added another night to the initial two-week run (that was sold-out) and that practically sold out. The enthusiasm and interest never let up. The following year they brought the play back in the spring to the same venue for one weekend and then to the Mt. Gretna Playhouse to close out the summer season with several more sell-out shows. It remains the largest audience ever to see a drama on the Gretna Stage. Over one hundred people lined the wall at the back of the theatre after all seats were taken. At this point, 10,000 people had seen the play. But there was more to come.



**1996 (Stage Play) BLUE EYED SIX**  
at the Hershey Theatre



**1994 (STAGE PLAY) BLUE EYED SIX**  
(STANDING, L-R) FRANK STICHLER (MICHAEL S. LAZORCIK), CHARLES DREWS (BUD EALY), GEORGE ZECHMAN (ROBERT SCHLEGAL), JOSIAH HUMMEL (ROBERT 'DOC' SOLIDAY), AND ISRAEL BRANDT (RICHARD REBER).  
(FRONT) HENRY WISE (CHRISTIAN BIEBER)

KREIDER BROTHERS PRESENTS:  
AN ORIGINAL PRODUCTION OF

# THE BLUE EYED SIX

1878 - 1880

Lebanon, PA

HURLED INTO ETERNITY

HERSHEY THEATRE  
MARCH 23, 1996

1996 (Stage Play) **THE BLUE EYED SIX**  
program at the Hershey Theatre where the  
tickets sold exceeded the 3,800 seating  
capacity for two shows.

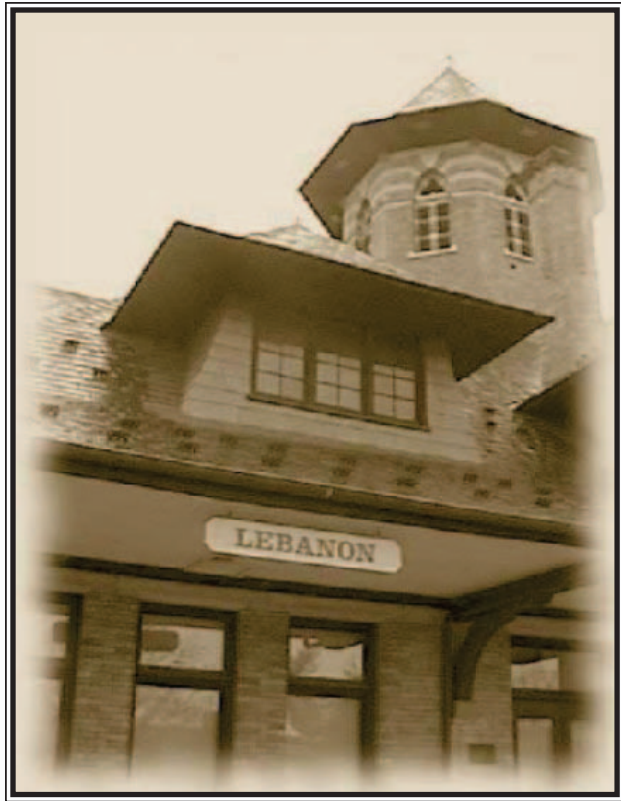


1996 (Stage Play) **BLUE EYED SIX**  
Scene at the Brandt Hotel during a show at  
the Mt. Gretna Theatre.

So, the following spring on March 23, 1996, the cast and crew of the Blue Eyed Six hit the big time – A twin bill at the majestic Hershey Theatre. A matinee followed by an evening performance. Both sold-out as nearly 4000 people attended that day. There were reports that people who would never come to the Hershey Theatre came to see The Blue Eyed Six. Finally in September, 1996, another run of shows sold out at Mt. Gretna for a total of 20,000 people seeing the show. This was merely setting the stage for the future of the Blue Eyed Six story. The rest is history.



1996 (Stage Play) **BLUE EYED SIX**  
Cast at the Mt. Gretna Theatre.



And that history will now repeat itself in the form of a documentary film. Brian Kreider, former Director of the Pennsylvania Film Office under Tom Ridge, made a lot of contacts on his trips to LA and the Sundance Film Festival. “On my first trip to Sundance in 1999, I met Robert Redford at his new venue called, House of Docs. I am taking his advice and we’ve made a documentary instead of a feature,” relayed Kreider. The Blue Eyed Six would make a great feature but it’s so hard to find the capital to produce a feature. With a documentary, you’re sticking to truth and as long as you don’t garnish it with effects and unnecessary dialogue, it’s considerably less expensive and a more direct way to get your film to the festival circuit.”

For locations, Bruce added, “We met with Geoff and Jason Brown, also twins, who own Tulpehocken Manor because the grounds of the manor suit the story so well for the exterior shots.” “The interior photography was done at Bube’s Brewery in Mt. Joy. Sam Allen, owner, is a genuine history buff and knew the story. The Catacombs offer a real dungeon-like atmosphere for the prison scenes.” The hanging scenes were done in the jail yard of the Schuylkill County Prison in Pottsville and the courtroom scenes at the Carbon County Courthouse in Jim Thorpe. Post Production was done at Simone Associates in Lebanon. Locals will recognize the historic Lebanon Train stations that were used to portray the herds of reporters that descended upon Lebanon back in 1880. “Originality is the steam that pushes the twins’ train. It worked with the play. It’s a sure bet the documentary will carry the same power,” quipped Ira Mogetz, marketing consultant from Richmond, Virginia, formerly from Lebanon, who has been a close advisor since the beginning.







17/500

BRANDT'S HOUSE ST. JOSEPH'S WELL INDIANTOWN CREEK DREW'S HOUSE  
INDIANTOWN GAP and the BLUE EYED SIX

Robert Heilman

Lithograph by Robert Heilman



VOL. XLIV - NO. 27

Aspenite events. I have reached there last week, and was that an exciting morning there...

Correct Portraits of the Five Men Executed for the Murder of Joseph Raber, at Indiantown Gap.



FRANK STICHLER.

CHARLES DREWS



HENRY F. WISE.

JOSIAH HUMMEL.

ISRAEL BRANDT.

THE LAST ACT IN THE DREADFUL TRAGEDY.

Three More Souls Sent to Eternity.

THE RABBIT MURDER FINALLY AVENGED.

Lebanon the past year has topped full of the...

come to the cell, when Brandt questioned him, and he admitted that he had made the attempt to destroy the reporter, but that there was no truth in it.

ALSO a stock Deputy Sheriff Bowman and Matthews visited the prisoners to take their measures for adjusting the rope at the gallows. Hummel measured 5 feet 4 inches from the neck down, and Wise and Brandt each 5 feet 13 inches. The prisoners were sent to the cells because by a jury.

The jury submitted in conformity with law, was composed of John L. Taylor, Ansville;

Who's Statement. Henry F. Wise was paid the death penalty on Thursday, for participation in the murder of Joseph Raber, made the following contention on the stand, a few days before the execution...

He is by 1878, on the Missouri commission, transfer the law, then in the act of being out, Joe Hummel was by saying he knew a way by which to make a lot of money out of the case, when he wanted to know how to get out of the way, and he said that...

As this contains the new edition of a report of a participation in the murder of Joseph Raber, an explanation of the facts, and the manner in which the law of the state in the taking off of the sentence in the case of the criminals as to participate in the murder of Joseph Raber, the following law of November, 1878, the following law in the case of...

A Short History of the Worst. As this contains the new edition of a report of a participation in the murder of Joseph Raber, an explanation of the facts, and the manner in which the law of the state in the taking off of the sentence in the case of the criminals as to participate in the murder of Joseph Raber, the following law of November, 1878, the following law in the case of...

Such was the first intimation of death given to the public and since developed into one of the most interesting trials since the history of the state...

Such was the first intimation of death given to the public and since developed into one of the most interesting trials since the history of the state...



PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC DRAMAS PRESENTS A KREIDER BROTHERS FILM  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SIMONE ASSOCIATES INC.

# THE BLUE EYED SIX

## A DOCUMENTARY FILM

**WRITTEN BY** BRUCE W. & BRIAN W. KREIDER

**DIRECTED BY** BRIAN W. KREIDER

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER** BRUCE W. KREIDER

**CO-PRODUCERS** MIKE & PEGGY KELLER  
EDWARD H. ARNOLD  
JEANNE DONLEVY ARNOLD  
THE BISHOP FOUNDATION  
BILL KOLOVANI  
LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE

**NARRATOR** WILLIAM J. MCGILL

**WILLIAM J. MCGILL** has appeared in over eighty professional and community theatre productions in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Washington D.C. He has written and performed a one man show on C. S. Lewis in venues from Florida to Michigan. He has also performed a one man show written for him and based on Conrad Richter's novel, The Waters of Kronos.

# The Cast

## **KEVIN D'ARCO (JOSIAH HUMMEL)**

Kevin was born and raised in Northern Va. Married 25 years this August. He has three children, one boy and two girls, and a dog, and loves being a Dad. Kevin has been in medical sales for 20 years, but he is not your typical salesman. Hobbies include, real estate investing, golf, photography, and loves vacationing at beach. He never thought he would be in a movie.

## **COTY MARTIN (FRANK STICHLER)**

Coty is the son of Nelson Martin, of Westfield, PA and Brenda Stauffer, of Elizabethtown, PA. Coty spent his childhood in Westfield but moved to Elizabethtown in his teenage years. He is a graduate of Elizabethtown High School. Following high school, Coty enlisted in the United States Marine Corps obtaining the rank of Sergeant before being honorably discharged in 2002. He attended Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology in Lancaster, where he obtained an associate degree in Computer & network system administration. Coty is currently pursuing a bachelor degree in Computer Science at Millersville University and is employed as a Web Developer by Robson Forensic Inc., located in Lancaster, PA. He was married in September in the Dominican Republic.

## **JOHN MATARAZZI (CHARLES DREWS)**

A native of Lebanon, PA, John has lived there since childhood, excluding his 4 years of military service. Graduated from Lebanon High same year as the Kreider brothers, he has know them from school days and been good friends since. John joined Marines in '65 and spent 13 months in Vietnam as an infantry machinergunner. He found that to be a most enlightening experience. John has been married to wife Stephanie for 25 years, and has two children. John and Stephanie are involved with the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program, a local church, and believe in community service. John runs a small general contracting firm engaged in both residential and commercial work, including occasional government projects. This is John's first acting experience, and despite his dreams of being a real actor, he's concluded he may need to stick with his real job.

## **ART MOSHOS (HENRY WISE)**

Art was born and raised in Lancaster, PA. He was graduated from Manheim Township High School and Millersville University. He married Sharon Musser in 1990 and has two children, Michael and Brenden. He enjoys ice hockey, golf and coaching midget baseball. Art is an avid movie watcher and is thrilled to have the opportunity to portray Henry Wise in The Blue Eyed Six.

## **CRAIG NORRIS (GEORGE ZECHMAN)**

Craig resides in Shillington, PA with wife Kathleen, and daughters Erika and Evelyn. He is a high school English teacher for the past 13 years, working at Exeter Township Senior High School in Reading, PA where he teaches Advanced Placement, British Literature, and English 9 and also coaches girls Cross Country. A former cycling champion, he can be found spending his spare time on his bicycle or motorcycle, playing with his daughters, or reading. This is his first acting experience.

## **FRANK PASTUCK (ISRAEL BRANDT)**

Frank played three varsity sports in High School: football, ice hockey and baseball. At Lehigh, Frank captained the freshman football team. He won the Lehigh University Boxing championship as a heavyweight. He was also president of his fraternity, Delta Upsilon. Frank first studied drama with Professor Annie-Laurie Wheat of the Lehigh Theater Department. Frank met Director Brian Kreider while he was working with Marsh & McLennan and Brian was the Director of the Pa Film Office. When The Blue Eyed Six was mentioned, Frank was immediately interested. He is a life long resident of Derry Township, and has two daughters, Alexa and Alayna.

**INTERVIEW SUBJECTS**

RICHARD STICHLER  
HOWARD NEUIN  
JENNIFER WENTZEL  
GWEN HOWARD  
GARY LUDWIG  
BRANDY WATTS  
FRANCIS DITZLER

RICHARD BRANDT  
WAYNE ANSPACH  
RICHARD B. CARROLL, SR.  
CARA O'DONNELL  
JACK RUDEGEAIR  
TOM HARLAN, ESQ.  
JAN MAYS  
ERNEST STICHLER

RAY & SUZANNE STICHLER  
CARRIE CARNATHAN  
JEAN WEIRICH  
VERNA MILLER  
PAULINE HOOVER  
BRUCE KREIDER  
BETSEY BARNETTE

**ALSO**

Kristen Chant as Mrs. Wise  
Rick Moore as Joe Peters  
Robert Holliday as Deputy Sheriff  
Hayley Lewis as Annie Zechman  
Sam Allen as Schweinhard  
Neal Ambron as Reverend Trabert  
Terry Herr as Sabrina Drews  
Harold Allen as Joe Raber  
Dave Garvey as Doctor Capp  
Colleen Mullikin as Mrs. Brandt  
Mark Douglas Cuddy as Francis Wade Hughes  
James Waldron as Sheriff/Jailor  
Ashley Rubisch as Lena Peters  
Edward H. Arnold as District Attorney John Adams

John DeFrank as Insurance Commissioner  
Patrick Freer as Charles Killinger  
Leonard Washington as Train Porter  
Michael S. Lazorcik as Reporter #1  
Michael DeLeo as Grant Weidman  
Katie Gulotta as Child #1 Tim  
Erdman as Reporter #2  
Richard Reber as Judge Henderson  
Logan Kurtz as Child #2  
James Chichi as Reporter #3  
Tom Harlan as Cyrus Miller  
M. Evan Deitzler as Newspaper Boy  
Allan Feldman as Reporter #4  
Ed Anspach as William Derr  
Austin M. Deitzler as Little Boy

Karl Kreiser as Farmer  
Robert Schlegel as Frank Meily  
Emily Keller as Little Girl  
Mallory D'Arco as Flower Girl  
Bill Kolovani as Colonel Gobin  
Joshua Gulotta as Young Witness  
Meagan Funck as Courtroom Spectator  
Jack Rudegeair as Courtroom Witness  
Peggy Kurtz Keller as Lady Spectator  
Ferdinand the Bull donated by Russ Diamond

**PRINCIPAL PHOTOGRAPHY** DAVE GARMAN AND BRIAN W. KREIDER

**EDITED BY** BILL SIMONE

**ORIGINAL MUSIC BY** JOE TROJCAK

**SOUND DESIGN BY** ZACK SIMONE

**COSTUMES BY** KAREN DUNDORE-GULOTTA and JOAN DUNDORE

**ASSOCIATE PRODUCER** IAN BONNER

**Schuylkill County Prison** - Pottsville, PA

Jordan Chant  
Robert Werner  
Justin Fiorillo  
Jeremy Green  
Deb Massari  
Kelly Reese  
Stephanie Mau  
Greg McGovern  
Austin M. Deitzler  
James Paxson  
Douglas Moore  
Stephanie Matarazzi  
Dale Shaub

Terry Lancaster  
Stew Richards  
Jacquelyn Fiorillo  
Jessica Greenawalt  
Olivia Massari  
Michael Goetz  
Hilary Kissinger  
Jeff Margavage  
Tessa Shaub  
Brad Wolfe  
Tom Ashcroft  
Ed Hickey  
Dottie Boas

Brad Wolfe  
Marylou Yanushefsky  
Christian Lonergan  
Carson Nevada  
Samantha Clarke  
Maryssa Goetz  
Amy Mills  
Brian Margavage  
Tanner Shaub  
William Confer  
Jenn Slemmer  
Hanna Hickey  
Ken Griffith

Ken Griffith  
Patrick Burns  
Don Green  
James Nevada  
Randall R. Ulsh  
Stephen Mau  
Barbara Feudale  
M. Evan Deitzler  
Joshua Gulotta  
Robert Werner  
Tiffany Campbell  
Toni Hoover  
Mallory D'Arco

**Lebanon Railroad Station** - Downtown Lebanon, PA

Erika Lawson  
John Cullen  
Toni Hoover  
Jeff Kurtz  
Dale Shaub  
Michael Dahl  
Lillian Bennett  
Tanner Shaub  
Tess Shaub  
James Chichi  
M. Evan Deitzler

Kristin Holdren  
Dave Bartal  
Gloria Merinsky  
Danielle Ellis  
Fred Kendall  
Patti Charles  
Matthew Bishop  
Jean Reuter  
Peggy Kurtz Keller  
Allan Feldman

Robert "Doc" Soliday  
Jim Long  
Karl Faulkner  
Sarah Herr  
Becky Haws  
Alaina Lancaster  
Karen Becker Glatfelter  
William Confer  
Michael S. Lazorcik  
Logan Kurtz

Ed Beamenderfer  
Tom Rapchinski  
Tom Faulkner  
Jordan Chant  
Jason Zimmerman  
Jason Good  
Emily Keller  
Diane Smith  
Tim Erdman  
Austin M. Deitzler

**Carbon County Courthouse** - Jim Thorpe, PA

Sasha Jade Azevedo  
Lillian Bennett  
William Confer  
Karl Faulkner  
Kim Charles  
Mark Douglas Cuddy  
Alison Paxson  
Judy Nicklas  
Bill Flynn

Dottie Boas  
Gloria Merinsky  
James Paxson  
Emily Keller  
Francine Mione  
Meagan Funck  
Caitlyn Paxson  
Marlin Foulds  
Michael Flynn

Dave Feldmann  
Deb Bishop  
Susan Axe  
Douglas Moore  
Kristin Holdren  
Mallory D'Arco  
Nickolas Paxson  
Susan Trexler Hope  
Bill Trexler

M. Jeffrey Hoaster  
Mathew Bishop  
Toni Hoover  
Hayley Chant  
Jordan Chant  
Theresa Vitiello  
Eddie DuBosky  
Maria Flynn  
Mary Ann Bloom

**PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS**

MALLORY D'ARCO  
SHAWN JACOBS  
DAN JOYCE  
BETHANY LAPP  
MICHAEL S. LAZORCIK  
ZACHARY PFORTER  
LANCE RUNGE

**PENNSYLVANIA HISTORIC DRAMAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

IAN BONNER, MARK DOUGLAS CUDDY, VICKI DEITZLER,  
KAREN GULOTTA, BRIAN KREIDER, BRUCE KREIDER  
MICHAEL S. LAZORCIK, LEONARD WASHINGTON, JENNIFER  
WENTZEL

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**LOCATION MANAGER POTTSVILLE**

BRIAN FERRAIOLO

**LOCATION MANAGER JIM THORPE**

BETSY KNORR-WATSON

**JIM THORPE CASTING**

TONI CUSUMANO

State government funding comes through an annual appropriation by Pennsylvania's General Assembly, and from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal agency.



**PA HISTORIC  
DRAMAS**

# Special Thanks

Guy and Polly Kreider  
Edward H. Arnold  
Jeanne Donlevy Arnold  
Mike and Peggy Keller  
The Bishop Foundation  
GSH Community Services  
Lebanon County Historical Society  
Michael Sherbon,  
PA State Archives

Skip Hicks,  
The Allen Theatre

Sam and Harold Allen,  
Bube's Brewery

Geoff and Jason Brown,  
Tulpehocken Manor

Jane Foreman,  
H&H Brown

Patrick Freer,  
Strickler Insurance

Warden Eugene Berdanier,  
Schuylkill County Prison

Dan and Terry Backenstose

Buffalo Springs Farm  
Taryn Dixon,  
Cumberland County Courthouse  
Randall Smith,  
Carbon County Courthouse

Bill Simone  
Pammi Shirk  
Shana Smith  
Simone Associates Inc.

James Hoffman  
Cedar Cliff H.S. Chamber Singers

Bill Kolovani  
Mark Myers  
Jim Hollenbaugh  
Kimberly & Michael Firestone

Alison Jarvis  
Michael Scott Doyle  
Larry Alexander  
Howard Kulus  
Sgt. Maj. Herman W. Clemens  
Carl Kreider

Ira Mogetz  
Matt Serio  
Berks County Arts Council

Dedicated to the memory of Edna Carmean  
Who inspired us to continue the story.

For the actors who graced the stage from the  
original Blue Eyed Six play and have since left  
us a wonderful memory, we salute:

G. Thomas Gates  
Ed Krakow  
Jim Reilly  
Bradley Smith

*To the Kreider Brothers  
and the Blue Eyed Six Gang  
Good luck and Hang Tough!*

*Major Richard D. Winters  
Easy Company,  
506th Parachute Infantry Regiment  
Real life leader, Band of Brothers*



# Production Photos



## **THE BLUE EYED SIX**

Film Editor (BILL SIMONE, L) and Narrator (BILL MCGILL, R) in the sound studio.



The Kreider brothers (**BRUCE KREIDER, L** and **BRIAN KREIDER**) on location during filming of the **Blue Eyed Six** at Tulpehocken Manor in Myerstown, PA.



Director (**BRIAN KREIDER**) on location during filming of **The Blue Eyed Six** at Bube's Brewery in Mt. Joy, PA.



Director (**BRIAN KREIDER**) on location in the Carbon County Courthouse in Jim Thorpe, PA.

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Bube's Brewery - Mt. Joy, PA



Lena Peters (**ASHLEY RUBISCH**, L) embraces Frank Stichler (**COTY MARTIN**, R) in the Lebanon Jail as he painstakingly awaits the decision that will ultimately determine his fate.



Joe Raber (**HAROLD ALLEN**) arrives at the Brandt Hotel for his medical examination



Insurance agent Schweinhard (**SAM ALLEN**, R) and Josiah Hummel (**KEVIN D'ARCO**, L) during a meeting to discuss the Insurance Policies



Israel Brandt (**FRANK PASTUCK**, L) and Charles Drews (**JOHN MATARAZZI**, R) are consolingly met by their wives (**COLLEEN MULLIKIN** and **TERRY HERR**) as they bide their time in the Lebanon Jail.



Could one Bible, tightly gripped with anxiety, save all six? They all hoped their Maker would show more mercy than they did.

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Tulpehocken Manor - Myerstown, PA



Insurance agent Schweinhard (SAM ALLEN, C) meets with Doctor Capp (DAVE GARVEY, L) and Josiah Hummel (KEVIN D'ARCO, R)



Charles Drews (JOHN MATARAZZI, L) and Frank Stichler (COTY MARTIN, R) lead Joe Raber (HAROLD ALLEN) to Indiantown Creek



Lena Peters, Ashley Rubisch & Hayley Lewis, Annie Zechman.

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Old Lebanon Train Station - Lebanon, PA



A train porter (**LEONARD WASHINGTON**) announces departures at the Lebanon Train Station as reporters (**MICHAEL S. LAZORCIK, L** and **TIM ERDMAN, R**) seek newsworthy stories about the upcoming murder trial.



**Emily Keller** and **Peggy Kurtz Keller** as spectators at the train station.



A reporter (**MICHAEL S. LAZORCIK**) at the Lebanon Train Station to cover the most famous insurance murder trial and execution in Pennsylvania history.



Residents (**Kristin Holden & Erika Lawson**) of Lebanon County gather at the Lebanon Train Station to hear news of the upcoming trial.

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Carbon County Courthouse - Jim Thorpe, PA



The defendants appear calm and confident during the trial



District Attorney John Adams (**EDWARD H. ARNOLD, L**) questions a witness (**JACK RUDEGEAIR, R**)



Attorneys (**BRUCE KREIDER, TOM HARLAN, MICHAEL DELEO and PATRICK FREER**) collaborate during the trial



Courtroom spectators arrive at the Lebanon County Courthouse to view the proceedings. (**David Feldmann, Meagan Funk**)

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS

Schuylkill County Prison - Pottsville, PA



The gallows are lowered at the Schuylkill County Prison in preparation for filming of the hanging scene.



The last three of The Blue Eyes Six prepare for their demise.



The Schuylkill County Prison in Pottsville, PA.



The crowd gathers to witness the hangings.

# PRODUCTION PHOTOS



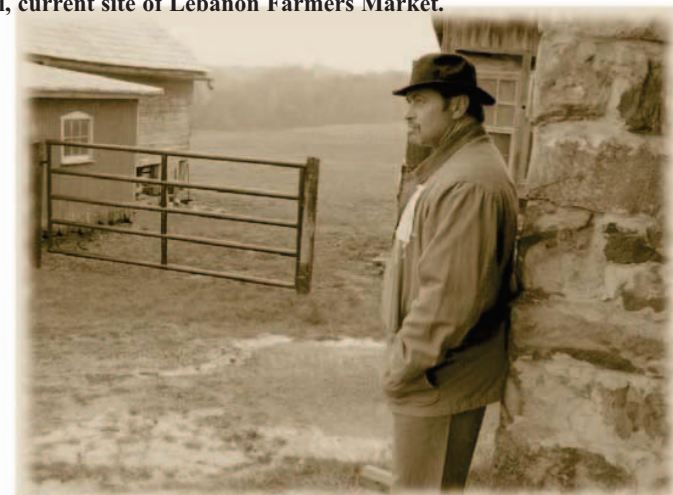
Francis Wade Hughes (**MARK DOUGLAS CUDDY**) ...the deciding factor between salvation and condemnation for George Zechman

Cumberland County Courthouse, Carlisle PA



Attorneys Frank Meily (**ROBERT SCHLEGEL, L**), and William Derr (**ED ANSPACH, R**) discuss the case with Colonel Gobin (**BILL KOLOVANI**)

Old Lebanon Jail, current site of Lebanon Farmers Market.



Israel Brandt (**FRANK PASTUCK**) stands watch as his band of jackals "borrow" chickens from a local farm in Indiantown Gap...small potatoes in comparison to his condemnable crime.

Swatara Township, Lebanon County



# Stills from the Film





SEPTEMBER 14-16, 2007

SOVEREIGN MAJESTIC THEATER, POTTSVILLE, PA

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2007

ALLEN THEATRE, ANNVILLE, PA

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2007

GREAT LAKES FILM FESTIVAL, ERIE, PA

SUNDAY OCTOBER 14, 2007

BLACK BEAR FILM FESTIVAL, MILFORD, PA

FRIDAY OCTOBER 19, 2007

GOGGLEWORKS, READING, PA

BERKS MOVIE MADNESS FILM FESTIVAL

# Film Festivals



berks movie  
madness film festival

Friday, October 19, 2007

A poster for the Great Lakes Film Festival. It features a woman in a black dress sitting on a patterned sofa. The text reads: "GREAT LAKES FILM FESTIVAL", "ROADHOUSE THEATRE", "146 W. 11 ST. ERIE, PA", "SEPTEMBER 27-30, 2007".

Sunday, September 30, 2007

A poster for the Black Bear Film Festival '07. It features a colorful, abstract design with circular patterns in blue, orange, and yellow. The text reads: "BLACK BEAR FILM FESTIVAL '07", "with Award Show", "OCTOBER 11-14", "146 W. 11 ST. ERIE, PA".

Sunday, October 14, 2007

A poster for the Three Rivers Film Festival. It features a stylized line drawing of a chicken with a film reel as its head. The text reads: "SEE SOMETHING DIFFERENT", "IN FILM", "November 2-15, 2007", "The 2007 Three Rivers Film Festival".

Saturday, November 10 2007

# Regional Screenings



**Sovereign Majestic**  
Bringing the performing arts home  
209 North Centre Street Pottsville, PA  
September 14-16, 2007

**Allen Theatre** and  
**MJ's Coffeehouse**

36 E. Main St. Rt. 422 Annville, Pennsylvania 17003  
September 22 & 23, 2007

**goggleWorks**  
Center for the Arts

October 20 & 21, 2007



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Bruce Kreider: [brucekreider@hotmail.com](mailto:brucekreider@hotmail.com) • 717-273-1799

Lebanon, Pennsylvania

**[www.BlueEyedSixMovie.com](http://www.BlueEyedSixMovie.com)**

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