THE INDISPENSABLE SHIP:
The Story of the Landing Ship Tank (LST)
During World War II

Presentation by author and historian, Gary Augustine,
1956 Ambridge HS Graduate and Served on Post-WWII LST Ship for 37 months

September 1, 2015  11 AM  Laughlin Memorial Library

Please RSVP by August 27  724-266-3857

Memorial Ship USS LST-325 from Evansville, Indiana, will be traveling to Pittsburgh and passing under the Ambridge/Aliquippa Bridge the morning of September 1! Join the community in welcoming the ship and crew from the bridge.

A reception will be held at Laughlin Memorial Library beginning at 7:30 AM as we wait for the ship which is scheduled to pass between 8-9 AM. An assortment of LST photos from American Bridge Company which built 123 LSTs during WWII will be on display.

Stick around for Gary Augustine’s talk at 11 AM, which features a history of the LST. You will want to plan to attend this excellent presentation! A buffet lunch will be provided.

Ever been asked to do a job, a really big job? Maybe, you think about it for a while then respond saying, “I probably can do that, but I know someone who can do it better.” Well, Leon Paddock, President of the American Bridge Company, a subsidiary of United States Steel: and the largest structural steel fabricating company in the world had just been asked in January 1942, six weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor by the US Navy to do a big job: a really big job. The Navy asked his company to build a ship no one had ever seen, using a workforce and shipyard that didn’t exist. By the spring of 1944 LSTs had become so vital to winning the War that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill said, “The destinies of two great empires seemed to be tied up in some God damned things called LSTs.”

This is the story of an American triumph. And it happened here. Join us.

Laughlin Memorial Library ~ 99 11th Street ~ Ambridge, PA 15003 ~ 724-266-3857
www.beaverlibraries.org/ambridge