

THE SHOWMAN & THE HERO

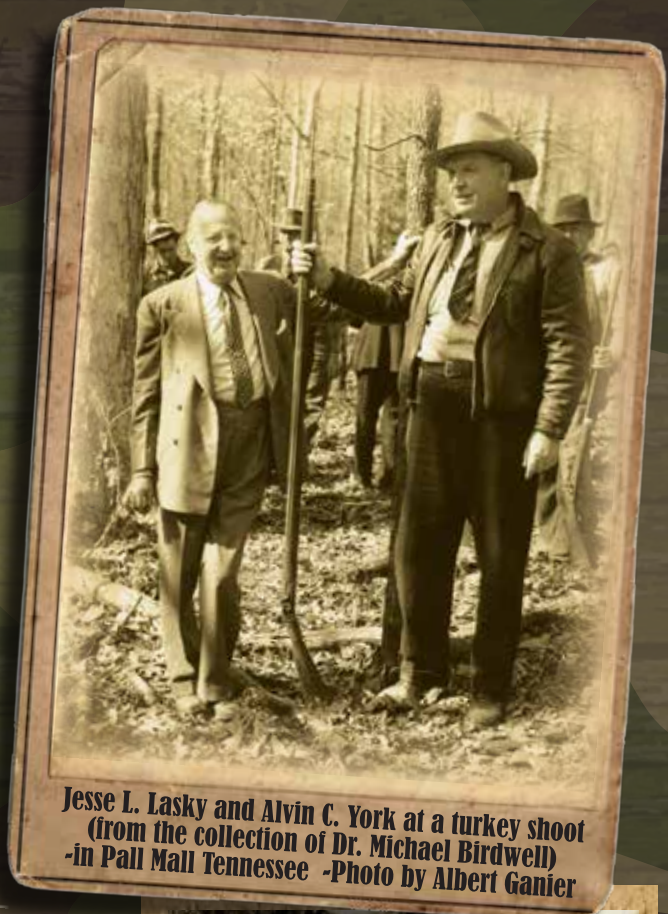
Jesse L. Lasky and Alvin C. York

Produced by Dr. John White

NEW

SERGEANT YORK FILM AT THE PALACE THEATRE

FRIDAY-JULY 25TH
IN CELEBRATION OF THE 2014
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WWI



Jesse L. Lasky and Alvin C. York at a turkey shoot
(from the collection of Dr. Michael Birdwell)
-in Pall Mall Tennessee -Photo by Albert Ganier



York on his wedding day in 1919

... I didn't have time to dodge behind a tree or dive into the brush. As soon as the machine guns opened fire on me, I began to exchange shots with them. All I could do was touch the Germans off just as fast as I could. I was sharp shooting. All the time I kept yelling at them to come down I didn't want to kill any more than I had to. But it was they or I. And I was giving them the best I had. York

This screening of a new documentary about the most celebrated hero of the war, Tennessee's own Sergeant Alvin C. York, will take place at the Palace Theater, just three short blocks from the Tennessee Central train depot from which York departed in 1917. For his valor, York received nearly 50 decorations, including the Medal of Honor. Hollywood pioneer Jesse L. Lasky followed York for almost 20 years trying to persuade him into letting Lasky do a film about his gallantry. Eventually York agreed, thus the blockbuster film "Sergeant York" was made. Lasky, along with Samuel Goldwyn, and Cecil B. Demille filmed the first feature length film in Hollywood in 1914. Lasky's company eventually became Paramount Pictures.

The new movie, The Showman and the Hero, was written and produced by Crossville filmmaker Dr. John White. It is the story of Jesse L. Lasky and his 19 year quest to make a film about Sergeant York. It is a collaboration between White and York scholar Dr. Michael Birdwell of Tennessee Tech. Knowing less about York than Lasky, White found an Alvin C. York expert in Dr. Birdwell of Tennessee Tech. Their partnership, plus many other important contributors to the project, created a new film about the making of one of the greatest films ever made.

6:00 PM

Jesse Lasky, Gary Cooper, and York in 1940.



THE
PALACE
THEATRE

Entry is **FREE**, but you **MUST** have a **ticket** to enter. Limit 4 tickets per person. After The Showman and the Hero is screened, there will be a panel discussion led by Dr. Birdwell. Please get tickets by contacting the Palace Theatre; palacetheatre-crossville.com, 72 S. Main St., Crossville, or 931-484-6133. The film aired on WCTE Public Television in February. There are plans being discussed to use the film in the State of Tennessee's celebration of World War I.

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