

WINSTON CHURCHILL TO VISIT HOOSIER VILLAGE

*Tuesday, October 29th
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
The Chapel*

Sir Winston Churchill, the famous British statesman who is best known for his wartime leadership as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom during the Second World War, will visit Hoosier Village in the Chapel on Tuesday, October 29, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. through the dramatic skills of experienced actor-scholar Kevin Radaker. The presentation, which is free and open to the public, is made possible by a grant from the Indiana Humanities Council.

To aid in the “magic” of the presentation, the host for the evening will ask the audience to imagine themselves in a different place and a different time. The place is the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York City. The time is March 15, 1946. Over the course of an hour, Winston Churchill will describe himself to some degree, especially his tastes and his hobbies, and he will recall the trials and difficulties of World War II, especially the dark days of 1940 and 1941, when England faced off against Hitler’s Nazi forces virtually alone. Churchill will also recall the unconquerable will of the British people as well as the friendship that he formed with President Franklin Roosevelt during the years of the war. In the final minutes of his speech, Churchill will warn his American audience of the growing Soviet threat in Eastern Europe. Along the way, he will offer a great deal of his characteristic humor and wit, as well as his famous rhetorical eloquence. After the dramatic monologue, Kevin Radaker will break character and answer questions about Churchill for 15-20 minutes.

Kevin Radaker is an experienced veteran in offering one-man dramatic portrayals for over twenty-eight years. He is also Professor of English at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana. He began offering his “Churchill” during the 2016 Oklahoma Chautauqua, and he has offered it over 30 times since then in six states. Since 1991, he has presented his dramatic portrayal of Henry David Thoreau over 400 times around the nation. Since 2009, he has presented his portrayal of C. S. Lewis over 70 times in seven states and at an international teachers’ conference in 2011 in Beijing, China. Besides teaching courses in American Literature and writing, he has published articles on Thoreau, Herman Melville, Annie Dillard, and Wendell Berry in academic journals and encyclopedias.

