



## TURNING PAGES...a generation looks back

### Northampton International Film Festival

#### THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC-Sunday, October 13, 2 pm

*TURNING PAGES...a generation looks back*, an independently produced film chronicling the reflections of twenty five 1962 high school graduates, sneaks up on you. At first it moves slowly, then accelerates through 50 years in the lives of 25 individuals who grow, mature, struggle, face challenges, triumph and persevere as they look to their seventh decade. You will find your own life story in the montage. Humor, pathos, tragedy, love and wisdom are revealed as the “war babies” journey in time through half a century. Each starts with youthful hopes and dreams. Many scatter throughout the nation as they liberate themselves from the prescribed existence of their World War II parents and create unique lives while searching for identity and meaning. They venture into the unexplored territory of free love, the threat of nuclear annihilation, the Vietnam War, rebellion, divorce, marriages redefined, feminism, the challenges of parenthood, world terrorism and ever shifting societal norms. Through the most fast changing, tumultuous half century of American history, they persevere. Approaching 70, some are retired. None are retiring.

Their candor is surprising, their wisdom gives pause. Their life stories obliterate clichés about aging. These individuals put to use the resources they’ve earned in a lifetime of building with dreams yet to be realized.

Previewed at Proctors in Schenectady, NY, and the Senior Center in Northampton, MA, **TURNING PAGES** awed the community which turned out in unprecedented numbers to experience an independent release produced by a team of first time filmmakers: photographer Bob Van Degna, artist Anna VA Polesny, blues writer Don Wilcock and consultant Randy Johnson.

Praise for *Turning Pages* has been unanimous:

The *Albany Times Union* promised “interviews with 25 classmates who **reflect with surprising candor on life, family and mortality**” in its Capital Region section cover story.

*Schenectady Daily Gazette* columnist Mike Hohanadel described the film as “**real, ... deep ... with honesty and thoughtful insights**. The 25 interview subjects ranged from playful to uncomfortable and they always seemed **candid**. **The interviewers connected impressively.**”

Bob Geopfert of *The Saratogian* and *Troy Record* called *Turning Pages* “well done... insightful.”

In its front page lead story, *The Albany Spotlight* trumpeted that “it started as an idea to produce a video for a class reunion, but ended up as” **a documentary chronicling the struggles and triumphs of a generation.**”

21-year-old, Juliano Caprara, was moved to tears. “I was in **complete awe** ....an **amazing production** that **blew me away**. It’s crazy to think of how **intense, interesting, and wild** life can be. If I could sum up the film in one word... **WISDOM**. It was one of the most **interesting** and **MEANINGFUL** productions I’ve ever seen.... It gave me a new perspective on how good I have things.”

Debbie Gardner, Editor, **PRIME**, “I loved the documentary! ....it certainly made me think about and appreciate- the path of my life ... and the unexpected turns it has made to date....young people might get some benefit out of what the class of 1962 has to say.”

**Carol Johnson, Executive Director** of **Amherst Cinema** observed: “.... it was **well-constructed...well-edited** and **beautifully filmed**. I loved the stories. I liked all the people and wanted to get to know them better. They were straightforward, articulate, and amazingly positive about life in general -- and incredibly resilient. **Very inspiring.**”

**TURNING PAGES Website:** [www.turningpagesdocumentary.com](http://www.turningpagesdocumentary.com) **Northampton International Film Festival:** [www.nohoiff.org](http://www.nohoiff.org)  
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