Author believes in angels

Henry Ripplinger in the city to promote his Angelic Letters series

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ost seniors embark on a new chapter of their lives when they retire, but Henry Ripplinger didn't foresee spending his golden years launching a new career.

"When I was in my vounger days working as a high school teacher, I

always

aspired to write a self-help book," said the Lumsden, Sask, resident.

He left teaching and took a job as a guidance counsellor, and later worked as a professional artist which evolved into running a gallery and boutique shop for the next 20 years.

In wasn't until 2005 that he began putting ink to

"When I started to write, the aspiration to write a self-help book started to emerge in my characters. I used characters because readers can much better

intellectually, emotionally and spiritually identify with real people acting out life lessons than reading a list of dos and don'ts," he said.

"So at 73, here I am starting a new career."

Ripplinger is on a tour of Alberta Costco stores promoting the third book in his bestselling The Angelic Letters sixbook series, "Angel of Thanksgiving,' which was released in May. The tour brings him to the Lethbridge Costco on Tuesday and Wednesday for book signings beginning at 10 a.m. both days. He

says he'll remain in the store until 6 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. each evening.

The Angelic Letter Series tells the love story of Henry Pederson and Jenny Sarsky, who place their trust in their guardian angels and learn valuable life lessons. The series begins in the 1950s and through six novels takes readers to the present, which ends the saga. Spanning the years, 1962-1983 "Angel of Thanksgiving" continues to follow the separate lives of Henry and Jenny as they marry, have children and watch them grow.

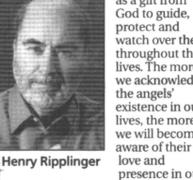
Books 1-3 of the series are available at Chapters and Costco stores in Lethbridge.

Book 1, "Pewter Angels," won the gold medal award at the fourth annual Living Now Book Awards in the inspirational book category earlier this week. The Living Now Book Awards honour the best books that help readers attain healthier, more fulfilling and productive lives in mind, body and spirit.

Ripplinger said he hopes the inspirational Christian romance series reminds readers of the existence of angels who watch over and protect people.

He said he firmly believes that when a child is conceived, each one

> receives a guardian angel as a gift from God to guide, protect and watch over them throughout their lives. The more we acknowledge the angels' existence in our lives, the more we will become aware of their love and presence in our lives.



"When I am book signing, I am amazed at how many people feel that as well. They are literally attracted to the book. People will say, 'No thank you' and walk by and two or three minutes later they come by and say, 'Henry, I am compelled to buy this

Ripplinger has already started working on the sixth and final book of the series. He says it summarizes all of the wisdom and teachings of all of the characters in the

He said it was never his intention to restore readers' spiritual faith but he describes his books are "deeply inspirational."

"I honestly feel this whole thing was inspired and it was a gift given to me and I'm just sharing it with others."

For more information about the author and the series, visit www.henryripplinger.com

