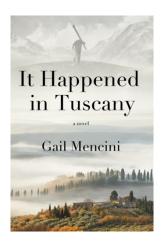
## CONTACT: Gail Mencini 303.909.3337 gail@gailmencini.com

# <u>CLIMB ITALY'S APENNINES BESIDE THE 10<sup>TH</sup> MOUNTAIN DIVISION</u> <u>SOLDIERS WITH A NEW HISTORICAL STORY</u>

<u>Author Gail Mencini releases "It Happened in Tuscany" on the</u> <u>seventy-fifth anniversary of the daring battle in Italy</u>

**DENVER, Colorado** — Experience the battle on Italy's Riva Ridge in 1945 and the breathtaking beauty of today's Tuscan hill towns as Will Mills, wounded during the war, searches for the woman who saved his life through Mencini's novel "It Happened in Tuscany" (February 2020, Capriole Group).

Inspired by the impact the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain veterans had on the ski industry in Colorado, Mencini introduces readers to Will Mills, haunted by his wartime choices of duty over honor, and Sophie Sparke, his impetuous, young neighbor. The unlikely duo venture to Tuscany to search for both the resistance fighter who saved Will's life and their redemption.



"Honor and duty are virtues held high by members of the military," Mencini says. "War sometimes necessitates actions that, for some people, requires choosing one over another. Offering my character the opportunity to seek forgiveness and absolution intrigued me." ("It Happened in Tuscany," Capriole Group, 2020, ISBN: 978192592157, \$16.95, www.gailmencini.com.)

In this heartbreaking and touching journey through central Italy, the author breathes life into the story with vivid descriptions of hill towns and local wine and cuisine. Mencini researched the training and battles of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and visited most of the historical and cultural landmarks detailed in "It Happened in Tuscany" to capture the flavor of the area with authenticity.

Mencini's #1 *Denver Post* bestseller, "To Tuscany with Love," won the 2014 Beverly Hills International Book Award for Chick-Lit Fiction. She lives in Colorado with her husband.

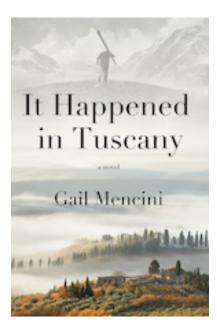
For book club discussion questions, travel tips, recipes, and more visit: www.gailmencini.com.

#### About the Author:



Gail Mencini is the acclaimed author of "It Happened in Tuscany" and "To Tuscany with Love', a *Denver Post #*1 bestseller and winner of the 2014 Beverly Hills International Book Award in the Chick-Lit Fiction category. Gail grew up in DeWitt, Nebraska, graduated from Wartburg College with a BA in Accounting and Economics, and earned a master of taxation degree from the University of Denver. A frequent visitor to Tuscany, Gail lives in Colorado with her husband.

#### About the Book:



In 1945, Will Mills and his fellow soldiers in the 10th Mountain Division scaled Italy's treacherous Riva Ridge at night to break through the nearly impenetrable German line of defense. Severely wounded, Will was rescued by Italian partisans, and one, a beautiful girl, tended his injuries until he had the strength to rejoin his troop.

Will's wartime decisions and actions molded him into a bitter, angry man. He finagles his neighbor, Sophie Sparke, into traveling with him to Tuscany to find the partisan who saved his life. Will's passionate tenacity drives their quest, and in the process, exposes their darkest secrets. The journey alters the course of their lives, and Will and Sophie find more than they had imagined in the hills of Tuscany.

"It Happened in Tuscany," Capriole Group, 2020 ISBN: 978192592157, \$16.95, <u>www.gailmencini.com</u>.

### **Review Copies and Media Interviews:**

For a review copy of "It Happened in Tuscany" or an interview with the author, please contact Gail Mencini, 303.909.3337, <u>gail@gailmencini.com</u>

When requesting a review copy, please provide a street address.

If you would like to receive this information as a Word document, please request one.