U.S. Civil Rights—a 50 Year Retrospective

This year we are observing the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act with a series of events and collaborations that focus on the history of racism and injustice. We’ve included in this issue a list of the many programs that will help our community sustain a dialogue about what we can do to move the conversation about civil rights forward.

This anniversary has a special meaning for the Holocaust Center, not only because the Civil Rights Act barred discrimination based on religion and national origin as well as segregation based on race, but also because it addressed the burdens of marginalization, prejudice and race-based laws that were all too familiar to European Jews.

It is often said that civil rights are indivisible, and that the oppression of any group affects all. In the context of Jewish and African-American relationships that kinship is extraordinary. The parallels between Jim Crow laws and the restrictions under Hitler’s Nuremberg Laws are remarkable (see page 19 of this issue), with “race” resulting in the loss of rights and opportunities in both instances.

The great efforts required to pass the Civil Rights Act of 1964 did not mark the first time the marginalized communities of African Americans and Jews learned from and leaned on each other. American slaves had a strong identification with the historic Jewish experience, as witnessed by the popularity of Zion in the names of many Black churches and the images of exodus in spirituals and stories.

And over the years Jews often showed deep empathy for the plight of Blacks. Stressing the similarities in their experiences, Jewish leaders focused on the idea that both groups would benefit from building a society based on merit, one free of religious, ethnic and racial restrictions.

From the beginning of the Civil Rights Movement, Blacks and Jews marched arm-in-arm. Both Jewish and Black leadership were involved in forming both the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Urban League. In the 1930s and ’40s Jewish refugee professors were welcomed at Southern Black Colleges, and while there they nurtured very effective political and social collaborations that moved the interests of both groups forward.

The personal experience with prejudice is an ongoing force for many of the Center’s programs, and particularly as we look at the impact – and the future – of Civil Rights legislation. We recognize that bigotry in its many ugly forms still affects every community, and we know that the most effective and lasting changes can come about when we continue to work together on our common goals.
As this hot summer winds down and we head into fall, it is hard to believe my first year as President is coming to a close. And what an exciting, interesting year it has been! Our community-wide collaboration observing the 75th Anniversary of Kristallnacht was a huge success. Our Upstanders: Stand Up to Bullying initiative continues to expand and make a difference in the lives of thousands of Central Florida middle school students. Our cultural programs, exhibits and ‘Lunch and Learns’ are reaching an ever-widening cross section of our community. And we are busy working on the many events we have planned with community partners this fall for our celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

With all of the positive activity going on at the Center, I am very fortunate to have Board members and staff who are passionate and committed to our mission. As part of that commitment, from time to time, we stop for critical self-evaluation. We reflect on our goals, including what we’re doing right, where we need to increase our focus, and what our future vision for the Center is and should be.

Recently we engaged in this self-evaluation and I’d like to briefly share some highlights. Our Board felt our core mission continues to be to preserve the past to protect the future and to "NEVER FORGET". We also know that we must facilitate the sometimes uncomfortable but important conversations needed to build a community of respect and inclusion and to create a world free of anti-Semitism, racism, bigotry and prejudice. Some of the things we liked most about our efforts were our community-wide programming, our outreach efforts and our partnerships. We agreed to increase our focus on our marketing and communications, Board diversity, community accessibility and technological capabilities. One of our most exciting and engaging conversations has been what we would like our “Center of the Future” to be.

All of this is very positive! I feel so proud to lead an organization with such wonderful staff and leadership, constantly trying to improve our outreach, programming, and services. But we cannot accomplish this without you.

Your financial support is critical to our efforts, but this is only one of the ways we count on you. We want you to come see our exhibits and attend our programs – and please bring a friend! Talk to people about our Center and about the remarkable work we have been doing for the past three decades. Give us feedback about our efforts to keep you engaged and informed. Share your suggestions about topics and projects you’d like to see us address.

With your help and support, there is no doubt we will continue to build a Center that will serve our community in meaningful and creative ways, one that will continue to use the lessons of the Holocaust to remember, to learn, to teach and to encourage respect for many, many years to come.
The Holocaust Center has a long history of cooperating, coordinating and collaborating with a diverse group of cultural, civic and religious organizations in order expand the reach of our mission and vision of embracing a diverse community where everyone feels respected and safe.

My predecessor, Jennifer Ritter, partnered with the Wells' Built Museum of African American History to develop a unique exhibit titled, “Embracing the Dream” that honored Central Florida men and women involved in local civil rights activities. The exhibit tells the story of activities leading up to integration in the 1960’s, and traces the impact of the heroism and sacrifice of individuals from both the Jewish and Black communities who knew that segregation must end. The exhibit was recently on display in Orlando’s City Hall as part of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

In 2007 the Holocaust Center used the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's exhibit, “Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals”, as the cornerstone of our award-winning collaborative partnership with the Orlando Gay Chorus, Empty Spaces Theater and Gay Days. This partnership allowed our Center to highlight another group that was brutally targeted by the Nazis. Under Paragraph 175 of the German criminal code, male homosexuality was illegal. The Nazis arrested an estimated 100,000 homosexual men, 50,000 of whom were imprisoned. Between 5,000 and 15,000 gay men were interned in concentration camps in Nazi Germany. These prisoners were marked by pink triangle badges and, according to many survivor accounts, were among the most abused groups in the camps.

Two years ago when we decided to develop a community-wide commemoration for the 75th anniversary of Kristallnacht, we successfully partnered with a remarkable group of arts and cultural organizations to host a series of events to educate the community about the historical importance of and the lessons to be learned from Kristallnacht. The overarching goal of the partnership was to start a dialogue about building a more respectful and engaged Central Florida community – where diversity is celebrated and bystanders are encouraged and inspired to become UpStanders.

And now, once again the Holocaust Center is at the forefront of a community-wide partnership to celebrate and commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act with the underlying goals of education and action. In April over 50 religious, civic, arts and cultural organizations responded to our invitation to attend a collaborative design session at Valencia College that was hosted by VC’s Peace and Justice Initiative. While the last fifty years have brought some remarkable changes, we acknowledged that there are still divisions of race, religion, culture and status that must be addressed. We asked those in attendance to work together to plan, present and support programming around this important anniversary.

Collaborative partnerships have become an important building block for our Holocaust Center’s cultural and educational programs. They allow us to expand our reach by exposing more people in our community to the history and lessons of the Holocaust and its relevance for today. Your investment in our Holocaust Center enables us to be an important voice in building a more respectful and accepting community.
Mark Your Calendar
Holocaust Center Education Forums

Each year the Holocaust Center sponsors free programming that focuses on specific topics of general interest. Teachers may earn inservice credits for their participation.

Aug. 28, 2014:
“What World War I Did to Germany and the World: One Hundredth Anniversary Reflections”

Sept. 11, 2014:
“In the Shadow of Jim Crow: A Challenging Perspective on the Nuremberg Laws”

Oct. 2, 2014
“A History of the Civil Rights Struggle in the United States”

Nov. 6, 2014
“Guiding Children Toward Compassion” with guest lecturer Angela King

Dec. 4, 2014
“Ghetto Heroes: Inspiring Acts of Resistance and Rescue”

Jan. 22, 2015
“The End of Auschwitz: The Seventieth Anniversary of Liberation”

Feb. 12, 2015
“Holocaust Graphic Novels”

Mar. 12, 2015
“Downfall: The Death Throes of Nazi Germany”

April 9, 2015
“The Impact of Liberation on America”

May 7, 2015
“After Liberation: What Came Next for Holocaust Survivors?”

Programs start promptly at 6 PM and last approximately two hours.

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The Civil Rights 50th Anniversary: How we can EDUCATE – CELEBRATE – COMMEMORATE – ACT!

The year 2014 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act. In recognition of that monumental legislation, the Holocaust Center has invited institutions and individuals throughout Central Florida to examine the impact of discrimination and the tools we need to move ahead in challenging bigotry and intolerance in all of its forms.

September 14 through December 15
Exhibit: Hateful Things, created and circulated by the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia, is a display of stereotypes and racist material in advertising, entertainment and other media that demeaned and marginalized African-Americans. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Thursday September 11, 6 p.m.
Forum: In the Shadow of Jim Crow: A Challenging Perspective on the Nuremberg Laws. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Sunday September 14, 2 p.m.
Opening Reception for Hateful Things featuring a discussion with Dr. Marvin Newman. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Sunday September 7, 12 noon
Film and panel discussion: Bookers Place at the Enzian Theater
In 1965, NBC filmmaker Frank DeFelitta interviewed Booker Wright, a Black waiter who spoke openly about racism — a choice that had catastrophic consequences. De Felitta’s son and one of Booker Wright’s grandchildren revisit this story and explore the ongoing legacy of racism in America. $10.00

Sunday September 28, 4 p.m.
Short films and lecture at the Holocaust Center, Harry and Harriette Moore: Life and Death in the Time of Segregation with filmmakers Lisa Mills and Robert Thompson, and Bill Gary, Director of the Moore Center. The Moores were among the most visible and credible members of the Central Florida Civil Rights community, and their activities eventually cost them their lives. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Thursday October 2, 6 p.m.
Forum: A History of the Civil Rights Struggle in the United States. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Sunday October 19, 2 p.m.
Film: Last White Knight at Orlando Museum of Art; presentation and QA with filmmaker Paul Saltzman
In the 1960s Canadian Paul Saltzman journeyed to help with voter registration in Mississippi. While there he was assaulted by a group of young men led by Byron De La Beckwith, whose father was convicted of killing Medgar Evers. Decades later, Saltzman returns to meet with Beckwith in this powerful documentary about the best and worst of communities challenged and changed by racism. $10.00

Sunday October 26, 6 p.m.
Drama: Best of Enemies, in collaboration with the Orlando Shakespeare Theater.
Based on the bestselling novel by Osha Gray Davidson, The Best of Enemies is a true story about C.P. Ellis, a Grand Cyclops of the KKK, and Ann Atwater, an African-American civil rights activist, during the 1971 court-ordered desegregation of Durham, North Carolina schools. This performance at the Shakespeare Theater is dedicated as a fundraiser for the Holocaust Center. Reception included, $100.00

Thursday November 6, 6 p.m.
Forum: Privilege and Progress with guest speaker former skinhead Angela King
It is impossible to talk about civil rights and marginalization without confronting the attitudes, culture and misinformation that drive us apart. These are illuminated by the experiences of Angela King, a young woman who went from skinhead activist to redemption, and who now speaks candidly about life after hate. At the Holocaust Center, free.

Wednesday November 12, 7 p.m.
Panel discussion: Marginalized Communities
The Civil Rights Act was a long step forward toward equality of rights under the law. We still, however, have barriers and closed doors that prevent some members of our community from achieving true justice. A panel representing diverse members of our community will share their experiences of marginalization and less-than-full participation in the community. At the Holocaust Center, free.

For more information on these and other local programs visit centralfloridacivilrights.org

The Holocaust Center’s Civil Rights programs are funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Program, United Arts of Central Florida, PNC Foundation, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, Solomon Schick and Associates, and the Florida Humanities Council.
The extraordinary exhibit *Hateful Things*, created by the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University in Michigan, will be on view at the Holocaust Center from September through December as part of our commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

The exhibit contains commercial items from the late 19th century to the present, ones that can play a key role in understanding the history of race relations in America. With a collection of commercial pieces gathered at flea markets and yard sales, it is a stunning reminder of the negative images that have long been a part of our every day experiences, often without evoking thought about their intent or their impact.

In the United States, all racial groups have been caricatured, but none as often or in as many ways as Black Americans. Blacks have been portrayed in popular culture as sub-human exotics, savages, buffoons, obedient servants, self-loathing victims, and menaces to society. These anti-black depictions have been routinely included in everyday objects including ashtrays, drinking glasses, banks, and games — objects that remind us of the terrible effects of our deeply racist history.

For those of us born before the Civil Rights ‘consciousness-raising’ of the 1960s, the illustrations of anti-black caricatures on display in *Hateful Things* are uncomfortably familiar. Those caricatures and background images from our early days are now viewed in a new light. The image of a gentle “mammy” with a smiling face and cheerful disposition is at odds with the economic discrimination and caste system that kept her from becoming independent. The standard characters of Minstrel Shows are shamefully degrading. The offhanded mockery of “Smiling Nigger” piggy banks and the horrifying silhouette of a Black man identified as an “Official Running Nigger Target” are a startling reminder of how dehumanizing these objects can be.

It is hard to understand why items from popular and commercial culture would include images of violence against African Americans, yet they do — a clear indication of why this exhibit is necessary to understand the underpinnings of the ongoing struggle for racial equality.

The disturbing objects in *Hateful Things*, along with panels that explain the historic context, serve as powerful reminders of America’s racist past. But more importantly, the exhibition gives viewers new eyes with which to see present-day images of racial stereotyping that might otherwise pass unchallenged.

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**PARTNER PROGRAMS TELL THE STORIES OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN A VARIETY OF WAYS**

In addition to the many Civil Rights programs sponsored by the Holocaust Center, there are a number of other events presented by our local partners.

Interested in great drama? Check out Orlando Shakespeare Theater’s *Best of Enemies*. How about a wonderful free concert that includes rich local civil rights history? The Negro Spiritual Scholarship Foundation’s annual *Suitable Airs* event in historic Eatonville will inspire you and leave you wanting more. Are lectures more your style? Make sure you mark your calendar so you won’t miss Andrew Young’s appearance thanks to the Winter Park Institute.

All these and more can be found on the community calendar that the Holocaust Center has created: [www.CentralFloridaCivilRights.org](http://www.CentralFloridaCivilRights.org).

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*This old sign is part of the Hateful Things exhibit at the Center*
UpStanders: Cyberbullying Creates Unique Challenges

Bailey Robb
UpStanders Initiative Program Coordinator

A key component of the Holocaust Center’s UpStanders: Stand Up to Bullying initiative is educating parents about their role in bullying prevention. We hope you will find the following tips helpful as your child returns to school this year.

Adults are consistently relying on children and teens to teach them about new advances in technology; whether it’s how to tweet, text, or post a picture on social media. It can be daunting to monitor the use of technology and protect your children when new applications and social sites are popping up every day. One of the best ways to promote internet safety is to talk to your child about cyberbullying. Here are the answers to five frequently asked questions related to cyberbullying:

What is it? Cyberbullying is bullying that takes place using electronic technology. Remember that bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior repeated over time. Examples of cyberbullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

Is it different from ‘regular’ bullying? Cyberbullying is very similar to traditional bullying. Unlike the bullying that previous generations may have experienced as kids, cyberbullying gives modern-day bullies access to their targets 24/7 through the internet, cell phones and social media sites. Cyberbullying rarely occurs in-person, preventing the perpetrator from witnessing the harm they are causing. Therefore, it is also important to speak to your child about the implications of posting mean or distasteful things on the internet. If you wouldn’t say it to someone’s face, you shouldn’t post it to the internet.

Why would anyone be a cyberbully? When young people first started using the internet regularly, there was a heavy focus on ‘stranger danger’. Teens were advised to withhold personal information and avoid chatting with people they did not know for fear of encountering adults posing as teens. While it is still important to practice internet safety and privacy, cyberbullying typically happens between peers who know each other, even if associated accounts are anonymous. Similar to any other kind of peer mistreatment, cyberbullies are likely seeking attention from peers who see their insults as a joke or fail to recognize the harm they are causing. Be sure to talk to your child about who they interact with online. Encourage them to avoid users that are negative or inappropriate.

What can I do if my child claims to be the victim of cyberbullying? There are many strategies adults can use to address cyberbullying, but some are more effective than others. The most effective strategies for adults when it comes to bullying prevention and intervention are listening, encouraging, and checking in. It is important that you take the time to listen to what your child is going through and to offer encouraging words. If cyberbullying is affecting your child’s in-school experience, document the infractions and notify a school administrator.

How can I monitor my child’s technology use without invading their privacy? It can be a challenge to balance monitoring your child’s technology use and providing them with the opportunity to interact with peers unsupervised. One of the best ways to find the balance is to come up with an internet and cell phone contract. The contract should highlight expectations such as: not sending mean or threatening messages, telling your parents who you are communicating with on a regular basis, and what websites and applications are being used. A parent should always know their child’s passwords in case of emergency, but part of the contract should specify when you would actually use the password i.e. if you notice a change in your child’s behavior or in case of emergency. Another key component of a technology contract is limiting the time your child has access to technology. Bedtime is the perfect opportunity to take away computers, tablets, and cellphones so your child can get a good night’s rest.

For more tips about bullying prevention, please visit: www.holocaustedu.org/education/upstanders

UpStanders Coordinator Bailey Robb works with JCC Summer Campers on an anti-cyberbullying project
Yom HaShoah: Learning About Legacy

Orlando is one of thousands of communities throughout the world that came together April 27th for Yom HaShoah, the International Day of Remembrance. Our featured speaker was Joanie Holzer Schirm, author of Adventurers Against Their Will. She talked about the lessons learned from the Holocaust-era letters she inherited from her father, Dr. Oswald A. Holzer.

Dr. Holzer’s correspondence, including copies of letters he sent to others from the relative safety of China where he sought refuge from his native Czechoslovakia, illuminates the struggles of his friends and family as they faced fear, betrayal, deprivation, isolation and victimization. Through these real-time accounts of the war years, the reader must come to terms with the everyday suffering that comes from prejudice and indifference.

On a personal level, Schirm talked about how these letters allowed her, for the first time, an opportunity to get to know her father’s parents, the grandparents she never met and knew very little about because of the interruption of war.

"I could hear their voices as they said goodbye to their son, my father," she said. "I was struck by how difficult that must have been, not knowing if they would ever see him again, but certain that he had to leave for his own safety."

The Yom HaShoah program also featured awards presentations to winners of the Yom HaShoah Student Creative Arts Contest and traditional music. For the second year, the

Gift For Music Chamber Orchestra participated in the program, with Jewish Academy of Orlando student Rachael Henig singing the national anthems.

Honorary Chair, Commissioner Patti Sheehan, spoke briefly about the need to address discrimination that still exists in our communities, and to pledge ourselves to stand up for the rights of others on a daily basis.

The remembrance also included the lighting of seven candles -- one for each of the Six Million Jews who died, and one in honor of the liberators and rescuers -- by local Holocaust Survivors as Committee Chair Deb Beckman shared brief stories of their wartime experiences and lives in Central Florida.

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Lighting candles in remembrance (from left) Henri Goodheim, Helen Greenspun, Inge Koele, Henri Landwirth, Margot Glazer, Harry Lowenstein and Tess Wise

Our thanks to SunTrust for their sponsorship of this year’s program. Next year’s commemoration will be held April 19, 2015

THANK YOU!

Yom HaShoah
Judges : Writing Entries
Greg Dawson
Holly Mandelkern
Rhona McAdams
Susan Mitchell
Mark Pinksy
Sheryl Sacharoff
Robyn Schulman
Judith Wiseman

Judges: Visual Arts
Laurence Ruggiero
Gerry Shepp

2014 Yom HaShoah Committee
Debbie Beckman
Es Cohen
Lisa Ferrigno
Jessica Grant
Aaron Hilbun
Sheryl Sacharoff
Robyn Schulman
Phillip Wiseman

Special Thanks to
A Gift for Music Chamber Orchestra
Vocalist: Rachael Henig

Musicians
Lisa Ferrigno
Carl Kerner
Norma Huff

Program participants
Nadav Weil, Student, Jewish Academy of Orlando
Rabbi David Kay, Congregation Ohev Shalom
Pastor Willie C. Barnes, Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church
Patty Sheehan, Orlando City Commissioner
Building a just and respectful community has been a primary goal of the Holocaust Center since its inception. The aim of establishing fairness and dignity as core values in our society undoubtedly drew many of our supporters to our mission in the first place. Holocaust Center supporters are true community activists, seeking to enhance the quality of life in Central Florida in numerous and diverse ways. Our supporters do more than make our work possible. They also serve as role models for the next generation of community leaders. This is why our education programs highlight the need for active, civic engagement and encourage students to make this an important part of their lives.

When students visit the Center, we rely on the lessons of the Holocaust to warn them of the danger to society when citizens are passive in the face of prejudice and injustice. There were surely Germans who were troubled by the ideas and the violent behavior of the Nazi Party, but too few vigorously resisted their influence until it was too late. The form of civic engagement that might have made a difference back then would have involved non-Jewish Germans standing firmly in defense of the equality and dignity of their Jewish neighbors in practical, every day matters. It would have been most effective if this had occurred near the beginning of Nazi anti-Jewish agitation, before Hitler came to power. Of course, with some exceptions, this defense of German-Jewish rights never came. The rest, as they say, is history.

It is easy for us to imagine that we would have behaved differently. After all, we have the ideals of American democracy and freedom to rely upon. Our own history, though, warns against placing too much stock in ideas and principles alone. This year, we are celebrating the 50th anniversaries of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. These landmark laws were the results of decades of civil rights struggles against institutionalized racism, social bigotry, and economic disadvantage. It is fitting and proper for us to commemorate these laws and to celebrate the heroes who, at great personal risk, made them possible. We should be careful, though, not to allow the celebration of progress to blind us to the larger question. Why did we still need a civil rights movement almost 200 years after we recognized the self-evident truth that “all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights...”?

Perhaps the truth of the matter is that mere “recognition” is insufficient. It isn’t enough to say that we believe in equality unless we live like we mean it. The difference between ideals and true civic engagement is the willingness to act, not only in defense of one’s own rights, but also on behalf of others as well. We challenge students to seek opportunities to stand up for the rights and dignity of their peers every day. Supporters of the Center can be proud that they are both making this possible and showing the way.

As part of the Holocaust Center’s UpStanders: Stand Up to Bullying initiative, a free program on bullying will be held on Wednesday, October 1 from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm at the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida. The panel will provide parents with tips to both prevent and respond to bullying. Panelists include: Amanda Montgomery – Licensed Social Worker, Nemours Children’s Hospital; Lisa Page – Prevention Specialist, Seminole County Public Schools; Tony Brent Activist and Performer Five Hearts, Inc.; and Sgt. Christie Register — Seminole County Sheriff’s Office.

You can find more information about this program at www.holocaustedu.org or www.facebook.com/UpStanders.
Civil Rights Kick-off
Events Bring Community Together

Enjoying the festivities at City Hall (from left) Fr. Rudolph Cleare, Dick Batchelor, Holocaust Center E.D. Pam Kancher, and Holocaust Center Board Member Belinda Frazier

Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer reads the official City proclamation: “In this city we value diversity. I encourage everyone to join us in working towards lasting equality.”
Orange County’s July 2 kick-off event included dedication of a new mural and the donation of a portrait of Rosa Parks by her godson (above) and musical numbers by students enrolled in this year’s Orange County Regional History Center Summer Camp. (right).
Florida Holocaust Victims May Qualify for New State Assistance

Lynn H. Grossman
Holocaust Claims Coordinator
Florida Department of Financial Services
Division of Consumer Services

The Holocaust Victims Assistance Program Continues to Expand Efforts to Assist Florida’s Holocaust Victims

Florida Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater continues efforts on behalf of Florida Holocaust survivors to assist individuals seeking to recover proceeds from an insurance policy issued to a Holocaust victim, and restitution for Nazi-confiscated bank accounts, art and property. The Department of Financial Services provides education to Holocaust survivors on restitution programs and provides assistance to individuals seeking access to much needed home health care services. The Department of Financial Services partners with seven holocaust assistance entities throughout the state, whose cumulative outreach and education efforts reached more than 10,000 Florida survivors this past year. Over 6,000 claims from Florida residents have been processed through European Settlement Funds since the program launched in 1998. To date, Florida residents have received positive decisions totaling $19,939,902, which includes a total of $2,772,220 this past year alone. In addition, eligible Florida survivors received more than $11.3 million last year for social welfare funding, provided through the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany. These funds were used to provide homecare, medicine, food, dental care and emergency assistance.

The Florida Department of Financial Services also assists eligible survivors in applying for German social security benefits intended to provide compensation for time involuntarily spent living and working in a World War II ghetto, or city district in which Germans concentrated the municipal and sometimes regional Jewish populations and forced them to live in miserable conditions. The application and claims process can be complicated and difficult for this aging population to navigate. Thus, the assistance provided to the Holocaust survivors to complete these claims is invaluable. Currently, there are 1,080 Florida survivors receiving a total of over $5,000,000 in monthly pension payments from Germany.

The Department continues to assist survivors in obtaining wire transfer fee waivers on all European restitution payments. Currently, 23 Florida-regulated financial institutions are participating in the fee waiver program. Survivors were being assessed an international wire transfer fee, ranging from $10 to $40 a transaction. This transfer fee amounted to a 10 percent tax on each payment the survivor receives, which can be a significant financial burden considering the vast majority of the victims rely on these payments.

Of the approximately 13,000 Holocaust survivors residing in Florida, studies indicate that more than 30 percent of them live below the poverty level. As the number of survivors declines, their need for financial assistance increases and as these victims continue to age and become more vulnerable, the importance of seeking and receiving assistance to help ease their daily burdens is vital for health, well-being, and dignity.

Survivors, their families, or their representatives can call 1-800-388-4069 for more information.

THE EXCLUSIVE DEBUT OF THE DAVID YURMAN FALL 2014 CAMPAIGN AND A RETROSPECTIVE OF 10 YEARS OF COLLABORATION WITH KATE MOSS AND PETER LINDBERGH HOSTED BY TED MAINES AND JEFFREY MILLER TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 6 – 8 PM COCKTAILS & HORS D’OEUVRES DAVID YURMAN MALL AT MILLENIAS ORLANDO RSVP EVENTS@STYLETOME.COM A PORTION OF THE EVENING’S PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT UPSTANDERS: STAND UP TO BULLYING AT THE HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL RESOURCE AND EDUCATION CENTER OF FLORIDA
HOLOCAUST CENTER EXHIBIT CELEBRATES LOCAL HEROES OF CIVIL RIGHTS

An exhibit created by the Holocaust Center and the Wells’Built Museum in 2007 has become part of our community’s 50th Anniversary events. As it appears in various venues, it tells the story of how local individuals — Black and White — played important roles in achieving integration.

Among the heroes recognized in the exhibit is the late Wolf Kahn. He was a child when his family fled Nazi Germany, making him keenly aware of the consequences of bigotry and discrimination. After witnessing the drowning of a young Black man near Eatonville he launched a personal crusade to open swimming areas to Blacks, and to ensure that there would be adequate water safety supervision for them. He became the only white member of the local Quarterback Club, a civic group involved in desegregation. He occasionally became the target of threats and hateful speech, but never wavered in his commitment to a dream of fairness for all.

The exhibit also honors the amazing Borenstein family — Rita Bornstein, Jerry Bornstein, Beatrice Ettinger and Flossie Gluckman — whose family values and passion for fairness led them to provide legal guidance and representation, legislative advocacy, educational opportunities and hands-on help to promote racial justice in Central Florida.

Embracing the Dream includes a number of panels describing the courage and activism of the Black community. Stories of leaders like Father Nelson Pinder, Harry and Harriette Moore, Dr. I. Sylvester Hankins, Arthur “Pappy” Kennedy and Reverend Fred Maxwell remind us of how risky their efforts were. Yet they moved forward in their quest to create, and to live in, a community where every individual has an honored place.

Standing in front of the Embracing the Dream Panels are (left) Belinda Frazier, Holocaust Center Board member and Chair of the Center’s Civil Rights project, and State Senator Geraldine Thompson, founder of the Wells’Built Museum of African-American History and Culture, the Center’s partner in creating the exhibit.

Plan to join us for Kristallnacht Sunday, November 9 4:00 PM for the Florida premiere of the new drama

Hiding in the Spotlight by Candy Dawson

at the Hy and Harriett Lake Auditorium next to the Holocaust Center

For more information please visit www.holocaustedu.org

FRIENDS COME TOGETHER FOR THE BEST OF ENEMIES

Based on a true story about the relationship between a leader of the KKK and an African-American civil rights activist, the unlikely pair must work together during the 1971 desegregation of Durham, NC schools. A moving new play that exposes the poison of prejudice and the beauty of friendship.

Please join the HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL RESOURCE AND EDUCATION CENTER OF FLORIDA For a benefit performance on October 26, 2014 $100 PER PERSON INCLUDES:
- 6 pm pre-show Reception
- Introduction by Ms. Pamela Woodley, daughter of community and civil rights activist, Georgia Nell Woodley, who was among the first to join the 1962 lawsuit to desegregate Orange County Public Schools
- 7:30 pm performance Limited Seating Available

Visit orlandoshakes.org for tickets

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RECENT GIFTS IN HONOR AND IN MEMORY

This list reflects donations received between January 1 and July 1, 2014

You donation in any amount will help support the Holocaust Center’s vital programs and services.

THANK YOU!
Since 1988 the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida has annually hosted a fundraising Dinner of Tribute. Over the years, dozens of honorees have been selected for their philanthropy, for their political leadership, and for their passion for creating a more tolerant, more just community.

This year’s event honored local philanthropist Harris Rosen for his extraordinary support for the Holocaust Center, for the Tangelo Park community where he has been a major force in improving education and opportunities for its residents, UCF, where he created the Harris Rosen School of Hospitality Management, and many other causes.

Because of his special history with Tangelo Park, the program opened with a musical tribute by the Tangelo Park Elementary School Chorus, followed by personal tributes from young adults who were able to take advantage of the full scholarships they received as part of Rosen’s commitment to the neighborhood.

One of the most heartwarming moments of the evening’s event was a filmed tribute created by Phillip Deems and the WKMG TV Local 6 staff. In it, Rosen described his early days in the Lower East Side, talking about his mother’s passion for education and reflecting on the influences in his youth.

Rosen explained his commitment to the Holocaust Center by talking about his visit to Dachau as a young soldier, and not being able to understand how such terrible things could happen.

He reflected back to occasional trips in his father’s car when they were able to see a nearby lighthouse. He said that this is what the Holocaust Center means to him: the Holocaust Center is like a lighthouse, one that stands as a warning of where the dangers lie. It is a reminder that we must be vigilant in order to be safe.

SAVE THE DATE! Next year’s Dinner of Tribute is April 28, 2015.
Spotlight on Philanthropy

JIM PUGH—WHY I GIVE

Jim Pugh’s earliest lessons about giving came from the example of the people around him. He lost his mother at age 6, and he says he still feels deep gratitude for the friends, relatives and teachers who helped guide and nurture him. Even in college he knew that people were there to watch out for him, and their encouragement has made him mindful of the need to care about others.

“I’ve had a lot of generosity in my life,” he says, “so it is very natural to return the gifts I’ve had.”

He has been a member of the Holocaust Center’s Board of Directors for more than twelve years, and has been an active supporter of its many programs. He joined the board at the invitation of his friend and fellow board member Sol Schick and with the encouragement of the Center’s founders, Tess and Abe Wise. But his interest in Holocaust remembrance goes back many years.

“When I was a young Lieutenant in the U.S. Army, I visited Dachau,” he says. “I just had a hard time understanding the atrocity….” It seemed to go against everything he believed about the innate goodness of people, a fundamental conviction he still maintains.

He has recently become best known as one of the driving forces behind Orlando’s new Performing Arts Center. In spite of the time, effort and resources he’s given to that project he says the task has “just been a pleasure.”

“We all need to think beyond today,” he says. “We need to talk about good citizenship in today’s world, meaning that we must all be willing to participate. We need to operate on a win-win mentality instead of ‘I win, you lose.’ You don’t have to hit home runs…singles and doubles are just fine. I have lots of faith in young people. I tell them, find your niche, and you can make things happen.”

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Dinner of Tribute Contributors

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Come Join the Holocaust Center’s Book Club!

The Holocaust Center’s Community Book Club has selected “A Pocketful of Posies” by WC Sorice for its next meeting, Sunday, October 12, at 2 PM. It is a fictional account that connects historic events, rock-n-roll superstars, the KKK and Civil Rights activism against the backdrop of the tumultuous 1950s and 60s. The author, a retired teacher who lives in the Orlando area, will lead the discussion. He has donated several copies of the book in addition to the two copies currently available for a 2-week loan from our library. Kindle and paperback versions of the book are available for purchase on Amazon.

The club also selected “Devil in the Grove” by Gilbert King for the meeting at 2 p.m. on Sunday, December 7, 2014. This Pulitzer prize winning non-fiction work reveals the story of turmoil and injustice in Lake County Florida in the late 1940s and early 1950s. When a young white woman claimed she was raped, the sheriff quickly went about finding some young Black men to Lynch. In spite of the intervention of attorney Thurgood Marshall -- who later became the first African American to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court -- the story is grim. Copies of this book are available at local libraries and two copies will be available for loan through the Holocaust Center’s library in early October. Copies are also available for purchase on Amazon and through local bookstores.
The Holocaust Center lost a dear friend with the recent passing of Dr. Norman Wall, a nationally-prominent cardiologist who died at his home in Heathrow, Fla., last September at the age of 99.

During World War II he served as a medical officer with the Army, stationed in the Middle East and North Africa, rising to the rank of Lt. Colonel. In the service, he helped to establish field hospitals; one of them, the 29th Station Hospital in Palestine, later became the largest health and research facility in Israel.

Along with medicine, Dr. Wall was passionate about his Jewish faith and social justice. He was an enthusiastic supporter of the Holocaust Center’s education for teachers and students. A strong advocate against prejudice and discrimination, he became involved with the Anti-Defamation League in the 1960s, later to become the Chairman of the ADL’s Pennsylvania Board and a member of the ADL National Commission. On his birthday last Feb. 9, and the ADL’s 100th Anniversary, he was presented with the ADL Centennial Champion Award.

Included in Dr. Wall’s final bequest was funding to expand the Center’s educational opportunities for teachers. The Board is currently developing guidelines for this new fund, and will be announcing plans shortly.

**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE: Jim Crow Laws or Nuremberg laws?**

Choose whether the statements below best describe a law from Germany during the Nazi era or from one of the states of the United States during the “Jim Crow” era. The generic term “minority group” has been substituted for Jew or African-American. “Majority group” in this context means Aryan Germans for Nazi Germany or members of the white race for the United States of America.

1. Members of the minority group are not allowed to be teachers in the public schools.
2. Marriages between a member of the majority group and a person of the minority group or of minority descent to the fourth generation inclusive are forbidden.
3. The number of students from the minority group allowed in public school is restricted to the minority group’s percentage in the general population.
4. Members of the minority group are not allowed to buy lottery tickets.
5. Blind members of the minority group will be admitted, housed, cared for, and instructed in different facilities from blind members of the majority group.
6. Members of the minority group are not allowed to be civil servants.
7. Members of the majority and minority groups may not be served food in the same establishment unless their respective seating areas are separated by a solid partition at least seven feet in height.
8. Separate telephone booths may be required for members of the majority group and members of the minority group in any locality upon receipt of complaints.
9. Anyone found guilty of printing, publishing, or circulating materials advocating social equality may be fined and/or imprisoned.
10. Members of the minority group are not citizens of the nation, nor may they exercise the right to vote.

Want more information about the parallels of Jim Crow and Nuremberg restrictions? Plan to attend our September 11 forum: “In the Shadow of Jim Crow: A Challenging Perspective on the Nuremberg Laws.”
Mission Statement

The Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida is an organization dedicated to combating anti-Semitism, racism and prejudice with the ultimate goal of developing a moral and just community through its extensive outreach of educational and cultural programs. Using the lessons of the Holocaust as a tool, the Center teaches the principles of good citizenship to thousands of people of all ages, religions and backgrounds, each year.

Our Center is one of the oldest facilities of its kind in the nation. It houses permanent and temporary exhibit space, archives, and a research library. It is a nonprofit organization supported by tax-exempt donations, and is open to the public free of charge.