

# Legacy



A publication of the Birmingham Holocaust Education Committee, a division of the Alabama Holocaust Foundation

Winter/Spring 2010

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, April 11, 2010 1:00 pm., Kelly Ingram Park, Anne Frank Horse Chestnut Tree Sapling Dedication

April 7, 14, 21 & 28, 2010 Brown Bag Luncheon Series, Birmingham Public Library

#### YOM HASHOAH

Tuesday, April 13, 2010 10:30 a.m. State Capitol, Montgomery, State Days of Remembrance

Sunday, April 18, 2010 1:30 p.m., Temple Beth-El, Birmingham Community Days of Remembrance, Dr. Samuel Kassow, "Who Will Write the History"

# DARKNESS INTO LIFE

January 5, 2010
Brewer High School
Somerville, AL
April 5, 2010
Anniston Public Library
October 2010
Montevallo Public
Library

#### Inside this issue:

Darkness into Life

Tribute to Helena Lubel

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Voices of the Holocaust

Donors

Brown Bag

# **GUARDIANS OF REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM**

# Phyllis Weinstein, Chair

In our mission to strengthen Holocaust education in our city and state, the Birmingham Holocaust Education Committee and the Alabama Holocaust Commission are greatly encouraged by the large numbers of teachers who attended the recent education workshop with our guest, Alexandra Zapruder, and the equally large numbers of interested people who attended the community programs. People are eager to learn more about the Holocaust, a subject so vast that educators separate the learning experiences into different aspects of this tragedy of history. We **speak** of the concentration camps, the liberators, the slave laborers, the partisans, the ghettos, antisemitism, basic Judaism, Hitler's rise to power. Above all, we **listen** to the stories of our courageous survivors, so that we will remember and not forget how dangerous hate can be, where it can lead, and what can happen when people fail to take action against it. We do not want their stories to be forgotten.

## **Moving Forward**

Moving forward in our mission, we are initiating a program that we hope will preserve the personal memories of the Holocaust. While it is not foremost in our minds, the fact is that human life has it limits—for some, sooner than later. This is an issue that we must face to continue bringing the message of the Holocaust to a wider and wider population.

Our program will be named—Guardians of Remembrance.

# Guardians Become a Bridge to Remembrance

Guardians, interested and capable individuals, will be paired with Holocaust survivors to become intensely knowledgeable of that person's history and experience as a Holocaust survivor. They may do this by studying the written and video materials available and by personal contacts and interviews. By participating in this partnership project, the Guardian will teach about their survivor's unique experience during the events of the Holocaust as well as the lessons it conveys about the horror of genocide and the consequences of unchecked hate and public indifference. In essence, the Guardian will become a bridge to remembrance, conveying this personal history to future generations. They will play a vital, historical role in the continuing education about the Holocaust.

Please indicate your interest in becoming a **Guardian of Remembrance** by contacting: Ann Mollengarden <u>agmoll@bellsouth.net</u>, or Phyllis Weinstein, <u>pweinstein21@bham.rr.com</u>.

# INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COMMEMORATION IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

In October 2005, the United Nations adopted January 27 as an International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. It was to become an annual event. "The Holocaust," stated Dr. David Silberklang, editor-in-chief, Yad Vashem Studies, "shook the very foundations of modern civilization, calling into question our understanding of humanity itself...The awakening of the U.N. to Holocaust commemoration is an important step in heightening awareness of the Holocaust and of its devastating impact on the world."

#### **Developing a Program**

"There can be no reversing the unique tragedy of the Holocaust. . . it must be remembered for as long human memory continues," the U.N. statement reads. What do we want to remember? And, how can we remember? The BHEC has developed a program that we hope will help meet the obligation for all of us. . . to remember.

# Reaching Out to the Community

We are reaching out to community organizations, institutions, churches, synagogues, clubs and groups asking them to devote an *in house* study session to a Holocaust topic. We are providing for their guidance a "CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK FOR STUDY GROUPS," compiled by Lynn Raviv and Ann Mollengarden, which includes numerous resources for reference and research. This year the selected topic, Rescuers, is taken from material from The Jewish Foundation for the Righteous. The study of the rescuer, as suggested by the organization's founder, Rabbi Harold Schulweis, "challenges us to be better, to ask more of ourselves."

# Taking a Deeper Look

We hope a deeper look at those who performed the noble task of rescuing their fellow men will be a thoughtful and meaningful study.

NOTE: The Curriculum Framework for Study Groups is available by email. If you would like a copy, please send your name, address and email address to: <a href="mailto:holocaustedbham@yahoo.com">holocaustedbham@yahoo.com</a>

# A TRIBUTE TO HELENA LUBEL

Helena Lubel is volunteer *par excellence*. Long active in Holocaust activities and programming in Birmingham, and throughout Alabama, Helena provides the link between the Birmingham Holocaust survivors and the community, schools, and organizations that are seeking a speaker or program for their group. Helena serves as the Survivor Coordinator for the Birmingham Holocaust Education Committee, and we want everyone to recognize the essential work she does performing this task in a caring and sensitive manner. Her skills and knowledge have greatly strengthened our program in many ways. We express our deep appreciation for the work that she does for the BHEC and the community.

Helena is identified by her activity and service on the Executive Committee of the Birmingham Chapter of Hadassah. She is a regular volunteer at the Birmingham Museum of Art, the Sisterhood of Temple Beth-El's Gift Shop, and Board of Directors. She also served as a full-time volunteer for the Birmingham Jewish Federation (BJF) for 23 years, and she's always 'on call' whenever she receives 'a call to help' from the Levite Jewish Community Center, Collat Jewish Family Services, and the BJF. A few of her community activities have included reading for the print handicapped on WBHM, knitting for local hospitals, and serving meals to the homeless.

The most important thing we wish to share is that Helena always offers knowledge and heartfelt love for all she undertakes. She is our friend, she is always smiling, and she is a true mentor to us all.



Barbara Solomon, Exhibit Coordinator

#### On the Move

BHEC's traveling exhibit, *Darkness into Life*, is doing just what its creators **Becky Seitel** and **Mitzi Levin** intended it to do. This year, it is traveling around Alabama to three different communities where it will be displayed and serve as a jumping-off point for the creation of programming initiated by the communities hosting the exhibit.

# **Exhibit Excitement**

The exhibit generates a tremendous amount of excitement for those who host it. Currently, *Darkness into Life* is at Brewer High School in Somerville, Alabama. In conjunction with students viewing the exhibit, teachers at Brewer High School have organized a county-wide, mini-curriculum in reading to teach about the Holocaust and as a community-wide evening program. Student Ambassadors from the high school are being trained by our Education Coordinator, Ann Mollengarden, to serve as docents at the exhibit. All of this programming has been initiated by the school faculty in response to the emotions they felt when they first viewed the exhibit.

#### **Exhibit Plans**

Plans are underway for the exhibit to travel to Anniston and Montevallo where opening receptions, community lectures, and the creation of a short introductory film for children are being developed by the hosts of these communities. We are delighted that this exhibit has inspired these communities to create such exciting and inspiring educational programs.

Darkness into Life debuted in April 2007, and in 2008 it was expanded to represent the stories of 20 survivors throughout Alabama. Through photography and art, Becky and Mitzi created a thought-provoking and heart-warming exhibit that tells the stories of these 20 survivors – their stories of childhood, imprisonment, hiding, and liberation. Narratives and biographies tell the stories alongside the artistic renderings. Each story is unique; however, all tell a story of unfathomable cruelty and heroic responses in the face of moral depravity.

# **Facilitating the Education**

The mission of BHEC is to facilitate education and understanding about the Holocaust. The exhibit that Becky and Mitzi created is an amazing tool that is able to do just that. *Darkness into Life* has been viewed in libraries, schools, museums and cultural centers. Exhibit fees for all types of venues within Alabama are waived and shipping costs associated with moving the exhibit to schools in Alabama are paid by the BHEC.

If you are interested in hosting the exhibit in your community, please contact Barbara Solomon, Exhibit Coordinator, at 205-422-3584, or email her at barbsolomon@bellsouth.net. You may also call the BHEC office at 205-795-4176. Please visit our web site at.bhamholocausteducation.org, to view segments of the exhibit.

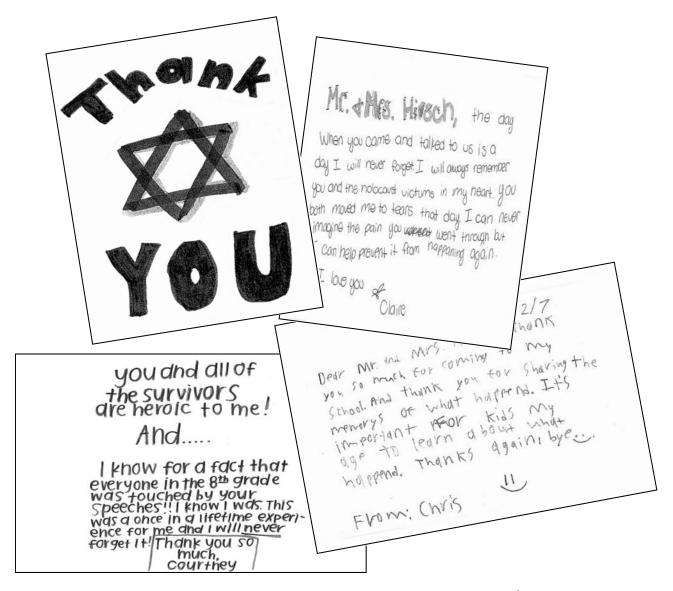
We look forward to sending the exhibit to your community.

The Holocaust. A time in history whose story should be told...over and over. It's been more than 70 years since the creation of the first Nazi concentration camps. Six million Jews died in those camps, as well as hundreds of thousands of others the Nazis considered socially undesirable.

From the terrible darkness of the Holocaust to successful lives in Alabama, 26 Holocaust survivors are now living in Alabama six decades after the end of World War II. For them, *remembering is always a journey of stories...*some of childhoods past... others of grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters, lost friends...some of despair and sadness...others of cruelty beyond belief...many of bravery...and others of the joy of liberation.

Survivors of the Holocaust who reside in the Birmingham and Mobile areas are available to speak to school groups so that students may hear firsthand accounts of this dark period in world history. The BHEC will make arrangements for speakers in the Birmingham area.

In studying the Holocaust, the power of the individual human story, with its passions and emotions, enables students to move from a plethora of statistics, remote places and events, to an understanding of the human drama involved. This brings with it the added benefit of experiencing the awakening of a moral sensibility. The study of the Holocaust may actually help students in approaching issues such as fairness, prejudice, discrimination, antisemitism, racism, injustice, stereotyping and intolerance, not merely in history but also in the contemporary world. We hope teachers will use these stories of our Holocaust survivors to enrich their students' classroom experience. To schedule a speaker, contact Helena Lubel at 205-871-4073.



# MEET SOME OF ALABAMA'S SURVIVORS



From left: Ruth Siegler Max Herzel Ilse Nathan Jack Bass Henry Aizenman (deceased) Aisic Hirsch Martin Aaron Riva Hirsch Max Steinmetz



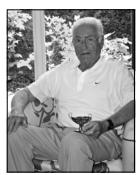
Sonja Adelberg Bromberg



Jenny Fried Cohen



Regina Roth Dembo



Robert (Bob) May



Stan Minkinow



Jack Schniper



Leonid Shilkrot



Henry J. Stern



Agnes Löwinger Tennenbaum



Treyger - Zel'tser Anya Itskovna

We hear the survivors' stories. Share with them their memories. Most of all, we remember with them, the stories of those who didn't live , and by listening, we all discover the message of memory. . . the message that one should never forget.

Read a brief portion of each survivor's story on the opposite page.

# MEET SOME OF ALABAMA'S SURVIVORS

Martin Aaron—Martin was born in the Czechoslovakian village of Tereshva in 1929, but home was across the Tisa River in Sapinta, Romania. In 1940, Romania was forced to cede northern Transylvania to Hungary, and conditions for the Jews deteriorated rapidly. Martin was fifteen when his family was put on a train for two days and nights, arriving at Auschwitz II (Birkenau). This was the last time Martin and his brother, would ever see his parents, two sisters, and two younger brothers.

Jack Bass—Born in 1923, Jack was subjected to antisemitic namecalling in school even before Hitler came to power. His mother hoped he would become a doctor like his father, but Jack's schooling would become a series of interruptions. Following his father's death in 1932, Jack, his sister, and his mother moved to Trier, then Cologne, and finally to Berlin, each time moving to a larger city in an effort to remain anonymous.

Sonja Adelberg Bromberg—Born on March 8, 1930, Sonja had one sister, Helen, and an older brother who died as an infant. Sonja's memories of Nazi Germany are the lasting, emotional impressions of a young child: the cruel and evil expression of Adolf Hitler looking out into the crowd during a parade she watched at the age of seven; bombs dropping; people screaming; and the terror of Nazis grabbing people out of their homes. To this day, Holocaust films evoke a deep, guttural pain for Sonja.

Jenny Fried Cohen — Jenny Cohen was born in Česká Lípa, Czecho-slovakia, on August 16, 1912. When Jenny was four years old, her father died. Her mother took a job as a housekeeper in a neighboring town in order to support her daughter, while Jenny went to live with her grandmother in Lovosice. When Hitler took over the Sudetenland region, all of the Jews, including Jenny, lost their jobs. Afraid to leave the house during the day, they went outside at night to breathe fresh air.

Regina Roth Dembo—Regina's story begins with a series of losses and separations from a comfortable life and the people she loved. How does a young girl of twelve cope with her father's disappearance at the hands of the Nazis, with her forced immigration to America while caring for two younger sisters, and with a fear that proved to be true: that she would never again see her mother and brother?

Max Herzel—Max Herzel was born in 1930, the son of a diamond cutter and seamstress. Ten-year-old Max's journey through one of history's darkest periods began when Belgium was invaded by the Germans on May 10, 1940. After traveling seven days and nights in a crowded boxcar, Max, his parents, and older brother, Harry, found refuge in Southern France.

Aisic Hirsch—Aisic Hirsch experienced more terror and loss than any innocent child should ever have to endure. In 1939, at the age of nine, Aisic witnessed German troops invade his small Polish town of Mogielnica. They set fire to both synagogues and, assisted by Poles, publicly shamed, shot, and hung the two Hassidic rabbis. Thousands stood by and watched.

*Riva Schuster Hirsch*—It was 1941 when the Germans occupied seven-year-old Riva Schuster's village. Forewarned by a Gentile friend of approaching danger, Riva's parents fled with their children through the forest toward their grandparents' home in Chotin. They never made it. They were captured and forced into cattle cars headed for a camp in Moghilev.

Robert (Bob) May—Robert was born in 1926, the youngest of three boys. For several generations, the family owned a dry goods store. By 1936, school had become intolerable, requiring Robert to leave. He moved with his Aunt Emma to Frankfurt and attended a Jewish Day School. Robert recalls Kristallnacht in Frankfurt. He and his aunt were warned by a neighbor to get out of their apartment. While wandering the streets, the apartment was ransacked and Robert's school and synagogue were burned.

Stan Minkinow—Born on October 6, 1932, Stan was the only child of a Jewish mother and a Greek Orthodox father who converted to Judaism. Living a very comfortable, non-religious life, Stan watched from the sidelines as Jews, including his wealthy maternal grandfather, were transported to the Lodz Ghetto. Stan's family was temporarily spared by claiming Russian heritage. Two years later, on January 13, 1942, they were taken to the ghetto as well, able to bring only the coats on their backs.

*Ilse Scheuer Nathan & Ruth Scheuer Siegler*—Ilse was nine and Ruth was six when Hitler came to power in 1933. Over the next twelve years, the sisters would lose their family and their youth. Born in Germany, the Scheuer sisters spent their formative years in relative peace and comfort until November 1938, when the events of Kristallnacht resulted in their father escaping to Bilthoven, Holland, to avoid arrest.

*Jack Schniper*—Jack was born in a Ukrainian work camp on March 18, 1945. His mere existence is a miracle. Although he never knew the uncertainty and hardships his parents experienced, he lives with that legacy every day.

Leonid Shilkrot—Leonid was born in the small Jewish village of Gershunovka on July 23, 1930, to a religiously observant family. Leonid's parents were farmers. On June 22, 1941, the Nazis invaded Ukraine and made rapid advances throughout the land. Leonid was eleven years old when the Germans marched through his village, ending his childhood and his education.

Max Steinmetz—Between 1942 and 1945, from the time he was seventeen until he was twenty, Max Steinmetz was held in German captivity in at least five ghettos or camps. In 1943, Max and his family were herded into cattle cars for the three-day, four-night journey to Auschwitz. Everyone had a half loaf of bread and each car had a single bucket of water.

Henry J. Stern—On his way to Opelika, Heinz Stern became Henry. He was only five years old in 1937 when he and his family immigrated to America on what was to be the last sanctioned ship departure of Jews from Germany until the end of the war. The rest of the family disappeared without a trace and young Henry had no way of knowing that the next sixty years of his life would be devoted to searching for clues to whether any family members had survived the atrocities of the war.

Agnes Löwinger Tennenbaum—Born in 1922 in a small town north of Budapest, Agnes says, "I grew up in a happy home. I had so much love, so much attention." Her father was born in New York to Hungarian parents, but his parents returned to Hungary when he was a child. Agnes had an older sister, Magdalena, and an older brother, Sandor.

Treyger - Zel'tser Anya Itskovna—Anya was four years old when German soldiers occupied her village of Kruti. Jews were no longer safe there. Her family, like others, was forced to live in a barn for several weeks without food or water. Able to escape, the family sought refuge in the forest. Knocking on farmhouse doors, they were frequently turned away.

# **VOICES OF THE HOLOCAUST Ann Mollengarden, Education Cooordinator**

Holocaust education today strives for two main goals: The first is Remembrance. Remembrance of those who lost their lives because Nazi racial ideology deemed their lives "unworthy of life." Remembrance of the families and villages that were erased. Secondly, we seek to learn from these past events in order to protect the future. By examining the history, and the behaviors of those associated with it, we are better able to understand ourselves as human beings, and with that, become moral decision-makers and thoughtful community members.

# Victims to Witnesses

Since the end of World War II, Holocaust survivors have transformed from victims into witnesses, and their experiences have served as a plea to deepen our humanity. We were not witnesses; but we have lived in the presence of witnesses. Future generations will not be able to say that.

# Statewide Holocaust Education Program

To ensure greater understanding of the Holocaust, the Alabama Holocaust Commission (AHC) and its subcommittee, the Birmingham Holocaust Education Committee (BHEC), embarked on the first-ever, statewide Holocaust education program, "Voices of the Holocaust: Learning from the Past to Protect the Future." Working with numerous partners throughout the state, we brought visiting scholar Alexandra Zapruder, author of Salvaged Pages: Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust, to the state for community lectures and teacher workshops in Monroeville, Montgomery, Birmingham and Florence.

## **Donor Generosity**

Through the generosity of our donors throughout the state as well as the herculean efforts of our "Sponsor A Teacher" chairs, Judy Abroms and Betty Goldstein, funding became a reality.

## **Zapruder Lectures Explore Fascinating Journey**

Ms. Zapruder's community lectures explored her fascinating journey from her beginnings as a researcher at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum to her captivation by the diaries of young people that she discovered there and elsewhere. Having known several of the surviving diarists first hand, she was able to share poignant excerpts from their diaries, dramatically taking on their persona as she read.

# Zapruder Conducts Workshops in Four Cities

Ms. Zapruder was also the morning guest at teacher workshops in each city. Participants were provided copies of Ms. Zapruder's book and the accompanying video as well as additional teaching materials from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Southern Poverty Law Center. Ms. Zapruder modeled how to use her book as text in the classroom. Afternoon sessions included presentations on Basic Judaism for Teachers, A History of Antisemitism and Rescuers as a Model for a Caring Community. These were presented by AHC members, trained teachers and rabbis from throughout the state. The comments we received speak for themselves.



Alexandra Zapruder, author of <u>Salvaged Pages:</u> Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust



Birmingham Teacher Workshop

" I can't wait to use <u>Salvaged Pages</u> in my classroom" -**Birmingham teacher** 

"I left feeling as if I had a firmer foundation and wider scope of understanding about the many varied aspects of the Holocaust." Birmingham teacher

"The information was wonderful and I can't wait to share it with my students in the spring."

Montgomery teacher

"This was absolutely the best workshop that I have ever attended." Florence teacher

"I appreciate all of your hard work and the generosity of the sponsors to make this available to teachers for free!"



Montgomery Teachers with Books

# Montgomery teacher

Over 450 people were moved by Alexandra Zapruder's community lectures throughout the state. The Birmingham teacher workshop enrolled 139 teachers from 75 schools; Montgomery had 63 teachers from 33 schools; Monroeville had 49 teachers from 20 schools; and Florence had 51 teachers from 26 schools. As these teachers return to their classrooms and communities, the "Voices of the Holocaust" will be heard exponentially.

# We extend our grateful thanks to the following who made this state tour possible.

#### **PATRONS**

The Birmingham Jewish Foundation
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Southern Poverty Law Center
U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum



Photo by Barbara Bonfield

Judy Abroms & Betty A. Goldstein volunteered to chair our fundraising effort, naming the successful campaign, "Sponsor a Teacher."

# Sponsor a Teacher

A: Shirley & Martin Aaron ~ Michelle Abroms & Jon Levin~ Barbara & Jack Aland ~ Karen & Leslie Allen ~ Lois & David Applebaum B: Marjorie Barr ~ Bernice Barstein ~ Debbie & Mark Barstein ~ Susan & Rodney Barstein ~ Gail & Harry Bayer ~ Gail & Jeffrey Bayer ~ Jean Bearman ~ Jodi & Mark Bearman ~ Joan & Jack Becker ~ Elaine Bercu ~ Mara & Justin Berman ~ Julie & Randy Bernstein ~ Faye & Sidney Bernstein ~ Ellen & Terry Bernstein ~ Anne & Neal Berte ~ Barbara & David Betten ~ Rosalyn Bloomston ~ Barbara Bonfield ~ Gina & Rex Boyd ~ Lenora Pate & Steve Brickman ~ Esther & Jerome Brown C: Mary Lynne & Eli Capilouto ~ Lin Carleen ~ Beverly and Ronald Cogen ~ Lynne & Mark Cohen ~ Ann Z. Cohen ~ Charlotte Corenblum ~ Caryn & Steve Corenblum ~ Jeffrey & Susan Cutler D: Heidi & Martin Damsky ~ Ann & Morley Denbo ~ Ellen Dorsky ~ Marilynn Dorsky E: Ellen & Fred Elsas ~ ~ Melba Epsman ~ Ami Abel & Kirk Epstein F: Carol & Jimmy Filler ~ Barbara & Howard Finkelstein ~ Arlene & Murray Fisher ~ Brenda & Fred Friedman ~ Faye & Norris Friedman G: Amy & Scott Garber ~ Charlotte & Chester Goldberg ~ Sherron & Allan Goldstein ~ Edward J. Goldstein ~ Gertrude Goldstein ~ Debra & Joel Goldstein ~ Shirley & Julius Goldstein ~ Barbara & Harvey Gotlieb ~ Susan & Steve Greene ~ Carol & Bob Gross ~ Sally Alyce Gross ~ Evelyn Gross-Brian H: Evelyn & Jack Held ~ Ginger & Jerry Held ~ Cissy & Leonard Held ~ Hannah & Colin Helman ~Joyce Helzberg ~ Carol & Donald Herman ~ Jimmie Hess ~ Eve & Rick Hirsch ~ Riva and Aisic Hirsch ~ Riv & Herbert Husid J: Joan Jacobson ~ Joyce Jacobson ~ Jan & Kenneth Jaffe ~ Elizabeth Jones K: Sharon Kahn & Richard Lehr ~ Doris & Fred Kanter ~ Elaine Kartus ~ Kathryn Kartus ~ Jenny Katz ~ Lisa & Alan Kianoff ~ Ricki & Lanny Kline ~ Robin & Bart Kolber ~ Rochelle & Michael Koslin ~ Ricky Koslin ~ Donna & David Kraselsky ~ Gennye & Matthew Krasner ~ Sheri & Jimmy Krell L: Lil & Jerry Lapidus ~ Deborah Rabinowitz Layman ~ Mitzi & Barry Levin ~ Faye & Robert Levin ~ Ralph Z. Levene ~ Esther & Jack Levy ~ Mrs. Nathan Levy ~ Joyce & Joe Lichtenstein ~ Julian Lichter ~ Lee & Steve Lichter ~ Betty Loeb M: Dale Marcus ~ Letty & Robert Marcus ~ Edgar Marx ~ Margo & Edgar Marx, Jr. ~ Judy & Gerson May ~ Lynette & J.B. Mazer ~ Judy Borisky Metzger~ Ed & Candy Meyerson ~ Ellen & Max Michael ~ Judi & Rabbi Jonathan Miller ~ Willene Mitnick ~ Judy & Gary Monheit N: Glenda & Paul Nagrodzki O: Jamie & Greg Odrezin P: Susan & Stuart Padove ~ Cheryl Palmer ~ Barbara Perlman ~ Karen & Joe Piassick ~ Margo & Michael Pitt ~ Carole & Michael Pizitz ~ Joan & Richard Pizitz ~ Frumie & Yossi Posner R: Marian & Myron Radwin ~ Lynn Rathmell ~ Lynn & Arie Raviv ~ Sherri & David Romanoff ~ Cantor Jessica Roskin ~ Katherine & Steve Rostand ~ Margy & Albert Rosenbaum ~ Jenifer & Andy Rotenstreich ~ Judy & Jimmy Rotenstreich ~ Bunny & Joel Rotenstreich ~ Nancy & Daniel Rousso ~ Cindi & Michael Routman ~ Barbara & Stuart Royal ~ Micky & Stanley Rubenstein ~ Pam Ruttenberg S: Amy & Michael Saag ~ Beth & Jack Schaeffer ~ Donna & Gary Schiff ~ Shirley & Paul Schlaff ~ Alan A. Seigel ~ Ferne Seigel ~ Joyce & Arthur Serwitz ~ Gail & Abe Schuster ~ Esther Schuster & Allen Shealy ~ Deborah & Stuart Shevin ~ Sandra & Larry Shulman ~ Bobbie & Don Siegal ~ Rosalyn & Irvin Siegal ~ Isabel & Alan Siegal ~ Toby & Bert Siegel ~Joanna & Herrick Siegel ~ Wendy & Frank Siegal ~ Regina & Neil Sigman ~ Estelle Silverstein ~ Carole Simpson ~ Stephanie & Brad Sklar ~ Ethelyn Slaughter ~ Diane & Robert Smith ~ Diane & Howard Slaughter ~ Ellen & Jerry Sokol ~ Lydia & Jim Sokol ~ Gloria Solomon ~ Betty & Max Steinmetz ~ Henry Stern ~ Susie Strauss ~ George Stripling T: Marilyn & Murray Tanner ~ Debby & Ted Thomas ~ Valerie & Clark Thompson ~ Cynthia & Raymond Tobias ~ Barbara K. Touger ~ Roxanne Travelute & Michael Honan ~ Debbie & Louis Tuck V: Sandra & Ronald Vinik W: Lawrence Warner ~ Lori & Jim Weil ~ Pat Weil ~ Phyllis G. Weinstein ~ Brenda & Steve Weinstein ~ Joan & Don Weisberg ~ Jeff & Sherri Weissman ~ Philip Wilens ~ Ilene & Allan Wilensky ~ Michelle Bearman-Wolnek & Seth Wolnek Z: Melissa & Melvin Zivitz

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# Alabama Holocaust Foundation Birmingham Holocaust Education Committee

A Resource Center for Holocaust and Genocide Education P.O. Box 130577

Birmingham, AL 35213-0577 Phone: 205.795.4176

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**BHEC MISSION STATEMENT:** The Committee seeks to facilitate education and understanding of the Holocaust by providing information, materials, speakers, teachers' workshops, community events, and programming. The Holocaust, the most significant event in recent world history, revealed both the peaks of heroism and the depths of cruelty and depravity that humans can experience. The Committee hopes that, by learning from the past, students will fortify their knowledge and will be leaders in preventing such evil from recurring.

# **BROWN BAG LUNCH SERIES**

April 2010: 12:00 Noon- 1:00 p.m.

**Birmingham Public Library** 

# THE HOLOCAUST: SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF LIBERATORS, SURVIVORS AND FILM\*

Wednesday, April 7: "The Holocaust through the Eyes of Liberators"

Rabbi Ira Flax, retired military chaplain

Wednesday, April 14: "The Children of the Holocaust"

This locally produced film by Jenny Katz and Dorian MacDougal, introduces you to the experiences of nine Birmingham Holocaust survivors.

Wednesday, April 21: "Auschwitz, as it reflects the Nazi development of the Final Solution"
Ann Mollengarden, BHEC Education Coordinator

# Wednesday, April 28: "A Holocaust Survivor Speaks" Martin Aaron, Holocaust Survivor

Born in Romania and with his family he was sent to the Auschwitz Concentration Camp. The selection process took place immediately upon arrival, and with the wave of a stick their fate was sealed—he and his brother to the right, and his family to the left. He never saw them again. Martin was 16 years old when liberated by British troops in 1945.

\* The Library's display windows, located on the main floor, will be arranged by Esther Levy in a Holocaust theme .