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In memory

Lilo (Lang) Waxman

7/25/1920 – 11/23/2018

Hidden Treasures, a dollhouse depicting life in pre-Hitler Germany, was donated to the museum seven years ago by Lilo (Lang) Waxman. Sponsored by an uncle, Ludwig Ilfeld, she managed to get out of Germany in 1936 and settle in Las Vegas, New Mexico. The dollhouse, however, went into hiding until 1946 when Carl Ilfeld, a cousin stationed in Germany, arranged for its transport by the U.S. Army. By this time, Lilo had married and was living in St. Louis, Missouri.

President's message

When opportunity knocks, let it in

As I was thinking about the subject of my president's message, I realized it would be my last. These four-and-a-half years have been rich and exciting and rewarding, and they have flown by. I have met and worked with exceptional, devoted people: our part-time staff; volunteers, and fellow board members. Through association with visitors to the museum I have had the lessons of the Holocaust and other exhibited genocides become an intrinsic part of my life. The generosity of our donors has made us successful and I am touched by their commitment to our existence.

Words of wisdom that have served me well in my life are, "When opportunity knocks, open the door!" That's how I think of my presidency. It wasn't in my plan to take on another volunteer "job" but opportunity knocked, and I opened the door. What I found behind that door is an organization that believes it is our responsibility to take every step, engage in every action, and teach every lesson that insures the history of past hates and intolerance are not repeated.

Our volunteers spend their hard-earned leisure hours working in every way to ensure that our message to "eliminate hate and intolerance one mind at a time" reaches all of New Mexico.

But wait, there's more! I will have the pleasure of serving on the board as past-president and hope our paths keep crossing.

Don't be afraid to open that door when the opportunity to be involved in the future of our museum comes knocking!

Thanks for the opportunity.



Jennie L. Negin

With many other participants,
we observed the 80th anniversary
of Kristallnacht on November 9
in Congregation Albert, Albuquerque.

Eliminating hate and intolerance, one mind at a time.

Migrant children still separated from their parents

by Christin Moreland, Volunteer

In April of 2018, people of the United States became aware of the separation of migrant families following the “zero tolerance” policy of then-Attorney General Jeff Sessions. Created in an effort to deter immigration, the policy had immigration authorities prosecute and place in custody every adult crossing the southwestern border illegally. However, this policy also effectively criminalized those seeking asylum. Because children cannot be held in custody for longer than 20 days, and cannot be held with adults, more than 2,600 children were separated from their parents.

Following this news protests against the separation policy occurred throughout the country, including in Albuquerque, where the Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico took part with speakers and support. In late June a federal judge ordered U.S. immigration authorities to immediately stop separations and reunite divided families within 30 days. On August 31st there were still approximately 500 migrant children separated from their parents and in custody, and on September 29th there were still 182 children awaiting reunification. Many of these parents have already been deported without knowing how or whether their families might be reunited.

As recently as September 26th it was reported that the U.S. government is still separating families at the border when children involved are U.S. citizens. When parents are seeking asylum and the accompanying child is a U.S. citizen, the children are being transferred to Child Welfare Services if another family member cannot be found in the States. In

response to outrage, the Department of Homeland Security stated the policy of separation is still in effect when it is in the best interest of the child, if there are health or medical reasons, or if there are concerns about the criminal background of the adult.

On September 30th the *New York Times* reported that there are 13,000 undocumented children held by immigration authorities in private foster homes throughout the country. Most of these children crossed the border alone and are held in custody until they can be matched with sponsors – this is difficult as some sponsors are undocumented immigrants themselves and dozens have been arrested simply for applying to sponsor these unaccompanied minors.

Over the past several weeks, several thousand of these children in foster homes were rounded up late at night and brought to a tent city in Tornillo, Texas. The move to Texas is meant to be temporary, but immigrant advocates estimate many children will be living there for months and the conditions are lackluster, at best. Previously sleeping in private homes with only one or two other children in their room, they are now sleeping in lined up bunks within large tents. While in foster care these children were attending schools with education guidelines, but now they have workbooks without instruction or an obligation to complete them. Prior to the move to Tornillo the children had regular access to legal representatives, and now that access is quite limited. Additionally, the larger facility has the potential to overlook those children who are struggling emotionally which can lead to larger problems such as escape attempts.

References:

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/06/27/immigrant-children-family-separation-border-timeline/734014002/>

<https://fox5sandiego.com/2018/09/21/34-immigrant-children-released-as-more-than-100-remain-separated-from-parents/>

<https://www.kpbs.org/news/2018/sep/26/us-is-still-separating-families-border/>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/30/us/migrant-children-tent-city-texas.html>

The Herald

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Serving others and doing good

by Susan Bapty, Director, Educational Outreach & Volunteer Programs

As I sit here at the front desk on a slow Thursday afternoon, I simply watch as individuals trickle through the front door, sign-in, and lose themselves in the content of the museum. This specific weekday we had six visitors. While this number seems small, I am struck by the geographic diversity of our reach. On this day the guests hailed from Alaska, New Mexico, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Ottawa, Canada.

New to the museum, it was evident that promoting our mission of “eliminating hate and intolerance one mind at a time” would not be possible without our current and growing number of volunteers. The very fact that the museum is able to open six days a week and provides educational opportunities for New Mexicans and tourists is a direct result of the tireless and creative efforts of our volunteers. To date, our volunteers, excluding the board of directors, have contributed more than 1,530 hours to furthering the work of the museum. Our recruitment for high quality and committed volunteers is ongoing. Anyone interested in contributing time and talents to our mission can contact me.

On the educational front, we are expanding our *Behind the Lens: Student Portrayals of a Troubled World* program. One of the most profound legacies of the Holocaust is to not stand in silence while injustices occur. Facing History and Ourselves National Foundation, Inc., uses the term *bystander* to denote those who see, yet do nothing. Currently, museum educators and a filmmaker work with students all over Albuquerque to select a topic, research, chronicle, film, and edit a documentary on a social justice issue that speaks to them and needs to be brought to light. This is very labor intensive for our small staff, so to extend our reach within Albuquerque and New Mexico, we will train the teachers in film editing and make

sequential lesson plans available through our website. Some classrooms cannot commit to the overwhelming time constraints of creating a documentary, so we plan to work with teachers to create alternative artistic and educational mediums in which students can fulfill the goals of this project.



Susan Bapty

After working in three schools this past spring, I witnessed firsthand the profound impact this project has on the participants. One student, from a south valley charter school, reflected on her personal experiences aging out of foster care and never knowing a permanent family. Another explored teen pregnancy and dropping out of school. A seventh grader interviewed Jamal, who escaped oppression in Iran, only to be confronted with his own narrative about losing his

father at a young age. Sexual identity and *coming out* was a topic explored by one group, who then had to battle prejudices within their own friendship circle. Addiction, homelessness, hunger and bullying the mentally challenged were other topics explored. In each case, what started out as an assigned research project turned into a personal reckoning and students were forced to confront their own prejudices, biases and in many cases their own narratives. The process of creating a documentary was both cathartic and empowering for these students.

Over 2,300 years ago, Aristotle wrote, “*What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.*” Our volunteers and educators are indeed “doing good” within our community and undoubtedly serving others at a time when it is needed the most.

Contact information for Susan
(505) 388-3440
education@nmholocaustmuseum.org.

A gathering for peace after a week of hate

Our responses to the synagogue murders in Pittsburgh were immediate and heartfelt. Several tv interviews were conducted soon after the response was sent to media outlets. In addition, a “gathering for peace” was organized for the following day. Albuquerque police closed our block on Central Avenue while several hundred like-minded folks attended to show support. The purpose of the event was to speak out against hate and intolerance and call for peace in our nation and world. All people of peace were encouraged to attend to show that Albuquerque is a city of Peace and Tolerance.

The following response was sent October 27, 2018, the day of the horrendous event in Pittsburgh:

“The Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico (HIMNM) finds it unsettling that

we must once again address hatred as a motive in the murders

of innocent people practicing their freedom of religion this

morning in the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

People everywhere should be entitled to practice their religion in peace without fear of being killed. We believe that this latest culture of violence is directly responsible for all recent hate crimes whether the motivation is race,

religion, gender identity, or sexual identity.

We strive to fulfill our mission of putting an end to hate and intolerance, one mind at a time.

Our hope is that our efforts will show a decrease in these hate crimes as we touch individual visitors, adults and students alike. “



Our museum visitors share comments at *Hate in America* exhibit

When asked, “What issue today would inspire you to protest tomorrow?” visitors had a wide variety of responses. Some said, “Women being disrespected,” others focused on abuse of children or animals. A number said racism and profiling, another wrote about the passing of unjust laws discriminating against women, ethnic minorities, or the LGBT community. The remaining responses simply summarized with “any violation of human rights.”

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum responds

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum strongly condemns the shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh and sends its deepest sympathies to the victims and families of those who were callously murdered.

Before opening fire, the alleged perpetrator reportedly yelled, "All Jews must die!" The Museum reminds all Americans of the dangers of unchecked hatred and anti-Semitism which must be confronted wherever they appear and calls on all Americans to actively work to promote social solidarity and respect the dignity of all individuals.

We were encouraged to share this message; there were countless others.

The sin of the fear of strangers

The following is a portion of Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld's, (Congregation Albert, Albuquerque NM) Sermon on Yom Kippur Evening Service.

We Jews, of all peoples on this planet, should not need commandments to welcome the stranger, to love the stranger as ourselves. Why? Because, as we say each Pesach, we were aliens in the land of Egypt and we know the heart of the stranger. Thus, our hearts and our actions must reflect our understanding of the needs of others who must flee their homes to escape oppression, or rape, or death, or to provide a better life for their families.

Gates of Repentance

If there is one thing I miss from Gates of Repentance, (a former Reform prayer book) it is the listing of the sin of xenophobia, the sin of fear of strangers. As I said on Rosh Hashanah: "We are all guilty of this....You know you are guilty of this. I know I am.... We all, without exception, make assumptions about people who are from other countries, people who are poor, people who are rich, people who are a different race,... The list goes on."

We are not only Jews, we are Americans. It breaks my heart seeing hope in America being shunted aside and, xenophobia, rule. We began to shut our doors with the immigration laws of the early 1920's. These laws were specifically designed to keep out Southern and Eastern Europeans.

In their immediacy, these new immigration laws kept out Jews trying to escape the Communist revolutions and counter revolutions. Later, the United States used these immigration laws to turn away Jews escaping the coming horrors of the Shoah, the Holocaust.

A true story:

On Thanksgiving eve 1938, Secretary of State Harold Ickes, a Christian and a Republican in Franklin Roosevelt's cabinet, gave a speech proposing a plan to resettle Jews on farmland outside Anchorage, Alaska. He said this could be: "a haven for Jewish refugees from Germany and other areas in Europe where the Jews are subjected to oppressive restrictions."

Bills were introduced in the Senate and the House but never passed. The charge to defeat the resettlement was led by Alaska Territorial Governor, Ernest Gruening, a Jew. Gruening did not want these kinds of Jews with their strange dress and accents in his state.

The St. Louis incident

A year later, in 1939, the United States turned away the ship St. Louis, forcing its Jewish passengers to return to Europe and the Nazi's final solution. Even those who survived the camps and the war suffered fear and



Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld

trembling. Can you ever forget the pictures of those Jews crowding, beseeching, on the St. Louis's deck?

Fear erupts, again

In 1942, fear, especially xenophobia, again raised its ugly vile head as President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 authorizing the round-up of people who were at least one-sixteenth Japanese and placing them in concentration camps. Close to 60 percent of these were American citizens by birth or by naturalization. One-sixteenth Japanese means having a Japanese great-grandparent. That number one-sixteenth should echo in your souls. King David was one-sixteenth Moabite. Hitler determined that anyone who was one-sixteenth Jewish would be subject to the final solution.

Incredibly, many of the interned

(see Fearing strangers, page 6)

Fearing strangers

(continued from page 5)

Japanese Americans volunteered to fight in the war. The military established the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and sent them to fight in Europe. The 442nd became the most decorated unit in U.S. military history. It also suffered large numbers of casualties.

Another true story

I learned this story about one of the casualties, Sgt. Kazuro Masuda, from Rabbi Ed Feinstein of Valley Beth Shalom in California. Sgt. Kazuro enlisted while interned at Manzanar Concentration Camp in Orange County, California. In Italy, on the night of July 6, 1944, he turned back two major counteroffensives and inflicted heavy casualties after firing at the enemy for 12 hours. Eventually, Sgt. Masuda was killed in action. In 1945, General Joseph Stilwell flew to the Manzanar concentration camp. There, on the porch of the shack in which the Masuda family was forced to live, General Stilwell pinned the Distinguished Service Cross on Sgt. Masuda's sister Mary.

At that ceremony was an army captain who spoke these words: "The blood that has soaked the sands of a beach is all of one color. America stands unique in the world; the only country not

founded on race, but on a way and an idea. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way."

Forty-three years later, that captain, Ronald Reagan, now president, signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 providing redress and restitution to the Japanese who had been interred in the camps. At that ceremony he said: "... We gather here today to right a grave wrong. More than 40 years ago, shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry living in the United States were forcibly

removed from their homes and placed in makeshift internment camps. This action was taken without trial, without jury. It was based solely on race, for these 120,000 were Americans of Japanese descent." He then told the story of being present for the presentation to the Masuda family. Two years earlier, President Reagan signed the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 which reformed our immigration system, allowing thousands upon thousands of people to come out of the shadows with no fear of being forced to leave their homes in America.

Built on hope

President Reagan, the archetypal Republican, decided that, when it came to people who made it to our shores, America should be built on hope and not on fear and hatred of the other. Quoting John Winthrop on the Mayflower, President Reagan said: "We shall be a city upon a hill..." He continued: "America has not been a story or a byword. That small community of Pilgrims prospered and driven by the dreams and, yes, by the ideas of the Founding Fathers, went on to become a beacon to all the oppressed and poor of the world."

Recommended reading

The following recently published books are important contributions to our field:

Omar Bartov, *Anatomy of a Genocide: The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz* (Simon & Schuster)

Father Patrick Desbois, *In Broad Daylight: The secret Procedures Behind the Holocaust by Bullets* (Arcade Publishing)

Philip Morgan, *Hitler's Collaborators* (Oxford)

Aomar Boum and Sarah Abrevaya Stein, *The Holocaust and North Africa* (Stanford)



We throw the *best* parties

... and have the most fantastic sponsors!

Just ask anyone who was there October 21 in the social hall of Congregation B'nai Israel. We had some fun.

By all indications, our third annual fundraiser was a success. Attendance was up from last year, and you could not surpass the food and drink, the music and dancing, the games, the raffle prizes, and the silent auction.

We are so grateful to our wonderful and generous sponsors, our donors, the fun lovers who attended, and the committee members – all volunteers – who worked so hard to make it happen.

EVENT

- Helen Grevey & Jay Hertz
- TAS Security Systems
- Jennie Negin & Harold Folley
- Code 3 Services
- Universal Water Systems
- Marianne Fischer
- Rachel & Steve Galper
- Gardenswartz Realty
- Mary V. Pratt, M.D.
- Raye & Mark Cohen
- Kevin D. Hammar
- Jewish Federation of New Mexico
- Lois & Tom Ruby
- Linney Wix

RAFFLE

- Mark Diamond's Jewelers
- The Canyon Club at Four Hills
- Southwest Copy Systems
- The Remedy Day Spa
- Total Wine & More
- Betty's Bath & Day Spa

IN-KIND

- Rick Bickhart (partners by design)
- Nexus Brewery
- St. Clair Winery
- Amanda and Aaron Sanchez
- Southern Glazers Wine & Spirits
- State Farm

We dream a world

Party-goers were invited to share ideas of the world they dream.

...where all children are safe.

...where everyone is valued, every person is respected for who they are, and everyone is empowered to use their gifts and talents to "repair the world."

...where disagreements don't become violent.

...where stereotypes associated with people of color no longer hold power.

In which everyone recognizes that we are all in it together. We don't always agree, but we always cooperate to bring about peaceful resolutions.

...where everyone is respected regardless of what they look like, what they believe, what orientation they have ...

Join the club, the Club

We recently started a new program called the Chai Club.

“Chai” is recognized as the Hebrew word for life. It is made from two letters in Hebrew, chet and yud. The letters of the alphabet also have numbers. Chet has a value of eight while yud has a value of ten. Therefore, the letters in the word chai add up to 18.

Since the word means “life,” the number 18 is considered meaningful. Many Jewish people, when

by Marcia Rosenstein

giving donations do so in multiples of \$18.

We are asking our generous donors to become inaugural members of the Chai Club by giving \$360 or more annually. That amounts to 20 times chai. You will be permanently recognized as an inaugural member by giving \$360 or more by December 31st. The funds from

this program will help us maintain a reasonable budget.

Our museum is dedicated to those who lost their lives in the Holocaust and other instances of genocide that have occurred throughout history.

By donating chai (life), you are commemorating those lost lives. May it serve as a reminder for us to work toward our goal as a museum to eliminate hate and intolerance one mind at a time.

Give because it feels good ... and could make you (Amazon) smile

Our museum is a 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization. We are determined to steadfastly continue our work to combat hate and intolerance, and encourage understanding. Our operating funds come from private donors. Please become one: you can use the form below and mail it to Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico, POB 1762, Albuquerque NM 87103-1762 or donate via our website: www.nmholocaustmuseum.org.

In addition, **all you Amazon shoppers** can apply a percentage of your spending on eligible purchases to the museum by registering on smile.amazon.com and designating the Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico as your charity of choice. We appreciate your continued support.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook.

We hope your holidays are happy, and that your new year is filled with love and kindness.

HOLOCAUST & INTOLERANCE MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO

616 CENTRAL AVENUE SW, ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102

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