



# 75th Anniversary of My Family's Liberation

by Alan Stern (Story about Steve Uhlfelder's cousin)

I was born 75 years ago on April 15, 1945. Well, not really. More like the “notion” of me came into existence.



Alan Stern, right, and his father, Samuel Stern

My father, Samuel, who was 6 years old on April 15, 1945, experienced his second “birth” day. He, along with several thousand fellow captives, were liberated by the British Army from the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp.

Having spent the previous four years of his childhood in the Riga ghetto and Ravensbruck concentration camp, he remembers his time in Belsen with fear and solace, but also with the sweet memory of liberation. He remembers the powdered milk the British soldiers fed him that day—a memory he can taste to this day.

Springtime for Jews and Christians across the world signifies a time of rebirth, light, life and hope. Passover and Easter remind us of a time of both despair and hope. As my family sat down for two Passover seders this past week, I thought about our current situation and my family's unique history. Although we could not be together physically, we managed to stay connected via

modern technology. Although we could not physically hug each other, we managed to send much love through the cyber waves. Perhaps this is what we all need to think about during our current pandemic.

I often wonder what my life would be like if I were not a child of a survivor. I wonder what it would be like to have a father who didn't suffer from PTSD. I wonder what it would be like to have any siblings. I wonder what it would be like to not carry the burden of telling and retelling my father's story for generations to come. But, as often as these fleeting thoughts occur, I always come to the conclusion that I am blessed by my situation.

My father, his mother and brother were fortunate in many ways. How does one survive such horrors without having some luck? My grandfather was not as fortunate. He was murdered in Buchenwald. My father was only 4 when this happened; they didn't know his whereabouts until they received a death notice from the German government. It's fascinating to experience how efficient the Germans were with their record-keeping. To this day, I believe it somewhat of a miracle to have 75% of the nuclear family survive the horrors of Nazi Germany.

My father and millions of others were inmates, slaves, prisoners or

whatever term you want to use; they ended up freed from bondage on April 15, 1945. They were liberated to start their new life's journey. I was born 19 years after my father was liberated, but I feel strongly connected to that day 75 years ago. My existence, so wrapped up in my father's history, is fraught with heavy baggage. My life is owed to those martyrs who stood before me. My mere existence is owed to the British and American soldiers who bravely fought to liberate the world from tyranny.

So, it is at this time of year that I always think about “birth” days and freedom. Whether it's a virus or a tyrannical dictator that shackles us,



Alan Stern, left, with his wife and children

we cannot take our freedom for granted. My hope for a better world stands on the shoulders of those who may only be a memory now. May the memory of those who were in bondage be for a blessing. May their memories light the path forward, so that all of us continue to taste the true essence of freedom.

# Temple Israel's Library: *Lending Later; Sharing Electronic Resources Now*

## Lending to Come

Temple Israel is pleased to share that our new main lending library (the Slevinski collection) is poised to serve as an additional resource for you in finding books and other materials for teaching on the Holocaust, anti-Semitism, and related themes. Our holdings include works relevant for primary grade children, middle grades/young adults, and general use. Our books include biography and autobiography; nonfiction works on victims of the Holocaust, on perpetrators of the Holocaust, and on related politics; and relevant books of poetry and of visual art. Notable books in the collection include *Night* by Elie Wiesel; *The Diary of Anne Frank* as well as many related works for children; teacher's guide materials on the Holocaust and anti-Semitism; and *I Never Saw Another Butterfly: Children's Drawings and Poems from Terezin Concentration Camp*. (In addition to these materials, the Slevinski



Temple Israel Library – Steve Mirowitz, Rebekka Istrail, Barbara Goldstein

collection has many other works related to Jewish holidays, Jewish texts and customs, Jewish notable figures, the Hebrew and Yiddish languages, comparative religion, etc.)

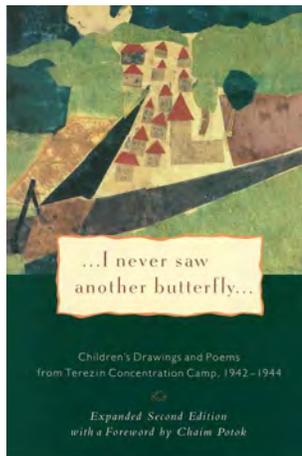
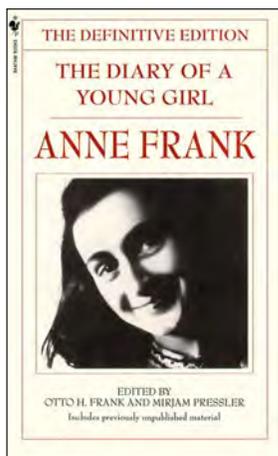
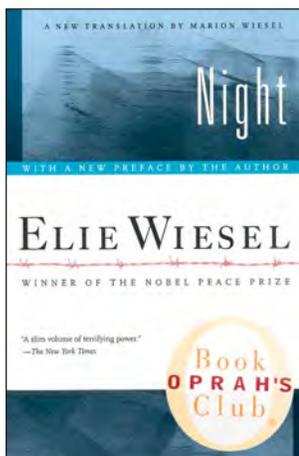
The temple and the library are presently closed to entry due to

preventing COVID-19 spread. When normal use resumes, we will share with HERC 1) an electronic list of our Holocaust-related holdings and 2) information on how to schedule browsing and borrowing.

## Electronic Resources

While Temple Israel's library is physically closed, our volunteer group still wanted to be of help in others' research. Therefore on behalf of our library and HERC, we are sharing this list of Holocaust-related resources (not part of our collection, but available for remote access).

*See next page*



# Electronic Resources *continued*



TEMPLE ISRAEL  
Tallahassee

The Slevinski  
Collection

Resources here on general information access methods, and relevant books and films. This is of course an incomplete listing, but we hope that it may help you to find worth while and meaningful resources.

**Library with Some Free Online Resources** search for your topic or particular item)

<http://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/Library>

## Stores

If you are interested in purchasing books, etc. from an independent bookstore, here are two options: Midtown Reader in Tallahassee is now making book deliveries: <https://www.midtownreader.com/>

## Information Clearinghouses and Online Encyclopedia

HERC's web site: <https://holocaustresources.org/>

Jewish Virtual Library: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/>

Yivo Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe: <https://yivoencyclopedia.org/>

Jewish Women's Archive: <https://jwa.org/>

<https://thejewishmuseum.org/>

Collection of websites of European Jewish museums. There is generally a button at the top of the screen that you can press to translate all of the website's text into English:

<https://judaicainthespotlight.com/top-10-jewish-museums-in-europe/>

## Book Recommendations and Reviews for Children and Young Adults

<https://www.ushmm.org/collections/bibliography/childrens-books>

<https://www.common sense media.org/lists/books-about-the-holocaust>

<https://www.readbrihtly.com/childrens-books-to-remember-the-holocaust/>

<https://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/books/reading-lists/holocaust-books-for-children>

<https://www.amazon.com/Best-Sellers-Books-Childrens-Holocaust/zgbs/books/2939>

<https://coolmompicks.com/blog/2018/04/13/best-holocaust-books-for-kids/>

## Films

<https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/holidays/holocaust-remembrance-day/holocaust-movies-list-of-the-best-for-holocaust-remembrance-day-2019-1.5237230>

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/7-holocaust-films-you-should-see/>

<https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/four-documentaries-about-the-holocaust/>

<https://www.imdb.com/list/ls057084050/>





# Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in information on these HERC committees:

Book club \_\_\_\_\_ Film Series \_\_\_\_\_ Holocaust Remembrance \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial \_\_\_\_\_ Community Outreach \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Workshop \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_

## MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO:

- – Attend programs, films, and scholars' lectures – at reduced rates or no charge
- – Receive notice of ongoing programs and invitations to special events
- – Borrow from our extensive collection of Holocaust books, media, research files, and curricula
- – Affirm your personal commitment to our mission and help us reach our goal

HERC is making a difference in our community, but we cannot continue to do so without your support. We urge you to join us at whatever membership level is most comfortable for you.

### HERC OFFERS VARIOUS LEVELS OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP: Please select a membership level.

\_\_\_\$36 (Life) This membership level is for individuals and helps purchase a DVD, book, or periodical for our school Resource

\_\_\_\$54 (Tolerance) This membership level is for individuals and helps purchase a DVD, book, or periodical for our school

\_\_\_\$100 (Peace) This membership level is for individuals and/or families and helps provide for a student outreach program

\_\_\_\$250 (Courage) This membership level is for individuals and/or families and helps buy a set of books for a school classroom

\_\_\_\$500 (Remembrance) This membership level is for individuals and/or families and helps to sponsor a speaker for Professional Learning Opportunities.

### PLEASE SEND CHECKS TO:

Holocaust Education Resource Council

P.O. Box 16282

Tallahassee, FL 32317

Donations can be submitted by PayPal on HERC website [www.holocaustresources.org](http://www.holocaustresources.org)



# 2020

## ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DINNER

*Stand Up, Speak Out – Make the World a Better Place*



Guest Speaker

**Nick Winton**

*Speaks about his father  
Sir Nicholas Winton  
and the  
Czechoslovakian  
Kindertransport*



*Holocaust  
Education Award  
presented to*

**Steve Uhlfelder**  
*Launched Legislation for  
Holocaust Memorial*

*When:*

**Wednesday, October 28, 2020**

*Time:*

**Reception 5:30 pm • Dinner 6:30 pm**

*Where:*

**Turnbull Center**

**555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee**

*Fundraising Event In Support of Holocaust Education*

***Early Bird Ticket: \$100 – After October 7th: \$125***

Paypal at HERC website or mail check to PO Box 16282, Tallahassee, Florida 32317

***Sponsorships Available • For More Information Contact  
Barbara Goldstein • [barbara@holocaustresources.org](mailto:barbara@holocaustresources.org) • 850-443-9649***

**[www.HolocaustResources.org](http://www.HolocaustResources.org)**



# ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE DINNER

## *Sponsor Opportunities*

**Wednesday, October 28, 2020**  
**Turnbull Center • 555 W Pensacola St, Tallahassee**

### **TITLE SPONSOR – \$10,000**

- Event is named for Sponsor with listing as dinner sponsor on invitation and on marketing materials
- Two tables – Twenty dinner tickets
- Photo-op with guest speaker
- Business logo with link or Sponsor's name on HERC website
- On screen donor listing with verbal recognition at event
- Business logo or Sponsor's name listed in event program
- Lobby Big Board listing
- HERC Annual Membership

### **GOLD SPONSOR – \$5,000**

- One table – Ten dinner tickets
- Photo-op with guest speaker
- Business logo with link or Sponsor's name on HERC website
- On screen donor listing with verbal recognition at event
- Business logo or Sponsor's name listed in event program
- Lobby Big Board listing
- HERC Annual Membership

### **SILVER SPONSOR – \$3,000**

- One table – Eight dinner tickets
- Business logo with link or Sponsor's name on HERC website
- On screen donor listing with verbal recognition at event
- Business logo or Sponsor's name listed in event program
- Lobby Big Board listing
- HERC Annual Membership

### **HOPE SPONSOR – \$2,000**

- Six dinner tickets
- Business logo with link or Sponsor's name on HERC website
- On screen donor listing with verbal recognition at event
- Business logo or Sponsor's name listed in event program
- Lobby Big Board listing
- HERC Annual Membership

### **REMEMBRANCE SPONSOR – \$500**

- Two dinner tickets
- Business logo with link or Sponsor's name on HERC website
- On screen donor listing with verbal recognition at event
- Business logo or Sponsor's name listed in event program
- Lobby Big Board listing
- HERC Annual Membership

***Early Bird Ticket: \$100 – After October 7th: \$125***

Please send checks to: HERC, P.O. Box 16282, Tallahassee, FL 32317 OR PayPal on [www.holocaustresources.org](http://www.holocaustresources.org)  
For more information contact Barbara Goldstein at 850-443-9649 or [barbara@holocaustresources.org](mailto:barbara@holocaustresources.org)

**[www.HolocaustResources.org](http://www.HolocaustResources.org)**