

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Tulare County Office of Education announces: “Faces of the Holocaust” on Display in Education Center “An Evening with a Survivor” to be Presented April 28**

*Visalia:* The Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) is pleased to present a student-created display entitled “Faces of the Holocaust.” The interactive display features photos, testimonies, artistic renditions, books, clothing, emblems and uniform items from the Holocaust and is located in the TCOE Education Center at 2637 West Burrel Avenue in Visalia. The display is open to the public, weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Admittance is free.

“Faces of the Holocaust” is the culmination of months of research and coordination between several Tulare County Court and Community Schools. Under the direction of Jim Vidak, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools, the court and community schools’ curriculum is designed to teach students tolerance, character and ethics. Tolerance education aims to show students what society should look like. Character education teaches what members of society should be like. Ethics education teaches students how to interact with each other.

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Vidak saw creation of the “Faces of the Holocaust” exhibit as an opportunity to teach the court and community school students – many of whom have been both victims and perpetrators of hate crimes -- the consequences of choices. Students from Dinuba, Superior, Farmersville, Murray, Carson and Success Community Schools researched and designed the display to put a human face on the victims of the Holocaust, one of the largest genocides in modern history. While the images can be disturbing to viewers, the students felt they were an accurate representation of atrocities of the Holocaust.

To culminate the event, on Wednesday, April 28, the public is invited to view the display and hear a presentation, “An Evening with a Survivor,” by Elane Norych Gellar, a survivor of Bergen-Belsen. On April 28, the exhibit will be open to the public from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with Ms. Gellar’s presentation beginning at 6:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served and admission is free.

For more information about the “Faces of the Holocaust” or Elane Gellar’s presentation, “An Evening with a Survivor,” please contact Scott Bailey at (559) 595-0805. For information about the Tulare County Office of Education and its programs, contact the public information office at (559) 733-6606 or visit our website at [www.tcoe.org](http://www.tcoe.org).

# TCOE #

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