

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

January 19, 2017

Media Alert

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
(559) 733-6606 – office
(559) 303-8568 – cell

Tulare County Office of Education announces:

Public Remembering the Holocaust event

6:00 p.m., January 19, Sequoia Room, TCOE Doe Avenue Complex, 7000 Doe Ave., Visalia

The study of the World War II Holocaust will come alive January 19 with a visit from Holocaust survivor, Elane Geller. Ms. Geller will hold a free, public presentation on Thursday, January 19 beginning at 6:00 p.m. about her experiences as a child imprisoned in a German concentration camp during World War II. The presentation will be held in the Sequoia Room of the Tulare County Office of Education's Doe Avenue Complex at 7000 Doe Avenue, Visalia.

Ms. Elane Norich Geller was born in a Polish town not too far from the birthplace of the late Pope John Paul II. When rumors started that the Nazis were coming to Poland, her father began to prepare four-year-old Elane to live with a Christian family until the crisis had passed. Instead, she survived life in a Nazi concentration camp, imprisoned for nearly five years. Her personal story is an inspiration, as well as a solemn cautionary tale about what happens when groups of people are dehumanized and acknowledged stereotypically rather than as individuals.

Tulare County Office of Education proudly sponsors Holocaust survivor visits each year. "The opportunity to hear the story of a Holocaust survivor first-hand is a rare one," says Tulare

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “I appreciate Ms. Geller coming to Tulare County year-after-year to share her experiences with our students.”

To help students understand the Holocaust, Elane Geller shares a message of human dignity, compassion, and remembrance for those who gave their lives during World War II. “You would do well to ask yourself why a sane person would relive this story about such great pain,” she tells audiences of students. “It’s about prevention of racism and bigotry and anti-Semitism.” She makes her message relevant by connecting it to modern dilemmas, such as gang violence, and ethnic, cultural, and international conflicts.

Information about the Tulare County Office of Education is available at www.tcoe.org, or by calling the Public Information Office at (559) 733-6606. For more information on “Remembering the Holocaust,” call Gay Atmajian at (559) 651-3350.

**MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA PLEASE NOTE: MS. GELLER ASKS THAT
HER PRESENTATION NOT BE RECORDED OR VIDEOTAPED.**

-TCOE-

Rel: 4/17