

Dedicated to Werner Gellert

“Indifference to the persecution of others always has tragic consequences,” we heard often from a wise man and a founder of the Holocaust & Intolerance Museum of New Mexico. Now age 93 and confined to a nursing home, he always is thought of by staff and volunteers for his legacy of love and devotion to humanity.

In his lifetime, Werner experienced hate and intolerance and how it can trigger the destruction of families, cultures and nations.

Eighty years ago he was witness to Kristallnacht in Germany when his synagogue was burned and his father arrested. The family was able to flee to Shanghai where eventually they were interned in a Japanese prison camp.

Our museum’s community in Albuquerque, which he and his wife, Frances (Frankie), along with Julianna K. Lerner created, is intended to bring about harmony, understanding, and an atmosphere of mutual respect. It does this through exhibits which feature all groups tortured and killed by the Nazis plus examples of other genocides and civic and social injustice. We teach that we all can make a difference by being upstanders.

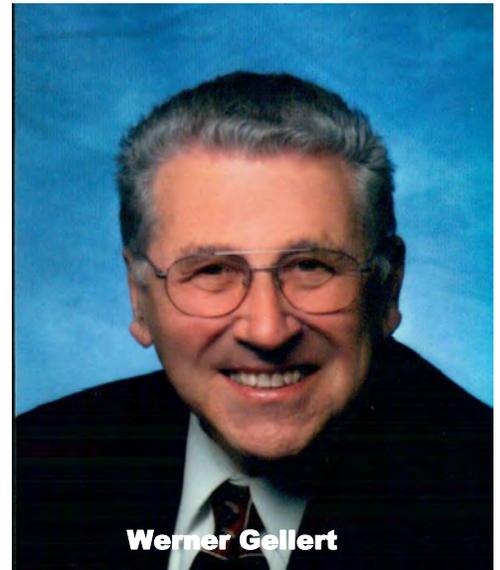
Born in Breslau, Werner, fluent in several languages, became an interpreter for the U.S. Air Force.

He came to the states in 1948 and attended Denver University where he met Frankie. She died in 2007.

He became a member of the United States Armed Forces, attached to an intelligence unit due to his language and interrogation skills. For three years, he worked for Remington Rand Corporation in Denver and Spokane.

Werner was awarded a scholarship to Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, but his studies were cut short by serum hepatitis caused by transfusions he received in China. While he performed some rabbinic duties, he professionally became a banker and headed two savings and loans and the loan division for a Japanese bank in Los Angeles.

After 37 years, Werner and Frankie retired to Albuquerque. While working to organize and



Werner Gellert

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Indifference to the persecution of others always has tragic consequences.

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incorporate the museum, he spent much time in local school classrooms and lecturing around the state about atrocities committed when hate and intolerance are allowed to prevail.

Nominated by Harold L. Folley, a museum volunteer, Werner and Frankie received the 2008 New Mexico Humanitarian Award presented by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque.

The Herald

Published four times a year
by staff and volunteers.

Editors:

Lyn Berner and Marcia Rosenstein

Check it out

New in the Library--*No Greater Love: How My Family Survived the Genocide in Rwanda* by Tharcisse Seminega. GM&A Publishing. Copyright 2019.

From the back cover:

Over the course of 100 days in early 1994 the Rwandan genocide took an estimated 800,000 lives. The fastest moving genocide in modern times was horrifying for its intimacy: killers and victims were neighbors, friends, fellow churchgoers, workmates, and even spouses. Murders used machetes, hoes, and nail studded clubs to kill those on lists with which they were provided.

Tharcisse Seminega was on one such list. He was a Tutsi professor at the National University of Rwanda in Butare. He, his wife, and their five children were specifically targeted for slaughter with all hope of escape cut off. Help arrived in the form of Hutu rescuers who repeatedly put themselves in danger to save Seminega and his family from the machetes.

No Greater Love is the true story of unwavering courage and extraordinary love shown by ordinary people who offered a ray of hope during one of humanity's most horrific self-inflicted tragedies.

About the Author: Dr. Seminega was born in 1941 to a devout Catholic family and came of age during Rwanda's transition from Belgian colonial rule to independence. He obtained a PhD in biotechnology becoming a lecturer in 1977 at the National University of Rwanda in Butare. Dr. Seminega, his wife Chantal, and four of their five children moved to their current home in Canada in 2003.

Fourth annual fundraiser a smashing success



Doris Fields, Brian Colón, Anne Frost

Well over 300 persons attended the museum's fourth annual fundraiser October 19 in the Embassy Suites by Hilton. The themed event maintained its previous name, *To Life!*, while also "celebrating upstanders." The theme was carried through when State Auditor Brian Colón received the first ever HIMNM *Upstander Award* for his dedication to the community.

The audience included his wife, Aleli, and brother, Kevin. In his acceptance speech, Brian revealed great love and respect for family. Married for 23 years, he praises Aleli for always being by his side. An extremely dedicated individual, she has shown

much determination of her own. A teacher at Van Buren Middle School, she is a doctoral candidate with a civil engineering degree and a master's in mathematics. Brian never fails to introduce her and express great love and pride. The couple's son, Rafael, is a senior at George Washington University on a Presidential Scholarship studying biomedical engineering.

Raised in Los Lunas, Bosque Farms, and Albuquerque, Brian learned from his parents the value of hard work, determination, and the sustaining power of an optimistic attitude. Although his father died when Brian was a teen, he hasn't

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Upstanders celebrated at fourth annual fundraiser



Leon Natker and Franz Joachim



Mary Pratt



George King



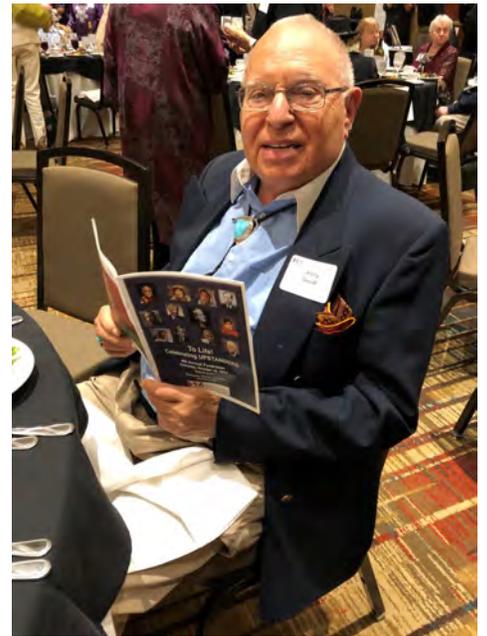
Victor Raigoza and Matilda Lopez



Shoshana Dubman



Edie Blaugrund



Jerry Small



Barbara Resnikoff and Gail Werde



Kevin Colón



Gloria Taradash

Let us say. "A good time was had by all."

Fourth annual fundraiser a smashing success

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forgotten the many lessons he learned, particularly the benefits of education.

The first in his family to attend college, Brian received a bachelor's in finance from New Mexico State University and law degree from the University of New Mexico School of Law. In practice since 2001, his top priority always has been one of service, of giving back to the community.

Because of his charisma, his ability to inspire others to get involved, he is called a "force in fundraising." Evenings and weekends are spent helping local cultural and community-focused nonprofits raise money in addition to meeting with young persons as their adviser proving that he believes in taking people along, not leaving them behind.

"I know firsthand the power of mentoring and the difference it can make in strengthening our communities."

Attending to duties as master of ceremony and mixing with the crowd was our friend KNME general manager Franz Joachim, a former museum board member. Board president Victor Raigoza described the state of the museum including its defined mission to educate and encourage upstanders. He also introduced Leon Natker, anticipated executive director, now in the role of consultant..

Funds were raised through ticket sales, program ads, corporate and individual sponsors, and silent and live auctions. Congratulations To Life! committee: Barbara Resnikoff, Terri Garcia- Hanoumis, Jennie Negin, Raye Cohen, Doris Fields, Vicki Gottlieb, Nancy Bothne, Marcia Rosenstein, and Gloria Taradash.

Let's be optimistic and say that next year will be even bigger and better.



Amelia Mae Paradise and Talia Freedman

Kristallnacht commemoration set for November 10

Artist Andrea Strongwater of New York City will discuss her book and illustrations from *Where We Once Gathered; Lost Synagogues of Europe*. Her paintings will be on display and copies of the book will be available for sale. UNM Professor Marsha Hardeman will describe recent occurrences of the burning of Black churches.

Special music including Klezmer, gospel, and a vocal solos by Ash Soular and Sina Soul also are scheduled for the commemoration of Kristallnacht November 10 at 3 p.m. in the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque, 5520 Wyoming Boulevard NE.

Education committee slates inaugural lecture series

by Susan Bapty, Director of Education

To fulfill our committee's mission to *preserve, promote, and perpetuate among all people, understanding, collaboration, and develop a willingness to stand up for what is just*, the newly formed education team of the museum is launching an annual lecture and discussion series. The idea behind these lectures is to bring people from our

community into the museum to engage in compelling dialogue and discussion which will in turn foster understanding and ignite a passion to *Stand Up!*

The first event, predicated on the theme *Enslavement: The exploitation of the "other,"* is scheduled for Sunday, November 17 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Please join Dr. Daniel Taradash and Jon Ghahate in a discussion on the historical and contemporary legacy of slavery in the Americas. The discussion will be followed by light refreshments. Admission is free; however, space is limited so please RSVP by November 15 to education@holocaustmuseum.org.

Archives Alive! by Camelia Caton-Garcia

Information sought on 1960s school segregation document

This flyer was created and distributed in 1965 by the civil rights group Freedom Vigil of Boston, Massachusetts. In this document the group highlights the effects of

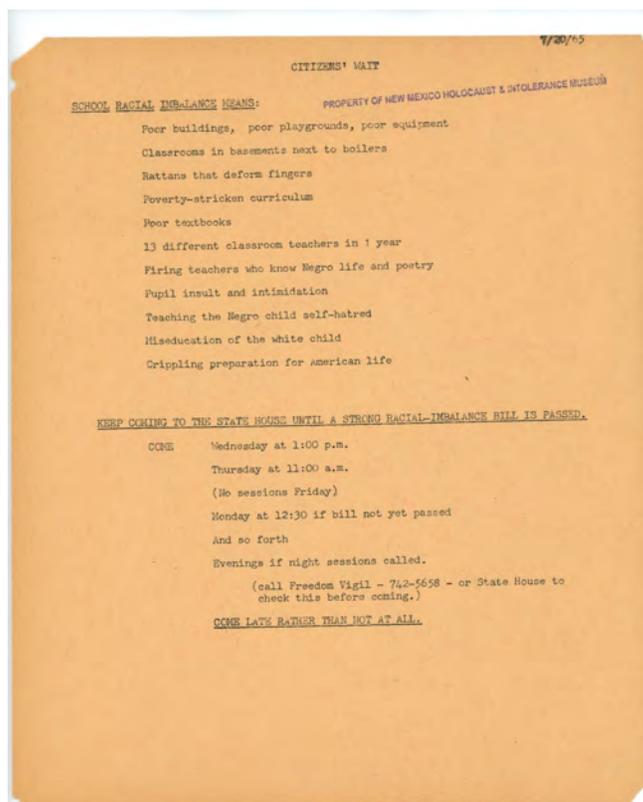
"Racial Imbalance" and calls upon citizens to show their support for the passage of the Racial Imbalance Act at the Massachusetts statehouse.

Do you have a relationship to this document or know how it came to be in our collection?

Please get in touch:

info@nmholocaustmuseum.org

Despite intense opposition from the Boston School Committee, the Racial Imbalance Act was passed in 1965 and made racial segregation of Boston Public Schools illegal. The implementation of the Act led to riots and protests that continued throughout the 1970s.



**Rest in peace
Eva Mozes Kor**



January 31, 1934 to July 3, 2019

Elie Wiesel's memory and work honored by legislation
Genocide and atrocities prevention act is now law

The Elie Wiesel Genocide and Atrocities Prevention Act became law in January with bipartisan support in Congress.

State Department foreign service officers placed in at-risk countries must be trained to recognize patterns of escalating violence and spot early warning signs. In addition they

must learn methods of preventing and responding to atrocities.

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide worked more than three years with lawmakers on the document aimed to achieve more effective prevention. The center will continue to provide guidance.

Update on propaganda from Anti-Defamation League

White supremacist propaganda has gone up dramatically according to ADL stats. The increased efforts are targeting neighborhoods and campuses in 2018. Colorado ranked third in the United States behind California and Texas, for the highest number of propaganda distributions. There were no reported incidents in New Mexico in 2018.

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, encourage understanding and influence upstanders. A majority of 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.

Your donation automatically makes you a member of our museum family.

<p>HOLOCAUST & INTOLERANCE MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO</p> <p>616 CENTRAL AVENUE SW, ALBUQUERQUE NM 87102</p>		<p>Mail: PO Box 1762 Albuquerque NM 87103-1762 Phone: 505.247.0606</p>
<p> <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 <input type="checkbox"/> \$360 <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Other \$ _____ </p> <p> <input type="checkbox"/> Annual recurring gift <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly recurring gift <input type="checkbox"/> One-time gift </p> <p> Payment method: <input type="checkbox"/> Check enclosed (payable to HIMNM) <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card </p>		
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