

יום השואה

Holocaust Remembrance



WINSTON PATRICK MCGREGOR PARK

October 5, 2014

Cleburne, TX





Tree Planting

Cleburne Christian Academy students were asked to help plant a Pomegranate Tree in Winston Patrick McGregor Park, in Cleburne. Friday October 3, 2014 twelve students gathered to dig a hole and place the tree in the park. They did a fantastic job and it was all done in Holocaust remembrance.


Horticulturist

City of Cleburne's Horticulturist Grace Clanton was instrumental in planting the tree. She guided the group on tree placement and best way to plant the tree for ideal growth.

Thank you City of Cleburne and Grace for making this symbol of remembrance a reality.







THIS TREE
PLANTED IN
HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE
OCTOBER 5, 2014

That same day a tree was planted in ISRAEL in remembrance



Why the Pomegranate

The pomegranate is an ancient symbol, steeped in tradition. Grown in the Mediterranean region for several thousand years, this remarkable fruit is rich in symbolism, and there are specific references to the pomegranate in the Bible. Exodus 28:33-34 states that images of pomegranates be woven into the hem of the me'il ("robe of ephod"), a robe worn by the Hebrew High Priest. Pomegranates can also be found in the bible in 1 Kings 7:13-22, where the fruit is depicted on the capitals of the two pillars which stood in front of the temple King Solomon built in Jerusalem. King Solomon is said to have designed his crown based on the "crown" of the pomegranate. The significance of the Jewish pomegranate is further exemplified by its appearance on ancient coins of Judea, one of only a few images that appear as a holy symbol of righteousness because it is said to have 613 seeds, which corresponds with the 613 smitzvot, or commandments, of the Torah. For this reason and others, it is customary to eat pomegranates on Rosh Hashanah. Moreover, the pomegranate represents fruitfulness, knowledge, learning, and wisdom. Furthermore, the pomegranate is listed in the Bible as one of the Shiv'at HaMinim or seven species of fruits and grains that are special products of the land of Israel.



Tree Planting Dedication

Bridges of Hope
www.johnsoncountyforisrael.org

Participating Bridge of Hope (BOH) Churches & Organizations

- Bono Baptist Church
Pastor Greg Robinson
bonobaptist.org
- Cleburne Bible Church
Pastor David denHartog
cleburnebible.org
- Covenant Church at Union Hill
Pastor Rick Douglas
covenantchurchunionhill.com
- Deeper Life Christian Family Fellowship
Pastor Zane Mitchell
deeperlifechristianfellowship.org
- FBC Alvarado
Pastor Wade Taylor
fbcalvarado.org
- Crossroads Church
Pastor Jerry Cox
crossroadscleburne.com
- Eastern Heights Church
Pastor Kody Hughes
easternheightschurch.org
- FBC Lillian
Pastor Rick Hope
fbclillian.com
- Impact Church
Pastor Clark Stricklin
impactcountrychurch.com
- Friendship Baptist Church
Pastor Brian McClure
friendshipcleburne.org
- Hope Church
Pastor Todd Barham
hopechurchcleburne.net
- North Cleburne Baptist Church
Pastor Keith Whitt
facebook.com/n.cleburnebaptist
- Open Door Church
Pastor Troy Brewer
opendoorexperience.com
- United Presbyterian Church
Pastor Kenny Rigoulot
cleburnepresbyterian.org
- Northpointe Church
Pastor Garry Jordan
nplife.com
- Victory Family Church
Pastor Mark Greenroy
victoryfamily.com
- The Carpenter's Church
Pastor Chuck Mellott
facebook.com/tccoj
- Cleburne Christian Academy
Eddie Baca, Head Administrator
ccacleburne.org
- Cleburne Pregnancy Center
Corliss Carr, Director
cleburnepc.com
- Southwest Metroplex Baptist Association
Scott Whitson, Executive Director
swmba.net
- Ladies of Thursday
Leader, Linda Fagan
Email artistinda@sbcglobal.net

Hosted by Churches & Organizations

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY





Speakers

The Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony was held on October 5, 2014. City of Cleburne's Mayor, Scott Cain (top) opened the ceremony.

Troy Brewer (right) pastor of OpenDoor Church in Burleson spoke on why we should never forget Israel, the Holocaust, and the Jewish people.



PROGRAM

Welcome & Introduction

Scott Cain
Mayor of Cleburne

Never Forget

Troy Brewer
Pastor OpenDoor Church

Honorees

Kevin Bentley
Director of JCFI

Ceremonial Planting

Garry Jordan
Pastor NorthPointe Church

Closing Prayer

Jerry Cox
Pastor Crossroads Church

Johnson County For Israel would like to thank the Mayor, the City of Cleburne, Horticulturist Grace Clanton, and all who attended the ceremony today.

Honorees

Walter & Earline Schoenfeld

Walter Schoenfeld was born on September 7, 1925 in Vienna, Austria to Robert and Dorothea Schoenfeld, an affluent Jewish family. Robert owned a local bookstore in Vienna, and Dorothea was an accomplished pianist. It appeared as though Walter would grow up in a stable environment.

Then, in March of 1938, Hitler came to power in Austria, since the Arch Duke provided no resistance. At about the age of 12, he awakened one morning on the fourth floor of his family's apartment to discover that during the night the entire neighborhood had been lined with barbed wire, and Nazi soldiers guarded the streets. Next, the Nazis took over Robert's bookstore and soon came to occupy their apartment as well. It was then that Walter overheard his parents talking about the urgent need to leave and understood that it was because they were Jewish.

One day, Dorothea took Walter to see a movie and then revealed that they were headed to the train station where they caught passage to Amsterdam in October of 1938. Within a few more weeks, Walter and Dorothea traveled by ship to New York City, where they lived with a friend near Central Park. Dorothea and Walter had escaped further persecution, but Robert was forced into a detention facility and later died in his 50's, as his health was badly damaged in the Nazi camp.

Walter Schoenfeld later attended the University of North Texas in Denton, where he met Earline Spikes of Cleburne, his future wife. Both Walter and Earline were educators in the Cleburne Independent School District for many years. But, perhaps, Walter was best known for being the "man behind the mic" as the public address announcer for more than 30 years at Cleburne athletic events.

Thankfully, Walter did not personally spend time in a concentration camp. However, he and his family were unjustifiably persecuted and his life was wistfully interrupted all because they were Jewish. May we never forget the atrocities committed against the Jewish people as we remember the victims and survivors of the Holocaust.



Honorees

Abraham & Tova Feldman

Abraham Feldman was born in Russia during WWII. At the age of 3, his father was killed, and he suffered from that loss his entire life. In 1949 his family made 'Aliyah' (immigration) to Israel, where he met and fell in love with his future bride, Tova. Abraham was a very talented glass artist. He passed away in February of 2014, after a long battle with cancer.

Tova was born in Czechoslovakia in 1940 and was 5 years of age when the War ended. Hers is a story of one miraculous event after another. Her father, a self-employed carpenter, was taken prisoner in 1942 and sent to the Novacki prison camp in Slovakia, where he helped construct the camp. Tova's mother and five young children were deported some time later and miraculously ended up at Novacki as well. Twice, they were placed on the list for deportation to Auschwitz, and twice they were removed from the list because they needed Tova's father to continue his work on the camp.

One day, those resisting the Germans forced open the gates to the camp and told everyone to flee. It was wintertime, but they ran for their lives. Providentially, a Christian family took them in for a week but were unable to hide them long term due to the danger. From there, they ran into the woods in hopes of finding shelter somewhere. The parents never allowed the children to remove their shoes because their feet might swell and the shoes could no longer be worn.

Along the way, a driver in a horse-drawn carriage saw that they were exhausted and allowed them to ride. Just after leaving the carriage, a bomb fell, killing the horses and driver. At that point, they hid in a bunker in the woods with other Jews for nine months. The men would take turns going to a village to beg for food, usually potatoes and onions. They were eventually captured and taken to a school building in the village. During the capture, a mother with a newborn baby was shot in front of them all.

About 3 weeks later, the War ended, and they were released. They walked back to their hometown of Nytra, to discover their empty home and carpentry shop were still standing, though everything inside had been taken.

To this day, Tova never, ever walks without shoes, even in her house, because her parents wanted their shoes on in case they needed to run. When Tova thinks about the Holocaust, she doesn't feel animosity, but concentrates instead on God's miracles and mercy.

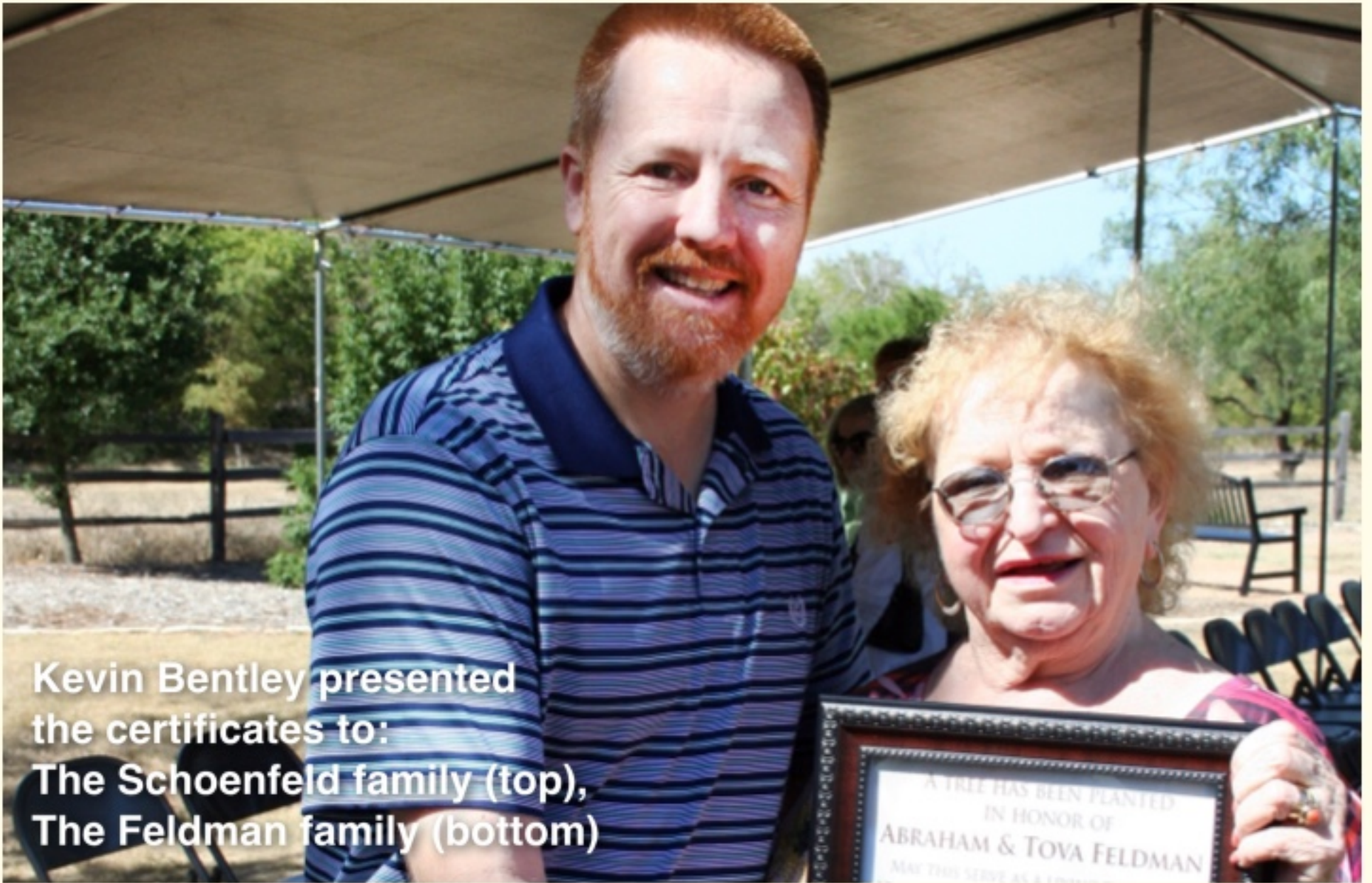


Honorees

Two Holocaust Survivors were recognized during the ceremony and their stories are pictured above. Each survivor was presented with a certificate showing a tree which had been planted in Israel, in their honor.

Earline (left), wife of survivor Walter Schoenfeld and Survivor Tova Feldman (middle) are pictured with Mary Ann Mize founder of the Christian Heritage Foundation.





Kevin Bentley presented the certificates to:
The Schoenfeld family (top),
The Feldman family (bottom)





NEVER FORGET