

A Holocaust Survivor and a Concentration Camp Liberator Share Their Stories

Sunday, November 4, 6:00 pm, Congregation Ahavath Achim invites the community to come and hear these compelling speakers, who will share life experiences from before, during and after World War II and the Holocaust.

Henny Markiewicz Simon was born in Hanover, Germany and is a survivor of the Holocaust. Her father was able to emigrate to Shanghai, China; she and her mother were not allowed to follow and her mother was murdered by the Nazis. Mrs. Simon was liberated in Poland where she met her future husband, Abraham Markiewicz. They were married in 1945 and left Poland to go back to Germany hoping to find some family that may have survived. Her son Jacob was born in Germany. In 1949, she and her family arrived in the U.S. where they bought a chicken/dairy farm in Colchester, CT. Their daughter was born here. Mrs. Simon now has 5 grandchildren. After her husband passed away in 1976, Mrs. Simon went back to school to get her GED, because as a Jew she could not attend high school in Nazi Germany. She married Robert Simon in 1981 and he passed away in 2001.

Mrs. Simon is an active volunteer: she delivers Meals on Wheels, helps with the Red Cross bloodmobile, is active in Hadassah, and is on the board of the Strochlitz Holocaust Research Center. Since 1986, she has been speaking at schools and to other groups about her life before, during and after the Holocaust.

Come and hear Mrs. Simon and Mr. Cooper tell their personal stories and give a first-hand accounting of a history that is important to all of us.

The event will be followed with light refreshments and a chance to meet the speakers.

Ben Cooper was born in 1921 in Avon, CT and is a lifelong resident of West Hartford, CT. He attended George Washington University from 1940 to 1941. From January 1942 until September 1942, he was employed at Colt's Firearms testing machine guns, when he was drafted into the U.S. Army and sent to Camp Barkeley, TX for medical training.

In 1944 he married Dorothy Zaitlin. In September of that year, Mr. Cooper was sent to Naples, Italy where he was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division as a combat medic. He served in France and Germany and took part in the liberation of Dachau Concentration Camp with his outfit. In 2009, after 65 years of marriage, Mr. Cooper lost his wife. He has 4 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Since 1990 Mr. Cooper has been speaking to high school and college students, as well as civic groups about his experiences.

**WHEN Sunday, November 4
6:00 pm**

**WHERE Congregation
Ahavath Achim
84 Lebanon Avenue
Colchester, CT**

*** FREE EVENT *
* PUBLIC WELCOME ***