



Nashua, N.H. April 22, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rivier University and Temple Beth Abraham sponsor Yom HaShoah observance on May 1

The Greater Nashua Holocaust Remembrance Committee presents a Holocaust Remembrance Day interfaith observance, sponsored by Rivier University and Temple Beth Abraham, at 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 1 in the University's Dion Center Reception Room on Clement Street in Nashua.



Featured speaker Fred Feldman, a Holocaust survivor, will share personal events from his family's lives while they were in constant pursuit of safety with hope for survival and a better future.

Feldman's parents, Mendel and Frieda Feldman were in their home village of Sokolow Podlaski on September 1939 when the German army overran Poland and occupied their town. Beatings, shootings, and violent abuses of the Jews rapidly followed.

When the German army temporarily retreated, Feldman's parents fled to the Russian zone for safety. Mendel Feldman's extended family refused to leave; they, along with most of the town's Jews who remained, were imprisoned in a town ghetto.

On September 22, 1942, the Nazis emptied the ghetto, shot many of the residents in the town square, and transported the rest in railway cars to Treblinka Extermination Camp.

The Feldman family barely kept ahead of the German army as the war progressed. They ranged over thousands of miles north and east to the Ural Mountains and then south to Crimea where the Germans almost caught them. Fleeing again, they reached Azerbaijan where Fred Feldman was born.

When the war ended, the family returned to the refugee centers in southwestern Poland and learned the others had perished in Treblinka. Feldman and his family were sent to one displaced persons camp after another in Austria and eventually received papers to immigrate to the United States in 1949.

Feldman attended the University of Chicago and received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Purdue University. He was a scientist in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries, retiring recently from a Chief Science Officer position. He and his wife Rhoda now reside in Kensington, New Hampshire.

The event is free and open to the public. No RSVPs are necessary. A question-and-answer session and a candle-lighting ceremony memorializing Holocaust victims will follow the presentation.

For more information, contact Sheryl Rich-Kern at (603) 881-7264, or email her at sherylrichkern@gmail.com.

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Notes to editors:

About Rivier University

Founded in 1933 by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary, Rivier University is a Catholic institution recognized for distinctive academic programs, offering many of the region's leading programs at the undergraduate, graduate, postgraduate, and doctoral levels. With Nashua as our home and the world as our classroom, the Rivier experience ensures that students develop leadership skills as well as an awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures in New England and around the world. For more information, visit rivier.edu.

About Temple Beth Abraham

Temple Beth Abraham strives to be a welcoming, inclusive congregation where the joys of Jewish values and rituals are accessible and relevant to the everyday lives of our members. The community derives strength from the relationships congregants form as they share in each other's joys and sorrows. Through celebration, learning, prayer and community, they seek inspiration to enrich their lives and fulfill their responsibilities to God's creation. For more information, visit <http://www.tbanashua.org>.