



William (Bill) Gingold shares his story with an overflow crowd at the Moultrie County History Center

Holocaust Survivor William Gingold speaks at Moultrie County History Center

A large crowd was on hand on Thursday, May 18 at the Moultrie County History Center to hear Holocaust survivor William Gingold. Gingold was actually a survivor of the Warsaw ghetto having been born on September 20, 1939 only weeks after the beginning of the Second World War. The hospital where he was born was bombed the day after his birth but he and his mother escaped with the help of his father. Gingold was introduced to the audience by Dr. Brian Kahn, co-director of the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation's Holocaust Education Center.

Gingold spent the first few years of his life in the Warsaw ghetto where 2/3 of those held died of starvation. They originally tried to escape to Russia but were stopped by Germans who loaded them on trucks and took them back to the

ghetto. After surviving a few years under horrific conditions they were able to escape to the Russian border in 1942. Once there they were taken by train to work in Siberian lumber camps. While in Siberia his parents were able to work and earn money and their lives were vastly improved. Eventually they left the lumber camp and moved throughout Russia working in various places until they found their way to Kazakhstan.

In September 1945 the family entered the American sector of occupied Berlin and they were eventually sent to Foehrenwald Displaced Persons Camp where they lived for six years. In May of 1951 the Gingold family emigrated to the United States via Ellis Island and ended up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Gingold's given name was Baruch but when he became

a citizen of the United States he had it changed to William because of his admiration of William Boyd who many may remember as Hopalong Cassidy. This came about because he had spent many hours in movie theaters watching cowboy movies and perfecting his English. He later earned his doctorate at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and two post doctoral degrees from UCLA and the University of Minnesota. In 1986 he became a professor of family medicine at the University of Illinois and has stayed there since.

The story of the Gingold family is documented in the book "Tunnel, Smuggle and Collect - A Holocaust Boy's Story," by Jeffrey Gingold, Bill's nephew.

The exhibit, "The Auschwitz Experience in the Art of Prisoners" will be available for viewing at the history center through this Saturday, May 27.



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Village

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between Public Works and the Police Department.

A few ordinances were also passed. Ordinance 05-15A-2023, an ordinance authorizing the exchange of real estate and the execution of an agreement with Clarence Bontreger was passed. Ordinance 05-15B-2023, an ordinance authorizing variance at 305 Oak Street which would allow a placement of a porch with the area between the lot line and front yard building setback line was passed. An ordinance to vacate the alley between North Beech Street and North Walnut Street from West 2nd Street to West 3rd Street was approved. This will be so people will not be driving behind the duplexes once they are completed. Ordinance 05-15C-2023, an or-

dinance authorizing rezoning of the bare lot on the corner of North Beach Street and Second Street from R-1 single-family residential to R-3 multi-family residential was authorized. This will be for quality housing for those with special needs for the Legacy of Love organization. The fees were waived.

Other items that were discussed/voted upon included:

- A TIF Construction grant in the amount of \$1,985.25 was granted to VIP Rentals/Serenity Salt Therapy for 122 South Vine Street.

- The same street closings that are made each year for the Arthur Strawberry Jam Festival and Social to be held on Friday June 2 and Saturday June 3 were approved. (Vine Street to Progress Street to the entrance of IGA and the first block of Illinois Street east and west.

- A discussion was had about miscellaneous expenditures for the Sesquicentennial Celebration. An amount of \$30,000 was budgeted for the event which includes expenses for fliers, mailings and the dinner. Board members recommended ticket prices of about \$30 per person for the dinner. A motion to authorize the expenditures was approved.

- Stephanie Wierman announced that the Walldogs will be in Arthur May 31 and begin painting the new Rural Patriot mural on June 1. The project is planned to conclude June 4. It will be painted on the south wall of First Neighbor's Bank building.

- A total of \$94,833.45 of expenditures were approved. Part of those expenditures included a payment for the IEPA loan in the amount of \$51,288.

D.A.R.E.

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young person from a life of drug abuse and addiction."

As Goodman looked at the fifth graders for the final time he said, "I wonder..., I wonder if you will remember the commitments that you have made in this course, the promises that you will keep your bodies free from drugs and alcohol, I wonder... will you make good decisions about risky behaviors, that you will say "no". Just remember that you are not alone. Look around you, at your classmates, your family, the school officials, and community leaders. Take strength from the fact that all these people will support you and assist you in being true to these commitments that you have made. You have the tools and support that you can rely on to be extraordinary."

Fifth grader Brianda Calvillo opened the ceremony welcoming everyone and Lilly Lisanby led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Two students were recognized for an outstanding job with their D.A.R.E. posters. The top poster in Mr. Punches's class was created by Brynlee Hood and in Mrs. Kauffman's class the winning poster went to Vianney Briseno. Their posters were made into banners and proudly displayed on the fence at the Arthur Grade School.

Three students read their commitment essays: Brynlee Hood, Avery Johnson, and Bridget Chupp.

In the first lesson, the students learned that Daren the

Lion, the mascot for the D.A.R.E. program, stands for courage. It often takes courage to do the right thing, when you are pressured to do something that you know is not right. Lilly Lisanby was selected this year to give Daren a forever home.

In addition to their certificates, students also received D.A.R.E. t-shirts provided by

Lodge #742 of the International Order of Oddfellows and Rebekah Lodge #347 and ice cream coupons from Roselen's.

Chief Goodman also recognized the many other businesses, in and around Arthur, for providing support for this program both financially and by allowing a venue for the display of the D.A.R.E. posters.



At the Arthur Grade School D.A.R.E. graduation, fifth grader Brynlee Hood did a wonderful job singing the National Anthem. Brynlee also read her commitment essay to the crowd of parents, siblings, family, friends and community members.



DAREN the lion, mascot of the D.A.R.E. program, was presented to Lilly Lisanby at the D.A.R.E. graduation at Arthur Grade School last Thursday. Lilly's name was drawn from the class names to receive the honor and give him his forever home. Police Chief Mike Goodman made the presentation to Lilly.



AGS fifth grader Halle Oye receives her D.A.R.E. certificate from Police Chief Mike Goodman at the annual D.A.R.E. graduation on Thursday, May 18. Halle was one of the 24 fifth grade students that Officer Goodman worked with in the ten week Drug Abuse Resistance Education program this past semester.