

# Prescott's Jewish Foundation Donates Holocaust Collection to Local Library

Hundreds of books, films detail 1933-1945 Nazi atrocities

Prescott, AZ: The Prescott Public Library unveiled its "Holocaust Collection" on Friday, November 14th in a special dedication ceremony on the library's main level cafe area. The new, permanent anthology of more than 100 books and 100 films provides an extensive record of the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and genocide of European Jews and others deemed "undesirables" by Nazi Germany and its cohorts from 1933 to 1945.

Donation of this historical collection by the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott was made possible by a generous gift from local residents Jay and Karen Bycer. In a recent interview, the Bycers said, "As one of the important learning centers of our community, it felt appropriate that the library should have these materials available to the public, so that those who perished in the Holocaust are never forgotten. It's paramount that society understands the horrors of genocide and learns from the lessons of history."

Earlier this year, the library was one of the community sponsors of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's traveling exhibit, "Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings" and hosted several showings of Holocaust-themed films. Later, noting numerous requests by library patrons for other movies on the topic, Director Toni Kaus enlisted the help of the Jewish Foundation to expand the library's selection of Holocaust-related media. Foundation volunteers Herman Schloss and Scott Davis, assisted by scholars at the Holocaust Museum, compiled a list of relevant book and film titles for the new collection.

"The Holocaust Collection is a welcome gift," said Kaus. "The Bycers' generosity sets a wonderful example of how others in our community can share their passions by working with the library to create special collections."

The public may access the Holocaust Collection at the library on 215 East Goodwin Street in downtown Prescott. To learn more about this or other library collections, call the Prescott Public Library at 928-777-1500 or visit online at [www.prescottlibrary.info](http://www.prescottlibrary.info). For more information about the programs of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Prescott, call 928-717-0016 or visit online at [www.jcfgp.org](http://www.jcfgp.org).