

April 2008



EEO REVIEW

Produced monthly by the State Equal Employment Management Office (SEEM)...

MESSAGE FROM THE SEEM

April is one of my favorite months in the year, it's not because I get to celebrate another birthday either. OK that is probably why it is my favorite month. It is also the month that we pause to acknowledge some pretty significant events. This month is National Holocaust Days of Remembrance month and Sexual Assault Awareness month. The Holocaust was one of the greatest atrocities of the 20th Century. Somewhere between five and seven million Jews were systematically killed by the Nazis and their allies; and that genocide was carried out at extermination camps using tools of mass murder, such as gas chambers. Some of the horrors noted by American soldiers upon arrival at the camps are indescribable. It has been noted that General George Patten became physically ill after viewing the conditions and surrounding at Ohrdruf.

Another horror or event that has shattered many lives is sexual assault; all DOD agencies have a SARC who coordinates services as necessary for uniformed personnel. Both of these tragic events clearly illustrate a lack of respect for each other and have left devastating marks on families, individuals and society for years to come. It is important to note while many people suffer there are always bystanders witnessing the suffering who do nothing or say nothing. If you see someone in trouble don't look away...you may be in the right place at the right time to prevent a terrible wrong.

REMEMBERING VIRGINIA HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

Liviu Librescu
(August 18, 1930 –April 16, 2007)



Liviu Librescu was born in 1930 to a Jewish family in the city of Ploiești, Romania. After Romania allied with Nazi Germany in World War II, his father, Isidore Librescu, was deported to a labor camp in Transnistria (World War II region), and later his family, along with thousands of other Jews, were deported to a ghetto in the Romanian city of Focșani. Liviu as a boy was interned in a labor camp in Transnistria. Some sources report that he was taken to a Soviet labor camp. Speaking to Israeli Channel 10 TV the day after his death, his wife Marlena, who is also a Holocaust survivor, said, "We were in Romania during the Second World War, and we were Jews there among the

Liviu was a Romanian born and educated Israeli-American scientist and academic whose major research fields were aeroelasticity and aerodynamics. His last academic position was Professor of Engineering Science and Mechanics at Virginia Tech. The 76-year-old Holocaust survivor was shot and killed in the Virginia Tech massacre while holding off the gunman at the entrance to his classroom so his students could escape through the windows.

Administrative Professionals Day

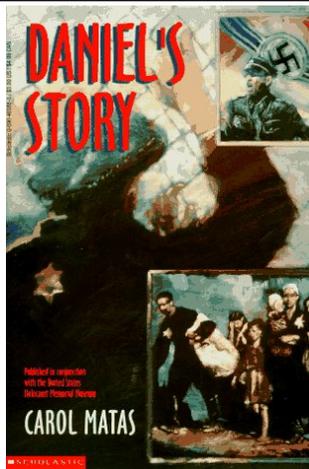
Administrative Professionals Week is always the last full week of April, with Wednesday of that week being designated Administrative Professionals Day.

Administrative Professionals Day recognizes and celebrates the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, and other office professionals for their growing and diverse contributions to the workplace. In the United States, it is customary to take administrative professionals out to lunch on this day, and/or to give flowers or other gifts of appreciation.

Administrative Professionals Week was originally organized as "National Secretaries Week" by the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) and a consortium of office product manufacturers in 1952. Mary Barrett, president of the National Secretaries Association (now called the International Association of Administrative Professionals) and C. King Woodbridge, president of Dictaphone Corporation, were serving on a council charged with addressing a national shortage of skilled office workers that existed at the time. Together with Harry Klemfuss, public relations account executive at Young & Rubicam, they originated the idea for a secretaries week campaign.



Book of the Month Spotlights



Daniel's Story - Carol Matas

Brief description: A fourteen-year-old Jewish boy is uprooted from his comfortable life in Frankfurt, Germany, and sent to live in a series of concentration camps. Daniel witnesses countless atrocities, some so horrifying he cannot even describe them to the reader. He joins the underground resistance and is able to preserve a little hope for his people's future.

By the end of the book, most of Daniel's family has been murdered, but he has survived and is thankful for what little he has left. His faith in humanity has been badly shaken, but not destroyed. The novel examines the great evil--as well as the great good--of which human beings are capable.

2008 Upcoming Events

- © Administrative Professionals Day April 23, 2008
© Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Program in May



The Holocaust Days of Remembrance 27 April - 4 May 2008

The Holocaust was the systematic, bureaucratic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of approximately six million Jews by the Nazi regime and its collaborators. "Holocaust" is a word of Greek origin meaning "sacrifice by fire." The Nazis, who came to power in Germany in January 1933, believed that Germans were "racially superior" and that the Jews, deemed "inferior," were an alien threat to the so-called German racial community.

During the era of the Holocaust, German authorities also targeted other groups because of their perceived "racial inferiority": Roma (Gypsies), the disabled, and some of the Slavic people (Poles, Russians, and others). Other groups were persecuted on political, ideological, and behavioral grounds, among them Communists, Socialists, Jehovah's Witnesses, and homosexuals.

For more information you can visit this link: http://www.ushmm.org/.



Two young cousins shortly before they were smuggled out of the Kovno ghetto. A Lithuanian family hid the children and both girls survived the war. Kovno, Lithuania, August 1943.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum



Portrait of members of a Hungarian Jewish family. They were deported to and killed in Auschwitz soon after this photo was taken. Kapuvar, Hungary, June 8, 1944.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Holocaust Museums to Visit Locally

Virginia Holocaust Museum Tolerance Through Education 2000 East Cary Street, Richmond, VA 23223. Admission and Parking: Free

United States Holocaust Museum 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW Washington, DC 20024 Admission: Free

Quote of the Month

O! how this spring of love resembleth The uncertain glory of an April day!

By: William Shakespeare

Welcome New EEO Counselors

- SFC Carol Baker, HHC 29th STB
SFC James McLaughlin, JFHQ
SGT Frederick Nicholas, 529th CSSB
SGT James Reed, 34th CST (WMD)
SGT Derrick Tyler, HHC 3/116th INF

This publication will be distributed on a monthly basis. If you have any questions or comments, please call Capt Antoinette Allen at (804) 236-6596/DSN 864-6596 or Antoinette.allen3@us.army.mil