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Traveling Exhibit: “Ravensbrück - We Who Lived There” coming to Lee County Libraries

Lee County, FL, Sept. 28, 2021 – The exhibition “Ravensbrück – We Who Lived There” will be displayed in two Lee County Library System branches.

The display, in both English and Swedish, was created by high school students in the Advanced History Program and the IB Diploma Program at Katedralskolan in Lund, Sweden. The exhibition is brought to the U.S. by Better Futures Foundation, a Sarasota-based non-profit.

“The Library System is honored to be able to host this exhibit which sheds light on the personal experiences of liberated Holocaust survivors,” Library Director Mindi Simon said.

Patrons can view the traveling exhibit at the following libraries:

October 2021

East County Regional Library
881 Gunnery Road N., Lehigh Acres, FL 33971

November 2021

Northwest Regional Library
519 Chiquita Blvd. N., Cape Coral, FL 33993

“Based on interviews that took place immediately after the liberation of Holocaust victims to Malmö, Sweden, this exhibit provides insight into all aspects of life in Ravensbrück - a concentration camp only for women and children,” says Richard Ohlsson, President of Better Futures. “General knowledge about the Holocaust becomes less abstract and less theoretical when the women's stories from arrival and through the liberation of Ravensbrück are told.”

Toward the end of World War II, approximately 20,000 Nazi concentration camp survivors were evacuated to Sweden. With the intent of documenting the war crimes and the experiences of the victims, a working group called “The Polish Research Institute in Lund” was founded to conduct in-depth interviews with the former prisoners and collect material that the survivors had brought with them from the camps. This exhibit is the resulting presentation of this unique collection of source material from the survivors of Ravensbrück and other Nazi concentration camps.

More info can be found at: <https://www.ub.lu.se/witnessing-genocide>

To further explore this story, visit the FGCU Archives and Special Collections digital exhibition “To Life: The Liberation of Ravensbrück” at <https://www.fgcu.edu/tolifeexhibit/>.

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About the Lee County Library System:

The Lee County Library System, founded in 1964, has 13 branches which serve Lee County residents. The library has more than two million items available for use or check out and circulates more than 6 million items per year. Currently more than 250,000 Lee County residents are registered users. For more information, call 239-479-INFO (4636) or visit www.leelibrary.net.

Better Futures Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Sarasota. The historic Swedish Red Cross White Bus rescue action from World War II is their symbol. Better Futures is inspired by the ordinary heroes who created a life-changing outcome for thousands of Holocaust victims. Their White Bus for Better Futures™ character-building programs promote social, inter-cultural, and civic competencies. Visit Better-Futures.com to learn more.

Additional Information:

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