

MEMORIAL: MB getting monument

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Park in Market Common on a plot allocated by the City of Myrtle Beach. The limestone and steel structure will feature a butterfly as a permanent reminder of the lost children and honor of the 1998 Butterfly Project.

The Butterfly Project was initiated at the hands of Chabad Academy teacher Ellie Schiller wherein 1.2 million (the 1998 estimated number of children who died in the Holocaust) paper butterflies were cut out and colored by children from every state in the nation as well as by those as far away as Israel and Brazil.

As part of Wednesday's ceremony, the front entranceway of Chabad was decorated with news clippings, stories of the Holocaust and photos of the more than million paper butterflies.

The news stories and photos detailed the various stages of the Butterfly Project from its birth to the finished exhibition.

A VCR tape of local news coverage of the project also played for onlookers, some of whom were children in the television clips, but are now adults.

Ellie Schiller reminisced about the 14-year-old project that brought so much attention to the lost Jewish children.

"Time has a strong, elastic quality," she said.

Schiller said many teachers don't really know about the Holocaust and therefore don't know how to teach their students about it.

Glunt has written a book to help eradicate that problem. "In the Presence of Butterflies" chronicles the project as well as provides information to help teach about the Holocaust. Glunt, writing under the pen name of Arielle A. Aaron, has also authored a book on the life of Hugo Schiller, "I Remember Singing: A Boy Survives the Holocaust."

The Conway branch of the Horry County Memorial Library will hold a book signing May 3 and feature both books.

Glunt said the idea of the permanent but-



Holocaust survivor Hugo Schiller speaks.

terly memorial came about to ensure the public does not forget history.

"If you don't know where you have been, you can't maneuver where you are going," she said.

City of Myrtle Beach Councilman Randal Wallace officially represented the city at the ceremony and issued a proclamation commemorating Wednesday as Holocaust Memorial Day.

Wallace also worries people may forget what happened during the Holocaust.

"There will be a day when the living witnesses are no longer," he said.

Wallace commented on the affairs of international politics today,

saying the world stage is dominated by Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and others who are not friendly toward Israel.

Susan Cohen shares a similar sentiment. The former Chabad Academy teacher strongly believes Americans and the rest of the world must remember the viciousness of the Holocaust because world events are disturbing and present a real threat.

"It's not just Israel. It's the United States," Cohen said. "I think that we're next."

Hugo Schiller's greatest fear is that people will forget the Holocaust atrocities, creating a greater chance of history repeating itself.

"In every generation, there are those who rise up again to destroy us," he said.

Schiller said he and other survivors didn't talk much about what happened during those difficult times. All that has since changed. He said it's now more important than ever to make sure we all remember the Holocaust.

"Our grandchildren are experts," he said.

The permanent butterfly memorial monument will be funded by donations. Glunt said the details of how that will happen are being worked on and will be sorted out soon.

The monument will be inscribed with the Hebrew word, "zachor" or "remember" in English.

Tina Graham Anderson • 488-7258



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The name of Wednesday's Holocaust memorial event was "Children Remembering Children."

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