

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 18, 2019

## HCC to Host Holocaust Survivor for Presidential Lecture Series

**WELDON, N.C.** – Halifax Community College (HCC) is proud to announce the next speaker for the Presidential Lecture Series. The event will be held April 4 at 1 p.m. in The Griffin Centre.

Dr. Zev Harel was 10-years old when Nazi forces invaded European countries. All of his friends and family, with the exception of one brother and three cousins, died during the Holocaust. Harel said lying about his age is what saved him from being sent to the gas chambers while at the concentration camp.

Harel is a survivor of Auschwitz, Mauthausen and Ebensee concentration camps. He was liberated at the age of 15 by the U.S. Army's 3<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry. Following his liberation, Harel served in Israel's military, and military reserves, until 1965.

Harel is a graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, and received his Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan, and his Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He is Professor Emeritus of the School of Social Work at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Harel has been a public speaker about the Holocaust for the past 40 years as he honors the memories and legacies of the Holocaust. He has been engaged in speaking about these topics to high school students, college students, and educators at local, state and national levels. Harel has also spoken at Holocaust Teacher Workshops sponsored by the North Carolina Council on the Holocaust and at Holocaust Remembrance events in North Carolina. Among his numerous awards, he was a recipient of the Elie Wiesel Award of Honor.

The event is free and open to the public. All are invited, and encouraged, to attend.

## **Halifax Community College's Mission**

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.

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