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Remembering the Holocaust

SURVIVOR TO GIVE TALK IN CHASKA

BY ALEX CHHITH
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Judy Meisel has spent most of her life pursuing justice and speaking out against hatred. When Meisel was a young girl growing up in Lithuania, German Nazis segregated the Jewish population, forcing her family to live in the Kovno ghetto for nearly four years. She was then transported to Stutthof concentration camp to work for the Nazis for six months during World War II.

She's been an activist ever since. "We have to treat each other like people. Hate has to be gone," she said, adding that at the ghetto and concentration camp, fellow prisoners would tell one another that

Holocaust to 5 ➤

Top- Judy Meisel, a Holocaust survivor, travels around the metro area to tell her story. Her next appearance will be at the Chaska Community Center from 6:30-8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 10.

PHOTO BY ALEX CHHITH

Right- Judy Meisel, left, and her sister Rachel, after they were liberated in Denmark.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Judy Meisel was just a teenager when she was liberated in 1945.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

"She's been able to use her story as a form of activism to teach about tolerance, equality, and the value of human life."

Benjamin Cohen, grandson of Judy Meisel

Getting the straight dope

Senator co-authors state cannabis bill

BY MARK W. OLSON
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Not many people might expect a Republican state senator from Carver County, one of the most conservative counties in Minnesota, to co-author legislation legalizing marijuana.

But Sen. Scott Jensen, R-Chaska, believes he's up to the challenge.

"If I don't put myself in a position where I'm a strong participant in these discussions, I'm short-changing not just the constituents in Carver County, but short-changing citizens of Minnesota," Jensen said.

On Jan. 28, Jensen became the only Republican co-author of the Senate bill to legalize recreational use of cannabis for those over 21, with Sen. Melisa Franzen, DFL-Edina, as the chief sponsor. A House bill has also been introduced, with no Republican co-authors.

"Three months ago I could not have envisioned myself standing at a podium speaking on a marijuana issue, but I've had numerous constituents ask me to get involved. They said, 'Doc, with your scientific background, your awareness of what's going on in the field, you need to do this, you need to be on the side of this that's moving this discussion forward,'" Jensen said, at a Jan. 28 press conference announcing the bill.

That said, in a phone interview, Jensen said he told Franzen that he would not vote for the introduced bill. Jensen said he's more interested in a "robust discussion" about the issue.

"We have to remember that we can't

Cannabis to 27 ➤

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