



Suffolk Center *on the*
Holocaust, Diversity and
Human Understanding, Inc.

******MEDIA ALERT******

FREEDOM RISING
A Program on Slavery and the Civil Rights Movement

MARCH 22, 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Van Nostrand Theatre, Grant Campus
Brentwood, Suffolk County Community College

Two people who are now Long Islanders played pivotal roles as the civil rights movement gained momentum in the 60s. Major General (ret.) **Joseph McNeill** of Hempstead was a college freshman in 1960 when he and three others conducted a sit-in at the F.W. Woolworth lunch counter in North Carolina. Dubbed the “Greensboro Four,” their defiant action continues to reverberate today. **Bob Zellner** of Southampton, the author of *The Wrong Side of Murder Creek: A White Southerner in the Freedom Movement*, was a field secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

The Suffolk Center on the Holocaust, Diversity & Human Understanding, Inc. (CHDHU) will host General McNeill and Mr. Zellner as they share their stories of courage in fighting for human rights. Their efforts and all they have achieved will serve as role models for the college and high school students that will be in attendance. According to Steven Schrier, executive director of CHDHU, “this program is part of our continuing efforts to develop character and reinforce values that reject prejudice and respect each person’s dignity.” “We need to develop the next generation of human rights advocates,” Mr Schrier said.

The program will also include a presentation on Fannie Lou Hamer, the descendant of slaves who fought for and won voting rights for African-Americans, and dramatizations of slave narratives that were collected under the Roosevelt Works Projects Administration (WPA).

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

Major General (ret.) Joseph McNeil, civil rights leader
Bob Zellner, author and civil rights leader
Professor Susan DeMasi
Professor Barbara Ripel

WHEN: March 22, 2010, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

WHERE: SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
Van Nostrand Theatre, Sagtikos Building
Grant Campus, Brentwood

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