



***-continued from page 1-***

was later killed, hid the photo, then eventually wrapped it in cloth around a brick and threw it over the fence to Dr. Kohn and his father, according to Dr. Hussong.

That same photo became the basis for Bockelmann's portrait, which is about 4 feet high and 3 feet wide. He uses charcoal to evoke the ashes of the dead, he said.

"I planned this for years," Dr. Hussong told Dr. Kohn when he was given the drawing. "I wanted to tell you so badly, but I couldn't. This was a long time coming, my friend.

A major exhibit of Bockelmann's drawings of children murdered in the Holocaust was shown at the Leopold Museum in Vienna in 2013. The artist, who is also known for abstract landscapes, photography and sculpture, wanted to do something different and significant as he neared his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and a retrospective of his work, said his niece. Over 88,000 visitors saw the 72 portraits of children on display at the exhibit.

His portraits start with photos salvaged by survivors, like Dr. Kohn's, or those taken by the Nazis, who also recorded the names of the people they murdered. Bockelmann travels to places such as the Auschwitz Memorial and Museum on the site of the former Nazi death camp in Poland to copy the photos. His pictures are not for sale, but will be given to Holocaust memorial sites after exhibition, said Dr. Hussong.

"I had a feeling for the person" (Ida Rebecca), Bockelmann said about drawing her from the family photograph. He said it was very emotional for him to meet a family member such as Dr. Kohn.

Final Frame, an international film crew based in Munich, Germany, has been shadowing Bockelmann for 18 months as he works on this project, which includes more than 100 large portraits so far, all in charcoal on burlap. The film crew came to Stockton this week to film the meeting of Bockelmann and Dr. Kohn, who was the first to teach Holocaust Studies at the college.