

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Paula M. DeLaney

04/23/01

#001215

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Nazi persecution became increasingly intense, widespread and systematic, culminating in a campaign resulting in the murder of six million Jews and five million Poles, handicapped, Gypsies, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and we, as individuals and as a community, should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain ever vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, to some extent before June 1941, and to a full extent before September 1939, what we now know as the Holocaust could have been prevented. Remembrance obligates us to remember not only what was done, but also to reflect on what could have been done; and

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Gainesville should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society, to remember the victims of the Holocaust and to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be April 15-22, 2001, and the International Day of Remembrance, Yom Hoshuah to be observed on April 19, 2001.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paula M. DeLaney, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 15-22, 2001 as

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE 2001

"Remembering the Past for the Sake of the Future"

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me honoring the survivors, rescuers and liberators of the victims of the Holocaust, and to strive to overcome intolerance and indifference in our community through learning, respect and remembrance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this tenth day of April, A.D., 2001.



Paula M. DeLaney
Paula M. DeLaney
Mayor