

# City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

#051139

PROCLAMATION

04/10/06

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 to 1945, and 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 event 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 the victims of the Holocaust but also those who took a determined stand against Nazism. In honoring the memory of those who perished, we are reminded that individuals do have the power and choice to make a difference in the fight against oppression and murderous hatred; 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 people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designated the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be 27 Nisan or April 23rd to April 30th, 2006, and the International Day of Remembrance, Yom Hashoah, to be observed on April 25, 2006.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2006 as

## *Holocaust Remembrance Day* *"Not to Forget, Not to Ever Forget"*

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 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 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, A.D., 2006.



*Pegeen Hanrahan*  
Pegeen Hanrahan  
Mayor