PROCLAMATION



DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, April 19 through Sunday, April 26, 2009

"NEVER AGAIN: WHAT YOU DO MATTERS"

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, it is important that we always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny, and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the principle of individual freedom in a just society; 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 Sunday, April 19 through Sunday, April 26, 2009, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, April 21;

NOW, *THEREFORE*, I, Leonard J. Augustine, Mayor of the City of Vacaville, do hereby proclaim the week of Sunday, April 19 through Sunday, April 26, 2009, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, in honor of the survivors, rescuers, and liberators, and in the hope that, through learning and remembrance, we can overcome intolerance and indifference throughout the world.

ATTEST

Leonard J. Augustine, Mayor

Michelle A. Thornbrugh, City Clerk