



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating April 15 through April 22, 2012 as "Days of Remembrance" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 where Jews were the primary victims with six million murdered; and

WHEREAS, Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons and 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, in 1980, the United States Congress established the *Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust* as the nation's annual commemoration of the Holocaust and created the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum as a permanent living memorial to the victims; and

WHEREAS, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the *Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust* as Sunday, April 15 through Sunday, April 22, 2012, including the *Day of Remembrance* known as *Yom Hashoah* on April 19, 2012; and

WHEREAS, in commemoration of the anniversary of the liberation of Nazi concentration camps, the Museum has designated *Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue* as the theme for the 2012 observance; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance has been set aside to remember the victims of the holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all people and the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Kirkland should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

NOW THEREFORE, Therefore, I, Joan McBride, Mayor of the City of Kirkland, Washington, do hereby proclaim April 15 through April 22, 2012 as *Days of Remembrance* in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of the City of Kirkland, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and where ever it occurs.

Signed this 3rd day of April, 2012

Joan McBride, Mayor