



Holocaust Memorial Observances

WHEREAS, a sound knowledge of history is a foundation for participation in self-government, and our democracy does best with thoroughly informed voters; and

WHEREAS, during the annual week of Holocaust Memorial Observances of Northern Colorado we have an opportunity to learn about the decisions, actions, and consequences of the Nazi government that intended to destroy groups of people deemed to be inferior and a danger to Nazi rule; and

WHEREAS, learning that Nazi propaganda led to World War II, we can better recognize and confront racism, bigotry, intolerance, and hatred evident in some quarters of our land today; and

WHEREAS, verified history of the Holocaust details the genocide of millions of Jews and others because of who they were and not for wrongs they did. We seek guidance from verified Holocaust history, so that members of our society might analyze carefully to determine whether or not choices that arise might imperil our Country's freedoms; and

WHEREAS, the United States is currently experiencing polarizing tensions, in part fueled by distortions of facts related to political matters, economic realities, and pandemic stress. These tensions have endangered innocent people based upon diversity of race, gender, and culture, among other factors. Internationally, peace among nations is breached by war; and

WHEREAS, a well-educated community is necessary to promote the ability to respond effectively to hateful speech and to prevent actions based upon hate; and

WHEREAS, these Holocaust Memorial Observances are recognized and supported by the city of Greeley and also by the University of Northern Colorado, Aims Community College, the High Plains Library District, high schools in Greeley and Eaton, as well as the Greeley Interfaith Association, Beth Israel Congregation, the Unitarian Universalist Church, and many other local organizations and individuals; and

WHEREAS, the city of Greeley endorses these Observances in the hope that all who attend will be better prepared to address words or deeds of hate. Whenever we are confronted with manifestations of hate, we all need to respond from a core of truth, humanity, and dignity as we act lawfully to prevent others from inciting hateful actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Gates, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Greeley, do hereby proclaim April 24-29, 2022, as **Holocaust Memorial Observances** and encourage the residents of Greeley to participate in these free activities, presented both in-person and virtually on YouTube and Zoom platforms. Links to these events can be found at www.aims.edu/holocaust.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Greeley, Colorado, this 19th day of April 2022.

John Gates
Mayor