

## **DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE 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. Jews were the primary victims - six million were murdered; but gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles, along with Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and

**WHEREAS**, 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 Battle Creek should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny and should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to an Act of Congress, the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holocaust to be April 15-22, 2007;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, John K. Godfrey III, Mayor of the City of Battle Creek, do hereby proclaim the week of April 15-22, 2007, as DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE in the Greater Battle Creek Area in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators, and urge citizens to strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.

**IN FURTHER RECOGNITION** of this week, Battle Creek is honored to welcome to our city Holocaust survivor Gerda Weissmann Klein who teaches a lesson of tolerance for all.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Logo of the City of Battle Creek, Michigan, to be affixed this 10th day of April 2007.

Proclamation presented at the Battle Creek City Commission meeting