

PROCLAMATION

ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, Muscatine has been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 29, 2011 as Arbor Day in the City of Muscatine, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Signed and sealed this 21st day of April, 2011.

Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

Iowa Museum Day

WHEREAS, Governor Terry Branstad has proclaimed Saturday, May 14, 2011, as Iowa Museum Day; and

WHEREAS, Iowa's 99 counties are home to hundreds of historical societies and specialized museums as well as to major regional collections in art, history, agricultural, botanical and living collections; and

WHEREAS, Iowa's museums are important community assets, attracting visitors to area hotels, restaurants, and recreational areas; providing education and outreach for all ages; driving both incoming tourism revenue and job creation; and contributing to the overall quality of life that makes Iowa's communities great places to live, work, and raise a family; and

WHEREAS, Iowa Museum Day will celebrate the crucial role of Iowa's museums in preserving the historical fabric and memory of our state through preservation of artifacts and archives; in providing educational resources and programs which expand learning opportunities for all ages; in contributing to a vibrant community and state economy through job creation, purchase of goods and services, and by attracting tourism revenue to the community and state; and in their significant role in enhancing community quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Iowa museums maintain 5.4 million artifacts of all types and served 4.2 million visitors in 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Muscatine Art Center will celebrate Iowa Museum Day from 1 to 5 p.m. on May 14, 2011 with a special exhibition of the original book illustrations by Salley Mavor for her book *A Pocket Full of Posies: A Treasury of Nursery Rhymes* and free gifts for visitors.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim May 14, 2011 as Iowa Museum Day in the City of Muscatine, and I urge all citizens to show their support by visiting the Muscatine Art Center.

Signed and sealed this 21st day of April, 2011.

Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945 – six million were murdered; Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, 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, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

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

WHEREAS, we the people of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; 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 May 1-8, 2011, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah on May 1, 2011;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week May 1-8, 2011 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 Muscatine, Iowa, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, to be affixed the 21st day of April 2011.

Richard W. O'Brien, Mayor