



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Council Session

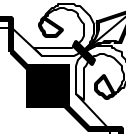

## Item C3

### Proclamation, "Abbott Sisters' Day" March 20, 2002

*Whereas, Grace and Edith Abbott were great American women who were born and raised in Grand Island, Nebraska and are recognized for their important achievements for the rights of children, immigrants and women. The Mayor has proclaimed March 20, 2002 as "Abbott Sisters' Day" and urges all citizens to recognize the remarkable contributions and selfless dedication of Grace and Edith Abbott to the citizens of Nebraska and the nation. See attached PROCLAMATION.*


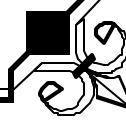
Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

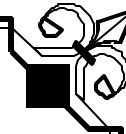





THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
City of Grand Island  
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, Grace Abbott is known as “the great American champion of children’s rights” and is recognized as having led the early twentieth century fights to end child labor and to establish child health care; and
- WHEREAS, Grace Abbott was, as Chief of the United States Children’s Bureau, the most powerful woman in the federal government at the time when the Great Depression hit, and her work provided the first major effort to combat the economic crisis; and
- WHEREAS, Edith Abbott was the first female dean of a major American university graduate school, at the University of Chicago’s School of Social Service Administration; and
- WHEREAS, Edith Abbott helped to establish the first graduate program of social work in a major university, and has been recognized as “the chief architect of America’s social work educational system”; and
- WHEREAS, Grace and Edith Abbott were born and bred in the city of Grand Island in the state of Nebraska and were the children of O.A. Abbott, who was the state of Nebraska’s first Lt. Governor, and of Elizabeth Abbott, who was a leader in the early days of the women’s suffrage movement in Nebraska; and
- WHEREAS, Grace and Edith Abbott, to the ends of their lives, wished to be known as “the Abbott Sisters of Nebraska”; and
- WHEREAS, “The Abbott Sisters of Nebraska” are great American women who – despite their important achievements for the rights of children, immigrants, and women – remain virtually unknown to many Nebraskans; and
- WHEREAS, The year 2002 marks the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Abbott Sisters Project, the goal of which is to raise public awareness of the lives and achievements of Grace and Edith Abbott, so that these important women may continue to influence policy on children’s and immigrants’ issues and so that their story may serve as an inspiration for future generations.
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NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ken Gnadt, Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska, do hereby  
proclaim the 20<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2002 as

***ABBOTT SISTERS' DAY***

in the City of Grand Island, and I do hereby urge all citizens to  
recognize the remarkable contributions and selfless dedication  
of Grace and Edith Abbott to the citizens of Nebraska and the  
nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of  
the City of Grand Island to be affixed this Twelfth day of  
March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Two.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of Grand Island, Nebraska

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
RaNae Edwards, City Clerk

