

The character of a child is formed in the earliest years through the love and guidance of family members and other caring individuals. A parent, teacher, or mentor can help improve a child's academic achievement, encourage right choices, and help them to understand the importance of serving a cause greater than self.

Through USA Freedom Corps, my Administration is providing opportunities for volunteers to work with children in schools, after-school programs, and through community groups and organizations. By volunteering, these adults set an example of service and good citizenship for our young people and provide youth with the stability and encouragement they need to achieve their dreams. My Administration has also launched the *Community Guide to Helping America's Youth* at helpingamericasyouth.gov. This web-based tool is part of the Helping America's Youth initiative, led by First Lady Laura Bush, and assists communities in identifying ways to lend a hand to children in need. In addition, my Administration is working through No Child Left Behind and the American Competitiveness Initiative to ensure every child has a quality education and the opportunity to succeed. By investing in the lives of our young people, we can help develop their personal character, teach them to be responsible citizens, and enable them to realize their full potential.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 4, 2006, as National Child's Day. I call upon citizens to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities. I also urge all the people of the United States to take an active role in helping nurture the minds and character of our Nation's children.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 8027 of June 2, 2006

National Oceans Week, 2006

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

During National Oceans Week, we recognize the importance of the oceans to our national heritage, economy, and security and reaffirm our commitment to protecting them through wise stewardship and sensible management.

The magnificent beauty of the oceans is a blessing to our country and the world. The oceans also sustain an abundance of natural and historical treasures, enable the transportation of vital goods, and provide food and recreation for millions of people. My Administration is working with State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and international partners to foster more effective conservation of our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes resources and to advance the environmental, economic, and security interests of our Nation.

On December 17, 2004, I established the Committee on Ocean Policy to implement the United States Ocean Action Plan. Through this plan, we are building an integrated ocean observing system, promoting ocean education, embarking on deep oceans research, supporting our maritime transportation system, and enhancing our international leadership role in ocean science and policy. We are also advancing legislation to strengthen the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, establish a system of sustainable aquaculture, and maintain protections for marine mammals. To fulfill my commitment to end overfishing, we are working with the Congress to build an improved, market-based system to better manage our fisheries and keep our commercial and recreational fishing industries strong.

I appreciate all those who are dedicated to making the oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes cleaner, healthier, and more productive. By working together, all Americans can help sustain the oceans for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim June 4 through June 10, 2006, as National Oceans Week. I call upon the people of the United States to learn more about the vital role the oceans play in the life of our country and how we can conserve their many natural treasures. I encourage all our citizens to observe this week with appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of June, in the year of our Lord two thousand six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirtieth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 8028 of June 5, 2006

Caribbean-American Heritage Month, 2006

*By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation*

During Caribbean-American Heritage Month, we celebrate the great contributions of Caribbean Americans to the fabric of our Nation, and we pay tribute to the common culture and bonds of friendship that unite the United States and the Caribbean countries.

Our Nation has thrived as a country of immigrants, and we are more vibrant and hopeful because of the talent, faith, and values of Caribbean Americans. For centuries, Caribbean Americans have enriched our society and added to the strength of America. They have been leaders in government, sports, entertainment, the arts, and many other fields.

During the month of June, we also honor the friendship between the United States and the Caribbean countries. We are united by our common values and shared history, and I join all Americans in celebrating the rich Caribbean heritage and the many ways in which Caribbean Americans have helped shape this Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and