

collagen in the skin. While the hallmark of this disease is skin thickening, scleroderma can affect other organs of the body, such as the stomach, lungs, heart, or kidneys.

Although the disease can strike at any age, it usually affects people in their most productive years, and women more frequently than men. New research findings and new approaches to diagnosis and treatment are being developed to combat scleroderma. Studies on scleroderma include investigations into various causes of the disease, research on vascular alterations and regulation of collagen synthesis, and development of diagnostic probes. Such studies may lead to new and improved treatments that will effectively eliminate the disease itself.

In order for this work to continue and in order to take advantage of the knowledge we have already gained, public awareness of scleroderma and of the importance of scientific research must be increased. The Federal Government and private voluntary organizations are thus working together to promote education and research on scleroderma.

To enhance public understanding of scleroderma and to recognize the important efforts to combat this disease, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 274, has designated the week beginning June 11, 1989, as "National Scleroderma Awareness Week" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this occasion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week beginning June 11, 1989, as National Scleroderma Awareness Week. I urge the people of the United States and educational, philanthropic, scientific, and medical organizations and professionals to participate in activities designed to further public awareness of the causes and treatment of scleroderma.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 5993 of June 19, 1989

National Lighthouse Day, 1989

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Lighthouses, the buildings whose solitary beacons have helped guide countless ships through the perils of fog and darkness, are a cherished part of our Nation's heritage. These impressive structures have long symbolized safety, vigilance, and faithfulness. Often isolated and repeatedly tested by the ravages of storm and sea, lighthouses are also monuments to the courage and determination of the people who built them and the keepers who have maintained them.

Lighthouses claim an honored place in the maritime history of the United States. They have served as navigational aids indicating land-

fall, marking dangerous reefs, and identifying harbor entrances. Today, approximately 750 lighthouses remain in the United States, standing along the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf Coasts and throughout the Great Lakes. More than half of them are still used for navigation.

On August 7, 1989, we commemorate the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Lighthouse Act by our Nation's first President, George Washington. The Lighthouse Act established the Federal Government's role in the support, maintenance, and repair of these unique structures and commissioned the first Federal lighthouse.

By the end of this year, the United States Coast Guard will have completed the automation of all lighthouses it currently operates, bringing an end to the proud and colorful era of manned lighthouses. In cooperation with affected communities and concerned organizations, the Coast Guard is working to preserve the remaining structures and to educate the public on the role of lighthouses in our history and culture. These groups have succeeded in having more than 200 lighthouses listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

In recognition of the historic value of our Nation's lighthouses and the ongoing efforts to preserve them so that they might be opened to and enjoyed by the public, the Congress, by Public Law 100-622, has designated August 7, 1989, as "National Lighthouse Day" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim August 7, 1989, as National Lighthouse Day. I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 5994 of June 23, 1989

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Day, 1989

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

This year marks the 50th anniversary of one of our Nation's most effective voluntary organizations: the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is the civilian component of the U.S. Coast Guard. During the past 50 years, its members have helped to ensure the safety of those Americans who participate in water-related activities. Dedicated to promoting safe, efficient vessel operation and increased knowledge of the laws, rules, and regulations governing boating, the Coast Guard Auxiliary offers a variety of public education programs. It provides boating safety instruction from kindergarten to the college level, as well as a special course for physically