

Since Irish-Americans not only helped to win America's Independence but also helped to fashion a system of government for our young Nation, it seems fitting that an Irish-born architect, James Hoban, designed the White House and assisted in the building of the United States Capitol. These magnificent structures have symbolized freedom and democracy to generations of men and women around the world.

Today the distinct "Line of Ireland" can still be traced throughout American culture. American literature, for example, has been greatly enriched by the contributions of gifted Irish-American writers such as Eugene O'Neill and Edwin O'Connor. Throughout the arts—and throughout education, government, business, science, and agriculture—talented men and women of Irish descent continue to merit the honor we give to them and to their ancestors. Indeed, in recent years, renewed immigration from Ireland and the revival of interest by all Americans in their roots have led to an increasingly vibrant Irish-American culture. The dramatic expansion of university courses in Irish studies and the countless annual Saint Patrick's Day parades held throughout the United States all attest to the continued vigor of the Irish-American heritage.

In tribute to all Irish-Americans, the Congress, by Public Law 101-418, has designated March 1991 as "Irish-American Heritage Month" 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 March 1991 as Irish-American Heritage Month. I encourage all Americans to learn more about the contributions Irish-Americans have made to our country and to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twelfth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6260 of March 15, 1991**

### **National Employ the Older Worker Week, 1991**

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

Millions of older Americans are both willing and able to put their knowledge and experience to work for our country. Providing greater opportunities for them to do so is not only a wonderful way to demonstrate appreciation for these valued members of our society, it is also a sound investment in America's future. By helping senior citizens to remain in the work force or to pursue second careers after retirement, we can enhance America's competitive edge in the global economy. By encouraging older Americans to share their wisdom and skills as volunteers, we can strengthen and enrich our communities.

Numerous employers already recognize the potential contributions of older men and women, and, today, programs for their hiring, retraining, and job retention are well established across the country. Through a variety of programs—including programs launched as a result of the Older Americans Act of 1965—the Federal Government, State and local agencies, and members of the private sector are promoting meaningful opportunities for older workers. These various public and private efforts not only enable senior citizens to remain active, independent, and productive members of society but also allow our country to benefit from their insight and resourcefulness. Recognizing all of these benefits, I have proposed a liberalization of the Social Security earnings test in the Fiscal Year 1992 budget. If enacted, this proposal would allow older workers to continue to earn more income after age 65 before having their Social Security benefits reduced.

To focus public attention on the accomplishments and the potential of older workers, the Congress, by House Joint Resolution 133, has designated the week of March 10 through March 16, 1991 as "National Employ the Older Worker Week" and authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week of March 10 through March 16, 1991, as National Employ the Older Worker Week. I urge the Nation's public officials, leaders in business and labor, and voluntary organizations to provide meaningful opportunities for older workers. I also encourage all Americans to observe this week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and fifteenth.

GEORGE BUSH

**Proclamation 6261 of March 19, 1991**

### **National County Government Week, 1991**

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

Although many Americans are just beginning to understand its special role in our Federal system, county government has a long and rich history in the United States. In fact, it is one of the oldest forms of local government in America, existing before many States and cities. Colonists divided part of Virginia into eight shires or counties as early as 1634, and the first counties in Massachusetts were formed in 1643. Today approximately 98 percent of the Nation's people reside in counties.

During the 1800s and the early part of this century, the primary functions of county government involved the administration of justice, law enforcement, and the building and maintenance of roads. In recent dec-