

there are enough smoke detectors—one on each level, including the basement, and one outside each sleeping area. Smoke detectors should be tested often to ensure that they are working properly, and batteries should be replaced at least once a year.

As we observe Fire Prevention Week, let us also recognize the members of the public and private organizations that are working toward our shared goal of fire safety, including the American Burn Association, the Congressional Fire Services Institute, the Fire Marshals Association of North America, the International Association of Arson Investigators, the International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the International Association of Fire Service Instructors, the National Association of State Fire Marshals, and the National Volunteer Fire Council.

Most important, let us offer special thanks to our Nation's volunteer and career fire fighters. These brave men and women put their lives on the line every day in order to protect the lives and property of their fellow citizens. Last year alone, 105 fire fighters made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Our Nation will honor them on Sunday, October 11, 1992, during the National Fallen Fire Fighters Memorial Service at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. All Americans are invited to join in praying for these heroic individuals and their bereaved families and friends.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the week of October 4 through October 10, 1992, as Fire Prevention Week. I urge all Americans to participate in fire prevention activities in their homes, schools, and places of work—this week and throughout the year.

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

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6481 of September 27, 1992

White Cane Safety Day, 1992

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

The white cane is a simple yet very useful device that enables persons with visual impairments to enjoy greater mobility and independence in their daily lives. This tool also has great symbolic value, for it is a tangible reminder of the courage, determination, and achievements of persons with disabilities.

As we recognize the accomplishments of Americans who use the white cane, it is fitting that we also recognize the importance of promoting their safety. For Americans who are not blind or visually impaired, this

means taking responsibility as careful, courteous drivers and pedestrians.

Americans who use the white cane deserve not only the respect and courtesy of others but also the right to equal opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) that I signed 2 years ago affirmed the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthened our Nation's commitment to eliminating the physical and attitudinal barriers that, in the past, prevented these individuals from participating fully in the mainstream of American life. Today the United States is providing a model for the world as we work toward full and harmonious implementation of the ADA.

In order to ensure that every American is prepared for the opportunities that life offers, we are also working through the AMERICA 2000 program to promote lifelong learning and achievement. The many Americans who have obtained training in use of the white cane have demonstrated their appreciation of the value of learning far beyond the traditional classroom, and their efforts should challenge and inspire others.

Recognizing the importance of the white cane to Americans with visual impairments, the Congress, in 1964, by Public Law 88-628, designated October 15 of each year as "White Cane Safety Day" and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation in observance of this day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE BUSH, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim October 15, 1992, as White Cane Safety Day. I encourage all Americans to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities in recognition of the interests and achievements of persons who use the white cane.

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

GEORGE BUSH

Proclamation 6482 of October 1, 1992

Mental Illness Awareness Week, 1992

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

Advances in biomedical research and the behavioral sciences have dramatically improved our ability to prevent, diagnose, and treat mental illness—a public health problem that continues to call for greater public awareness and understanding.

Once clouded by mystery and shame, mental illness actually refers to a range of diseases, such as schizophrenia and depression, that may affect individuals of any age, race, or walk of life. In fact, it is estimated that as many as one-fourth of all Americans will suffer from a mental disorder at some point in their lives. The price to our Nation in terms of lost productivity, health care expenses, and other costs may total as