example. We also honor the sacrifices of the many men and women of Poland and other allied nations who persevere with us in the fight for freedom.

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 laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 11, 2003, as General Pulaski Memorial Day. I encourage all Americans to commemorate this occasion with appropriate programs and activities paying tribute to Casimir Pulaski and honoring all those who defend the freedom of our Nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7722 of October 15, 2003

White Cane Safety Day, 2003

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Every day, millions of Americans who are blind or visually impaired use the white cane as they travel, attend school, or work. The white cane remains one of the most important and reliable tools for people who are blind or visually impaired. It increases the mobility of these citizens, facilitating their inclusion in all aspects of American life. Since 1964 on White Cane Safety Day, America has reaffirmed our commitment to achieving equal opportunity and full independence for those who are blind or visually impaired.

Today, more people with disabilities are attending school and working than ever before. However, much work remains to fully open the doors of opportunity for citizens who are blind or visually impaired. To meet these challenges, I have created the New Freedom Initiative, a comprehensive plan to assist Americans with disabilities by increasing access to educational and employment opportunities. This initiative is lowering barriers more so that Americans can participate fully in their communities, and live and work in dignity and freedom.

My Administration also continues to promote implementation of section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This important statute requires the Federal Government to make more of its electronic and information technology resources, including Government websites, accessible to people with disabilities.

As we recognize the contributions of people who are blind or visually impaired, we resolve to continue building a better America where all individuals are celebrated for their abilities and encouraged to achieve their dreams.
The Congress, by joint resolution (Public Law 88–628) approved on Oc-
tober 6, 1964, as amended, has designated October 15 of each year as
“White Cane Safety Day.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE W. BUSH, President of the United
States of America, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2003, as White Cane
Safety Day. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all
the people of the United States to join with me in ensuring that all the
benefits and privileges of life in our great Nation are available to blind
and visually impaired individuals, and to observe this day with approp-
riate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth
day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the
Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and
twenty-eighth.

GEORGE W. BUSH

Proclamation 7723 of October 17, 2003

National Forest Products Week, 2003

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Our forests are a source of pride for our Nation. They benefit many
Americans who depend on healthy forests for their livelihoods and
quality of life. As we celebrate National Forest Products Week, we rec-
ognize the importance of our forest resources. We remain committed
to sound, commonsense, forest management.

Beyond their scenic beauty, our forests are vital to our economy and
our way of life. Numerous jobs in the manufacturing and construction
industries, as well as in the forest products industries, rely on the
health and sustainability of our forests. Forests provide lumber for
building our homes, they provide paper for publishing our books and
newspapers, and forests are the source of many other wood and paper
products that Americans use every day.

We have a responsibility to maintain the health and productivity of our
forests. In the past, forests have been spoiled by overgrowth, decimated
by insects and disease, and devastated by wildfires. My Administra-
tion’s Healthy Forests Initiative will help prevent this kind of destruc-
tion. Aided by this Initiative, we treated nearly 2.6 million acres of for-
est during the last fiscal year to reduce dangerous overgrowth and re-
store forest health. This is more than double the number of acres that
were treated 3 years ago. My Administration is also committed to ful-
filling the promise of the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan to protect our
most sensitive forest areas, while supporting a viable forest products
industry and jobs in rural America. By encouraging active forest man-
agement and sustainable timber harvesting, we strengthen our economy
and ensure the lasting beauty of our woodlands.

Recognizing the importance of our forests in ensuring the long-term
welfare of our Nation, the Congress, by Public Law 86–753 (36 U.S.C.
123), as amended, has designated the week beginning on the third Sun-