

farmers, merchants, politicians—their backgrounds were as different as their love of liberty was unanimous. What is perhaps even more significant than the differences in their backgrounds was the differences in their ages: three were under thirty, twenty were under forty, seven were sixty or older. The committee assigned to draft the Declaration included one of the youngest—Thomas Jefferson—and the oldest—Benjamin Franklin.

These brave men did not hold that only those in a certain age group were gifted enough to join their struggle. Each man was judged not on how old he was but on how strongly he was committed to liberty. These men debated and questioned each other as equals, because each shared the love of freedom that knows no boundary of age.

The spirit of the signers of the Declaration of Independence is needed in our nation more than ever before. Young and old, we are all Americans, and if we are to remain free we must talk to each other, listen to each other, young and old alike, in the interest of freedom.

To encourage and stimulate better communication between our citizens of different generations, the Congress by House Joint Resolution 614, has requested the President to proclaim the period from September 28, 1969, through October 4, 1969, as National Adult-Youth Communications Week.

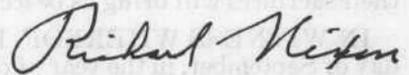
Ante, p. 115.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the period from September 28 through October 4, 1969, as National Adult-Youth Communications Week.

I call upon the people of the United States to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities designed to encourage cooperation—especially through the communication of ideas—between persons of different generations.

In particular, I urge all American families to foster in their homes that atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding on which human happiness and dignity depend.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 25th day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-fourth.



Proclamation 3938

CHILD HEALTH DAY, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Most Americans today are striving to build a better world, where men can live in peace and share the benefits derived from modern advances in science and technology.

To the extent that we succeed in this effort, we will pass on to our children a brighter future as individuals, as families, and as a nation.

But the health of some of our children will prevent them from sharing fully in this future. For examples, more than ten million

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children need eye care; more than two and a half million have speech impairments; more than two million do not hear well; nearly two million have orthopedic handicaps. Their future will only be as bright as we, the leaders of this generation, are able to make it by minimizing physical impairments or other handicaps to their health.

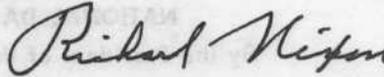
In recognition of the necessity for protecting and developing the health of the Nation's children, the Congress, by a joint resolution of May 18, 1928, as amended (36 U.S.C. 143), requested the President to issue annually a proclamation setting apart the first Monday in October of each year as Child Health Day.

45 Stat. 617;
73 Stat. 627.

Child Health Day is also an appropriate time to salute the work which the United Nations, through its specialized agencies, and the United Nations Children's Fund are doing to improve the health of children around the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 6, 1969, as Child Health Day, and call upon all our citizens to unite on that day to make plans for the health needs of our children, whether they live in the cities or in the small towns or on the farms of rural America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-fourth.



Proclamation 3939

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH WEEK, 1969

By the President of the United States of America

October 3, 1969

A Proclamation

Our land has been blessed by an abundance of food and by the genius and industry of our food-producers. Yet, despite the rich and varied diet available to us, there are still many Americans who are malnourished, whether due to poverty or to uninformed purchase and preparation of food.

It is one of the major tasks confronting the American people to eliminate malnutrition whether it be caused by the curse of poverty or the blight of ignorance.

A vital step toward this goal is the provision of ample food and proper nutrition for the American child. Safeguarding the health and well-being of school children has been a hallmark of the National School Lunch Program during its 23 years of operation. Last year it provided nutritious lunches to more than 20 million youngsters, including some three million from low-income families who were served at no cost or at a greatly reduced price.

It is unfortunate that many thousands of children seriously in need of better nutrition do not now have the benefit of either the school lunch or school breakfast service. All of us—professional and volunteer workers alike—at Federal, State and local levels must use our