

of visual impairment and blindness. Many eye disorders can be corrected or alleviated with prompt professional care. By wearing protective eyeglasses or safety goggles in potentially hazardous situations on the job or at home, we can prevent many eye injuries. Regular eye examinations may also detect early signs of other serious health problems, such as diabetes or high blood pressure, long before symptoms appear.

To increase awareness of the importance of good vision and of ways to protect it, the Congress, by joint resolution approved December 30, 1963 (77 Stat. 629, 36 U.S.C. 169a), has requested the President to proclaim the first week of March of each year as Save Your Vision Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning March 5, 1978, as Save Your Vision Week. I urge all Americans to observe this period by learning what they can do to take care of their eyes and by practicing a few simple precautions to protect their sight. I invite the vision care professionals, the communications media, educators, and all public and private organizations which support sight conservation to participate in activities which will inform all Americans about the importance of eye care and encourage them to take steps to protect their vision.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4550

February 6, 1978

National Poison Prevention Week, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

When stored safely and used properly, products such as medicines, polishes, solvents, and pesticides can make our lives easier.

But many of these products contain toxic ingredients which, when used or stored carelessly, can find their way into the hands of our children. Although special packaging has reduced dramatically the number of incidents each year, household substances still poison many children. Therefore, the theme of this year's National Poison Prevention Week is: "Children Act Fast—So Do Poisons."

To remind all Americans of the dangers of poisonings and to encourage all of us to eliminate this problem, the Congress, by joint resolution of September 26, 1961 (75 Stat. 681, 36 U.S.C. 165) has requested the President to issue annually a proclamation designating the third week in March as National Poison Prevention Week.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning March 19, 1978, as National Poison Prevention Week. I call upon the people of the United States and all agencies and organizations concerned with the prevention of poisoning and the welfare of our Nation's youngsters to join in promoting increased awareness of, and better protection against, the dangers of poisoning.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this sixth day of

February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4551

February 7, 1978

Red Cross Month, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The American Red Cross is serving the needs of the American people now, as it has served them for nearly a century. Although its programs and services have grown in scope as well as in size over the years, the relief of human suffering remains its fundamental purpose. Throughout its proud history, its spirit of volunteerism has been the source of its strength.

It is the Red Cross volunteer—our neighbor—who helps ease the suffering of disaster victims; who teaches us first aid, water safety, and proper care of the ill and injured; who instills in our young people those qualities of leadership that will mean so much to this Nation in later years; who donates the blood that gives renewed life to the sick; and who comes to the assistance of the men and women of our armed forces, and to veterans and their families.

March has traditionally been observed as Red Cross Month. It is a time for concerned people to address their thoughts to those qualities of compassion, understanding and selflessness which identify the Red Cross spirit of volunteerism.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America and Honorary Chairman of the American National Red Cross, do hereby designate March 1978, as Red Cross Month. I urge all Americans to give generous support to the work of their local Red Cross chapter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and second.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4552

March 15, 1978

Cancer Control Month, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Of all known diseases in this country, cancer is probably the most feared. Recent statistics indicate that 700,000 cases of cancer will be diagnosed in the United States in 1978 and that 390,000 Americans will die of some form of the disease this year. Only through continued support of cancer research and control can we reduce these figures.

The Federal Government, in cooperation with non-Federal organizations, is committed to finding the cause and cure of all forms of cancer and of controlling it