

Proc. 8353

Title 3—The President

Week.” I encourage all Americans to familiarize themselves with this issue and take steps to protect their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim March 15 through March 21, 2009, as National Poison Prevention Week.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8353 of March 24, 2009

Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy, 2009

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

The American people join Hellenes today in commemorating the 188th anniversary of Greece’s independence. As we celebrate the establishment of the Hellenic Republic, we honor the historic contributions of Greeks and Greek-Americans.

Americans celebrated the cause of Greek independence during the new nation’s earliest years. In 1824, summarizing support for the Greek struggle among the American people, then-Representative Henry Clay declared, “That it is felt with the deepest intensity, expressed in almost every possible form, and that it increases with every new day and passing hour.” His words are echoed today as Americans celebrate the anniversary of this struggle for independence.

The relationship between Greece and the United States owes much to the vision of democracy and liberty forged in Greece. In constructing a modern democratic framework, our Nation’s founders drew upon the immutable principles of the ancient Greeks. All who cherish the ideal of democratic governance are beneficiaries of the Greek legacy.

From the literary classics taught in our children’s classrooms to the gleaming monuments of our Nation’s capital, Greek cultural traditions have also found a home in the United States. In classrooms across the country, many of our students still immerse themselves in the epics of Homer, the dramas of Sophocles, and the philosophical innovations of Plato and Aristotle. Among the Greek-influenced structures in Washington, D.C., our Nation’s Capitol Building draws upon the architectural legacy of the ancient Greeks.

In recent history, Greece and the United States have stood together to meet the challenges of our times. Greeks and Americans fought for common causes over the course of the 20th century and continue to collaborate in this century, including through membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

The strength of the bond between Greece and the United States is exemplified by the Greek-American community, which enriches our Nation with

its cultural heritage and helps maintain the living relationship between our countries.

On the anniversary of Greece's independence, we celebrate this friendship and look forward to realizing our common goals and aspirations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARACK OBAMA, 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 March 25, 2009, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy." I call upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fourth day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-third.

BARACK OBAMA

Proclamation 8354 of April 1, 2009

National Cancer Control Month, 2009

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

We have achieved remarkable progress in the fight against cancer. Miracles in medical research have helped us understand how to prevent, detect, and treat cancer more effectively, and Americans are now more aware of how to protect themselves from this disease.

Despite this progress, cancer continues to kill more Americans than any other malady but heart disease. Marking National Cancer Control Month, we recommit to the battle against cancer and emphasize the promise of medical research and the healthy steps Americans can take to protect themselves.

To gain new ground in cancer prevention, detection, and treatment, my Administration will continue to press for increased support for research at the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and academic and other institutions. The Federal Government plays an indispensable role in investing in this research, which will save and improve lives for generations to come.

As researchers work daily to better understand this disease, Americans can take steps to decrease their risk of developing cancer. Individuals of all ages should seek regular and appropriate check-ups. These check-ups should include screening, such as mammograms, the Pap test, and tests for colorectal cancer, all of which can help detect cancer during its early stages.

Healthy personal habits can also reduce the risk of cancer. Smoking accounts for thousands of cancer deaths every year, and quitting—even after many years—can greatly reduce the risk of cancer. Physical inactivity and obesity may cause a substantial proportion of colon, breast, endometrial,