

# — News Release —

For Immediate Release  
For News and/or Community and/or Religion Editor(s)

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## Illinois Cities Proclaim “**Children’s Day**”

• Aurora and Batavia Mayors Reaffirm Special Day

**Batavia, Ill., June 11, 2009** (*The Religion Wire™*) —

Over the last several years, two Illinois cities have affirmed “**Children’s Day**” on *the second Sunday in June* (this year June 14, 2009). The cities of Aurora and Batavia again issued mayoral proclamations.

“I am so proud of the leadership of these Kane

County cities. Mayor Tom Weisner, Aurora, and Mayor Jeff Schielke, Batavia, are showing their respective cities that children are important to our future,” notes John Ross, an advocate for **Children’s Day** and founder of the website, [www.nationalchildrensday.us](http://www.nationalchildrensday.us), and its mirror [www.childrensday.us](http://www.childrensday.us).

**Children’s Day** observations in the United States date from the 1860s and earlier. The Methodist Episcopal Church at the Methodist Conference of 1868 recommended that *the second Sunday in June* be observed annually as **Children’s Day**. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1883 designated the “the second Sabbath in June as *Children’s Day*.”

The **Children’s Day** website offers help and challenges parents, individuals, churches/houses of worship, schools/places of education, government/community and businesses to sign commitment cards directed at affirming America’s children. They pledge to “commit myself(ourselves), in the coming year, to love, cherish, nurture (physical, mental, emotional, & spiritual needs), and affirm...” They can also make a commitment beyond America to the world’s children.

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## Children’s Day



Second Sunday in June

## **Add one — Illinois Cities Proclaim “*Children’s Day*”**

In 2007 and 2008, the Illinois governor proclaimed *the second Sunday in June* as ***Children’s Day***.

Currently *Chase’s Calendar of Events* cites Children’s Sunday and notes that The Commonwealth of Massachusetts issues an annual proclamation for *the second Sunday in June*.

Numerous churches and denominations, including the African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Church of the Nazarene, now observe *the second Sunday in June* as ***Children’s Day***.