

In Recognition of Children's Day

- WHEREAS,** in 1921, soon after the Turkish legislature was formed, the founder and first president of Turkey, Ataturk, proclaimed April 23rd as Children's Day – declaring that power rests with the people and the future belongs to the children; and
- WHEREAS,** every year since 1921, the children in Turkey celebrate "Children's Day" as a national holiday with various festivities and programs; and
- WHEREAS,** inspired by the Turkish holiday, UNESCO declared April 23, 1979, as the International Year of the Child and UNICEF decided to recognize this important day as the International Children's Day – a day of worldwide fraternity and understanding between children; and
- WHEREAS,** observing April 23 as Children's Day will promote the welfare of the children not only in the City of Fort Lauderdale but also of the world as a day of activity devoted just for them; and
- WHEREAS,** Americans of Turkish descent in the City of Fort Lauderdale have played a significant role in the educational, cultural, economic and civic development of our community; and
- WHEREAS,** we recognize the many individuals of Turkish descent who have chosen our community as their home and who share their rich heritage with us.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **April 23, 2014** as:

CHILDREN'S DAY

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and do encourage our citizens to join the Turks and Turkish Americans in celebrating Children's Day.

DATED this, the 1st day of April 2014.

Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler

