

Being Good Neighbors

March 8, 2021



WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR

The world celebrates **Mister Rogers**
50 years after his beloved kids' show first went on air

BY MARK KENNEDY | The Associated Press

NEW YORK

It's been 50 years since Fred Rogers first appeared on TV screens, a gentle and avuncular man who warbled "Won't You Be My Neighbor?" as he clanged into a cardigan and sneakers.

The low-key, low-tech "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" presented Rogers as one adult in a busy world who always had time to listen to children. That legacy burns for many in these turbulent times.

"Sometimes I think I wish we had a bat signal for Mister Rogers right now," said comedian Sarah Silverman, who has hung a portrait of Rogers on the set of her Hulu series "I Love You, America" for inspiration.

The golden anniversary of America's favorite neighbor's appearance is being celebrated with a PBS special next month, a new postage stamp,

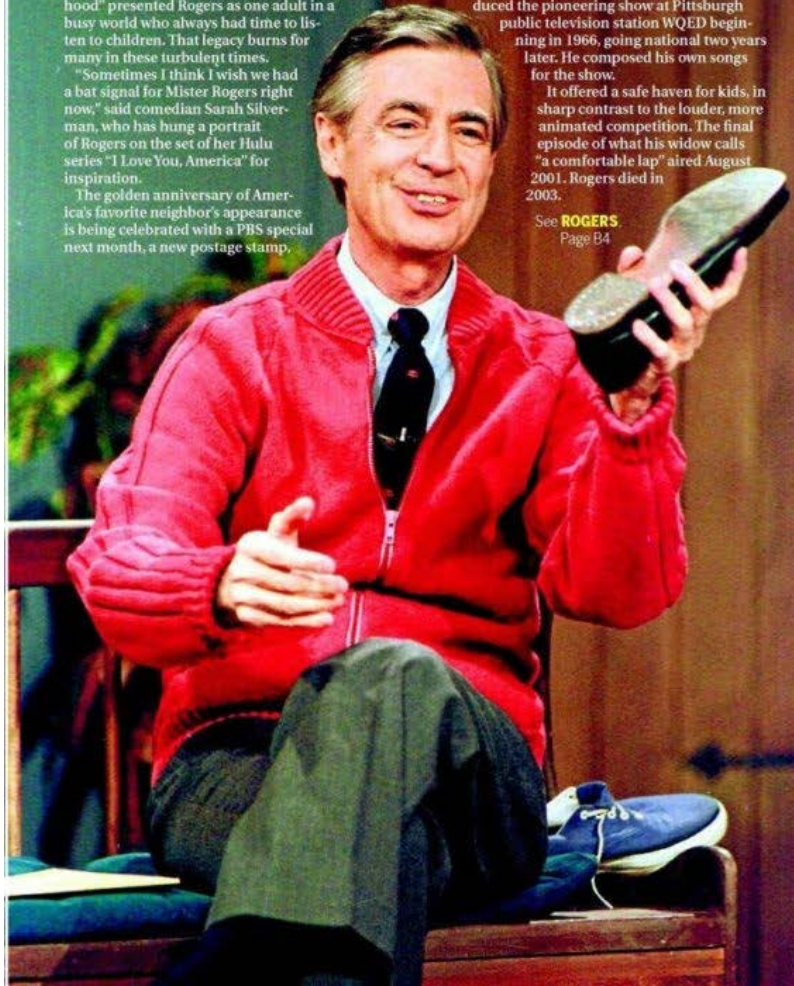
a feature-length documentary coming out this summer and plans for a Tom Hanks-led biopic.

"It's just a wonderful, thrilling time for me," said his widow, Joanne Rogers. "I'm just sorry that Fred's not here to share it. But I think he would be just as amazed as I am."

An ordained Presbyterian minister, Rogers produced the pioneering show at Pittsburgh public television station WOED beginning in 1966, going national two years later. He composed his own songs for the show.

It offered a safe haven for kids, in sharp contrast to the louder, more animated competition. The final episode of what his widow calls "a comfortable lap" aired August 2001. Rogers died in 2003.

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Everyone

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Our roads are
everyone's
neighbor.



Facts

- Important
- Impact
- Mitigate
- Quality of Life



*Just
because
you can
does not
mean
you
should.*

Be A Good Neighbor

- Listen
- Communicate
- Be Proactive
- Quality of Life



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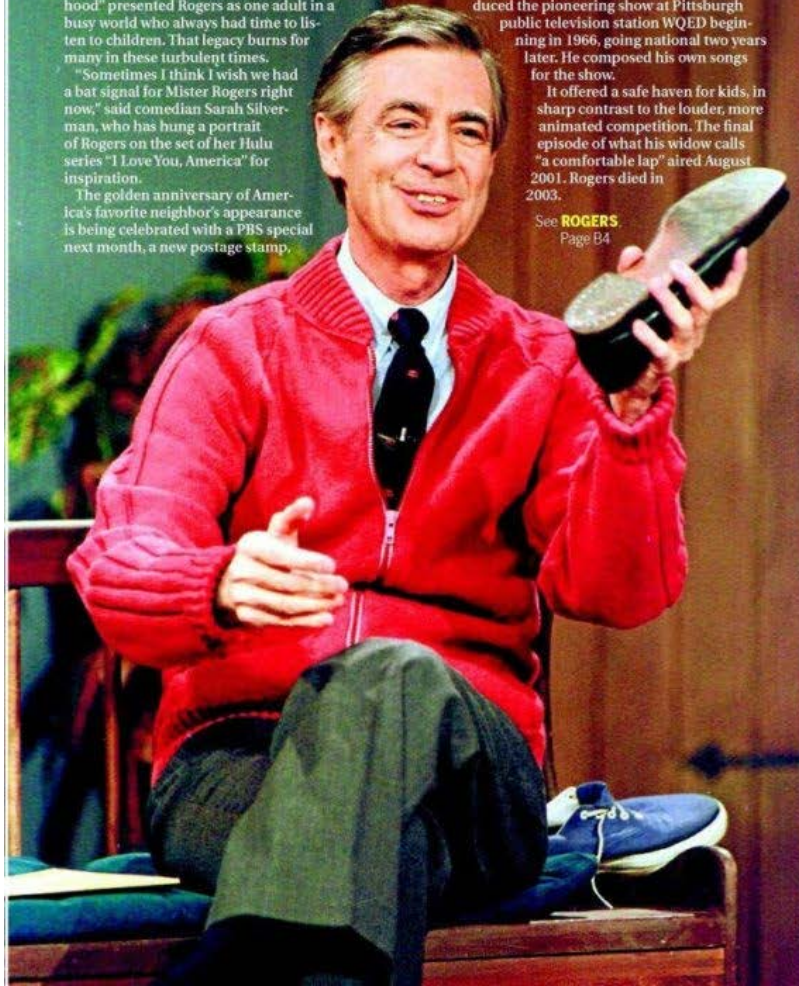
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**THANK
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