

The Mayor's Corner

July 1, 2016

Happy Independence Day!

On Monday we will be celebrating the Fourth of July. It will mark the 240th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence. What was thought of as an experiment back in 1776 is today recognized worldwide as a great success.

As we celebrate with parades, cookouts, picnics, and fireworks; let us not forget the true meaning of this holiday, those that made it happen, and those that have preserved it for us.

We live in a country where we enjoy countless freedoms. Among those are the freedoms to come and go as we please, worship in whatever way we desire, and speak our minds without fear of retribution.

The men who signed the Declaration of Independence knew that doing so meant condemnation as traitors to the Crown; resulting in threat of loss of fortune and life. They did so anyway and aren't we glad that they did.

From the very beginning, lives have been lost by those willing to fight for and preserve our freedom.

We can never thank these individuals enough for what they willingly and unselfishly did for us; however, there is one thing we should do to express our appreciation. We can take advantage of another one of our freedoms – Vote. It is the best way to say, “I fully appreciate what you did for me, and I will never forget you”. Conversely, I can think of no greater expression of disrespect and ungratefulness, than to not vote. Even if you view your choices as “bad and worse”, remember that one of them will be elected. You better vote, or else you may end up with “worse”.

Don't forget that our Fourth of July Parade begins at 11 a.m. on Main Street; followed by a picnic in Weingartner Park. I hope to see you there.

One more thing: Whether you celebrate locally or elsewhere; please stay safe.

Greg