



“Independence Day” 2020

This Fourth of July, we celebrate the 244th anniversary of our Nation’s independence. A tradition dating back to the 18th century and the American Revolution.

As a native Pennsylvanian, it is with great honor to share a piece of history and holiday significance. Here is a fun fact, the first Independence Day celebration took place in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776, when the Declaration was first read aloud in public. Citizens were summoned by the ringing of the Liberty Bell, and heard the famous preamble:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.”

Today, America’s sons and daughters carry the same patriotism and ideals of the Founders with them as they serve to preserve and protect our Nation's freedom and way of life. I thank each of you, our Soldiers, Civilians, and Families, for your service and bravery.

Please enjoy this holiday weekend, but remain ever-vigilant and Safety conscious. Never underestimate the dangers associated with summer activities, namely firework accidents, heat injuries, alcohol impairment, accidental drownings, motorcycling accidents, and the rising spread of the COVID-19 virus in our local areas. Stay aware and alert.

Have a great Fourth of July holiday with Family and friends. Safety is Readiness.

SUSTAINING VICTORY!

Pamela L. McGaha
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding