

FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

As we approach Memorial Day 2009, let's stop and think about the great country we are blessed to live in at this time. It seems that many in our country are now questioning or even doubting our future. Are we on the right path? Is government too big? Too intrusive? Let's examine some of the basic foundations of American society both past and present.

Personal freedom is a foundation that the United States was built upon. While we live in a world of many laws, many are needed so we are held accountable for our choices and behaviors. We are free to pursue life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. These ideals shape the free society in which we live and will continue to mold both our present and future. Make a personal commitment to remind your family and friends to live this mission and keep these beliefs on your mind at all times.

Personal safety in today's world cannot be taken for granted. We must remember that there are those events and circumstances that are beyond immediate control. We were reminded of this when our 3 Fallen Heroes gave their lives so that others can live. Let's make every effort to thank those brave and honorable soldiers, both past and present that fought and continue to fight, for our freedom. Say a prayer for those that died so that we can live. Shake the hands of those that continue to serve today. It is these unselfish men and women that allow us the freedom to live our dreams.

Let's remember free speech and its vast power. Let's continue to become a society of both communicators and cooperators, while both listening and respecting one another's opinions. Though we may agree to disagree at times, we must allow, respect and embrace our differences. Take an active role in our community. Become more involved and be part of a solution. Let's strive to create an atmosphere of both trust and transparency. Learn from this proverb; "Tell me and I will forget, show me and I might remember or involve me and I will understand." For it is in understanding that we are truly understood.

This Memorial Day, please take a moment and remember that we live in the greatest country in the world. While many continue to debate our country's future, one fact consistently rings true; we live in a society in which we can all be free, safe, healthy and happy! God bless you and Happy Memorial Day!

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