

Lena's Independence Day Celebration
4th of July Celebration
Tuesday, July 4th, 2000
2:40 p.m.

Opening

1. What a pleasure it is for me to be here.

The reason we celebrate the Fourth of July, and the real importance of this date.

Main Points

1. Patriotism

a. Movie "The Patriot"

i. More reason to celebrate the 4th of July holiday

ii. Sacrifices made for us

1. Men and women of our military who fought in Revolutionary War, WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm etc...

a. Men and women of the Mississippi National Guard are training daily to protect the people of our state and our nation.

b. Must be prepared at a moment's notice

b. Being proud of

- i. Heritage
- ii. Family
- iii. State
- iv. Nation

2. Freedom

- a. We often take it for granted
- b. It is not a birth-right, it is a privilege that we are afforded because of others' sacrifices.

3. Citizenship

- a. Doing what you know is true, honest and right
- b. Doing for others (what will benefit the greatest number of people)
- c. Waverly Wray story

Closing

1. Waverly Wray was a true patriot who valued his freedom and fought proudly to protect the freedom of others.
2. He gave back to his community because he knew it was the right thing to do, and he is a true example of what July 4th recognizes and celebrates.
3. I am proud that he was a Mississippian. He loved his church, his community, his state and his nation.
4. I challenge each of you to do the same.