

Students offer pledges of allegiance to country

Students in Chuck Zimmerman's eighth grade class at Norton Junior High School wrote about their thoughts on freedom.

A general feeling of patriotism led Mr. Zimmerman to ask his students to write and share their thoughts with the newspaper. All poems and essays empha-

size patriotism and pride for their country.

The writings used in this section are just a sampling of the work the students produced.

We would like to thank Mr. Zimmerman and all his students for their fine work.

Thank you to our advertisers, who made this section possible.

What being an American means to me



By ZACH BAINTER

I take a lot of pride being an American. I appreciate living in a free country that gives me opportunities and privileges. The number one reason is that I can do whatever I want without being told what to do. Being an American means very much to me and I will always support it.

By LAURA LEE BAIRD

This is what being an American means to me. Being an American means having the right to speak your mind or write whatever you please. Being an American means having the privilege to vote. Being an American means having the opportunity to broaden your mind with education. Being an American means being proud of all the veterans who have sacrificed so I can have these rights. Being an American means freedom.

By JORDAN BEBB

Being an American means simply having a right. If someone talks about the U.S. it gives me a sense of freedom. When you belong to this country you know that the special forces keep you in good security. You will probably feel more safe here than any other country you have ever been in.

By PHILLIP BECKER

Being an American means the first democracy, the first time a person could express themselves. It means that people fought, bled and died just for something so simple that is so hard to get; The brave, proud soldiers have horrible memories of war so we and our future generations can always have good memories of freedom. That is what I think being an American means.

By HAYLI BOZARTH

The reason I like living in a country that has given me the right to be free to choose, is because I choose to play sports and go to school. I can walk on the streets without being watched by guards. I have the right to make my own choices so that I'm happy, not to make someone else happy. We go to school so we (the U.S.) treated others and how we treat them now.

For us living in a free country, we don't know how others live; or how they maintain their food and water supplies. We have the right to walk on the streets and hang out with our friends. If we didn't live in the U.S. we would not have the privileges to walk down the streets and laugh about a joke that our friends just told us.

By KERBY BRANDYBERRY

What being an American means to me. Being an American means that men have killed and died fighting trying to protect a simple piece of paper called the constitution. And even the most patriotic American could have doubted that the country would make it to the turn of the century. So being an American means that I have the right to choose.



The Emblem of the Land We Love



As we celebrate the Fourth of July with barbecues, fireworks and revelry, it's important to remember the true meaning of this important holiday. On the birthday of our nation, we celebrate freedom and democracy while saluting the heroic efforts of those who have fought for and defended our liberty since July 4, 1776. We're proud of our country, our people, our history and our standing as a symbol of hope, freedom and democracy to people around the world. Happy Birthday, America, and may you continue to prosper and stand strong through future challenges, as you have so many times in the past.

Remember to proudly display your American flag on July 4!

Front page photo by Carolyn Plotts at the Norcatur Memorial Day services.

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