



[TOP](#)

# Declaration: The Symbol Of Freedom, Liberty

JULY 04TH 2012 BY UNKNOWN

## Declaration: The Symbol Of Freedom, Liberty

*Drafted by Thomas Jefferson between June 11 and June 28, 1776, the Declaration of Independence is at once the nation's most cherished symbol of liberty and Jefferson's most enduring monument. Here, in exalted and unforgettable phrases, Jefferson expressed the convictions in the minds and hearts of the American people. The political philosophy of the Declaration was not new; its ideals of individual liberty had already been expressed by John Locke and the Continental philosophers. What Jefferson did was to summarize this philosophy in "self-evident truths" and set forth a list of grievances against the King in order to justify before the world the breaking of ties between the colonies and the mother country.*

IN CONGRESS, July 4, 1776.

### **The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America,**

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

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, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shewn, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security.--Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation, have returned to the People at large for their exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavoured to prevent the population of these States; for that purpose

obstructing the Laws for Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migrations hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harrass our people, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their Acts of pretended Legislation:

For Quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing Taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury:

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighbouring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments:

For suspending our own Legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large Armies of foreign Mercenaries to compleat the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally

unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A Prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

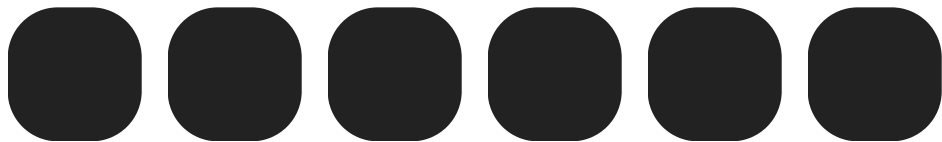
Nor have We been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which, would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

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[Go to post](#)



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[TOP](#)

## Patriotic Kids' Parade Set For Holiday

JULY 03RD 2012 BY UNKNOWN

Patriotic Kids' Parade Set For Holiday

*By Annabeth Miller,  
ShowMe Times Editor*

Now in its 20th year, the annual Fourth of July Parade for kids will be held tomorrow morning, July 4. The annual parade will begin at 10 a.m. from the corner of Elm and Vine streets in Downtown Dexter.

The “just for kids” parade was started 20 years ago by Janice Barney, Lisa Greer and Jean Rahm. The parade leadership has passed to a new generation, as Kristi and Jason Banken now host the holiday parade. The Bankens began hosting the parade six years ago, and have continued to build upon the Independence Day tradition.

The parade will follow its traditional route down Elm Street to Stoddard Street with kids on bicycles, tricycles, wagons, scooters, skates, on foot, or in strollers (most anything non-motorized).

The youngsters will gather on the steps of the U.S. Post Office on Stoddard Street to salute the flag with the Pledge of Allegiance, sing a few patriotic songs, and pose for photographs for all the parents and grandparents in attendance

The parade will get moving again, east down Stoddard Street to Poplar Street, where it will turn south at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) back to Vine and turn west and return to Vine and Elm. And end in the Bankens' front yard.

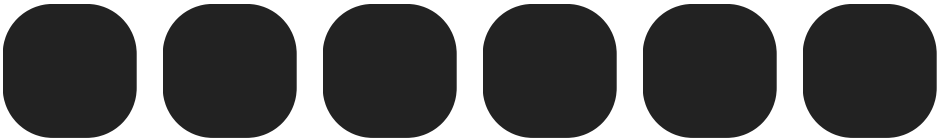
Children are invited to participate; they may walk or bring their bikes and other means of transportation for the parade. Parking will be available for grownups in the city parking lot on Vine Street across from the Dexter Municipal Building.

*Photo Above: A soggy group of patriotic kids pose with Uncle Sam (aka Jason Banken) during the 2011 July 4 parade. Rain dampened - but did not stop - last year's event. This year's parade is set to begin at 10 a.m. this Wednesday (ShowMe Times archive photo by Annabeth Miller)*

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<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/ums9/Patriotic-Kids-Parade-Set-For-Holiday>

[Go to post](#)



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TOP

# Weekend Fish Kill At Lake A 'Natural Event'

JULY 02ND 2012 BY UNKNOWN

## Weekend Fish Kill At Lake A 'Natural Event'

*By Annabeth Miller,  
ShowMe Times Editor*

This summer's heat wave and drought are affecting more than just folks in Southeast Missouri –Mother Nature's creatures are feeling the heat as well.

A fish kill occurred over the weekend at the Dexter Fishing Lake. But Conservation Agent Mark Reed of the Missouri Department of Conservation said Monday morning that what occurred at the local lake is a “natural event” for this time of year and extreme heat conditions.

Reed said the fish fill was a natural phenomenon – a result of the oxygen levels in the pond decreasing due to the heat .

“The water holds and retains less oxygen when it is warmer,” Reed said. Fish kills “stink – there's no two ways was about it. “

Reed said the local city pond, for instance, has a “good algae bloom” – and the algae plants will make oxygen. However, a combination of warm water not retaining oxygen and lower water levels and other factors most likely led to this weekend's kills. Reed said most likely the fish died Saturday night, and began to float to the surface by Sunday morning.

“We'll probably see more of these at area lakes and ponds,” he said. “I don't this what happened at the Dexter pond killed everything. But we will have to wait and see; we're going to have to ride this out.”

Reed said a fish kill like this does not necessarily wipe out a fish population in a pond. However, the condition of the fishing lake probably won't be fully known until this fall. Reed said a fisheries biologist would come in and examine the lake to decide if it needs to be restocked for fishing.

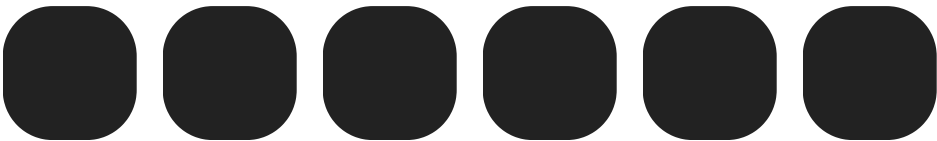
“Fish kills always look bad. It’s unfortunate – a real shame. We may continue to see fish kills – we’ll just have to wait and see,” he said.

Reed said the fish are not the only wildlife affected by the heat wave. For instance, he said quail get most of their daily moisture from the early morning dew on plants. With the heat and humidity, there hasn’t been any dew in the area, and quail are having to find alternative sources for water.

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TOP

# Want To Share A Story?

JULY 02ND 2012 BY STAFF WRITER

Want To Share A Story?

Did you know that you can send articles into the ShowMe Times online? All you have to do is click on the little envelope in the top right of the home screen and add your story. And guess what? IT’S FREE!

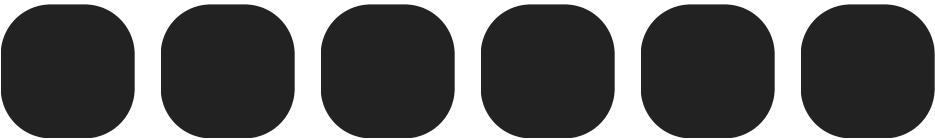
You can post anything for sporting events and church news and fundraisers. We love to help share these stories to help the community. We love pictures too; so if you send them in we will post them. Or even send us a link to a photo you want on the website. We also can put up engagement, wedding, and baby announcements. You can send in the story and photos and we will post them for no cost.

We are here to help the area stay in the new with local news. So if there is anything you think people should read about in the area that is local news, sports, church activities, announcements, or just photos please don't hesitate to send them in so we can post them.

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TOP

# Charlie Company Reunion

JULY 02ND 2012 BY STAFF WRITER

Charlie Company Reunion

By Taylor Eggimann,

Dallas Buchanan of Puxico and his wife Marla Buchanan, who works at County Wide Insurance, recently went to Branson for his *Charlie Company Reunion*. The Buchanan's and other members of the troop stayed in the Savannah House Hotel in which the Company had a fun filled weekend planned out for them. The reunion is once a year and almost all of the veterans attend.

On the first night they all had a nice dinner and reminisced on old times and caught up on what everyone had been up to over the past year. The second night there was a fish fry and a band from Oklahoma City that had them all dancing the night away. On the last night of their stay they ate up the left overs, had a rifle auction, and said their good byes until next time.

Dallas said, "It was a real good time. During the day the men sat and talked and the women shopped. Then at night we ate and had a good time."

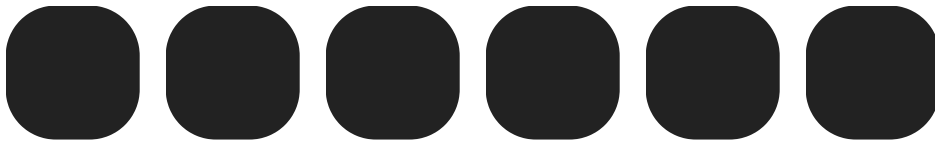
The Charlie Company was apart of the battle of Xa Cam My which was fought over two days from April 11-12, 1966. During the battle 134 men from the Charlie Company and 3 other divisions were ambushed by the Viet Cong.

We thank these good men for everything they have done for us and hope they all enjoyed their weekend reunion!

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