

# Sen. David Givens: Celebrating America's independence



*Senate report*  
State Sen.  
David  
Givens

Independence Day gives us all a chance to reflect on our country and take pride in our nation's enduring principles. On this day 246 years ago, the Declaration of Independence was ratified by exemplary visionaries who dared to initiate the most grand experiment of self-governance in human history by creating a new form of government. It is constrained by the recognition of God-given inalienable rights; which the government may not take away nor infringe upon, but must protect.

"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,"

is one of the most powerful statements of all time. Those words still ring loudly throughout the world today as America has taken its foundation of freedom and transformed it into the blueprint for the greatest nation on Earth.

This freedom has not come without sacrifice. Countless men and women have given their lives on and off the battlefield for our freedoms and rights. Civil and international wars have been fought to expand those freedoms to all people, and we continue that fight today. We are a nation that celebrates our differences; we do not persecute because of them.

As we celebrate independence on July 4, we also celebrate our country's unity in spite of our differences. Our nation—and our great Commonwealth—was founded on a simple principle: "United we stand, divided we fall."

As we celebrate with our family and friends this holiday, let us keep in mind those principles

of freedom, sacrifice, and unity. We are one nation, under God, and together we will continue to live the lives our founding fathers envisioned for the future of this great nation.

I hope that you and your family stay safe this holiday, keep one another close, and God bless America.

*Senator David Givens (R-Greensburg) represents the 9th District including Allen, Barren, Green, Metcalfe, Monroe, and Simpson Counties. He is Senate President Pro Tempore and serves as a member of the Legislative Research Commission. Senator Givens also serves as a member of the Interim Joint Committees on Agriculture; Appropriations and Revenue; Education; and Health, Welfare, and Family Services. Additionally, he serves as a member of the School Funding Task Force. For a high-resolution .jpeg of Senator Givens, please visit: <https://legislature.ky.gov/Legislators%20Full%20Res%20Images/senate109.jpg>*

## Why isn't July 2 the day to celebrate American independence?

The Declaration of Independence and July Fourth are indelibly linked. But you may need to be an American history buff to know that the link is less direct than it may seem. The Continental Congress declared American independence on July 2, even though the final wording of the Declaration of In-

dependence had yet to be approved. That approval came two days later, which is why American independence is celebrated on July 4. Furthermore, the Declaration of Independence now on display at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., was not signed on July 4. The signatures on that document, which

have been a source of pride for descendants of the signers for centuries, were written on August 2, a full month after the Congress declared its independence from Great Britain. And in a reflection of life in the 18th century, Great Britain did not even receive the declaration until November of 1776.

## Did you know?

July 4th is a day when Americans celebrate their independence, but it's also a day to commemorate two men who played vital roles in procuring that independence. Both John Adams, the second President of the United States, and his successor Thomas Jefferson passed away on July 4, 1826. The two men had an interesting relationship that became increasingly complex as the nation they helped to found developed. According to History.com, Adams and Jefferson were confidantes in the 1780s. But as time wore on, each man developed a different view of what the United States government should be, creating a rift in their relationship that was only widened by the 1800 presidential election. The men ran against each other in that election, which is still considered one of the more contentious elections in American history. Jefferson ultimately claimed victory, a result so unnerving to Adams that he left Washington, D.C. prior to Jefferson's inauguration. The two men would ultimately reconcile, exchanging more than 150 letters before dying within hours of one another on Independence Day in 1826.

*Metro Creative Connection*

Happy Birthday,  
America!

Happy 4th of July!



Robby Beard  
Green County Sheriff

  
**MID-SOUTH METALS**  
400 Water Tower By-Pass • Campbellsville  
270-469-3911 • Fax 270-789-2550  
New Metal Roofing & Siding • No one Beats Our Prices  
All Trims & Screws  
40 Years Warranty on Metal  
8-6 ET Mon-Fri

**ONE DAY SERVICE**

**BRAND NEW EQUIPMENT**

**Closed July 4th**

**Early Deadline**  
The Record-Herald office will be closed Monday, July 4.  
The deadline for the July 6 issue is Friday, July 1 at 2 p.m.

## In God We Trust

CELEBRATING AMERICA

On July Fourth, we celebrate the birthday of the United States of America, and all the great things our nation represents. We're proud of our country and the values it upholds, and we gratefully salute the brave men and women of our Armed Forces who fight to defend America and her ideals. God bless the U.S.A.



**Brandon Reed**  
State Representative  
24th District

