

Memorial Day

By Skylar Todd

5th Grade Winner of the 2016 Memorial Day Essay Contest

North Hanover Township Upper Elementary School

On Memorial day some people celebrate, so me mourn, but some do nothing. I stop to cherish as a daughter, granddaughter and great-granddaughter our courageous men and women that now rest in solitude. When the Civil War started many men and boys departed from their loving families and comforts of home to join the barbarous brawl of war. Many of the worried families did not realize that his "goodbye" would be final time seeing their loved one.

Decoration Day (later known as Memorial Day) was invoked three years after the Civil War on May 5, 1868 to honor our many deceased men and boys who died during that brutal fight. This memorable holiday was declared by General John Logan since he found it significant to decorate the graves of the dead soldiers (from the Union) as a thanks for their loyalty and courage. After World War II tombstones of people in the service belonged to both men and women from all of America. Decoration day was then changed to Memorial Day and is now celebrated on the last Monday of May. I find this history significant since you need to know what you are celebrating in order to acknowledge important events. On Memorial Day I respect the fallen warriors who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of my country. I am loyal to the United State's service.

All in all, there are many things people do on Memorial day ... some celebrate, some mourn, but some do nothing. The next time the last Monday in May comes, I think we should stop if only for a few minutes and think about our brave veterans who are now resting in peace. Most remember Memorial day as a day to kick back and relax, but I remember it as a time to respect and appreciate our fallen men and women. I hope you do that too.