# Celebrating the Fourth of July

By Eli Shaw

We celebrate the Fourth of July because our country was born when the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776. That was when we declared our independence from England (Great Britain). We also celebrate the Fourth of July because many take these things for granted. If we didn't celebrate more and more people would take our freedom for granted.

We broke away from England because of King George. He taxed everything that we bought, all because of things we needed for the thirteen original colonies. Freedom is not free though. People have to fight in wars to defend our freedom from dictators, etc. Our freedoms are worth protecting. We did not even have any rights. People would be allowed to break into houses just because the king said so. We had to pay so many taxes that people could barely live. If we had not separated from England, there wouldn't be a United States of America, our fifty states or freedom.

All of this lead up to the start of the American Revolution. It took a lot of courage to stand up against England and according to them, break the law. If we did not celebrate the Fourth of July, people would forget everything about how we got our freedom. I think that is important because people will forget about our great history, and people should be reminded of it in the future. When or if we have any more wars, we should remember how people stood up to get our country freedoms. The men who signed the Declaration of Independence knew they would be risking their lives and everything they had, but they put their names on it anyway.

Today, we are fighting for peoples' freedom around the world. That is why we celebrate the Fourth of July. Freedom is not free and should not be taken for granted.