

BICENTENNIAL WELCOME

WELCOME to all students, faculty, staff members and guests of the Garner-Hayfield Middle School for this special ceremony in celebration of our nation's 200th year as the best country on earth. A special welcome to designated representatives of Congressman ^(Mr. Conaway) Grassley, ^(Mr. Lujan) the governor's office, ^(Hawkins) to Representatives ^{members of state and city government,} Delwyn Stroman, ^(local school board members, Mr. Pineda) and to all other government dignitaries gathered here today. It's a pleasure to have you with us on this lovely day and we hope that for everyone in attendance, this ceremony will have a special meaning that will remain with them for the remainder of their lives.

It's a great feeling to live in a country such as this where we have the freedom to come and go as we please and do the kind of work we choose. This is not true in all countries-- in fact in the vast majority of countries the citizens are told what they must and must not do.

Let us cherish this individual freedom and

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do all that is necessary to preserve it. Let's rededicate our lives here today to Americanism and all that it stands for. Let's work hard to make sure our country stands for another 200 years so that our children and our children's children may experience the same good life that we now enjoy. It's the greatest country in the world--let's be sure to keep it that way!

I would like to say a word of congratulations today to Mr. Mestad and his students who have developed this whole time capsule project. It is most fitting for this bicentennial year and we're happy that our school can be a part of this nation's 200th birthday.

Many students have walked through the halls of this school building and many more will follow. We're happy to have students and faculty of this caliber who are willing to devote their time and energy towards such a worthwhile venture. This is greatly appreciated by all of us. Thank you. *Debbie Reynolds, Sept.*