

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL READING  
*of*  
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE  
Jaffrey Meetinghouse  
July 4<sup>th</sup> 2019 at Noon

**PROGRAM**

WELCOME  
Bruce Hill  
Jaffrey Historical Society

PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION  
Logan Hctor & Ethan Hutchinson

The Readers in Order of Appearance

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Marc Tieger        | 14. Lonie Melanson  |
| 2. David Hedman       | 15. Joanne Buck     |
| 3. Casey Leach        | 16. Jack Belletete  |
| 4. Charlie Turcotte   | 17. Marcie Manning  |
| 5. Tonya Marshall     | 18. Rick Stein      |
| 6. Steve Gelbach      | 19. Becky Newton    |
| 7. Linda Grant Reiman | 20. Samantha Newton |
| 8. Bill Raymond       | 21. Ethan Donaway   |
| 9. Barbara Danser     | 22. Sam Greene      |
| 10. Tim Dupuis        | 23. Chuck Saunders  |
| 11. Joel Proulx       | 24. Frank Sterling  |
| 12. Peachie Chalke    | 25. Harrison Wagner |
| 13. Bill Oswalt       | 26. Mabel Bergeron  |

27. Sheila Bergeron  
28. Nicholas Krause  
29. Marcus Wagner  
30. David Chamberlain  
31. Deborah Thurber  
32. Jon Frederick

33. Owen Houghton  
34. Bernie Hampsey  
35. Judy Zola  
36. Peter Russell  
37. Joe Manning  
38. Helen Wagner  
39. Bob Schaumann

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A Rousing Rendition of *Yankee Doodle* (see opposite), led by Bill Raymond and accompanied by Louise Watson on the square grand piano, followed by . . .

“THREE CHEERS FOR THE UNITED STATES. HIP HIP HOORAY!”

Concluding with the Ringing of the Bell by  
Ethan & Harrison Wagner

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- ♣ The Little Red Schoolhouse on The Common will be open. {Jackie Johnson, JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY}
  - ♣ The Seagrave Fire Engine will again be on-site. {Bill Driscoll, Bruce Hill, Dave Kemp, Joe Manning & Charlie Turcotte. JAFFREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY}
  - ♣ 16-Engine 2 will be on-site. {JAFFREY FIRE CHIEF David Chamberlain and Jaffrey Firefighters}

FOLLOWING THE READING THERE WILL BE . . .

- ♣ An Ice Cream Social in the Horsesheds {Skip Cornelius, Janet Grant, Gunilla Johanson & Patty Scholl}. ♣ Melville Academy will be open {Ken Campbell & Kit Schiele}. ♣ And Monadnock 4 fire station museum on Main Street will be open 1-2:30.

These free festivities are co-sponsored by the Jaffrey Center Village Improvement Society, the Jaffrey Historical Society, the Jaffrey Historic District Commission and the Selectmen's Meetinghouse Committee.

Our thanks to the volunteer readers and all those others who have helped out. The flowers were provided and arranged by Claire Bean, Nancy Belletete, Jane Cunningham & Ann Royce. Caroline & Clay Hollister assigned the readings. Sean Driscoll managed the sound system, kindly provided by the Amos Fortune Forum. Rob Stephenson handled media relations and produced the hand-out.

## Yankee Doodle

Yankee Doodle went to town  
A-riding on a pony  
Stuck a feather in his hat  
And called it macaroni.

### Chorus

*Yankee doodle, keep it up  
Yankee doodle dandy  
Mind the music and the step  
And with the girls be handy.*

Father and I went down to camp  
Along with Captain Gooding  
And there we saw the men and boys  
As thick as hasty pudding.

### Chorus

There was Captain Washington  
Upon a slapping stallion  
A-giving orders to his men  
I guess there was a million.

### Chorus

Yankee Doodle went to town  
A-riding on a pony  
Stuck a feather in his hat  
And called it macaroni.

### Chorus

**T**RADITION HAS IT that *Yankee Doodle* had its origins in the French and Indian War when New England troops joined Braddock's forces at Niagara. In contrast to the spit and polish of the British army, the colonials were a motley crew, some wearing buckskins and furs. Dr. Richard Schuckburg, a British Army surgeon reportedly wrote the tune ridiculing the Americans in the early 1750s. Some scholars believe it is a variant of the nursery rhyme *Lucy Locket*.

Despite the fact it began as ridicule, the colonials took the song for their own. Countless versions and parodies evolved, many of which made fun of their officers, including George Washington. When Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown it is said while the British played *The World Turned Upside Down*, the Americans played *Yankee Doodle*.

There are said to be as many as 190 verses of *Yankee Doodle*.

#### WHY DID YANKEE DOODLE STICK A FEATHER IN HIS HAT AND CALL IT MACARONI?

**B**ACK IN Pre-Revolutionary America when the song *Yankee Doodle* was first popular, the singer was not referring to the pasta "macaroni" in the line that reads "stuck a feather in his hat and called it macaroni." "Macaroni" was a fancy ("dandy") style of Italian dress widely imitated in England at the time. So by just sticking a feather in his cap and calling himself a "Macaroni" (a "dandy"), Yankee Doodle was proudly proclaiming himself to be a country bumpkin, because that was how the English regarded most colonials at that time. But times have long since changed, and it is important to reflect on the fact that despite the turbulent early relationship between England and the American colonists, our two countries are strongly united.



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The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

**W**HEN 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 the 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.

# The Signers

John Adams *of* MASSACHUSETTS  
Samuel Adams *of* MASSACHUSETTS  
Josiah Bartlett *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE  
Carter Braxton *of* VIRGINIA  
Charles Carroll *of* MARYLAND  
Samuel Chase *of* MARYLAND  
Abraham Clark *of* NEW JERSEY  
George Clymer *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
William Ellery *of* RHODE ISLAND  
William Floyd *of* NEW YORK  
Benjamin Franklin *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Elbridge Gerry *of* MASSACHUSETTS  
Button Gwinnett *of* GEORGIA  
Lyman Hall *of* GEORGIA  
John Hancock *of* MASSACHUSETTS  
Benjamin Harrison *of* VIRGINIA  
John Hart *of* NEW JERSEY  
Joseph Hewes *of* NORTH CAROLINA  
Thomas Heyward Jr. *of* SOUTH CAROLINA  
William Hooper *of* NORTH CAROLINA  
Stephen Hopkins *of* RHODE ISLAND  
Francis Hopkinson *of* NEW JERSEY  
Samuel Huntington *of* CONNECTICUT  
Thomas Jefferson *of* VIRGINIA  
Francis Lightfoot Lee *of* VIRGINIA  
Richard Henry Lee *of* VIRGINIA  
Francis Lewis *of* NEW YORK  
Philip Livingston *of* NEW YORK  
Thomas Lynch Jr. *of* SOUTH CAROLINA  
Thomas McKean *of* DELAWARE  
Arthur Middleton *of* SOUTH CAROLINA  
Lewis Morris *of* NEW YORK  
Robert Morris *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
John Morton *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Thomas Nelson Jr. *of* VIRGINIA  
William Paca *of* MARYLAND  
Robert Treat Paine *of* MASSACHUSETTS  
John Penn *of* NORTH CAROLINA  
George Read *of* DELAWARE  
Caesar Rodney *of* DELAWARE  
George Ross *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Benjamin Rush *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Edward Rutledge *of* SOUTH CAROLINA  
Roger Sherman *of* CONNECTICUT  
James Smith *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Richard Stockton *of* NEW JERSEY  
Thomas Stone *of* MARYLAND  
George Taylor *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
Matthew Thornton *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE  
George Walton *of* GEORGIA  
William Whipple *of* NEW HAMPSHIRE  
William Williams *of* CONNECTICUT  
James Wilson *of* PENNSYLVANIA  
John Witherspoon *of* NEW JERSEY  
Oliver Wolcott *of* CONNECTICUT  
George Wythe *of* VIRGINIA

