



Proclamation

Whereas, July 4, 2026, will mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, a historic milestone in the founding of the United States of America; and

Whereas, the Semiquincentennial provides an opportunity for all Americans to reflect on the principles of liberty, democracy, and unity that have shaped our nation, and to honor the rich history and diverse heritage that define our communities; and

Whereas, the Borough of Watchung, New Jersey, recognizes the importance of this anniversary with such important landmarks including Washington Rock, Bonnie Burn Road and Somerset Street that collectively served as key points for the Continental Army's campaign; and

Whereas, we recognize the importance of promoting civic engagement, historical reflection, and community celebration in honor of this momentous occasion; and

Whereas, the U.S. Congress has created the United States Semiquincentennial Commission to coordinate national efforts and has encouraged local communities to form their own commemorative bodies;

Now therefore, I, Ronald Jubin, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, along with Members of the Council, do hereby proclaim that:

- 1) A Semiquincentennial Committee is hereby established in the Borough of Watchung for the purpose of planning, coordinating, and promoting activities and events commemorating the 250th anniversary of the United States;*
- 2) The Committee shall be composed of a diverse group of residents, civic leaders, educators, veterans, youth representatives, and other stakeholders appointed by the Mayor that reflect the borough's unique history and contributions to the nation;*
- 3) The Committee shall begin meeting promptly and provide regular updates to the Borough Council, including recommendations for events, educational outreach, and public engagement initiatives;*
- 4) The Borough of Watchung affirms its commitment to honoring the spirit of 1776 by fostering community pride, preserving historical memory, and inspiring the next generation of Americans to uphold the ideals of freedom and democracy.*

In Witness Whereof, I, Ronald Jubin, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, do hereby set my hand and cause the official seal of the Borough to be affixed this 19th day of June, 2025.

Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor