

*Office of the Mayor
Township of Bordentown*

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the actual vote for the Declaration of Independence took place on July 2, 1776 and the 4th of July became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American Independence; and

WHEREAS, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 and was the first formal statement by a nation's people asserting their right to choose their own government; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776 the 13 colonies claimed independence from the English which led to the formation of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence was largely written by Thomas Jefferson and was presented to the entire Congress on June 28, 1776 for debate and revision; and

WHEREAS, the first formal celebration of the Declaration of Independence was in 1870 when Congress declared July 4th to be a national holiday as a part of a bill to officially recognize several holidays; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence had 56 representatives from 13 colonies and the largest amount were from Philadelphia, (9), and their ages ranged from 26 to 70, (Benjamin Franklin), and these "signers", continued to be memorialized for life by signing this historical document more than anything that they accomplished in their lifetime; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, I, Steve Benowitz, Mayor of the Township of Bordentown, County of Burlington and state of New Jersey do hereby proclaim that July 4th as Independence Day and I call upon the residents of this great Township to join me in remembering the Founders and their legacy of freedom and to continue to be thankful for the sacrifices of our men and women in the armed services who protect our great country.



Steve Benowitz

**STEVE BENOWITZ
MAYOR**