



MEDIA ADVISORY

July 1, 2022

Contact the Office of the Mayor Helmin J. Caba

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THE CITY OF PERTH AMBOY LETS FREEDOM RING

with annual tapping of the Liberty Bell commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence and its rich history

PERTH AMBOY, NJ— Mayor Helmin J. Caba, the Proprietary House Association, and John Kerry Dyke, City Historian host the tapping of the replica of the Liberty Bell and a public reading of the Declaration of Independence on **Monday, July 4, 2022**, at the City Hall Circle, located on 260 High Street.

A reception will be held before the program at the Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion located on 149 Kearny Avenue, to commemorate the annual celebration.

Members of the press, who plan to attend, contact Lisett Lebron, Chief of Staff, Office of Mayor Helmin J. Caba, at (732)-826-0290 ext. 4005 or email: mayorsoffice@perthamboynj.org

WHEN: Monday, July 4, 2022, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM

- Arrivals: **11:30 AM** at Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion, **149 Kearny Avenue**
- Procession: **12:15 PM** from the Proprietary House to City Hall Circle, **260 High Street**
- **12:30 PM**: Colonial Cannon Firing and Fife and Drum Performance
- **1:00 PM**: Ceremony includes remarks, a public reading of the Declaration of Independence, and
- **2:00 PM**: Tapping of the Liberty Bell (replica) 13 times in honor of the patriots from the original 13 states

WHERE:

- Proprietary House, the Royal Governor's Mansion, **149 Kearny Avenue** from **11:30 AM-12:15 PM**
- City Hall Circle, **260 High Street**, from **12:30 PM - 2:30 PM**

WHO: Featured speakers and guests include:

- Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr., 6th Congressional District
- Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Legislative District 19
- Assemblywoman Yvonne Lopez, Legislative District 19
- Mayor Helmin J. Caba, City of Perth Amboy
- John Kerry Dyke, City of Perth Amboy Historian
- New Jersey Society Sons of the American Revolution
- Sons of the American Revolution Colonial Guard
- New Jersey Fifes & Drums, LLC
- Tony Sattilaro and Anton Massopust III, Reenactors
- Pastor Carlos Flores and Father Martin Vavrak, Perth Amboy Police Chaplains
- Thomas Foy, Student of the Perth Amboy Catholic Schools
- Vocalists: Javier Cruz, Perth Amboy Firefighter, and Daniree Gutierrez
- Readers of the Declaration of Independence: Helen Kovaleski, Perth Amboy Catholic Schools; Harry Scheman, Commander of the American Legion Post 45; Betty Crews, the Royal Garden Club by the Bay; Miguel Arocho, Pepino Social Club; Melvin Ramos, 1683 Society Inc.
- Reading of the Congressional Resolution: Dorothy Carty-Daniel, Chairperson, Perth Amboy Housing Authority

WHY: As part of a **long-standing tradition** to celebrate the public reading of the Declaration of Independence, the **City of Perth Amboy's rich history** also played an integral role in the 'chime' that changed the world on July 8, 1776. Perth Amboy is **home to the only official Royal Governor's Mansion** still intact since Colonial days, commonly known as the Proprietary House. Currently, the Proprietary House is owned by the State of New Jersey and maintained by the **Proprietary House Association**. Perth Amboy is also home to the **oldest City Hall** in continuous use in the United States. Although City Hall was renovated in 1826, 1872, and 2006, some of the 1717 structure remains. The current structure is Victorian with a mansard roof and several new wings. A City Hall Park was also developed with a **historic statue of George Washington and a replica of the Liberty Bell**. In this City Hall, **New Jersey** became the first state to ratify the **Bill of Rights**. Perth Amboy will also be vital in celebrating its **250th birthday in 2026**.

For more information about Perth Amboy's history, go to www.perthamboynj.org/visitors/history.

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