

**RESOLUTION
KENILWORTH, NJ**

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING REVOLUTIONNJ

WHEREAS, Governor Philip Murphy and the New Jersey State Legislature created RevolutionNJ in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, New Jersey's pivotal role in the American Revolution, and the contributions of its diverse peoples to the nation's past, present, and future; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Historical Commission, under the leadership of Secretary of State Tahesha Way, with its non-profit partner Crossroads of the American Revolution established RevolutionNJ to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism, and scholarship in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will engage New Jerseyans in all 21 counties and 564 municipalities through its officially recognized programs, initiatives, and events over the next ten years; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and desirable that we commemorate the beginning of the Nation and the role New Jersey played over the past 250 years as well as its present and future role as part of the United States, with particular focus on the individuals, ideas, and events that shaped our Country, State, Union County and the Borough of Kenilworth; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will consider the role New Jersey played during the American Revolution when it saw more battles and skirmishes than any other state and was truly the Crossroads of the American Revolution; and

WHEREAS, RevolutionNJ will highlight the role New Jerseyans played beyond the battlefield during the American Revolution when people of diverse backgrounds contributed to the development of the State and the Nation in various ways and fought for the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, preserving, studying, and enjoying state history strengthens communities and builds bonds between New Jersey residents as we work together toward the goals of justice and equality embedded in the United States Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Kenilworth hereby endorses RevolutionNJ and its mission to advance the role that history plays in public discourse, community engagement, education, tourism and scholarship in New Jersey.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that:


1. The Borough of Kenilworth commemorates the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the United States as an independent Nation.
2. Mayor Linda Karlovitch and the Governing Body of the Borough of Kenilworth authorize the appointment of a committee, in partnership with the Kenilworth Historical Society, to develop a plan for this commemoration that will promote the maximum involvement of our residents, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, civic organizations, and institutions in the commemorations.
3. The Mayor and Governing Body of the Borough of Kenilworth further urge all its residents to reflect upon the significance of this event and the role that our State and its diverse people have played in the history and development of our Nation and to participate in this important

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commemoration, endeavoring to include the stories of all those whose lives are part of the history of what we now know as New Jersey, and understanding that the revolution continues today as we uphold the revolutionary ideals articulated in our founding documents.

| | MOVED | SECONDED | AYES | NAYS | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------|------|------|---------|--------|
| Councilman Patrick Boyle | | | x | | | |
| Councilman Joseph Finistrella | | x | x | | | |
| Councilwoman Toni Giordano Picerno | | | x | | | |
| Councilman William Mauro | | | x | | | |
| Councilman Douglas Piper | | | x | | | |
| Councilman Savino Scorese | x | | x | | | |
| Mayor Linda Karlovitch | | | | | | |
| ON CONSENT AGENDA | | Yes _x | No _ | | | |

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Kenilworth at a Meeting held on March 19, 2025.



Laura Reinertsen, Borough Clerk

Kenilworth Historical Society (KHS) Proposal for AmRev250

Nov. 2024: Submit KHS' RevNJ Partnership Application (Done & Accepted; KHS is now an official member of the partnership)

March 2025: Present proposed Resolution to Kenilworth Mayor and Council establishing the basis for the Borough's commemoration of America's 250th anniversary and offering KHS' assistance in forming and leading a Kenilworth AmRev250 committee to coordinate the commemoration.

April 19, 2025: Participate in Union County Kickoff Walk/Celebration (Nomahegan Park, Cranford)

April-June 2025: Reach out to representatives of the local schools, library, recreation department, Friends of Blackbrook Park, Kenilworth Veterans Center/VFW, scouts, faith leaders and other community/civic groups to form a local AmRev250 committee and meet to discuss/formalize plans for the Borough's AmRev250 commemoration/celebratory activities.

June-July 2025: Develop a schedule and a plan for AmRev250 exhibits/programs/activities to be presented in 2026.

July-September 2025: Produce exhibit/event materials, compile artifacts, create PR materials, etc.

Oct.-Dec. 2025: Distribute schedule of 2026 AmRev250 events during "Four Centuries in a Weekend" at the Nitschke House (Oct. 18-19), Holiday Open House (at the Nitschke House) (Dec. 6) and other community events/venues.

Jan. 2026: KHS, in coordination with local historians, to present and videotape for the general public a program highlighting Kenilworth's Revolutionary War ties (David Brearley as signer of Declaration of Independence, Tin Kettle Hill, Sayre-Shallcross House, Higgins House, etc.).

KHS to introduce local AmRev250 contests in schools, distribute materials and publicize.

Feb. 2026: KHS to host Black History Month presentation featuring reenactors of the 6th Regiment of U.S. Colored Troops (or another group).

March/April 2026: KHS/AmRev250 committee to review contest entries and prepare for awards ceremony.

May 2026: KHS to present its annual spring Afternoon Tea featuring "Revolutionary Jersey Girls" (or a similar historically themed program).

May/June 2026: KHS/AmRev250 committee to host contest awards ceremony.

May 2026: Kenilworth Senior Center annual picnic to feature Americana theme.

June 2026: KHS and Friends of Black Brook Park to coordinate Revolutionary War encampment at Black Brook Park.

KHS to present its annual Juneteenth Celebration at the Nitschke House.

July 2026: KHS to host U.S. naturalization ceremony and preview of “Generations of Hope” exhibits at the Nitschke House.

Sept. 2026: KHS to present walking tour of Kenilworth.

Oct. 2026: KHS to present “Voices of the Past” at the Nitschke House and unveil “Generations of Hope” exhibition during Four Centuries in a Weekend.

Nov. 2026: KHS to celebrate highlights of the AmRev250 celebration during “A Little Taste of Kenilworth” annual celebration of the Borough’s restaurants/eateries.

Dec. 2026: KHS and the Borough of Kenilworth to present grand wrap-up celebration (horse and carriage rides, Old-Fashioned Christmas at Nitschke House, tree-lighting ceremony, etc.)

(Draft - March 2025)