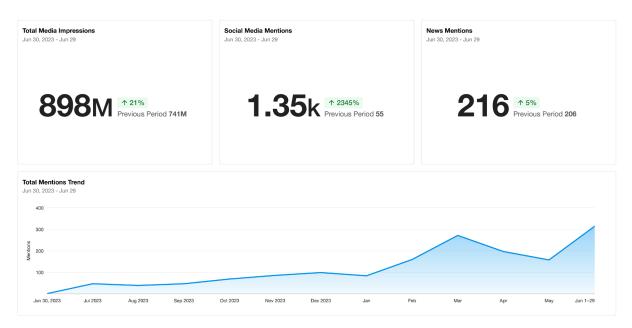
# **VA250 Media Highlights**

June 30, 2023 – June 29, 2024

Total media impressions: 898 million (up 21%)



## **Selected News & Social Media Highlights**

Independence Day in Culpeper: this colonial town knows how to celebrate July 4

Culpeper Star-Exponent & Crast.net

July 4, 2023

Impressions: 1.76 million

The DAR exhibit is the first in a series of exhibits the museum will unveil as part of Virginia 250 and America 250, state and national initiatives to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States.

#### X: @mikemullin4VA

July 17, 2023

Impressions: 4,680

The 250th anniversary of the United States will be upon us before we know it! Today, @MarkWarner joined leaders from the Historic Triangle to prepare for this grand celebration. Together, we are gearing up to commemorate this momentous milestone in our nation's history.

New signage, research at Hanover County's Scotchtown site to tell more about Patrick Henry

Richmond Times-Dispatch July 21, 2023

Impressions: 540,000

"Virginia is leading this national commemoration because Virginia is the crucible of the nation and the very fabric from which it was created," said Cheryl Wilson, executive director for Virginia 250. "The goal is telling all sides, multiple perspectives as stories, somewhere that everyone can see themselves."

## Get ready for the nation's 250th birthday. Del. Austin leads the planning.

Cardinal News August 16, 2023 Impressions: 115,000

Del. Terrry Austin says his first goal in overseeing the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is to make sure that Virginia puts on a celebration worthy of its role in the events of the American Revolution.

## The Herd: New hires, promotions & departures for 8.29.23

RichmondBizSense August 29, 2023 Impressions: 110,000

Mike Frontiero joined Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission as chief communications officer.

# <u>Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Association to commemorate Boston Tea Party anniversary</u>

The Kingsport Times-News & Johnson City Press August 29, 2023 Impressions: 221,000

The Daniel Boone Wilderness Trail Association will host the event as part of the Scott County Virginia 250 Committee event in cooperation with Natural Tunnel State Park.

#### Surry: You're invited to Nottoway Tribe of Virginia Powwow. Here's what we know...

The Progress-Index September 11, 2023 Impressions: 118,000

The 2023 Powwow kicks off Surry County's celebration of heritage and culture associated with the VA250 Commemoration, the 250th anniversary celebration of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War and US Independence in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

#### America's 250th birthday celebration to go mobile with traveling museum in 2024

Augusta Free Press September 15, 2023 Impressions: 91,700 The VA250 Mobile Museum Experience will bring the full story of Virginia's role in the American Revolution to life for students and adults across the state beginning in fall 2024.

# 'The only way to convince people that this is everybody's story is to tell the whole story'

Cardinal News October 13, 2023 Impressions: 104,000

That's one of the challenges Carly Fiorina faces as she embarks on her duties as honorary chair of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission, a state panel that's charged with organizing the Virginia side of the celebrations marking the nation's 250th birthday in 2026.

## Major maritime celebration planned for Virginia in summer 2026

The Suffolk News-Herald October 25, 2023 Impressions: 56,000

Planned in partnership with the United States Coast Guard, United States Navy, and other military commands, Sail250® Virginia is collaborating with the Virginia250 Commission, local, regional, and national government departments and agencies, civic and volunteer organizations, and endorsed by the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission.

# <u>Bedford joins Statewide Effort to Commemorate 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution</u>

Smith Mountain Eagle October 27, 2023 Impressions: 7,030

As the excitement and energy around the semiquincentennial builds across Virginia and the nation, counties and cities in Virginia are busy forming their own VA250 committees to plan local and regionally focused events. Bedford County Tourism will take a lead role in this initiative in the Bedford area.

## Fiorina Talks Leadership, 250th in Latest Commonwealth Conversation

Williamsburg Yorktown Daily November 2, 2023

Impressions: 176,000

"We are forgetting as a nation who we are, where we come from. We're forgetting because we don't know our history. And that's dangerous, because we forget what the role of citizens is. In this country, in this constitution, citizens are sovereign. Civil society is the most powerful force in this nation," she said. "It's still true. Too much of our civil society is thinking, let me lean back ... things come easy. Let me hang with my own. We're not doing our bit. And so I'm worried." And all of that is happening in the context of a world where people in and outside the country "are trying to prove that democracy doesn't work anymore," she said. This is one of her motivations for her involvement in the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution.

### Business leader Fiorina talks about leadership, sharing America's story

Virginia Gazette November 3, 2023 Impressions: 732,000

Fiorina, chair of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation's Board of Trustees, is also national honorary chair of the VA250 Commission, an organization that is heading up the 250th anniversary celebration of the founding of the United States in 2026. She spoke about her personal experience as a female leader as well as what it will take to lead the nation into the future as its milestone birthday approaches.

#### Tourism revenue spike: Prince Edward sees region's highest growth

The Farmville Herald November 6, 2023 Impressions: 64,200

Looking ahead, she said the county is working with VTC on the Virginia 250 celebration set for 2026, which celebrates the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution.

## Youngkin announces administration, board, agency appointments

The Augusta Free Press November 11, 2023 Impressions: 133,000

VIRGINIA AMERICAN REVOLUTION 250 COMMISSION Gloria Marrero Chambers of McLean, Community Volunteer

## Proclamation Line of 1763 became a focus of anti-British resentment in Virginia

Cardinal News November 14, 2023 Impressions: 183,000

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Today, Cardinal News embarks on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

#### Arlington's celebration of nation's 250th to ramp up next year

Gazette Leader November 16, 2023 Impressions: 17,700

The local effort is expected to focus on events that transpired from 1774 to 1777. The 27-member Virginia's American Revolution 250 Commission ("VA250"), established by the General Assembly in 2020, also will focus primarily on the period leading up to the declaration of

American independence in 1776 and its immediate aftermath. But its charter runs through 2032, 250 years after peace between the warring parties informally took effect.

## In Brief

FXBG Advance (Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star)

November 16, 2023 Impressions: 18.7 million

Sam McKelvey, who leads the Fredericksburg Area Museum, was approved to be the person who leads Fredericksburg's participation in the VA250 Commission to commemorate Virginia's role in American independence.

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

## 'A time to pray and a time to fight'

Colonial Virginia was divided in many ways. Food was the great uniter.

<u>Dispatch from 1763: Despite cries of 'treason!' Hanover County jury delivers rebuke to the church — and the crown</u>

Cardinal News December 12, 2023 Impressions: 486,000

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Today, Cardinal News embarks on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

#### No taxation without representation: 250 years since Boston Tea Party

Culpeper Star-Exponent

December 14

Impressions: 77,200

"This is a time to reflect on the rich stories that shaped our democracy, and one such story is the Yorktown Tea Party. While the Boston Tea Party is familiar to most, many Virginians remain oblivious to the powerful act of resistance that unfolded in their own backyard. Understanding the Yorktown Tea Party allows us to gain a deeper understanding of our shared history and appreciate the diverse voices that helped pave the way for American independence," according to a release from Mike Frontiero, spokesman, VA250 Commission.

#### Virginia's lesser-known tea party

Axios

December 15, 2023 Impressions: 15.3 million In the lead up to the United States' 250th birthday party (save the date: July 4, 2026), the group tasked with organizing Virginia's celebration is working to raise recognition of the one in Yorktown.

### Pulaski County 250th Committee reenacts the American Revolution

WDBJ-TV

December 15, 2023 Impressions: 902,000

Take a trip back in time with the Pulaski County 250th of the American Revolution Committee on Sunday, December 17th at 3 p.m.

## Not to be overshadowed by Boston, Yorktown is planning its own tea party anniversary

Virginia Gazette & Daily Press

December 16, 2023 Impressions: 984,000

Not to be overshadowed, Yorktown, like Boston, plans to also have its day. So in 2024, in honor of the Yorktown Tea Party's 250th anniversary, the riverfront village is planning a week's worth of festivities. The tea party recognition is among the activities leading up to Virginia's 250th anniversary in 2026, which is being spearheaded by the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission. The Yorktown festivities will run from Nov. 4-10 in 2024.

## The Boston Tea Party Turns 250 and Raises 21st-Century Questions

The New York Times
December 16, 2023
Impressions: 138 million

Some across the country are keen to emphasize that Boston was hardly the only town riled up about tea in the 1770s. A pamphlet produced by Virginia's 250th committee lists some 17 tearelated actions in seven states (including a 1774 "Yorktown Tea Party").

#### **America250 is Coming**

Leisure Group Travel December 19, 2023 Impressions: 5,480

Besides the national semiquincentennial commission (composed of private citizens and public officials), 38 states so far have established their own commissions. Representatives from those state bodies and from various historical and cultural institutions will gather next March at Colonial Williamsburg for "A Common Cause for All," the second annual national planning session put on by the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250). The inaugural meeting was held there last March.

Carly Fiorina: Connecting history with present inspires healing and recommitment

Richmond Times-Dispatch December 22, 2023 Impressions: 766,000

As we gather across Virginia, whether at Sunday dinners or community events, one thing invariably connects us: our shared history. We instinctively understand that a deep understanding of our past is vital to our present and future. This inherent need to connect with our roots is precisely why Virginia's 250th anniversary celebration is so crucial.

## Thanks to you, Cardinal News doubled its staff in 2023

Cardinal News December 26, 2023 Impressions: 162,000

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Thanks to a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission, Cardinal has embarked on a three-year project called Cardinal 250 where each month we present some little-known aspect of Virginia's role in those historic events. While our coverage area remains Southwest and Southside, the Cardinal 250 project will deal with historical events across the state. We have a special page and a monthly newsletter where we are collecting that reporting.

# Va. tourism attractions gearing up for busy 2024

Gazette Leader January 2, 2024 Impressions: 14,800

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the independence of the United States in the Commonwealth of Virginia, one of the former colonies and future states, where much of this history took place. The celebrations run through 2024 and the 250th anniversary of American Independence in 2026.

#### Find out 'What's New in 2024'

CBS19-TV Charlottesville January 2, 2024 Impressions: 143,000

One thing kicking off this year is a series of events leading up to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is commemorating the country's independence across Virginia over the next two years. Events start this week in Richmond and Fredericksburg. There will be book discussions, historical discussions, virtual road trips and much more.

#### VA250 to host events commemorating Benedict Arnold's raid on Richmond

Henrico Citizen January 3, 2024 Impressions: 10,600 The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission is hosting a four-day program Jan. 4-7 to spotlight the 243rd anniversary of Benedict Arnold's raid on Richmond. The program, sponsored in part by Henrico County Public Library and Henrico Recreation and Parks, will feature speakers, reenactments, exhibits, and more. It will begin on Thursday, Jan. 4, at the Libbie Mill Library in Henrico.

### Richmond marks 1781 attack with multi-day program

WTVR-TV6 January 3, 2024

Impressions: 1.02 million

This weekend marks the 243rd anniversary of Benedict Arnold's raid on Richmond in 1781. And to commemorate the anniversary the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission, in partnership with the National Park Service, St. John's Church Foundation, and the Henrico County Public Library will be offering a slew of events and programs.

## Henrico committee planning events to honor nation's 250th anniversary

Henrico Citizen January 3, 2024 Impressions: 39,300

As the United States approaches its 250th anniversary, counties and states all across the nation (including Henrico) are beginning to host events related to the American Revolution. The Henrico County 250th Committee is tasked with planning the programming and events for the United States 250th anniversary celebration within Henrico County.

#### Commonwealth Conversations: BK Fulton Talks Inspiration and Overcoming Fears

**WYDaily** 

January 11, 2024 Impressions: 138,000

Fulton, and his wife, are also playing a role in the preparations for the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution. "The Virginia 250 journey is one that both my wife and I are intimately involved in," he said. "We're trying to inform it from the varying perspectives that have made up our democracy. Virginia history as Americans. So a lot of amazing things have happened here and we need to make sure that people appreciate how we got here. What I want to make sure of is that in appreciating that, the important stories don't get left out."

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

One enslaved naval officer won his freedom after fighting in the 'War for Independence'

Woody Holton's revolutionary life and history

Dispatch from 1765: Augusta County mob murders Cherokees, defies royal authorities

Cardinal News January 16, 2024 Impressions: 630,000 The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

## James City County plans to join in celebration of America

Virginia Gazette & Virginian-Pilot January 29, 2024

Impressions: 1.04 million

The Board of Supervisors voted to set up a committee under the umbrella of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission. Although the state commission has asked every locality to set up a committee, James City County does not intend to remain on the sidelines.

## 25 historical markers that Virginia needs

Cardinal News February 5, 2024 Impressions: 210,000

Cesar Tarrant was born into slavery around 1740, probably in Hampton, and became skilled as a river pilot. When the American Revolution broke out, he wound up in Virginia's small navy — one of at least 72 Black sailors, some enslaved, some free. Tarrant distinguished himself in battle, so much so that after the war the Virginia General Assembly purchased his freedom. Today, there's a school in Hampton named after Tarrant. If his name sounds familiar, it's likely because you read about him recently as part of our Cardinal 250 project on the lead-up to the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

#### Warren County panel moving forward with Revolutionary War monument

The Northern Virginia Daily February 6, 2024 Impressions: 48,000

The Warren County VA250 Revolutionary War Commemoration Committee plans to place a memorial on the Warren County Courthouse grounds at East Main Street and North Royal Avenue.

## Column: America's 250th commemoration needs your voice

The Virginian-Pilot & Daily Press

February 10, 2024

Impressions: 1.15 million (combined)

As an African American woman serving as vice chair of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission and chair of its African American Advisory Council, I've been asked, "Why are you playing a key role in leading a commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of

Independence? Not all Black people celebrate July 4th." The question comes from skeptical friends and curious strangers who contend Black people gained no freedom that historic day. My answer is, "We are commemorating the freedom we're still fighting for."

### ABA Task Force for American Democracy kicks off listening tours in Georgia

Americanbar.org February 12, 2024 Impressions: 815,000

The American Bar Association's Task Force for American Democracy kicks off a series of listening tour events Tuesday with a program in Atlanta featuring local leaders, legal scholars and defenders of democracy. The event, titled "Taking the Next Step: Ensuring Trusted Elections and Civics for Georgians," will be held at the Bar Center of Georgia and will address vital election integrity issues and the need to support poll workers. Panelist: Carly Fiorina, national honorary chair, Virginia 250 Commission

## Marquis De Lafayette Featured In Exhibition At Fredericksburg Museum

Patch.com

February 13, 2024

Impressions: 13.1 million

"Lafayette's World: Revolutionary Ideals and the Limits of Freedom" is sponsored by Virginia Humanities, in partnership with the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

<u>Daniel Morgan's temper brought him 499 lashes from the British. He repaid them with</u> American victories.

#### **Colonial women fought the British economically**

<u>Dispatch from 1765: Stamp Act protest prompts House speaker to accuse new legislator</u>

<u>Patrick Henry of treason</u>

Cardinal News February 13, 2024 Impressions: 156,000

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

## Patrick Henry: The Voice of Liberty & His Garden Spot

The Roanoke Star February 16, 2024 Impressions: 12,400 On July 4, 2026, the United States will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In preparation for this significant anniversary, the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) is encouraging programming to commemorate the Revolution. On March 14 at 7 pm on Zoom, Patrick Henry's descendant Patrick Henry Jolly will present a talk as part of the Salem Museum's Speaker Series. He will describe the personal and professional life of this American Patriot. This talk is a VA250 event.

### Gov. Youngkin To Highlight Statewide Events Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary

The Roanoke Star February 19, 2024 Impressions: 12,400

As Virginia gears up for the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding, Governor Glenn Youngkin will participate in an event showcasing the exciting commemorative plans in store for the Commonwealth in 2024 and beyond. The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) will also announce the formation of the VA250 Honorary Leadership Council, uniting Governor Youngkin and VA250 National Honorary Chair Carly Fiorina, all nine living former governors, the state's congressional delegation, the Lt. Governor, the Attorney General, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate of Virginia.

# Tune in as we announce the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission Honorary Leadership Council.

X: Governor Glenn Youngkin

February 20, 2024 Impressions: 380,323

Views: 10,600

In a demonstration of bipartisan unity and leadership, VA250 will announce that Governor Glenn Youngkin and all nine living former Virginia governors will participate in the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) Honorary Leadership Council. These distinguished leaders will lend their voices and experience to elevate the Commonwealth's commemoration of the 250th anniversary of our nation's founding.

#### There are costumes

X: Jahd Khalil February 20, 2024 Impressions: 3,000

Views: 1,200

If Felicity isn't part of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission Honorary Leadership Council, I will riot.

Χ

February 20, 2024 Impressions: 7,560

Views: 269

## Virginia Associated Press Daybook

February 20, 2024 Impressions: 506,000

Virginia Gov. Youngkin participates in commemorative celebration plans - Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin participates in an event showcasing commemorative plans for Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission Location: Historic St. John's Church, 2401 E Broad St, Richmond, VA. Weblinks: <a href="https://va250.org/">https://va250.org/</a> Contacts: Mike Frontiero, Virginia American

Revolution 250 Commission, mfrontiero@va250.virginia.gov, 1 804 823 9016

### Listening tour events kick off in Georgia

Americanbar.org February 20, 2024 Impressions: 815,000

During the second panel – "A Conversation on Democracy: How it Affects Us All" – participants brought up concerns about the state of democracy in the U.S., but also expressed confidence in institutions that have protected it. Carly Fiorina, national honorary chair of the Virginia 250 Commission, said "Americans are like fish. Fish don't know they are swimming in water. They take it for granted. Americans take democracy for granted."

## State leaders announce plan to commemorate American Revolution

RIC Today

February 21, 2024 Impressions: 22,200

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, Virginia leaders, lawmakers, historians, and several costumed reenactors gathered to hear plans for VA250, the commonwealth's commemoration of the American Revolution.

#### Youngkin recalls Henry's spark of Revolutionary history - and recent history

Richmond Times-Dispatch

February 21, 2024 Impressions: 844,000

Views: 851

Gov. Glenn Youngkin kicked off Virginia's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution on Tuesday at Richmond's St. John's Church with a reminder of what Patrick Henry said there in March 1775 before an audience that included George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

#### Governor recalls Patrick Henry's spark of Revolutionary history – and recent history

Martinsville Bulletin February 21, 2024 Impressions: 65,300 Gov. Glenn Youngkin kicked off Virginia's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution Tuesday at Richmond's St. John's Church with a reminder of what Patrick Henry said there in March 1775 before an audience that included George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

# <u>Virginia Paves the Way to 250 Years of American Independence: Leaders Unite in</u> Commemoration

BNN Breaking February 22, 2024 Impressions: 3.8 million

As the sun rose over Richmond, Virginia, a palpable sense of anticipation filled the air at Historic St. John's Church. Not just another day, but a momentous occasion where state leaders, historians, and citizens gathered to mark the beginning of a journey towards commemorating a milestone in America's narrative: the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution. It was here, against the backdrop of history, that the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) unveiled its plans and introduced the Honorary Leadership Council, a testament to Virginia's commitment to remembering the past and shaping the future.

#### **VA250 Honorary Leadership Council Announced**

Williamsburg-Yorktown Daily February 22, 2024

Impressions: 139,000

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) Honorary Leadership Council was announced Tuesday at St. John's Church in Richmond.

#### Williamsburg Community Foundation Announces New and Retiring Trustees

Williamsburg-Yorktown Daily

March 11, 2024

Impressions: 125,000

The three new trustees are Ti'Juana Gholson, Leigh Houghland, and Jeanne Zeidler. Zeidler is involved with Virginia 250 as a member of the Board of Commemorations, Inc.

At Chiswell's mines, a mixed crew of unwilling hands dug lead ore for patriot victory Virginia's Native Americans were caught in the crossfire of the revolution

Dispatch from 1766: In Tappahannock, the Stamp Act prompts threats of violence

Cardinal News March 12, 2024

Impressions: 396,000 (132,000 x 3 articles)

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

## **Committees Will Mark 250 Years Since American Revolution**

Daily News Record March 13, 2024 Impressions: 82,700

The city of Harrisonburg and Rockingham County are preparing to celebrate Virginia's role in the foundational history of the United States. Both municipalities have formed Virginia American Revolution 250, or VA250 committees, with Harrisonburg City Council decided 4-1 to form a local committee at a meeting on Feb. 27. The two local committees are under the statewide VA250 commission, established in 2020. The commission aims to commemorate the Commonwealth's role in the American Revolution, as well as educating Virginians about the state's founding ideals, forms of government, and regions.

## Colonial Williamsburg, VA250 to Host Second Planning Event for America's 250th

Williamsburg-Yorktown Daily March 17, 2024 Impressions: 125,000

The event, "A Common Cause to All," is an annual conference first hosted by the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) and The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in 2023. The gathering provides state and local representatives, including those from 46 Virginia localities, with vital opportunities to discuss local planning efforts, explore new ideas and learn from other attendees and speakers. "Virginia's history is America's story," said Carly Fiorina, board chair of The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation and VA250 national honorary chair. "It is entirely fitting that planning commissions from across the nation, as well as educators, historical institutions and political and civic leaders would gather here in Williamsburg for the second year in a row."

A procession @colonialwmsburg for #VA250 / #USA250 organized by @VARevolution250. On the menu tonight: A fabulous dinner, Carly Fiorina, Thomas Jefferson, and fireworks!

X: History Camp Official March 19, 2024 Impressions: 7,280

Spotted in the parking lot @colonialwmsburg for the @VARevolution250 #va250 #usa250 national meeting. I'm sure all of the history lovers out there understand exactly what this means.

X: The History List March 19, 2024 Impressions: 4,320

(aka Ken Burns) at VA250/USA250 @colonialwmsburg on the upcoming film on the American Revolution coming out in 2025. Paula: "When we showed the film on the

# national parks, attendance went up by 10M." Will historic sites see a boost from the upcoming film?

X: The History List March 19, 2024 Impressions: 7,820

## Governor welcomes leaders to conference on America's semiquincentennial

Virginia Gazette March 19, 2024

Impressions: 1.1 million

Jane Kemensky calls for a "big tent approach" to patriotism and the 250th and calls on her "friends in the center and on the left to pick up the flag" on Day 2 of VA250

X: History Camp Official

March 19, 2024 Impressions: 13,882

[QT] in anticipation of America's 250th birthday in 2026, the role of American business, state of U.S. politics today, and more! @VARevolution250 #VA250 https://t.co/5roDf5SC3O; "Most Americans want to know our whole history. Why are people so interested in where we all come from?

X: Colonial Williamsburg

March 19, 2024 Impressions: 37,600

Views: 1,330

## **Great Start to A Common Cause for All 2024.**

Facebook: Revolution250

March 19, 2024 Impressions: 4,000

Virginia American Revolution 250 Commemoration - VA250 and Colonial Williamsburg pulling out all the stops!! The Honorable John Charles Thomas (VA Supreme Court ret.) raised the roof this morning with a call to action convincing the youth that this government of the people, by the people, for the people is (while imperfect) still the best show in town! As he pointed out...he went from being raised in a segregated South to conversing with Mikhail Gorbachev on the steps of Monticello.

Had a wonderful time in Williamsburg the past two days at the VA250 Commission's A Common Cause to All Conference.

I enjoyed walking with AG @JasonMiyaresVA and learning more about the ongoing planning and events in anticipation of the 250th anniversary of July 4, 1776.

X: Lt. Governor of Virginia - Winsome Earle-Sears

March 20, 2024 Impressions: 529,709

Views: 7,820

A fine conclusion to a wonderful VA250 event hosted by □@colonialwmsburg that had a diverse group of historical organizations and other state 250 groups from all over the country.

X: Christian Di Spigna March 20, 2024 Impressions: 10,157

Views: 239

@RosenJeffrey, head of the @ConstitutionCtr, quoting John Quincy Adams at the closing of the #va250 / #usa national planning meeting for the 250th put together by @VARevolution250. You can watch our conversation with Jeffery about his new book on #HistoryCamp Author Discussion

X: History Camp Official March 20, 2024 Impressions: 5.590

Views: 590

The meeting of representatives from many states across the country talking about their state 250th celebrations and ideas for national programs — #va250 / #usa250. Lots of good ideas. Thanks to the Commonwealth of Virginia and their @VARevolution250 committee for opening their meeting and welcoming folks from across country, creating an extraordinarily helpful and well-produced national meeting.

X: History Camp Official

March 20, 2024 Impressions: 11,980

Team RI250 at Colonial Williamsburg for the VA250 Conference in preparation for the nation's Semiquincentenial. We tell anyone who will listen that the Burning of the Gaspee was the spark that ignited the American Revolution. #teapartyoverrated!

X: Gregg Amore March 20, 2024 Impressions: 3,790

Views: 504

Thank you to Virginia American Revolution 250 Commemoration - VA250 and Colonial Williamsburg for having our Executive Director, Cassandra Coleman, at your A Common Cause to All 2024 conference this week!

Facebook: America250PA

March 21, 2024 Impressions: 3,270

## 'PBS: America @ 250' Multiyear Look At Our Nation to Air Next Fall

Broadway World March 26, 2024

Impressions: 1.54 million

Views: 1,000

PBS President and CEO Paula Kerger set PBS: America @ 250 at "A Common Cause to All" convening at Colonial Williamsburg organized by VA 250 and attended by local and state organizations planning events timed to the 250th anniversary of the country's founding in 2026.

## VA250 Conference calls for unity in America's 250th anniversary commemoration

Shore Daily News March 26, 2024 Impressions: 49,600

The second "Common Cause To All" conference was held in Williamsburg March 18 to 20, 2024 by the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250). This annual conference brings together 250th planners from across the country in a spirit of collaboration and cooperation as we approach the nation's semiquincentennial. The VA250 Commission and Colonial Williamsburg Foundation provided networking opportunities, and inspiration to attendees, and a strong forum to discuss what Americans are looking for in their 250th anniversary.

# Every state has its own revolutionary history, & @CardinalNewsVA is uncovering the stories of @VARevolution250.

X: @America250 March 28, 2024 Impressions: 77,860

Each month until the #Semiquincentennial in 2026, check out a story about little-known events, people, & places of colonial #Virginia.

**#Virginia has a rich and unique revolutionary history, and Cardinal News is highlighting** the stories that might not be featured in your history textbook!

Facebook: American250

March 28, 2024 Impressions: 9,900

Each month leading up to the #Semiquincentennial in 2026, you can read an untold story about the events, people, and places that shaped Virginia's role in the march to independence. To learn more about Virginia's plans to commemorate and celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary, visit Virginia American Revolution 250 Commemoration - VA250.

Earlier this month, we hosted the 2nd edition of "A Common Cause to All," a convening of delegates from across the country to continue planning commemorations for America's 250th in 2026, in conjunction with the @VARevolution250

X: @ColonialWilliamsburg

March 29, 2024 Impressions: 9,020

Thinking back on the great "Convening States" that the VA250 Committee and the Commonwealth of Virginia put on in @colonialwmsburg.

X: @PursuingHistory March 31, 2024 Impressions: 8,004

There is such potential with America's 250th and the events leading up to it. Will we make the most of this unique opportunity? #usa250

# <u>Williamsburg Plays Host to Virginia Daughters of the American Revolution State</u> Conference

Williamsburg-Yorktown Daily March 31, 2024

Impressions: 125,000

The guest speaker at the opening ceremony dinner was National Honorary Chair of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission, Carly Fiorina. Fiorina spoke to the packed ballroom about the importance of history, specifically Virginia history as we head into the celebrations for America's 250th birthday.

Thank you, @GovernorVA & @VARevolution250, for hosting over 37 states & national leaders in historic Williamsburg, VA, as we gathered to plan the commemoration & celebration of the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

X: @RosieRios April 1, 2024

Impressions: 76,066

Have you considered joining your local @VARevolution250 Committee?

X: @WinsomeSears

April 1, 2024

Impressions: 124,369

As VA prepares for the semiquincentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, cities and counties across VA are forming committees to plan local and regional events!

I had the pleasure of speaking at @VARevolution250's State Convening in Williamsburg, VA about our plans for America's 250th.

X: @RosieRios April 3, 2024

Impressions: 74,995

Proud to collaborate with exceptional leaders and states to organize the most inclusive commemoration and celebration in our nation's history.

Don't forget, the grant applications for the #VA250 grant with @VAHumanities are open through May 15! These grants support localities developing arts experiences, events, programs, and content against the backdrop of the 250th commemoration. Apply

South Boston Town Council on Monday night approved a motion to allot \$3,500 to the VA250 Committee to update a historical sign relevant to local history in the town limits and relating to the commemoration of the upcoming 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

# A new tour at Monticello tells the story of its revolutionary women

X: @farfel54 April 12, 2024

Impressions: 12,100

RT @VARevolution250: Uncover the untold stories of the women who shaped @TJMonticello, including enslaved women, free women, and Martha Jefferson's daughters. This special tour is part of Virginia's commemoration of America's 250th anniversary.

## Cape Charles to Support Virginia American Revolution 250

Cape Charles Mirror April 14, 2024 Impressions: 2,930

In a show of support for the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), the Town Council of Cape Charles plans to adopt a resolution to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Virginia's role in American independence.

# Reflecting on my experience at the @VARevolution250 State Convening in Williamsburg, VA.

X: @RosieRios April 16, 2024

Impressions: 81,525

<u>Cardinal 250: Representatives from planning committees across the country met recently in Williamsburg to compare notes.</u>

X: @cardinalnewsva April 16, 2024 Impressions: 4,100

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

A 'rascaly county': Montgomery County was a hotbed of anti-Patriot fervor during the Revolution

In Virginia and across the nation, planning is underway for a 250th birthday in 2026

Cardinal News 250 podcast with Virginia 250 Commission executive director Cheryl

Wilson

# <u>Dispatch from 1766: A sensational murder at Mosby's Tavern highlights how much Virginia's gentry is in debt to Britain</u>

Cardinal News April 16, 2024

Impressions: 760,000 (190,000 per article)

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

#### BA250 event to be held at Bedford Area Welcome Center on April 20th

Smith Mountain Eagle April 17, 2024

Impressions: 2,740

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), created by the General Assembly, is coordinating and collaborating with all 134 cities and counties in Virginia. The Commission's main goal is to convene a statewide commemoration and celebration that is multi-faceted and includes hundreds of partners and representatives from the wide array of historic sites, museums, and communities that enrich Virginia. There will be signature events, museum exhibitions, a mobile exhibition that will travel the state in a tractor-trailer, and much more.

### A look back at "A Common Cause to All"

X: @ColonialWilliamsburg

April 18, 2024

Impressions: 39,952

One month ago today, we joined @VARevolution250 to welcome over 400 guests who renewed their commitment to our common cause: engage & energize Americans in our shared history and future as we head toward America's 250th Birthday in 2026.

### "Sea" you in June 2026!

X: @VARevolution250

April 18, 2024

Impressions: 3,194

Sail250® Virginia will see Norfolk welcoming an international fleet of tall ships, military vessels, and character ships for the 250th anniversary!

Harry Smith gave a great speech at #va250 and reminded people of the importance of E pluribus unum.

X: @PursuingHistory April 22, 2024

Impressions: 9,127

Alas, the 250th in 2026 isn't going to be like the 200th. Wouldn't it be great if E pluribus unum was one of the themes of all of the activities and celebrations?

## Bedford Area Welcome Center hosts VA250 living history exhibit with Fincastle Company

Smith Mountain Eagle

April 22, 2024

Impressions: 2,740

The Bedford Area Welcome Center hosted its first VA250 event on April 20th with a living history display and interactive experience with the Fincastle Company.

# Mathews VA250 Committee to Go Back in Time With the Colonial Williamsburg Fife & Drum Corps

WY Daily

April 23, 2024

Impressions: 118,210

The Mathews VA250 Committee announced sponsorship of a performance by the Colonial Williamsburg Fife & Drum Corps on Saturday, May 4, at the upcoming Mathews County Spring Heritage Festival.

## <u>Independence Day celebration taking place at Virginia State Capitol</u>

WRIC-TV & WAVY-TV

April 26, 2024

Impressions: 2.92 million

According to the organizer, the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission, Capitol Square "will transform into a vibrant hub of activity, bursting with the sights and sounds of Virginia's diverse communities" on the night of the event.

#### Your guide to River City summer events

RICtoday

April 29, 2024

Impressions: 12,200

The VA250 Commission will celebrate the Fourth by transforming the lawn into a festival ground with music, dance, and spoken word performances.

# A generous grant from @VARevolution250 and @VAHumanities has allowed us to purchase new photography equipment!

X: Patrick Henry's Red Hill

April 29, 2024

Impressions: 5,710

Museum collections staff are now able to document larger objects including #PatrickHenry's standing desk. We can't wait to show you more of our wonderful artifacts!

### **Culpeper Museum announces events in May for VA250**

Culpeper Star-Exponent & X

May 1, 2024

Impressions: 38,760

The Museum of Culpeper History recently announced events that will take place later this month in conjunction with the VA250 commemoration.

### **NOW PLAYING: Episode 7: "The Divide"**

X: @JamesPAmbuske

May 2, 2024

Impressions: 12,387

Think you know the story of the Proclamation Line? Think again. Listen now: <a href="https://t.co/tHGv1LdqwA">https://t.co/tHGv1LdqwA</a> Featuring @maxedelson, @foreign\_advices, and @MaeveKane This episode was made possible with support from @VARevolution250.

## Commentary: 250 years later, Native Americans have a chance to reclaim the narrative

Richmond Times-Dispatch

May 3, 2024

Impressions: 802,000

Stephen R. Adkins is chief and tribal administrator of the Chickahominy Tribe in Providence Forge, a member of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission and chair of the commission's Tribal Nations Leadership Advisory Council.

## Virginia Beach beefs up its proposed \$2.6 billion budget with last minute additions

The Daily Press, The Virginian-Pilot, vahoo! finance

May 7, 2024

Impressions: 50.2 million

The city would provide \$60,000 to the VA250 Commission, a state-appointed body established by the Virginia General Assembly to commemorate the American Revolution. Virginia Beach currently has a committee to plan local events leading up to the 2026 celebration.

## Music of America concert sponsored by VA250 Committee in Mathews County

WAVY-TV & yahoo! Entertainment

May 8, 2024

Impressions: 429.6 million

The concert is sponsored by the VA250 Committee and is presented by the Courthouse Community Orchestra.

Singing for America: Mathews teen releases patriotic CD for VA250

The Daily Press, @daily\_press

May 8, 2024

Impressions: 1.2 million

Hunter Owens has built a regional following and released two albums of solo performances, the latest a patriotic CD in collaboration with the Mathews County VA250 Commission. Hunter is a youth representative on the committee, which is planning local celebrations prior to and during America's semiquincentennial in 2026.

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

Why three Colonial-era newspapers in Williamsburg called themselves The Virginia Gazette — and even published at the same time

Cardinal 250 podcast with Jeff South on the role of the press in Colonial Virginia

Channeling the life story of the first woman to publish a newspaper in Virginia

<u>Dispatch from 1769: Governor dissolves House of Burgesses; Virginia vows boycott of</u> British goods

Cardinal News May 14, 2024

Impressions: 519,000 (173,000 x3)

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

#### Online exhibit brings life to George Washington's time in Winchester

The Winchester Star

May 14, 2024

Impressions: 139,000

If you're interested in checking out "From Surveyor to Patriot: The Story of George Washington and Fort Loudoun," which was funded by a grant from the VA250 Commission, now would be a great time to do so.

#### Virginia Beach City Council Votes to Adopt Revised FY25 Budget

The Hampton Roads Messenger

May 15, 2024

Impressions: 2,920

The approved Operating Budget includes adding funding to some departments' operating budgets, including \$60,000 to the Planning Department to provide funding for the VA250

Commission, a state-appointed commission to commemorate the American Revolution.

Surry debuts driving tour highlighting Black, indigenous history

The Smithfield Times May 16, 2024

Impressions: 17,000

The trail is the brainchild of Surry's VA250 Committee, a 16-member chapter of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission. The statewide body formed in 2020 to plan Virginia's 2025 commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War, which began on April 19, 1775, with an exchange of gunfire between American colonists and British troops in Massachusetts.

## Congratulations to @estesexpress on being named a Top Workplace!

X: @VARevolution250

May 17, 2024 Impressions: 291

We're grateful for their dedication to their employees and their continued support of #VA250.

# VA250 Independence Day celebration at the Virginia State Capitol

Cape Charles Mirror May 19, 2024

Impressions: 3,570

The VA250 Independence Day celebration at the Virginia State Capitol is set to be an extraordinary event like never before! Inspired by John Adams' grand vision, this year's festivities will take place on the State Capitol's majestic grounds, transforming it into a vibrant hub of activity reflecting Virginia's diverse history.

Get ready for a fun photo challenge!

served up at Gelati Celesti stores. Drop your most creative and historically relevant name suggestion in the comments below. The more it ties to the anniversary, the better. This flavor will also be featured during the July 4th event at the Virginia State Capitol so don't forget to RSVP!

## 250th Anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's Purchase of Natural Bridge To Be Celebrated

The RoanokeStar.com June 5, 2024

Impressions: 19,500

A Bridge to Revolution is presented by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), Natural Bridge State Park, the Rockbridge Historical Society and Lexington & Rockbridge Area Tourism.

## **Commemorating Loudoun's Revolutionary War History**

Loudoun Now June 6, 2024

Impressions: 65,200

Loudoun VA250 is one of approximately 130 local committees around the Commonwealth to join the statewide effort established by the Virginia General Assembly in 2020. With the tagline "Virginia's History is America's Story," the Commonwealth was among the first states to create a 250 commission.

Delegate @CarrieCoyner is at Historic Hopewell Foundation spreading the word about VA250 and the epic Fourth of July celebration planned at the Virginia State Capitol! Don't miss it! RSVP

The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

Exciting day for our secondary fine arts and history departments! Tune into @WTKR3 next Monday to learn about how we are collaborating across disciplines to highlight local history #VA250

X: @tiffanytruitt June 12, 2024 Impressions: 2,900

#### **Commemorating the Loudoun Resolves**

Loudoun Now June 13, 2024

Impressions: 56,500

On June 15, the Loudoun County Courthouse will be the scene of a public commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the Loudoun Resolves, the adoption of which was a significant step in Virginia's march toward the American Revolution. The event will be hosted by the Sergeant John Champe Chapter of the Virginia Sons of the American Revolution, and involve many chapters of the SAR and Daughters of the American Revolution.

### Staunton among 25 Virginia localities awarded tourism funds from VA250

The Augusta Free Press & Our Community News

June 14, 2024

Impressions: 223,300

"The VA250 Marketing Leverage Program provides a chance to share Virginia's many untold stories of revolution and spark a sense of wonder in visitors and Virginians alike," VA250 Executive Director Cheryl Wilson said. "We're thrilled to see these grants come to life, and we encourage local organizations with hidden gems of history to apply."

## Louisa County trail getting funding to help commemorate VA250

WCAV-TV June 14, 2024

Impressions: 134,000

According to a release, the funding is coming through VTC's VA250 Marketing Leverage Program, which is a reimbursable grant program leveraging existing marketing funds.

NOW SCOOPING: "Apple Doodle Dandy"! VA250's limited-edition ice cream, inspired by Virginia apple pie, is the taste of freedom on a spoon! True patriots won't want to miss out. But hurry! It's available only at @GelatiCelesti stores through July 4th.

X: @VARevolution June 19, 2024 Impressions: 314

#### Area groups get tourism money for America 250

Information Charlottesville

June 20, 2024

Impressions: unknown

All across Virginia, localities and tourism destinations are planning for the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

## Your guide to 13 upcoming Richmond-area festivals this season

Richmond Times-Dispatch

June 20, 2024

Impressions: 873,000

July 4: See the majestic Virginia State Capitol grounds transform into a vibrant spot for celebration through performances of spoken word, dance, and music as a prelude to unifying and inspiring keynote remarks and a very special finale.

### **Connect RVA: VA250 4th of July Celebration!**

WRLH-TV June 24, 2024

Impressions: 7,330

Connect RVA's Troy Michel spoke with Cheryl Wilson, the Executive Director of the VA250 Commission, to learn all about the upcoming 4th of July Celebration at the State Capitol.

## Virginia school paints new mural, showcases the rich history of Isle of Wight County

WTKR-TV

June 25, 2024

Impressions: 526,000

This was Isle of Wight County School's first project for the nationwide America250 project. It highlights the importance local history has played in the founding of our country.

## Va. State Capitol is hosting exhibition on Revolutionary War

Gazette Leader June 25, 2024

Impressions: 33,400

"On behalf of the VA250 Commission, we are pleased to partner with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Battlefield Trust to bring the American Revolution Experience to the Virginia State Capitol," VA250 Executive Director Cheryl Wilson said. "This innovative exhibit offers an engaging and interactive way for Virginians of all ages to connect

with the rich history of the Revolutionary War and the stories of the people who shaped our nation."

## **Tourism in Culpeper!**

WTTG-TV June 26, 2024

Impressions: 2.19 million

FOX 5 DC is joined by the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission!

# VA250: Harrisonburg, Rockingham County committees need volunteers to plan anniversary

Augusta Free Press June 26, 2024

Impressions: 190,000

The group is currently working to have local photographs included in the VA250 exhibit and to schedule the VA250 interactive mobile museum to visit Harrisonburg. Join us in celebrating our rich heritage and contributing to a memorable commemoration of our nation's history.

## 'American Revolution Experience': VA250 pop-up exhibit opens in Richmond

Augusta Free Press June 26, 2024

Impressions: 190,000

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) is excited to announce the opening of the "American Revolution Experience" at the Virginia State Capitol.

#### Ring in the Fourth of July at the Virginia State Capitol Bell Tower

WRIC-TV June 27, 2024

Impressions: 1.44 million

"VA250 aims to create a truly unforgettable Fourth of July celebration that resonates throughout the Commonwealth," said VA250 executive director Cheryl Wilson in the release "Imagine the joyous sounds of bells echoing everywhere, reminding us of the shared history and values that bind us together."

## **Semiquincentennial Committee Looking For Help**

Daily News-Record June 27, 2024

Impressions: 70,300

"By examining the past, we gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of our present society. In preparation for the 250th anniversary, the American Association of State and Local History has introduced five themes to encourage greater participation and guide our educational programs. I am eager to see how the historical sites, schools, organizations, and VA250 committees will interpret and share our unique local stories," said Penny Imeson, director of Rocktown History

### VA250 hosts American Revolution Experience traveling exhibit at Virginia State Capitol

WRVAHub June 27, 2024 Impressions: 7,770

"On behalf of the VA250 Commission, we are pleased to partner with the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Battlefield Trust to bring the American Revolution Experience to the Virginia State Capitol," VA250 Executive Director Cheryl Wilson said. "This innovative exhibit offers an engaging and interactive way for Virginians of all ages to connect with the rich history of the Revolutionary War and the stories of the people who shaped our nation."

#### **Visit Yorktown Virginia**

Coastal Virginia Magazine June 27, 2024

Impressions: 22,900

In preparation for the Virginia250 celebration—the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence—Yorktown is planning to commemorate several milestones that led up to the 1781 victory in Yorktown and, ultimately, the end of the Revolutionary War. This will include the Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour, the Yorktown Victory Market, and an exciting weekend of events to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Yorktown Tea Party.

#### A time for civics education

Cardinal News June 27, 2024

Impressions: 213,000

VA250 commission member Jamie Bosket is the president & CEO of the Virginia Museum of History and Culture, which will mark America's 250th anniversary with a dramatic investment in history and civics leading up to and beyond 2026.

#### Virginians invited to take part in statewide bell-ringing on July 4

Cardinal News June 28, 2024

Impressions: 213,000

On July 4 at 5 p.m., the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission will kick off the bell-ringing at the Bell Tower at the State Capitol in Richmond. The bell will toll 13 times, symbolizing the original 13 Colonies.

[RT] @robenfarzad:

history: the 250th anniversaries of our nation's birth in 2026 and the Revolutionary War's end at Yorktown in 2031. VA250's mission deeply resonates with me – fostering civic engagement and educating Virginians about their rich, diverse history.

### VA250 leads statewide bell-ringing ceremony for Fourth of July

Shore Daily News

July 2, 2024

Impressions: 37,800

On July 4th at precisely 5:00 pm, the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) will kick off a powerful moment of unity at the Virginia State Capitol Bell Tower. The historic bell will toll 13 times, symbolizing the original 13 colonies that won their independence.

### Arlington bell-ringing to celebrate nation's birthday

Gazette Leader July 2, 2024

Impressions: 33,400

"We'll be doing this alongside bells all over the state," said Annette Benbow, who is leading the Arlington effort to commemorate the nation's 250th birthday in 2026.

### Botetourt County committee churches to join bell ringing on July 4th

Roanoke Times July 2, 2024

Impressions: 233,000

The Botetourt Preservation Partnership is issuing a clarion call for churches and others with bells to mark the occasion in the same manner, according to a release sent as a reminder by the county's VA 250th Committee.

#### **VA250 Fourth of July Celebration returns to State Capitol**

WWBT-TV July 3, 2024

Impressions: 36,200

VA250 is hosting its annual Fourth of July Celebration at the Virginia State Capitol.

# <u>Celebrate Independence Day at the Virginia State Capitol</u> (VIDEO)

WRIC-TV July 3, 2024

Impressions: 1.44 million

"You have a lot of choices of where to go for the Fourth of July, but this is the only time that you can be part of the nation's 250th anniversary which culminates in 2026," Cheryl Wilson,

executive director for the VA250 Commission, told 8News. "It's the only time where the Fourth of July is both familiar as well as new. I think it's going to be an inspirational program."

## Marquis De Lafayette joins Pamplin Park's July 4 celebration

The Altavista Journal

July 3, 2024

Impressions: 4,350

This event is a part of the VA250 celebrations taking place across Virginia, to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolutionary War for independence.

## America 250: How Maryland, Virginia and D.C. will mark the milestone

Washington Business Journal

July 3, 2024

Impressions: 4.75 million

The U.S. commission hoped to help foster, catalyzing action while allowing its partners to take the lead at a local level, per Chery Wilson, executive director of the VA250 Commission.

## VA250 Leads Statewide Bell-Ringing Ceremony for Fourth of July

WYDaily

July 3, 2024

Impressions: 128,000

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250), established to commemorate Virginia's role in the 250th anniversary of American independence, is inviting Virginians to join in a historic statewide bell-ringing ceremony this Fourth of July.

#### What to know about Thursday's Independence Day event at the Virginia State Capitol

Richmond Times-Dispatch

July 4, 2024

Impressions: 656,000

"The 4th of July celebrates the Declaration of Independence, written by Thomas Jefferson. He designed the State Capitol and served as Virginia's first governor after independence from England was declared," Carly Fiorina, honorary chair of VA250 said. "Future Independence Day celebration locations will be announced as we approach 2025 and 2026."

## VA250 Fourth of July Celebration social media coverage

https://www.instagram.com/p/C8 5IRZiFT0/

https://twitter.com/VAAPICaucus/status/1809049189419991114

https://twitter.com/GayleneKan56273/status/1809047703675924936

https://twitter.com/GullyoftheSun/status/1809044436103368910

https://twitter.com/VARevolution250/status/1809041781939433503

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C9BJw YOQgu/

https://www.instagram.com/p/C9DXV6YxJtj/

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C9A--byN6fO/

https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1043491380698516&set=a.577692147278444

https://www.instagram.com/p/C9AM8szNU1C/

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1147596246319018

https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1520298598578498&ref=sharing

https://twitter.com/say\_rahh /status/1809061293808308458

https://twitter.com/KarenKyia/status/1809307907013636358

https://twitter.com/HawkDiesel1906/status/1809305377533509910

https://twitter.com/VARevolution250/status/1809297490505789620

https://www.instagram.com/p/C9Cg7YwRUjz/

https://twitter.com/GovernorVA/status/1809301620724752452

### Valley VA250 Committees seeking help planning 2026 commemoration

WHSV-TV July 4, 2024

Impressions: 364,000

"Milestones are crucial for reflecting on the evolution of our communities and cultures. By examining the past, we gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of our present society. In preparation for the 250th anniversary, the American Association of State and Local History has introduced five themes to encourage greater participation and guide our educational programs," Imeson said. "I am eager to see how the historical sites, schools, organizations, and VA250 committees will interpret and share our unique local stories."

#### \$20M to go to preserving historic sites in Virginia

yahoo! news & Fox5 Washington DC July 17, 2024

Impressions: 31 million (28.7 million + 2.31 million)

The state's Department of Historic Resources has launched a special grant program, the Virginia 250 Preservation Fund, to prepare historic landmarks for visitors. Youngkin's office says this will all mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence in 2026.

# <u>'Stewards of American history': Virginia 250 provides \$20M for 250th U.S. anniversary preparations</u>

The Augusta Free Press July 17, 2024

Impressions: 93,300

"The Virginia 250 Preservation Fund is critical to ensuring that Virginia is prepared to host millions of Americans for the semiquincentennial celebration of our glorious history. As home to

Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Patrick Henry and the Battle of Hampton to the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia was at the forefront of our history. Bolstering our historic sites and museums will not only encourage and aid tourism, it is our responsibility as stewards of American history," Youngkin said.

Governor Glenn Youngkin Announces \$20 Million for Historic Preservation Capital Improvements Ahead of Nation's Semiquincentennial

RealRadio804.com July 18, 2024 Impressions: 8,730

Governor Glenn Youngkin today announced that the Virginia 250 Preservation Fund has been launched ahead of the 250th anniversary of the 1776 U.S. Declaration of Independence. The Department of Historic Resources (DHR) will administer the \$20,000,000 state funds for historic preservation projects across Virginia.

## For King and Country: The Life of The British Soldier

TheRoanokeStar.com

July 20, 2024

Impressions: 34,600

This talk is a VA250 event. On July 4, 2026, the United States will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In preparation for the anniversary, the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) is encouraging localities across Virginia to commemorate the Revolution with events and activities that showcase local history.

# <u>Gov. Glenn Youngkin Announces \$20M for Historic Preservation Capital Improvements</u> Ahead of Nation's Semiquincentennial

WYDaily July 21, 2024

Impressions: 92,400

"The Virginia 250 Preservation Fund is critical to ensuring that Virginia is prepared to host millions of Americans for the semiquincentennial celebration of our glorious history. As home to Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Patrick Henry and the Battle of Hampton to the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia was at the forefront of our history. Bolstering our historic sites and museums will not only encourage and aid tourism, it is our responsibility as stewards of American history," said Youngkin.

# Local efforts to mark nation's 250th birthday moving forward

Gazette Leader July 22, 2024

Impressions: 27,300

"It's about the entire 250 years – there's good, there's bad. We should celebrate the good and commemorate the bad," said Annette Benbow, who has been tasked by the Arlington government to lead events heading into the 250th anniversary in July 2026 of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

# Governor Glenn Youngkin Announces \$20 Million for Historic Preservation Capital Improvements Ahead of Nation's Semiquincentennial

RiverCountryNews.com July 22, 2024 Impressions: 1,990

"The Virginia 250 Preservation Fund is critical to ensuring that Virginia is prepared to host millions of Americans for the semi-quincentennial celebration of our glorious history. As home to Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Patrick Henry and the Battle of Hampton to the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia was at the forefront of our history. Bolstering our historic sites and museums will not only encourage and aid tourism, it is our responsibility as stewards of American history," said Governor Glenn Youngkin.

# Governor Glenn Youngkin announces \$20 million for Historic Preservation Capital Improvements ahead of Nation's Semiquincentennial

Shore Daily News July 23, 2024

Impressions: 37,000

"The Virginia 250 Preservation Fund is critical to ensuring that Virginia is prepared to host millions of Americans for the semiquincentennial celebration of our glorious history. As home to Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Patrick Henry and the Battle of Hampton to the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia was at the forefront of our history. Bolstering our historic sites and museums will not only encourage and aid tourism, it is our responsibility as stewards of American history," said Governor Glenn Youngkin.

# <u>Hundreds Gather in Alexandria, Virginia for Historic 250th Anniversary of Fairfax</u> <u>Resolves</u>

The Zebra July 24, 2024

Impressions: 26,100

Carly Fiorina is national chair of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission. The former Hewlett-Packard CEO has deep Virginia roots and moved back to the Commonwealth from California 13 years ago. She and her husband live in Lorton. "Virginia has always been the crucible of our nation. In so many ways, our nation began here in Alexandria 250 years ago," Fiorina began in her keynote address.

Q&A: USA @250 & why historical tourism is expected to increase

Digital Journal July 25, 2024

Impressions: 123,000

Planning for the anniversary started all the way back in 2016. There are already several websites dedicated to it, including the all-encompassing America250 and Virgina's own VA250, all with information about how people can participate, plan and even donate to their local efforts to celebrate this momentous occasion.

## **Celebrating our history: Annual First Africans Day at Stratford Hall**

The Free Lance-Star

July 25, 2024

Impressions: 158,000

First Africans Day is organized by Northern Neck 250, a committee dedicated to sponsoring events related to historical sites, groups, agencies and more. The day is filled with opportunities to learn more about the history of those who were enslaved as well as the specific history of Stratford Hall.

## **Grant funding to help mark anniversary of American Revolution**

CBS19News Charlottesville

July 25, 2024

Impressions: 86,200

"These grants continue to be a cornerstone for organizations dedicated to commemorating Virginia's pivotal role in the American Revolution," said Cheryl Wilson, executive director of the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission. "By funding projects that illuminate the lives of those who shaped our nation, we are not only honoring the past but also inspiring future generations."

#### Preservation Fund to prepare for U.S. 250th anniversary

Times-Virginian July 26, 2024

Impressions: 12,000

The purpose of the special fund is to support capital improvement projects at historic sites and museums that anticipate a significant increase in visitation during the upcoming semiquincentennial in 2026.

### Revolutionary embers sparked in Albemarle 250 years ago

WFLX-TV July 26, 2024

Impressions: 171,000

On this day in 1774, Thomas Jefferson led the county in a stand against British Parliament. The Sons of the American Revolution commemorated the 250th anniversary of the proclamation of the Albemarle County Resolves by reading it out loud.

### New Visit Williamsburg CEO looks to guide area into new age of tourism

Virginia Gazette & Virginian Pilot

August 5, 2024 Impressions: 1,102

Harris called the upcoming Virginia 250 commemorations, which will recognize the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, "once in a generation type of (commemorations) that I believe can help springboard Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown's tourism into another big run of tourism in the future as the spotlight is put on our important American history."

#### **General Andrew Lewis: Colonial Hero at The Salem Museum**

TheRoanokeStar.com August 12, 2024 Impressions: 11,700

On July 4, 2026, the United States will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. In preparation for the anniversary, the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) is encouraging localities across Virginia to commemorate the Revolution with events and activities that showcase local history. The Salem Museum's General Andrew Lewis: Colonial Hero event is one such VA250 event, focusing on life in Virginia's western frontier during the Colonial era.

#### **CARDINAL 250 PROJECT**

Across Virginia, localities are hosting events related to upcoming 250th anniversary of Declaration of Independence

<u>250 years ago, Virginia saw a summer of resolutions. Here's how Essex County remembers theirs.</u>

Cardinal 250 podcast about Essex County's reenactment of its historic resolutions

<u>From villain to hero? Norfolk-born writer reassesses Lord Dunmore, Virginia's last Colonial governor</u>

Cardinal News

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The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Cardinal News has embarked on a three-year project to tell the little-known stories of Virginia's role in the march to independence. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.