

Liberty and Prosperity

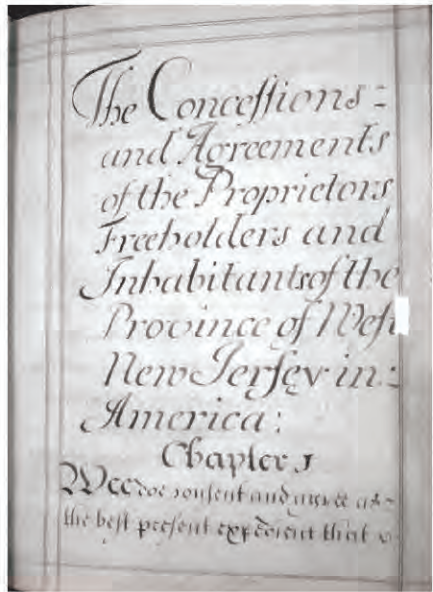
TEACHING CALENDAR 2024

IMPORTANT LESSONS FOR EVERY MONTH

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Our mission is to learn, teach, and apply these self-evident truths which guided America since 1776. We are all created equal. We are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights. Among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights, governments as instituted, exercising their just powers from the consent of the governed...



Above: A copy of one of several charters issued by the British government between 1664 and 1676. Each of them limited the powers of government and guaranteed certain specific rights to each individual "planted" in its new colonies of East and West New Jersey.

Liberty and Prosperity 1776 Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt educational charity. The words "Liberty and Prosperity" have been the motto of New Jersey since 1776. We formed our organization 20 years ago in 2003. We have been active in and around Atlantic City ever since.

We agree that America was never perfect; however, when Americans understood and respected our Constitution and founding principles of liberty, our country brought more wealth, opportunity, and justice to more people than any other nation in history.

President Abraham Lincoln said those principles are found in these "sentiments" embodied in the Declaration of Independence, which created our nation on July 4, 1776:

We are all created equal. We are endowed by our Creator with certain unalienable rights. Among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights, governments are instituted among us exercising their just powers from the consent of the governed.

The 13 British colonies that became the United States did not have gold, silver, or trade routes to Asia like the Spanish colonies in Mexico and Central and South America. Nevertheless, England offered something far more valuable to those who settled in its North American colonies: **Liberty!**



AD SPACE





In 1664, the British government issued written “Concessions and Agreements” to protect the rights of every person it “planted” in its colonies of East and West New Jersey. Those rights included specific “freedoms and immunities” consistent with “the laws and customs of England” and a new freedom of religion.

Britain also recognized their right to create and run their own governments and make their own laws. It required only that those laws be “consonant with reason” and that all taxes be “assessed equally.”

The first governments in New Jersey were small and very inexpensive. Most counties had only four paid officials: a clerk, judge, sheriff, and surrogate. The clerk kept a public record of every deed so everyone would know the rightful owners of all land in the county. The judge decided disputes. The sheriff enforced laws and judgments with the help of citizens he could summon as his “posse comitatus” (power of the community). The surrogate protected the rights of widows, orphans, and those entitled to the property of persons who had died. These original county officials, now known as “Constitutional Officers,” were elected but not paid with taxes. Instead, they collected fees from those who used their services.

Taxes were very low. They were used mostly to pay for roads, bridges, and public buildings. There was only one tax: a tax on real estate. It was paid by “freeholders,” people who owned real estate. Only freeholders could vote or hold public office, so only those who paid taxes decided how much to collect and spend. The freeholders of each county elected representatives to the General Assembly for the whole colony. The governor was appointed by the king, but he could not impose any taxes or spend any money without approval of the General Assembly.

Americans who lived in the colony of New Jersey, like those in the other 12 British colonies, had less government, lower taxes, and more freedom than almost any other people in history. Most Americans lived in better homes and were better fed, healthier, and taller than their European counterparts. America was soon known in much of Europe as “Das Land Der Unbegrenzten Moeglichkeiten” (the Land of Boundless Opportunities).

Sources: Original founding documents of New Jersey at njstatelib.org and A History of the American People by Paul Johnson, HarperCollins Publishing, New York (1998)





The Religious Society of Friends was a popular Christian movement in England that began in the 1650s. Its members were called “Quakers” by detractors who mocked them for often being emotional and animated at prayer meetings. Although they were Protestants, Quakers rejected the leadership and certain practices of other Protestant denominations, including the Church of England. Quakers opposed war and slavery. They supported nontraditional leadership roles for women. Because of their beliefs, they were often persecuted, barred from public office, and even arrested and imprisoned. Many moved to America, where some were treated even worse. Three Quakers were put to death in Massachusetts between 1659 and 1661.

In 1681, the British government gave ownership of Pennsylvania to Quaker leader William Penn. Penn founded the city of Philadelphia and a new colony that guaranteed religious freedom. At that time, many Quakers were already buying land and moving to New Jersey, on the other side of the Delaware River.

One of them was John Townsend. He moved from Long Island, New York, to settle in what is now Cape May during the 1690s. Townsend hunted whales, which were then plentiful in Delaware Bay. He made large profits processing whale products and shipping them throughout the world.

Another was John Somers. Somers bought and cleared land for a farm in what is now Somers Point. He also ran a ferry across the Egg Harbor River. It connected the stagecoach road to Cape May with the stagecoach road to New York. His son Richard built the stone house that still stands on the hill overlooking the bridge between Somers Point and Ocean City.



Above: Somers Mansion still stands on the hill near the bridge to Ocean City in Somers Point, New Jersey. It was built by Richard Somers around 1725. He was the son of John Somers, who first settled the area around 1693.

James Somers, a nephew, built a farm in what is now Linwood. He also built a dam across Patcong Creek, where the new dam beneath Central Avenue stands today. That dam created Bargaintown Pond, also known as Bargaintown Lake. Water running over the dam turned the wheels of two mills: a grist mill to grind corn and wheat into flour and a sawmill to cut logs into lumber.

In the early 1700s, local blacksmiths found clay and bog iron in nearby swamps. They built furnaces and forges of clay to extract the iron and make horseshoes, nails, tools, and other iron products. In 1766, they built a large iron furnace in Batsto.



By the late 1700s, skilled carpenters were designing ships and using local resources to build them. George May and Christopher Rape began building ships along the Egg Harbor River in and around Mays Landing during the 1780s. At that time, the Van Sant family built ships along the Mullica River in what is now Galloway Township.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Above: Employees of "Depression-proof" Apex News and Hair Company, created and owned by Sara Spencer Washington, in front of a shop on Arctic Avenue in Atlantic City, New Jersey, in the 1930s.

The last Confederate armies surrendered in April 1865. Republican majorities in Congress and state legislatures added three amendments to the U.S. Constitution in 1865, 1868, and 1870. These amendments ended slavery and guaranteed equal rights, including voting rights, to all former slaves. However, white Democrats in the South continued a deadly guerrilla war against black Americans who tried to exercise their new legal rights – and against any whites who dared to defend them. These white Democrats also fought a dishonest propaganda war to win sympathy and political support in the North. In 1877, they won enough votes in Congress to remove Union troops who were protecting blacks in the South. Millions of black Americans then fled the South during the "Great Migration."

Col. John McKee, a free black man from Virginia, moved to Philadelphia before the Civil War. He fought in the Union army and later became a colonel in the Pennsylvania National Guard. He became wealthy by investing in real estate. In 1884, he built a new town in Egg Harbor Township for black Americans fleeing persecution in the South. That area is still known as McKee City.

George Henry White, a former slave from North Carolina, was a successful lawyer and Republican leader who was twice elected to Congress. Even he had to move north to enjoy a normal life in 1901. White founded a bank to help empower blacks economically. He also bought land in Middle Township in Cape May County where he built the town of Whitesboro for blacks leaving the South.

Alma and Clifton Washington came to Atlantic City in the 1920s. They built and operated a successful bar and restaurant there called Wash's Inn. They called Atlantic City the "New Promised Land." Their story is told by their granddaughter, Turiya S.A. Raheem, in her book "Growing Up in the Other Atlantic City: Wash's and the Northside."

Sara Spencer Washington opened a beauty parlor on Baltic Avenue in Atlantic City in 1911. Over the next 20 years, she grew her business into the Apex News and Hair Company – a multimillion-dollar enterprise that manufactured and sold cosmetics throughout the United States and Canada. The company also ran beauty schools and hair salons and published a popular magazine. It even built and operated what is now known as the Pomona Golf & Country Club in Galloway Township. It was open to players of all races when all other country clubs near Atlantic City refused to admit African-Americans.

Source: *Golden Beauty Boss: The Story of Madame Sara Spencer Washington and the Apex Empire*: Woodruff-Brooks, Cheryl: 9781620062616: Amazon.com: Books



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Groundhog Day	3
4	5	6 Ronald Reagan's Birthday	7	8	9	10
11	12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday	13	14 Valentine's Day Ash Wednesday Frederick Douglass' Observed Birthday	15	16	17
18	19 George Washington's Birthday Presidents' Day (Observed Federal Holiday)	20	21	22 George Washington's Birthday (Actual Date)	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

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The “Commodore” and “Nucky” are fictional characters in the HBO TV series “Boardwalk Empire”. However, there was a real “Commodore” in Atlantic City named Louis Kuehnle. He learned politics at age 18 in 1878 while running his father’s hotel and saloon. Kuehnle soon became a popular Republican leader. He collected “ice money” from those who got government jobs, contracts, and other favors through politics. He then used that money to help those in need. Kuehnle won the friendship and votes of those he helped, especially blacks in Atlantic City’s Northside. At that time, most blacks voted for Republicans. Kuehnle used his political power to allow electric and telephone companies to compete and provide low rates and efficient service. Officials backed by the Commodore paved Atlantic City’s streets. They also bought a lake near Pleasantville and built a pipeline to provide Atlantic City with abundant fresh water. Kuehnle hired the best engineers and companies in America to give Atlantic City a modern electric streetcar line and an efficient sewerage system. He also used his political power to stop “progressives” in the state government from banning liquor sales. All this helped make Atlantic City the “World’s Famous Playground” by 1900. Kuehnle Avenue in Venice Park is named after him. Kuehnle was called the Commodore because he ran the Atlantic City Yacht Club.

There was also a real “Nucky.” Kuehnle was a close friend and political ally of Smith Johnson, Atlantic County’s Republican sheriff. Kuehnle brought Johnson’s son, Enoch “Nucky” Johnson, into politics and became his mentor. For years, New Jersey Democratic Governor Woodrow Wilson opposed and investigated Kuehnle and his Republican political organization. In 1913, Wilson’s state attorneys indicted, convicted, and jailed Kuehnle for violating various election and corruption laws. Nucky ran the Commodore’s Republican organization for the next 27 years. FBI agents under Democratic President Franklin Roosevelt spent years investigating Nucky during the 1930s. In 1941, they indicted and convicted him for not paying income tax on his share of profits from illegal gambling in Atlantic City. Nucky was sentenced to 10 years in prison but was paroled after four years.

Unlike the fictional characters in “Boardwalk Empire,” neither Commodore Kuehnle nor Nucky Johnson did business with violent gangsters like Al Capone, Arnold Rothstein, Meyer Lansky, or Charles “Lucky” Luciano; however, they did entertain them when they were here on vacation.

Source: Nelson Johnson, Boardwalk Empire (2002).



MARCH <i>We the People</i> 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time Starts	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 First Day of Spring	20	21	22	23 Jewish Festival of Purim
24 Palm Sunday	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 Easter					Good Friday Vietnam War Veterans Day	

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DR. JONATHAN PITNEY.

Before Atlantic City was founded, very few Americans enjoyed cool breezes by the beach or sea bathing in the ocean on hot summer days. There were only a handful of small, expensive, and remote seashore resorts like Cape May.

Jonathan Pitney, a medical doctor, moved to Absecon in 1820 at age 23. He enjoyed swimming in the ocean and walking on the empty beaches of nearby Absecon Island every summer. For 30 years, Pitney dreamed of building a health resort there. Then he met Samuel Richards, a wealthy Hammonton businessman. Pitney persuaded Richards to help make that dream a reality.

In 1853, the two formed a corporation that sold stock to investors. They raised enough money to buy all of Absecon Island and 54 miles of right-of-way through farms and pine forests that stretched west to Camden. They easily obtained state permits for their “railroad to nowhere.” No competitors took their project seriously. Pitney and Richards completed their new Camden and Atlantic Railroad and a new 600 room luxury hotel on Absecon Island in less than a year. They also persuaded the state to establish Atlantic City as a new and separate town. All this was done just before the first tourists arrived in July 1854.

In 1877, Richards built a second high-speed railroad in less than 90 days. By 1900, Atlantic City was a world-famous resort with 27,000 residents. In 1904, the fastest trains in the world ran between Atlantic City and Philadelphia with speeds reaching up to 115 miles per hour.

Sources: Nelson Johnson, *Boardwalk Empire* (2002) and [Wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_City_Railroad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_City_Railroad)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 April Fools' Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Jewish Passover (Pesach)	23	24	25	26 Arbor Day	27
28	29 Passover Ends	30				

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Between 1880 and 1920, more than 20 million immigrants came to America from Europe. They included 4 million Italians, 2 million Jews, and 1.6 million Irish. Thousands of them came to Atlantic City.



From left to right: Jerry Lewis, Paula Jane, Paul "Skinny" D'Amato, and Dean Martin (1950s).

Emilio D'Amato came to Atlantic City from Italy in the 1890s. He opened a small bar and restaurant in the Italian-American Ducktown neighborhood. He and his wife had six children including Paul, who was known as "Skinny." Skinny was 14 when his father died in 1922. He and his brother borrowed \$45 to

rent a pool hall and start a business to support their mother and four sisters. They sold cigars and cigarettes in the front; in the back, they took bets for horse races and ran pool, card, and dice games for gamblers. Within five years, Skinny and his brother were running 15 of these "horse joints." Both were masters at shuffling and dealing cards. Skinny was handsome, well dressed, and charming. He was polite and fair with customers, performers, employees, and everyone with whom he did business. These qualities gave him the money and support he needed to buy and open the world-famous 500 Club on Missouri Avenue. Throughout the 1940s and 1950s, America's top entertainers, including Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, and Jerry Lewis, performed there on a regular basis.

Source: Grace Anselmo D'Amato, *Chance of a Lifetime* (2001)

Harry Schultz left Russia when he was 14 and came to live with his brother in Philadelphia. He worked at a candy factory there for \$3 per week. Later, he earned more money working as a stockboy and then as a salesman at several Philadelphia clothing stores. After learning the business, he moved to Atlantic City and opened Schultz Men's Clothing on Atlantic Avenue. From the 1920s to the 1960s, it was one of the best-known and most successful high-end men's clothing stores in the area. In 2009, Margate attorney and builder Leo Schoffer published a book telling similar stories about dozens of other successful businesses built by Jewish immigrants during that time. Every ethnic group that came to Atlantic City during those years told similar success stories.

Source: Leo Schoffer, *A Dream, A Journey, A Community* (2009)



Above: Schultz Upscale Men's Clothing Shop on Illinois and Atlantic avenues in Atlantic City, New Jersey (1920s).



MAY							2024
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1	2 Victory in Europe Day (1945)	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18 Armed Forces Day	
19 Pentecost	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31		

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John L. Young

John Lake Young was born in Absecon, New Jersey, in 1853. As a teenager, Young worked summers as a lifeguard in Atlantic City and as a skilled carpenter during the off-season. One of his first jobs was putting up the large wooden building shaped like an elephant that still stands in Margate. It was built by a real estate developer to attract curious tourists from Atlantic City to vacant lots he was selling nearby. At age 30, Young was doing patch and repair work on the Boardwalk when he met a successful Philadelphia baker named Steward McShea. The two became friends and business partners. For the next 10 years, they built and operated very profitable amusements, rides, activities, and carnival games on the Atlantic City Boardwalk. These included a spectacular carousel and a roller-skating rink. In 1891, the two bought and expanded one of very few piers permitted over the beach and ocean. To attract bigger crowds, they added an aquarium, a theater, and ballrooms for dancing and concerts. One of their most popular new attractions was a giant fishing net. It was used to haul in all sorts of fish and other

marine life every day. In 1907, Young built an even bigger pier that he called the "Million Dollar Pier." Young later built a luxury mansion at the end of the pier and gave it the address "Number One Atlantic Ocean."

Sources: Unrememberedhistory.com and novanumismatics.com



JUNE *We the People* **2024**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4 New Jersey Primary Election Day	5	6 D-Day Allied Invasion of Normandy in 1944	7	8
9	10	11	12 Shavuot (Jewish Pentecost)	13	14 Flag Day U.S. Army Formed in 1775	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19 Juneteenth (Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation Enforced in Galveston, Texas)	20	21 First Day of Summer Constitution Ratified in 1788	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Above: A bust of Richard Stockton at Stockton University in Galloway, New Jersey. In August 2017, it was moved from the entrance of the university's main library to an obscure "Special Collections Room".

Stockton University in Atlantic City and Galloway Township is named after Richard Stockton, one of the 56 signers of our Declaration of Independence.

Stockton was born in 1730. His parents were wealthy Quakers who had developed and expanded large and productive farms in and around Princeton, New Jersey. Stockton increased his family's wealth by efficiently managing these farms. He had a special talent for breeding choice cattle and horses. Stockton became a respected lawyer at age 24 and then an active trustee of what is now Princeton University.

Between 1754 and 1763, the British Empire fought the Seven Years' War against France and its allies around the world. In America, it was known as the French and Indian War. The war brought high ranking British government officials and thousands of soldiers to the North American colonies for the first time.

When they saw how wealthy Americans had become, Britain imposed new taxes and restrictions on the American economy.

Stockton and most Americans could easily afford them. However, they believed they violated the written charters that established New Jersey and the other colonies. They believed future taxes and restrictions by the British would destroy the liberty and low taxes that had given them a century of prosperity.

In 1766, at age 36, Stockton traveled to England, Scotland, and Ireland. He explained America's point of view to King George III and Britain's top leaders. In 1768, at age 38, Stockton returned home and became active in politics. He accepted an appointment to the Council of New Jersey, the predecessor to our current state senate. In 1774, after the Boston Tea Party, Stockton tried to negotiate a settlement with Britain but failed. In 1776, Stockton was elected to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia. He signed the Declaration of Independence that July.

In September 1776, the Continental Congress sent Stockton to help prepare upstate New York for an expected British invasion from Canada. On his way home on November 30, Stockton was betrayed by local Tories and captured by the

British. He was held in an unheated prison cell during the freezing weather and given starvation rations. Although he was released after six weeks, his health had deteriorated. The British occupied Stockton's home and took or destroyed most of his possessions, including his prized cattle and horses. Stockton died a sick and broken man in 1781 at age 50.

Beginning in 2017, leftist groups throughout America demanded the removal of statues and monuments for historical figures they claimed were "racist." During this time, statues of Kate Smith, Teddy Roosevelt, Christopher Columbus, and various Confederate leaders including Robert E. Lee were vandalized, torn down, or removed. In August 2017, Stockton University announced that it had removed its bust of Stockton from the entrance of its main library. It claimed Stockton was a slaveowner. Stockton University later prepared to adopt a different "location-based" name.

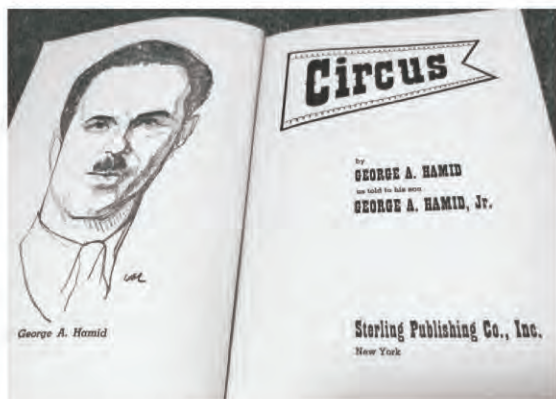
Public records confirm that a black man named Marcus Marsh was born a slave on Stockton's farm in 1765. However, Stockton and his wife raised him with their other children and gave him the same education. Stockton's widow legally declared Marsh free when he was 16 shortly after Stockton died. Marsh later studied and worked as an "apothecary" with Dr. Benjamin Rush, the most respected physician in America. Today, we would say Marsh was both a pharmacist and a physician's assistant.

Stockton's entire family and friends publicly opposed slavery and actively campaigned to end it. Richard Stockton's grandson, Robert Stockton, was the first U.S. Navy commander to seize slave ships from Africa and free their slaves. During the Mexican-American War, Robert Stockton sent his naval forces inland to occupy California and keep pro-slavery forces out of the territory. Stockton, California, is named after him.

Did Richard Stockton benefit from legally owning one or more slaves, or was he an American "Oskar Schindler"? Did Stockton own slaves like Marcus Marsh to give them legal protection while he gave them the education, training, and contacts they needed for free and independent lives? We may never know; the British destroyed all the letters and other documents with that information when they occupied and ransacked Stockton's home in 1777.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day (Declaration of Independence Published in 1776)	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



Above: Biography of George A. Hamid, written and published by his son in 1950.

George Hamid came to New York in 1906 when he was 10. His parents sent him to America to escape the persecution of Christians in their native Lebanon, then part of the Ottoman Empire, also known as the Turkish Empire.

Hamid was trained to be an acrobat and performed with his uncle's troupe. For several years, they toured the world with Buffalo Bill's Wild West show at the height of its popularity. Young Hamid was taught and mentored by Annie Oakley, the show's famous sharpshooter.

In 1913, Hamid, now 17, left his uncle and formed his own troupe. They performed with a traveling vaudeville company that performed in burlesque shows throughout America. That company fell apart after a performance at the Globe Theater in Atlantic City.

Hamid and his brothers survived by doing acrobatic tricks for tips on the beach by the Boardwalk. After a few weeks, they were hired by the nearby Steel Pier. They became an instant success. Hamid soon earned enough to form his own complete traveling show and later his own circus. Hamid bought Steel Pier in 1944. He and his son George Hamid Jr. successfully ran it and other entertainment venues throughout the country for the next 30 years.

Source: George A. Hamid, Jr., *Circus*, Sterling Publishing (1950).



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 U.S. Coast Guard Founded in 1790	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Above: This Statue of Richard Somers was placed in a park dedicated to his memory in Somers Point in 2013. An identical statue stands in Somers, New York, a town named after him shortly after his death in Tripoli in 1804.

Richard Somers was born in Somers Point in 1778. After elementary school, Somers attended Abercrombie’s Episcopal Academy in Philadelphia. Like most Americans, Somers completed school by age 15 and mastered a useful trade by 18. Somers was put in charge of merchant ships sailing between New York and Philadelphia.

At that time, America had no navy. Most Americans thought they were at peace with the world and did not need one after our War for Independence ended in 1783. They were wrong.

For more than a thousand years, small kingdoms on the “Barbary” coast of North Africa sent sea-bandits to attack and seize every ship from non-Muslim nations they could catch. They also sold the captured passengers and crew into slavery.

At first, Britain, Spain and other European nations with navies fought these “Barbary Pirates”. However, by 1783, most paid “tribute” and bought protection rather than fight.

When the Barbary Pirates learned that American ships were no longer protected by Britain, they began to attack and seize them. Since America had no navy, we also paid them tribute.

During the next 15 years, the Barbary kingdoms demanded that America pay more money for tribute. Meanwhile, our defenseless ships were also stopped, seized or attacked by the British and French navies, and by pirates in the Caribbean.

By 1798, most Americans supported the slogan, “Millions for defense. Not one cent for tribute!” America built a new navy. Twenty-year-old Richard Somers was one of the first to join.

In 1801, President Thomas Jefferson refused to pay more tribute. He instead sent our new navy to fight the “Barbary Pirates”. In 1803, Richard Somers at age 24 was given command of a warship with 103 men.

Somers and our new American Navy fought with skill and courage. By August of 1804, three of the four “Barbary Pirate” kingdoms had made peace. Only Tripoli remained at war with us.

On September 4, 1804, Somers and 12 others made a daring attack to quickly win the war against Tripoli. They packed a small ship, Intrepid, with explosives. They planned to sail it into Tripoli harbor, light the fuse, and escape just before it exploded near the enemy fleet. Sadly, it detonated before it was close enough. Richard Somers and all aboard were killed. However, their courage and ingenuity inspired the Americans to keep fighting and persuaded Tripoli to soon make peace.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Labor Day Victory Over Japan Day (1945)	3	4 Richard Somers Dies In Tripoli 1804	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Patriot Day (September 11 Attacks in 2001)	12	13	14
15 Richard Somers Born in Great Egg Harbor, New Jersey, in 1778	16	17 Constitution Day (Constitution Signed in 1787)	18 U.S. Air Force Founded in 1947	19	20 POW/MIA Recognition Day	21
22 First Day of Fall	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Gold Star Mother's Day	30					



Easter Sunday, 1910, on Ocean City, New Jersey, boardwalk.

In 1879, Methodist ministers from Philadelphia and the Lake family of Atlantic County formed an association to create a Christian summer beach resort on Peck's Beach. This was an almost empty island of beaches and sand dunes just south of Absecon Island, where Atlantic City had been built. They planned to name their new resort "Ocean City."

They did much of what Jonathan Pitney and Samuel Richards did with Atlantic City 25 years earlier: in 1880, they bought the entire island. They then laid out streets, divided the island into building lots, and sold them to the public. They also established a new railroad company to bring visitors to and from Camden and Atlantic Railroad line in Pleasantville to Somers Point across the bay. A steam ferry brought visitors from there to the island.

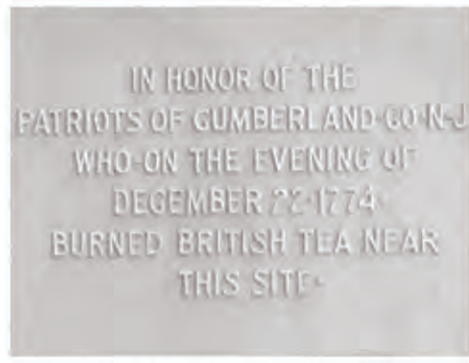
The first bridge to Ocean City was built in 1883. In 1884, the state allowed Peck's Beach to withdraw from Upper Township and have its own local government with the new name of Ocean City.

The founders of Ocean City made their new beach resort far different from Atlantic City. Liquor sales, gambling, and prostitution were all banned from the island. The main attraction was a tabernacle located between 5th and 6th streets. It housed revival meetings, worship services, lectures, and social events to promote Methodist Christian values.

Ocean City's main streets were named after John Wesley and Francis Asbury. Wesley was a preacher and scholar who led a revival movement within the Church of England between 1730 and 1791. He preached to large outdoor gatherings. He was also a fierce opponent of slavery. Wesley later founded the Methodist Church in England and America. Asbury began preaching for the Methodist Church throughout America in 1771. In 1784, he became the leader of the Methodist Church in America. Asbury inspired and helped Richard Allen, who later founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) for African Americans in the United States in 1816.



OCTOBER 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Rosh Hashanah Begins at Sundown	2 Rosh Hashanah	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 Yom Kippur Begins at Sundown	12 Yom Kippur Columbus Lands in America in 1492
13 U.S. Navy Founded in 1775	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		



Above: Monument to tea burning in Greenwich, Cumberland County, on December 22, 1774.

By 1773, most people in New Jersey believed they enjoyed more freedom, wealth and opportunity than any other people in the world. Most also agreed that the limited and inexpensive self-government created by their colonial charters had made that possible.

This explains why so many Americans were angry and afraid when the British Parliament adopted the Tea Act of 1773. This legislation did more than just impose a tax on Americans without their consent. It also bailed out the failed British East India Company by exempting it from taxes and regulations imposed on everybody else. Most Americans were afraid that if this became normal, future taxes and restrictions would make government in America as complicated, expensive, and corrupt as it was in Europe.

On December 16, 1773, citizens in Boston protested the new British tax and corporate bailout. They boarded three British East India Company ships in Boston Harbor and dumped their cargoes of tea into the water. That tea was worth roughly \$1.7 million in today's dollars. During the next six months, similar protests took place in Philadelphia, Annapolis, and other major American port cities. In the fall of 1774, the captain of a ship carrying British East India tea tried to avoid these problems by quietly delivering it to the small New Jersey village of Greenwich in Cumberland County. To his surprise, local farmers discovered, removed, and burned the tea on December 22. Soon afterwards, residents pronounced the name of their town "Green Witch" to demonstrate that they wanted nothing to do with the English town of the same name.



NOVEMBER 2024

Maybe People of the United States

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9
10 U.S. Marine Corps Founded in 1775	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Thanksgiving



Above: George Washington and his army march on Trenton after crossing the Delaware River into New Jersey on the morning of December 26, 1776.

American independence seemed like a lost cause in December 1776. Shortly after the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia on July 4, a massive British fleet of 300 ships, 10,000 sailors and 30,000 soldiers arrived in New York harbor. Some 18,000 of those soldiers were Hessians. They were professional soldiers hired by the British government from Hesse and other independent states in Germany. That August and September, the British and Hessian soldiers destroyed about 90 percent of George Washington's army in battles at Brooklyn, Manhattan, and White Plains, New York. They chased Washington and his remaining 5,000 men out of New Jersey and into Pennsylvania.

Quakers settled much of New Jersey. Most came to America as determined pacifists who opposed all wars. However, many of them later recognized a need to fight to defend themselves and their families. Richard Somers, the father of the U.S. Navy hero with the same name, was one of them. He became the commander of the militia for Gloucester County. At that time, Atlantic and Camden counties were part of Gloucester County.

As they occupied much of New Jersey, many British and Hessian soldiers began to steal property and abuse local women. The militias of New Jersey fought back. Members who were Quakers became known as "fighting Quakers."

When Washington heard of this resistance, he made plans to attack the 1,500 Hessian soldiers under British command in Trenton. That Christmas night, Washington with 2,500 of his soldiers crossed the Delaware River. They won an overwhelming victory the following day. They killed or captured roughly 1,000 Hessian soldiers and suffered only two dead from the cold. One week later, the Americans won a second decisive victory against the main body of British troops at Trenton and a third at Princeton. News of these three American victories in New Jersey instantly revived support for the American cause. It also contributed toward America's victory in 1783, which would enshrine liberty and prosperity for all citizens of the young republic.

Source: David Hackett Fischer, *Washington's Crossing*, 2004.



DECEMBER							2024
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day (Japan Attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941)	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15 Bill of Rights Day (Bill of Rights Ratified in 1791)	16	17	18 New Jersey in 1787 Becomes Third State to Ratify U.S. Constitution	19	20 U.S. Space Force is Founded in 2019	21 First Day of Winter	
22	23	24	25 Christmas Hanukkah Begins at Sunset	26	27	28	
29	30	31 New Year's Eve					

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