

PROCLAMATION

City of Charlotte/Mecklenburg County

WHEREAS, on May 19, 1775, Charlotte Town's founder, Colonel Thomas Polk, called for a convention of the Mecklenburg County militia leaders to be held in Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, those 26 men, upon hearing of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, unanimously adopted resolutions to declare themselves "*a free and independent people*" in a document that came to be known as the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence ("MecDec"); and

WHEREAS, at on May 20, 1775, Colonel Polk read the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence from the County Courthouse to the assembled citizens; and

WHEREAS, on May 31, 1775, members of the Mecklenburg Committee of Safety adopted 20 additional resolutions, which came to be known as the Mecklenburg Resolves; and

WHEREAS, a local tavern owner named Captain James Jack was called upon to deliver the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence and Mecklenburg Resolves to North Carolina's delegates at the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Captain Jack delivered the MecDec, telling the delegates that "*Gentlemen, you may debate here about reconciliation and memorialize your king, but, bear it in mind, Mecklenburg owes no allegiance to, and is separated from the crown of Great Britain forever!*"; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has chosen to recognize the significance of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence by placing the date of its signing, May 20, 1775, upon our State Flag and Great Seal; and

WHEREAS, this May 20, 2021 is the 246th anniversary of the MecDec:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, May 20–24, 2021 as

"MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WEEK"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.


Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor
City of Charlotte




George Dunlap, Chair
Mecklenburg Board of County
Commissioners

