

THE EPOCH TIMES

LIFE &

TRADITION

BIBA KAYEWICH



Our rights as Americans—which were hard-won time and again throughout history—come with great responsibility.

‘Earn This’

Our Rights and Liberties as Americans

Reflections on our nation’s heritage and how to pass on its principles to our young people

JEFF MINICK

In the movie “Saving Private Ryan,” Captain Miller and a squad of soldiers are sent to find and extract from combat a D-Day paratrooper, Private James Ryan, whose three brothers had died that week in military engagements. After a long search, they finally locate the private, but must then join other Americans to fight the attacking Germans. They win the battle, but only two men from the patrol survive this rescue of Ryan.

As Miller lies dying, he pulls Ryan close to him and whispers of his men’s sacrifice, “James, earn this.” Sagging backward, with his last breath he says again: “Earn it.”

This request is as old as our country. From the books, speeches, and letters left behind by the Founding Fathers, we hear those words, “Earn this.” On battlefields from Cowpens to Antietam, from Château-Thierry to Iwo Jima to Khe Sanh, the voices of those who fell murmur to us, “Earn this.” From the countless inventors,

We need to show our young people what it means to live as an American.

farmers, miners, teachers, and millions of others who have helped shape the American Dream, if we listen closely, we hear the words, “Earn this.”

Our Lives, Our Fortunes, and Our Sacred Honor

July Fourth is here once again, meaning that 246 years have passed since the United States declared its independence from Great Britain.

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ALL PHOTOS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN



"The Death of General Warren at the Battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17, 1775," 1786, by John Trumbull.



"George Washington Before the Battle of Trenton," 1792, by John Trumbull.

ART EXPLORATION FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

The Picture of American Independence

ANDREA NUTT FALCE

"The establishment of our new Government seemed to be the last great experiment, for promoting human happiness, by reasonable compact, in civil Society."
—George Washington, in a letter to Catharine Sawbridge Macaulay Graham, Jan. 9, 1790

We're living in the Great Experiment. Established less than 250 years ago, the United States is founded on the revolutionary conviction that independence, hard work, and honor can bear great fruit. Americans benefit from a prosperous legacy of faith, hope, and grit. The treasures of our heritage are a gift that each generation has the power to squander or save.

On July 2, 1776, more than a year into the arms battle for sovereignty, the Continental Congress first approved a resolution declaring U.S. independence from Great Britain. The document, which came to be titled the Declaration of Independence, was drafted and presented by the Committee of Five, which included its primary author, Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, as well as Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Robert R. Livingston of New York, and John Adams of Massachusetts.

In honor of its drafting, Adams sent a letter to his wife Abigail. He wrote: "I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival. It ought to be commemorated, as the Day of Deliverance by solemn Acts of Devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

July 4 is the date emblazoned at the top of the Declaration of Independence because that day marked the final revision of the extraordinary document. Adams's predictions proved correct. The first commemorative festivities for freedom began in the following year, 1777. In Boston, on the first anniversary of the signing of the Declaration, there were fancy dinners, fireworks, and songs. In Philadelphia, ships pulled up and blasted their cannons 13 times for the original colonies to honor independence. There were military displays, small arms fired, fine patriotic colors donned, bells rung, and more fireworks blasted. It was reported that "the face of joy and gladness was universal."

U.S. history recounts the trials, celebrations, and hopes of men and women for freedom. Though in truth, all history is a story of the human struggle for freedom, American history remains exceptional for its courageous success. The United States was created to stand firm against the age-old and inevitable overreach of avaricious government. We're the land promised to men and women of conscience, individuals devoted to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Along with our freedom and prosperity, the spirit of honorable people who blazed a trail to American liberty and independence is rightly commemorated on the Fourth of July. Deep thought and true action are a great portion of our inheritance. Lessons taught by freedom fighters are emblazoned in our minds and on our hearts. Letters, archives, art, and artifacts help us recall what we're made of and what we were made for.

John Trumbull

The work of one Early American artist serves to preserve history particularly well. While you'll certainly recognize his commemorative work, have you ever been introduced to the character of John Trumbull?

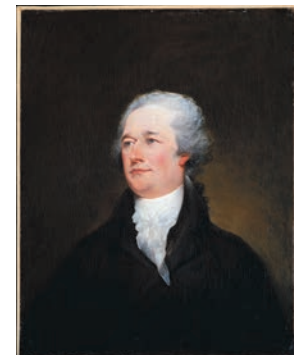
Born in Rhode Island in 1756, Trumbull lost the use of one eye in a childhood accident. Perhaps the accident contributed to his unique perspective. He was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War and an aide-de-camp to Gen. George Washington. He was at the Battle of Bunker Hill, and he painted it! While serving in Boston, he sketched plans of the British and American battle lines to help his budding nation.

Though he earned a less creative degree from Harvard and spent the first years of his adult career as a soldier, Trumbull proved so passionate about art that after serving in the U.S. Continental Army, he sailed to England to pursue painting. Trumbull took a serious risk entering the nation he'd fought against, in order to study traditional methods of painting, and, while in London, his anti-British sentiments gained attention.

On Nov. 20, 1780, in reprisal for the hanging of a British major by Americans for spying, Trumbull was arrested by British authorities on the charges of high treason. He was held in prison until June 1781. When the influence of powerful friends finally effected his release, Trumbull was given 30 days to leave England.

Trumbull returned to Connecticut, where his father had served as governor between 1776 and 1784. While a painter's profession was less than favorable in the eyes of the prominent Trumbull family, Trumbull pursued his chosen path with American determination. He became the portrait artist of American history.

The treasures of our heritage are a gift that each generation has the power to squander or save.



A portrait of Alexander Hamilton, 1792, by John Trumbull.



A self-portrait, 1802, by John Trumbull.

Today, the artist is better remembered than any politician among his once-powerful relatives. Do you know what Alexander Hamilton looked like? Think of the \$10 bill. That iconic image hails from a Trumbull portrait. When one envisions the signing of the Declaration of Independence, it's likely the imagination drafts in part from Trumbull's most famous work, accordingly titled "Declaration of Independence."

It took the artist almost five years and many meetings with American leaders, especially Jefferson, to gather working sketches of the signers. He completed the large painting in 1819. Though some believe his smaller images of the signing were better, Trumbull's "Declaration" remains a monumentally significant historical work of art.

If history is the story of the events, ideas, and actions that have affected people in times past, art comprises the pictures and soundtracks of their tales. Trumbull was a soldier, secretary to statesmen, and a prisoner of war, but the most lasting contribution he made to his nation came in the form of art memorializing the American spirit.

As Adams pointed out, the way we commemorate—how we remember—matters. The only part Adams seemed to mistake about American Independence was the date we'd celebrate. Adams believed Independence Day should be honored on July 2. So staunch was he in that opinion that he would refuse invitations to celebrations held on July Fourth! Still, the Fourth was a powerful day in his life and death.

Adams, signer and great defender of the Declaration of Independence, and second president of the United States of America, died on July 4, 1826—50 years to the day from the first American Fourth of July. Jefferson, primary author of the Declaration of Independence, and third president of the United States, also died on Independence Day, five hours before Adams.

The two leaders had major differences and disagreements, but they were united in writing, hoping, and striving for a great nation. Perhaps divine providence pulled them together.

Jefferson once wrote to Adams: "The simultaneous movements in our correspondence have been really remarkable on several occasions. It would seem as if the state of the air, or state of the times, or some other unknown cause produced a sympathetic effect on our mutual recollections."

Adams's last words were, "Thomas Jefferson survives."

He was right in the essentials. In Trumbull's work, the two giants can still be seen standing together with strong early Americans. Fine works memorialize fine lives. Through both, the vision of American independence survives. It falls to us whether we strip or invest the incredible inheritance of American freedom and prosperity.

Andrea Nutt Falce is a happy wife and mother of four. She is also a Florentine-trained classical realist artist and author of the children's book, "It's a Jungle Out There." Her work can be found at AndreaNutt.com



"Declaration of Independence," 1817-1819, by John Trumbull.



FOR KIDS ONLY

THE EPOCH TIMES

Week 26, 2022

This Week in History

From 'The Declaration of Independence'

"When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation."



PUBLIC DOMAIN

WHY DIDN'T KING GEORGE LIKE THE COLONISTS?



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

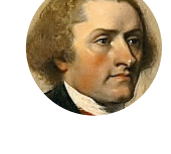
ABRAHAM LINCOLN (1809-1865), 16TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

KIMBERLYPHILIPS/SHUTTERSTOCK

5 DRAFT A DECLARATION

On July 2, 1776, the group of American colonists known as "the committee of five" submitted their draft of what came to be the Declaration of Independence. The authors were: John Adams, Roger Sherman, Robert Livingston, Benjamin Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson, who composed the majority of the work.

The Second Continental Congress then took two days making edits to the document. On July 4, it was unanimously approved by the Congress and stated "that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown ..." One of the most impactful documents in history, signed by 56 men, concluded: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."



By Aidan Danza

THE ROBIN'S NEST

ALL PHOTOS BY SHUTTERSTOCK



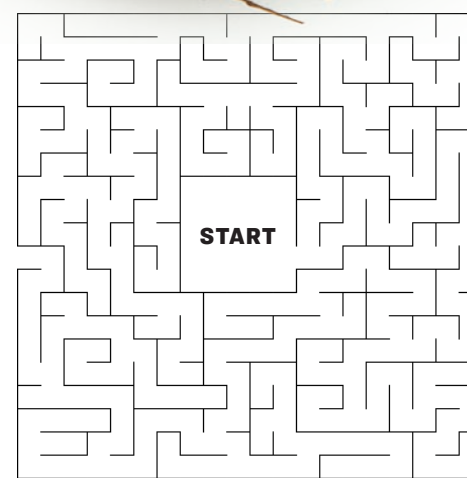
If you live in the suburbs and have a lawn, you probably have a lot of robins in the area making nests for raising their young. Robins take a lot of care in the staking and keeping of a territory, as well as the building of a nest.

Nesting begins with spring migration, when robins return from their wintering grounds to their summer residences. Males will choose and mark their territories by singing, which serves the double purpose of marking the territory and attracting a mate. Though I can't enter the robin's mind to verify this, I suspect that robins, and birds generally, feel happy when they sing. The territory of a robin can vary in size, much like human residences. Whereas some men live on farms, ranches, and estates, some robins have larger territories. The smaller territories are usually concentrated in dense vegetation, like an apartment building or city. Robins will fight intruders, especially in the beginning of the nesting season, when property lines are still being established. Robin fights aren't usually dangerous

to the participants, with the worst injuries usually being confined to the loss of a few feathers. Most robins build their nests in trees, but in areas where there are no trees, they are forced to make do with buildings or the ground. While males and females often build together, the female seems to take the lead, with the male bringing material or not helping at all. Nests are built first with an outer foundation of grass and small twigs, which is filled with mud that dries into a brick-like structure. Then, the nest is lined with finer material, usually dead, brown grass. However, sometimes other materials, like bits of string and horsehair are used. Now, the nest is ready for eggs.

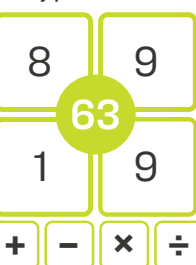


AMAZING ESCAPES!



USE THE FOUR NUMBERS IN THE CORNERS, AND THE OPERANDS (+, -, AND X) to build an equation to get the solution in the middle. There may be more than one "unique" solution but, there may also be "equivalent" solutions. For example: 6 + (7 X 3) + 1 = 28 and 1 + (7 X 3) + 6 = 28

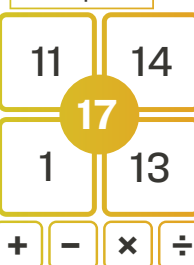
Easy puzzle 1



Solution For Easy 1

1 x (8 - 8) + 6

Medium puzzle 1



Solution for Medium 1

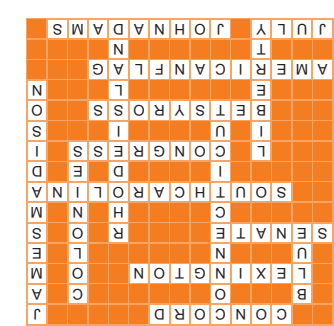
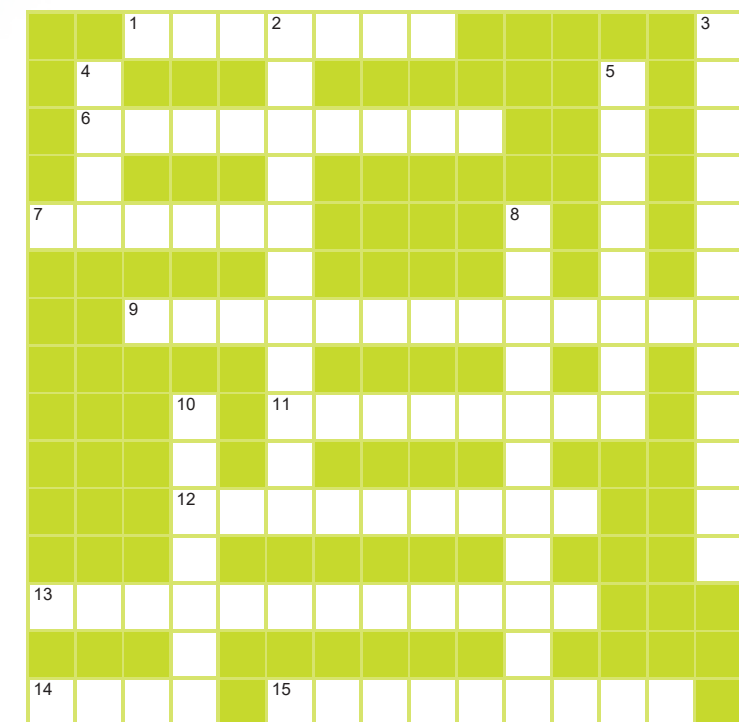
11 - 1 + 13 + 1

Hard puzzle 1



Solution for Hard 1

5 - 23 + 24 + 24



Across

- 1 "Shot heard 'round the world" site (7)
- 6 Battle on April 19, 1775 (9)
- 7 Kind of seat (6)
- 9 Eighth State to ratify the U.S. Constitution (5,8)

Down

- 2 This state had four signers of the Declaration of Independence (11)
- 3 4th U.S. President (5,7)
- 4 Thirteen stars were originally on a field of ____ (4)
- 5 Originally there were 13 ____ (8)
- 8 First colony to declare independence from England on May 4th, 1776 (5,6)
- 10 Certain bell (7)

- 11 Body with a House & Senate (8)
- 12 Famous for her flag! (5,4)
- 13 "Glorious" sight (8,4)
- 14 Month of Independence Day (4)
- 15 Signer of the Declaration of Independence (4,5)

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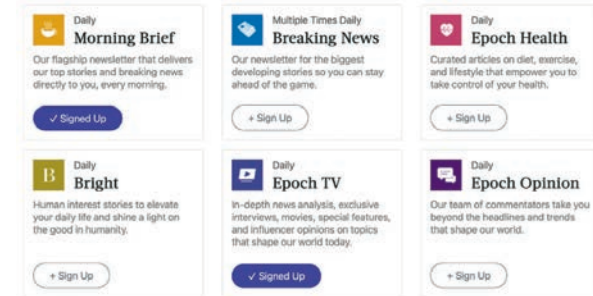
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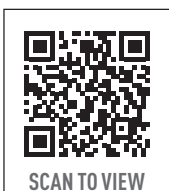


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