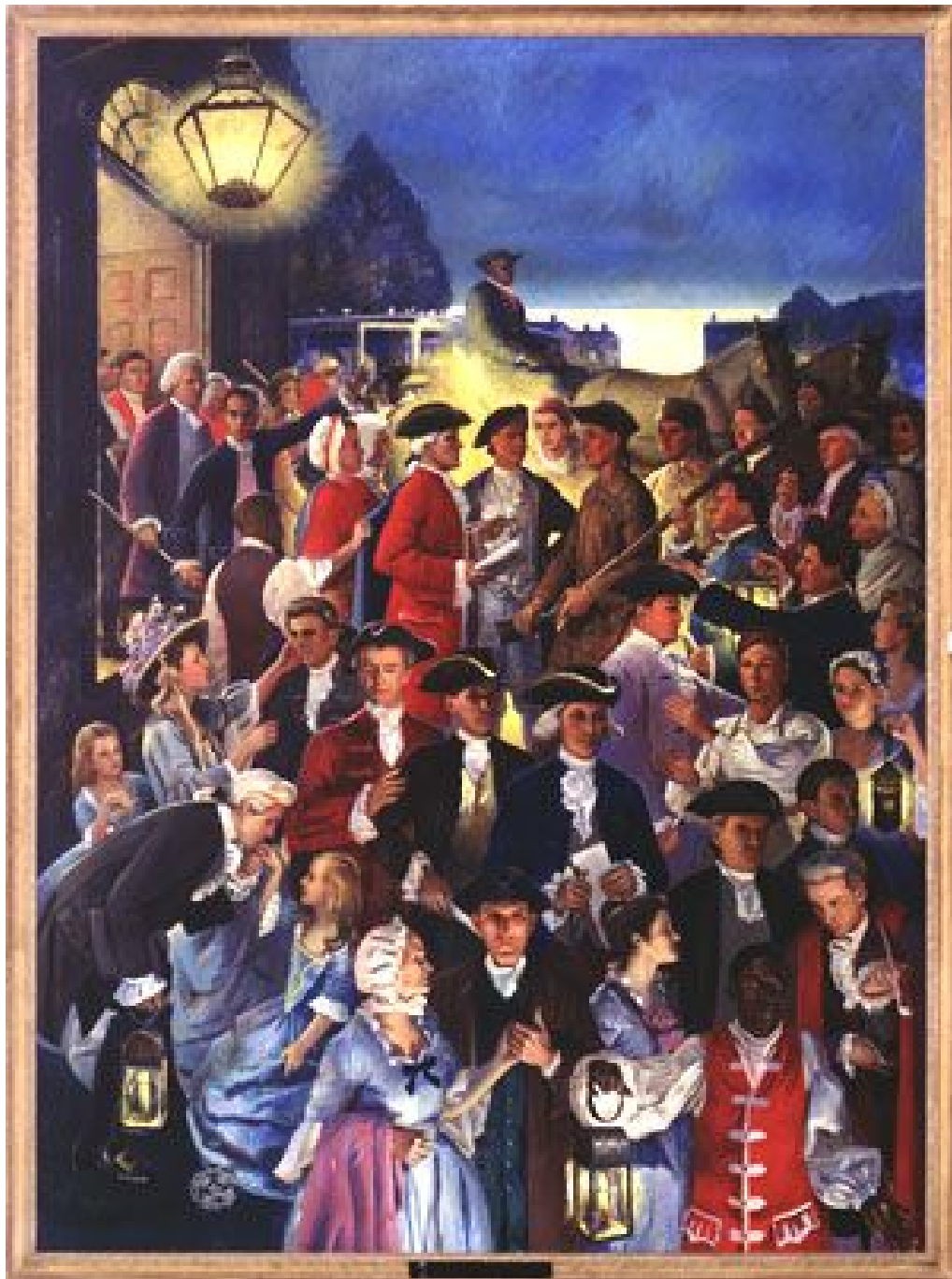




CCHA Bulletin

APRIL/MAY 2026

Caswell County Historical Association
THE OFFICIAL SITE OF THE CCHA & THE RICHMOND-MILES MUSEUM



This mural, by artist Francis Vandever Kughler, depicts the delegates to the Fourth Provincial Congress at Halifax leaving the Halifax courthouse at nightfall on April 12, 1776, after they had voted “to concur in independency” by adopting the Halifax Resolves. Among those in the scene are Samuel Johnson, Thomas Burke, and Cornelius Harnett.



The Halifax Resolves

from NCSSAR.org

The Halifax Resolves were the first official act by any of the thirteen colonies calling for independence from Great Britain. The state of North Carolina, on April 12, 1776, authorized her delegates to the Continental Congress to vote for independence. The 83 delegates present in Halifax at the Fourth Provincial Congress unanimously adopted the Halifax Resolves, which read as follows:

The Select Committee taking into Consideration the usurpations and violences attempted and committed by the King and Parliament of Britain against America, and the further Measures to be taken for frustrating the same, and for the better defence of this province reported as follows, to wit,

It appears to your Committee that pursuant to the Plan concerted by the British Ministry for subjugating America, the King and Parliament of Great Britain have usurped a Power over the Persons and Properties of the People unlimited and uncontrouled and disregarding their humble Petitions for Peace, Liberty and safety, have made divers Legislative Acts, denouncing War Famine and every Species of Calamity daily employed in destroying the People and committing the most horrid devastations on the Country. That Governors in different Colonies have declared Protection to Slaves who should imbrue their Hands in the Blood of their Masters. That the Ships belonging to America are declared prizes of War and many of them have been violently seized and confiscated in consequence of which multitudes of the people have been destroyed or from easy Circumstances reduced to the most Lamentable distress.

And whereas the moderation hitherto manifested by the United Colonies and their sincere desire to be reconciled to the mother Country on Constitutional Principles, have procured no mitigation of the aforesaid Wrongs and usurpations and no hopes remain of obtaining redress by those Means alone which have been hitherto tried, Your Committee are of Opinion that the house should enter into the following Resolve, to wit

Resolved that the delegates for this Colony in the Continental Congress be impowered to concur with the other delegates of the other Colonies in

declaring Independency, and forming foreign Alliances, resolving to this Colony the Sole, and Exclusive right of forming a Constitution and Laws for this Colony, and of appointing delegates from time to time (under the direction of a general Representation thereof to meet the delegates of the other Colonies for such purposes as shall be hereafter pointed out.

Learn more about the importance of this initiative taken by our fellow North Carolinians by clicking onto the **NCSSAR.org website here.**

See a video of Governor Stein's Ceremony to celebrate the April 12, 1776 anniversary of the Halifax Resolves by clicking the button below.

[View Video Here](#)



April in History

US History Events Occuring in the Month of April

- *Start of the Revolutionary War* (April 19, 1775)

The "shot heard 'round the world" was fired at the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

- *Start of the Civil War* (April 12, 1861)

Confederate forces opened fire on Fort Sumter in South Carolina.

- *Assassination of Abraham Lincoln* (April 14, 1865)

Shot at Ford's Theatre by John Wilkes Booth; died the next morning.

- *Sinking of the Titanic* (April 15, 1912)

The luxury liner sank, taking many prominent Americans with it.

- *U.S. Enters WWI* (April 6, 1917)

Congress passed a declaration of war against Germany.

- *Jackie Robinson Breaks Color Barrier* (April 15, 1947)

He debuted with the Brooklyn Dodgers, desegregating Major League Baseball.

- *NATO Founded* (April 4, 1949)

The U.S. and allies formed the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

- *Martin Luther King Jr. Assassinated* (April 4, 1968)

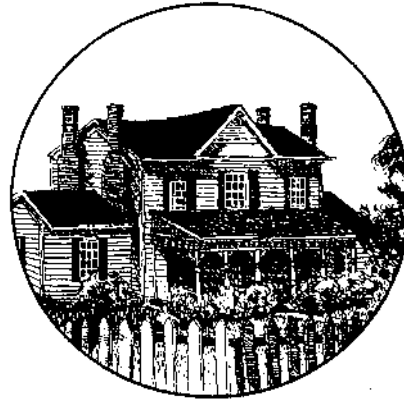
The civil rights leader was killed in Memphis, causing nationwide riots.

Learn more about historic events in April by clicking [*here at HistoryPlace.com.*](https://www.historyplace.com)

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Building a stronger presence in Caswell County

Yanceyville, NC. The Caswell County Historical Association (CCHA) Board of Directors has announced an important transition designed to ensure the long-term preservation and accessibility of local history. As part of this effort, the organization will be renamed the Friends of the Museum and transfer the operation of its museum to the Town of Yanceyville.



Under the new arrangement, the Town of Yanceyville will assume responsibility for maintaining the museum's buildings and grounds, as well as providing staffing support. This shift will allow the museum to expand its hours, improve public access, and offer enhanced research services. Importantly, the property will continue to be preserved as a museum in perpetuity. Should the town ever decide to discontinue museum operations, ownership of the property will revert to the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, ensuring its historical significance remains protected.

In conjunction with this change, the museum itself—formerly known as the Richmond-Miles Museum—will be renamed the Yanceyville Caswell Museum of History, reflecting its new direction in serving the community.

The museum's collections will remain with the museum and managed by the town and the CCHA's existing financial resources will be placed into a trust with the Community Foundation of the Dan River Region. Interest from this fund will be distributed annually to the Town of Yanceyville to assist with ongoing maintenance and operations.

This type of transition is a common and practical step for community organizations facing challenges in recruiting volunteers and board members. By partnering with the town, the museum gains stable operational support while preserving the vital role of the nonprofit. The newly named Friends of the Museum will continue its membership activities, community engagement, and support for the museum's mission.

Members of the current CCHA board will remain actively involved, working alongside town officials to ensure a smooth transition and continued success. Day-to-day operations and community programming will carry on, with added resources to better serve residents and visitors alike.

Overall, this change represents a thoughtful and forward-looking approach—one that protects Caswell County's heritage while making it more accessible for future generations.

Changes will be effective July 1, 2026. Questions regarding the transition may be directed to CaswellNCHistory@gmail.com.



**Museum has new employee,
Sarah West, Library Science
Masters Student from ECU**

The CCHA met recently with the team from East Carolina University and learned that the nonprofit organization has been awarded a six-month to one-year opportunity for Sarah to continue the work at the museum at no cost to the museum. There are many more items that are being cataloged, and collections that need to be organized. The nonprofit and Town of Yanceyville are working together to transition and oversee the project together and are pleased to have her expertise in working on these projects.



**America and NC 250
Museum Activities at
the Caswell County Farmers**

The historical association has planned three America and NC 250 children's events that will be held at the Farmers Market this summer.

**June 25 - America 250 -
Corn Shucking & Agriculture in
Revolutionary Times**

Includes a learning opportunity on the importance of community in raising food in Revolutionary Times.

**July 16 - America 250 -
Patriots of Caswell County**

Includes a fun and educational opportunity for the children about Caswell Patriots

**Sept 17 - America 250 -
Constitution Week**

Includes activity and learning about the US Constitution for the children

The Caswell Farmers Market

Yanceyville Pavilion

158 E. Church St.

Yanceyville, NC 27379

Thursdays 4-6:30



See what is going on in the community from a historical perspective.

All are welcome.

Annual Memberships - \$35

Join Us

15 Main St., Yanceyville, NC
27379 | 336-694- 4965

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