



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Office of the County Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 3, 2025

### **Anderson County joins State in ‘Two Lights for Tomorrow’ initiative** *Related arts, crafts, contest to include prizes*

CLINTON—Anderson County Mayor Terry Frank has joined the State of Tennessee in recognizing a national initiative to kick off a year-long celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the United States of America.

Locally, Mayor Frank has proclaimed April 18, 2025 as Two Lights for Tomorrow Day in Anderson County. Citizens are urged to illuminate their homes and businesses with two exterior lights beginning at dusk on April 18<sup>th</sup> and through the night until dawn on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The initiative is based on the midnight ride of Paul Revere and others when they warned Americans of the incoming British Army on April 18, 1775.

Adding to the initiative, Anderson County invites local school children of all ages, as well as senior citizens over age 60, to create educational projects and artwork related to this important date in America’s history. Some ideas include:

- Create an interactive timeline marking key events that led up to April 18, 1775;
- Build your own Two-Light Diorama, using shoe boxes, LED lights, and craft materials;
- Write a short essay on how they can be “lights” in their community through service projects and consider donating those essays to your local historical society; or
- Draw and color your own picture of Paul Revere’s ride, or a selection of pre-drawn pictures can be found online at [www.andersoncountyttn.gov](http://www.andersoncountyttn.gov).

Artwork and projects can be submitted to the Anderson County Mayor’s Office now through April 17<sup>th</sup>; submissions will be on display in the Courthouse hallway outside the mayor’s office.

If enough artwork and projects are received, the county’s Archivist Zach Foster and Archives Assistant Michele Disney will judge the artwork and projects. Winners of the most creative artwork will be honored with a special prize, personally provided by the county mayor.

The events of 1775 that began the revolution the year before independence was declared in the United States of America are significant moments that signaled the creation of a national identity and unity of purpose that transcended traditional geographic, cultural, and societal divides.

On the evening of April 18, 1775, with impending hostile action from the British army in Boston, Massachusetts, Paul Revere and William Dawes along with other alarm riders undertook a dangerous ride to alert everyone in the countryside of the coming danger. Preceding their departure from Boston, a prearranged signal was set in the Old North Church steeple to ensure that the message got out and did not solely rely on just one or two alarm riders.

The two lanterns that were the signal were immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem *Paul Revere's Ride* as "One if by land, and two if by sea" and have become an enduring symbol of American vigilance, perseverance, preparedness in the face of adversity.

Two Lights for Tomorrow is designed to be flexible so that everyone can participate. Any kind of light can be used in any size building, be it a municipal building, museum, business office, community center, or home. Lights, ideally, should be visible to the exterior and displayed from dusk to dawn on the evening of Friday, April 18.

From spotlights to flashlights, any lights, any duration, and any location will work—what matters is the willingness to participate and to remind each other of the importance of remembering and honoring our nation's history and working together toward a prosperous future for generations to come.

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**Did you know?** On January 1, 1735, Paul Revere was born in Boston, Massachusetts. An American, patriot, silversmith and eyeglass maker, this leader is best known for his "midnight ride" of April 18, 1775. He helped American gain independence.



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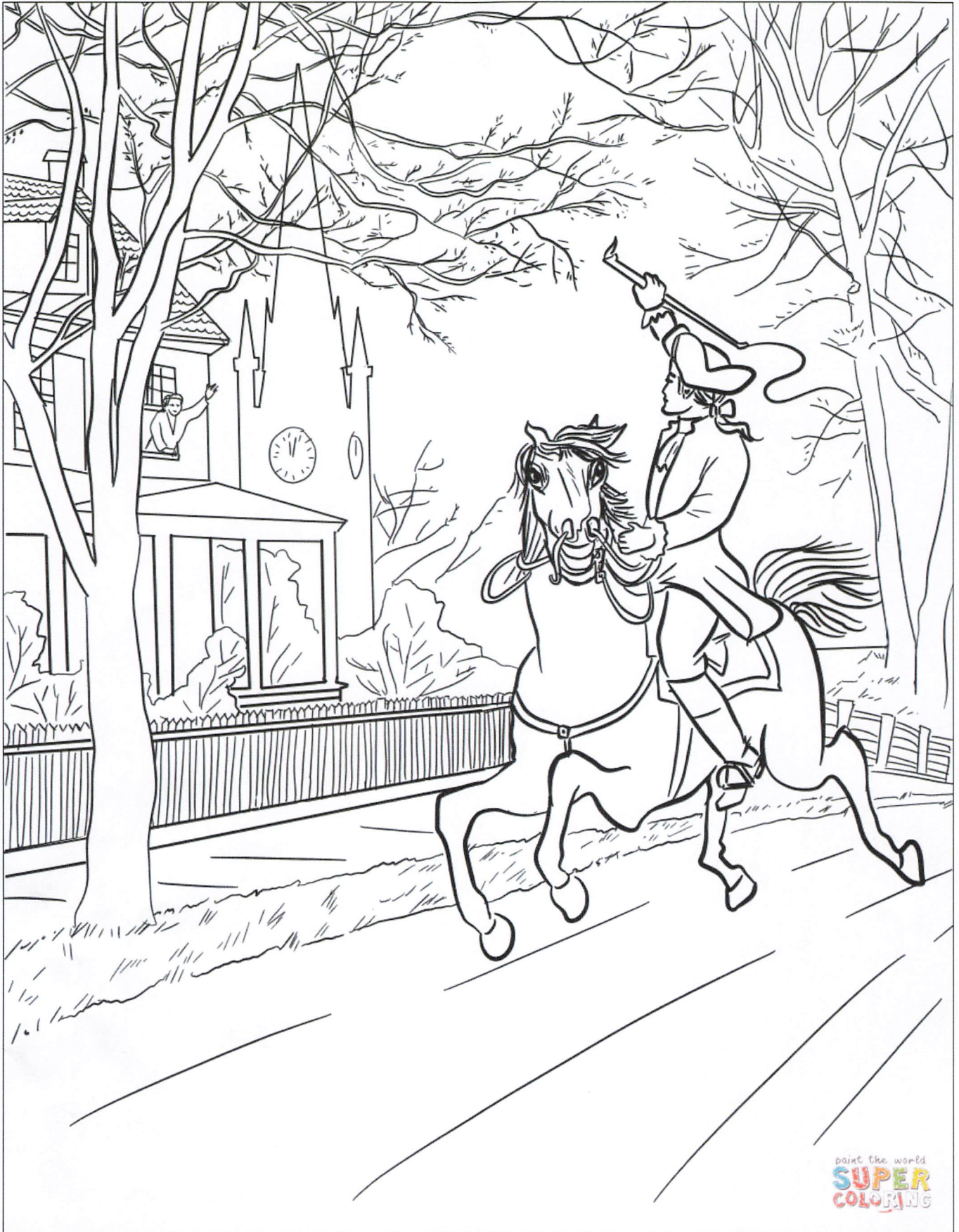
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**On April 18, 1775 Paul Revere made his famous ride, shouting "The British are coming!"**





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