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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Wilmington joins in nationwide reading of Declaration
2 of Independence July 8

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 On Wednesday, July 8, at 6 p.m., citizens across all 50
6 states, U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia will read the
7 Declaration of Independence aloud together. The people of
8 Wilmington and surrounding towns are encouraged to gather at
9 Memorial Hall, 14 West Main St., where members of The
10 Deerfield Valley Players cast of *1776* (the 1969 Tony Award–
11 winning Broadway musical) will lead the reading.

12 The simultaneous reading recreates the historic moment
13 on July 8, 1776, when the Declaration was first publicly read to
14 the citizens of Philadelphia. Because the United States of
15 America spans across multiple time zones, the exact reading
16 times are synchronized so that all communities participate at the
17 same collective moment. A list of all participating locations
18 around the world is available at [hawaiiamerica250.org/reading-](http://hawaiiamerica250.org/reading-locations)
19 [locations](http://hawaiiamerica250.org/reading-locations).

20 “The American spirit, principles, and values
21 memorialized in the Declaration of Independence 250 years ago
22 continue to hold true today,” said event organizers in a news
23 release. “The ‘self-evident’ ‘truths,’ then, ‘that all men are created
24 equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain
25 unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the
26 pursuit of Happiness’ are valid today, as are the personal and
27 collective responsibilities we share in protecting and perpetuating
28 these values.”

29 Deerfield Valley Players John Iverson (John Adams),
30 George Adair (Benjamin Franklin), and Cliff Duncan (Thomas
31 Jefferson) — now in rehearsals for their upcoming production of
32 1776 for performances on Friday through Sunday, July 24–26;
33 and Friday and Saturday, July 31 and Aug.1 — will lead the
34 reading and share a song from the show.

35 Tickets for 1776 are available online at
36 friendsofthehallvt.org/shows/1776-the-musical, or at Bartleby’s
37 Books, 17 West Main St, Wilmington. This event is sponsored by
38 the Vermont 250 Town of Wilmington Committee

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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