

BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL 18, 2025, AS "TWO LIGHTS FOR TOMORROW DAY" IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, COINCIDING WITH THE NATIONWIDE INITIATIVE TO COMMENCE THE CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY COMMEMORATING THE HISTORIC RIDE OF PAUL REVERE AND WILLIAM DAWES.

WHEREAS, this initiative, inspired by the United States Semiquincentennial Commission, calls for two lights to be displayed in public spaces nationwide to honor American vigilance, perseverance, and unity.

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama and Baldwin County recognize the importance of honoring and commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation; and

WHEREAS, the events of 1775 that began the revolution the year before independence was declared are significant moments that signaled the creation of a national identity and unity of purpose that transcended national geographic, cultural, and societal divides; and

WHEREAS, 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 perilous ride to alert everyone in the countryside of the coming danger; and

WHEREAS, 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; and

WHEREAS, 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, and preparedness in the face of adversity; and

WHEREAS, we are reminded, 250 years later, that the call for unity and the call to serve each other is no less relevant today than it was then; and

WHEREAS, a national initiative has been proposed by the United States Semiquincentennial Commission that two lights be displayed in public spaces across the country for all to see, marking that significant anniversary in April 2025 and the beginning of the 250th anniversary commemorations leading up to the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 2026; and

WHEREAS, that the State of Alabama and Baldwin County support and encourage community events that promote patriotism, unity, and reflection on our shared history; now therefore

BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BALDWIN COUNTY COMMISSION, IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, that we do hereby endorse the national initiative and proclaim Friday, April 18, 2025, as Two Lights for Tomorrow Day in Baldwin County, Alabama, and encourage reflection on the idea that all these historic events were endeavoring toward one common goal: the chance to embrace our God-given rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seal of Baldwin County, Alabama, to be affixed on this the 15 th day of April 2025.

Commissioner James E. Ball Vice Chairman Commissioner Matthew P. McKenzie
Chairman

Commissioner Billie Jo Underwood

Commissioner Charles F. Gruber