

**From the Office of the Mayor  
Lewis K. Billings  
Provo City  
June 2007**

**Celebrate July 4<sup>th</sup> in Provo! New Freedom Festival Event – Colonial Days**

Have you ever wondered if the folks living along the East Coast of this country know as much about the pioneers and the western migration as those of us in Utah?

They probably don't.

The same most likely holds true that many of us don't know that much about our Colonial heritage and the great sacrifices made by the men and women from 1607 Jamestown to the signing of the U.S. Constitution in 1787.

For that reason, the Crandall Historical Printing Museum, 275 East Center, is giving the community a way to not only learn about the Colonial times, but to see it and touch it, first hand in a "living museum" of sorts. Hence, the birth of "Colonial Days" at the Crandall Historical Printing Museum, an event of America's Freedom Festival at Provo, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>.

As far as the Museum's Board of Directors can tell, this will be one of the few celebrations of the Colonial period to ever be staged in modern Utah history.

The desire of the Crandall Museum is to make it a free event so that all families can enjoy this educational adventure, talk with descendants of Pocahontas, learn how to dip candles, load a Colonial cannon, see James Madison fight for freedom of conscience, and so much more.

Of great interest to the public will be the J.W. Stone 1823 copy of the Declaration of Independence, commissioned by President John Quincy Adams that will be on display. Along with the declaration of Independence, an actual 1787 copy of the U.S. Constitution will be on display. All courtesy of Bray-Conn Inc. of Salt Lake City.

If Museums aren't your forte, how about a Broadway-style musical? The Colonial Days Celebration will include nine performances of "First Freedom: An American Miracle," on our Colonial Theatre stage. "First Freedom," written by New York playwright, Rob Lauer and 17 original songs composed by Sam Cardon, is the story of young James Madison's fight for Freedom of Conscience in the Virginia House of Commons. With the help of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry, that legislation gave way to the country's religious freedoms.

In addition to the other great Freedom Festival events, please mark your calendar for July 2, 3, and 4<sup>th</sup> and make your way to East Center Street (Colonial Ave.) and take a stroll through history while the family has a learning experience like one they may never have had before.

From University Avenue to 400 East on Center Street, you will enter Provo's Flag-and-bunting-lined Colonial Avenue. It will not be unusual to see men and women dressed in Colonial costume, and others roaming the avenue and celebrating at Colonial Square outside the museum. Inside the Crandall Historical Printing Museum, watch as authentic replicas of the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution are printed on the museum's antique presses.

Included in the walk-through museum tour are the world's only complete authentic working replica of the Gutenberg press on which the first Bible was printed, and the E.B. Grandin Print Shop which tells the story of other significant religious books.

Other events and activities include:

- Two live encampments of a Colonial Village and Revolutionary War camp.
- Learn to dance the Minuet and learn to be a Minute Man all in one day.
- Celebrate the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Jamestown and visit with a descendant of Pocahontas.
- Visit the BYU Family History and Digital Roots web link to discover if you have colonial ancestors.
- Learn about the world's most complete new resource for the U.S. Constitution courtesy of ConSource.
- School children from seven elementary schools throughout the valley will give a reprise of "Hope of America."
- Concerts by the Brunson Brothers, Vocal Works, Old Time Fiddlers and Miss America Pageant Queen's representing their home towns in Utah County.
- Storytellers, jugglers, harpist, spinners, and other entertainment.

If you haven't decided what to do for Independence Day, make your mind up now visit this all-free event and celebrate your freedom as you learn about those who made it possible.

**Where:** "Colonial Days" at Provo's Crandall Historical Printing Museum, 275 East Center.

**When:** July 2<sup>nd</sup>: 1- 10pm; July 3<sup>rd</sup>: 10am – 10pm; July 4<sup>th</sup>: 11am to 5pm.

**Contact Information:** Crandall Historical Printing Museum, 377-7777

As Americans and residents of Provo we are richly blessed. During this upcoming season of celebration we salute all who work to promote the cause of Freedom. May we always remember the high price of Freedom. Wishing you and yours a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July!

**Lewis K. Billings**  
**Provo City Mayor**

[www.provo.org](http://www.provo.org)