

# Independence Day

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1776, the Continental Congress formally adopted the document popularly known as the Declaration of Independence. This document, written mainly by Thomas Jefferson, gave the reasons that the American colonies declared independence from England. Today, the nation commemorates the adoption of the declaration on Independence Day. It is celebrated every 4<sup>th</sup> of July with fireworks, picnics, parades, and other special activities.

## *The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America*

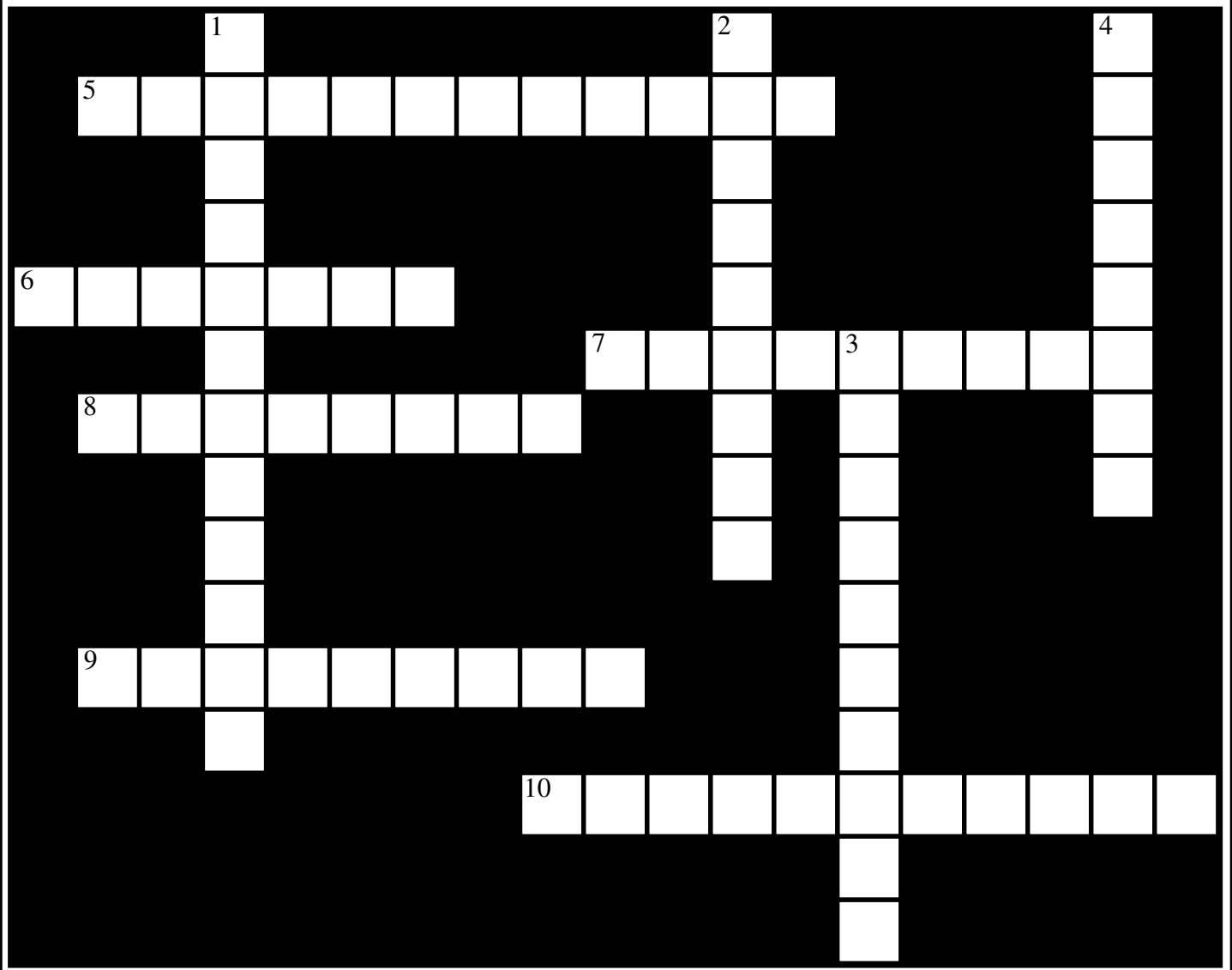
*When, in the course of human events, it becomes  
necessary for one people to dissolve the political  
bonds which have connected them with one another. . .*

## Independence Day Trivia

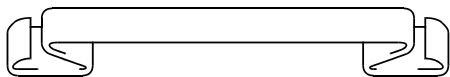
- ☞ The first person to sign the Declaration of Independence was John Hancock, president of the Congress. He became famous for his bold signature, and to this day, to put your “John Hancock” on something means to sign it.
- ☞ When news of the declaration first reached New York, the citizens tore down a life-size statue of King George mounted on his horse. The lead statue was later melted down and used to cast 42,000 bullets for use against British troops.
- ☞ On 4 July 1976, the nation celebrated its 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday. As part of the Independence Day festivities, 220 sailing ships representing 31 nations were assembled in New York Harbor.



# PATRIOTIC SYMBOLS

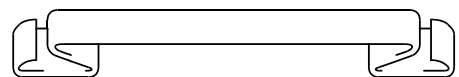


## Down



1. \_\_\_\_\_ Dandy.
2. According to legend, she made the first American flag.
3. George \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Famous bearded figure in red, white, and blue.

## Across



5. \_\_\_\_\_ Banner.
6. Statue of \_\_\_\_\_.
7. They light up the sky.
8. Another name for the flag.
9. National bird.
10. Famous cracked bell.