

Inside Government

Citizenship in Action: Sybil Ludington

You've probably heard that Paul Revere was a great patriot and citizen, but have you heard of Sybil Ludington? Sybil was just 16 years old when she made her own late-night ride during the American Revolutionary War. On the night of April 26, 1777, her father, Colonel Henry Ludington, learned that the British were attacking Danbury, Connecticut. He needed to gather troops and warn people in the countryside that more attacks were coming. Sybil rode in a rainstorm for more than 40 miles—twice the length of Paul Revere's ride—yelling that the British were in Danbury and asking the militia to gather at her house. When she returned home, more than 400 troops had assembled there.