



July 2026

FROM THE 2025-2026 AMERICANISM COMMITTEE

Happy Independence Day! We all know that this year is an extra special birthday—the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. America 250 celebrations are in full swing all across the country and communities are celebrating in big and small ways. There will be BBQs, parades, fireworks and celebrations commemorating our Independence. Celebrating our independence doesn't always have to be about the party. What if we honor the service and sacrifice of those who have fought to ensure we keep our independence by giving back to our communities? We can help provide food for our neighbors who are facing food insecurity or we can be the one who provides support for our friend in crisis. Keeping our country healthy and strong begins at the grassroots level, in our homes, our neighborhoods and our communities. It is here that we make the most impact and what better way to celebrate our independence and honor the sacrifice of those who have come before us than to work together to make our communities strong and vibrant places to live.

As we celebrate our independence this year, let us not forget to honor the service and sacrifice of those who have fought to ensure that the ideals that the US was founded upon (justice, freedom and democracy). May you all have a safe and happy 4th of July!



Dates to Remember:

- 7/1 Hire a Veteran Day
- 7/4 Independence Day
- 7/21 Department of Veteran's Administration created
- 7/27 Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
- 7/28 National Buffalo Soldier's Day
- 7/29 Army Chaplain Corps Anniversary

The 4th of July is a day of celebration, but for many of our veterans it's a day that can cause profound stress and increased anxiety. The sounds of the day that so many of us enjoy—from the small pops of poppers, to the hissing of a fuse, to the deep boom of a large arial firework can trigger combat memories for many of our veterans. Please be sure to reach out to the veterans in your communities and make sure they are ok— this is a holiday of celebration but we need to be mindful of those who have strong reactions to the popping and booming sounds of fireworks.

You can always contact me if you have questions or concerns. My contact information is:

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