AGENDA

Sumner County Celebrates America 250

June 18, 2026
3 PM
355 N. Belvedere Dr, Gallatin Tn
Room 112

1.Call to Order

2.Approval of Agenda

3. Approval of June 4 Minutes

4. Report of the Chairman

5. Jethro Sumner Monument update

6. PR and Communication update

7. Historical videos update

8. July 4th Parade update
   July 4th Patriot Marker update
   July 8 Celebration update

9. Scavenger hunt update

10. Website update

America 250 - Patriots Remembrance Ceremony

From Patriots' Sacrifices Grow the Tree of Liberty

Saturday, July 4, 2026
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Order of Service

Musical Prelude	Shirley Gauthier Fifer
Welcome	Debra Maggart, DAR
Invocation	Marjie Mahar, DAR
Presentation of Colors	SAR Color Guard Color Guard will include John Hurt as drummer
Pledge of Allegiance	Liam Koehler, President Overamountain Men Chapter, CAR
American's Creed	Barry Rice Vietnam Veterans Association, Chapter 240
National Anthem	Megan Stone Megan.Stone@healingjourney.us 404-606-2842
Salute to the TN flag	SAR Henry Puckett
Introductions - TBD Government Officials CAR Chapter Representative Veteran's Associations Sumner County Historian	Debra Maggart, DAR Will be dependent on RSVP's This should take about 2 minutes Hold introduction of those giving greetings to when they are called to give greetings.
Greetings - TBD County Mayor Isbell DAR – Emily Robinson, VPG SAR – Steve Gaines, Past VPG	Request, with the exception of the County Mayor, that greetings be held to two minutes each Mayor to read July 4th proclamation
Musical Presentation	America Bless God First Baptist Church Gallatin Worship Choir Ken McWilliams, Worship Pastor 205-821-0484 ken@fbcgallatin.org ~30 choir and instrumentalists
Keynote Speaker	A Constitution Capable of Enduring Any Fatigue Ehrin Ehlert
Dedication of Patriot Marker – DAR Ritual	Maggart/Mahar Assembly
Dedication of Liberty Tree & Monument	SAR – Need names of who will be participating
Firing Salute	SAR – John Clark and Steve Gaines 3 volleys
Cannon Salute	Sumner County Light Artillery Ron Brawner
Singing of God Bless America	Choir and Assembly

	Choir will sing Prelude. Assembly will join in Verse
Taps	David Moomy Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9851
Benediction	Tim Diffenderfer, SAR President & Chaplain Colonel Anthony Bledsoe Chapter, NSDAR
Closing Remarks – Invitation to Reception	Debra Maggart

Notes

- SAR
  - Firing Volley – John Clark and Steve Gaines
  - Drummer – John Hurt
  - Color Guard – Neil Burgess, John Clark, Tim Diffenderfer, Steve Gaines, Dennis Harris, John Hurt, Clarence Watson, Lee Wiley

Activities

- Display of Art Work – County Administration Building
- Reception – Administration Building
  - DAR providing everything
  - Team – Julie Kinchloe, Julie Solomon, Debra Rice, Kay Hurt
  - Fife playing in the Reception – Shirley Gauthier

Handouts

- American Flags, hand-held fans – DAR needs to order

Needs

- Area in front of Veterans Park blocked off
- Podium – County will provide
- PA System – VVA providing – Gary Covington – Need to confirm and to coordinate with church
- Chairs – 200 – VFW will allow use of theirs, Amy Nixon may have access to some. SAR is checking to see if they will be able to go get the chairs and set them up.
- Program Printed – DAR to create and pay for
- Welcome Tent – DAR to provide – May need assistance with set up
- Drape for Monument – Debra Maggart

Salute to the Tennessee Flag

Three white stars on a field of blue
God keep them strong and ever true
It is with pride and love that we
Salute the Flag of Tennessee

American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

God Bless America

Composer Irving Berlin initially wrote God Bless America in 1918 during WWI while stationed at Camp Upton in New York. Then in 1938, he rewrote it to the version we sing today which was made popular by Kate Smith.

Choir
While the storm clouds gather far across the sea
Let us swear allegiance to a land that's free
Let us all be grateful that we are far from there
As we raise our voices in a solemn prayer

Choir and Assembly
God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with a light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home
God bless America, my home sweet home

Let Freedom Ring on the Square!

Sumner County Celebrates America 250

Wednesday, July 8, 2026

5:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Order of Service – Draft – For Discussion Purposes

Time	Activity	Person or Group
	Musical Prelude – 4:45 pm	Fife and Drummer – Shirley Gauthier & Partner
2	Airplane Fly Over – 5:00 pm	Need Names of pilots or group
2	Express Ryder – 5:02 pm	Need Name
3	Welcome	Mayor Isbell
2	Invocation	Dr. Travis Fleming, Pastor Gallatin First Baptist on Main Street
3	Presentation of Colors	SAR Color Guard with Fife & Drums Geo. Miller and John Hurt
1	Pledge of Allegiance	Young Student – Perhaps winners of the Art Contest? Need to know what has been communicated and make decision by 6/18
2	National Anthem	Choir Need Choir Name Bethany Stepleton & Lucy Alegria Choir will be on steps at beginning of program. May need for them to sit on "platform" until unveiling of monument.
3	Introductions – Such As • State – National Elected Officials • Judges • All City Mayors • All County Commissioners • All other elected officials of Sumner County	Mayor Isbell (In the interest of time, may wish to introduce some as a group.)
3	Introduce Declaration of Independence Reading Readers and Children will file in	Mayor Isbell
20	Reading of Declaration of Independence (Jeff Yawn drafting script)	Students and Adults Need names of students and adult readers Discuss having students sitting outside rather than inside so they can see everything. Also will save time.
10	Recognition of All Veterans	Mayor Isbell to introduce Ensemble Armed Forces Medley This Land Is Your Land Sumner Sounds Orff Ensemble Tiffany Barton Music Specialist
7	Tribute to Gen. Jethro Sumner	Sumner County Historian, Kenneth C. Thomson, Jr.
10	Unveiling of Monument	TBD – Need to know how the Mayor wants this done

5	Firing Salute	SAR & Militia Will Militia men be available? Where to stage them?
3	Singing of America The Beautiful	Choir
2	Closing Remarks	Mayor Isbell Invite everyone to look at Art work, See General Jethro Sumner's sword, Original Copy of Thomas Payne's Common Sense, Declaration of Independence Celebrate on the Square

Activities

- Flyover - Confirmed
- Display of Art Work – County Court House Foyer – Who can set this up?
- Display of Gen. Sumner's Sword as well as David Black's copy of the Declaration of Independence – Who can set this up? Need security?
- Reception – County Court House Foyer – Do we want this or rather get audience over to Square?
- Tents set up with Living History Events – Jane W working on communication. Also, need timeline of set up on sidewalk and then when can put out in street?
- Cutouts for people to get their pictures made with?
- Food trucks – Amy Nixon - Confirmed
- Live music on the Square – Amy Nixon - Confirmed
- Pictures made with Rev War Soldiers (SAR men and reenactors) Will some roam or should they be at booths?
- Pictures made with Frontier Women (DAR women and reenactors) Will there be DAR women in period attire?
    - Do we want someone to dress up as General Washington or perhaps General Sumner? Mayor dressing as Sumner?
- Drone show - Confirmed
- Gigantic replica of the Declaration of Independence for people to sign? DAR will have at booth.
- Need to map out time line for arrival.
- Need to designate some parking – Can we block off Library parking lot and provide a list of names for parking there; ie need space for horse, orff ensemble equipment.
- Need to set a date for a walk through with as many leaders as can be there. Could probably do 7/2.
- Need to understand reserved seating requirements at both venues.

Handouts

- American Flags
- America 250 hand-held fans
- Program – Who is designing – When does it need to go to the printer?
- Copies of Declaration of Independence – SAR - confirm

Needs

Square blocked off – Done	Podium	PA System - Done
Volunteers Arrive by 3:00?		
Chairs (lots)	Printed Program	Refreshments?
Shirts for all students	Need sheet music	Bottled Water
Courthouse Decorated	Reserved Seating for Donors	Drape – Debra Maggart