

## **Proclamation America 250**

WHEREAS; On July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate the Semiquincentennial anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

WHEREAS; The journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead to the future generations who will carry forward the ideals of democracy and individual liberty that make the United States a unique nation in the world community; and

WHEREAS; the celebration is about helping Washingtonians feel more connected to their history as well as helping us to reflect on the foundational principles, structure, and purpose of our democratic system. This commemoration will also recognize the sovereignty of Tribal Nations as well as their presence and impact, since time immemorial, on the land that is now Washington; and

WHEREAS; the City of Arlington is a partner in the WA America 250 Commission. The City plans to organize special activities; including an art mural in recognition of the Native America history in our area; and

WHEREAS; the Stillaguamish Valley Genealogical Society is a partner in the WA America 250 Commission, and is a non-profit whose goals are to encourage an interest in genealogy and family history as well as to preserve historical records; and

WHEREAS; the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) is a non-political women's service organization, established in 1890, whose members are lineally descended from Patriots of the American Revolution; and are spending the next year celebrating America 250 through education and patriotic activities; and

WHEREAS; the Stillaguamish Pioneer Museum is planning activities to commemorate this historic milestone and honoring the experiences of the Stillaguamish Valley's' rich history; and

WHEREAS; the Stilly Valley Chamber of Commerce plans to dedicate the 2026 July Fourth Parade with the America 250 theme and organize a community portrait in recognition of the occasion; and

WHEREAS; During the 250th year anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence the City of Arlington and our partners will be celebrating our nation's rich history and diversity of experience by honoring all men and women who achieved American independence;

THEREFORE, I, Don Vanney, Mayor of Arlington, do hereby proclaim 2026 as the America 250 celebration, and urge all residents to celebrate this momentous occasion with joy and gratitude.

  
Don E. Vanney, Mayor

January 20, 2026  
Date