

**MAT-SU BOROUGH
MAYORAL PROCLAMATION
Recognizing America 250**

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, establishing the United States of America as a free and independent nation; and

WHEREAS, in 2026, our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of that historic event, marking two and a half centuries of freedom, self-government, and opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Mat-Su Borough is proud to join communities across the nation in commemorating this milestone and reflecting upon the sacrifices and achievements of those who helped build and preserve our country; and

WHEREAS, all Mat-Su Borough libraries will host America 250 events during the months of June and July, providing opportunities for residents of all ages to learn about our nation's history and founding principles; and

WHEREAS, copies of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States will be on display at all Mat-Su Borough libraries and at the Borough Administration Building in Palmer, and residents are encouraged to visit and learn more about these foundational documents; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is honored to participate in both the 2026 Colony Days Parade and the City of Wasilla Fourth of July Parade, celebrating the spirit of patriotism, community, and service that has defined our nation for 250 years; and

WHEREAS, on Saturday, July 4, 2026, the City of Palmer will host the Palmer Independence Day Ceremony, featuring free family activities, food, the recitation of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights, and a demonstration of a historic 300-pound cast-iron cannon, with festivities beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Saint John Lutheran Church in Palmer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Edna DeVries, Mayor of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, do hereby proclaim July 4, 2026 as:

America 250 Day

in the Mat-Su Borough and encourage all residents to celebrate this historic anniversary by learning about our nation's founding, honoring the freedoms we enjoy, participating in local commemorative events, and renewing our commitment to the principles that have guided our country for 250 years.

I further encourage residents to contact their local Mat-Su Borough library for information about America 250 activities and events taking place throughout June and July, to attend the Simultaneous Reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 8 at 2:00 p.m., and to join their neighbors in celebrating this historic milestone throughout the Borough.

DATED this 16th day of June, 2026.


EDNA DeVRIES, Mayor