



*A Community Partnership*

March 12, 2026

Jerry Campbell, Chair

Jeff Rogers, County Administrator

Hernando County Board of County Commissioners

20 North Main Street Brooksville, FL 34601

RE: America 250 Celebration – Saturday, July 4, 2026

Dear Chairman Campbell and Mr. Rogers,

On behalf of our community partners, we are honored to present a proposal for a historic, once-in-a-lifetime celebration: "*Hernando County's Salute to America 250*".

On **Saturday, July 4, 2026**, our nation will mark its *Semiquincentennial*. To honor this milestone, a powerful collaboration has formed between the Hernando County, Florida's Adventure Coast Visitor's Bureau, City of Brooksville, Brooksville Main Street, SAR | DAR (Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution), Greater Tampa Bay Area Council Scouting America, Greater Hernando County Chamber of Commerce, the Hernando County Sheriff's Office, Hernando County Fire Rescue, and the Hernando Historical Museum Association. Together, we aim to host a county-wide celebration at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation from **5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

This event is designed to be the premier destination for Hernando County residents and beyond, with a projected attendance exceeding 25,000 people. To ensure this is accessible to every family in our community, we are committed to providing no-cost admission and free parking.

The America 250 celebration will be a high-energy, family-friendly event featuring:

- A Landmark Display: A dual Fireworks and Drone Show spectacular.
- Educational Engagement: Games and activities centered around the history of the Declaration of Independence.
- Entertainment: A dedicated Family Fun Zone, live entertainment, historical reenactments and memorial displays as well as curated Car Show.
- Local Flavor: A diverse array of food trucks, vendors, and local community organizations.

To ensure this event reaches the grand scale our 250th anniversary deserves, we respectfully request a **\$50,000 partnership** from the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners. This funding would be dedicated specifically to the Fireworks and Drone Show display, the "crown jewel" of the evening that will serve as the focal point of the celebration.

As the official Hernando County *Semiquincentennial* event, this celebration will receive significant exposure. It will be featured on the America250FL website, the Florida Main Street network, and across the digital and print publications of all our collaborative partners, positioning Hernando County as a leader in Florida's historic celebrations.

We believe this is a unique opportunity to unite our county in a moment of historic pride. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal with you in further detail at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your continued leadership and for your consideration of this landmark partnership.

Sincerely,

*Blake E. Bell*

Blake Bell  
Committee Chair  
Hernando County's Salute to  
America 250

*Dawn Triconi*

Dawn Triconi  
Executive Director  
Brooksville Main Street