



Board of Commissioners

PRESS RELEASE

lakecountyohio.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 2, 2026

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Lake County Announces America250 Events and “Ohio Goes to the Movies” Series

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, February 2, 2026 – Lake County is proud to announce a full slate of America250 (AM250) commemorative events and the return of the popular “Ohio Goes to the Movies” film series, celebrating America’s 250th anniversary through history, music, culture, and community engagement.

Throughout 2026, residents and visitors are invited to take part in concerts, commemorations, family-friendly celebrations, and special appearances honoring America’s past while bringing Lake County together in meaningful ways.

America250 Events

- **February 22** – Lakeland Civic Band presents *"Americana" with a guest appearance of President George Washington.*
- **April 12** – Lakeland Civic Chorus presents *"Across the Wide Missouri"*
- **April 25** – Madhatters Canoe & Kayak Race commemorating the Battles of Lexington & Concord and Paul Revere & the Riders’ Midnight Ride, Hidden Valley Park, Madison
- **April 26** – Lakeland Civic Orchestra presents *"An American Ode"*
- **May 21** – Heritage Tree Planting, Veterans Park, Painesville
- **June 12** – America250/DAR table at the Lake County Captains game, with a special appearance by George Washington
- **June 14** – America250 County Picnic, Lake County Historical Society
- **June 15** – Smith Cemetery Reopening Celebration, Willoughby Hills, 3:00 p.m.
- **June 20** – Rededication of Revolutionary War Patriot’s Marker, Veterans Park, Painesville
- **By July 4** – Unveiling of a 7-foot statue of President James A. Garfield, Mentor Civic Center
- **July 4** – America250 Celebration at Lake County Captains Stadium featuring a patriot-themed baseball game, color guards, fireworks, centenarians, and more

- **July 28** – Lake County Fair Parade
- **August 1** – America250 Day at the Lake County Fair, featuring a special America250 bobblehead promotion (limited quantities available)

Ohio Goes to the Movies

- **March 11** – *White Boy Rick*, Regal Willoughby Commons
- **April 8** – *Superman*, Atlas Cinemas Great Lakes Stadium
- **July 7** – *Air Force One*, Atlas Cinemas Diamond Center

“These events are an incredible opportunity to honor our nation’s history while bringing our community together in fun, educational, and memorable ways,” said Commissioner John T. Plecnik, Chair of the Lake County America250 Committee. “I am both excited and deeply grateful to celebrate America250 through music, history, film, and community traditions that reflect our shared pride and patriotism.”

Additional details, times, and updates for each event will be announced throughout the year. Residents are encouraged to follow America250 communications ([Facebook](#)) for the latest information.

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Lake County Freedom Bell