

Dear Valued Community Organization,



Next year, America will celebrate its 250th Birthday. Because of Pennsylvania's vital role in the creation of this nation, each PA county is expected to throw a celebration for its communities. Juniata County has risen to this challenge. Our county commissioners appointed me as the Juniata County Advisor to the America250PA Commission, and I've assembled a great group of our community members to form a planning committee. So far, we have planted our county's Liberty Tree in October 2024 and unveiled our county's Liberty Bell in September 2025. We also visited Juniata Elementary School with America250PA's Keystone Classroom Initiative in April 2025 and hope to visit our other schools soon. These events are helping to build momentum for 2026.

Our county's once-in-a-generation celebration will be an all-day event on **Saturday June 13, 2026**, at the McAlisterville park. We hope to encourage the creation of tangible engaging connections to the founding of America for the people in our communities; to foster their curiosity for our county's shared history; to elevate understanding of the constant and continuing journey to build upon this Great Experiment, and to celebrate the unique and special history of Juniata County.

To do this, we have a full day planned and hope to include colonial entertainment and education, a Declaration Station, great food, special presentations, music and reenacting, hands-on colonial demonstrations, art exhibition, family and children's activities, contests, and end the day with fireworks.

Many people in our county fondly remember the 1976 Bicentennial and are anxious to relive those happy feelings, many through the eyes of their children or grandchildren. In this time of uncertainty and division, we are in need of a unifying celebration on the common ground of our shared history. One thing that has brought people together in the past, using both the power of nostalgia and love of history, are the other milestone commemorative events held in our various boroughs and communities over the years. They've all had healthy participation, produced fond memories, and fostered a sense of community pride. We want our county residents and visitors to walk away from this event proud of their history, more educated on community roots and how far we've come, and with a heightened sense of unity.

We also want to use this day to highlight our county's churches and helpful non-profit organizations by providing you with a fundraising opportunity. If your organization is interested in creating and setting up a food stand that day, for which you keep all profits, we would love to have you join us! Please see the attached food vendor form for more details to aid in your consideration. Together, we can make this day one for the history books! Thank you for your consideration. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions at 717-571-5859 or Jessica.r.guyer@gmail.com.

On behalf of the America250PA-Juniata County Planning Committee

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica R. Guyer".

Jessica R. Guyer
Curator, Tuscarora Academy Museum
President, Juniata County Historical Society
County Advisor, America250PA



County Organization Food Vendor Form
Juniata County's Celebration of America's 250th Birthday
Saturday June 13, 2026 at the McAlisterville Park
10:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m.

Terms and General Information

1. Deadline to register is Friday May 1, 2026.
2. There is NO COST to set-up at this event.
3. In lieu of having no vendor fees, you agree to provide a no-cost meal when a volunteer or reenactor presents you with a food voucher for lunch or dinner.
4. Set-up times will begin at 7:00 a.m. We just ask that you be ready to serve food by 11:30 a.m. or before. You should be prepared to serve food all afternoon and evening. 10:00 p.m. fireworks will end the event.
5. Removal of vendor trailers, tents, tables, etc. is to be completed by noon the day after the event (Sunday). You are responsible for any trash around your space. Place trash in the large dumpsters on the grounds.
6. Vendors are responsible for their own tables, chairs, canopies, and extension cords.
7. This event will be held rain or shine.
8. Although it is not mandatory, please consider dressing in colonial attire to join in the spirit of the day.

We would be pleased to have you join us for this historic once-in-a-generation event!

For additional food vendor information, please contact **Tammy Brackbill** at 717-363-7261 or email tambrack77@gmail.com or **Julie Shirk** at penguinfriends@hotmail.com or 717-463-3875. For more information about all events planned for the day, contact Jessica Guyer at 717-571-5859 or jessica.r.guyer@gmail.com or follow us on Facebook at “**America250PA – Juniata County**”.

Please return the attached form with your signature by May 1, 2026 to:
Julie Shirk, 32680 Route 35 North, McAlisterville, PA 17049.

County Organization - Food Vendor Contract

Business/Organization Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

What food and/or drink item(s) will you be selling? **PLEASE NOTE: to avoid duplicates, you may be asked to make something different. If someone else has already signed up for the same item, we will notify you as soon as we receive your form.**

Space required for my stand would be _____ feet wide by _____ feet in length.

Do you require electricity? If so, 110 or 220? Please explain your electrical needs. _____

AGREEMENT

The undersigned agrees to forever discharge and release the America250PA – Juniata County Planning Committee from any and all manner of actions, suits, damages, claims, whatever arises from loss or damage to property or self. The undersigned also agrees to all terms on the previous page.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please make a copy of this form for your records.