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Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Development Group
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage Days 2026 Celebrates "250 Years of America, and Still One Hill of a Town"

Mount Vernon, Iowa — The Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Development Group and Heritage Days Committee invite residents and visitors to celebrate Heritage Days 2026, July 10-11, with two days of family fun, live entertainment, and community traditions honoring America's 250th anniversary. This year's theme, "250 Years of America, and still one hill of a town," celebrates both our nation's history and the hometown spirit that makes Mount Vernon special.

Friday, July 10

Festivities begin Friday evening at the Lester Buresh Community Center with bouncy houses, food and drink trucks, and the Heritage Days Pickleball Tournament. Live music by Full Moon Horizon will provide the soundtrack for the evening.

New this year, the Heritage Days Fun Run and Ice Cream Social will begin at 8 p.m. from the Martha Parsons Activities Center, following the Mount Vernon Bank Kids Fun Run. Participants and spectators are encouraged to stay for the spectacular Starlight Aerial Productions Drone Show at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 11

Saturday morning kicks off with the beloved Alumni and Community Breakfast at the Mount Vernon High School Commons, followed by the annual Heritage Days Parade celebrating 250 years of America. Throughout the day, visitors can enjoy the Heritage Days Car Show and entertainment on 1st Street East, performances by the Lincoln Highway Chorale and Mount Vernon Brass Band in Memorial Park, Bingo hosted by the Mount Vernon-Lisbon Lions Club, and the bags tournament hosted by the Mount Vernon Wrestling Club. 1st Street West will feature enhanced youth games, increased shaded seating, and a partnership with Bon Appetit as the featured food vendor. In addition, enjoy cool treats from Bass Family Farms and Kona Ice, and freshly popped Iowa popcorn from The Bijou!

Families can cool off during the USA-themed pool night at the Mount Vernon Pool, while theatergoers are invited to enjoy a free matinee showing of *After Ike* at The Bijou Movie Theater. Entertainment on the Main Stage begins with the CDG Volunteer Appreciation Awards after the parade, followed by performances from Dance Arts Iowa and the Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Theatre. Evening concerts will feature Asking for a Friend and Crazy Delicious Band, keeping the celebration going into the night.

Additional event details and updates will be available at www.visitmvl.com/events.



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