



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 12, 2026

CITY OF RIDGELAND RECOGNIZES AND CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

RIDGELAND, MS — The City of Ridgeland is proud to join communities across the nation in recognizing and celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States, also known as America250.

In 2026, the nation will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This historic milestone honors the ideals of freedom and democracy upon which the United States was founded.

Ridgeland looks forward to being part of this national celebration by connecting America's story with the City's own rich history.

The key event where Ridgeland will highlight America 250 will be the 35th Annual Celebrate America Balloon Glow, scheduled for June 26. This long-standing community tradition offers a meaningful, patriotic setting to mark the nation's anniversary while bringing residents and visitors together in celebration.

Over the past few years, Ridgeland has launched several initiatives that highlight the City's history and origin stories, particularly through the milestones surrounding its 125th anniversary. That work has created a natural and meaningful transition to celebrate the country's upcoming milestone, building on the City's commitment to honoring the past while looking toward the future.

"America's 250th anniversary gives communities an opportunity to reflect on our shared history and the values that unite us," said Mayor Gene F. McGee. *"Ridgeland has been proud to tell its own story in recent years, and we look forward to continuing that tradition as we recognize this important moment in our nation's history."*

For more information, visit www.ridgelandms.org or follow the City of Ridgeland on social media.

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Gene F. McGee, cmo - mayor • Angela E. Richburg, mmc - city clerk / chief financial officer

board of aldermen: D.I. Smith, cmo, mayor pro tempore - at-large • Ken Heard, cmo - ward 1 • Chuck Gautier, cmo - ward 2
Kevin Holder, cmo - ward 3 • Brian P. Ramsey, cmo - ward 4 • Bill Lee - ward 5 • Wesley Hamlin, cmo - ward 6