Subject America 250 Celebration

From Kelley Diffendorf <

To

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Good morning.

As some of you may or may not know, the Town of Kirkwood is planning an America 250 Celebration on Saturday, July 4th at Veterans River Park. This event is also being planned as a regional event for **Broome County**. If your town is not planning to host an individual event, we invite you to participate with us.

Our theme is: **Remember, Honor and Celebrate**. We want to Remember those who have fought for our freedom; Honor our heritage; and Celebrate our nation's achievements throughout the past 250 years. Here is overview of what is taking place:

We will kick off the event with a parade at 1:00 along Main Street. At 1:45 we will have an opening ceremony that includes the singing of the National Anthem by Alyssa Crosby, the reading of the Declaration of Independence by Broome County Historian Roger Luther, an Honor Guard, and the ringing of the bells across Broome County at 2:00 p.m. Throughout the day there will be Living History Demonstrations, as well as campsites of Revolutionary War Re-enactors and Civil War Re-enactors. Other activities include, but are not limited to, tours of the Kirkwood Historical Society showcasing the Town's history, a horse-drawn carriage ride along Main Street, Art exhibits from local schools showcasing students' artistic interpretation of the last 250 years, and agricultural exhibits paying tribute to our Town's heritage in farming past and present, including a tractor show. We plan on spotlighting the immigrants that called Kirkwood home by showcasing Irish bands and dancers and promoting our German Club's annual breakfast. There will also be colonial games and activities for kids and adults in which to participate, as well as a Touch-the-Truck event involving first responders, DOT, and local businesses. The evening will end with a concert by The Blue Velvet Big Band featuring patriotic songs leading up to a spectacular fireworks display. Food Vendors and Food Trucks will be on site throughout the day.

Please feel free to share this information with your local historian or other staff members who you think might want to be included in this event.

If you have questions, please contact the Town of Kirkwood Historian, Karen Ferguson. Her email is:

We would love to have you participate and join in on the fun of this special day!

Thanks for your time.

Kelley Diffendorf

Kirkwood Town Clerk

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