



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION 2026

February 9, 2026

Warrenville City Council
 3S58 Manning Avenue
 Warrenville, IL 60555

Dear City Council,

The Warrenville Friends of the 4th Committee is unwavering in its mission: to provide the Warrenville community with an unforgettable two-day celebration. In 2026, we mark the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, making this event even more significant. Our success relies heavily on the generous support of the Warrenville City Council. Your additional financial contribution of \$10,000 in 2025, combined with the city's \$30,000 in expenses and \$11,000 in city services, was instrumental in making last year's celebration unforgettable.

The costs for 2025 were substantial—\$28,000 for a twenty-five-minute fireworks display, \$8,350 for the parade, \$8,200 for stage entertainment, and \$11,450 for bands, all of which increased from previous years. To secure these contracts, we use funds from our reserve account, which holds just over \$26,000 dedicated solely to these expenses. However, severe weather cancellations could require us to cover parade, entertainment, stage, and band costs from this reserve, jeopardizing our ability to plan ahead.

Throughout my tenure as President, the Committee has been remarkably frugal, thanks to the dedication of my Chairmen and careful budget management. Yet, given the significance of the 250th anniversary, we aim to make this the most extraordinary community event possible. Therefore, we respectfully request an additional \$10,000 from the City Council—matching the 2025 support that helped create a celebration praised by attendees from Illinois, Indiana, and even Washington State as the best of its kind. We are committed to enhancing other revenue streams to help offset costs, but your continued support is vital.

We look forward to your response and to partnering with you to make this historic celebration truly unforgettable.

Sincerely:

Colin A. Wilkie; *President, Warrenville Friends of the 4th Committee*