County of Greene and Town of Greeneville, Tennessee

PROCLAMATION

By the Honorable Mayors

WHEREAS, on January 1, 2026, the United States of America began a year-long commemoration of the 250th anniversary of our Nation's independence, marking one of the most significant milestones in the history of human liberty; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, delegates to the Second Continental Congress gathered in Philadelphia to declare the birth of a new nation founded on the revolutionary belief that all people are created equal and endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

WHEREAS, this bold declaration launched a Republic unlike any other, rooted not in monarchy or privilege, but in the timeless conviction that freedom is a God-given right, and that government exists to secure that right for every citizen; and

WHEREAS, the faith of our Founders guided the birth of our Nation, as the Continental Congress called the people to prayer, thanksgiving, and repentance, seeking the blessing and protection of Almighty God upon the cause of American independence; and

WHEREAS, for two and a half centuries, the flame of liberty has been carried forward by countless Americans: pioneers who pushed into the unknown, soldiers who defended freedom on distant shores, statesmen who strengthened our institutions, workers and inventors who built our prosperity, and everyday citizens who believed in the promise of this land, and

WHEREAS, Greene County holds a proud place in this American story, being the home of Davy Crockett, frontiersman, statesman, soldier, and American legend, whose life of courage, service, and devotion to liberty continues to inspire our people and reflect the spirit of this community; and

WHEREAS, Scripture teaches us to "give thanks in all circumstances," and it is fitting that during this 250th year we reflect on our blessings, honor our heritage, and renew our commitment to the sacred cause of liberty and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, the people of Greene County join communities across the United States in celebrating this historic anniversary and rededicating ourselves to the principles that have sustained our Republic for two and a half centuries;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Kevin C. Morrison, Mayor of Greene County, Tennessee, and C. Cal Doty, Mayor Town of Greeneville, Tennessee, by the authority vested in us and in partnership on behalf of our respective jurisdictions, do hereby proclaim 2026 as

A Year of Celebration, Prayer, and Rededication to One Nation Under God

we call upon all citizens, families, churches, schools, businesses, and community organizations to commemorate this historic year with appropriate ceremonies, educational programs, and acts of service. Let us teach our children the story of America, honor the heroes who built this Nation, and recommit ourselves to preserving the blessings of liberty for generations yet to come.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we hereunto set our hands and caused the official seal of Greene County, Tennessee, and the and the Town of Greeneville, Tennessee, to be affixed this seventeenth day of May 2026.

Kevin C. Morrison

Kevin C. Morrison, Greene County Mayor

C. Cal Doty

C. Cal Doty, Town of Greeneville Mayor