Celebrating, Commemorating, Remembering

One City; Three Anniversaries

Planning for 2026







Venice Centennial

July 1st is when the State of Florida law incorporating the Town of Venice went into effect. It's still possible to give a nod to other significant dates (the post office of Venice opening in what is now Nokomis, the change in incorporation from town to city, etc.), but this year and anniversary can provide a clear official "birth date" of the municipality.

United States Semiquincentennial

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

DECLARATIO

BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE

NITED STATES OF AMERIC

IN GENERAL CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

HEN in the Course of human Events, it becomes necessary for one People to dissolve the Political Bands which have connect with another, and to assume among the Powers of the Earth, the separate and equal Station to which the Laws of Nature Nature's God entitle them, a decent Respect to the Opinions of Mansiers that they should declare the causes which important to the Separation.

We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equals, that they are endowed by their Creator with unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness—That to secure these Rights, Government deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Geveraed, that whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive

it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its Foundation on such Principles, and or ers in such Form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments

at should not be changed for light and transient Causes; and accordingly all Experience hath shewn, that Mankind are more disposed to sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the Forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long Train of Abuses and Usurparion

On July 4th, the United States marks the 250th year of its independence. This is an opportunity to look back on the vision and beliefs of the country's founders and respond to how we as a nation have implemented them.

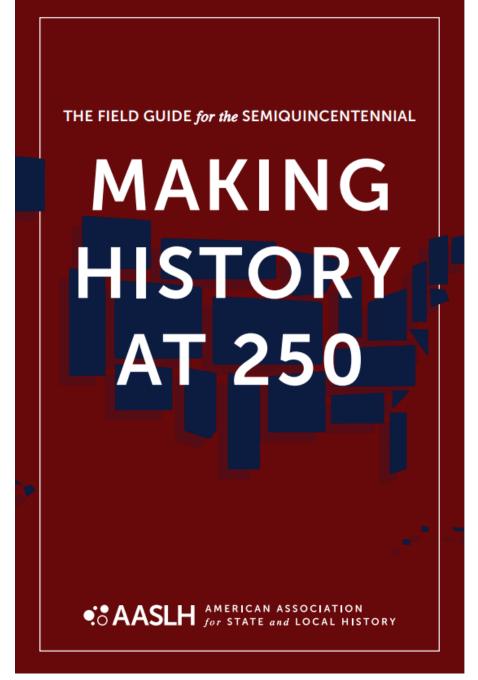


9-11 Quadranscentennial

On September 11, the United States and Venice will have had twenty-five years to reflect on the worst terrorist attack on American soil that has ties to this community. Although national attention will be focused on New York City, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA, it would be remiss for the City to not recognize its association to this historic event.

Themes

- Unfinished Revolutions
- Power of Place
- We the People
- American Experiment
- Doing History
- Defining Venice
- My History is Our History
- The Next Milestones



The Team Historical The Resources Mayor Manager City Manager's Office



The Approach







Stakeholders (so far)

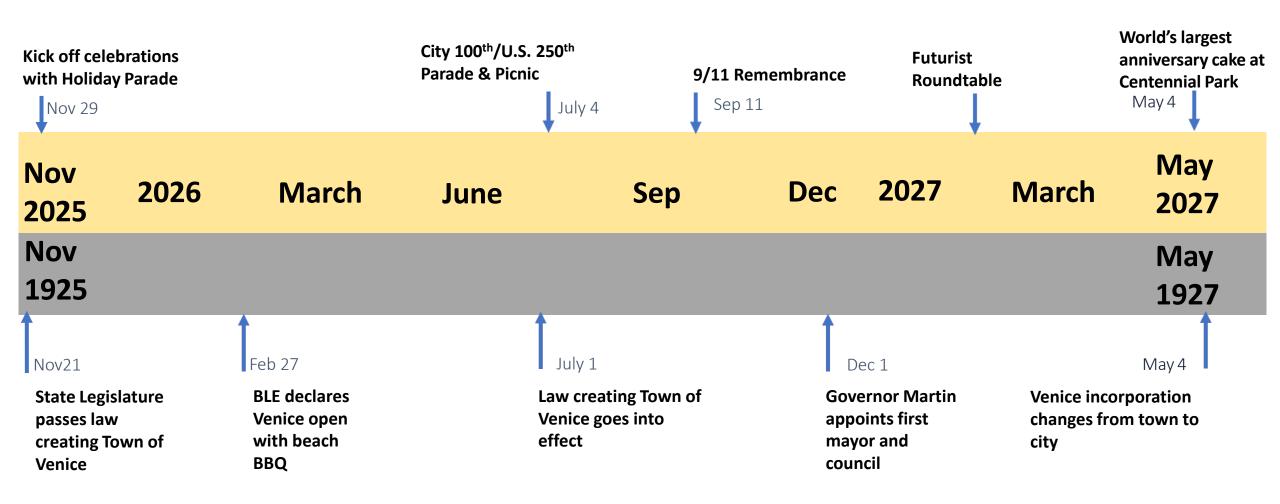
- Venice Main Street
- William H. Jervey, Jr. Venice
 Public Library
- Venice Area Historical Society
- Venice Gondolier
- Gulf Coast Community
 Foundation
- Venice Heritage
- Venice Theatre

- Myakka Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution
- Venice Area Chamber of Commerce
- Kentucky Military Institute
 Alumni
- Sertoma Club
- Venice Area Beautification
- Venice Art Center
- Suncoast Rotary

Public Outreach



Proposed Anniversary Timeline



Potential City Roles and Responsibilities

- USA 250th/Venice 100th Parade and Picnic July 4, 2026
- Organize Banner and Essay Contests for Local Schools
- Mayor's Dinner
- Futurist Roundtable
- Wrap-up Anniversary Cake
- Participation of Other Departments

Initial Ideas from Stakeholders

- Speaker Series and Exhibits
- Anniversary-Themed Season of Shows
- Anniversary Spin on Current Special Events
 - Beach Bash
 - Sun Fiesta
 - Book Fair & Writer's Festival
- Book on History of Venice

Funding

FY 2025

- Logo
- Marketing Materials
- Giveaways

FY 2027

- Cake
- Mayor's Dinner
- Futurist Roundtable

FY 2026

- Street Banners
- Parade & Picnic
- Student ContestPrizes
- MarketingMaterials
- Giveaways

Other Potential Funding Sources, Grants and Sponsorship Opportunities

- Gulf Coast Community Foundation
- Venice Gondolier
- Other Local Businesses
- Florida Humanities
- Florida Department of State

