

Main Street Community Center Draws 120-Plus to USA 250 Celebration BBQ

by Samantha Rojas, Main Street Community Center Communications
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EDWARDSVILLE - Main Street Community Center hosted a lively and well-attended USA 250 Celebration BBQ, bringing together over 120 community members, volunteers, staff, and Board members for an afternoon filled with food, music, and patriotic celebration.

The event honored America's upcoming 250th anniversary in 2026 with a red, white, and blue themed gathering focused on community connection, engagement, and shared enjoyment. Guests enjoyed a classic summer barbecue spread featuring hot dogs, brats, chicken, potato salad, pasta salad, chips, and a variety of homemade-style desserts.





Entertainment was provided by local musical guest Scott Marlin, who performed live throughout the afternoon that the participants enjoyed. Attendees also participated in interactive USA-themed trivia, adding friendly competition and patriotic fun to the celebration.

The celebration brought together dozens of local seniors and community members for an afternoon of laughter, music, and connection, highlighting the importance of social engagement and community involvement.

“Events like today remind us of what creating community is all about. It is always a special day when we can create events to bring all our participants together in one place. We probably could have doubled our attendance, but we are at capacity in our building!” said Jessica Johnson, Executive Director at Main Street Community Center.

A USA Celebration attendee and longtime volunteer, Irma, shared that volunteering during the event and working with staff and interacting with all who showed up was her favorite part of the day.

Main Street Community Center extends a heartfelt thank you to its generous sponsors—Thrivent – Diane Lasseigne, Troy with Custom BBQ Grills for Rent, Scott Marlin, and Cardinal Catastrophe—as well as to its dedicated Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers whose efforts made the event possible.

The USA 250 Celebration BBQ reflects Main Street Community Center's ongoing commitment to providing meaningful, engaging, and enriching experiences for older adults in the region, while building anticipation for this historic national milestone.

Main Street Community Center has been serving the greater Edwardsville area since 1974. The Center is committed to serving those 50+ years of age to keep them healthy, active and engaged.



