



## *25.0 Ideas for Your Neighborhood Celebration*

- 1. New Year, New Neighborhood Connections Social (Seasonal)**  
Meet your neighbors in 2026! Host light refreshments in your driveway or front lawn and invite your neighbors to stop by for community connectivity and conversations. Choose a seasonal theme like a spring social, summer sunset soiree, or harvest meet-up!
- 2. Neighborhood Storytelling Night**  
Invite families and neighbors to share fun or meaningful stories – family traditions, neighborhood memories, or what makes your Mesa neighborhood unique.
- 3. [Book Swap \(Mesa Little Library\)](#)**  
Have a Mesa Little Library in your neighborhood? Schedule a day to meet at your local Mesa Little Library and share your favorite reads.
- 4. Community Time Capsule**  
Invite neighbors to contribute a small item, message, or drawing capturing memories, hopes, or milestones from the year. Pick a day to seal the time capsule together and choose a future date to reopen it and celebrate your neighborhood's shared experiences. Need a shovel? Use the City of Mesa's free [Tool Lending Program](#)!
- 5. Neighborhood Walk or Run Club**  
Unite as a neighborhood! Invite your neighbors for a one time – or reoccurring – short walk or run around your neighborhood. Need neighbors to know where you'll be starting? Use the America250 Event A-Frame Signage, available in the [Party in a Box](#) to clearly mark your meeting location and help neighbors know exactly where to gather!
- 6. Decorate-a-Door Challenge (Seasonal)**  
Invite neighbors to decorate their doors by a monthly theme – heart designs in February, spring paper flowers in May, or patriotic in July! Then, schedule a day for neighbors to stroll the neighborhood, view the door decorations, and vote their favorite.
- 7. All-American Backyard Picnic (Seasonal)**  
Host an All-American backyard picnic during the cooler Mesa months and serve classic favorites like hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, and lemonade! This is an easy and festive way to bring neighbors together outdoors.

**8. Care Cards for First Responders**

Set-up a card making table for the kids in the neighborhood to create care cards for Mesa's first responders. Schedule a date to deliver them to your local Mesa Fire or Police station! Request a [Party in a Box](#) to give neighbors access to crayons and America250 coloring pages – perfect for creating colorful care cards!

**9. Light Up Your Neighborhood (Seasonal)**

Take a twist on lighting up your neighborhood throughout the year! Invite neighbors to decorate their homes, yards, or driveways with lights to brighten the neighborhood. Create a spring glow in March, patriotic theme in July, or holiday wonderland in December! Schedule a day for neighbors to stroll the neighborhood, view the door decorations, and vote their favorites.

**10. Paws on the Block Parade (Seasonal)**

Have the “paws” hit the pavement for a neighborhood pet parade! Choose a seasonal theme, such as stars and stripes in July, costumes in October, or holiday pajamas during the holiday season. Need a visual to designate the starting point? Use the America250 Event A-Frame Signage, available in the [Party in a Box](#) to clearly mark your starting location and help neighbors know exactly where to gather!

**11. Love Where You Live Chalk-the-Walk**

Organize a day for the neighborhood to come together to decorate the sidewalks with kind messages to celebrate community and friendship. Need chalk? Request a [Party in a Box](#) to get a variety of colors to create a vibrant, eye-catching walkway!

**12. Neighborhood Clean Up (Tool Lending Program)**

Use the City of Mesa's free Tool Lending Program to gather supplies for a neighborhood clean-up! Invite neighbors to pick up litter and refresh shared spaces, making your community shine for the new year or just in time for spring gardening.

**13. Classic American Movie Night (Seasonal)**

Think your favorite movie is an American classic? Host an outdoor movie night with your neighbors to share neighborhood American classics!

**14. Hobby Swap**

Looking for a new hobby in the new year? Have your neighbors come together to bring or share a hobby they enjoy to exchange ideas and inspire new interests!

**15. All-American Bake-Off**

Invite neighbors to bring their best homemade dessert – pies, cakes, or cookies. Select one or two judges, award a small prize, and celebrate sweet neighborhood pride!

**16. Neighborhood Play Day (Seasonal)**

Host an electronics-free day and enjoy the cool Mesa weather! Gather in a front yard or neighborhood park for a fun day of play with family-friendly games like kickball, soccer, tag, potato sack relay races, and more. Chalk, cornhole, potato sacks, jump ropes, and more are available in the [Party in a Box](#). Request one for your neighborhood play day!

**17. Plant and Seed Swap Meet (Seasonal)**

Want to share your indoor or outdoor plant cuttings with your neighbors? Bring your neighbors together during the spring and fall to share gardening tips, seeds, and plant cuttings to trade!

- 18. Community Canvas Night**  
Set up tables, canvases, and paint supplies so neighbors can create simple artwork together.
- 19. [Community Recipe Swap \(Mesa Little Libraries\)](#)**  
Have a Mesa Little Library? Invite neighbors for an afternoon to contribute their favorite recipes and create a neighborhood cookbook – share it in your Mesa Little Library for everyone to enjoy!
- 20. Stars and Stripes Talent Show**  
Invite neighbors to showcase their talents with an American twist – sing patriotic songs, perform classic tunes, or share creative skills with red, white, and blue flair.
- 21. Neighborhood Photo (Seasonal)**  
Organize a neighborhood photo at the beginning of each month or season and see how your neighborhood develops throughout the year!
- 22. All-American Chili Cook-Off**  
Host a friendly neighborhood competition by inviting the neighborhood to bring their best homemade chili recipe. Set up tasting stations, provide simple voting ballots, and award your neighborhood favorite.
- 23. Cornhole Tournament**  
Feeling competitive? Request a [Party in a Box](#) and host a cornhole tournament in your driveway or front lawn!
- 24. Neighborhood Potluck (Seasonal)**  
Ever smell something delicious coming from your neighbor’s kitchen? Bring neighbors together for a potluck and invite everyone to share a favorite dish inspired by the time of year. Feature fresh salads and light bites in the spring, cool treats in the summer (best held in the evening), warm comfort foods in the fall, or holiday favorites in the winter. A neighborhood potluck is a simple, welcoming way to connect over food and celebrate the season together.
- 25. America250 Volunteer Pledge**  
The City of Mesa proudly pledges to engage our community in contributing at least 100,000 hours of volunteer service in honor of America’s 250th birthday. Together, we commit to strengthening our city, supporting our neighbors, and celebrating this historic milestone through meaningful service. Be a part of history - [discover ways to get involved!](#)