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### **Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 1189  
Norris, TN 37828

### **Website:**

[museumofappalachia.org](http://museumofappalachia.org)

### **Contact:**

865-494-7680

[museum@  
museumofappalachia.org](mailto:museum@museumofappalachia.org)

### **CONTACT:**

Will Meyer

### **Museum of Appalachia**

P.O. Box 1189, Norris, TN 37828

Phone: 865-494-7680

E-mail: [willmeyer@museumofappalachia.org](mailto:willmeyer@museumofappalachia.org)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 17, 2025

## **Museum of Appalachia to Launch Anvils Sky-High This Fourth of July**

**NORRIS, Tenn.** — This Independence Day, the skies above the Museum of Appalachia will echo with thunder as 150-pound anvils rocket into the air in one of the region's most explosive traditions: the **Independence Day Anvil Shoot Celebration**, held Friday, July 4, 2025.

While fireworks may light up the night elsewhere, this daylight celebration offers a truly rare and unforgettable sight: a cloud of smoke, a jolt of sound, and—suddenly—an iron anvil soaring above the treetops. It's an Appalachian twist on a time-honored spectacle, and one you're unlikely to witness anywhere else.

Anvil shoots will take place at **10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 1:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m.**, serving as the centerpiece of a full day of family-friendly activities celebrating Appalachian culture and American heritage. The event also features patriotic ceremonies, live mountain music, historic demonstrations from blacksmiths, spinners, and woodworkers, and appearances by living history interpreters.

"Anvil shooting is one of the most powerful and exciting expressions of pioneer tradition," says Museum President Lindsey Gallaher. "It's a jaw-dropping experience—and for many of our visitors, the highlight of their summer."

Anvil shooting was once a common way for 19th-century Americans—especially in rural communities—to mark important moments like holidays and elections. Though it's a nearly lost art today, the Museum of Appalachia keeps the tradition alive with authentic materials, expert handling, and a deep respect for the heritage it represents.

The **Independence Day Anvil Shoot Celebration** runs from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** on the Museum grounds in Norris, Tennessee. **Admission is free for Museum Members**, and tickets for non-members can be purchased online at [museumofappalachia.org](http://museumofappalachia.org).

For more information, visit the website, call **865-494-7680**, or email [museum@museumofappalachia.org](mailto:museum@museumofappalachia.org).