

Sip like it’s 1776: Retro 4th of July cocktails to spark your celebration



Contributed Image

Here are four vintage-inspired 4th of July drink recipes with an old-time American feel, plus one non-alcoholic option, keeping the flavors patriotic and festive.

Liberty Punch
Origin: Inspired by 19th-century American punch recipes, a communal favorite at celebrations.

Ingredients:
2 cups rum (dark or light, depending on preference)
1 cup fresh lemon juice
1/2 cup simple syrup
2 cups black tea, chilled
1 cup fresh raspberries or sliced strawberries
2 cups sparkling water
Ice block or cubes

Instructions:
In a large punch bowl, combine rum, lemon juice, simple syrup, and chilled black tea.

Add raspberries or strawberries for a red-white-blue vibe.

Just before serving, add sparkling water and a large ice block to keep it cold.

Serve in cups with a few berries for garnish.

Why It Fits: Punch was a staple at early American gatherings, and the berries nod to the flag’s colors.

Colonial Mint Julep (Alcoholic)
Origin: A Southern classic from the 18th century, often enjoyed at festive occasions.

Ingredients:
2 oz bourbon
1 tsp sugar or 1/2 oz simple syrup
8-10 fresh mint leaves
Crushed ice
Splash of water

Instructions:
Muddle mint leaves and sugar/simple syrup in a silver julep cup or highball glass.

Fill with crushed ice, pour in bourbon, and add a splash of water.

Stir gently until the glass frosts. Garnish with a mint sprig.

Why It Fits: The julep’s refreshing kick was a hit at early American summer gatherings, perfect for July 4th.

Revolutionary Gin Rickey
Origin: A 1880s D.C. cocktail, named after a political lobbyist, popular in hot summers.

Ingredients:
2 oz gin
1/2 oz fresh lime juice
Club soda
Ice
Lime wedge for garnish

Instructions:
Fill a highball glass with ice, add gin and lime juice. Top with club soda and stir gently. Garnish with a lime wedge.

Why It Fits: Its crisp, simple profile suits a hot Independence Day, with a nod to American cocktail history.

Yankee Doodle Cocktail (Alcoholic)
Origin: Inspired by early 20th-century fruit-based cocktails, evoking patriotic cheer.

Ingredients:
1 1/2 oz rye whiskey
1 oz blueberry liqueur or cordial

1/2 oz lemon juice
1/2 oz simple syrup
Splash of soda water
Fresh blueberries for garnish

Instructions:
Shake whiskey, blueberry liqueur, lemon juice, and simple syrup with ice. Strain into a chilled glass, top with a splash of soda water.

Garnish with a skewer of blueberries.

Why It Fits: The blueberry hue and rye whiskey give a patriotic, old-school American vibe.

Temperance Lemonade (Non-Alcoholic)
Origin: Based on 19th-century temperance movement recipes, a refreshing staple at public celebrations.

Ingredients:
1 cup fresh lemon juice
3/4 cup simple syrup
4 cups cold water
1 cup fresh blueberries or sliced strawberries
Ice
Lemon slices and mint for garnish

Instructions:
In a large pitcher, mix lemon juice, simple syrup, and cold water.

Add berries and stir gently.

Serve over ice with a lemon slice and mint sprig.

Why It Fits: Non-alcoholic drinks were popular during temperance-era 4th of July events, and the berries add a festive red-white-blue touch.

Inland Development Corp awards \$54,000 in scholarships

Inland Development Corporation has announced the award of 27 scholarships to graduating seniors in the Class of 2025, totaling \$54,000 in support of continuing education.

Founded in 2004 to expand broadband services to Morrow County schools, Inland Development has grown to serve much of Eastern Oregon.

In 2011, the organization launched its scholarship program in memory of Inland’s founder, Nate Arbogast, who tragically passed away in a skiing accident. Nate was a strong advocate for education and had a visionary goal of providing broadband access to schools across rural Oregon.

Since its inception, the scholarship program has awarded more than \$750,000 to students from across the region. In 2020, Monument High School

was added to the list of eligible schools, and in 2025, Inland significantly expanded the program—boosting the number of recipients to twenty-seven and doubling the scholarship amount to \$2,000 per student.

Scholarships have supported students pursuing a variety of post-secondary paths, including two- and four-year colleges, technical institutes, apprenticeships, vocational programs and beauty schools.

The 2025 recipients include three students from Monument High School, one from Ione High School, six from Irrigon High School, five from Heppner High School and 12 from Riverside High School.

Inland Development remains committed to investing in the future of rural communities by supporting the educational goals of local youth.

July Happenings at the Heppner Library

Summer is in full swing, and so are the summer events at the Oregon Trail Library District’s Heppner branch.

iRead Summer Reading 2025: Level Up at Your Library is in full swing and will end August 8. You can still register by logging into your Beanstack account or visiting our website at otld.org.

Families won’t want to miss Arcade Universe presented by the Dragon Theater Puppet Show on Wednesday, July 9, at 1 p.m.

Summer Storytimes are on Fridays at 11 a.m.

Summer Fun-Day Fridays are from 3:30-4:30 p.m.; Teen Night follows from 5-7 p.m.

Crafty Nights @ the Library in July is Wednesday the 9th at 6 p.m. Call 541-676-9964 or visit our website to reserve your

spot now—space is limited. This month’s craft will be a painted door mat.

All branches will be closed Friday, July 4, and Saturday, July 5, for the Fourth of July holiday.

Sign up for Wow-brary—a weekly email showcasing our new titles for the week.

Visit the calendar page on OTLD’s website for more event and program information.

Ione Forth of July celebration schedule



July 3rd
Ione Annual 4th of July Golf Tournament Willow Creek Country Club in Heppner, OR July 3rd at 9:00am
July 4th
Fireman’s Breakfast Ione Fire Hall 7:00 -10:00 am
5k Walk/Run (\$10 Registration) Ione City Park 7am Registration/ Walk starts at 7:30am Horseshoe Horseshoe Pits Available all day
Cruz-in Car Show Ione City Park 10:00 AM
Vendors & Booths Ione City Park 11:00 AM
Fishpond, Bike Raffle Fire Hall/Park 11:00 AM
Free Face Painting Ione City Park 11:00 AM-5:00PM
Parade Grand Marshal: Main Street 1:00 PM
Duck Race Main Street Following Parade
Laser Tag Ione City Park

1:00PM-8:00PM
I/A Football Cornhole Tournament (\$20 entry) Ione City Park Registration 1:30, start time 2:00 PM
Dunk Tank & Ice Cream Social Ione City Park 2:00-4:00 PM
BINGO Legion Hall, 2nd Street 2:00-4:00 PM
Luke Basil Amphitheater Stage 2:00-3:00 PM
Zac Grooms Amphitheater Stage 3:30-4:30 PM
All American BBQ - \$5 Fire Hall 5:00-7:00pm
Miguel the Mysterious Magician Amphitheater Stage 4:30-6:00pm
Featured Entertainment Amphitheater Stage 6:30-10:00 PM Cody Alan & The Crossroads (6:30 pm) The Wade Aylett Band (8:30 pm)
Fireworks Display Visible throughout Ione (weather permitting) Dusk

Barrera graduates from Whitman College

Boardman native Marco Barrera participated in commencement proceedings at Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA, on

Sunday, May 25. A graduate of Riverside Jr/Sr High School, Barrera received a bachelor’s degree in economics from Whitman.

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