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NEWS

For America’s Time Capsule, Texas chose these three objects

The Texas Declaration of Independence is among the artifacts to be buried in Philadelphia on July 4.

By **Alyda Muela**, Staff Writer
July 2, 2026

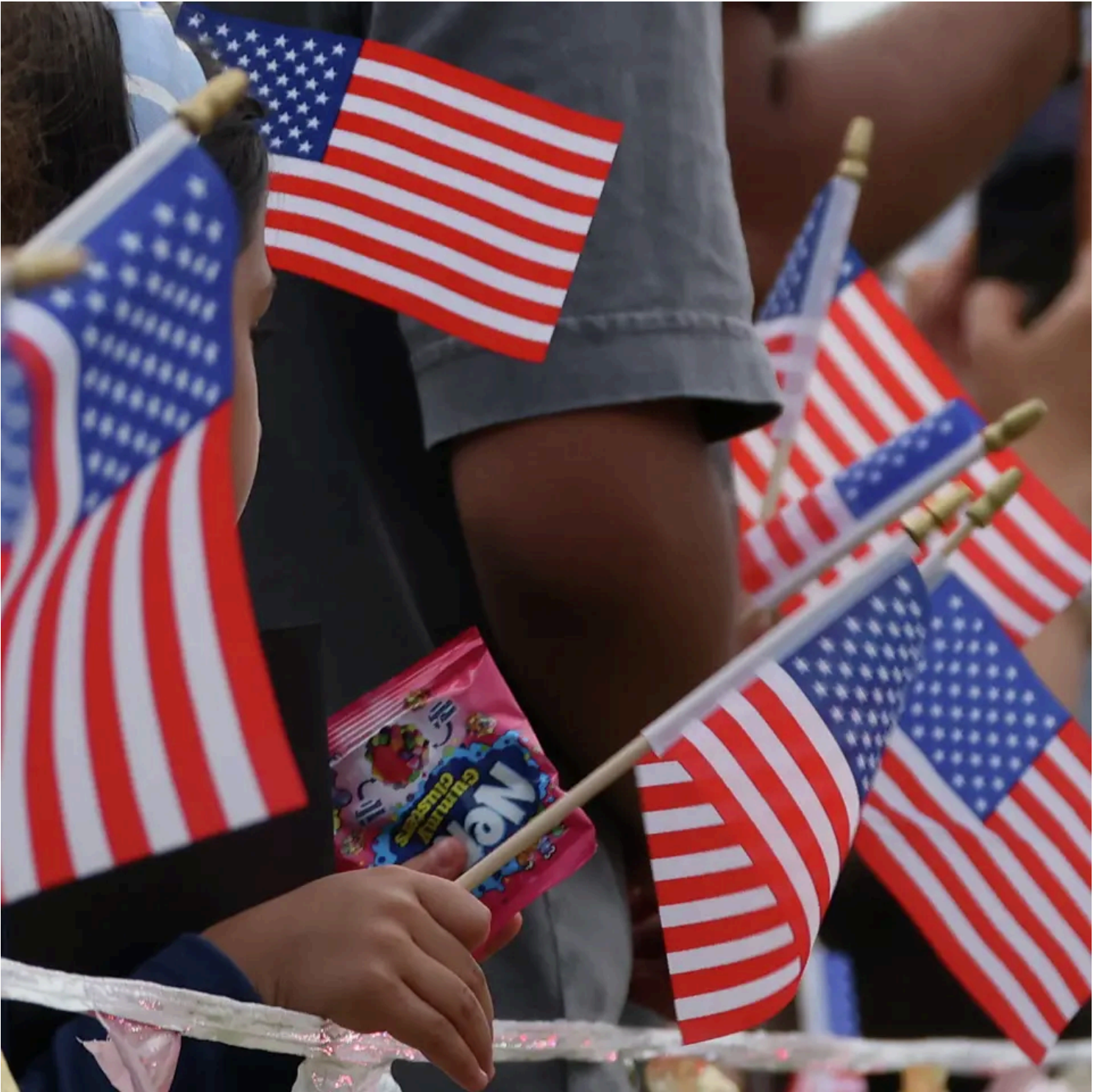
 Gift Article











A youngster (left) watches the parade amid a sea of American flags during the Plano All American 4th Parade, which drew a large crowd to the Oak Point Event Field, located at 2801 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano, on July 4, 2025.

Steve Hamm/Dallas Morning News



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For America's Time Capsule, Texas chose these three objects

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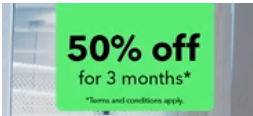
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Ahead of the [nation's 250th birthday](#), every state got a show-and-tell homework assignment: Pick items unique to your territory for a [time capsule](#) to be opened by Americans celebrating the nation's 500th Independence Day.

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Some states had fun with it. Nevada tossed in poker chips. Oklahoma contributed a belt buckle. California asked AI to predict the future.

Texas, like many other states, took a more buttoned-up approach. You won't find cowboy boots or a longhorn skull in the 900-pound cylinder set to be buried in Philadelphia on Saturday. But there will be a couple of lone stars.

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State Archivist Jelain Chubb, a member of the Texas America250 Commission, said the six-member panel responsible for its selections wanted to choose “iconic” items that reflected the government and people of Texas.

The commission in March picked the Texas Declaration of Independence, a design sketch of the state flag and seal and a glass paperweight engraved with the Texas state seal.

Chubb said the commission considered several items, like the Travis letter from the Alamo vowing "victory or death" and a Texas flag, but felt these would resonate most among Texans.

“We all agreed that these are representative of not just one generation of Texans, but of all generations of Texans, and that they would be something that every Texan would recognize and appreciate and say, ‘Yes, this is an important item,’” she said.

Reproduced copies of the historic items that memorialize Texas' storied past will join the [mix of coins and letters](#) from other U.S. states and territories.

ON THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH, 1836

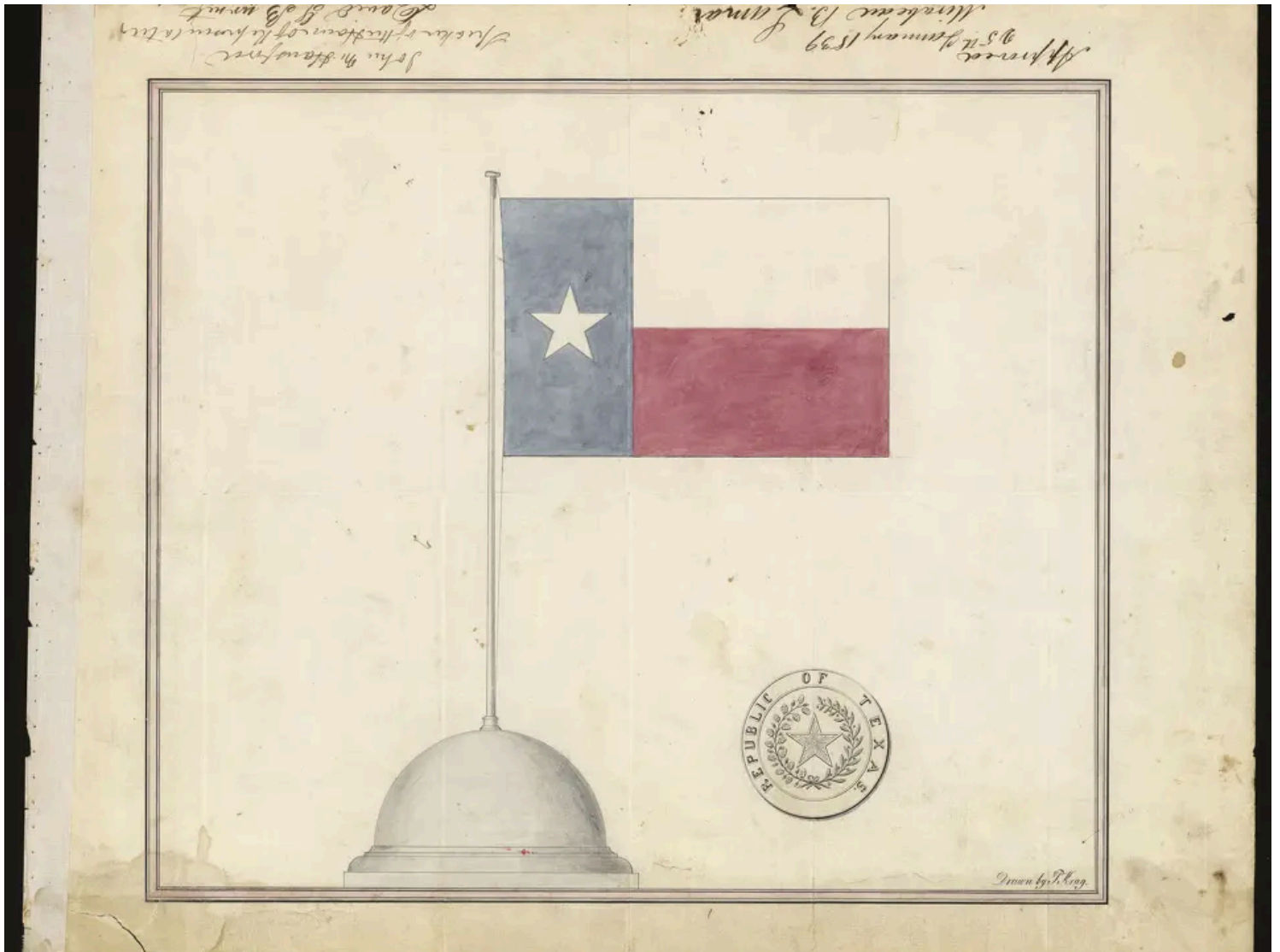
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"It has a similar vein of patriotism. A lot of the typical types of arguments and the passion that both the U.S. patriots and Texas patriots shared," she said.



Texas flag and seal design by Peter Krag, approved January 25, 1839.
Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Flag and seal design sketch

The Lone Star Flag became Texas' official state flag on Jan. 25, 1839. The [original color sketch](#) by Peter Krag shows the flag and seal for the Republic of Texas, which was later adopted as the official state seal.

Texas state seal

The Texas state seal features a lone star surrounded by a wreath of [olive and oak branches](#), symbolizing peace and independence. The seal was etched onto a glass paperweight and placed in an acid-free box.



The Texas state seal, designed by Peter Krag, features a lone star surrounded by olive and oak branches that symbolize peace and independence.

Texas State Library and Archives Commission

While it is unknown what lies ahead for the U.S. in the next 250 years, Chubb hopes future generations carry the same passion and love for Texas and U.S. history.

"I hope that the same innovative spirit that we've shown over the last 250 years is present," she said. "We really hope that they look back on the history of the state and the nation with pride, reverence, and appreciation for those generations that have gone before them."



Alyda Muela

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERN



Originally from El Paso, Alyda recently graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso with a BA in multimedia journalism and a minor in general business. After working at her university's student publication, she interned for the local public radio station KTEP and Puente News Collaborative, a nonprofit news organization covering the U.S.-Mexico border.

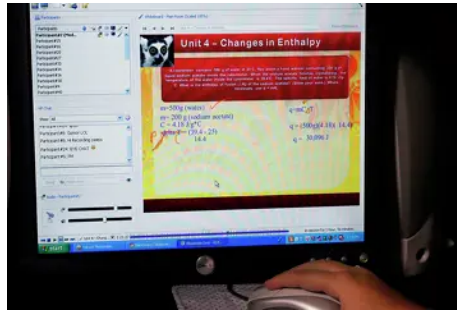
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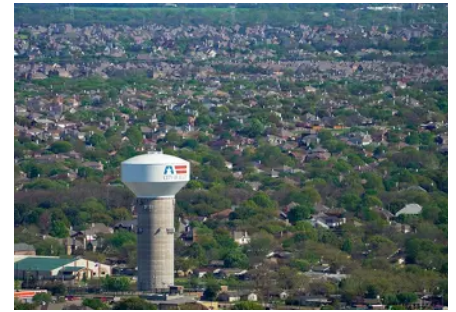
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