

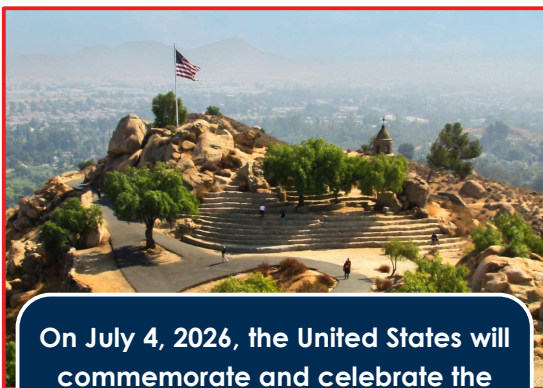
AMERICA: 250 YEARS
IN THE MAKING

COUNCILMEMBER FALCONE, WARD 1

City Council
APRIL 14, 2026

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BACKGROUND



On July 4, 2026, the United States will commemorate and celebrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence

- Riverside was an **official "American Bicentennial City"** in 1976 which resulted in many celebrations, displays, projects, and buildings
- Opportunity to **pause** and **reflect** on the nation's past, **honor** the contributions of all Americans, and **look ahead** to the future we want to create for future generations
- **City departments and the community** are participating in celebrations, special events, and special projects to honor this semi-quincentennial in 2026



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PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES



April 25	Riverside Concert Band 150th Anniversary Festival at Fairmount Park
May 26	Memorial Day Ceremony at Orange Terrace Community Center
June 17	Concert in the Park with drone show at La Sierra Park
July 1	Concert in the Park with drone show at Fairmount Park
July 4	Fireworks Spectacular at La Sierra Park and Mount Rubidoux



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MUSEUM

May 1	"Riverside: An All-American City – A Celebration of America 250" exhibit at Mission Inn Foundation Gallery (3598 Main St.)
May 16	Vintage Home Tour with Old Riverside Foundation
May 17	Victorian Ice Cream Social at Heritage House (8193 Magnolia Avenue)
July 5	First floor tour with patriotic objects on view at Heritage House
July 24	"Movies on the Lawn: Patriotic Edition" at Heritage House



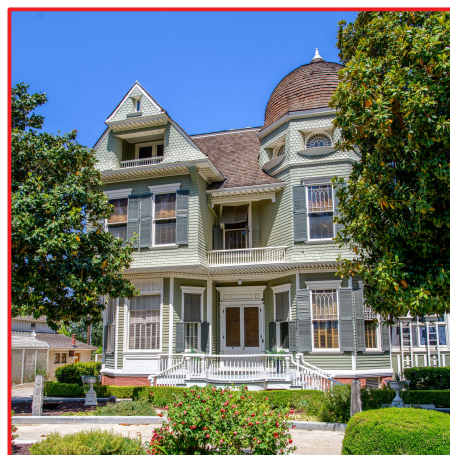
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MUSEUM

October 3	Ecology Walk at the Riverside Corona Conservation District focusing on ecological changes over the last 250 years
October 4	“Riverside First Labor Force: Highlighting Native People” — Location TBD
October 8	Museum of Riverside presentation on patriotic parades, 1976 bicentennial, presidential visits, and more at Orange Terrace Community Center



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COMMUNITY EVENTS



April 25	Great American Cleanup , various locations
May 23	Memorial Day Ceremony at Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery
May 25	West Coast Thunder , Memorial Day Celebration
July 3	Concert for Heroes at Riverside National Cemetery
July 4	“Front Row Fireworks” viewing party at Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery



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COMMUNITY EVENTS



September 12	Military Affairs Appreciation Picnic at LeMay Park on March Air Reserve Base
September / October	Civil Rights Walk Ribbon Cutting
November 7	“A Salute to Veterans” Parade and Expo , Downtown
December 12	Wreaths Across America at Evergreen Memorial Historic Cemetery

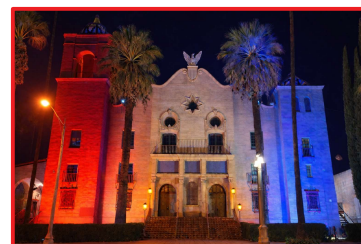


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CITY COMMEMORATIONS



- **Nightly patriotic red, white, and blue illumination** of City Hall, The Cheech, Riverside Municipal Auditorium, Main Street Mall bollards
- **Patriotic traffic signal cabinet wraps** in Presidential Park

- **Planting of 250 trees** across the city
- **100 additional patriotic banners and/or flags** on city streetlight poles to increase total amount to 250 citywide



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CITY COMMEMORATIONS



- **America 250 mural** on Main Street Mall between Mission Inn Avenue and 6th Street
- **Exhibit display** in City Council Chambers of American bicentennial and semi-quincentennial artifacts/items
- **America 250-themed Explore magazine** and **Riversider magazine** noting celebrations and commemorations



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RECOMMENDATION

Receive an update on City and community events, programs, and projects to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary



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