

# The Spirit of Independence in Rancho Cordova



Two hundred and fifty years ago, a small group of visionaries dared to imagine something extraordinary – a nation built not on privilege or power, but on freedom, equality, and the simple but profound idea that every person has the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The Declaration of Independence wasn't just a document; it was a promise. A promise that ordinary people could shape their destiny, stand up for what's right, and work together to create a better world.

Here in Rancho Cordova, that promise isn't just history – it's alive. Our city was built by people who believed in possibility. Farmers, families, veterans, and dreamers looked at open land and saw opportunity. They imagined a place where people could grow, thrive, and belong. They didn't wait for someone else to lead the way. They rolled up their sleeves, put in the work, and created a community where dreams could take root.

The notions that government closest to the people governs best, and that communities are stronger when they control their own destiny, are not just ideals reflected in the Declaration of Independence. They were the rallying cries when Rancho Cordovans marched to the polls to vote themselves a new form of government back in 2002. The words that inspired the formation of our city echoed the same ideals expressed by the Founding Fathers as they penned the Declaration of Independence.

And that pioneering spirit hasn't faded. You see it every day in Rancho Cordova. You see it in our neighborhoods, where neighbors check on one another and celebrate milestones together. You see it in our schools, where teachers inspire

young minds to think, question, and dream. You see it in our local businesses, where entrepreneurs turn ideas into opportunities, and in our community organizations, where volunteers give their time to lift others.

Our city's story is a living reflection of the ideals that sparked the Declaration of Independence. Just as the founders believed that government should serve the people, we believe that our community thrives when every citizen contributes, cares, and participates. Just as they believed that freedom and responsibility go hand in hand, we see it in our daily lives – in how we work together, support each other, and build a city that is stronger, safer, and more vibrant with every passing year.

Think about it: Rancho Cordova is a city of dreamers. Every family that moves here, every business that opens its doors, every community volunteer who lends a hand – all of them are part of the same bold experiment that began in 1776. We are living proof that ordinary people, united by hope and purpose, can accomplish extraordinary things.

And this year, as our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, let us not only honor the courage of those who came before us, but let us also renew our own commitment to their ideals. Let us commit to fostering opportunity, celebrating diversity, supporting one another, and building a future that is brighter for everyone in Rancho Cordova.

Our story is still being written. Every choice we make, every hand we lend, every dream we pursue adds a new chapter. And together, we are shaping a community that embodies the very best of what America promises: freedom, hope, and the chance to make a difference.