

MANISTEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY



Celebrating 250 Years of Freedom, Opportunity & Self-Government

1776 — 2026 America's 250th Anniversary

THE SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL

America at 250

- On July 4, 2026, the United States marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.
- America250 is a nationwide, bipartisan celebration unfolding across all 50 states and in towns like ours.
- It is a once-in-a-generation moment to reflect on our founding values and renew our civic pride.



250

YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

50

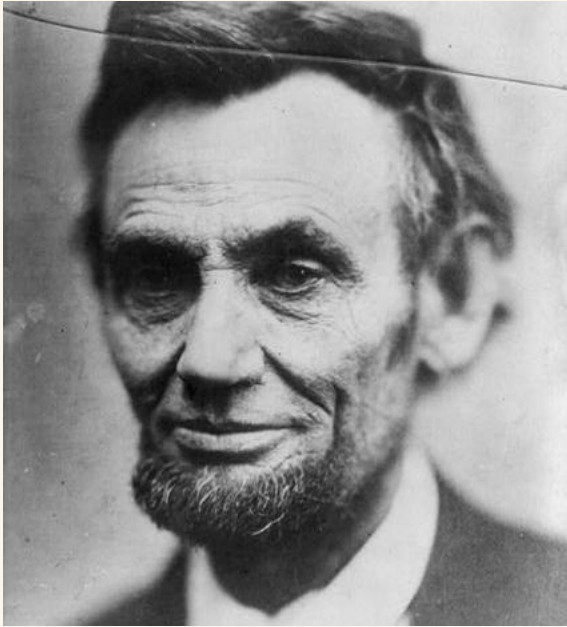
STATES CELEBRATING

1

INDIVISIBLE NATION

THE PARTY'S FIRST PRESIDENT

A New Birth of Freedom



Abraham Lincoln · 16th President

“Government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

— The Gettysburg Address, 1863

- Elected in 1860 as the first Republican president of the United States.
- Issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863.
- Born in a Kentucky log cabin and self-educated — living proof of American opportunity.

FOUNDED TO DEFEND LIBERTY

The Party of Lincoln

From its Michigan roots, the Republican Party rose to preserve the Union and extend freedom to all.

1854

Republican Party founded;
first state convention “Under
the Oaks” in Jackson,
Michigan

1860

Abraham Lincoln elected the
nation's first Republican
president

1863

Emancipation Proclamation
and the Gettysburg Address

1865

13th Amendment abolishes
slavery across the United
States

LAKE MICHIGAN'S VICTORIAN PORT CITY

Anchored in Manistee

- A beacon first lit in 1870 at the mouth of the Manistee River.
- Rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1871 — its rare elevated catwalk still stands today.
- One of only four surviving lighthouse catwalks in the State of Michigan.
- A lasting symbol of guidance and resilience — and a proud emblem in our county seal.



WHAT WE CELEBRATE

Three Enduring Principles



Freedom

Conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all are created equal — a new birth of freedom for every generation.



Opportunity

From a log cabin to the White House: the promise that any child may rise through hard work and free enterprise.



Self-Government

“Government of the people, by the people, for the people” — power that begins right here in our own community.



Carry the Torch

The Manistee County GOP invites every neighbor to honor 250 years of American freedom — and to help write the next chapter.

Celebrate our history · **Strengthen our community** · **Defend our freedoms**

MANISTEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY · 1776 – 2026