



The Redline

July 1, 2026



America's 250 can be a unifying moment – not because everyone sees the past the same. The centerpiece is July 4, 2026, marking exactly 250 years since the Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1776. There will be grand celebrations across the country but in my mind some of the most meaningful celebrations will be at kitchen tables, in backyards, and in living rooms - with families who choose to make this moment count.

The bicentennial in 1976 was a big event – but most of us aren't old enough to remember it. The next semi quincentennial won't happen until 2276. The kids who are growing up right now are living through something genuinely rare, and I think that it is worth pausing on. Picnics, parades, and of course pyrotechnics. They evoke many wonderful memories. This year helps our kids and grandkids realize why we are celebrating not just that we celebrate. We don't need a big event or special trip to make America 250 meaningful. There are many things that can be done to make it special. With all the information available to us at a touch of a button you can visit a national park, follow in the footsteps of one of our forefathers or even go back and see how things were back in the early days of our country. Whatever it looks like for your family - even one small thing that makes the day feel different – is worth doing.

Our world is changing, but it is time to look back on what was going on around the world and what happened on that day in 1776 – and the years of struggle and courage that led up to it. It's important to our future by remembering our past.

All the lives given for our freedom should not be in vain. Those men and women sacrificed so that we could have the lives we live now. Let's not waste what they have given us.

Happy Birthday America and God Bless the USA.

Opponents, Not Enemies



Every election season reminds me of a lesson I've been thinking about a great deal lately.

In sports, competitors play hard. They prepare, strategize, and give everything they have to win. Emotions run high, and sometimes tempers flare. But when the contest is over, opponents shake hands, congratulate one another, and move on. They understand something that politics sometimes forgets.

There is a difference between an opponent and an enemy.

Republican primaries are one of the greatest strengths of our party. They give voters an opportunity to compare ideas, evaluate leadership, and select the candidate they believe is best prepared to carry our principles into the general election. Healthy competition sharpens candidates, tests ideas, and ultimately makes our party stronger.

What primaries should never do is convince us that fellow Republicans are our enemies.

An opponent is someone competing with you for the same destination.

An enemy is someone trying to prevent you from ever reaching it.

That distinction matters because most Republicans already agree on the destination. We believe in individual liberty, constitutional government, secure borders, safer communities, lower taxes, parental rights, personal responsibility, and the rule of law. We may disagree about who should lead us or the best strategy for getting there, but those disagreements do not make us enemies.

Unfortunately, political campaigns sometimes tempt us to forget that. We begin questioning motives instead of discussing ideas. We repeat rumors instead of verifying facts. We allow one election to damage relationships that should last long after the ballots have been counted.

Political reputations are built over years but can be damaged in a single campaign. Every one of us should strive to leave a campaign with our integrity, our friendships, and our credibility intact. Elections come and go. Character stays with us.

Before you hit "Send" on your next social media post...

Before you repeat a rumor...

Before you question another Republican's motives...

Ask yourself one simple question: **Am I competing against an opponent, or am I creating an enemy?**

One weakens a candidate.

The other weakens our party.

Once the primary is over, the campaign changes. The question is no longer who should be our nominee. The question becomes how we work together to elect Republicans who will advance the principles we all believe in.

The candidate you supported today may not become the nominee. The candidate you opposed today may soon become the one carrying our banner in November. In either case, our responsibility remains the same—to support the values that brought us together in the first place.

Our country faces challenges that are far greater than any disagreement within our own party. We simply cannot afford to spend so much time fighting each other that we forget who the real opposition is.

Campaign with conviction.

Debate with respect.

Defend your principles.

Protect your integrity.

And when the primary is over, shake hands, stand shoulder to shoulder, and remember that we are on the same team.

Join me.

Let's show Pima County what Republicans look like when we compete with integrity, unite with purpose, and never forget the difference between an opponent and an enemy.

No July Meeting – See You in August!

We hope you are enjoying a wonderful start to the summer! If you missed our June meeting, you missed a truly fabulous Candidate Forum featuring several Arizona House candidates from legislative districts within Pima County. It was an informative and energizing afternoon filled with great conversation and important insights — exactly the kind of event that makes our club so valuable.

Please note: There will be **no** general meeting in July. However, we are very excited to announce that our next meeting will be an extraordinary and impactful event in August focused on the critical issue of human trafficking. This will be one of our most important gatherings of the year as we shine a light on this devastating reality, learn how it affects our own communities, and discover ways we can help combat it. Details including date, time, and guest speakers will be coming soon — you won't want to miss it!

In the meantime, we encourage you to celebrate America's 250th birthday this Independence Day with pride and gratitude. Let's honor the extraordinary nation our founders gave us and recommit ourselves to preserving liberty for future generations.

We look forward to seeing you at our powerful August meeting. Stay tuned for more information!

