

## LP News



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# David Bergland dies at 83

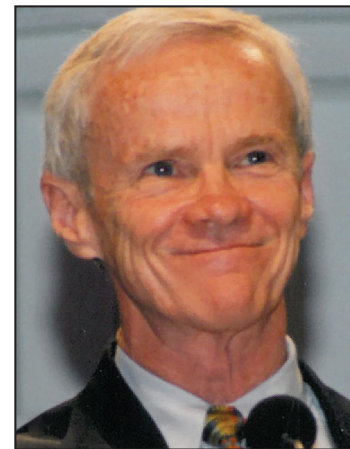
Author, 1984 LP presidential nominee championed effective libertarian communication

David Bergland, one of the most accomplished Libertarians in party history, died June 3 of cancer, one day shy of his 84th birthday.

Bergland was the 1984 Libertarian nominee for president, where he was known for nailing media interviews with wit, charm, and a thorough grasp of issues. He was the party's second vice-presidential candidate, running with Roger McBride in 1976, and also ran for attorney general, state senate and U.S. Senate between 1974 and 1980 in California.

His book "Libertarianism In One Lesson" brought activists into the party and remains a staple for educating new members.

"There is no utopia" is one of the key concepts his book advances, preempting accusations that libertarianism can't solve every human problem (no political system can) while pointing out that it produces far better results than every other option.



For four decades, Bergland played a key role in building the Libertarian Party. He was co-chair of the 1996 Harry Browne presidential campaign, served three terms as national chair, and served on the Libertarian National Committee for twelve years.

A co-founder of Advocates for Self-Government, Bergland was a leader in identifying the need for libertarians to be effective communicators. He helped develop the group's first Liberty Communicator Course and trained thousands of activists at workshops and LP conventions.

Bergland was a business attorney and an adjunct professor at Western State University College of Law. An exemplar of fitness, he practiced

kickboxing into his 80s.

Nicholas Sarwark, chair of the Libertarian National Committee, recounted meeting David Bergland in 2017.

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## Libertarians, vaping industry unite to oppose Trump vaping ban

Libertarian Party officials joined vaping industry members in criticizing President Donald Trump's plans to recommend a ban on the sale of flavored vaping products, a decision he announced Wednesday morning.

Flavored vaping liquids — known colloquially as "e-liquids" — have come under attack from critics citing concerns that underage consumers could be attracted to the multitude of available flavors, as well as recent questions about the safety of e-cigarettes after six lung-related deaths were reportedly connected to vaping.

Members of the vaping industry dispute the concerns about safety, suggesting vaping does significantly more good than harm for cigarette smokers who make the switch.

Tyler Burdis, president of the Dakota Vaping Association and co-owner of three vaping outlets, worries the ban will have an unintended effect of raising tobacco-related mortality rates by taking away alternatives to traditional combustible cigarettes, known to cause cancer, heart disease, lung conditions and pregnancy complications.

"It's important to keep in mind the 480,000 preventable deaths from tobacco use each year," Burdis said, citing an estimate by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "That number is only going to increase because of this ban."

Burdis also pointed to evidence that the publicized deaths appear to be linked to counterfeit cartridges containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and vitamin E oil.

The latter substance, sometimes used as a thickening agent by unscrupulous or untrained counterfeiters, are not safe for inhalation, experts say.

"Lipids [i.e., oils] in the lung are highly toxic and have been associated with lung injury for years," retired California pulmonologist Dr. Howard Mintz said in an interview with cannabis resource website Leafly.

Reputable vaping retailers do not carry such dangerous products, Burdis said, yet will take the full brunt of the ban.

As to the claim that eliminating flavored products will reduce accessibility to minors, Kevin Quick, owner of Down Ohm Vapors in Rapid City, S.D., said the argument for additional regulation is a moot point.

"Let's quit talking about kids," Quick

said. "It's already illegal for kids to vape. What we're talking about is lifesaving commerce for adults."

Burdis agreed, adding that flavoring is a major component in helping adults make the switch from combustible cigarettes to e-cigarettes.

To the Libertarian Party, whose philosophy rejects government interference in the lives of individuals, prohibition of an entire class of products is problematic.

"Once again, we see government stepping on the rights of the many in response to the actions of a few," said Daniel Fishman, Libertarian Party Executive Director. "This kind of knee-jerk reaction skips past bad policy and right into state control of

*continued on page 4*

# As doors close, so do they open

## Chair's Corner

By Nicholas Sarwark, LNC Chair

The summer of 2019 brought some big changes for the Libertarian Party and for the Sarwark family.

On Aug. 21, the party lost a stalwart friend and a talented colleague, Eric D. Dixon. As you know, unless this is your first issue of LP News, Eric served as this publication's editor as well as working on countless other projects for the party. Eric was kind, brilliant and a true lover of liberty. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

At the end of July, the Libertarian National Committee said a less permanent goodbye to Development Director Lauren Daugherty. Her dedicated service to the party has helped us accomplish things that would have never been possible without her and every party member owes her a debt of gratitude. As we move into the fall and the presidential election year, the party will have to work hard to find people to step into some very big shoes and continue the work of growing the party's financial support.

Also at the end of July, our family made the decision to move to New Hampshire as part of the Free State Project. I had signed up (signer #461) back in June of 2002, but it was a family decision to make the move with our four children to arguably the most libertarian state in the country. The quality of life, lack of income or sales tax, and cost of living also factored into our decision.

During our trip from Phoenix to New Hampshire, we stopped to visit Libertarian Party members and friends in Oklahoma, Indiana, and Massachusetts.



Nicholas Sarwark

Meeting with those local activists, candidates, and party leaders, I was reminded of just how much Libertarians around the country are doing to make their communities better. Working on campaigns from city council up to president, party members are making the most out of our unique role in the liberty movement as the only political party that represents libertarian ideas on every issue, all of the time.

Never forget that without you Libertarians, there would be nobody standing up for the rights of those people forgotten and left behind by Republican and Democratic politicians. Nobody to stand up for gun rights, gay rights and all the other rights every individual inherently has. The old party politicians like nothing better than not having to talk about Libertarian issues and positions. Our candidates are taking that message directly to the voters, showing them that there is a real alternative to make their communities better.

Whether you are moving across the country to be part of an intentional community of liberty lovers, or running for office in the town you grew up in, every Libertarian is making a difference in their community by showing up and standing up for the rights of everyone to live their life the way they see fit, as long as they don't hurt people and don't take their stuff.

Yours in liberty,

Nicholas J. Sarwark



## DONOR APPRECIATION

The following individuals became Chairman's Circle contributors:

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*Thank You!*

## LP News

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*The Libertarian Party (LP) and its state affiliates work to advance the right of individuals to be free, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal rights of others.*

*The party runs candidates for public office, elects Libertarians, supports and opposes ballot measures, lobbies, and takes positions on public policy aimed at removing, reducing, and nullifying government laws, regulations, prohibitions, taxes, spending, debt, and foreign interventions.*

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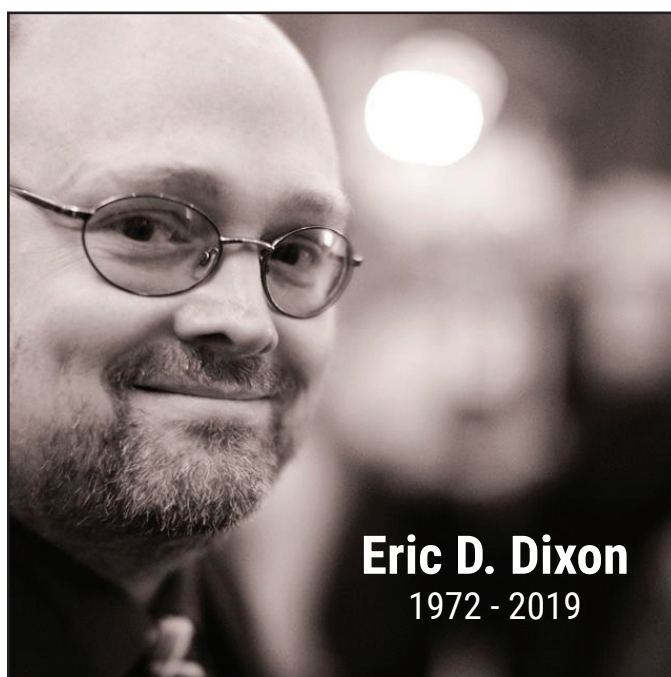
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# A sad farewell to LP staffer Eric Dixon

By Daniel Fishman  
LNC Executive Director

On Aug. 21, LP Headquarters lost a valued staff member and the liberty movement lost a great ally. Eric D. Dixon, longtime staff member at LPHQ left us all to carry on without him.

Eric held a bachelor's degree in journalism from Brigham Young University, and although he originally planned to pursue a life in newspapers, he never got over his 1997 internship at the Cato Institute.

He kept a foot in both journalism and public policy, working for Atlas Network, the Show-Me Institute, U.S. Term Limits, Americans for Limited Government, the Cascade Policy Institute, Liberty Magazine, the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Idaho Freedom Foundation, and the Idaho Press-Tribune. In that time, he worked as a writer or editor on dozens of academic policy studies; hundreds of op-eds, articles, briefings, and press releases; thousands of blog entries; and much more. He also was an early adopter of new technology, designing and maintaining websites since the mid-1990s, ranging from complex data-driven institutional sites to smaller nonprofit and e-commerce sites.

Eric was a film and music buff with impractically sprawling collections that made him a coveted member of local trivia teams. He recently had moved to Falls Church, Va.

Eric began working for the Libertarian Party in December of 2012, and in one form or another remained involved in keeping the LP looking professional until

his passing. A copy editor par excellence, Eric also had the gift of language. He edited many things in his tenure at the LP, but he also created wonderful original pieces that were widely shared.

Wordsmith that he was, I often had conversations with Eric about passages that I enjoyed and he would refer me to pieces that he liked. A truly rapier wit and a tremendous sense of humor made conversations with Eric a pleasure, and I regret that we have none left.

I cannot see off the craftsman of beautiful passages without one in tribute to him:

Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for me!  
And may there be no moaning of the bar,  
When I put out to sea,

But such a tide as moving seems asleep,  
Too full for sound and foam,  
When that which drew from out the boundless deep  
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,  
And after that the dark!  
And may there be no sadness of farewell,  
When I embark;

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place  
The flood may bear me far,  
I hope to see my Pilot face to face  
When I have crost the bar.

— Alfred, Lord Tennyson

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# Process of earning seats on National Platform Committee explained

By Caryn Ann Harlos  
LNC Secretary

Have you ever wondered what other advantages there are to boosting your state affiliate's national membership numbers besides earning additional delegate seats at the national conventions? One of them is the privilege of appointing representatives to the national platform committee. At each regular convention (*have you bought your packages yet at [libertarianconvention.org](http://libertarianconvention.org)?*) the national platform committee presents proposals for consideration by the delegates and is comprised as follows:



- Bylaws Article 11: Other Committees**
3. The Platform Committee shall consist of 20 members selected as follows:
- a. One member by each of the five affiliate parties having the greatest per capita sustaining membership as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.
  - b. One member by each of the ten affiliate parties having the largest sustaining memberships, excluding those affiliates from (a), as determined for Convention delegate allocations at the most recent Regular Convention.
  - c. Five members selected by the National Committee.

As these numbers are determined by the counts used for delegate allocation from the immediately prior Regular Convention, the 2018 allotment numbers are used to calculate the seats for the 2020 convention, but there is time for your state to earn (or re-

tain) a seat on the 2022 platform committee. Alaska, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, and Washington are the affiliates who have earned seats for the 2020 convention. Is your state there? You can help them earn a spot in 2022 by becoming a national member by Oct. 31.

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to email me at [secretary@lp.org](mailto:secretary@lp.org) or call (561) 523-2250.

State	National Members	Population	Per Capita %	Per Capita Rank
NH	116	1,316,470	0.008811%	1
AK	56	710,231	0.007437%	2
CO	374	5,029,196	0.007437%	3
NV	165	2,700,551	0.006110%	4
VA	485	8,001,024	0.006062%	5

State	National Members	National Membership Rank	Comments
CA	1,522	1	
TX	796	2	
FL	654	3	
NY	512	4	
OH	499	5	
VA	485	6	Since Va. earned a seat via per capita rankings, they are excluded from this list, and Ind. moves up.
PA	462	7	
IL	377	8	
CO	374	9	Since Colo. earned a seat via per capita rankings, they are excluded from this list, and Wash. moves up.
MI	362	10	
IN	341	11	
WA	315	12	

**Platform Committee Calculations:** The per-capita ranking method, left, and the national membership ranking method are both used to determine state affiliate platform committee allocations. (Note: National membership numbers used are from figures used for delegate allocations for the 2016 Libertarian National Convention. Population numbers used are from the 2010 census.)

## Vaping ban

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established businesses by telling them what they can and can't sell in their stores. That's not how business is done in America."

The announcement of a federal ban comes on the heels of a similar state-level ban announced by Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer (D) last week which was met with bipartisan support. A spokeswoman for Michigan Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirley (R-Clarklake) affirmed the Governor's standing to enact such a ban.

"The governor has the authority to declare a public health emergency, and then to declare rule in response to that emergency and we do not intend to challenge the governor," spokeswoman Amber McCann told the Detroit Free Press. "The majority leader shares her concerns about the impacts of those products on kids."

The American Vaping Association took special exception to the method of enactment used by Whitmer. The ban — the first of its kind in the nation — was not passed by the Michigan legislature, but is instead being enacted through an emergency administrative rule process.

"In this country, laws are made by legislators, not governors desperate for press attention," AVA president Gregory Conley said last week in a statement. "Anyone who fears the prospect of an out-of-control government should be appalled by this attempt

by the executive branch to unilaterally ban an adult product."

Whitmer's ban goes a step further, also prohibiting e-cigarette companies from "misleading marketing of vaping products" by using words like "clear," "safe" or "healthy" to describe products, the Detroit Free Press reported last Wednesday.

When asked what a federal ban on flavored vaping products would mean to their industry, neither Burdis nor Quick offered much optimism.

"Everybody in our industry is in a panic," Quick said. "If you take out all but the tobacco flavors, I don't see small shops surviving."

Burdis offered a similar outlook, noting larger e-cigarette companies such as Juul would have an upper hand in surviving, and could even stand to benefit from heavy regulation.

"They will have the means to comply with any requirements that come out of this," Burdis said. "They'll get rich off it while the smaller brick-and-mortar stores are destroyed."

Juul, whose brand name is often used synonymously with vaping, has earned a U.S. market share of approximately 70%, according to marketing research firm Nielsen. At the end of 2018, with annual revenue topping \$2 billion, the company sold a 35%

stake in their business for \$12.8 billion to the Altria Group, formerly known as Philip Morris Companies.

Altria/Philip Morris is no stranger to Capitol Hill. Between 1998 and 2004, the company and its affiliates spent more than \$100 million lobbying the federal government, making it the second most active lobbying organization in the nation, according to the Center for Public Integrity.

The tobacco behemoth is also no stranger to Trump, donating \$500,000 to his inaugural celebration. The Wall Street Journal reported donors who gave \$500,000 or more to the celebration fund were invited to a special "candlelight dinner" event during inauguration weekend with President-Elect Trump, Vice President-Elect Pence and their spouses.

That cozy financial relationship, viewed in the context of Wednesday's announcement, doesn't sit well with Fishman.

"The president loves to claim he's this great champion of American small busi-

nesses, but when he's put to the test, he won't hesitate to throw them under the bus to serve his cronies," Fishman said.

Pence also received substantial contributions from Altria and other tobacco industry leaders during his Indiana gubernatorial campaigns. Altria/Phillip Morris, Lorillard, and R.J. Reynolds combined to contribute at least \$63,500 in 2012 and 2016, according to data from the National Institute on Money in State Politics.

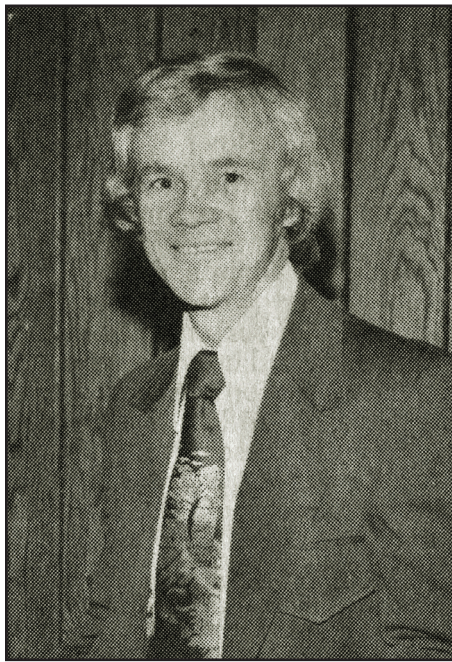
Whether the problem exists within the vaping industry or within decisions made by its clientele, Fishman believes the answer will not and cannot be found in government, only in individual determination.

"Our statement of principles speaks to the very core of this issue," Fishman said. "We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose."



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David Bergland, circa 1976.

## Bergland

continued from page 1

"We shared a laugh about a favorite quote attributed to him, running for office and attending a fundraiser. Someone told him, 'I want you to know that in my heart, I'm a Libertarian.' He reportedly replied, 'That's great. Let me know when it gets down to your balls.'

"Let us take his combination of wisdom, wit, and yes, balls as an example as we work toward the vision of a world set free... Godspeed David Bergland, may your memory be eternal."

The Libertarian Party honored Bergland in 1998 with the Thomas Jefferson Award, and in 2018, inducted him into the party's Hall of Liberty, which honors "lifetime or significant achievement having a lasting effect on the Libertarian Party or libertarian movement."

David Bergland's eloquence and passion for liberty are summed up in this passage from his book *Libertarianism In One Lesson*:

*"Libertarianism is what you probably already believe: Libertarian values are American values. Libertarianism is America's heritage of liberty, patriotism and honest work to build a future for your family. It's the idea that being free and independent is a great way to live. That each of us is a unique individual, with great potential. That you own yourself, and that you have the right to decide what's best for you. Americans of all races and creeds built a great and prosperous country with these libertarian ideals. Let's use them to build America's future."*

# Freedom: A call for black people to reconsider their loyalty to the Democratic Party

By Dr. Aaron Lewis, Ph.D.

"The Making of a Slave" is a speech, said to have been delivered by Willie Lynch, an authoritarian and strict slave master on the James River in Virginia in 1712. A précis of his speech urges slaveowners to adopt the "secret" to controlling enslaved Africans — to set them against one another. While there has been much debate on the authenticity of this letter and concerning the legitimacy of William Lynch's existence, few can argue that the contents of his letter has set a cycle in motion for people of color; of guilt, shame, distrust for other people of color, and the insatiable desire to continue to help build, not the American dream, but rather the dream of the oppressor — the Democratic system.

Nearly all of my adult life, I have been a dedicated supporter of the Democratic Party. For the most part, I've mainly voted for Democratic candidates in mayoral, gubernatorial, and presidential races. As African-Americans in the United States, most of us have been expected to vote on Democratic lines as we have been programmed to do so for now more than 55 years. We believed that our Democratic elected officials were working for the better interest of all people, including black people, only to discover that it wasn't the case.

For many black people, the election of President John F. Kennedy symbolized the end of an era where people of color were authorized and sanctioned by the federal government to harsh treatment and offered substandard jobs, wages, and living conditions under southern Jim Crow laws,



Dr. Aaron Lewis

which clandestinely made its way to the northern states. After the death of President Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, a man dealing with his own racial biases, was given the lofty task of completing the work that Kennedy had begun, first signing in the Civil Rights Act of 1964, after which designing his "Great Society" initiative, whose primary goal was the total elimination of poverty and racial injustice.

While I will admit that things have improved for African-Americans in America since the launch of the civil rights movement up until today, I do not believe that government alone was the leading factor in those changes. I've come to realize that all meaningful change happens when "We the People" take our rightful position, walking in the freedom and liberties that we were born with. We must make it happen. Many black people have not taken an analysis, to reflect on whether we've really made progress or not, especially under a Democratic form of government.

Since 1945, Hartford, Conn., has had a solidly Democratic leadership, only once briefly interrupted by the first woman mayor of Hartford, Antonina "Ann" Uccello in 1967, a Republican. Today, the condition of our city as with many cities in the U.S., for minorities and people of color, continues to worsen. Hartford has one of the highest failing school districts in the nation. The poverty rate gap between Hartford and its nearby suburban towns is the second worst in the nation and its unemployment rate is nearly double the national average. Despite the clear evidence of how we fare, black people continue to cast their ballots for a party that no longer serves the interest of black people, and quite possibly never has.

In my city our local, white, democratic politicians have carefully drawn from Willie Lynch's playbook by intentionally keeping black people against one another. This strategy not only assures a blindly dedicated voting base, but it also ensures that Hartford's black people will never be free, unless they change. While I fully understand that there is no one party that is perfect, my decision to embrace the Libertarian party was firmly based on the LP's commitment to maximizing personal and political freedom, less government control, and sustaining a model that every person of color should embrace, one where self-determination, not government controls how you live, learn, and dwell among each other peacefully. Any other offer is merely a smokescreen.

*Aaron Lewis is an educator, publisher and ghostwriter. Lewis is the Libertarian candidate for mayor of Hartford, Conn.*

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# Zoning regulations harm poor the most

By Michael H. Wilson

On February 14, 2008, a Seattle Times article showed that almost 45 percent of the price of a home was to cover the costs of “land-use regulations.” To be clear, those are zoning regulations. On a \$447,800 home, \$200,000 of that price was for regulations.

For most people graduating from school, getting a job with a livable wage, developing a relationship, and perhaps starting a family are big steps in life. However, the government has its hand in your pocket all the way, as many young, first-time homebuyers are finding out.

## Housing costs

According to a US Department of Labor study, in 1901, families in the United States spent 23.3 percent of their income on housing. By 1934-1936, families were spending 32 percent of their income on housing.

Today, housing consumes over 30 percent of our income for most of us, and those in the lowest 20 percent of income bracket are paying almost 40 percent of their income toward housing. Costs decline from there, with the wealthiest quintile paying 29.9 percent of their income toward housing.

In 2002, economists Edward L. Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko authored “The Impact of Zoning on Housing Affordability.” In their conclusion, they noted that “... reducing the implied zoning tax on new construction could well have a massive impact on housing prices.”

Then, in 2015, economists Chang-Tai Hsieh and Enrico Moretti published a study on land use laws that gave us an idea as to what the financial impact is on homeowners and the nation as a whole. In a New York Times op-ed they wrote:

“The creeping web of these regulations has smothered wage and gross domestic product growth in American cities by a stunning 50 percent over the past 50 years. Without these regulations, our research shows, the United States economy today would be 9 percent bigger — which would mean, for the average American worker, an additional \$6,775 in annual income.”

Higher housing costs are not the only costs that people are burdened with be-

cause of these regulations.

Jason Furman, chairman of the Obama Administration Council of Economic Advisers, was critical of land-use regulations. In a speech at the Urban Institute in 2015, he mentioned a number of problems that result from zoning, from higher costs for potential homeowners to environmental issues.

## Zoning artificially inflates value

Zoning regulations and urban renewal have greatly reduced low-cost opportunities such as boarding houses and residential hotels, where 30 percent or more of the urban population once found shelter.

When the supply of housing is reduced, job opportunities are also lost by crafts workers and laborers in the housing industry.

Rigid applications of zoning regulations drive up home values. Then, when a downturn occurs, homeowners who find it difficult to sell because of the artificially inflated value of their home abandon their homes, but they may still end up paying to cover any difference between what the home eventually sells for and the mortgage note.

A report on foreclosures prepared for the US Senate listed a cost to homeowners of \$7,200. Neighboring homeowners may experience costs averaging \$3,000, while the cost to lenders may be as much as \$50,000. And the city may end up paying for police services because of increased crime in the area, as well as other services ranging anywhere from \$400 to \$34,000 while seeing property taxes decline.

A Rand Corp. study “...found that single-use commercially zoned blocks in Los Angeles have crime rates that are 45

percent higher than similar blocks that include residential uses.”

We can expect to see similar problems in areas where a number of homes have been foreclosed on.

Then there are the families that are affected by the foreclosures. It isn't always just dollars and cents.

A study from the American Journal of Public Health, as reported on the web site Citylab, “[found] that suicides spurred by severe housing stress—evictions and foreclosures—doubled between 2005 and 2010.”

With zoning limiting the supply and

the price of housing increasing, the chance of foreclosure goes up during an economic downturn. The stress on families increases, which can lead marriages to break up. In turn, we see an increase in domestic problems, suicide, and children with problems in school. All

of this often leads to more government involvement, from simple things like unemployment benefits to child services agencies.

## Trickle-down effects

One estimate suggests “More than 8 million children were affected by the recent foreclosure crisis.”

During the Great Recession, “... food stamp program--renamed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP),” grew from “\$30.4 billion in 2007 to \$71.8 billion in 2011,” the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston noted in 2012.

When the supply of housing is reduced, job opportunities are also lost by crafts workers and laborers in the housing industry. That loss of workers will have an impact if the industry rebounds, and the loss could lead to other problems, such as

homelessness.

Foreclosure affects local government from the schools to the courts, all of which bear some financial part of the burden imposed by inflexible zoning laws.

“We can work together to break down rules that stand in the way of building new housing and that keep families from moving to growing, dynamic cities,” President Obama, remarked to the US Conference of Mayors in January 2016.

The costs of the regulations may reduce the supply of homes, driving up the cost of existing homes that are on the market. Those who can afford to buy will pay a higher cost. Others who can't will do without and continue to rent or even become homeless. As a result, homeowners may pay higher property taxes, and the local business community will miss the disposable income local homeowners no longer have.

Repealing the mandatory single-family style of housing found in many cities will allow a greater variety of housing to be built. This will provide low-income workers with an opportunity to find housing closer to work and reduce their travel expenses.

Those selling homes will certainly benefit thanks to the artificially inflated values of their homes.

In turn, that should mean less pressure to build freeways and lower long-term expenses to maintain those freeways. There are also environmental benefits since people won't have to travel so far to get to work; fossil fuel consumption is reduced, and with that, so are auto emissions.

Theoretically, both sides benefit in any deal, but sometimes some benefit more than others. Those are the rent-seekers who enjoy the benefits of government policies. Those selling homes will certainly benefit thanks to the artificially inflated values of their homes. The real estate business may benefit because of higher commissions. The city planners will keep their jobs. And the mortgage banking industry worldwide will appreciate the higher payments they get thanks to the increased value of the notes they are holding.

*Michael H. Wilson has a B.A. from the Evergreen State College where he studied history and presently researches urban economic issues.*



(Photo: Tony Webster, Cupertino, Calif.)



# The truth about impeachment inquiries

By Daniel Fishman  
LNC Executive Director

Last month, House Speaker Pelosi announced a formal impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump.



Of course, she knows the Republican Senate will not remove the President. She thinks the Democrat-led House can impeach him and force a trial in the Senate where Chief Justice Roberts will preside. And Americans will watch.

I'm old enough to remember the run up to Nixon's impeachment that never happened. I also remember Clinton's impeachment that *did* happen, only to see nothing actually occur in the Senate. Andrew Johnson's impeachment in 1868 was a century before I was born — but again, nothing happened.

And already the Rs and Ds are sending out fundraising letters because this is how they work their base up into a froth

Here in Washington, D.C., I can see the gleeful chatter on Twitter from the lobbyists and professional politicians as they think of the windfall this brings them as they further polarize our nation.

Friends, we must fight fire with water. Republicans and Democrats are convinced that if they build their pyre higher and produce a greater blaze that they will outshine the other party.

But all that happens is that the people get burned as politicians throw their liberty into the blaze.

We, the members of the Libertarian

Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual. We have to do everything we can to put liberty and individual rights out in front of the public. If we flag or fail, the concept of a new nation, conceived in liberty, shall indeed vanish from this earth.

I am asking you to help us now! As the R&D kabuki takes the stage, can we be waiting in the wings with a sensible alternative? We are indeed the fastest growing political party in the country — but we are still so small compared to the Rs and Ds. We have to get bigger, better and more effective *now*.

We've got issues that resonate. Four months ago the federal government approved Altria (Philip Morris) to sell e-cigarettes. All this hoopla you have heard about death from vaping is prelude to more regulations around vaping. And who do government regulations hurt? The entrepreneur. Right now the vaping industry is a \$40B industry with 15,000 small-business owners running the trade. When people become aware of those numbers, and then aware of how the proposed regulations are going to shut down small vape stores, they look for a way to get involved.

And the LP is there. With sites like [lp.org/vape](http://lp.org/vape) and [vape.vote](http://vape.vote) we are rallying the vaping community. And they are shocked when they find us, and read our platform and discover that they were Libertarians all along.

The Saudis are beating the drums of war, calling for Americans to give their lives in the Middle East. When old folks like me talk about Vietnam and the anti-war movement, we get blank stares from the youth. But when we start to spread the word through sites like [lp.org/antiwar](http://lp.org/antiwar) and [americaatpeace.com](http://americaatpeace.com) we create a rally

point. People get to know our platform and start to discover they, too, were always Libertarians.

So the Rs and the Ds have a massive distraction planned? They are going to take American eyes off the political disaster that government has become, and get the two sides to rage and fume, 'till they raise their political bonfires as high as they can.

Lost in the smoke will be the continued expansion of government and the erosion of the power of the people.

We must fight. We must win. Help us be better armed. Your generous donation pays for Libertarian activists travelling all over the country helping to train Libertarian volunteers and candidates.

*And it's working.*

There are 12 elected Libertarian mayors. And when they tell the people of their town that taxes don't have to be raised because government is going to spend less money this year, thousands of people are learning that they too have always been Libertarian.

Your donation pays for ads on social media, where Millennials, turned off by the ideas of socialism, are coming to realize there is a political party that believes that your life belongs to *you*. They see an ad from the Libertarian Party and join one of our groups. And they learn that they too have always been a Libertarian.

Help us get that message out. Your donation now is critical in this very frenzied media blitz. Already I am getting calls at the D.C. office asking me what the Libertarian response will be.

I want it to be a bold second declaration of liberty. I want a very visible response to the people of the country saying that the Libertarian Party is here to offer an alternative. Please give what you can.



LP Operations Director Robert Kraus

## Kraus named Planner of the Year

The Libertarian Party is proud to announce Operations Director Robert Kraus was recently named Planner of the Year for 2019 by the Association for Meeting Professionals (AMPs), a nonprofit association that represents and fosters the educational and professional needs of people working in meeting management industry.

Robert has been active with AMPs since 2012 and a member of the Membership Committee for over five years.

His initial start in the meeting industry was on the sales side where he generated a 22% revenue increase as key person in charge of events, theater rentals & catering at Visions Bar Noir and Sirius Coffee in Washington DC.

Kraus has been Operations Director at the Libertarian National Committee since 2005 and has been the primary meeting and conference planner for quarterly board meetings, training seminars, VIP events & often is the "go to" person for site selection of their biennial national conventions.

Robert mastered his negotiation skills back in the 90's when he was in the furniture industry on both the wholesale & retail side.

Republicans and Democrats see impeachment as a gold mine for fundraising.

Will you help us stand up against their tricks?

Donate today at  
[LP.org/impeachment](http://LP.org/impeachment)





# Libertarian Frontier Project

## LFP introduces fresh game plan for getting Libertarians elected

By Andy Craig

So, why am I spending Labor Day weekend traipsing across the country to Cheyenne, Wyo.? It's pretty and charming and all, but I'm not here for the scenery.

Over the years I've been to umpteen dozens of state and national party conventions, campaign rallies, committee meetings, canvassing drives and other assorted events for the Libertarian Party. I have never seen anything like what's going on here at what's been dubbed the Libertarian Frontier Project. I've found Libertarians doing the work, not of clownish performance art, trolling silly protests or doing keyboard warrior throwdowns, but instead being a political party strategizing about how to win some elections. What a radical idea! I've never seen so much of the best of the LP assembled under one roof, and with so little of the worst.

In 2018, the party did something new and different under Apollo Pazell's lead. He picked target races for the most viable Libertarian candidates and provided those campaigns with door knocking teams and sound strategic advice. It was a deliberate pivot towards practical electioneering over solo paper-candidacy campaigns, and it

produced tangible results. Some wins, some almost-wins and some real moving the needle over the usual perennially failed "paper candidate vanity campaign" model. It was a successful small-scale proof of concept. An important part of this strategy has been going to states that are already favorably inclined towards libertarian policy preferences, which also have small and cheap legislative races and most of all by recruiting strong candidates who are already well-known and respected in their communities.

Today, several of those 2018 targeted candidates are now state party chairs, most of whom are here. In Wyoming in particular, the party is on the verge of a genuine breakthrough on state legislative candidates, and the excitement is palpable. Voters here not only know what Libertarians are — impressive enough on its own! — but even more remarkably, they have a positive impression of the party and its candidates like Bethany Baldes, who came within a hair's breadth of unseating the incumbent majority leader last year. There really hasn't been anything like it since the party had a boomlet of sorts in Alaska in the 1980s.

Major donors who've been burned on LP shenanigans in the past are coming back, finally shown that their mon-

ey isn't being wasted. It's demonstrating that Libertarians are capable of professionalizing, running nuts-and-bolts practical campaigns, and seeking out and making the most of real electoral opportunities.

This meeting was to plan the next phase of this project. In some sense, these moves are obvious. One friend I described it to was surprised the party hasn't been doing such things before. If this isn't what the national party's been doing, what have they been up to all these years? Good question. But better late than never.

It's been incredible to see this kind of gathering: a dozen pragmatic-minded state affiliate leaders, several incumbent elected officials, and major donors, all coming together with the goal of establishing a Libertarian electoral beachhead. Tom Mahon compared it to the Allies first taking on the "soft underbelly" in North Africa, which is not a bad analogy.

This is a sea-change in the LP's strategic focus. I'm fairly cynical after having seen high hopes come and go several times, but I am quite confident that there will be Libertarians (plural!) elected to state legislatures in 2020, and they will be candidates who are part of this project. It's been great to be a small part of it.



**Girl on Fire:** Bethany Baldes addresses the crowd at the 2019 Libertarian Frontier Summit. Baldes came within 55 votes of beating Wyoming's House Majority Leader in 2018. (Photos: Sid Daoud)



Utah State Auditor John Dougall



Patient Rights Activist Christine Stenquist

Please help us get candidates  
like **Bethany Baldes** elected  
Donate today at **LP.org/win**



# kicks off with Wyo. summit

## Speakers included elected officials, party leaders and issues advocates

By Amber C. Beltran  
Utah State Chair

Over Labor Day weekend, Libertarians from across the Intermountain West and around the country met in Cheyenne, Wyo., for the first annual Libertarian Frontier Summit.

It was two days filled with speakers, trainings and breakout sessions. The summit was also a great networking opportunity. The topics focused on candidate recruitment, campaigning, fundraising and governing as Libertarians once elected.

There was a panel discussion on Governing as Libertarians, which included presumptive Kalispell, Mont., Councilor Sid S. Daoud; Copperton, Utah, Vice Mayor Apollo Pazell; Casper, Wyo., Vice Mayor Shawn Johnson; Copperton, Utah, City Councilor J.P. Baxter; and Former Neb. State Senator Laura Ebke. The panel shared policies they were able to pass and some they are hopeful to pass in the future. The panel members noted it would be helpful to have a platform to share victories and unique struggles for elected libertarians.

Bethany Baldes, Libertarian candidate for Wyo. House District 55, spoke on her 2018 campaign efforts. She was narrowly defeated by 55 votes in her race. She continues to campaign and will be running again in 2020. Bethany expressed the importance of getting involved in your community. She began a "Local Ladies" Facebook page that grew quickly and introduced her to many more people in her town. Bethany explained the effectiveness of door knocking in her 2018 campaign, noting her team accomplished three full rounds of knocks.

I had the pleasure of presenting on effective uses of social media. The Utah LP has a team of people that run our Facebook page, Messenger and Twitter account. This team is crucial in identifying diversity in topics but also in providing important spelling and grammar checks. Over the past few months the number of

followers on our page has continually increased. This collaborative effort makes our message both broad and inspiring.

South Dakota LP State Chair Gideon Oakes presented tips and tricks on effectively branding campaign messaging. His 2018 state senate race was the most successful three-way state senate race for a Libertarian in the country that year, and second in party history. In addition to traditional media, digital marketing and social media, Gideon's team knocked on about 3,500 doors in his district which is geographically larger than the state of Connecticut.

LNC Executive Director Daniel Fishman spoke on the importance of sticking to our principles. He emphasized the need for the non-aggression principle and that we truly are the party of peace.

Christine Stenquist, advocate with Utah's TRUCE association, presented on the Medical Cannabis Initiative in Utah, also known as "Prop 2." She answered questions about working with legislators and starting a people-lead initiative. Many other attendees had questions for Christine about helping cannabis become legal in their states.

Utah State Auditor John "Frugal" Dougall also spoke. He began by saying he was born in Hollywood, Calif., and raised in Portland, Ore., so he had seen what doesn't work. He talked about the importance of transparency and remaining principled in government.

No article about the summit would be complete without a large "thank you" to Apollo Pazell. He championed the Frontier Summit to the LNC and planned the entire event. Many individuals shared over the weekend it was one of the most organized Libertarian event they had attended.

As Libertarians begin to get elected on city councils, county boards and state legislatures, we will begin to show others that freedom is not scary, and principled people can be found. There are many great things ahead for the LP, and I'm grateful to be on Team Liberty!



**The Fellowship of the Frontier:** LP Campaigns Adviser Apollo Pazell poses in front of the Wyoming state capitol with four of the party's 2018 targeted candidates. After achieving quantifiable success, the targeted races program evolved into the Libertarian Frontier Project. From left: Pazell, Gideon Oakes, S.D.; Bethany Baldes, Wyo.; Amber Beltran Christiansen, Utah; and Sid Daoud, Mont. (Courtesy photo: Jared Baldes)



# Colorado teen banned from school for going shooting with mother

By Jay Stooksberry

(reprinted with permission from Reason.com)

To Justine Myers and her 16-year-old son, Nathan, their casual Tuesday afternoon of shooting guns out in the woods of northern Colorado was just a fun-filled mother-son outing. To local law enforcement and school administration, this event was considered a threat.

On August 27, Justine picked up Nathan from Loveland High School to drive outside of town for an afternoon of shooting practice. Nathan posted a video to Snapchat, documenting the five pistols and a rifle he was preparing to shoot. (The rifle, an AR-15, cannot be made out in the video, because it was stored in a case.) Evans also typed out the message, "Finna be lit." (For anybody under 30, this roughly translates to "About to have a fun time.")

Upon reentering cellphone range, the two discovered several missed calls, voicemails, and text messages. One of the callers, Justine's ex-husband, had been approached by police about the video. According to the police, a message was received through "Safe2Tell," a Colorado-based reporting platform that allows individuals to submit anonymous tips to alert law enforcement of potential threats or risks. Once received, the reporting mechanism automatically triggers an immediate review by local law enforcement to assess the validity of the threat.

Loveland Police reviewed the video, interviewed the parents, and quickly determined that Nathan was not a threat.

"We thought it was done," Justine tells Reason.

The following morning, Justine received a voicemail from the Thompson Valley School District, stating that, until further notice, her son was not allowed to return to school. Justine contacted the school to try to make the same case that she did to the police, but the school proved to be more difficult. Both mother and son attempted to request the homework that Nathan was missing in his absence, but to no avail.

When school officials returned the

phone calls, they informed Justine that she needed to attend a "threat assessment hearing" on August 29 where she would defend her son in front of a seven-person panel, comprised of school administration, counselors, teachers, and law enforcement.

Before the hearing, the Myers' story went viral after Rally for our Rights, a Colorado-based pro-gun rights group, broke the news. As a result, school officials backpedaled. The assessment hearing, which traditionally last about an hour, was over in five minutes, according to Justine. The panel seemed to be in a hurry to clear Nathan's name.

"They were really trying hard to get us out of there quickly," says Justine.

"Why we're upset is this should have been squashed on Tuesday night," says Justine. "It should have never gotten to this point."

School officials claimed that they did not receive the official clearance from police, which occurred on the evening of August 27, until the following day, August 28—18 hours after the fact. (Thompson Valley School District did not respond to requests for comment.) If true, law enforcement failed to communicate the existence of a potential threat to the town square that was already abuzz with gossip. If false, the school fumbled the communication handoff, suggesting some institutional blindspots that need to be ad-

fiscal year, Safe2Tell recorded 19,861 "actionable" tips — 4,400 more than the previous year. The calls are organized into categories to determine the issue addressed. The most frequently addressed issues include suicide (3,668), drugs (2,164), and bullying (1,871).

Despite the high volume of calls concerning suicide, Safe2Tell is not the ideal resource for those struggling with self-harm or depression. Colorado's Department of Human Services also operates Colorado Crisis Services, a hotline that focuses primarily on mental health issues. The crisis line—which received 173,547 calls, texts, or chats last year—operates separately from Safe2Tell. Confusion among students, not only regarding which service they should use, but also the existence of either in the first place, is common, according to mental health professionals.

This confusion has resulted in incongruous responses to sensitive issues. Safe2Tell has been criticized for its inability to appropriately address the complicated situations occurring on the other end of the phone line. Sarah Davidson, research director for Mental Health Colorado, shared an anecdote with The Colorado Sun about a troubled student, who called Safe2Tell in need of mental health assistance. "She needed a crisis line," said Davidson. Instead of deploying a mental health specialist to assist the troubled student, police were dispatched to her home.

Bringing law enforcement into the picture also increases the risk of "swatting," or intentionally filing false reports with law enforcement as a means of harassing people. Of the total number of tips received last year, Safe2Tell estimates that 2.4 percent, or roughly 470 incidents, were intentionally false reports. (Sadly, Safe2Tell has earned the pejorative nickname "Safe2Swat" among Colorado students.)

In this age of ever-present fears of school shootings, efforts to prevent such tragedies run the risk of undermining the civil liberties of the falsely accused or, worse, dropping the ball when responding to an actual threat.

Jay Stooksberry is a freelance writer based in Delta, Colorado.

**"... We affirm the individual right recognized by the Second Amendment to keep and bear arms, and oppose the prosecution of individuals for exercising their rights of self-defense. Private property owners should be free to establish their own conditions regarding the presence of personal defense weapons on their own property. We oppose all laws at any level of government restricting, registering, or monitoring the ownership, manufacture, or transfer of firearms or ammunition."**

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During the hearing, the school's principal, Peggy Johnson, alluded "to the story that was already out there," suggesting that school officials were well aware of the public backlash they were facing online before the hearing started.

Upon completion of the hearing, Nathan was allowed to return to school, which he did. According to Justine, her son endured significant taunting upon his return, with students calling him a "school shooter." The mockery was bad enough that Nathan begged his parents to be homeschooled.

This incident sheds light on how local authorities respond to tips of potential threats or risks, especially through anonymous platforms like Safe2Tell. "It is definitely a flawed system," says Justine.

dressed—especially if an actual threat were to occur.

Neither should make parents and students feel safe.

Founded in 2004, Safe2Tell was created in response to the Columbine High School shooting in April 1999, in order to "provide an anonymous venue for parents, students, teachers, school administrators, and law enforcement to share information," according to its website. Safe2Tell sought to break "the code of silence" that leaves possible risks and threats unreported, as well remove the stigma that surrounds being a "snitch."

According to the Colorado attorney general's office, which oversees the program, use of Safe2Tell has steadily increased each year. During the 2018–2019



## NY councilman makes switch to Libertarian

JAMESTOWN, N.Y. — City Councilman At Large Andrew Liuzzo announced he had left the Republican Party to join the Libertarian Party during a press conference Sept. 22. Liuzzo, currently a candidate for mayor, appeared alongside 2018 N.Y. gubernatorial candidate Larry Sharpe.

“I ran for City Councilman At Large to represent all the citizens of Jamestown. I am running for Mayor to continue to serve you,” Liuzzo said, as reported by WRFA radio. “My values for less government restrictions and interference, lower taxes, making decisions openly, reducing expenditures, and admission of mistakes have not changed. I appreciate the support I have received from Republican, Democrats, and everyone that see my efforts for what they are. I will continue as Mayor to listen to everyone that has concerns or questions. I care about individuals, businesses, big or small, manufacturing, and schools. I firmly believe we can do better if we do things together.”

Liuzzo was elected to the Jamestown council in 2017 as a Republican. He unsuccessfully sought the Republican Party’s endorsement for mayor earlier this year.

“I am grateful that the Libertarian Party recognized me as an individual that cares about the residents and holding our elected officials accountable,” Liuzzo added. “Because of their support, I can now represent all parties and all people that want to work hard to restore a community that is one city.”

“I want to thank Larry Sharpe for joining us for this important occasion,” said Andrew Martin Kolstee, Chair of the Chautauqua County Libertarian Party. “This is an important and historic election for the city of Jamestown, and everyone in this city should be heard and represented. This isn’t about one party or the other. This is about all the people of Jamestown and their concerns and ideas that we can exchange to make our community a better place.”

Liuzzo will face off with Chautauqua County legislator David Wilfong and Jamestown attorney Eddie Sundquist in the mayoral election.

## Leave a Legacy of Liberty



### Have you considered designating the Libertarian Party in your will?

Many Libertarians have done this and we are very thankful for their generosity. Their bequests have done tremendous good by growing the Party and spreading the timeless and precious message of Liberty.

To better honor these special folks, we have created a program called Legacy Libertarians. The Libertarian Party will honor these generous supporters by listing their names on a permanent plaque at our headquarters.

Please know that current law places limitations on the amount we accept per year from any donor, including estates. So, when generous Libertarians leave sums larger than the yearly limitation, the remainder goes into a trust that then transfers funds each year until all the money has been transferred.

But the important point is that there is no maximum limitation on the amount of money you can leave to the Libertarian Party in your will. Use the following information to include the party in your will. Beneficiary name: Libertarian National Committee, Inc. Address: 1444 Duke St., Alexandria, VA, 22314. Tax ID number: 52-1170810

Learn more at [LP.org/legacy](https://LP.org/legacy)

# Detroit Libertarian establishes community council

At first glance it may seem ironic that a Libertarian would create a governing body of any kind, but this one receives no tax revenue and makes no laws. It has no enforcement powers either.

Detroit is divided into seven districts. District Four will be the second of those districts to establish a Community Advisory Council (CAC). This is thanks to the effort of perennial Libertarian candidate and former state chair Scotty Boman. He spent his summer collecting 1,570 signatures on a petition to create a Community Advisory Council for Detroit's fourth District. Only 1,141 signatures must be validated for the petitions to be approved.

Boman filed the petitions on Tuesday, Oct. 1, following a brief news conference with Detroit's Fourth District Councilman Andre Spivey. Spivey and Boman met at 9:30 a.m. to answer questions at the Coleman A. Young Center, then walked the petitions down to the city clerk's office. According to the Detroit City Charter, "The purpose of these Councils is to improve citizen access to city government." And "The City Council member elected from the non at-large district in which a Community Advisory Council resides, or their designee, shall attend all official meetings of that Community Advisory Council." Spivey and Boman also addressed the topic in the citizen comment portion of the Detroit City Council meeting held the same day.

*[Editor's note: Boman received notification Oct. 7 confirming a sufficient number of valid signatures.]*

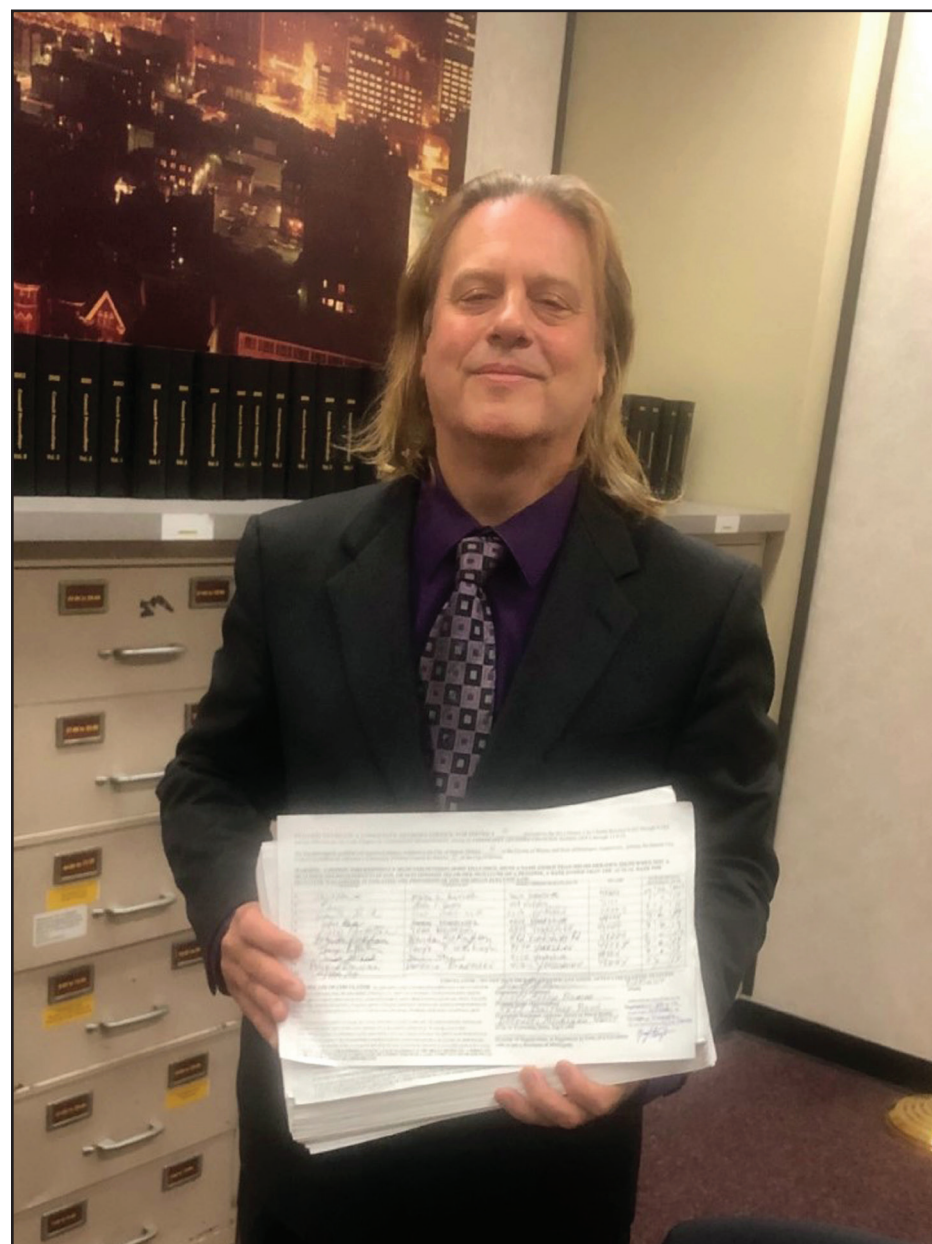
Boman commented, "In the course of circulating petitions to constituents I found that one of the most popular provisions was that a CAC may require that the city council

representative receive prior consultation from the Community Advisory Council on all issues which relate exclusively to that district. This makes the city council more transparent and helps residents to become better informed about what their local government is doing. In some respects it's a watchdog group of the city council.

Boman made it clear that the CAC won't get a dime of tax money. "Some people were concerned that creating an organization with seven office holders would strain the city's limited budget at a time when many retirees continue to suffer from lost benefits in the wake of Detroit's bankruptcy. I wouldn't have undertaken this effort if it would add an additional burden on taxpayers. The Charter is clear on this. It says, 'Community Advisory Councils shall receive no appropriations from city funds, but may accept donations or grants in accordance with state, federal or local law.'"

Boman said one thing that may interest Libertarians about the CAC is that it is the only governing body in Detroit to have a seat reserved for a person under 18. The Libertarian Party has no minimum age for delegates or officers and a 14-year-old delegate almost became national chair in 1993.

According to the Charter, "Each Community Advisory Council shall consist of five (5) members elected from a single non at-large district, who shall be residents and qualified and registered voters of the district; one (1) youth member between the ages of thirteen (13) and seventeen (17); and one (1) member selected as a representative for senior issues." The five elected members of the Fourth District Community Advisory Council will be chosen in the 2020 general election.



**Power to the People:** Activist Scotty Boman collected more than 1,500 signatures to establish an advisory council to foster better citizen access to government in his Detroit district. (Courtesy photo)

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# Register for 2020 National Convention in Austin, Texas

The **2020 Libertarian National Convention** will be here before you know it! The convention packages allow you to get as little or as much out of the convention as you want.

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**Basic Package:** \$139 (\$199 at the door)

(Includes training and breakouts, branded lanyard, after party, swag bag with swag, opening reception with speakers and entertainment, lots of speakers, lots of exhibitors, and lots of excitement.)

**Bronze Package:** \$239 (\$309 at the door)

(Includes above, plus one breakfast with speaker.)

**Silver Package:** \$339 (\$409 at the door)

(Includes above, plus two lunches with speakers and entertainment.)

**Gold Package:** \$429 (\$479 at the door)

(includes above, plus Gala ticket with speakers.)

**Welcoming Committee:** \$1,000

(Includes above, plus sponsorship listing on various media and signage and lots of support for the convention.)

**Gala Only:** \$139 (\$199 at the door)

The 2020 Libertarian National Convention will be held May 21–25, 2020, in Austin, Texas.

**For more information about convention details and online registration options, visit:**



## LNC2020.com

## Join the Welcoming Committee for 2020 Libertarian National Convention

### Want to help the Libertarian Party host the 2020 Libertarian National Convention?

Join the Welcoming Committee with a donation of \$1,000 or more and receive a Gold Registration Package plus your name/logo listed on signage, in the Convention Book, and on the convention website in recognition of your sponsorship.

Limited number of packages available for this sponsorship.

**Please join the Welcoming Committee today!**

**Visit: LNC2020.com**



## AFFILIATE UPDATES

### Arizona

#### SCOTUS petition filed over ballot reqs.

AZLP is working on developing a monthly newsletter in order to stay in contact with registered Libertarians and others. It anticipates the first issue to be published in September.

AZLP is also filing a petition with the U.S. Supreme Court to have it override a lower court's decision that supported the method by which the state of Arizona requires candidates to obtain signatures on a petition when running for office. The Arizona state legislature passed a law a few years ago changing the number of required signatures to a number so large that Libertarians must now have independents sign their petitions to get on the primary ballot.

Show Low Days was held June 7-9 with about 2,000-5,000 attending. AZLP had a presence trying to obtain Libertarian voter registrations.

On a sadder note, long time Libertarian supporter and Pima County Libertarian Party Chair, Chris Cole, passed away unexpectedly last month.

*Howard Blitz, AZLP State Chair*

### Arkansas

#### LP on the ballot in Arkansas!

In a letter to the Chair of the Libertarian Party of Arkansas dated July 29, the Arkansas Secretary of State acknowledged that petitions submitted by the party on June 28 were sufficient for recognizing the LPAR as a new political party. Of 18,702 petition signatures checked, 12,749 were found to be valid.

The letter noted that the number of signatures did not reach the threshold established by recent legislation (26,746) but it did satisfy the requirement of 10,000 valid signatures, as specified by a preliminary injunction from the U.S. Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas, issued on July 3. The LPAR had requested and been granted the injunction from the court, arguing the increase in the signature requirement was unnecessary and unwarranted, and represented an infringement of the constitutional rights of its members and the voters of Arkansas.

Lawyers for the State of Arkansas are appealing the judge's decision, but both the

judge and the appeals court have denied the state's request to stay the injunction. So for now, the Libertarian Party has met the requirements for full ballot access in 2020. The party will be holding a special nominating convention on October 26.

*Michael Pakko, AZLP State Chair*

### Colorado

#### New board hits the ground running

County parties have the focus this summer with efforts underway to build core leadership teams in Adams, Delta, and Elbert counties. Jefferson County recently achieved affiliate status, and it is expected that Denver County will follow shortly.

The 2020 convention has been tentatively set for the first weekend in April in Glendale Springs. LPCO also resolved to support Constitution Day with many board members committing to contact local schools to offer presentations.

Since the new board took over in CO we have had several accomplishments that could not have happened if the previous leadership had not set the foundation for our continued success.

I would like to thank our former communications director, Mr. Cayko, for the work he did in making sure we kept up the following in our Facebook page, and for working with the writers in getting several articles a month published. I am very happy Ms. Petty stepped up and took over as interim communications director after Mr. Cayko resigned from the position on Sept. 9.

I would like to thank Mr. Hale, previous outreach director, for the willingness to put together several events. I am grateful for Mr. Wark for stepping in and taking over when the position became vacant. He is doing an outstanding job and booking new events and getting volunteers involved.

I would like to thank Mr. and Ms. Harlos for the hard work they put in in calling lapsed national members and thanks to that we went from #10 to #8 in LNC memberships.

Thanks to Mr. Pickeril, Ms. Poague and Ms. Harlos for making sure we have content for the newsletter and for ensuring it is published regularly. Thanks to Ms.

Plumber for her work in getting the convention committee running and for making sure it runs smoothly.

We currently have four working affiliates and three active development groups. I am very grateful to the affiliate and DG leadership and am excited of what the future brings.

*Victoria Reynolds, LPCO State Chair*

### Oklahoma

#### First LP gov. candidate seeks council spot

In 2018, Chris Powell became the first official Libertarian Party gubernatorial nominee in Oklahoma. He is following that historic race by running for a recently vacated city council seat in Bethany, a community of over 19,000 that has been home to his family for over twenty years. Powell has already personally canvassed over half of the open ward and has several volunteers on hand from local LP chapters hitting the pavement with him in order to spread the message of liberty at the local level. A win for Chris, who is confident of success in the November 12th special election, would make him the fourth Libertarian to hold public office in the state. More information on the campaign can be found at [www.chris4council.com](http://www.chris4council.com).

*Cherise Norton, LPOK Secretary*

### Pennsylvania

#### Adding CRM, members, 37 candidates

The LPPA has realized a large number of milestones!

The first, and this is in no particular order, because everything that has been going on has been truly awesome, and the efforts of everyone involved has been nothing less than top notch. I am excited to formally announce that our new website is up and running, and this is thanks to several individuals who have been working tirelessly on the project since the LPPA Board voted unanimously to migrate to the National Libertarian CiviCRM Project. Andy Burns, who has been working on this project from national, Greg R. Perry and David Jahn, who have both taken on the job of making this the best it can be from the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania's side. As of August 28, the new page is up and running, and while this is awesome, there was so much that went into the project, like database management, e-mail, reaching out to members, enabling our members to reach out to county contacts,

committee contacts, etc.

The second thing I want to discuss has to do with the work our elections committee has been doing! Dr. Charles Moulton, who came up with what I have dubbed: "The Moulton Maneuver," went to work searching many counties looking for, and finding offices where no person was on the ballot. Once that portion was completed, Wes Benedict came on board to help find Libertarians in those districts. Along with this, Jennifer Moore started working to reach out to Libertarians in an effort to recruit candidates, Wes Benedict helped organize letters to be mailed, Jennifer Moore spent a great deal of her own money, and personally sealed and mailed 2300 letters to prospective candidates!

"When I need to do something that requires money, I can't stop and wait for the board to approve funding, it needs to be done now!" – Jennifer Moore

Reaching out to Libertarians is difficult, because most of us look at these letters and think: "SCAM!" However, in addition to the candidates running for office, we have added another 25 to the ballot, and these 25 are running uncontested!

The third thing I would like to discuss has to do with the membership drive promoted by Executive Director Kevin Gaughen. Having donated close to \$3,000 to the party since April, having worked for weeks sorting out a mailing list so that his membership mailing would be the most effective, he managed to increase LPPA membership by over 40% to include close to 10 new lifetime members! The most recent board meeting, Kevin offered to donate another \$3,000 in order to continue the membership drive, and when the board voted to spend another \$6,000 with him on that project, it became clear that we are all very excited to see him continue with his work!

Please bear in mind, that when the candidate recruitment drive was going on, and while the membership drive has been going on, the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania did not have much to offer overtly. Other than being the third largest political party in Pennsylvania, and a number of elected Libertarians that was somewhat unclear at the time, we now have something to sell. I am very proud to announce that the Libertarian Party of Pennsylvania has the largest number of elected Libertarians of any state affiliate in the nation, and come this November, with 37 candidates (25 of whom are running unopposed) we may just triple that number!



Looking toward 2020, our finance committee will be working hard to bring in money for activities such as ballot access, and when we tell people that their money is going to help the cause, we will have the beginning of a large body of work / results to show what we will be doing with their money!

Ladies and gentlemen, when any of you go to LPPA.org and click the donate button, consider making a recurring donation. It does not need to be huge, but everything helps! If you see a project that you feel needs to be funded, write out what that project is in the note section, and we will see that your money goes to your project. Regardless, I am thrilled to see how much has been done this past summer, and as we head into election season, we are just warming up!

Thank you for your support!

Steve Scheetz, LPPA State Chair

## Utah

### UTLP represented at visibility events

The UTLP had a booth at Provo Pride this year. Thanks to the volunteers who participated and met with the many

interested patrons. At this event, UTLP offered face painting. Two individuals made cash donations to the Party.

In Ogden, Weber County Libertarians and the UTLP hosted a booth at the Ogden Pride Festival on Aug. 3. They had a great opportunity to speak to many people and several people completed the World's Smallest Political Quiz.

The Libertarian Party of Utah had a booth at the annual, Halloween in Summer Festival in Magna, Utah, June 29.

We received a lot of positive feedback. One attendee even filled out a voter registration card at the booth, and updated his party registration to Libertarian on the spot.

Another highlight was when a woman walked over to our booth and said, "I thought I was the only Libertarian in Utah." She provided her contact information.

Several volunteers signed up for various shifts throughout the day. It was a great outreach event and a chance to educate the public on the benefits of limited government.

Amber Christiansen Beltran, UTLP State Chair



UTLP members at a Provo, Utah, Pride event, Sept. 14. (Courtesy photo: UTLP)



From left, David Raine and Jacob Bosen. (Courtesy photo: UTLP)



From left, volunteers Justin Bake and Donald Small. (Courtesy photo: UTLP)



UTLP booth at the Provo, Utah, Pride event. (Courtesy photo: UTLP)

**Got affiliate information to share?**

E-mail your news, photos and other submissions to [lpnews@lp.org](mailto:lpnews@lp.org)



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## Thinking about running for office?

### Want to learn more?

Go to **LP.org/run** and send us your inquiry. You'll receive information from your state LP affiliate or from the national LP headquarters that you need to get started on your campaign.



# Join other Libertarians for the Main Event

## Memorial Day Weekend 2020 in Austin, TX

AUSTIN, Texas — Excitement is high and continuing to build for the 2020 Libertarian National Convention, which will be held in Austin, Texas, over Memorial Day Weekend, May 21 - 25, 2020. We have never had this much interest this early in a convention. Packages, hotel rooms, and sponsorships are flying off the virtual shelves!

If you are planning to attend this convention, we strongly

recommend you plan to arrive on May 20 and stay until May 26. This ensures you won't miss any of the action.

Don't miss the chance to meet other Libertarians from around the country. Become a delegate from your state and help nominate our 2020 presidential ticket. Participate in training presented by leading Libertarians. Hear from leading Libertarian voices, and socialize with your Libertarian family.

## It all happens Memorial Day weekend 2020.

## Don't wait to reserve your spot!

Visit **LNC2020.com** and get signed up today.

Room reservations can be made at  
<https://book.passkey.com/go/LNC2020>.

Show your love of freedom by becoming a Liberty Pledger!

## Visit **LP.org/pledge**

As a Liberty Pledger, you will receive a special monthly newsletter, a subscription to LP News and a free cap! (while supplies last)



*Rufus Craig, chair of the Libertarian Party of Louisiana, was featured in an article in The Advocate, Louisiana's largest daily newspaper. He is running for a state senate seat in the sixth district on Oct. 12.*

Mack "Bodi" White looked like he would once again draw no opponents in his reelection bid for senator for Louisiana District 6. Rufus Craig, however, likes to make politicians work for their reelection.

"I don't care how good you are, you need to go out and convince the people every time your ticket comes up," said Craig, a Baton Rouge attorney.

So Craig is challenging White on Oct. 12 for the seat White has held since 2012. It's Craig's fifth run for public office. He and White were on the same ballot just three years ago when they both ran for Mayor-President of Baton Rouge. White, who lives in Central, narrowly lost that election in a runoff to current Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome.

**The Advocate, 9/27/2019**

As they look ahead to the 2020 election, few political pundits have considered the possibility that a Libertarian Party candidate could be elected president. Yes, I know it's a long shot, but not as long a shot as it might initially seem.

Because of the Electoral College system of voting, third-party candidates have a better chance of winning than most people think. If no candidate gets a majority of the electoral votes, the House of Representatives chooses the president from among the three candidates with the most electoral votes.

**TheHill.com, 9/25/2019**