

## Chairman's Chat

SCRCC Chair/CEO

chair@spokanegop.com

Defending Faith, Family & Freedom

*This Issue: Individual Rights - We believe individual human rights come from our Creator, not the government. We recognize the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from conception to natural death. We believe in free speech, thought, worship and dissent without fear of government interference or penalty.*

*Next Issue: Limited Government - Government is best when it governs the least. Big government infringes upon the rights of the citizens, is prohibitive, inefficient and extremely expensive.*



Thank you MJ Bolt  
for your immense contribution to the Spokane GOP. We wish you the best for your future.



As I pen this final newsletter message as your now former Chairwoman, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your engagement over the past two years. It's the collective effort of every one of you that truly moves us forward, from the smallest to the largest contributions.

A profound thank you to each member of our Executive Board, our dedicated officers, our Treasurer, Secretary, and our Committee leaders. And a special acknowledgment goes to Debbie, my invaluable Chair-Assistant, whose behind-the-scenes work has been indispensable.

Serving you has been one of the greatest honors of my life. I warmly congratulate our newly elected Board under the leadership of Chair Rob Linebarger and Vice Chair Carolyn Hall, along with our new State Committeeman Dale Whitaker and State Committeewoman Kellie Rizzi. I eagerly anticipate the successes they will build upon the foundations we've laid these past two years.

Merry Christmas, and may God bless each of you, Spokane County, Washington State, and may God bless America!

*MJ Bolt*

### A Nation in Recovery – Optimism Following President Trump's Victory

A landslide political victory can ignite a powerful wave of optimism throughout a community or nation, serving as a catalyst for both personal and collective transformation. This kind of victory, where one candidate or party overwhelmingly secures support, instills confidence that the majority's voice has been heard loud and clear. It's a moment where the collective will seems to align with the political outcome, fostering an environment where **optimism** can flourish.

This optimism stems from several sources. Firstly, there's the validation of the electorate's choice, suggesting that the public's aspirations for change or continuity have been robustly endorsed. This validation can lead to an increased trust in the political process, reaffirming **Faith** in the system's ability to reflect the electorate's desires.

The magnitude of a landslide victory also often implies **a mandate for significant action**. Optimism here is not just about feeling good; it's about expecting and preparing for real change. Supporters of the winning side see this as an opportunity for their agenda to be implemented without the usual political gridlock, envisioning reforms or policies that align more closely with their worldview. This can invigorate civic participation, with people feeling more inclined to engage in community activities, volunteerism, or political discussions, believing their involvement can now yield results.

Furthermore, such victories can inspire those who might have felt marginalized or unheard, giving them hope that their issues will now be addressed. This inclusivity can mend social divides, as optimism breeds a desire for unity and progress over division.

Locally, as a Party, this optimism must be channeled constructively. The euphoria of a landslide win can quickly fade if not backed by effective governance that bears tangible improvements. The challenge lies in maintaining this optimism by translating electoral success into actions that enhance the quality of life for all, ensuring that the promise of change is not just a fleeting moment of hope but a sustained journey towards improving the lives of every American Citizen.

*Rob*

# "A Final Solution to a Temporary Problem"

By Juli Skinner

TODAY another mother is weeping.

Today, we have lost another son, brother, friend. Today we live without a loved one who made a fatal choice.

We didn't know him. We don't remember ever meeting him. We had no other connection other than playing against his hockey team last month. But as a mother, you cannot ignore the fear that it could have just as easily been your son. You cannot escape the pain of another mother who will never hug her child again. For the rest of her days, she may walk through a cloud of despair, wondering, what she could have done or said to stop her son from taking his own life. For mothers like ME, if a broken heart didn't kill me, the guilt would. But though different mothers channel their grief differently, one thing remains the same: They are gone, and we are here. And we must heal.

We believe in individual rights. We believe in the freedom of choice. We believe in autonomy. When do parents of a troubled teen, violate their own belief system to interfere in their kids' lives? How do parents balance two opposing factors; the respect of their kids' own private space and the inclination to intrude?

Intrude.

*"...right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness from conception to natural death".*

Suicide is not natural. Suicide is a breakdown of self-value. Suicide is preventable. We value life; we value our kids' lives so take a break and talk to your kids today.

Know your child:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVi56-Qaa8s>

## Dear struggling teen,

*YOU feel alone. You may even feel alone when you are surrounded by people who say they care. And when you are actually alone, you feel like you are suffocating. You may not even understand why. Everything is closing in on you. You feel like you are stuck in a tiny dark room with no doors or windows. You cannot find your way out and even worse, it seems like there is no trusting hand reaching down to pull you out to save you. No words comfort you because that little voice inside you has convinced you that you would not be missed. You are consumed with despair and no one sees that you are in pain.*

*We notice you.*

*That little voice deep inside is misguiding you. We understand that life is tough; school is tedious; sports are demanding; extra curricular activity is consuming; friends are scarce; enemies are cruel; romance is bumpy; parents fight; siblings are annoying and you deal with many heartbreaking and confusing experiences in your young life. Here's my promise.*

## It will get better.

*Bad days will come and bad days will go. When your pain takes you into the darkness, tell yourself that you have a purpose but that it requires you to live and fulfill it. Take your power back. Get up. Find the door in that ever-shrinking room. When you open it, you WILL find that the bad day is behind you and **a new [beautiful] day is waiting just for YOU to experience**. Then tell a friend, a brother, a sister or trusted adult that you are struggling. KEEP telling someone until they listen. And if **you** are that entrusted friend or acquaintance, simply, listen. Then take your friend to a trusted adult because we know that there is no quick fix to this pain.*

*Your pain is real.*

*Your life has value.*

*And the two things can co-exist.*

*What you are feeling is NOT necessarily Mental Illness. Your teenage brain is still changing and adjusting to new things, trying to make sense of an imperfect world. You will have many conflicting thoughts and emotions. It is not abnormal. You are not weird. IT WILL PASS. And if it is clinical, IT IS TREATABLE.*

*Don't choose to leave this earth before your natural death or you will leave the burden of pain and confusion and guilt for the ones you leave behind. Choose to stay another day.*

**Psalm 91:11. For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.**



# The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, unalienable rights given to us by God himself. The importance of each is unsurpassed but the vital need for liberty is imperative. Life and the ability to pursue happiness are meaningless, if even truly possible, without liberty. God himself does not interfere with our ability to make choices. He has given us commandments which are intended to keep us safe from disastrous decisions but allows us total latitude to choose. Why then should puny man feel that he or she has the power or wisdom to do what God will not?

Some may ask: Why then have any laws or government at all? Because mankind is weak and we need structure. If every individual were capable of total personal accountability, we wouldn't need governments, police, judges or jails. Therefore, we have decided together that in order to live as a community we must have laws and penalties for breaking them in order to live outside of anarchy. The keys for us are imbedded in our founding documents and the wisdom of our Founding Fathers. The government's power is

granted to it by its citizens – not the other way around. Its power should be limited and essential for the survival of the nation and its citizens. Government's highest priority should be to protect its citizens' ability to live life as they choose, exercise near total liberty and pursue happiness under the safety provided by its laws and borders.

Freedom is dangerous. It can be a weapon that is used to oppress and destroy other's freedom when wielded by unscrupulous and evil men and women. But freedom, when it is utilized by those who understand its power can be the most ennobling and capacitating element in society. We each have the ability to infringe on other's freedom or enlarge it through our actions. We can emphasize the essential principle of personal accountability or we can obscure and minimize it through uneven application of the law. We can honor and elevate freedom-loving and responsible people or we can idolize the narcissistic and exploitative among us. In the end, it is always a choice we make. Freedom. Cherish it and exercise it wisely.

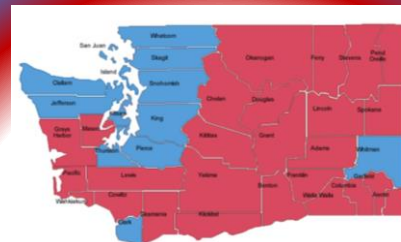
## WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY AND WASHINGTON STATE

### We Have Work To Do

November 5 Election

Some Final Statistics

1. Voter turnout in Spokane County: 77.11%. Below state average of 78.58%. Of the 13 "blue" counties 12, including King (79.74%), had a higher percentage of voter turnout than Spokane.
2. The Republican in a statewide race that did the best was Jaime Herrera Beutler for Lands Commissioner, Beutler 47.15%, Upthegrove 52.62%. No Republican won a statewide race.
3. Trump & Reichert won 26 counties, Beutler won 31, although Reichert's percentages were higher than Trump's in most, if not all, counties.
4. U.S. Congress, 5<sup>th</sup> District WA, Mike Baumgartner, won 60.57% to 39.29%; however, his opponent carried Spokane City by 6% and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, which lies totally within the City, by 13%. **We have work to do if we hope to increase conservatives on the Spokane City Council.**
5. Thankfully, Al French, County Commissioner was reelected, 51.21% - 48.54% so Republicans are still in the majority (3-2).



<https://www.bing.com/search?q=WA%20State%20election%20results&FORM=ARPSEC&PC=ARPL&TAG=30532075>

Both President Trump and Governor Candidate Dave Reichert lost 13 blue counties and won 26 red counties. Overall, Reichert had 178,895 more votes than Trump.

*It is wonderful to say,*

*Merry Christmas*

*and a Happy New Year!!!*



## PRECINCT COMMITTEE OFFICERS

PCOs elected in the Primary Election on August 6, 2024 began two-year terms on December 1. If there was a contested GOP PCO race in your precinct this August, you can see the results at <https://www.spokanecounty.org/DocumentCenter/View/56087/August-6-2024-Primary-Election-PDF>. Questions: Spokane County Republicans 509-838-6162 ext. 802.

Find your precinct by scrolling down on the GOP Home page to the link, **Find My Precinct** in the red box, then follow the directions. Or, at [VoteWA.gov](https://VoteWA.gov). Then, submit your name and birthday – click **Registration**.

Does your precinct have a PCO? You can find out under the **About Us** tab, then **Officers** which takes you to <https://spokanegop.com/leadership>; then click on your district, find your precinct to see if there is a PCO. PCOs listed on our website should be the PCOs elected in the 2024 Primary. . If the position is vacant, please consider becoming a PCO. There are 451 precincts in Spokane County and about 272 have Republican PCOs. PCOs are an important connection between voters and the Republican Party. More PCO information can be found here: <https://spokanegop.com/become-a-pco>.

Many PCOs and other Republicans work hard for our party. If you have someone in mind, please nominate that person as PCO or Republican of the Month. It is not difficult to nominate: [REPUBLICANS/PCOs OF THE MONTH form](#)

## ELECTED OFFICERS

The Spokane County Republican Central Committee a.k.a. Spokane County Republican Party in accordance with its Bylaws (Article 4 section 4.1) held its bi-annual Organization Meeting Saturday, December 14, 2024 at 9:00 pm, location Family of Faith Church [1504 W Grace Ave, Spokane](#), for the purpose of electing Officers to serve a two-year term effective immediately.

Congratulations to the following newly elected officers. 177 of 271 (65%) elected Republican Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) participated in the meeting.

- **Chairman - Rob Linebarger**
- **Vice Chairwoman - Carolyn Hall**
- **State Committeewoman - Kellie Rizzi**
- **State Committeeman - Dale Whitaker**

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 12:30 pm, the PCOs then met by Legislative Subdistrict, and the following Subdistrict Leaders were elected to serve on the Spokane County Republican Party Board for the next two years with their term ending in December 2026:

- Subdistrict 3A Leader Natalie Poulson
- Subdistrict 3B Leader Mark Anthony
- Subdistrict 3C Tom Barnhart
- Subdistrict 4A Lance Barton
- Subdistrict 4B Mike Kelly
- Subdistrict 4C David Miller
- Subdistrict 4D Brenda Dutton
- Subdistrict 6A Walt Stillinger
- Subdistrict 6B Christopher Savage
- Subdistrict 6C Morna Gilbert
- Subdistrict 6D Theresa Hudson
- Subdistrict 7 Tom Gaines
- Subdistrict 9A Thomas Jarms
- Subdistrict 9B Chris McIntosh

In addition to the newly elected officers, three appointed, non-voting positions include John Scherling, Secretary; Mike Drew, Treasurer; and Debbie Smith, Executive Assistant to the Chair. Contact information for all officers with their photos is available on the [Spokane County GOP website, About Us, Officers](#) tab.

**Congratulations to all. Looking forward to the new year with you and our new president!**

Spokane County GOP supports Helping Captives. Cleaning out your closet, storage and garage and donating gently used clothing, household items and other items will help heal victims of trafficking.



HELPING CAPTIVES

Monday-Saturday

10-5 pm

East 14415 Sprague Ave.

Check out their coffee too!

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GOP calendar

<https://www.spokanegop.com/calendar>

CONTACT US

[www.SpokaneGOP.com](http://www.SpokaneGOP.com)

FIND US

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP)

[YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP](https://YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP)

[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)

SUPPORT US

<https://spokanegop.com/?form=donate>

onate

Stay Informed.

<https://spokanegop.com/newsletter>

## Ponderosa Republican Women:

At Ponderosa Republican Women's monthly luncheon on December 17, Bonnie Quinn Clausen moderated the very informative and inspiring discussion that featured guest speakers, Tyson West, Executive Director of Adult and Teen Challenge, located in Airway Heights, and Avery Jones, program graduate and Recovery Coach. They shared their personal journeys with alcohol and drug recovery with an emphasis on accountability, engaging in a relationship with Jesus Christ and personal relationships formed and nurtured through the brotherhood of men all wanting change to break the cycle of addiction.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14th at the Ruby River Hotel at 11:30 a.m. Robin Ball and Ruth Ryan, both members of Ponderosa Republican Women, will be our featured speakers. Robin will be updating us on the Spokane County redistricting and how the latest election was impacted by the changes in boundaries. Ruth Ryan will share her expertise on how all aspects of voting and tabulating at the Spokane County Elections office proceeded in November and what we need to do in the future to protect our vote and ensure there's transparency in our election system. Once the next month's meeting is posted on the PRW website, you will be able to make a reservation. Guests are most welcome to make reservations to attend.

Jan Grayhek, PRW President <http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com>

**WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:** Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., President-Elect Trump's nomination for Health and Human Services Secretary has called for the removal of fluoride from drinking water, <https://www.foxnews.com/health/rfk-jr-calls-removal-fluoride-drinking-water-sparking-debate>. This follows a recent decision by a federal judge in San Francisco, reported in last month's newsletter, that ruled that fluoride in drinking water poses an 'unreasonable risk' to children, <https://freevietnews.com/audio3/index.php?id=29>.

## LEGISLATIVE WATCH

**WSRP Olympia Watch.** The Democrat controlled legislature is empowered to continue misleading voters and passing bad law. It is up to YOU to do your research and spread the word.

**WA State Legislature Bill Info:** <http://leg.wa.gov>

Washington State Legislature begins on 1/13/25 and ends on 4/27/25, unless extended. The County GOP Legislative Action Committee, led by Chair Stephanie Brenden, is already gearing up for the 2025 session. Since our state is the only one in the nation that has become more "blue", it is especially critical that we pay attention to the bills being proposed and that we get involved in contacting our legislators when we support or oppose them. The Leg Committee will keep us informed on priority bills. Watch for weekly emails and check out information on our County and State GOP Facebook pages. WA GOP will also highlight important information on bills on the website; go to Olympia Watch, <https://wagop.org/olympia-watch/>. Finally, more ideas on getting involved and making a positive difference is available at <https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/get-involved/>.

Visit [Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP). Like. Comment. Share.

The more you like & share, the more we circulate and reach people.

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. For Communications Committee or work submission, you **MUST** meet submission deadlines. Contact Terri at [terrizalevits@gmail.com](mailto:terrizalevits@gmail.com).