

ISSUE 45

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2025

SpokaneGOP

Chairman's Chat

Rob Linebarger, SCRCC Chair/CEO
chair@spokanegop.com

Defending Faith, Family & Freedom

This Issue: Property Rights-It is the right of all citizens to legally acquire, own, use and dispose of private property. It is your right to protect your property with reasonable force against another person who is threatening to infringe upon your property.

Next Issue: Infrastructure (Energy/Utilities, Transportation and Technology) - We understand that government must continue to invest wisely in infrastructure and transportation projects, especially those critical to growth and safety and strive to be a leader in energy and information technologies through our free market system rather than with government intervention.



Go to SpokaneGOP.com and click on Donate and Volunteer Today!

And remember to visit us on FACEBOOK. Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP

It's Time to Demand Justice and Accountability

In defense of individuals who were falsely charged in connection with the January 6, 2021, "Stop the Steal" protest, the event and its aftermath represent a profound miscarriage of justice driven by political vengeance rather than evidence of criminality. These United States citizens were exercising their God given First Amendment rights to challenge the 2020 election's legitimacy, and except for the few agitators, they were not violent insurrectionists bent on overthrowing the government.

Many of us listened to President Donald Trump's speech that day and his urging supporters to "peacefully march" to the Capitol was a call to civic action, not lawlessness. We watched some enter the Capitol violently, but most went in spontaneously or at the invitation of Capital Security Personnel and most, if not all, were unaware they were walking into what is now undeniably proven to be a well-conceived political snare.

Thanks to patriots like Tucker Carlson, Dan Bongino, and FBI Director Kash Patel, there is a trove of publicly available evidence including thousands of hours of raw video that destroys the State Driven Media Narrative and implicates the federal government, including the Department of Justice (DOJ) and FBI, in an operation to weaponize the legal system for political purposes.

The J6 political operation is a dragnet that unfairly targeted supporters of President Donald J. Trump. Minor (misdemeanor) offenses like trespassing and disorderly conduct were inflated by federal prosecutors and activist judges into harsh and inhumane punishments, including outrageous extended jail sentences. When contrasted against the absence of "justice" for the violent protests that occurred in 2020 beginning with Minneapolis burning following the George Floyd incident in May and continuing throughout the summer (Kenosha, Portland, Seattle and Washington DC) it's clear that "Equal Justice for All" in this country is something we all want but those we elect to represent us either aren't able to deliver or willing to risk their political careers to fight for this fundamental tenant of Freedom.

The personal toll of this tragedy is astounding, and it makes me wonder how people can be this cruel and evil. Without conscience they deliberately tore apart Families, destroyed reputations, ruined careers, and worst of all, people took their own lives because of the hopeless position the government "of, by and for The People" so ruthlessly put them in.

We, as an organization whose Vision and Mission is centered on Faith, Family, and Freedom must acknowledge the true victims of this callous tyranny and support candidates and stand with "We the People" even if it risks damaging their political career aspirations.

Our former Chair, MJ Bolt, has a great interview with Washington J6er John Cameron. I encourage you to watch the video located on Rumble at <https://rumble.com/v6jbyqp-mj-bolt-interviews-john-cameron-j6er-from-washington.html> or @MJlifeisgood on X.

It's time to stand up for what is right and just so please join us at Lincoln Day on May 2 and show your support for the J6 innocents, Constitution and the Hope and Promise of America.

HB 1380: Undermining Local Control and Spokane's Voter-Approved Laws

[House Bill 1380](#) introduces an ambiguous and problematic standard that would significantly weaken Spokane's ability to enforce its voter-approved anti-encampment laws. The bill mandates that any local restrictions on public camping be "objectively reasonable," but it fails to clearly define what that means or who gets to decide. This vague language invites legal challenges and makes it harder for cities to enforce laws that their residents support.

Spokane voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 1 in 2023 to prohibit encampments near schools, parks, and public spaces where families and businesses have been directly impacted. HB 1380 threatens to override that decision, making enforcement far more difficult and potentially unenforceable. Instead of respecting local decision-making, state lawmakers are attempting to impose a one-size-fits-all approach that ignores the unique challenges Spokane faces.

This bill does nothing to address the root causes of homelessness, such as increasing rehabilitation facilities and funding or expanding mental health services. Instead, it weakens local governments' ability to maintain public safety and uphold the will of their constituents. Spokane residents made it clear that they want stronger enforcement against illegal encampments.

HB 1380 disregards that choice and should be firmly opposed.

Jonathan Bingle, Spokane City Council, District 2

HOW BAD DO YOU WANT IT?

By Juli Skinner

This month's tenet is Property Rights. While our rights are written, our property isn't always tangible. Sometimes it's a little more than an idea. The "new car" smell hitting you before you even slide into that new Tesla you just bought; the sun lighting up the landscape of a 200-acre farm you just inherited; the notification sound on your phone letting you know that your overtime check was just deposited into your account. These senses may not be tangible, but, they are *Yours*; they represent empowerment. Our leaders threaten to alter, deprive and decrease many aspects of our "property" so why do we stay silent?

Our state's history is rich in Socialism and for the last 41 years Democrat Rule in the State of Washington has fulfilled that philosophy and passed it on quietly to its constituents through Socialist programs. Our beautiful state is one of the biggest buy-ins of the "Green New Deal" and through its policies, we will eventually have nothing.

Vehicles will be fully transitioned to electric (thanks Inslee) by 2035:

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2023/sep/14/us-house-passes-bill-in-bid-to-stop-states-from-ba/#:~:text=Gov..push%20toward%20zero%20Demission%20vehicles;>

Farmers will lose their autonomy: <https://www.potatoes.com/riparian-buffers;>

[https://savefamilyfarming.org/unprecedented-threat-riparian-taskforce-seeks-expanded-regulatory-reach/.](https://savefamilyfarming.org/unprecedented-threat-riparian-taskforce-seeks-expanded-regulatory-reach/)

Paychecks will get smaller while work-hours stay the same:

<https://www.washingtonpolicy.org/publications/detail/welcome-news-a-state-payroll-tax-that-harms-many-workers-will-decrease-not-increase-in-2024;>

[https://researchcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/COSTFY2022.pdf.](https://researchcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/COSTFY2022.pdf)

As we learn about the billions of wasted dollars spent by our federal government, we also learn that our state is facing a 15 million deficit. How do you suppose our leaders will make that up? Everything we own or want to own will be subject to [more] fees, taxation and regulation. Lawmakers and activists will come for our hard-earned assets. There are several reasons why our state has run into a budget shortfall. Alas, there are several ways that the Democrat majority will dig us out which is and will be antithetical to our prosperity.

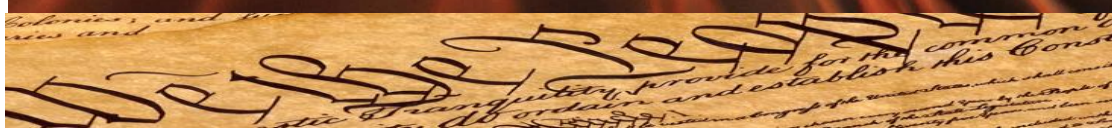
As vehicles have become more efficient, the state will lose revenue. Answer: More tax on gas (and now that Musk is in Trump's corner – more tax on electric – yes, they're that petty). <https://www.opb.org/article/2025/02/16/new-washington-bill-charging-cars/>

As natural gas has become cheaper, the alarmist environmentalists have become louder. Answer: More [potentially unlawful] energy regulation. <https://www.protectenergychoice.com/>

As more residents take advantage of our social welfare state benefits, [P]Family Medical Leave Act (and other programs) has become depleted. Answer: Burdensome payroll tax increases on employees and more tax regulations on business owners.

[Washington State's 2025 Tax Proposals | Huddleston Tax CPAs](#)

Ownership equates to independence and the ethically-minded among us understand that hard work is the key to personal fulfillment and the path to "property" acquisition. If you appreciate your independence and your rights to YOUR own property, fight for them. As I tell my young athletes competing in high level sports; **"Whoever wants it bad enough, wins"**.



The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

Property Rights

Freedom is an interesting concept. We profess, as Americans, to believe in freedom while regularly going about to restrict it. Perhaps it is time to step back and analyze what freedom actually means—or at least what it should mean. True freedom means only that we have the God-given right to choose. That would then be followed by complete accountability. We do not live in that world.

In relationship to freedom, property rights come with their own set of conundrums. If we had true freedom, property owners would be able to use their property for whatever end they wished. Again, they would have to have full accountability for their usage. For example, if I used my property to create illegal drugs, should I lose my property rights as punishment? Or should I be jailed and/or receive fines for my criminal activity? These are the kinds of questions that are settled by the populous in a civilized society.

None of these questions have easy or simple answers, but the focus should be on always maintaining every bit of freedom as possible, with as little curtailment or regulation as possible. Recent government actions by the EPA have restricted personal property use. It was a gross over-reach that was finally settled in the courts in

favor of private property. Why the constant creep to erode freedom? One of the main reasons is that we are surrounded by those who believe themselves to be our intellectual betters who have sufficient superiority to instruct us in the use of our property. That is not freedom.

At the same time, we often allow Home Owners' Association (HOA's) or the like to restrict personal, constitutional freedoms. Since when does an HOA have the authority to restrict free speech? In what world is it acceptable to tell an American citizen that they cannot fly a U.S. flag or a military flag or a gay pride flag on their own home? Furthermore, we have allowed the curse of property tax to infect the entirety of our nation. Again, where is the freedom in allowing a government to seize property you own simply because you are behind on property taxes?

I am not suggesting any form of anarchy here. What I am suggesting is that we need to change the onerous laws that we have allowed to creep into our society, that impinge upon our freedom and rights as property owners. Property taxes should be done away with completely. And we should exercise caution before giving our rights away to anyone, the feds, the states, our cities or HOA's. Our rights will only endure as long as we are willing to fight to protect them.

Consider becoming a PCO, Precinct Committee Officer.

Does your precinct have a PCO? You can find out on our [GOP website](#) under the **About Us** tab, then **Officers** which takes you to <https://spokanegop.com/leadership>; finally click on your **District** and 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 at: <https://spokanegop.com/become-a-pco>.

Don't know your PRECINCT? You can find it on the [GOP website](#), **Home** page. Scroll down to the link, **Find My Precinct** in the red box, then follow the directions. Or, at [VoteWA.gov](#). Then, submit your name and birthday – click **Registration**.

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](#)

WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY AND WASHINGTON STATE

WE HAVE WORK TO DO.

Officers Spokane County GOP

- Chair - Rob Linebarger
- Executive Assistant - Debbie Smith
- Vice Chair - Carolyn Hall
- State Committeeman – Dale Whitaker
- State Committeewoman – Kellie Rizzi
- Secretary - John Scherling
- Treasurer - Richard Jones



Standing Committee Chair Appointments:

- Lincoln Day – Rob Linebarger
- Budget – Jenelle Simpson
- Candidates – Brenda Dutton
- Credentials – Brian Boyer
- Elections – Tim Kinley
- Bylaws and Policies & Procedures – Tim Archer
- Finance – Mike Kelly

Special Committee Chair Appointments:

- Audit – Natalie Poulson
- Legislative – Stephanie Brenden
- Marketing – Colleen Simpson
- Platform – John Scherling
- Resolutions – John Scherling
- Volunteers – Debbie Smith
- Young Republicans – Enrique Rico
- Events – TBA
- Judiciary - TBA

The following Letter to the Editor was inspired by a Sue Lani Madsen column published March 5, 2017 in the Spokesman-Review headlined: Exploring the Places Left Behind” in the print edition. Full column can be found online here:

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2017/mar/10/sue-lani-madsen-just-because-it-looks-abandoned-tr/>

This LTE writer summarizes proper respect for private property.

To the Editor:

Yes, old abandoned buildings are interesting to historians and photographers, whether it is the tilt of the building as it sinks into its foundation, or the weathered grain, patina and surface lichen of the wood. However, it is private property and should NEVER be invaded without the permission of the owner. Do you want strangers nosing through your back yard?

Palouse farms are a favorite place of ours to photograph, and the residents have been very generous in sharing photo opportunities when asked. My Co-Chairs and I have led free Field Trips for 12 years for members of the Spokane Camera Club, Photographic Society of America (PSA), and Canadian Association for Photographic Arts (CAPA). We have a Code of Ethics: Never set foot on private property without permission. Respect the rights of all property owners. Never trespass! Use a longer lens photograph from the safe edge of the road.

We Scout the Route before each Field Trip and provide participants with a safe, detailed itinerary, urge members to share images with the owners, and enjoy a warm relationship with our Palouse friends. We are proud to record the dedication and struggles of pioneer homesteaders, and NOT criticize.

Sincerely yours,

Otto O. Stevens, DDS (Retired 22 years)

Subscribe at <https://suelanimadsen.substack.com/> for news and commentary on a variety of topics.

UPDATES:

Utah will become the first state to ban fluoride in its drinking water. <https://www.timesherald.com/2025/03/10/utah-bans-fluoride-water/>

"Its Republican sponsor, Rep. Stephanie Gricius, acknowledged fluoride has benefits, but said it was an issue of 'individual choice' to not have it in the water." Governor Cox said "like many people in Utah, he grew up and raised his own children in a community that doesn't have fluoridated water...You would think you would see drastically different outcomes with half the state not getting it. We haven't seen that... So it's got to be a really high bar for me if we're going to require people to be medicated by their government."

THE POWER OF PRAYER

2025 PRAYER GUIDE FOR Elected Officials (From an Idaho prayer team)

Jesus looked at them and said,

"With man this is impossible but with God all things are possible." Mt. 19:26

Imagine the power of the entire body of Christ intentionally praying for our government leaders on a daily basis??! Let's pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by Godliness and dignity. 1 Timothy 1:1-2

PRAYER POINTS

1. LORD REVEAL yourself to Washington government leaders, and bring them to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Rom. 10:9-10
2. PROTECT them and their families from harm and give them good health. Psalm 91
3. GRANT them--wisdom to make laws that honor the LORD, protect the people's inalienable rights, and adhere to their proper role in government. Ephesians. 1:17-18 and Colossians 1:9-12
4. EXPOSE any areas of inconsistency in their thinking and reveal truth to them. Romans 12:2 and 2 Corinthians 10:3-6
5. LEAD them into fullness of Your plan for them. Jer. 29:11-13
6. LET THEM acknowledge a holy fear of the LORD. Proverbs 1:7, 2:5
7. PRAY for leaders who will uphold biblical standards of righteousness to be voted in and the removal of the godless and unjust from positions of authority.

List of WA State legislators: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/Members>

Other WA Elected officials: <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/voters/helpful-information/elected-officials>

If you did not believe in the Power of Prayer before; find a story of faith and God's graciousness below:

https://www.kxly.com/sports/97s-journey-local-hockey-teen-fighting-to-walk-again-after-life-altering-injury/article_f9654240-f0aa-11ef-804f-836efd38415d.html

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.



Monday-Saturday 10-5 pm
East 14415 Sprague Ave.
Check out their coffee tool

SAVE THE DATE

GOP calendar

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

**Spokane County Republican Party Lincoln Day
Gala** at the Spokane Convention Center

May 2, 2025*

**We are sponsoring a speech contest with prizes. Submit a three-minute video to the Lincoln Day Scholarship Committee. Three finalists will deliver their speech at the Lincoln Day Gala. For more information:*

https://44626085.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/44626085/Lincoln%20Day/2025%20Lincoln%20Day%20Speech%20Contest_20250313.pdf?utm_medium=email&hsmi=351823526&utm_content=351823526&utm_source=hs_email

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SUPPORT US

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

Stay Informed.

<https://spokanegop.com/newsletter>.

Ponderosa Republican Women

At the Ponderosa Republican Women monthly meeting, Tuesday, March 11th: Chris Cargill, president and CEO of Mountain States Policy Center was our featured speaker. Chris shared information on Wonk, an easy-to-use app that is available on the MSPC website. Ask it a question and you will get concise answers regarding state bills in WA, MT, ID and WY and their impact if adopted. Chris also shared statistics on the number of legislative bills presented in WA, ID, MT and WY. To date, WA leads the pack with 1,923 bills introduced. This should be of great concern to conservatives as many of these bills are not good for WA and aim to take away the rights of tax paying citizens.

Education reform was also discussed and comparisons were made concerning the difference in what's happening in both ID and WA. ID recently passed legislation allowing parents to opt for school choice and if they opt out of public education, there are tax dollars that follow the student. Since 2015, the State of WA has accumulated \$11.3 billion in net savings where parents have opted for charter, private, home school or religious education. MSPS recommendations: expand school choice options, increase availability of public charter schools, put the school principal in charge of all aspects of their school, focus education funding on results and adopt the Public School Transparency Act.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Ruby River Hotel. Our speaker will be Marlene Pfeiffer, Chairwoman of the WA State Republican Party. Marlene will be sharing information on how other blue states have turned red and what we can do in WA to accomplish the same. Details for the April meeting will be posted on the PRW website, <https://www.ponderosarepublicanwomen.com/>, where you will be able to make a reservation. Guests are most welcome to attend.

Jan Grayhek, PRW President

LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Defend Faith, Family and Freedom by Taking Legislative Action! We are getting hammered in the legislature with the Senate members 30-19 and the House members 59-39. It is critical that we all stay involved. Legislature ends on 4/27/25.

The County GOP Legislative Action Committee, led by Chair Stephanie Brenden, has already started highlighting priority bills. You can sign up now for [What Up Olympia?](#) to receive periodic emails of proposed bills that especially need our attention. And, if interested, you can also sign up to be part of our Legislative Action Committee and help decide which bills should be highlighted. When you get one of the alerts, usually on Sundays, just click the links on each bill to register your position "PRO" or "CON" for the Legislative Record. You may also register to submit written testimony and/or testify remotely via Zoom during a public committee hearing!

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 these bills. The Leg Committee will keep us informed on priority bills. Watch for these 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://waqop.org/olympia-watch/>. On Olympia Watch near the bottom of the page.

You can **Sign-Up for the Influencing Olympia Effectively Course** offered online.

Visit [Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.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.