

Chairman's Chat

Rob Linebarger, SCRCC Chair/CEO
chair@spokanegop.com
Defending Faith, Family & Freedom

This Issue: Family Values - We support the right of families to be free to raise their children according to their personal morals, values and spiritual beliefs.

Next Issue: Equal Justice - All people have a right to equal treatment under the law. We support the enforcement of the original Bill of Rights as written and intended by the Founders.



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THE VALUE OF CHALLENGING INCUMBENT POLITICIANS

Challenging incumbent politicians offers a compelling value proposition: it disrupts entrenched power, ensures accountability, and revitalizes democracy. Incumbents, often prioritizing re-election over bold action, can stagnate, clinging to outdated policies or special-interest ties.

New candidates bring fresh perspectives, unburdened by years of compromise, appealing to voters frustrated with the status quo. This injection of new ideas fosters innovation, addressing current and emerging issues that incumbents may overlook or avoid, particularly at the risk of offending donors or special interest groups.

Specific benefits of challenging an incumbent may include:

- **Breaking Stagnation:** Incumbents often prioritize maintaining their position over bold innovation. New candidates bring fresh ideas, unburdened by compromise or loyalty to entrenched interests. This can appeal to voters frustrated with the status quo.
- **Accountability:** Long-serving politicians may grow complacent, entitled, assuming re-election is guaranteed. Opposition challenges this, forcing incumbents to justify their record. It signals to voters that power isn't a birthright—it's earned.
- **Representation:** Incumbents can become disconnected from constituents, especially as demographics or needs shift. New voices often better reflect current voter priorities because they are motivated to lead change.
- **Reducing Corruption Risk:** Extended time in power can foster cozy relationships with donors, lobbyists, or special interests. Opposing incumbents limits the entrenchment of such networks, promoting cleaner governance.
- **Voter Choice:** Competition ensures democracy isn't a one-horse race. Even if the incumbent is competent, opposition candidates give voters options, forcing a real debate on policies and visions.

Ultimately, opposing incumbents isn't just about replacing one person: it's about safeguarding a responsive, accountable, and transparent constitutional form of government. It empowers voters, challenges complacency, and ensures elected officials serve the public, not themselves.

Remember, politicians serve We The People as stated in the United States and Washington State Constitutions.

WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY. WAKE UP WASHINGTON STATE

When Spokane voters passed Prop 1, they sent a clear message: restore order in our public spaces and protect our families in parks, libraries, and on sidewalks. But instead of honoring the will of the people, (Democrat) Mayor Lisa Brown and her allies are watering it down beyond recognition.

What we're now being offered isn't Prop 1—it's policy in name only. The ordinances they're proposing sound official, but they lack the enforcement power necessary to actually change anything. It's all window dressing—more press releases and symbolic votes, while our neighborhoods continue to deal with open drug use, vandalism, and unsafe encampments.

This isn't leadership. It's political cover.

(Democrat) Mayor Lisa Brown knows enforcement works; she just doesn't want to be the one to do it. So instead of respecting what voters demanded, she's crafting a neutered version that keeps the headlines clean while the streets remain dirty.

The people of Spokane didn't ask for more bureaucracy or softer language. We asked for consequences, order, and real protection for families and neighborhoods.

If we don't implement laws with teeth—and back them with the courage to enforce them—we're just spinning our wheels. Spokane deserves better than a government more concerned with appearances than outcomes.

Jonathan Bingle, Spokane City Council,
District 2

PRO·GRES·SIVE /prə'gresiv/

1. Happening or developing gradually or in stages; proceeding step by step.
2. (of a group, person, or idea) favoring or implementing social reform or new, liberal ideas.

By Juli Skinner

It is widely accepted that Progressive tenets include the philosophy of pushing [extreme] social boundaries in any given era. Abortion has to be one of the most egregious and misinterpreted issues pushed, ever. Proponents repeat the term "abortion" because the word is innocuous. Change the word to a description and we may just eliminate a majority of those proponents.

Early surgical abortions suck and remove "tissue". Late abortions suck out "pregnancy tissue" which may dismember or crush the fetus (baby). In the partial birth abortion, the fetus (baby) can be extracted by the feet then the head is punctured and compressed.

Above descriptions omit a key word, "baby". But that is how Progressives handle business – operating on manufactured and handpicked emotional guilt. They downplay the facts on the horrors of abortion and exaggerate man-made climate change. They control the information. My son debated a classmate who articulately repeated old Pro-choice talking points: "It's" a clump of cells, adding that "birth is the moment of conception". The response: "We are all made up of a clump of cells; does that mean we can kill each other if someone is unwanted?" Of course not, the classmate said; it's living. He was surprised to hear that a fetal heartbeat can be detected as early as 5 weeks.

I love my children. I am blessed. I look at what they have achieved and who they are becoming and am thankful that in an era of extremism, they may just have a chance to escape the woke-net. Or at the very least, be acutely aware. But it hasn't been easy. It never seems to be. After seemingly endless talks, arguments and corrections on the garbage information they [still] come home with, I realized, IT WILL NEVER STOP. The other side is determined to destroy all that we have worked for, all that is wholesome, and, they ALMOST succeeded.

Progressivism didn't happen overnight. It slowly crept into our lives, hurting families and fooling folks. The policies do not benefit our communities and we are starting to wake up. Don't fall asleep again. Don't let people tell you that it is paranoia or a conspiracy theory. That is a Red Herring. Malevolent forces are here and we need to eliminate it. **We need you.** Find a group of likeminded individuals and get involved. Use your talents and your energy to get back to wholesome traditionalism for the future of your children.

Our newsletter contains an abundance of opinions and stories; and that's okay. We are here to coalesce, share ideas, win hearts and minds through education, [accurate] information and perspective. BUT I believe we have reached a dire moment. Our beautiful state is not getting better. Our cities are not getting better with election after election of Democrat rule. Thank God for President Trump but he CANNOT do it alone. All hands-on deck. Be active. Be proactive. Be reactive. Please read **LEGISLATIVE WATCH** and **WAKE UP... SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS**

**Republicans continue to be outvoted. We are in the minority - WA legislature; Senate 30-19 and House 59-39.*

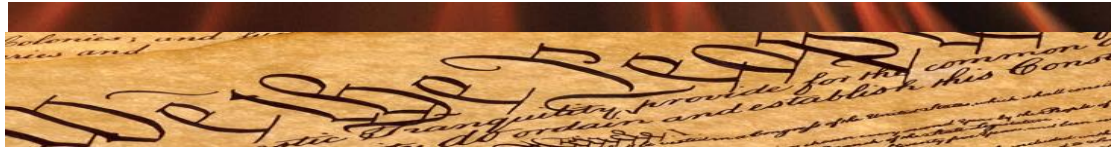
**What Up Olympia highlights priority bills. You can sign up to receive the emails and read up on past bills and upcoming bills.*

**Watch for email alerts. Click the links on each bill to register your position "PRO" or "CON" for the Legislative Record.*

**Check our County and State GOP Facebook pages for information. The website WA GOP will highlight important information on bills. Go to Olympia Watch, <https://wagop.org/olympia-watch/>*

GET INSPIRED!

<https://spokanegop.com/>



The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

Family Values Are Constitutional Values

Our inspired Constitution established order where there was chaos, replaced justice with injustice and provided for equal protection under the law. It is also vital to recognize that this same Constitution was built upon Judeo-Christian principles—the laws of God. This foundation is firmly laid upon the bedrock of the family. The family was the first organization established on earth when Adam and Eve were given to each other—married by God. That organization is also what I believe to be the eternal organization of the universe. It is not a stretch to believe the Founding Fathers assumed the permanence of this under-girding bedrock to support everything in life and government.

Government is a necessary evil that we choose to participate in so that we might have structure, law, justice and order—the opposite of chaos, arbitrary rule and anarchy. But our government was never intended to replace the family or infringe upon its role. It was not intended to teach nor enforce morality, nor indeed should it. That role is reserved to the family. It is the job of parents to teach principles of morality, honesty, hard work, conflict resolution, standards of behavior, self-reliance, accountability and so forth.

Communism and its ugly step-brother socialism, seek to replace God with government and, therefore, the family and everything about it. Is it any surprise then that the eternal creep of these -isms is to supplant parents and the standards they have established for their families? Washington is a glaringly evil example of the destruction of parental rights and the trampling of the family. The pretense of “rights” is bandied about as our state government has told parents to pay medical bills but that they are not allowed to have information about their teenager’s health care. * Parents may lose their children for getting counseling help for those who may struggle with same-sex attraction or gender dysphoria. They strive daily to indoctrinate our children through “education” with the cultist doctrines of communistic/socialistic ideology.

This intellectual battle we face daily is not a political one. This is a fight for the very survival of the family and our children. It is a fight we cannot afford to lose—the stakes are eternal. The outgrowth of that is that our nation and our Constitution can only function properly and thrive based upon the eternal truths of the family, freedom and personal accountability.

**Unofficial information re: teen medical privacy rights in WA as of January, 2024:*
<https://rightsrain.uwmedicine.org/life/parenthood/teen-medical-privacy>

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](#)

**WE HAVE WORK TO DO.
LET'S DO IT!**

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 – John Scherling
Credentials – Brian Boyer
Elections – Tim Kinley
Bylaws and Policies & Procedures – Cecily Wright
Finance – Mike Kelly

Special Committee Chair Appointments:

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

In [April's Newsletter](#), page 4, Sue Lani introduced us to Braver Angels. On May 20, 6:00-7:30 p.m. on Zoom you can experience Braver Angels by participating or just observing. [Register here](#). **It's free!**

The Braver Angels Way

We state our views *freely and fully, without fear.*

We treat people who disagree with us with *honesty, dignity and respect.*

We welcome *opportunities to engage* those with whom we disagree.

We believe *all of us have blind spots* and none of us are not worth talking to.

We seek to *disagree accurately*, avoiding exaggeration and stereotypes.

We look for common ground where it exists and, if possible, *find ways to work together.*

We believe that, in disagreements, *both sides share and learn.*

In Braver Angels, *neither side is teaching the other* or giving feedback on how to think or say things differently.

For more information, see www.BraverAngels.org (National) or www.wa.braverangels.org (State Alliances).

Resolved: Washingtonians should pay higher taxes for basic education

Braver Angels style debates are highly structured community **conversations on spicy topics**, with a trained debate moderator using a format encouraging curiosity. And who better to chair the first Washington State Braver Angels debate of 2025 than our very own nationally recognized . . .

Monica Guzman, author of "I Never Thought Of It That Way"

This is a friendly and intellectually engaging experience you won't find anywhere else! Listen to speeches for or against the resolution—and then share your own, if you feel so moved. (And there's no pressure, but we hope you will!).

Join your neighbors on Tuesday, May 20, 2025

[Register here](#) (Event online on Zoom)

For more information, check us out at:

National: www.braverangels.org

Washington Alliances: www.wa.braverangels.org



**Hold
America
Together**

Sue Lani Madsen

Co-chair, Central/Eastern WA Alliance Braver Angels

Washington State Coordinator (Red)

smadsen@braverangels.org

"How To Win Friends and Influence People With a Letter to the Editor."
A class, offered by Sue Lani Madsen, www.suelanimadsen.substack.com freelance writer and commentator on politics, culture and language from a Christian, conservative, libertarian and pragmatic perspective.

Class will be offered on Zoom on Thursday May 29th, 6:30-7:30pm PDT. Register [here](#). If needed, password is **Lilac City** (2 words).



HELPING CAPTIVES

Monday-Saturday

10-5pm

East 14415 Sprague Ave.

SAVE THE DATE

GOP calendar

[https://www.spokanegop.com/c](https://www.spokanegop.com/calendar)

alendar

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OUR WEBSITE  
HERE:**

<https://spokanegop.com>

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

## Ponderosa Republican Women

Vicki Carter, Director of the Spokane Conservation District, was the featured speaker at our May 13 meeting. A dream come true, the first year-round farmers market and agricultural hub will open on May 31 at 4422 E. 8th Avenue, Spokane Valley, 99212.

The Scale House Market at the Quarry, <https://spokanecd.org/pages/the-quarry>, is an innovative community space located in the heart of Spokane County. It "is designed to cultivate a thriving local economy and promote a healthier community." This project transformed a landmark building into our region's first permanent, year-round farmers market and agricultural hub. The market will feature 65+ farmers/small businesses generating \$14M in annual sales, 155 new jobs; hundreds more sustained through economic activity. This site will also be a regional hub for nutrition education, events, activities and cultural experiences with 249,000 visitors annually. In addition, it will also provide equitable access facilitating \$320,000+ in annual food assistance transactions, ensuring fresh, healthy food for all. Vendor opportunities include the seasonal open-air market, year-round mercantile, commercial learning kitchen and small business support.

Vicki is also involved with Vets on the Farm, located off the Palouse Highway on Spokane's South Hill. This program engages Veterans seeking a new mission and a way to transition back into civilian life through careers in agriculture, farming, ranching or other conservation-based industries.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10 from 11:30 to 1 p.m. at the Ruby River Hotel. Our speaker will be Chris Corry, Eastern WA Director of the Washington Policy Center. Details for the June meeting will be posted on the PRW website where you can make a reservation: [ponderosarepublicanwomen.com](https://ponderosarepublicanwomen.com). Guests are most welcome to attend.

Jan Grayhek, PRW President

## LEGISLATIVE WATCH

### Defend Faith, Family and Freedom by Taking Legislative Action!

Adapted from "WA state lawmakers passed a final budget, but what happens next?" By Simone Carter, *The News Tribune*. Read the entire article at <https://www.thenewstribune.com/news/politics-government/article306329776.html#storylink=cpy>

On April 27 Washington state lawmakers passed a final operating budget, concluding the legislative session, but the process isn't complete as Governor Bob Ferguson has until May 20 to approve, veto or partially veto it. Ferguson faces pressure to veto certain tax-related legislation and possibly call a special session to address state tax policy issues.

It remains to be seen how Ferguson will act on the legislature-approved operating budget. Two other state budgets, capital and transportation, await his signature, too. "I look forward to carefully reviewing the budgets line by line over the next few weeks," he said in an April 27 statement. "When that review is complete, I will share my thoughts with the public in greater detail."

**Four basic steps to the budget process:** <https://www.fiscal.wa.gov/BudgetBasics/BudgetProcess>

(1) Funding requests are submitted by Washington state agencies. (2) The requests are reviewed by the governor, who then prepares a budget proposal. (3) State lawmakers look over the governor's budget plan. Next they create and debate their own budget proposal before passing it and submitting it to the governor. (4) The governor and their team examine and analyze that budget. The governor can then sign it into law or veto it - or partially veto it. Now that the budget is on Ferguson's desk, Office of financial Management (OFM) subject-matter analysts are meeting with Ferguson regularly and offering suggestions to veto or sign budget items. Legal counsel will give explanations for each veto, and the message will be relayed to the Legislature. At the next legislative session, be it special or regular, lawmakers may move to override such vetoes with a two-thirds' vote.

The Seattle Times' editorial board last week urged Ferguson to veto at least one budget-related bill, and to call lawmakers back to Olympia for "course correction" on the state's tax policy.

**Budget deadlines:** The governor has 20 days, not counting Sundays, to sign or veto legislation passed in a session's final days. May 20 is the deadline for Ferguson to act on the budget. Another option, however unlikely: inaction. The budget could technically still become law if Ferguson opted to let it sit there — without signing or vetoing it — past the deadline. July 1 is when the signed, "enacted" budget would take effect.

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](mailto:terrizalevits@gmail.com).