MARCH 2023

SpokaneGOP

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

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.

Iobs, Economy and

Currency - We support balanced budgets, reduced regulations, limited taxation and Free Market, allowing growth to the individual and to the economy as a whole.

Education - We are dedicated to reaffirming the importance of safety for students and staff. We support a rigorous "back to basics" curriculum as determined by parents and local school

Keep and Bear Arms - You have the right to protect yourself against enemies both foreign and domestic.

National Sovereignty, Immigration and

Defense - We believe America must have the strongest national defense necessary to defend our borders, homes and national interests.

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.

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.

Healthcare - We believe that the best healthcare model is one with very limited government intervention, based around the principle of individual responsibility.

Chairman's

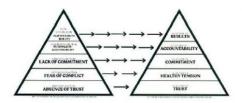
 $Property\ Rights$ - It is the right of all citizens to legally acquire, own, use and dispose of private property. It is your right to protect your property with reasonable force against another person who is threatening to infringe upon it.

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

How do we become an effective team? The last time I wrote, I discussed the foundation for trust. Remember the chart. If the Republican Party is going to start moving together as a team, we must lay the foundation of trust. I hope you are being a man or woman that is receiving and giving trust to your fellow Republicans.



What is the difference between unhealthy Tension and healthy Tension? Unhealthy Tension pulls a team apart. Healthy Tension brings us closer together. Here are a few thoughts to help us evaluate how we interact as a party.

UNHEALTHY TENSION

Unhealthy Tension is based on emotion

Unhealthy Tension is vague

Unhealthy Tension is demanding

Unhealthy Tension divides behind the scenes

Unhealthy Tension cuts.

Unhealthy Tension focuses on self-serving desires. Healthy Tension focuses on serving others.

Unhealthy Tension assigns motives. Unhealthy Tension holds a grudge.

Unhealthy Tension focuses on the past

HEALTHY TENSION

Healthy Tension is based on truth.

Healthy Tension is clear.

Healthy Tension respects differences.

Healthy Tension cordially challenges.

Healthy Tension sharpens.

Healthy Tension asks questions and then listens.

Healthy Tension forgives.

Healthy Tension moves forward.

Here is what I know – The mission is critical, the vision is clear, and the strategy will produce results. Let's build a culture of trust, healthy Tension, commitment, accountability, and results.

MISSION: Get Republicans Elected

VISION: Fill Every Seat in Spokane County with a REPUBLICAN

STRATEGY: Empower PCOs and their neighbors to be grassroots leaders in their

communities to win over people's hearts to conservative values.

God Bless, and God Bless, the United States of America.



Return on Investment by Juli Skinner

We [legally] acquire property by "trading" something of equal face-value for something of future value and/or profit. This is a return on investment. Non-monetary return: Vehicles = independence; homes = sanctuary; televisions (when blocking out liberal-media) = fulfilment. Our [private] property - our investment - is so paramount to our security, livelihood and well-being that laws are in place to protect it. But where do our [private] property lines and vehicle ownership end and public property begin? This city, this county, this state, this country - <u>are our property</u>. We support our communities and pay our taxes in exchange for a better life and the protection of a legacy for our children. That is the trade-off. That is what a return on investment looks like. Sadly, some of our leaders don't agree. They continue to make bad laws for a very small percentage of tax payers and allocate our tax dollars to programs borne of those bad laws. You don't have to align with either party to know something isn't working.

The very items we invest in are the very items we pay taxes on which fund programs we don't agree with. Our local property, real estate excise and sales tax (3% higher than our easterly neighbor) along with federal tax dollars help fund the educational system. The very institution that is destroying the parent-child bond by

indoctrinating a woke agenda upon countless vulnerable children. And the high fuel tax? It isn't enough to break us. Now Democrats are trying to impose a mileage tax as well. We are funding liberal causes and west coast roadways while we are still waiting for the Spokane North-South freeway to come along. Parks, libraries and local first responders seem to be the only solid defensible programs that most everyone can get on board with.

https://www.credit.com/blog/things-taxes-pay-for/#:~:text=Programs%20included%20under%2C%20but%20not,pandemic%2C%20this%20amount%20has%20increased. It isn't much better on the federal level. By 2037, Social Security is expected to be exhausted. Health care is a mess. Our military is a laughing stock, propagating diversity over strength. We are paying never-ending interest on the National debt. And federal retirees are taken care of for life while our Veterans get short-changed.

https://www.cbpp.org/sites/default/files/atoms/files/4-14-08tax.pdf

Where is our return on <u>our</u> investment? The woke mob in our state's legislature is giddy with supremacy while obfuscating the responsibility to normalcy. They sit on their high horses while the working class struggles to put food on their privately owned second-hand dinner tables. But the truth is, there is light at the end of the tunnel. We have expressed our desire to stop those woke legislators. If we can say it, we can do it. And we do it by voting for the right people who share our values. This is our state. This is our city. It's time we demand that our legislators work for us, the masses, not just the few. It's time to call in our investment.



The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

John Locke, the English Enlightenment thinker, gave us the philosophy of "life, liberty and property". His thinking was an extremely important influence on the Founders. His phrase originally made it into the Declaration of Independence until it was modified in a later draft to the "pursuit of happiness". The idea that every person had the right to govern their own life, to have unmolested liberty and to be able to own property was exceedingly uncommon in the 1600's.

It is particularly interesting to consider Locke's idea that property is a God-given right. We must remember that Great Britain and its colonies had a long, entrenched history of government by monarchy and the aristocratic hierarchy that left most of the population without any rights and no possibility

of ever owning their own property. Our Founding Fathers understood the vital importance of the right to own property, or in their words to pursue happiness. By their definition, happiness can only be attained through freedom. And freedom can only be truly understood through ownership.

Any parent knows that a switch will flip the first time their child spends their own money to purchase something. One may almost guarantee that this child will exhibit a new level of care and concern for something they have worked for and purchased through their own efforts. That principle easily expands to society at large. When we have ownership of anything, it is valued much more highly than something gained cheaply or given for free. Isn't it interesting that the

Davos crowd, our "betters" from the World Economic Forum (WEF), are pushing for humankind to own nothing?

Ownership creates stewardship. Owners, in general, are engaged and aware. They see their property as an investment that can be enlarged and improved and can give them the happiness of having achieved something worthwhile. One need look no further than the general condition of rental cars or rental homes to see the difference. Ownership, the right to own property and determine its use for yourself is a fundamental. Godgiven right. It is subtly being eroded every day through legislation, bureaucracy and the efforts of the WEF and their ilk. We dare not sleep on this lest we all end up renters and subjects of those that deem us unworthy of self-governance.

WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY

PRECINCT
COMMITTEE
OFFICERS
(PCOs)

Terms began - December 1, 2022.

If you do not know your Precinct number, you can find it at:

https://voter.votew
a.gov/

Submit your name and birthday & click registration link to get your precinct number.

PCOs are such important connections between the people and the candidates. Please let us know if you do not have a PCO in your precinct.

https://wsrp.org/as sets/uploads/2022/ 05/2022-PCO-Manual.pdf

Mould you consider volunteering

WA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Keep track of some of the "Good" and "Bad" bills in the legislature: WSRP Olympia Watch, https://wsrp.org/olympia-watch/. Watch the progress of the bills. Contact your legislators to voice your support or opposition. Your input is critical.

Find bills at http://leg.wa.gov. Add the bill number to get the text of a bill, a summary, when a public hearing will occur and videos of hearings. When a bill has passed out of one chamber, you can also see who voted "yea" and "nay" by clicking on View Roll Call.

Some Bills of Interest

(All have passed out of their house of origin; now in a committee of the other chamber)

HB 1240: Gun control; prohibits the manufacture, importation, distribution, sale, or offer for sale of any (what the Democrats call) "assault weapons" in Washington State.

Status: Passed in the House 55 (Ds) - 42 (40 Rs, 2 Ds).

SB 5078: Adding regulations on the firearm industry Status: Passed the Senate 28 (Ds)-21 (20 Rs, 1 D)

SB 5082: Would abolish advisory votes on ballots. Advisory votes were created by an initiative of the voters years ago. They let us know what taxes/fees the legislature has passed without a vote of the people. While our votes do not change the law, they let our legislators know whether or not we support the increases in taxes/fees.

Status: Passed the Senate 30 (29 Ds, 1 R)-18 (Rs)

<u>SB 5352</u>: Strengthening vehicular pursuit laws. Bill lowers the evidentiary requirement for vehicular pursuits so officers can pursue in more situations than current laws allow.

Status: Passed out of the Senate 26-23 with strong bipartisan support and opposition. Republicans as a whole would like a stronger law but it is an improvement over current law. Democrats opposed to the bill like the current laws which make vehicular pursuit for any violation very limited.

SB 5536: Controlled substances; increasing penalties for knowing possession, creates pretrial diversion program, jail sentences for those refusing substance disorder treatment. Bill in response to the Blake decision.

Status: Passed out of the Senate 28-21 with strong bipartisan support and opposition.

SB 5599: Gender care without parental notice or consent for runaway or homeless youth

Status: Passed Senate 27 (Ds) -19 (Rs)

The rest of the riparian story

Excerpts from a column originally published February 23, 2023 in The Spokesman-Review, reprinted by permission of the author, Sue Lani Madsen. Follow at suelanimadsen.substack.com.

When a bill affecting salmon, water, tribal sovereignty, private property rights and agriculture makes it out of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee on a unanimous vote, it's not a miracle. It's the result of a year of hard work involving all stakeholders parking their egos, working collaboratively and building trust. We need more legislative leadership like this, because we're not getting it out of the executive branch. HB1720 established a carefully crafted, fully voluntary, regionally focused riparian grant program to protect, improve and restore the ecological functions of critical riparian management zones.

According to a media release from the House Republicans, "This bill is truly a citizen driven and written piece of legislation, led by legislators who represent the values and culture of salmon as well as the agricultural industry," said Rep. Debra Lekanoff, D-Anacortes, co-sponsor of the bill.

And from Rep. Mike Chapman, D-Port Angeles, prime sponsor of the legislation, "The bill has garnered strong support and has gained numerous co-sponsors, but it began with the good faith and genuine trust of two Democrats and two Republicans."

(Continued on page 5)

The rest of the riparian story (Continued from page 4)

When the House Republican Caucus is releasing statements highlighting the work of two Democrats, you know it's a bi-partisan bill.

"Protecting private property rights and restoring riparian habitat for the benefit of salmon do not have to be mutually exclusive," said co-sponsor Rep. Joel Kretz, R-Wauconda. "As a result of bipartisan work and trust, we have arrived at a proposal that is voluntary rather than regulatory. This is a win for salmon recovery and restoration, and it's a win for farmers, ranchers, and private property owners who want to see riparian improvements on their land."

Testimony at the hearing before the AGNR on February 7 was overwhelmingly in support of passing HB1720, except for Ruth Musgrave of the Governor's office. (Bill text and video of the February 7 public hearing). But let's get down to what Gov. Inslee really objects to. It's not HIS bill. It would put policy in place giving communities responsibility and control instead of statewide approach HE controls. This wasn't a contest between Democrats and Republicans, this is a showdown between the Executive and the Legislative branches. HB1720 is dead. Inslee won.

SAVE THE DATES

Saturday August 19 2023
UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY

10 AM
Spokane River Front Park

CONTACT US

www.SpokaneGOP.com

FIND US

<u>Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP</u> <u>YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP</u> <u>Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP</u>

SUPPORT US

https://www.spokanegop.com/donate

PROPERTY RIGHTS

Property Rights were considered so important by the drafters of the Washington Constitution that art. I, § 3 states that "[n]o person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." Article I, § 16 provides that "[n]o private property shall be taken or damaged for public or private use without just compensation having been first made[.]"

In spite of the clear edict that private property cannot be deprived by the government without due process, the past couple of years have exposed Governor Jay Inslee and Attorney General Bob Ferguson for the petty tyrants they are. The Governor declared a state of emergency that lasted for 975 days and which enabled him to suspend or otherwise ignore property rights.

On February 23, the Washington Supreme Court heard oral arguments in Gonzales, et al. v. Inslee and State of Wash., which addressed questions pertaining to issues of delegation authority of the legislature, the separation of powers doctrine, violations of the takings clause of the Washington Constitution, and impairment to contracts. Basically the case seeks judicial determination of whether the Governor can legally require landlords to provide free housing to tenants during an emergency, as he did during our recent two-year emergency period.

Medical licenses were suspended or revoked during the emergency period simply for providing medical care or advice that differed from the accepted narrative of vaccination. Never mind that the vaccination is "leaky" (Vaccine does not suppress mutation of the virus) and requires periodic (continuous?) boosters.

Washington ranks near the bottom (45th out of 50) in the Emergency Powers Scorecard promulgated by the Maine Policy Institute, as Washington law does not limit gubernatorial powers with legislative oversight or approval; nor does it provide an automatic time limitation on emergency declarations. Moreover, the courts have been loath to put any sort of meaningful limitations on emergency powers, leaving it to the sole discretion of the governor.

On March 11, it will be illegal to own an un-serialized firearm ("ghost gun") that was made after July 1, 2019. The only options? Get your ghost gun serialized, or destroy it. Additionally, citizens and businesses will no longer be able to sell unfinished frames or receivers ("80% lowers") without getting them serialized, even though they are not firearms. Gun store owners are already being impacted, as insurance providers are refusing to cover stores that possess or offer for sale unfinished lowers. If you own such an item, I encourage you to find legal representation to determine your rights.

Austin Hatcher, a Spokane native and attorney served as an officer in the United States Marine Corps prior to law school. He focuses on constitutional matters and business law. He works with Silent Majority Foundation, a nonprofit focused on protecting individual rights. He can be reached at: austin@hatcherlawpllc.com.

Ponderosa Republican Women, PRW http://www.PonderosaRepublicanWomen.com

House Republicans

https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/2021/02/01/how-you-can-be-involved-in-the-legislative-process/

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. If interested in helping with the Communications Committee or submitting work, you <u>MUST</u> meet the submission deadline. Contact Terri for more information at <u>terrizalevits@gmail.com</u>.