

Chairman's Chat

Chairwoman, M.J. Bolt,
SCRCC Chair/CEO

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

Next 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.



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[SpokaneGOP.com](https://spokaneGOP.com) and
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GOP

Happy February 2024! This year is certainly starting off with a bang!

With the news of Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers not seeking re-election this year, the phones have been ringing off the hook with much buzz and speculation on who will run and who best to fill her shoes. We first want to say "Thank You" to our Congresswoman and honor her for her many years of service. "We appreciate the last twenty years that you have served our region and our nation. We pray for a rich blessing on you and your family".

Our 2024 Spokane County Republican Convention is right around the corner as well, being held on March 2nd at Valley Assembly of God. We have been busy prepping for that! Excitingly, we have both Republican Gubernatorial Candidates confirmed to speak during the morning session, and will hopefully have remarks from other state Republican candidates. If you haven't registered yet, please go to: <https://convention.spokaneGOP.com/> or to our main website @ spokaneGOP.com

What an electric time! Delegates at the March 2 County Convention will be electing delegates to the State Convention to be held on April 18-20. And, for the first time ever, that will be an "Endorsement Convention". In addition to electing delegates to the National Convention, they will be voting to endorse Republican candidates for the 9 state-wide races as well as for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. You can learn more by listening to this video provided by Lisa Evans, our WSRP Vice Chair: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZ6uDuYWIjo&t=603s> or by going to <https://wsrp.org/convention/>.

We hope you will participate in this process and be engaged! It behooves us all to talk with our family, friends and neighbors on the importance of this election year – 2024! We need everyone's involvement to be successful! Blessings to you and your family and may God bless Spokane, Spokane County, Washington State and our great nation!

Women's Healthcare is a Euphemism for Abortion

By Juli Skinner

What is healthcare? More importantly: What is women's healthcare? It is any medical care that addresses mental, physical or emotional needs specific to a woman, or, female.

There is no argument that a pregnancy is considered necessary healthcare. But since pregnancy cannot exist without a baby, many of us cannot comprehend how abortion could possibly be considered healthcare if there is no care for the unborn child. The blanket term, "abortion is healthcare", lends an expansive, absolute resolution, essentially giving every woman a free pass to terminate her pregnancy at any time for any reason.

To be clear, we would be remiss if "exceptions" were not at least factored into the healthcare debate. Women (and girls) who face rape, incest and risks to mother or unborn baby are forced into predicaments that they had no say in. They deserve our sympathy and understanding. Compassion stops however, when the choice of abortion is a frivolous elective.

While we cannot occupy the emotions of a woman facing the choice of abortion, we also cannot factor in "need" because it dilutes the current argument against the abortion-on-demand program. The debate isn't or at least shouldn't be about "exceptions", it should be about two lives (or more) and the extinguishing of one life (or more) because he or she is an interference or irritation. A benign mole on a woman's face may be bothersome and can easily be removed but insurance doesn't normally cover such a procedure because it doesn't typically fall under

"healthcare"; requests must "be for the purpose of evaluating, diagnosing or treating an illness, injury, disease..." Like a benign mole, pregnancy is not an illness, injury or disease. Like a benign mole, removal of a fetus, which just happens to have a detectable heartbeat at 5-6 weeks, is an elective surgery and does not meet the criteria under medical need. We can therefore deduce that **Abortion is an elective surgery.**

How did we get here in such a desensitized state? We are living with people in this country who vehemently fight for the right to casually [kill] terminate an innocent growing life. If it wasn't bad enough to camouflage horrible acts with an ostensibly innocuous term, we are then scolded for not accepting abortion as a necessity. Look. Look at what we are terminating.




As early as 12-16 weeks (3-4 months), the "mass of cells" start resembling a human baby and shortly after (or maybe earlier), we believe that they can feel pain. We can tell ourselves that they do not feel pain just so we can sleep at night but what if we are wrong? If you are up to it, research what they do in an abortion. Research the complete disregard to life and the apathetic character of some doctors who perform the procedures. It is shocking. If we do not want to look at the pictures or read the horror stories, then that means we know it is wrong. If we know it is wrong, then it becomes real and except for "need", it becomes tabu.

GOD walks with you.

FROM OUR WSRP CHAIR, JIM WALSH: "The main measure of success here is simple: At the precinct caucuses, get good people elected as delegates to the county conventions. But there are other goals, too. Attract new people to WAGOP. Give them a forum. Encourage new and existing activists about WAGOP policies and candidates. Energize them to stay engaged through November. And beyond."

At the County Conventions, delegates will be elected to the WAGOP State Convention to be held in Spokane April 18-20. As Jim Walsh said: "This will be a State Convention unlike any other in years. The delegates (2,500 are planned) will nominate and endorse Republican candidates for the nine statewide executive positions (Governor, LT. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Commissioner of Public Lands, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Insurance Commissioner), the 10 U.S. Congress positions and the one U.S. Senate position on the ballot in 2024." All State positions, 7 of the 10 Congressional seats and the one Senator up for re-election are Democrats. It is important that we all get involved and nominate excellent candidates that support our GOP principles; candidates that will have our support and can raise the funds to get elected.



The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

My husband is in the business of health care. For the last twenty plus years we have had an up-close and personal view of the decline of our once great medical system. Thankfully there are still some good care facilities and many committed and qualified care providers, but the decline is drastic. COVID both exposed and exacerbated the growing problems in our system.

I was screaming at the top of my lungs, along with many others, about the gigantic problems with Obamacare before it was passed. As usual, the well-reasoned warnings fell on the deaf ears of mostly well-meaning Democrats who are short sighted and consequence averse. As predicted, the cost of health care has skyrocketed while accessibility has declined. Many doctors have retired early to end their constant frustration. Shortages exist across multiple specialties that were worsened by COVID. Hospitals have consolidated and pushed many doctors out of private practice which has also resulted in reduced time spent with patients, long wait times for appointments, difficulty finding primary care and the closure of many rural hospitals and clinics that simply couldn't afford to stay open. Add to the mix the blatant lawless invasion across our southern border and our flailing system has been pushed to the brink of collapse in the border states. Nor should we forget that almost constant shortage of nurses.

Often, we react angrily toward our doctors blaming them for the skyrocketing costs, without understanding the driving forces behind it. Obamacare has mandated care that we all must pay for whether we want the coverage or not. (i.e. trying to force the Little Sisters of the Poor to pay for abortion coverage and birth control). Government is the main force driving costs because insurance companies always take their cues from the government. If Medicare/Medicaid won't reimburse providers then insurance companies follow suit. The result is that "paying customers" end up covering the costs for the under- and un-insured and providers have to inflate their costs to get sufficient payment to keep their doors open. It is a ruthless game that leaves doctors and patients subject to the whims of government and administrative bureaucrats who have no business making medical decisions for any of us.

The long and the short of it is that we have lost our freedom when it comes to health care. While the demands upon health care workers have increased in the extreme, pay has remained flat while the current climate adds layers of expensive "administrators" who do little to effect positive patient outcomes. Furthermore, administrators, insurance companies and the government determine how and when we can receive care. All the wrong people are making all the wrong decisions when you and I should be able to make a decision with our doctor. As always, freedom is the answer. The only solution to our problems is to get the government out of our business. That is the only thing that will restore our country to the pinnacle of health care that it was once.

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.votewa.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/assets/uploads/2022/05/2022-PCO-Manual.pdf>

Would you consider volunteering?

Past candidates:

KEEP FIGHTING.

WE NEED YOU.

Healthcare – it's complicated

Health care reform has been a political slogan generator for more than a decade. Repeal and Replace! Medicare for All! Democrats tried reforming health care through the Affordable Care Act, stuffing everything into a single bloated bill. Speaker Nancy Pelosi was pilloried for saying we'd have to "pass it to know what's in it." Republicans tried repealing the whole thing, knowing it wouldn't go anywhere with a Democrat still in the White House. Small reforms passed quietly with bipartisan support. A few substantial health care bills made it out of the Republican Congress to be signed by a Democratic president. The 21st Century Cures Act, co-sponsored by Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, was an example of that bipartisanship.

Then the White House changed hands in 2016.

After politicizing the massive size of the ACA and its accompanying regulations, Republicans tried an incremental strategy. Instead of one big bill to repeal and replace, there would be a series of bills, each dependent on the others to provide the complete reform but able to pass through regular order. That was the theory. In practice, it bogged down and created a lot of small targets for Democratic partisans to politicize. There's consensus on keeping Medicare for the elderly. We know there are fragile families in our communities. We want everyone to have access to health care. But nobody believes anybody's claims anymore. The truth is, the ACA did not deliver on promised savings. The new slogan is "Medicare for All!" But it has a big price tag, adding more than \$32 trillion to the federal budget in its first 10 years. The current system relies on a mix of Medicare and private insurance to cover costs. Medicare pays about 40 percent of what private insurance pays. Low reimbursements are already hurting Medicare-dependent rural hospitals. Even without expansion, Medicare is not sustainable without major changes. We still need health care reform, and there's one big idea with bipartisan support. Convincing the Senate to pass HR 372, the Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2017, would be a start. Trouble is, there's no group providing pressure. Bipartisan ideas don't let anyone score points. They're complicated.

The rest of the story: "The bill attracted 20 House cosponsors, all Republicans, and was approved 416–7 by the House in March. Republicans approved the bill unanimously, while Democrats voted in favor 181–7." The bill was referred to the Senate Judiciary - and allowed to die by Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa).

Excerpt from a column first published November 3, 2018 in The Spokesman-Review. For the complete column see

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2018/nov/03/sue-lani-madsen-healthcare-its-complicated/>.

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<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/115/hr372/summary>

2024 Washington Gubernatorial Election

***Primary election - August 6, 2024**

***General election - November 5, 2024.**

WE DESERVE THE GOVERNMENT WE GET.

If we do not come together and stand against the harmful Radical Democrat policies, we will be trapped within the walls of a pure Democratic country and all who are in the minority will not benefit from good representation. Who is in the minority? Us. Conservatives. We believe in fiscal responsibility, the freedom to speak, the right to protect our children from pornography and pedophiles, being masters of our own household, the Constitution, the right to bear arms, the freedom to drive a gas-powered vehicle at reasonable prices, heating our homes with natural gas and on and on...! At this time, there are no Democrats worthy of a vote for this state. Inslee and his entourage have been disasters to our state, dragging us into a communistic society while thumbing their noses at us; the people struggling the most. He (they) could not go soon enough.

Both sides of the political spectrum tend to fearmonger every election year but at no time in recent history have we needed sound leadership more. VOTE REPUBLICAN. VOTE SANITY.

BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, IT'S HERE; THE PRIMARY ON AUGUST 6TH 2024.

Republican Candidates for Governor

[Semi Bird](#) (endorsed by the Spokane County GOP) AND [Dave Reichert](#)

In April, a planned 2,500 delegates nominate and endorse Republican candidates for all state offices at the WSRP Convention in Spokane. Visit SpokaneGOP.com for more information or interest in being a delegate for County/State Conventions. You do not have to be a delegate to attend both conventions but only delegates may vote.

WHY **VOTE?** BECAUSE THEY DO!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SAVE the GOP
calendar

Tuesday, 12 March
2024

Presidential Primary

April 19 - April 21,
2024

WA State Republican
Convention
Spokane

July 15 - July 18,
2024

Republican National
Convention

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https://www.spokanegop.com/gop_newsletters.

WATCH FOR UPDATES IN WASHINGTON: The legislative session ends on March 8. All six initiatives have qualified for the November ballot. The legislature has three choices: 1. Pass them into law. 2. Propose another ballot measure on the same topic and both would appear on the November ballot. 3. Do nothing and they will be on the November ballot. The six initiatives are the following: **I-2113, REASONABLE POLICE PURSUIT; I-2117, STOP THE HIDDEN GAS TAX; I-2124, OPT OUT OF STATE-RUN LONG TERM CARE COVERAGE ACT; I-2109, REPEAL THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX; I-2111, NO STATE INCOME TAX; I-2081, PARENTAL NOTIFICATION.** [GOP Facebook page](#)

For more policy issues and petitions, go to <https://letsqowashington.com/>.

Washington Democrats were trying to pass **House Bill 1868** outlawing certain gas-powered landscape equipment including riding lawn mowers and leaf blowers. Violations would have included a \$10,000 fine and/or up to a year in jail! Fortunately, it did not pass the House...this time BUT, that won't stop them from bringing another one forward. Inslee-era climate change laws will continue to emerge despite any evidence that we need them. The so-called American Lung Association report, bashing Spokane's air quality for example, is suspect. (We do have a prolific fire season but 250 days of the year are good!) Inslee no doubt jumped on that report to encourage his equally dishonest Democrats to pass laws based on a tiny sampling. The report concluded that our poor air quality is "short-term particle pollution". Got to do deep dives into the information before we come to conclusions people.

Time to Take Action. Spokane GOP Legislative Action Committee: Now that the Washington legislature is meeting until March 8, we need your help. Please sign up to receive weekly emails with information about proposed bills that we support or oppose. https://www.spokanegop.com/legislative_action_team_sign_up
You can contact legislators if you would like to.

LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Washington Legislature regular session lasts until March 8. Access House priorities at <https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/our-priorities/>. Keep track of "Good", "Bad" and the "Ugly" 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 # to get the text, 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.

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 **MUST** meet the submission deadline. Contact Terri for more information at terrizalevits@gmail.com.

PLEASE visit Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP. Like. Comment. Share. The more you like and share, the more Facebook will increase our circulation and the more people we will reach.