

LP News



Election Results, Pages 5-6

In This Issue:

- Chair's Corner.....2
- Notable Donors3
- GOP Spending Soars3
- GA Ballot Access Lawsuit.....4
- Trump Hypocritical on Saudis.....4
- November Election Results.....5-6
- New LP Lifetime Member6
- SCOTUS Rally for Fair Debates...7
- Disastrous War on Opioids.....8
- LP Convention Packages.....9-11
- Priceless LP History10
- LP Chair on Texas Shooting.....11
- #ProudlyLP Selfie Photos.....12
- Affiliate Updates.....13-15
- Media Buzz.....16

Libertarian Party wins 18 races in November

On Nov. 7, the Libertarian Party won 18 races for public office, continuing an upward trend in the number of voters who support the party. Last year, the Libertarian Party set its all-time record in presidential elections when the ticket of Gov. Gary Johnson and Gov. Bill Weld won nearly 4.5 million votes from all 50 states.

“The LP is succeeding in maintaining that forward momentum in the 2017 off-year elections through a focus on building the party by winning local races,” said Nicholas Sarwark, chair of the Libertarian National Committee.

The 18 Libertarian candidates who won office on Nov. 7 are:

- **Jim Turney** — Altamonte Springs City Commission (Florida)
- **Andy LeCureaux** — Hazel Park City Council (Michigan)
- **Christopher Nance** — Carthage Town

- **Trishanda Barhorst** — Pleasant Hill Council (Ohio)
- **Jerry Nance** — Exeter Township School Director (Pennsylvania)

continued on page 7...

New recruitment specialist to help 2,000 candidates run in 2018

Our goal for 2018 is ambitious: to have three times as many Libertarian candidates on ballots as we did in 2014. That means we need to recruit well in excess of 2,000 candidates nationwide. Cara Schulz, the Libertarian National Committee's new candidate recruitment specialist, is critical to our ability to pursue aggressive growth and these ambitious goals.

Schulz has not only managed other people's campaigns at federal, state, and local levels, but has personally run for public office and won.

After her first attempt fell short in 2014, she ran again in 2016 for Minnesota's Burnsville City Council (population 61,630) and won. Although the position is officially nonpartisan, she defeated opponents that had been endorsed by the the Republican and Democratic parties and supported by the Chamber of Commerce. Schulz will continue her service on the council and will work for the LNC from Minnesota.

Schulz has more than two decades of experience in sales and sales

management, mostly working with remote teams. That experience will come in handy as she faces the monumental task of helping our affiliates nationwide recruit 2,000 candidates for office in 2018!

In 2016, Schulz knocked on more than 22,000 doors in five months while campaigning for herself and while serving as the state director for the Gov. Gary Johnson / Gov. Bill Weld campaign. She won't accept many excuses. She's the kind of person we need to rally libertarians to run for office nationwide.

If you are even remotely considering running for something in 2018, please express your interest today here: LP.org/run

Schulz can be reached at cara.schulz@LP.org, and she wants to help as many of you as possible run for office in 2018.

“Thank you for stepping forward instead of sitting on your hands,” Schulz said. “Thank you for speaking up instead of being silent. Thank you for fighting and not giving up. We do this because we believe in personal freedom, personal responsibility, private property, free markets, and non-aggression.”



Cara Schulz

CHAIR'S **Corner**

Libertarians like you grow the party

By Nicholas Sarwark, Chair

Did you know that the Libertarian Party is going into 2018 in the best financial position for an odd-numbered year in more than a decade? Did you know that we've expanded staff with a full-time press secretary and two full-time positions to support our goal of running more than 2,000 Libertarian candidates across the country? Did you know that our ballot access victories make 50-state ballot access in 2018 an achievable goal?

All of this great news is because of you. You have supported the Libertarian Party in its work to shine a light for human freedom in an era of partisan bickering and horrible behavior from our opponents in both of the two old parties. You have stood up as a Libertarian fighting for all freedoms, for all people, all of the time. You have provided the activism and the energy that has inspired more people to vote Libertarian in the last election than ever before. You are the most important person in the Libertarian Party.

So many of you stepped up to run for office in 2017, in special elections, local elections, and regular elections in states like New Jersey and Virginia. You gave your friends and neighbors in your community the opportunity to vote for a Libertarian who stands for freedom instead of the tired options from the two old parties. That's one of the best things you can do to build up the Libertarian Party. Thank you.

Tickets are selling fast for the Libertarian Nation-



Nicholas Sarwark

al Convention in New Orleans from June 30 – July 3, 2018. Libertarians from all across the country will come together as delegates from their states to make changes to the platform and bylaws and elect a new Libertarian National Committee. Party business is important and worthy of your time and effort if you feel strongly about the direction of the Libertarian Party, but we should never lose sight of our shared goal of a world set free in our lifetime.

The national convention is the largest gathering of Libertarian Party members in the country, but it will still have fewer people than most of the districts that Libertarian candidates will run in during 2018. The impact you can make on your community by running as a Libertarian for public office vastly exceeds the impact that can be made by convincing a room full of Libertarians to change their mind on a platform or bylaws proposal. Both are important, but maintaining the proper perspective about which will have greater change is necessary if we want our party to be successful.

The holiday season is a time to reflect on what we are thankful for. I am thankful for so many dedicated Libertarian Party members willing to put their time, money, and effort into creating a better country for their children and grandchildren. Your efforts are an inspiration to me and to so many new Libertarians who will emulate your example and help grow the Libertarian Party into a major force in American politics. Thank you.

Yours in liberty,

DONOR Appreciation

The following individuals became Chairman's Circle contributors:

William Perkins

The following individuals became Beacon of Liberty contributors:



John Stagliano

The following individuals became Pioneer of Freedom contributors:

David Pratt Demarest

Dr. George A. Zsidisin

The following individuals became Lifetime Founder contributors:

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David F. Nolan Memorial Office Fund

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Dr. George A. Zsidisin

Plaques recognizing our top building-fund donors (\$1,000 or more) are now on display at the Libertarian National Committee building in Alexandria, Va. To have your name appear on a plaque, or if you'd just like to help pay off the mortgage, mail in your donation or visit LP.org.

Contribute today: LP.org/office-fund

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LP News

The Libertarian Party (LP) and its state affiliates work to advance the right of individuals to be free, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal rights of others. The party runs candidates for public office, elects Libertarians, supports and opposes ballot measures, lobbies, and takes positions on public policy aimed at removing, reducing, and nullifying government laws, regulations, prohibitions, taxes, spending, debt, and foreign interventions.

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Los Alamos scientist Dr. Frank Clinard leaves legacy of liberty

By Lauren Daugherty
Head of Development

This year, the national Libertarian Party received a bequest of \$111,863 from Dr. Frank Clinard Jr., of Los Alamos, N.M.

Dr. Clinard spent 25 years working at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and his work as a research scientist and materials expert were respected worldwide. After retirement from Los Alamos, he taught materials engineering at the



Dr. Frank Clinard Jr.



New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. He was considered a world authority on radiation damage in materials.

Dr. Clinard was an active Libertarian since the 1970s. He ran for New Mexico

state Senate as a Libertarian in 1992, and later served as public relations director for the Libertarian Party of New Mexico.

“We are grateful for Dr. Clinard’s generosity to the Libertarian Party both during

his lifetime and now through this bequest,” said LNC Chair Nicholas Sarwark. “We’ll proudly add his name to the ‘Legacy Libertarians’ plaque that will be hung at headquarters in the near future.”

Legacy Libertarians are Libertarians who have designated the national Libertarian Party as a beneficiary in their will. These Libertarians leave a legacy of liberty, and their generosity helps the Libertarian Party grow for years to come.

Those who would like more information about the Legacy Libertarians program should contact Lauren Daugherty, the Libertarian National Committee’s head of development, at: Lauren.Daugherty@LP.org



Dr. George Zsidisin sponsors final room in LNC’s David F. Nolan memorial office

Several years ago, our national committee decided to purchase an office as a step toward a better financial future for the party. They chose a modest but nice building in Old Town Alexandria, and today it serves as headquarters for our national party. The mortgage payment on this building is far less than our previous monthly rent, and we are building equity.

In October, we hit the halfway point of paying off the mortgage on our office! We also received a sponsorship of the last of five sponsored rooms.

Dr. George A. Zsidisin of Virginia gave generously to



Dr. George Zsidisin

sponsor this last room and to help us further pay down the mortgage.

With his sponsorship of the final room at headquarters, Zsidisin said, “I am proud to be a Libertarian, and honored to provide this donation in support of our efforts in securing liberty and freedom in our great country. I look forward to continuing working with you in supporting Libertarian candidates being elected to office and spreading our message of freedom and small government.”

Many thanks to Zsidisin and all who have generously invested to help purchase our office. They are listed here: LP.org/office-fund-donors

If you’d like to join Zsidisin and these other devoted Libertarians and help accelerate paying off our mortgage, you can do so here: LP.org/office-fund

GOP federal spending soars – new boss, same old deficit

Federal spending keeps increasing every year, and the fiscal year 2017 numbers have soared to a record high. Furthermore, the budget deficit is once again on an upward trend. It’s difficult to fathom just how much money is at stake when those numbers reach into the multiple trillions, so Libertarian National Committee Chair Nicholas Sarwark argues that it makes more common sense to look at government spending in a more individual way.

“Rather than talk in billions and trillions of dollars for Federal deficits and spending, the magnitude of which is hard to grasp, I like to express the numbers in terms of dollars spent and borrowed per person,” Sarwark said. “In 2000, before the serious war spending in Afghanistan and Iraq began, per capita spending (dollars spent for every man, woman, and child in the country) was \$6,344. There was not a deficit that year. The budget showed a surplus of \$837 on a per capita basis.”

The federal government’s spending peaked in 2009 thanks to its “stimulus” spending, a foolhardy reaction to the recession. Tax revenues also dropped.

“Per capita spending ballooned by 81 percent to \$11,456, and per capita deficits exploded to \$4,603,” Sarwark said. “Keynesian academic economic prescriptions call for government spending to decrease during economic good times, but spending during the Obama ‘economic recovery years’ remained essentially flat through the end of his presidency.”

Ordinary people throughout the United States were continually told that the economy had recovered, but they didn’t feel it in their wallets or bank accounts.

“They voted to ‘drain the swamp’ and elected Donald Trump,” Sarwark said. “They bought the rhetoric that Republicans would cut federal spending, end Obamacare, and lower taxes. How has that worked out? Per

continued on page 8...

Libertarians challenge GA ballot access law in federal court

Georgia has long had insurmountable ballot access laws, but the Libertarian Party of Georgia and two potential LP congressional candidates have brought suit to challenge them in the U.S. Federal District Court in Atlanta. The lawsuit, filed on Nov. 21, challenges a state requirement that any political party receiving less than 20 percent of the votes for governor or 20 percent for president in the entire country must obtain notarized signatures from 5 percent of eligible voters in the district in order to place a congressional candidate on the ballot. This requirement has never been met, by any party.

The lawsuit against Georgia's secretary of state asks for a declaratory judgement enjoining the secretary from enforcing Georgia ballot law, and including LP congressional nominees on the general election ballot. The case argues that the state's current law violates both the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution, as well as the Equal Protection Clause.

The suit points out:

- No independent candidate for U.S. Representative from Georgia has ever qualified under the current law.
- About 20,000 valid signatures are required for each district. District lines are irregular and split up counties into multiple voting jurisdictions, making it difficult for voters to know which district is theirs. As a result, an unusually large number of signatures must be collected to ensure that the final list contains enough valid signatures. This signature requirement is higher than any other state.
- The secretary of state has delegated the validation process to counties with no validation standards, so each county makes up its own. That increases the need to col-



lect even more signatures to make up for any additional unknown margin of error.

- Collecting enough valid signatures using paid petitioners would cost around \$2.5 million dollars. Democrats and Republicans, meanwhile, retain ballot access with no cost at all.
- In addition to the signature requirement, a qualifying fee is assessed that would amount to \$73,080 statewide. This fee is higher than in any other state.
- Since the law was enacted in its present form, 27 candidates have announced their candidacies and then failed to obtain enough petition signatures. This includes an

attempt by former congressional Rep. Cynthia McKinney, who wanted to run as a Green Party candidate.

- As a result, 15 Republican and Democratic candidates have run unopposed from 2012 to 2016. That amounts to 36 percent of the state's candidates for U.S. representative running unopposed during that period, the highest percentage of any state in the country.
- Georgia is the only state with different petition signature requirements for statewide races and district races. Statewide races require signatures from only 1 percent of eligible voters, contrasted with 5 percent for district races. Numerous Libertarian Party candidates have run statewide. Four of them have received more than 30 percent of the vote, including Eric Hoskins, who garnered 33 percent of the votes for the Georgia Public Service Commission.

“The lack of a Libertarian Party option on the ballot is especially troublesome when one of the dinosaur parties fails to field a candidate or when neither the nominees of the Republican Party or the Democratic Party are particularly popular,” said Libertarian National Committee Executive Director Wes Benedict. “The 2016 presidential election comes to mind. A current example is the special election for senator in Alabama. Conservative voters in Alabama are faced with voting for a liberal Democrat they cannot support on policy and a Republican nominee tainted by allegations of sexual misconduct in his past. They can write in Libertarian Party candidate Ron Bishop, but a write-in campaign poses one more huge obstacle for voters who wish to vote for the candidate they really support. It's time for Republicans and Democrats to let go of their political duopoly and let voters have a third choice.”

Trump's hypocritical reversal on alliance with oppressive Saudi Arabia

During the 2016 presidential campaign, candidate Donald Trump posted on Facebook: “Saudi Arabia and many of the countries that gave vast amounts of money to the Clinton Foundation want women as slaves and to kill gays. Hillary must return all money from such countries!”

Once elected, Trump visited Saudi Arabia in his first presidential trip abroad. He received the red-carpet treatment and bowed while having an honorary collar placed around his neck by King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, a gesture for which he had ridiculed President Barack Obama only a few years earlier.

While hobnobbing with Saudi royalty, Trump signed off on a record sale of U.S. arms to Saudi Arabia of nearly \$110 billion. Those U.S.-made tanks, artillery, radar systems, armored personnel carriers, Black Hawk helicopters, ships, patrol boats, Patriot missiles, and THAAD missile defense systems are playing a big part



Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, Saudi Arabian King Salman, Melania Trump, and President Donald Trump.

in the Saudi war with neighboring Yemen. This means that U.S. military hardware is being used in a war that has reportedly killed 10,000 Yemenis and pushed 17 million to the edge of starvation.

Meanwhile, a palace coup has taken place within Saudi Arabia's ruling family. The king replaced Crown Prince Mohammad bin Nayef with his own son, Mohammad bin Salman. This new crown prince has arrested billionaire Prince Alwaleed

bin Talal and dozens of other princes, ministers, and former ministers. Many of their bank accounts have been frozen and many are being held prisoner in the Riyadh Ritz-Carlton.

“The United States has no business and no self-interest in selling lethal modern arms to an unstable medieval monarchy in the Middle East,” said Libertarian National Committee Chair Nicholas Sarwark. “It's folly for us to get involved in a civil war

in Yemen. It's even greater folly when that civil war appears to be a proxy war between Iran and Saudi Arabia for regional hegemony. U.S. military intervention has already contributed to massive human tragedy in Iraq, Libya and elsewhere in the Middle East. We don't need to add to that more suffering in Yemen.”

Waging war for political, ideological, or cultural reasons is horrifying enough, but government leaders also justify their mass killing as an opportunistic pretext for interfering in world markets.

“Maintaining the petrodollar and our access to Middle East oil is not worth the cost in blood and starvation visited upon the people of the region,” Sarwark continued. “And we can be pretty sure that whoever wins in the palace coups, civil wars and wars between countries will still sell us all the oil we need. It's time to heed the words of our founders: ‘peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none.’”

Libertarian Party Nov. 2017 election results

Name	Position	Total	Pct.	Name	Position	Total	Pct.
<u>Connecticut</u>							
William Russell	Norwich Mayor	338	6.5%	Tom Maciejewski	Berkeley Heights Town Council	780	9.8%
Richard Bright	Norwich City Council	504	1.8%	Dan Heitkamp	Hunterdon County Freeholder	1,617	4.0%
Nick Casiano	Norwich City Council	397	1.5%	Hisham Hamed	Manalapan Town Council	106	0.5%
Stacylynn Cottle	Norwich City Council	462	1.7%	John Ordille	Northfield City Council	122	5.0%
James Fear	Norwich City Council	598	2.2%	Michael Chazukow	West Milford Town Council	453	3.5%
Janice Loomis	Norwich City Council	464	1.7%	Jonathan Salzman	West Milford Town Council	379	2.9%
Justin Massaro	Norwich City Council	361	1.3%	Valerio Brusciannelli	Westfield Town Council	19	0.7%
Matt Radant	Plainfield Board of Education	620	12.6%	<u>New York</u>			
Dan Reale	Plainfield First Selectmen	211	7.7%	Mark Potwora	Batavia City Council At-Large	420	5.8%
<u>Florida</u>				Jim Rosenbeck	Batavia City Council At-Large	492	6.8%
Jim Turney	Altamonte Springs City Commission			Lisa Whitehead	Batavia City Council At-Large	498	6.9%
Sacha DuBearn	Coconut Grove Village Council	620	4.9%	Brian Waddell	Manhattan Borough President	4,409	1.8%
Zachary Elliott	Coconut Grove Village Council	882	7.0%	Alex Merced	New York City Comptroller	5,810	0.6%
Greg Eversole	Coconut Grove Village Council	605	4.7%	Don Garrity	New York City Council District 2	399	1.7%
Eduardo Nagy	Coconut Grove Village Council	513	4.0%	Aaron Commey	New York City Mayor	2,635	0.2%
<u>Michigan</u>				Devin Balkind	New York City Public Advocate	6,446	0.6%
Gregory Creswell	State House 1	334	3.3%	Derek Shepard	Onondaga County Legislature	1,647	28.5%
Scotty Boman	Detriot Police Commissioner	3,945	39.1%		District 13		
Andy LeCureaux	Hazel Park City Council	794	19.1%	Rich Purtell	Owego Town Council	719	11.4%
<u>Minnesota</u>				Chris Edes	Rochester City Council	1,459	1.2%
Charlie Gers	Minneapolis Mayor	1,232	1.2%	Chris Garvey	Suffolk County District Attorney	4,295	1.5%
Dana Hansen	Minneapolis City Council Ward 4	217	4.1%	Peter Krauss	Suffolk County Sheriff	4,613	1.6%
Dave Holsinger	Minneapolis City Council Ward 8	387	4.9%	Christopher McLouth	York Town Justice	98	6.1%
Peter Berthlesen	New Brighton City Council	325	3.7%	<u>Ohio</u>			
Christopher Clark	St. Anthony City Council	86	2.0%	Trishanda Barhorst	Pleasant Hill City Council	147	30.4%
Chris Holbrook	St. Paul Mayor	854	1.4%	<u>Pennsylvania</u>			
Roger Parras	St. Peter City Council	243	19.4%	Marc Bozzacco	Abington Township Commissioner	9	0.9%
<u>North Carolina</u>					Ward 6		
Christopher M. Nance	Carthage Town Commissioner	73	19.8%	Debby Rabold	Carbon County Magisterial	436	15.0%
Steve DiFiore	Charlotte City Council At-Large	21,458	5.1%		District Judge 56-3-03		
Jeff Scott	Charlotte City Council District 6	1,297	5.3%	John Burd	Coal Township Commissioner	193	8.0%
Walt Rabon	Four Oaks Town Commissioner	78	9.6%	Ryan Bourniski	Coal Township Commissioner	171	7.0%
Rev. John T. Brantley	Princeton City Council	10	9.5%	Edward Clifford	Delaware County Council	2,040	0.8%
<u>New Hampshire</u>				Matt Wallace	Delaware County Sheriff	2,818	2.3%
Robert Call	Keene Mayor	488	19.3%	Jerry Geleff	Exeter Township School Director	61	100%
Joseph LaChance	Manchester School Board	1,115	38.5%	Demo Agoris	Houston Borough Town Council	68	52.7%
<u>New Jersey</u>				Jake Towne	Lower Nazareth Judge of Elections	218	95.6%
Peter Rohrman	Governor	10,251	0.5%	Jake Towne	Lower Nazareth Town Auditor	285	99.3%
Karese Laguerre	Lt. Governor	10,251	0.5%	Mike Hoak	Perry County Coroner	1,983	25.2%
Jim Tosone	State Senate 39	548	0.9%	Greg Perry	Rome Township Auditor		
Dan Krause	State Assembly 12	924	0.9%	Vincent Stoops	Selinsgrove Borough Mayor	29	13.0%
Anthony Storrow	State Assembly 12	1,001	0.9%	Matt Schutter	South Whitehall Judge of Elections		
Eveline Brownstein	State Assembly 13	453	0.3%	Jason Aucker	Spring Township Auditor	77	98.7%
Claudio Belusic	State Assembly 37	373		Drew Bingaman	Sunbury Constable 6th Ward		
				Jennifer Moore	Upper Providence Township Auditor	496	97.2%
				James Fryman	Victory Township Supervisor	48	100.0%
				David Moser	York City Mayor	1	0.6%

continued on page 6...

New LP Lifetime Member says 'now is the time to become involved'

By Jess Mears
Development Manager

Meet Robert Imhoff, one of the Libertarian Party's newest Lifetime Members! Imhoff lives in San Jose, Calif., with his wife, Jinni, and their daughter.

Imhoff never fit into the model of the two-party system. He first learned about libertarianism when he called into a Las Vegas conservative radio station and explained that he was politically homeless. After talking through the issues, the radio show host declared, "sounds like you are a Libertarian." After some research, Imhoff agreed and has identified as a Libertarian for 17 years.

Imhoff became actively involved with the Libertarian Party during the 2016 election cycle. He donated to the campaign of Gov. Gary Johnson and Gov. Bill Weld, and then looked for volunteering opportunities with the campaign. Robert took a week off from work and drove more than 1,000 miles around California to promote the Johnson/Weld campaign. He enjoyed seeing new parts of California along the way. In the week before the election, he helped organize a large rally for Gov. Johnson in Sacramento.

Imhoff has continued his activism since the campaign.

"I have been voted onto my county's Libertarian Party board and onto the California Libertarian Party executive committee," he said. "In these roles, I have cut IT spending by \$3,000 per year, while upgrading our party to the latest technology."

Imhoff also helps with a monthly outreach booth in Santa Clara County, which



has recruited 100 new members for the state party.

Imhoff's goal as a leader with the California LP is to polish the party's presentation to the public. He said he hopes that others will realize that "now is the time to become involved, run for office, or just start talking more freely about this great movement."

Thank you, Robert, for your active support of the Libertarian Party both as a volunteer and as a Lifetime Member!

Lifetime Membership dues are currently \$1,500. If you'd like to join Imhoff as a Lifetime Member of the Libertarian Party, visit LP.org/lifetime to make a donation.

If you would prefer to stretch your membership dues out over the course of a year, you have that option!

Visit LP.org/lifetime-monthly to start a monthly donation toward your Lifetime Membership. Lifetime Members are listed at LP.org/libertarian-party-lifetime-members on our website. As a Lifetime Member, your membership will never expire. You'll receive a lifelong subscription to *LP News* and the prestigious Lifetime Membership pin.



Robert Imhoff

Libertarian Party November 2017 election results

...continued from page 5

Name	Position	Total	Pct.
Texas			
Ed Tidwell	Lago Vista Mayor	1,121	66.7%
Utah			
Joe Buchman	US House 3	2,372	2.2%
Apollo Pazell	Copperton Metro Township	110	37.8%
Virginia			
Cliff Hyra	Governor	29,303	1.1%
Will Hammer	State House 20	745	2.8%
Jake Crocker	State House 69	1,931	6.8%
Terry Hurst	State House 89	2,941	15.0%

Name	Position	Total	Pct.
Michael Bartley	State House 94	675	2.8%
Washington			
Michelle Darnell	State Senate 48	5,474	32.1%
Ciaran Dougherty	State House 48 Position 1	5,966	26.5%
John Schryvers	Anacortes City Council Position 5	414	17.2%
Joseph Cimaomo	Covington City Council Position 4	1,444	70.0%
Jennifer Hesse	Everett City Council Position 3	2,761	32.9%
Paul Addis	Kent City Council Position 2	4,814	45.1%
Robert Motzer	Lacey City Council Position 6	1,501	29.3%
Kevin Cline	Long Beach City Council Position 4	151	58.6%
Ed Pace	Spokane Valley City Council Position 4	4,139	41.0%
James Blair	Yelm City Council Position 7	317	45.0%

LNC executive director calls for fair debates at SCOTUS rally

Libertarian National Committee Executive Director Wes Benedict delivered this address at the Oct. 26 rally in front of the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building in Washington, D.C., as part of a rally organized by Gov. Gary Johnson and the Our America Initiative.

By Wes Benedict
Executive Director

I'm Wes Benedict, executive director of the Libertarian Party.

Libertarians want to make America more prosperous, friendlier, and fairer for everyone, and we think we can deliver that with free markets, civil liberties, and peace.

Libertarians welcome both good conservatives and good liberals. We welcome people of faith who are motivated by love, who use persuasion rather than government force to pursue their values. Libertarians reject the type of twisted religious ideologues who are motivated by hate and ignorance, who would throw peaceful marijuana users in jail, and who are quicker to go to war than to forgive their enemies.

Libertarians are disappointed that Republicans never ever cut government spending.

Libertarians welcome creatives, idealists, and the unenvious who step up and do work that helps other people — but who avoid using government power that forces others to help.

Libertarians are disappointed by the number of modern wars started by both Democrats and Republicans.

Americans are disgusted with our president, our Congress, the Republican Party, and the Democratic Party. They want more choices. As it happens, there are more choices, and good organizations like the League of Women Voters and many news outlets give Libertarians and other under-



dog candidates a fair chance. They include Libertarians in debates for campaigns that include everything from governor and Congress down to local offices — but not for president!

Ross Perot was allowed to debate, but that turned the national Republican and Democratic parties into a bunch of chickens.

It's time to break apart the corrupt two-party presidential debate system, and to open up the process so that it includes Libertarians, Greens, and independents.

Recent presidential debates have lacked substance. I didn't care whether Hillary Clinton planned the invasion of Libya using her personal email, or her government

email account. Instead, I wanted a Libertarian to get the chance to explain why our government should have stayed out of Libya altogether.

I don't care whether our president tweets too much! I do care whether he abuses his power, violates our civil liberties, and lacks even the most basic economic literacy.

The Libertarian Party is the third largest political party in America. We don't have loads of political favors to hand out. We fight because we care.

In 2016, the Libertarian Party fielded not only the most qualified presidential ticket in our party's history, but also the most qualified ticket of any party in the

2016 presidential race: Gov. Gary Johnson and Gov. Bill Weld.

Today, we're on the steps of the Supreme Court asking for help. But, whether we win or lose this battle for the presidential debates, Libertarians vow to field our largest nationwide army of candidates ever in 2018, and we won't be stopped from providing a better choice for America because of the tricks and barriers placed in our way by the two old parties.

Visit LP.org to find out more about Libertarian solutions to the nation's problems. You'll hear much more of that explained in front of a national audience when Libertarians are included in the Presidential debates. Again, that's LP.org. Thank you.

LP wins 18 races in November

...continued from page 1

- **Demo Agoris** — Houston Borough Town Council (Pennsylvania)
- **Jake Towne** — Lower Nazareth Judge of Elections (Pennsylvania)
- **Jake Towne** — Lower Nazareth Town Auditor (Pennsylvania)
- **Greg Perry** — Rome Township Auditor (Pennsylvania)
- **Matt Schutter** — South Whitehall Judge of Elections (Pennsylvania)
- **Jason Aucker** — Spring Township Auditor (Pennsylvania)
- **Drew Bingaman** — Sunbury Constable Sixth Ward (Pennsylvania)
- **Jennifer Moore** — Upper Providence Township Auditor (Pennsylvania)
- **James Fryman** — Victory Township Supervisor (Pennsylvania)
- **Ed Tidwell** — Lago Vista Mayor (Texas)
- **Apollo Pazell** — Copperton Metro Township At-Large Representative (Utah)
- **Joseph Cimaomo** — Covington City Council Position 4 (Washington)
- **Kevin Cline** — Long Beach City Council Position 4 (Washington)

Libertarian Party candidates appeared on the ballot on Nov. 7 in Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, and Washington.

These 18 new elected officials join the 156 Libertarian Party candidates overall who have won their races and are now currently serving in office throughout the United States.

To view the entire list of all 156 Libertarian Party elected officials, visit: LP.org/elected-officials-2

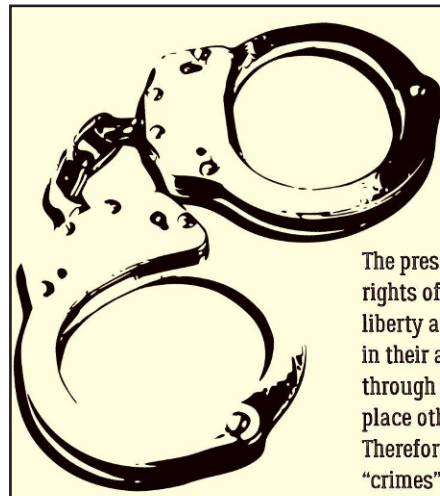
Trump's war on opioids will be a disastrous, expensive failure

On Oct. 26, President Donald Trump declared opioid abuse a public health emergency and promised to redirect federal resources to the problem. In his speech announcing yet another war on drugs, Trump told a story about his brother Fred's addiction to a completely legal substance: alcohol. We all know how disastrous alcohol prohibition was in the early 20th century, so could a new government battle against opioids be any more successful?

"Of course not," said Libertarian National Committee Chair Nicholas Sarwark. "Drug wars have been failing for over 100 years. The role of government is to deal with people who hurt other people, steal from them, or violate agreements. That's it. Futile attempts to prevent people from harming themselves with drugs don't fall under that umbrella."

According to drug abuse historian David Courtwright of the University of North Florida, there were an estimated 300,000 opioid addicts at the peak of addiction in the 19th century, representing an addiction rate of 0.48 percent of the population.

"This is a stunningly low percentage for a time when there were essentially no drug laws," Sarwark said. "Morphine, opium, marijuana, cocaine, laudanum, and other currently illegal drugs were freely available, with or without prescription and in many unregulated patent medicines. Today, according to the rehabilitation specialists at Addictions.com, there are 12



LIBERTARIAN

1.7 CRIME AND JUSTICE

The prescribed role of government is to protect the rights of every individual including the right to life, liberty and property. Criminal laws should be limited in their application to violations of the rights of others through force or fraud, or to deliberate actions that place others involuntarily at significant risk of harm. Therefore, we favor the repeal of all laws creating "crimes" without victims, such as the use of drugs for medicinal or recreational purposes.

million illegal users of opioids. That's 3.9 percent of today's population — an eight-fold increase."

Statistics released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed a small but stable correlation between opioid prescriptions and overdose deaths from any opioid, legal or illegal, between 2006 and 2010 — roughly one death per 13,000 prescriptions. In 2010, federal pressure caused a decrease in legal opioid prescriptions. The correlation between opioid prescriptions and overdose deaths turned sharply negative. Fewer legal prescriptions led to more overdose deaths.

"Reducing the supply of legal prescriptions for opioids is pushing people into black market heroin/fentanyl abuse,"

pointed out Dr. Jeffrey A. Singer, a Phoenix surgeon and a senior fellow at the Cato Institute. "The no. 1 cause of drug deaths is drug prohibition. We need to change our focus to harm reduction. We need to change from a war on drugs to a war on drug deaths."

Modern drug wars began in 1908, when President Teddy Roosevelt appointed the nation's first opium commissioner. The 19th century was a "dope-fiend's paradise," explained "The Consumers Union Report on Licit and Illicit Drugs." There were no drug laws in the United States.

In the 20th century, government officials began to stoke racist fears in order to sway public opinion in favor of drug restrictions.

"There are 100,000 total marijuana

smokers in the USA, and most are Negroes, Hispanics, Filipinos and entertainers," said Harry Anslinger, the first commissioner of the U.S. Treasury Department's Federal Bureau of Narcotics. "Their Satanic music, jazz and swing, result from marijuana usage. This marijuana causes white women to seek sexual relations with Negroes, entertainers and any others." That was one of Anslinger's less racist pronouncements.

It's no coincidence that the drug war would go on to devastate African-American communities throughout the late 20th century.

"The Nixon campaign in 1968, and the Nixon White House after that, had two enemies: the antiwar left and black people," said former Nixon domestic policy chief John Ehrlichman. "You understand what I'm saying? We knew we couldn't make it illegal to be either against the war or black, but by getting the public to associate the hippies with marijuana and blacks with heroin, and then criminalizing both heavily, we could disrupt those communities. We could arrest their leaders, raid their homes, break up their meetings, and vilify them night after night on the evening news. Did we know we were lying about the drugs? Of course we did."

Only the Libertarian Party has the courage to abstain from playing politics with the fear of drugs. Since its founding in 1971, the Libertarian Party has called for the repeal of all counterproductive drug laws — and all drug laws are counterproductive.

GOP federal spending soars

...continued from page 3

capita federal spending increased to \$12,000 per person and the per capita deficit increased to \$2,040 per person — even higher than during the last three Obama years."

Republicans also can't muster the political will to repeal Obamacare or pass any tax cuts.

"The reasons are fairly simple," Sarwark said. "More than two thirds of the federal budget consists of various poorly run insurance schemes: Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, veterans' benefits, and welfare — not to mention interest on the national debt. Neither Democrats nor Republicans have the courage to deal with this elephant in the room."

Defense spending, which accounts for 16 percent of federal spending, may be even more politically untouchable.

"Libertarians believe that all adult relationships should be voluntary," Sarwark said. "No one should be forced to buy an insurance policy for retirement, medical care, or anything else where the terms of the contract are dictated

by politicians and bureaucrats. Get the feds out of the insurance business and federal spending per person can be reduced from \$12,000 to \$3,000. Limiting the Department of Defense to actual defense and ending elective wars around the globe can cut defense spending in half, saving every American another \$1,000."

Together, those cuts along would amount to an 83 percent reduction in federal spending for every man, woman, and child in the country, along with a corresponding reduction in their tax burdens.

"We trust that with that kind of tax reduction, Americans will be more than capable of saving for their own

retirement and medical care," Sarwark said. "Libertarians trust that Americans can take care of themselves just fine. Republicans and Democrats don't. It's that simple."

“ ALL PERSONS ARE ENTITLED TO KEEP THE FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR. WE CALL FOR THE REPEAL OF THE INCOME TAX, THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AND ALL FEDERAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES NOT REQUIRED UNDER THE U.S. CONSTITUTION. ”

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2018 Libertarian National Convention sponsorship packages

Help sponsor the 2018 Libertarian National Convention, which will be held in New Orleans from June 30 – July 3, 2018, and get your name or organization's name and message seen by thousands of Libertarians. (For regular registration, see page 16.)

We have something for a broad range of interests and budgets including one-of-a-kind packages, limited-availability packages, and other opportunities available. Pick your favorites and reserve your sponsorship packages today! A few exclusive and limited-availability packages are listed below. For even more options and details, visit:

LibertarianConvention.org/sponsorship



Presidential Package — \$10,000 (only one available!)

It doesn't get better than this! Reserve the Convention Presidential Suite!

This fabulous package includes a stay in the Hyatt's Presidential Suite from June 28 – July 4, two Gold Registration Packages, plus one Gala Table Package (seats 8).



Branded Tote Bag Package — \$5,000 (only one available!)

Put your logo where it simply can't be missed with this one of a kind exclusive offer! The convention bags are one of the most visible elements at the convention. Each attendee who purchases a registration package will receive one. Don't miss this outstanding branding opportunity! Your logo will be seen all day, every day of the convention. Sponsor the convention bag for \$5,000 and your logo will be printed on one side of the bag.



Name Badge Package — \$5,000 (only one available!)

Want your name/logo to be seen by every attendee (and then some) of the 2018 Libertarian National Convention? Sponsor the Convention Name Badges for just \$5,000 and your name/logo will be featured on the back of all registered attendee name badges, where they will be not only seen, but worn by all our guests, all day long, for up to four full days! Also, many delegates keep their badges for years after the convention, as special keepsakes of the event.



Convention Book Sponsorship

Full Page Back Cover: \$5,000 — Full Page Inside Back Cover: \$2,000

Half Page: \$500 — Quarter Page: \$250

Sponsor the 2018 Libertarian National Convention by purchasing space in our Convention Book! The deadline to submit art for placement is June 1, 2018. Order and reserve your space today, then submit your art files by the deadline to ensure placement. First come, first serve on reserving the best interior page placement.

Reunited (and it feels so good): The remarkable tale of a priceless piece of LP history

By Caryn Ann Harlos
Chair, LNC Historical
Preservation Committee

It started with an impromptu eBay search for the Libertarian Party, something I never had done before. What I found was so incredible, so unlikely, so surreal, that it felt like fate: a listing purporting to be the original of the typed “Statement of Principles” with handwritten notes as presented by John Hospers at the Libertarian Party’s founding convention in 1972.

Some background is in order. The “Statement of Principles” is my passion. I have a framed copy on my wall, and have spent the past several years researching its history and giving presentations at numerous LP state conventions on the subject. As chair of the Libertarian Party’s Historical Preservation Committee, I have spent countless hours preserving and reconstructing party history. This was kismet.

There was no doubt that the document was genuine. The LPHPC possessed a low-quality scan of this document bearing the same handwriting and type, although it appeared to have obtained a new coffee stain. Excitement ensued. Several known LP historical enthusiasts were bidding, but it seemed at the last minute that an unknown bidder had snapped the item up at \$430.

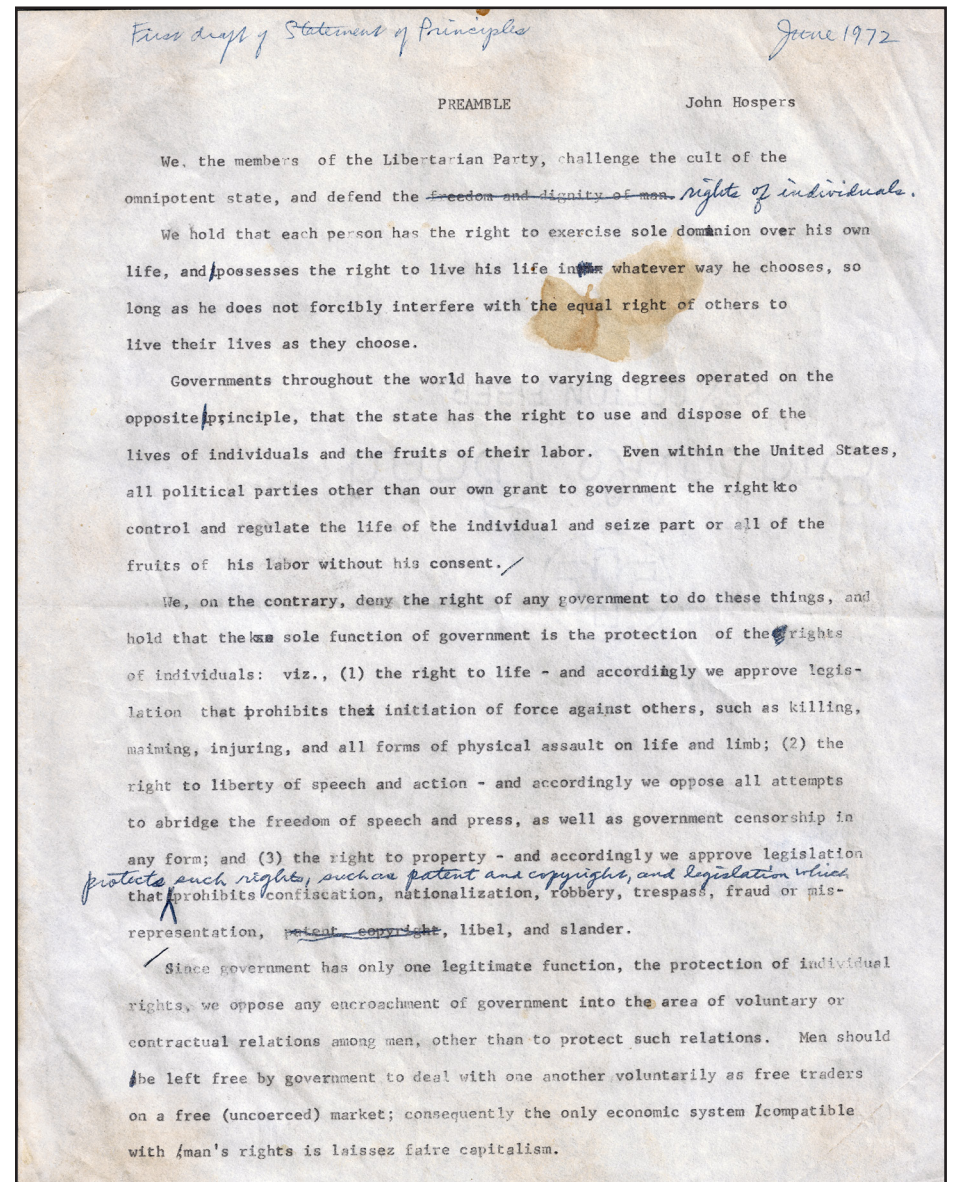
After some despair and self-consolations, it was revealed that Washington state Libertarian Lellius Rose was the final bidder, because he wanted to ensure that the

document was obtained and donated to the party. He was willing to donate the document to the party to be displayed at headquarters.

There were still many unanswered questions. Who was the seller? How did they obtain it? Where has it been all these years? The seller responded to these inquiries thusly:

I'm more than happy to tell you about it. My mom, Shirley Gottlieb, ran the Libertarian Party office out of her home in the 1970s. My mom and dad had many meetings at their home and came to personally know Dr. John Hospers. I remember being in high school and coming home to a house full of people in the living room. My mom recruited me to go to downtown Los Angeles to help count votes when the party was trying to obtain ballot status. I didn't know that my parents even had it. I've been going thru the house after my dad's passing in March (I lost my mom in 2005), and came across a picture frame containing a black and white photocopy of Ayn Rand. It seemed odd to me because it wasn't even a photo. More like a photocopy, and I couldn't understand why they would have framed it. When I took it apart I found the document you now have!!

Fact mimics fiction. A historically significant document found hidden behind a picture frame and returned to its source. The “Statement of Principles” affirms the philosophy upon which the Libertarian Party is founded, by which it shall be sustained, and through which liberty shall prevail (LNC Bylaws 3.1). And it is coming home.



Reserve your Gala Table Package for 2018 Libertarian National Convention

Want to sit with seven of your favorite Libertarians at the Gala at the 2018 Libertarian National Convention?

Consider a Gala Table Package. Each Gala Table Package comes with eight tickets to the Gala, and your name or logo will be displayed prominently on your table. The cost is \$1,000, and your donation helps sponsor the 2018 Libertarian National Convention and make this important event a success. (For regular registration, see page 16.)

Reserve your table or learn more details by visiting:

LibertarianConvention.org/sponsorship



Serve on Welcoming Committee for 2018 Libertarian National Convention

Unlike most committees, there is no work associated with this committee. It is simply a group of Libertarians who have chosen to give \$1,000 to help co-sponsor the national convention. Their names will be listed on the website and the event signage, and in the Convention Book. Welcoming Committee members will also receive a Gold Registration Package (\$399 value!). (For regular registration, see page 16.)

For more information on this and other sponsorship packages, visit:

LibertarianConvention.org/sponsorship



LNC chair after Texas shooting: 'We need to love each other more and hate less'

Church's heroic armed neighbor helps demonstrate why mass murders do not call for mass disarmament

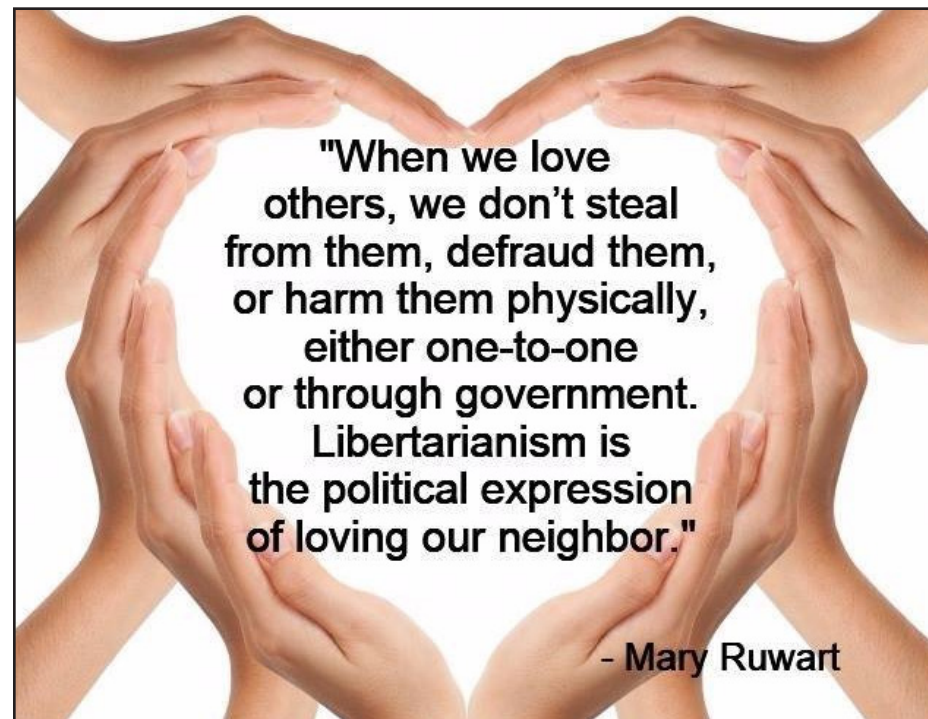
Sunday church services at the First Baptist Church on Nov. 5 in Sutherland Springs, Texas, were the scene of the deadliest mass shooting in the state's history. At least 26 parishioners were killed, including the daughter of the pastor. Another 20 or more were injured.

Sunday church services at the First Baptist Church on Nov. 5 in Sutherland Springs, Texas, were the scene of the deadliest mass shooting in the state's history. At least 26 parishioners were killed, including the daughter of the pastor. Another 20 or more were injured.

"Like in the aftermath of the Las Vegas shootings, we need to love each other more and hate less," said Libertarian National Committee Chair Nicholas Sarwark, who expressed his sympathy for the victims of the tragedy and their families.

The alleged shooter, Devin Patrick Kelley, had received a bad conduct discharge from the U.S. Air Force after being court-martialed and serving 12 months confinement for assaulting his wife and child. His wife and mother-in-law occasionally attended the Sutherland Springs church but were not among the approximately 50 people in the pews that day. Kelley had allegedly sent threatening text messages to his mother-in-law.

After his attack inside the church, Kelley attempted to escape by car but was pursued by a neighboring gunowner, Stephen Will-



eford, and another local resident, Johnnie Langendorff, who pulled his truck up to an intersection near the church as the alleged shooter drove away. Langendorff called 911 as he chased the Kelley at speeds of up to 95 miles per hour, before the alleged shooter's car crashed into a ditch. Kelley died at the scene of the accident, apparently of a self-inflicted gunshot according to Wilson County Sheriff Joe D. Tarkitt Jr.

In the wake of tragic shootings such as this one, there are always calls to further regulate or ban firearms. Before those voices reach a crescendo, however, the following facts should be emphasized:

Texas officials had denied Kelley a license to buy a gun, and he only obtained one later by lying about his disqualifying criminal history.

The recent mass killing by truck in New York City and the widespread devastation on 9/11 demonstrate that guns are not necessary for a determined assassin to accomplish his evil goal.

A clear majority of empirical studies show that reducing the availability of firearms in a community is inversely correlated to gun deaths. Jurisdictions in the United States with the strictest gun control laws have higher murder rates than juris-

dictions with minimal gun control.

"Driving a car into a school bus, or flying a plane into a skyscraper, using poison, fire, or homemade bombs are all possibilities for somebody determined to murder others," pointed out Libertarian National Committee Vice Chair Arvin Vohra in a press release after the recent Las Vegas shooting. "If somebody simply doesn't care about the consequences, there are many ways to commit mass murder. ... Guns, however, are effective defensive weapons. Simply brandishing a gun can often scare off a potential assailant, an effect that does not exist when brandishing a vial of poison or a 747."

The Libertarian Party platform is clear about the right to self-defense, and has been consistent on this issue since the party was founded nearly 46 years ago.

"The only legitimate use of force is in defense of individual rights—life, liberty, and justly acquired property—against aggression," the 2016 Libertarian Party platform states. "This right inheres in the individual, who may agree to be aided by any other individual or group. We affirm the individual right recognized by the Second Amendment to keep and bear arms, and oppose the prosecution of individuals for exercising their rights of self-defense. Private property owners should be free to establish their own conditions regarding the presence of personal defense weapons on their own property. We oppose all laws at any level of government restricting, registering, or monitoring the ownership, manufacture, or transfer of firearms or ammunition."

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The Libertarian Party will send you a personalized membership card, an annual subscription to the official mailed newspaper, *LP News*, and a complimentary gift of your choice. If you want to be featured as a #ProudlyLP member on Facebook, send us an email, with your membership card selfie attached, to proudlylp@lp.org and we will feature your photo on social media!



"My name is Linda Keane from New Hampshire and I am proud be a member of the Libertarian Party. My entire household enjoys supporting the LP, including our dog, Tucker. See how much he liked my membership card?"



"My name is Jeff Lyons from Boston and this is my friend Steve. He and I are proud be a members of the Libertarian Party."



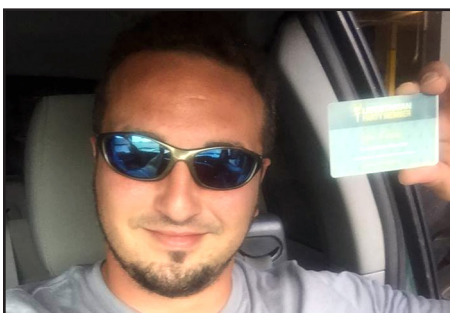
"My name is Nathan Hunter from Hampton, Virginia, and I am proud be a member of the Libertarian Party."



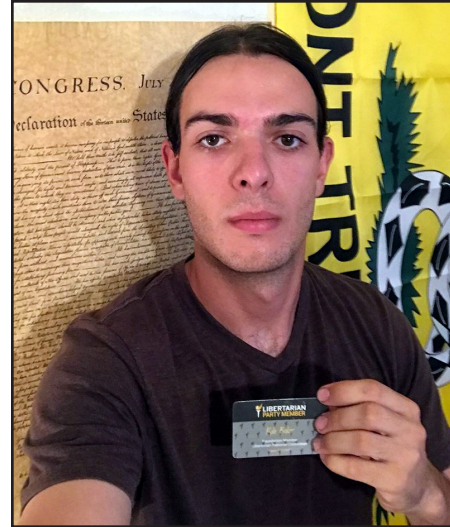
"My name is Larry Sharpe for New York. I am proud to be a Lifetime Member of the Libertarian Party."



"My name is Erin Pyle Meadors and I am proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party. I'm a Libertarian activist. I am the chair of my county political party, I volunteer for the Libertarian Party of Indiana and I volunteer for many candidates."



"My name is John Kanan from Michigan and I am proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party."



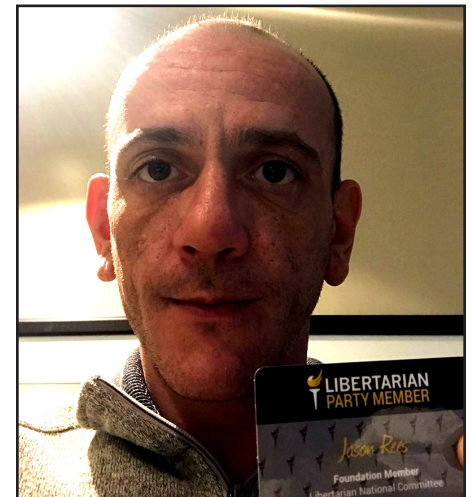
"My name is Kyle Baker and I am proud be a member of the Libertarian Party. I am running for office in Florida in 2018 as a Libertarian."



"My name is Hillary and I am proud be a member of the Libertarian Party. I just voted Libertarian [in November] for Cliff Hyra for VA Governor."



"My name is Linnea from California and I am proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party."



"My name is Jason Rees and I am proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party. I am running for office as a Libertarian in Michigan." You can follow his campaign at: [FB.com/rees4MIHOUSE](https://www.facebook.com/rees4MIHOUSE)



"My name is Carter Quill and I'm proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party."



"My name is Jilletta Jarvis and I am proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party."

AFFILIATE

Updates

Colorado

Building party membership, infrastructure

The Libertarian Party of Colorado has been keeping busy with building its membership and infrastructure. Database manager David Aitken performed a massive clean-up of our data and began assembling a more complete email contact list for the thousands of registered Libertarians in Colorado.

We also restarted a program of mailing new Libertarians to welcome them and invite their involvement. The Night of the Living Statists fundraiser was a fun break from politics as usual.

LPCO Chair Wayne Harlos was part of a successful local non-partisan petition drive to allow the citizens of Castle Rock to decide whether they wish to stay with the present system of an appointed mayor or change the town charter to require an elected mayor.

Delaware

Youngest member elected to state board

On March 25, amid a contentious state convention, the Kent County Caucus made history, electing the youngest member to serve as a county representative on the Libertarian Party of Delaware State Board.

At 16, Dominic Morrell isn't yet old enough to vote, but has become an invaluable member of the board, offering critical input and perspective during his term so far. Morrell is currently studying mathematics and chemistry at Delaware State University, and works 20 hours per week as a math tutor. Outside of the Libertarian Party of Delaware, Dominic is working with Professor Steve Newton to generate a libertarian-oriented student organization at DSU.

Although he won't be able to vote until the municipal elections in 2019, or state and federal elections in 2020, Dominic is helping the Libertarian Party of Delaware shape the political landscape for years to come.

Illinois

LPIL ticket gaining ground with press

As the Libertarian Party of Illinois marches toward the 2018 midterm gubernatorial election, Libertarian candi-

dates are making headlines in some of the nation's top news outlets.

Claire Ball, Libertarian candidate for Illinois comptroller, had an op-ed piece published in the Oct. 26 edition of the *Chicago Sun-Times* detailing how the party politics of Republicans and Democrats have contributed to the state's financial struggles. Ball discussed how the infighting between Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and the current Illinois comptroller, Democrat Susana Mendoza, is preventing the state from making real progress on several issues, including financial transparency.

This is Ball's second attempt at running for Illinois Comptroller. In the 2016 special election, Ball narrowly missed establishing ballot access for the Libertarian Party in Illinois, finishing just below the high established party status threshold of 5 percent that Illinois mandates. Ball is a certified public accountant, a designation never before held by an Illinois comptroller — a position that controls and maintains all of the state's fiscal accounts.

Jon Stewart, candidate for Illinois governor, is also receiving press attention, having had profiles published in the Oct. 13 and June 13 editions of the *Chicago Tribune*. The pieces detail Stewart's unique journey from pro wrestling into politics, and highlight the struggles of being a third-party candidate. Stewart also received press coverage this summer from several television stations in the Chicago market, including ABC 5 and FOX 32.

Stewart is one of three announced Illinois gubernatorial candidates vying for the 2018 Libertarian ticket. He will challenge candidates Matthew C. Scaro and Kash Jackson for the nomination at a contested convention in March. In addition to comptroller and governor, several other statewide races are on the 2018 Illinois ballot, including lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general, and treasurer.

Kansas

New LPKS leadership, appointments

Rob Hodgkinson has resigned his position as chair of the Libertarian Party of Kansas to attend to family matters. Kris Logan has been elected to fill the remainder of the term.

At the Oct. 8 Executive Committee



The Libertarian Party of Douglas County, a local LPCO affiliate, cleans up a two-mile section of Parker Road for the second time in 2017. Douglas County posted two signs designating the Libertarian Party of Douglas County the sponsor of this section of the road, and more than 35,000 cars travel past the signs every day.

meeting, Kris announced the following appointments for LPKS: Stacey Davis, director of operations; Rob Hodgkinson, candidate recruitment director; Bowen Chapel, information systems director; and Jeff Theobald, fundraising director. Rachell Rowland was elected to the position of District 2 coordinator to fill the spot recently vacated by Heather Toot.

LPKS sponsored a booth at the state fair in Hutchinson in September. The state fair is a popular event, and our booth was visited by several hundred people over the 10 days that the fair was open.

Patrick Wilbur, Douglas County chair, has been active in the fight against civil asset forfeiture. Patrick has attended most meetings of the Judicial Council Committee studying the subject. Additional information is available at: [FB.com/fixksforfeitures](https://www.facebook.com/fixksforfeitures)

On Oct. 15, District 3 hosted an informational meeting on reforming Kansas drug laws. Guest speakers were Dr. Micah Kubic, executive director of the Kansas ACLU; Lisa Sublett, president of Bleeding Kansas Advocates; and Kansas State Sen. David Haley.

continued on page 14...

AFFILIATE

Updates

...continued from page 13

Michigan

One of three LPMI candidates elected

Three members of the Libertarian Party of Michigan competed in the Nov. 7 general election, which is an “off year” in Michigan, when only nonpartisan races and special elections are on the ballot.

Andy LeCureaux was re-elected to the Hazel Park City Council. He won 794 votes (19.08 percent) in a seven-way (four elected) nonpartisan race, coming in a strong third.

Scotty Boman won 3,945 votes (39 percent) in a two-way (one elected) nonpartisan race for Detroit police commissioner, District 4, coming in second.

Gregory Creswell won 334 votes (3 percent) in a three-way (one elected) partisan race for state representative, District 1 (special election), coming in third. He was the first LP candidate to be selected through a primary this past August, after the LP gained primary party status in the 2016 election.

For the first time in decades, the legislature considered a partial deregulation of Michigan’s no-fault auto insurance law, which has created the highest auto insurance premiums in the nation and rampant fraud. The Libertarian Party of Michigan was the only political party to publicly support the legislation, as a first step toward more freedom of choice for drivers and more affordable insurance. The initial bill was defeated when many legislators caved to the wishes of the special interests who funded their campaigns. This result provides LP legislative candidates with a strong Libertarian issue of concern to voters, which they can run on in 2018.

New Hampshire

Election results for LPNH candidates

New Hampshire held November municipal elections in the most of the 13 cities across the state; town elections are in the spring. Although municipal elections are officially nonpartisan, two Libertarians ran for city offices.

Former state Rep. Joseph LaChance, who joined the Libertarian Party in January, pulled in 38.49 percent for Manches-

ter School Board, and Robert Call received 19.28 percent for mayor in Keene.

We also had several special elections for the New Hampshire General Court earlier in the year. Brian Shields, communications director for the Libertarian House Caucus, brought in 7.58 percent in a three-way race in the Strafford 13 election on Oct. 24. James Jarvis earned 2.27 percent of the vote in the Rockingham 4 election on Sept. 26. Former LP gubernatorial nominee John J. Babiarz pulled in 2.33 percent in the Grafton 9 special election in September, and Jason Dubrow received 1.26 percent of the vote in the July 25 special election for Senate District 16.

The LPNH Convention Committee is working hard on the 2018 convention, to be held on April 28. More details will be announced soon.

New Jersey

17,181 votes cast for NJLP candidates

The New Jersey Libertarian Party grew to 8,309 registered voters ahead of Election Day. The NJLP fielded candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, state Senate, state Assembly, and local municipal races. Preliminary results indicate there were at least 17,181 votes cast for Libertarian Party candidates:

- Peter Rohrman, Governor / Karese Laguerre, Lt. Governor — 10,322 (0.5 percent)
- Dan Krause, 12th District Assembly — 924 (1 percent)
- Anthony Storrow, 12th District Assembly — 1,001 (1 percent)
- Eveline Brownstein, 13th District Assembly — 453 (0.5 percent)
- Claudio Belusic, 37th District Assembly — 373 (0.4 percent)
- Jim Tosone, 39th District Senate - 548 (1 percent)
- Michael Chazukow, West Milford Town Council — 453 (3.45 percent)
- Jonathan Salzman, West Milford Town Council — 379 (2.89 percent)
- Dan Heitkamp, Hunterdon County Freeholder — 1,679 (3.96 percent)
- Tom Maciejewski, Berkeley Heights Town Council — 808 (9.6 percent)
- Hisham Hamed, Manalapan Town Council — 96



The Libertarian Party of Virginia sponsored an outreach booth at Virginia PrideFest in September.

- John Ordille, Northfield Town Council — 122
- Valerio Brusciannelli, Westfield Town Council — 23 (0.8 percent)

Overall, New Jersey had a record low voter turnout of 35 percent.

NJLP held a well-attended Election Night party in Livingston, featuring several candidates. On Nov. 12, the party held a general meeting featuring Larry Sharpe. The annual Holiday Party is planned for Dec. 2 in Hamilton.

NJLP is currently working on 2018 candidate recruitment and convention planning.

Oklahoma

3-way governor race gains momentum

Oklahoma is delighted to announce that Amy Murray has been elected to be our new state treasurer. We welcome her to the team and to the fight for liberty.

Our three-way gubernatorial race has begun to pick up momentum. This past week, the University of Central Oklahoma held a debate featuring all three Libertarian candidates and Randall University sponsored a forum featuring seven candidates of the 12 running in all parties.

After much consideration, the OKLP voted to allow only those registered as Libertarian to vote in the 2018 primaries. That decision will stand for two years.

A committee to plan the 2018 state convention has been formed and details for a target date of late March will be forthcoming. Keep an eye out for the announcement.

We’re growing! Oklahoma, Cleveland, Delaware, and Carter Counties have begun the process of forming an affiliate party. If

anyone living in these counties, or one not listed, would like to get involved, send an e-mail to chair@oklp.org.

Virginia

Outstanding candidate media coverage

The Libertarian Party of Virginia ran candidates in 2017 for state offices, with an incredible candidate for governor and four impactful House of Delegates candidates. Cliff Hyra, a patent attorney who grew up in northern Virginia and now resides just north of Richmond, ran for governor. Cliff and his wife Stephanie are brilliant parents to four children. Stephanie even gave birth to their youngest daughter mid-campaign. Will Hammer, Michael Bartley, Terry Hurst, and Jake Crocker all ran for the House of Delegates.

Hyra was a great orator, and his affable personality afforded him media coverage in every major news outlet in the commonwealth. Cliff was interviewed 136 separate times by major news outlets. Newspaper interviews included the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, which endorsed Gov. Gary Johnson and Gov. Bill Weld, the *Virginia Pilot* (largest distribution in Virginia), the *Washington Post*, the *Washington Times*, and the Associated Press. Radio interviews with Hyra included the *Kojo Nnamdi Show*, WCHV Charlottesville, Virginia Public Radio, PBS Public Radio, WTOP NOVA, WRVA Richmond, and WINA Charlottesville, among many others. Hyra also was interviewed by every local ABC, CBS, and NBC television station in the five major media markets in the commonwealth. He got incredible coverage from content websites such as *Sabato’s Crystal*

AFFILIATE

Updates

...continued from page 14

Ball, Bacon's Rebellion, Virginia Lawyer's Weekly, GayRVA, Richmond Magazine, and Style Weekly. Clearly, Hyra and LPDC Chair John LaBeaume have made major strides in strengthening the relationships with our news outlets in Virginia.

Hyra put together a policy and strategy team that rivaled the old parties. He ran on a strong policy platform that excluded the first \$60,000 as a standard deduction from taxable income, which would inherently cut more than \$2 billion from the state budget and save each individual household more than \$3,000. Some of those cuts came from criminal justice reform to a system that was built on the ideas and actions of segregation. The criminal justice system in Virginia still prosecutes minor drug possession charges and fills our jails with non-violent offenders of ridiculous laws.

Hyra also had strong ideas to help reduce the impact of state and federally funded, one-size-fits-all education on our diverse population. His campaign's fiscal stewardship garnered votes at roughly \$2.45 in campaigning per vote (including ballot access), whereas the old authoritarians spent well over \$20 per vote. The LPVA is strongly positioned for future statewide races thanks to the efforts of Hyra and his wife Stephanie, John LaBeaume, and Chris Taylor, among many others. We thank them for their tremendous efforts.

Among our candidates for the House of Delegates was national Patrick Henry Candidate Award winner Will Hammer, who ran for the 20th District. His continued push to change Staunton from a red hot mess into a Libertarian hotbed proved effective once again. He was in discussions with major donors that now know his candidacy and Libertarian positions. He earned 745 votes and continues to be a stalwart of the LPVA. It's always #HammerTime.

Norfolk's 89th District race was taken by storm by a newcomer to the LPVA, Terry Hurst. You want to talk about orators, Hurst is one of the most charismatic people that you'll ever meet. Hurst ran an incredible campaign that geotargeted neighborhoods within his district, and he and his team hit the ground hard. They knocked on doors beginning early in the year and made appearances at every ma-

yor civic engagement in Norfolk. Hurst brought a Libertarian message to an area that has been dominated by Democrats for decades, and he attained 2,841 votes. If you have not met Terry Hurst, you are missing out.

Jake Crocker, who is a restaurant owner in Richmond, decided to throw his hat in the ring late in the ballot access season and a two-week tornado of signature gathering afforded us his candidacy. Crocker is a marketing guru, having worked in marketing for nearly 20 years. His campaign recorded more than 1 million Facebook impressions in his district alone. Yes, one million. His savvy eye for design and his massive network of friends, colleagues, and civic partners allowed him to reach 1,931 votes in another Democratic stronghold. Just remember to #CrockTheVote.

Last, but certainly not least, Michael Bartley is in an incredible situation. His three-way race in Newport News has been the most competitive House of Delegates district in our commonwealth for the last several election cycles, with a Republican incumbent and a Democratic voter base. Bartley's preliminary vote total of 675 votes was a huge number in such a contested race. The initial count of votes had only a 12-vote difference, which has led to a recount. Michael clearly had a massive impact on a three-way race. His effort shows how much we can impact an election. These old parties will have to fight for their votes that much harder in the next election cycle. Incredible work.

The LPVA made major strides in this election cycle, even though most of the accomplishments occurred behind the scenes to many outsiders. Within the LPVA, we have a new website, a new organizational structure, a new identity, and a new wave of Virginians who know who we are. We did all of this on a shoestring budget, not only to prove our fiscal sanity, but also to save for our upcoming fundraising goals, because we will be rolling out a massive fundraising campaign. You can trust us as stewards of your valuable donation. We are setting up for a huge U.S. Senate race in 2018. We are already lining up candidates for the 2019 cycle for the House of Delegates and all local races in between. We will train our candidates and strategi-



Ciaran Dougherty, a recent Libertarian Party candidate for the Washington state House of Representatives, helps man the LPWA table at the Junior State of America conference near the Seatac airport, where party volunteers talked to hundreds of high school students.

cally plan ahead. We need your help. If you would like to help with either your time or your hard-earned money, please feel free to reach out to us. We have a winning strategy. We have a winning attitude. We have a winning team. We will win. We are the Libertarian Party of Virginia.

Washington

National media attention for campaign

Washington reports the results of our candidate races (unofficial):

- Michelle Darnell: Earned 31.42 percent of the vote for state Senate in the 48th District.
- Ciaran Dougherty: Earned 26.52 percent of the vote for state representative in the 48th District.
- Joseph T. Cimaomo, Jr.: Won the race for city of Covington Council, position no. 4, with 69.78 percent of the vote!
- Elijah Olson: Earned 15.64 percent of the vote for city of Marysville Council, position no. 4.
- James Blair: Earned 47.22 percent of the vote for city of Yelm City Council, position No. 7.
- Rob Taft Jr.: Earned 35.81 percent of the vote for Northshore School District no. 417 Director, District no. 5.
- Paul Addis: Earned 44 percent of the vote for city of Kent Council, position no. 2.
- Robert Motzer: Earned 31.35 percent of the vote for city of Lacey City Council, position no. 6.
- Kevin Cline: Won the race for city of Long Beach City Council, member 4, with 58.53 percent of the vote!
- Jennifer Hesse: Earned 33.28 percent of

the vote for city of Everett Council, position no. 3.

- John Schryvers: Earned 17.19 percent of the vote for city of Anacortes Council-At-Large, position 5.
- Ed Pace: Earned 41.45 percent of the vote for city of Spokane Valley Council, position no. 4.

Michelle Darnell's campaign earned national attention in multiple media outlets across the country, and earned more than \$20,000 in private campaign contributions, one of the highest for an LP candidate in a state race in Washington. We are very proud of the hard work her team has undertaken to get out the message for the party.

This is not to overshadow the other races in the state, many of which received more media coverage than ever before. James Blair missed victory by only 3 percent of the vote!

I am also excited to announce that I have recently appointed a new LPWA communications director. Christopher Rohloff and his assistant director, Raylene Scott, are taking on our social media, newsletter, and PR head-on, with great results!

Wyoming

LPWY membership elects new officers

We had an organizational meeting in October. At this meeting, we elected new officers, Joseph Porambo as our new executive director, Dee Cozzens as chairman, Kitt Carson as vice chair, and Tammy Porambo as secretary.

We are excited about the future of the party. We will be putting candidates all up and down the ballot in 2018.

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Contact info for state affiliates:

www.LP.org/states

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www.LP.org/lnc-leadership

Thinking of running for office? Just want to learn more?

Go to LP.org/run and send us your inquiry. You'll receive information from your state LP affiliate or from the national LP headquarters that you need to get started on your campaign.

Upcoming LP conventions

February 23–25:	Florida	April 14:	Wisconsin
February 24–25:	Arkansas	April 27–29:	California
March 2–4:	Alabama	April 28:	New Hampshire
March 2–3:	Illinois	May 4–6:	Indiana
March 3:	New Mexico	May 18–20:	Ohio
March 24:	New Jersey	May 18–20:	North Carolina
April 13–15:	Texas	June 30–July 3:	National LP

For updates, visit: LP.org/events/category/state-conventions

Register for 2018 National Convention

The **2018 Libertarian National Convention** will be here before you know it! The convention packages allow you to get as little or as much out of the convention as you want.



Basic Package: \$139 (\$169 at the door)

(includes convention bag, badge with lanyard, convention book, training workshops, seminars, exhibits, and after party)

Bronze Package: \$239 (\$279 at the door)

(includes above, plus opening reception and breakfast with guest speaker)

Silver Package: \$339 (\$389 at the door)

(includes above, plus two special lunch engagements with guest speakers)

Gold Package: \$429 (\$499 at the door)

(includes above, plus gala banquet dinner service with entertainment and special guest speaker)

Gala Only: \$129 (limited availability)

(you may also add a gala-only admission to any other package for \$109)

See more exclusive package options on pages 9–11.

The **2018 Libertarian National Convention** will be held **June 30 – July 3 in New Orleans.** For more information about convention details and online registration options, visit:

LibertarianConvention.org

Media Buzz

“A new political avenue toward statewide elected office and Congress may be opening in New Mexico as the Libertarian Party achieves major party status, giving its candidates ready access to the ballot in 2018.

“Failed presidential candidate Gary Johnson in 2016 won a historic consolation prize for the Libertarian Party by surpassing 5 percent of the popular vote in his home state of New Mexico, thereby lowering daunting signature requirements for Libertarian candidates.

“Strong showings at 2016 elections in Iowa, Kentucky and Massachusetts also are making it easier for the Libertarians to get on next year’s ballot.”

Associated Press, 11/13/2017

“On Nov. 7, you will see Cliff Hyra’s name on the ballot for governor right next to Democrat Ralph Northam and Republican Ed Gillespie. But the Libertarian candidate has not been able to get beside them in the campaign spotlight or on the debate stage.

“The 34-year-old candidate said the time to run for governor is now, because Virginia’s future is very important to him.

“I don’t think there’s any time to wait,” Hyra said. ‘I didn’t like what any of the other candidates were offering. I didn’t think that they were talking about a lot of issues that were important to me.’”

Richmond Times-Dispatch, 10/26/2017

“At least three candidates have joined Roy Moore and Doug Jones in the race for U.S. Senator.

“Ron Bishop, Lee Busby, Chanda Mills Crutcher and Mac Watson are running write-in campaigns for Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ vacant senate seat.

“Libertarian candidate Ron Bishop of Irondale is a self-taught IT professional. He is married with two children.

Bishop launched his campaign in September in Irondale.”

Courier-Journal, 8/6/17