## New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry April 2019 Volume 2 #4

#### Resurgence

The Prohibition Party of New York continues to move forward. As we do, we work to promote a revival in the belief that the protection and advancement of the people's wellbeing is essential to governance, and to help put those principles into practice. We aim to move toward a resurgence of progress in our society.

"We cannot do great deeds unless we are willing to do the small things that make up the sum of greatness." Theodore Roosevelt

## Sign Up For The New York Prohibitionist

Interested in keeping up to date with all the news from the New York
Prohibitionist? Well, you can sign up for our email list, and have latest issues emailed to you when they come out. All you have to do is email newyorkpohibition@aol.com and let us know you'd to sign up. You can also do so by messaging the New York Prohibition Party Facebook Page or the New York Prohibition Party Twitter Account.

#### **Cooperative Efforts**

Earlier this month, state chairman Makeley got in contact with the director of Tobacco Free Western New York. Tobacco Free Western New York, as the name implies, is an organization that works to address the problem of tobacco, through community activism, education, prevention, and working to expand restrictions on the tobacco industry. Discussions were made about possible ways to work together to work to advance stronger policies against tobacco. Hopefully such cooperation will be fruitful, and will act as a step in building a broad coalition of New Yorkers to advance positive reform in our state.

#### Prohibition National Committee Meets, Gammon and Collins Selected as Presidential Ticket

By. Jonathan Makeley

On April 14th, a meeting of the Prohibition Party's national committee was held by conference call. The committee had to select a new presidential ticket following the resignation of its initial presidential candidate, Bill Bayes, on March 30th. The PNC selected Connie (C.L.) Gammon as its new presidential candidate, and Phil Collins as its new vice-presidential candidate.

C.L. Gammon is a writer and historian from Tennessee. He was initially the party's vice-presidential candidate for 2020, but given the situation stepped to represent the party at the head of the ticket.

Phil Collins is a navy veteran, former township trustee in Illinois, and had come second place in this year's non-partisan election for mayor of Las Vegas, Nevada. The PNC adopted an updated version of its 2020 platform.

Two new committee members were appointed to the PNC, and vacancies were will filled on the party's executive committee.

The Committee made updates to its executive leadership.

Rick Knox will continue as national chairman. C.L. Gammon was selected as the new vice-chairman. Jonathan Makeley was selected as the new national secretary. James Hedges will continue as treasurer.

The committee also selected people for special appointed positions. John Das will continue as head of social media. Knox was appointed to act press secretary, and Makeley was appointed to head the party's youth outreach efforts. The conference ended with a discussion of the party's plans for ballot access efforts. The party plans to launch its most ambitious ballot access effort in decades:



hoping to get on ballot in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Colorado, Utah, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ohio, New Jersey, and possibly a few other states.

Reprint from Independent Political Report: https://independentpoliticalreport.com/2019/04/prohibitionnational-committee-meets-gammon-and-collins-selected-aspresidential-ticket/

# National Park Service Bans Alcohol and Restricts Smoking at Great Kills Park

The National Park Service has issued a ban on alcohol and increased restrictions on smocking Great Kills Park. Great Kills Park is a national park in Staten Island. Alcohol will be banned on the Great Kills Park beach, and tobacco use will be prohibited outside certain designated smoking areas.

Gateway National Recreation Area Superintendent Jen Nersesian reportedly stated.

"Alcohol consumption in combination with summer heat and water-based activities can present a deadly situation for visitors... The safety of our visitors is our number one priority, and we feel this change will help promote this."

For 2019, the park service will focus on educating visitors on the new rules. Those who repeatedly violate the ban may be subject to fines.

Source:https://www.silive.com/news/2019/04/national-parkservice-bans-alcohol-smoking-at-great-killspark.html?fbclid=lwAR12s1JGsTAY8SITv0Y5EAQqINQE4N8YWay 8n5tdRAZ-ierzilhHzPxJHo



#### Effort to Strengthen Drunk Driving Laws

Last year, assembly member Felix Ortiz had introduced a bill to strengthen the state's drunk driving laws. The bill would change the state's BAC limit for DWI from 0.08 to 0.05, and Aggravated DWI from 0.18 to 0.12. A change that could reduce the number of deaths from drunk driving by an estimated 16%. Last year the bill had ended up getting struck in the assembly's transportation committee, and never advanced to a floor vote.

This year, assembly member Ortiz has once again introduced the bill, and it is gaining more traction than last year. This year, Bill A03208/S05177 has been cosponsored by 14 members of the state assembly. State Senator John C. Liu has introduced the bill in the state senate.

Last year, the Prohibition Party of New York had encouraged the state's division of Mothers Against Drunk Driving to join in promoting the bill. Initially they had declined to support it, but eventually they changed their minds, and are now supporting the effort this year.

The bill still has a ways to go before it can get passed. It might not get passed this year. But there is growing momentum. If one is interested in helping to get the bill passed, we'd encourage you to contact members of the state

legislature and encourage them to support the bill.

The contact information for state legislators can be found on the New York State Senate and New York State Assembly websites.

State Assembly:

https://nyassembly.gov/mem/

State Senate:

https://www.nysenate.gov/senators-committees

### New York City to Ban Alcohol Advertising on More City Properties

The New York City government is taking some steps to reduce alcohol advertising. Mayor Bill De Blasio has directed the city government to stop placing alcohol advertising on some city held properties. This will include city owned bus shelters, newsstands, phone booths, Wi-Fi LinkNYC kiosks and recycling kiosks. Existing alcohol advertisement will remain until their advertisement have expired, but new contracts cannot be made for alcohol advertisements on those properties. Venues which sell alcohol, such as city stadiums and concert hills will continue to be able to display alcohol advertisements.

This move was done as a partial measure to try to reduce the ability of alcohol companies to promote drinking in New York City, with the hope of reducing the level of sickness and death caused by alcohol in New York City.

In 2016, alcohol killed nearly 2,000 people and 110,000 people had went to the emergency room for alcohol induced illnesses and injuries.

While this may be small measure, and the city will need to do far more in order to comprehensively address the problem of alcohol, it is still a positive step for the city government to scale back the degree to which city owned properties are used for the promotion of alcohol.

Source: https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/441378-deblasio-bans-alcohol-ads-on-bus-stops-new-york-city-property

#### New York State Assembly Passes Tobacco 21 Bill

The New York Assembly has passed a bill to raise the minimum age for tobacco sales to 21 statewide. The passage of this bill in the assembly marks a step towards increasing restrictions on tobacco sales in the state. The bill will still need to be passed in the state senate and signed by the governor in order to become law.

Sources:https://www.weny.com/story/40233236/ny-state-poised-to-raise-smoking-age-from-18-to-21?utm medium-social&utm source=facebook WENY TV News&fbclid=lwAR17beX4lvUuLf2Dx7SeutaCnKMBhNzsK2cPRKR3 QS7TWSm29s3HI5vvngM

https://www.foxnews.com/politics/push-to-raise-smoking-ageexpands-to-multiple-states

## St. Bonaventure University to become smoke-free campus

St. Bonaventure University will soon prohibit smoking on its campus. Following the recommendation of the university's student government association, and the results of a survey which showed that a significant majority of the campus community supported a smoke free policy, the university administration decided to pursue such a policy. Starting July 1st, all smokeable products will be prohibited from the campus.

Source:https://www.wivb.com/news/local-news/st-bonaventure-to-become-smoke-free-campus-in-july/1916943155?fbclid=lwAR1NVtwFsduUjYZZMBwgpFN\_HA1\_1duhlV-pPgZHSwEE5rgFbNloZ45LdOmw

"You don't have to be satisfied with America as you find it. You can change it. I didn't like the way I found America some sixty years ago, and I've been trying to change it ever since." Upton Sinclair

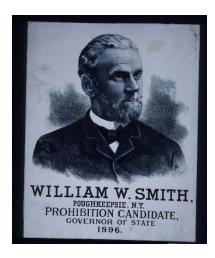
#### Suffolk County Bans Sale of Tobacco in Pharmacies

Earlier this month, the Suffolk County legislature, voted to ban the sale of tobacco at pharmacies in the county. This law is the latest in a series of actions by the Suffolk County government to increase restrictions on tobacco. The state has previously passed bills raising the age for tobacco sales to 21, and banning smoking at county owned parks, beaches, and the Suffolk Community College. The ban on tobacco sales for pharmacies should take effect by the end of the year.

Source: http://tbrnewsmedia.com/suffolk-county-lawmakers-ban-tobacco-sales-in-pharmacies/

#### Interested in Running For Local Office? Consider Running With The Prohibition Party of New York

Contact: newyorkprohibition@aol.com
Think NY Vote Dry



#### William W. Smith: Poughkeepsie's Mr. Trade

William Wallace Smith I, was a businessman and Prohibition Party politician. He was born in Quebec, Canada in 1830. His father, James Smith, was a Scottish immigrant and businessman. In 1836, his younger brother Andrew was smith was born. By 1847, the Smith family had immigrated to the United States, and settled in Poughkeepsie, New York. James Smith opened a restaurant/ice-cream and candy shop. In 1852, the Smith family had begun producing and selling cough drops as part of their business. After the death of their father, William and Andrew establish the Smith Brothers Cough Drop company in Poughkeepsie. The company became a major producer of cough drops in the country. From the design of their trademarked cough drop boxes, which featured the images of the brothers, along with the words Trade and Mark, the two brothers gained the nicknames Trade (William) and Mark (Andrew) Smith. The two brothers would run the company, until Andrew's death in 1895. William continued to run the company until his death in 1913, and the company was passed on to his son Arthur.

William Smith was a strong prohibitionist and ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for several offices. He was involved in prohibitionist activist at least as early as 1886, when he had delivered a speech, titled "Prohibition in Poughkeepsie", at Poughkeepsie Temperance Meeting. In 1887, he ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for state treasurer.

In 1890, Smith ran as the Prohibition Party candidate for New York's 16th Congressional District. He was the sole

challenger to incumbent Republican Congressman John H. Ketchum. Smith ran as a prohibitionist, while he also reached out to local Democrats, who lacked a candidate of their own party. He received 4,428 votes and received 24.74 of the total vote.

In 1891, Smith was the Prohibition Party candidate for state Comptroller. He received 31,520 (2.71%) votes and came in third place. In 1894, he ran for mayor of Poughkeepsie. In 1895, he was the party's candidate for New York Secretary of State. He received 25,239 (2.16%) votes, and came in third place. In 1896, he was the Prohibition Party candidate for governor. He received 17,449 (1.22%) votes, and came in 5th place.

In 1896, Smith had been one of the prominent delegates from New York to attend the Prohibition Party national convention in Pittsburg. The 1896 convention was affected by disputes between the Broad-Gauge and Narrow-Gauge factions of the party. The Narrow-Gauge faction wanted the party platform and approach to focus almost exclusively on the issue of Prohibition. The Broad-Gauge wanted the party platform and approach to continue to include positions on other issues, and include positions, such as support for the free coining of silver. After the narrow-gauge faction won at the convention and Joshua Levering was nominated for president, some in the broad gauge faction temporarily broke from the party and nominated a rival presidential ticket, with Charles Bentley as its presidential candidate. It is unknown which faction Smith had sided with, but the New York State Party had recognized Levering as the Prohibition Party presidential candidate. The faction division was later reconciled, and the Broad-Gauge faction's general approach to the party platform ended up winning out in the long run.

In 1908, Smith ran as a Prohibition Party candidate for state senate, in the 21st district. He received 790 votes (1.80%), and came in third place. In 1911, he ran for supervisor of Poughkeepsie's sixth ward.

By the time Smith died in 1913, he had left a legacy in business and politics in Poughkeepsie and New York State at large.

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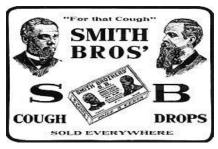
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Ringler Co., 1896. Poster Collection. Hoover Institution Library and Archives.
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"The visions you glorify in your mind, The ideals you enthrone in your heart... This you will build your life by... This you will become." James Allen

#### **State Attorney General Sues** Family Behind OxyContin

The New York State Attorney General decided to pursue legal action against the Sackler Family. The Sackler family is the billionaire family that founded and owns Purdue Pharma (the pharmaceutical company that created OxyContin). The State Attorney General's office had already been pursuing a legal case against Purdue, for its role in producing the opioid crisis. By March 28th, the suit was expanded to include the Sackler family directly. The State Attorney General seeks to impose legal penalties, which would require them to pay a monetary settlement (to help pay for the costs of addressing the opioid crisis) and to have them stripped of their license to market and sell pain kills in New York, until they can follow strict safeguards.

Source: https://www.wivb.com/news/national/new-york-suesbillionaire-family-behind-maker-of-

oxycontin/1883448753?fbclid=IwAR39PBISana2eHxnIGZPWPZ-9zxzlroGDK2QdlxUSeYpRiFFhnCcuGXLX04

#### CEO Convicted of Opioid Racketeering

John Kapoor, the billionaire founder of Insys Therapeutics, has become the first CEO in the country to be convicted of opioid racketeering. A Federal Court in Boston ruled that Kapoor and Insys Therapeutics, had engaged in a campaign of bribing doctors to over-prescribe dangerous opioid medications to patients. Kapoor and his company are the makers of Subsis; a spray made from fentynal, which had been approved for certain treatments with terminally ill cancer patients. The company had proceeded to market and sell Subsis for uses well beyond its approved function. They spent millions of dollars bribing doctors to prescribe higher doses of Subsis to patients, and to prescribe Subsis to nonterminally ill cancer patients and to patients who didn't even have cancer. The company also deceived heath insurance companies to get them to cover payments for a wider range of Subsis prescriptions. This ruling marks a step toward holding pharmaceutical companies accountable for unethical practices which helped to produce the opioid crisis.

Sources:https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2019/0 5/02/insys-therapeutics-john-kapoor-found-guilty-fentanylbribery-case/3561518002/

#### Columbia University and Chautauqua County Cooperating to Fight Opioids

Columbia University's School of Social Work is cooperating with the Chautauqua County government to help fight opioid addiction. The University will be spending 2 million dollars to help develop addiction treatment efforts in the county.

Source: https://spectrumlocalnews.com/nys/buffalo/health/201 9/04/26/chautauqua-county-columbia-university-opioids

#### Autism Awareness and Acceptance

"April is designated as Autism
Awareness Month and Autism Acceptance
Month. Let's us use this as an opportunity
to foster accurate mutual understanding
of one another, to foster the recognition
of our common humanity, to foster
acceptance of the natural diversity of
humanity, and to stand in favor of the
dignity and equality of all people." State
Chairman Jonathan Makeley

#### Time off work to vote

The state government has passed a law which allows workers to take up to 3 hours paid leave to vote on Election Day. This law applies to all workers in the state. Workers must notify their workers at least 2 days in advance of Election Day. Since most election days are Tuesday's that means that most workers would have to give notification during the work week before Election Day. Employers are required to post notifications for this law at least two weeks before Election Day.

Source: https://www.syracuse.com/state/2019/04/how-to-get-time-off-to-vote-in-

ny.html?fbclid=IwAR1IEWU0go50OvkjsmjS7r7Ahum3HD5I3oy0 Xf0I4l1jPYD6Kuk-RJlt4M8

"Be strong enough to stand alone, smart enough to know when you need help, and brave enough to ask for it." Ziad K. Abdelnour

# Gammon/Collins 2020

#### On The Radio

Prohibition Party Presidential candidate C.L. Gammon has started his own weekly online radio show for his presidential campaign. The first episode aired on April 29<sup>th</sup>, on Blog Talk Radio.com. Future episodes will occur on Mondays, 9pm Eastern time.

Here is a link to the first episode: http://www.blogtalkradio.com/conniegammonforpres ident/2019/04/29/episode-1-cl-connie-gammonprohibition-party-nominee-for-president-speaks

#### **Drinking Increases Stroke Risks**

International researchers in Britain and China have conducted a large scale study of 160,000 adults, to look into the connection between alcohol use and circulatory illnesses. The study found that alcohol use increases the likelihood of developing high blood pressure and increased the likelihood of having a stroke. These problems rise steadily with increased alcohol use. Moderate alcohol consumption increases the risk of stroke by 10-15%, and heavy alcohol use increases stroke risk by 35%. This study further works to debunk false claims of moderate alcohol use being healthy.

Sources:https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-alcohol-stroke/majorstudy-debunks-myth-that-moderate-drinking-can-be-healthyidUSKCN1RG22i?fbclid=lwAR2FQDcgZTQvnJeVPnZP8HO3Hrhswy7KyWoOJ9 Qs3de9M5M1OwYSID2aCDw https://www.bbc.com/news/health-

47817650?fbclid=lwAR3mdNWA3LwmhUEVdbk6WpNnamk5vWrcPl4ucWwJ XzwRF2OQS7aFpk1LX\_o#



#### **Expanding Outreach**

Our public messaging efforts continue to reach an increasing number of people in New York State and beyond. We continue to reach more people over Facebook. Our most recent data shows that content from our Facebook page has been viewed by people in at least 293 communities across the state, in 59 out of 62 counties. We also reached people in 48 other states, and over 50 countries. The New York Prohibition Party twitter account has reached over 770,000 cumulative views.

"The United States are a political state, or organized society, whose end is government, for the security, welfare, and happiness of all who live under its protection." William Seward

#### An Underhanded Attack On Electoral Fusion

In the U.S., New York State is arguably the leading practitioner of electoral fusion. In New York State, two or more parties can choose to nominate the same candidate for elected office, and the candidate can receive votes cumulatively through each ballot line. This practiced has helped minor parties gain relatively greater influence in state politics. It has helped some parties with gaining and maintaining the 50,000 gubernatorial votes needed for statewide ballot access. It has allowed multiple New Yorkers from multiple parties to come together to compete against more established candidates. For instance, in 2017 the Upstate Jobs Party, Reform Party, and Independence Party came together to nominate Ben Walsh, for Mayor of Syracuse. Ben Walsh defeated the Republican and Democratic candidates to become mayor of Syracuse. Electoral Fusion has often encouraged the major parties in the state to negotiate with

Continued on page 5

members of minor parties and agree to some degree of shared power in order to build a coalition for commonly agreed on candidates.

Some members of the major party elite have been attempting to eliminate electoral fusion in New York State. Their reason for this is clear: to attack the influence of minor parties and subvert free political association, so as to consolidate greater power within the major parties and for the elites that dominate them. If electoral fusion were eliminated it would weaken the ability of different political parties to work cooperatively with each other, and the ability of parties to negotiate for shared governance. It would make it far more difficult for minor parties to acquire the 50,000 gubernatorial votes needed to maintain statewide ballot access, and could very likely lead to most of the minor parties (which currently have statewide ballot access) losing their statewide ballot access.

It has been reported by Ballot Access
News that the state legislature enacted a
bill setting up a Commission to study
public funding for statewide state
office. The Commission's plan must be
released by December 1, if the legislature
does not pass an alternative plan by
December 23, the plan has the force of
law. Hidden within this are provisions
which allow that commission to pass a
plan eliminating electoral fusion in the
state. If the commission recommended
such a plan and the state legislature failed
to act, then the state's electoral fusion
system would end.

This year, the state legislature had embarked on electoral reforms with the promise of strengthening democracy, improving voter participation, and strengthening ethical standards. But there are those in the legislature, who have worked behind closed doors to secretly advance a change that is contrary to these principles. Their attempt to eliminate electoral fusion is unethical, antidemocratic, and acts to suppress voter participation. And make no mistake, attacking free political association, working to remove minor parties from the ballot, and working to impair the ability of voters to vote for the candidates and parties of their choice, is indeed antidemocratic, and does work to discourage voters from participating.

The vipers within the State Democratic Party leadership showed themselves, when the State Democratic Party passed a resolution calling for the legislature to abolish electoral fusion. Fortunately, this was met with a letter from 26 Democratic State Senators expression support for fusion. If these Senators are true to their word, then this attack on electoral fusion may be repulsed. But we cannot assume that they will hold to their word. We the citizens must send clear messages to all members of the state legislature, to reject these attacks, and uphold electoral fusion.

Links to Ballot Access News Reports: https://ballot\_access.org/2019/04/24/new-york-fusion-is-threatened-again/#comment-671494

http://ballot-access.org/2019/04/28/april-2019-ballot-access-news-printedition/



#### **Alcohol Tax Bill**

In last month's issue, we reported that Assembly member Michael DenDekker introduced a proposed to increase state taxes on alcohol sales. Assembly bill A06349A would increase state taxes on alcohol by 50%, and designate funds raised by it to go to funding addiction prevention and rehabilitation programs. It is estimated that if passed, it could generate 260 million dollars a year for such programs.

Since then, the bill has gained some traction in the state legislature. The bill now has 20 cosponsors in the assembly. State Senator Leroy Comrie has introduced the bill in the state senate, as bill S04648. Currently the bill is sitting in the state assembly ways and means committee, and the state senate budget and revenue committee.

The bill's sponsors, cosponsors, and multi-sponsors include:

Assembly member DenDekker (district 34), Assembly member Pichardo (district 86), Assembly member Epstein (district 74), Assembly member Miller (district 38), Assembly member Arroyo (district 84),

Assembly member Romero (district 136), Assembly member Mosley (district 57), Assembly member Dinowitz (district 81), Assembly member D'Urso (district 16), Assembly member Simon (district 52), Assembly member Jaffee (district 86), Assembly member Jaffee (district 97), Assembly member Havesi (district 28), Assembly member Ortiz (district 51), Assembly member Ashbey (district 107), Assembly member Salka (district 121), Assembly member Theile (district 1), Assembly member Fahy (district 109), Assembly member Crespo (district 85), Assembly member Cruz (district 39), Assembly member Fall (district 61), Assembly member Fernandez (district 80), Assembly member Cook (district 32), Assembly member Sayegh (district 86), Assembly member Pichardo (district 90), and State Senator Comrie (district 14).

These results are even more encouraging, when you consider that 8 of these cosponsors were elected to the state assembly in the 2018 elections. Hopefully, it is a sign of the legislature moving in a more positive direction.



"On the diffusion of education among the people rest the preservation and perpetuation of our free institutions." Daniel Webster

"The people of the state of New York have a perfect right to protect themselves, and are in duty bound to secure their posterity, by law, from the evils of intemperance... It is the right of the Freemen of this State to demand from all parties, as candidates for legislative offices, such men will use their personal and official influence in favor of the entire prohibition and suppression of the sale of intoxicating drinks." From a resolution of the Dutchess County Temperance Society, 1850