

New York Prohibitionist



Think NY Vote Dry

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A time to take a stand

As we continue our work to help build a better future for our society, we are approaching some important moments for participating in our democratic process. November 6th, is the day or the midterm elections. There will be elections for many local, state, and federal offices and the results of these elections can have significant impacts on our lives and political environment. As such, it is important to participate in the coming elections and to use them to help promote our issues. We will also face an important moment with the upcoming Prohibition Party national convention, on November 13th. In which, party members will select our 2020 Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates, and ratify our 2020 platform. Now is a time to take a stand, and to do our duty as citizens.

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Prohibition Party Media Attention

In recent days, the Prohibition Party of New York and the national Prohibition Party have seen an influx of media attention.

Recently we had done an interview with Don Cazentre of Syracuse.com and NYUP.com. The Syracuse.com article, titled "It's back: NY Prohibition Party renews political fight to ban alcohol" was published on October 24th, and can be reached by this link.

https://www.syracuse.com/business-news/index.ssf/2018/10/its_back_ny_prohibition_party_renews_political_fight_against_alcohol.html?fbclid=IwAR1jmsyVFoniz3Oxsc9OrDvH7hSK4S0dtOP_JmBcqbvWKO2IYLWjmDUDUs

The article has already attracted a significant amount of public attention. The article has already been shared thousands of times on social media, and has attracted hundreds of online comments. It has also brought the attention of other media outlets. Sites including reason.com, thefix.com, and vinpair.com have produced their own articles and commentary using information derived from the Syracuse.com article. Since the Syracuse.com article was posted, we have also

seen some requests from other media outlets seeking interviews. Arrangements have been made for a planned radio interview with Joe Salzone of WTKW Syracuse, which sound broadcast sometime in the coming weeks and should also be posted online afterwards. There are also arrangements made for an interview with the Daily Telegraph. So, we should even more media coverage to look forward to.

The upcoming Prohibition Party national convention has also attracted so media coverage. On October 26th, the Guardian released an article titled "The Prohibition Party: the dark, sober horse vying for the white house", which covers the upcoming national convention and the possible prospects for our 2020 campaign.

Here's the link for that article
https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2018/oct/26/prohibition-party-2020-presidential-election-campaign?CMP=share_btn_tw

Prohibition Party Social Media Revival

The national Prohibition Party recently appointed a new head of social media for the party, Dr. John Das. Since the appointment of a new social media director, the party has begun to reinvigorate its social media presence. Work has begun on updating the Prohibition Party website. A new Prohibition Party Facebook page has been created, a Facebook group for Prohibition Party members has been created, and a new Prohibition Party twitter account. Efforts are also underway to establish stronger connections and coordinating between the online operations of the national party and its state affiliates.

Here are the links for the new social media sites.

Prohibition Party page on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ProhibitionParty-2257163644518221>

Prohibition Party group on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ProhibitionPartyUSA/>

Prohibition Party account on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/ProhibitionUS>

Prohibition Party YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDAjck4Dkz7ea9hR4R9I4IA>



"Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men" John Adams

Prohibition Party National Convention Coming November 13th

The Prohibition Party National Convention is coming on November 13th. As State Chairman Jonathan Makeley explained in an article on the Independent Political Report,

The Prohibition Party's National Conference will soon be coming. Typically, the presidential national conference happens during the summer of the prior to the election year. But this time it was decided to hold the conference early. The 2020 national conference will be held a week after the November elections, on November 13th, 8:00 pm. Like the conference for the 2016 election, this conference will be done electronically. The business of the conference will include selecting a President and Vice-Presidential candidate, as well as developing the 2020 Prohibition Party platform. All members who are current with their annual party dues will be able to participate.

Party Treasurer Jim Hedges sent out the following message about the conference.

"There will be a conference call, an "electronic convention," on November 13th of all "paid up" members of the Prohibition Party. The agenda of this call will include nominating our national ticket for the 2020 election.

If you would like to run for President, speak up now. Notify the Secretary (Bill Bayes — bbayes51@gmail.com), and send me (hedges@prohibitionists.org) a short bio and campaign statement to publish in the next National Prohibitionist. Anyone who will be at least 35 years old on inauguration day may be our candidate... The deadline for the summer

issue is October 15th. That's only 3 weeks away."

So far, 3 members have put their names in consideration for the party's presidential nomination: Bill Bayes, Phil Collins, and Adam Seaman.

Bill Bayes was the 2016 Prohibition Party candidate for vice-president and is the current national party secretary. He is a former music teacher and small businessman in Mississippi. He has stated that if nominated he intends to run as a conservative style candidate, with a focus on state's rights, limited federal government, protecting the 2nd amendment, and abolishing the federal reserve.

Phil Collins is a Prohibition National Committee for Nevada and previously for Illinois. He is a navy veteran, former township trustee in Illinois, and a current 2018 candidate for treasurer of Clark County Nevada. He has stated that if nominated he intends to run as a conservative style candidate, with a focus on reducing federal spending, cutting taxes, protecting the 2nd amendment, promoting pro-life policies, and strengthening immigration enforcement.

Adam Seaman is a Prohibition National Committee member for Massachusetts. He is a working-class army veteran and historical enthusiast. He has stated that if nominated he intends to run as a centrist candidate with a focus on temperance, women's rights, reforming healthcare, education and foreign policy, pro-life and pro second amendment issues, and addressing 21st century issues, such as net neutrality.

With three different candidates running for the nomination, this is perhaps the most competitive race for the party's nomination in decades, and gives Prohibition Party members a number of options as to how to approach the 2020 election. After the national conference in November, the party's 2020 ticket and platform should be revealed.

<http://independentpoliticalreport.com/2018/10/prohibition-party-to-hold-national-conference-on-november-13th/>

In addition, we should also mention that C. L. Gammon is running for the party's nomination for vice-president. Mr. Gammon is a writer and historian, who lives in Tennessee. He decided to seek the vice-presidential nomination for 2020 on the suggestion of the late Don Webb (long time Prohibition Party figure and national chairman 2003-2005). He has stated that he would like to see the Prohibition Party add a plank to its platform calling for a reform of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to ensure that veterans get adequate care. As far as known, he is the only person seeking the vice-presidential position.

"I will be as harsh as truth, and uncompromising as justice... I am in earnest, I will not equivocate, I will not excuse, I will not retreat a single inch, and I will be heard." ~ William Lloyd Garrison

Statement on the Pittsburgh Synagogue Attack

"The Prohibition Party condemns the acts of violence that occurred in the Pittsburgh Synagogue Massacre and sends our condolences to those affected by this tragedy."

—Rick Knox, Chairman, Prohibition Party

The Need to Reclaim Social Space

The condition of our society and our lives is not merely shaped in the political arena, but in the space of social interaction. We live in a society that is plagued by a drinking culture. In a society where drinking is treated as the norm and where its practice has staked a territorial claim upon the field of social interaction. Where drinking is often present and expected in many settings of adult social interaction. Whether its coworkers going out to a bar for drinks, a family barbeque with beer, or any manner of social situations is present. This infusion of the presence of drinking into so many social situations helps drive the drinking culture in our society. It normalizes drinking and produced social influences that encourage drinking. But it also does more than that. It produces social conditions which marginalize teetotalers, and especially ethical teetotalers, from social spaces. If the main body of a group insists on having their social interaction in a place where drinking occurs, it places teetotalers within a group in a tough position. Attend, be made to feel uncomfortable, and face potential mockery for not drinking, or do not attend and be left out of social event. Both options can lead to the social marginalization and othering of the teetotaling individual. The drinking culture teaches drinkers that they are entitled, if not expected, to drink, and it sends the message to teetotalers that their wishes and interests, if they are to be regarded at all by drinkers, must always be placed in secondary consideration to the supposed entitlement of drinkers to drink.

But things do not have to be this way. They should not be this way. We can change things. But in order to change things, we teetotalers need to stand up and reclaim the spaces of social interaction. There are tens of millions of us in this country. There are far more of us than the drinking culture would like for you to believe there is. We have allowed social intimidation to silence too many of us, too often, for far too long. To begin to change things we must be willing to publicly identify ourselves as teetotalers, and to do so with pride. When in mixed social groups we must be willing to suggest the alternative of hanging out at a place without alcohol. We must also come together. Let's form of join social groups for teetotalers and groups dedicated to alcohol-free social interaction. That way we can create areas of social interaction, where we are not marginalized. And as such groups are built, we should build some teetotal groups that will take a public stand in promoting teetotalism and in ensuring places for alcohol free social interaction. We must also challenge the places where alcohol is present. You go to college?

Encourage the college to consider becoming a dry-campus. You go a local movie theater or sports venue? Encourage them to become alcohol free. Where possible, support alcohol-free restaurants and other businesses that provide an alcohol-free place of social interaction. Help them so that they can continue to provide these spaces, so that they can be successful, and show the other area businesses that they don't need to sell alcohol to be profitable. It is through these sort of actions that we can build a teetotal culture that will allow us to advance a mainstream acceptance of a teetotal life and will allow us to challenge the social dominance and existence of the drinking culture.

Breast Cancer Awareness

October is designated as breast cancer awareness month. As many of us know, breast cancer is a serious illness, which affects many people, and for which many are potentially at risk of developing. It important to educate oneself about the signs of breast cancer, and to take appropriate steps to screen for it. Breast cancer awareness is an important part of tackling the issue of breast cancer. Likewise, so are prevention efforts, treatment, cancer research, and the like. It will take comprehensive efforts in order to make progress and save more lives.

In the interest of awareness, is also important to let people know about the contributing role that alcohol plays in breast cancer. Alcohol is a group one carcinogen. That means it has been scientifically prevent to be a direct cause of cancer. It has been shown to cause several forms of cancer, including breast cancer. It is estimated that alcohol consumption may be accountable for 23% of breast cancer cases. Any level of alcohol consumption increases the likelihood of developing cancer.

Joe Biden

On October 25th, former vice-president Joe Biden delivered a speech at the University at Buffalo, as part of the university's distinguished speakers series. Joe Biden delivered a speech focusing on reducing divisiveness and improving unity within our country, and afterwards took some questions. One of these questions was what about what young people could do to help build a better political environment. Biden's recommendations included seeking out people with different views and trying understand where they're coming from, being involved with your community, and treating others with respect.

This is good advice, not only for young adults in college looking to, but for all us in general; as we seek to move towards a better, more elevated, political discourse, which will better allow us to come together for advancing our common interests.

"Common sense is seeing things as they are; and doing things as the ought to be" Harriet Beecher Stowe

"When someone tells you you're wasting your vote recognize that they don't care about you. It is a selfish statement. They are saying your beliefs aren't worth being represented. That you should silence your voice so theirs can be louder. Vote your conscience, not someone else's politics." Gary Johnson



Makeley For Assembly Campaign

For the past several months, Jonathan Makeley has been running as the Prohibition Party candidate for state assembly. In these months, he has spoken on a variety of important issues facing the state: including the need to end state support for the alcohol industry and address alcohol as a public health problem, establishing stronger ethics laws for public officials, passing the Child Victims Act and Brittany's Law, improving the state's educational system, making college more affordable, reducing the burden of property taxes in the state, and advancing a holistic approach to economic development. While he was unable to make it on the ballot, due to the high petition requirement required to get on ballot, people will be able to cast write-in votes. Election day is soon approaching, and hopefully plenty of voters will decide to send a message, by voting for Jonathan Makeley.

Interview with the Committee to Restore Representation in West Seneca

In our latest segment of our series interviewing people and groups working to seek change in New York State, we interviewed Daniel Warren from the Committee to Restore Representation in West Seneca. The group advocates for the West Seneca Town Board (which had previously decreased its town board to three members) to return to having a five-member board, consisting of the town supervisor and four other town board members. The following is the content of the interview:

Could briefly explain for our readers what it is your ballot measure would do?

The ballot measure will allow the voters in the Town to decide if out Town Board increases the number of its councilmen from 2 to 4, thus increase the size of the Town Board from 3 to 5.

What are your main reasons for supporting the expansion of the town board back to 5 members?

The main reason is that a 3 member Town Board is structurally a bad and inefficient size of a governing body for a Town the size of West Seneca. Even by private industry standards the optimal size for a board is between 5 and 8 members (<http://dorgerconsulting.com/2011/07/20/size-matters-right-sizing-your-board-of-directors/>).

Your campaigns Facebook page has often made mention to the town's budge and credit issues. How do you considering this to be related to the number of members on the town board, and what do you believe the impact of expanding the town board would have on these issues?

Due to the small size of our town board they do not have the range of perspective that a larger board will have. Also with a board this size it is much easier to pass/defeat an item because with a 3 member board there are only 3 combination of votes to pass/defeat an item, however with a 5 member board there 10 combinations of votes to pass/defeat an item. So while it may be 1 vote that decides an issue there are much more combination of votes so that 1 vote is not necessarily the same vote.

Will the vote for the ballot measure be held during the general election in November or will it be held in a special election?

The vote on this proposition will be held during the general election on November 6.

Where the State Legislators Stand on Alcohol

Given the tendency of the state legislature to pass bills to favor the alcohol industry at the expense of the people of New York, we did some research looking into how particularly the legislators have been voting. We looked into how they have voted on alcohol related bills so far in the 2017-2018 legislative session.

The results for the state senate are abysmal. Every single member votes in favor of pro-alcohol bills, and almost all of them have didn't so consistently. They only time any particular state legislator didn't vote in favor of a pro-alcohol bill was when senator Ruben Diaz voted against one bill.

The results for the state assembly were somewhat better. While most of them still voted in favor of every pro-alcohol bill they were presented with, some members managed to have some sense.

Most Notably, Charles Barron, of district 60, who has consistently voted against every pro-alcohol bill this session and had sponsored a bill to restrict alcohol advertising (which got stopped at the committee level). Four other assembly members, Helene Weinstein (district 41), Erik Dilan (district 54), Deborah Glick

(district 66), and Jeffrey Dinowitz (district 81) sometimes voted against pro-alcohol bills. Twenty assembly members, Steve Englebright (district 4), Andrew Garbarino (district 7), Edward Ra (district 19), Daniel Rosenthal (district 27), Jeffrion Aubry (district 35), Aravella Simotas (district 36), Rodneyse Bichotte (district 42), William Colton (district 47), Jo Anne Simon (district 52), Latrice Walker (district 55), Walter Mosely (district 57), Jaime Williams (district 59), Linda Rosenthal (district 67), Carmen De La Rosa (district 72), Michael Blake (district 79), Luis Sepulveda (district 87), Ellen Jaffee (district 97), James Skoufis (district 99), Kevin Cahill (district 103), and Phillip Steck (district 110) have voted against an alcohol bill at least one time this session.

Report on Brittany's law

Brittany's Law is a proposed bill in the New York state legislature that if passed would establish a statewide registry for those convicted of violent crimes (similar to the state's registry for sex offenders). The bill has previously been passed in the state senate, but has been held up in the state assembly.

In our May Issue we did an interview with Britany's Law advocate Dale Driscoll. Those who have not read the article can find it on our website or via this link: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/2cc7be_6abcf6d9c57d4320a0cab88517efdd71.pdf

As for Dale Driscoll, she has worked with us to provide us with some information about where members of the assembly stand on Brittany's law.

Dale Driscoll stated that the key figure who is currently preventing Brittany's Law from moving forward is state assembly member David Weprin.

"He doesn't like registries". Apparently he has a problem with the level ones on the sex offender registry and instead of doing something about it is taking it out on everyone else. Without getting passed him I don't know what we can do. It's all on David Weprin, bottom line."

"Their other reason for not wanting this, 'Unintended consequences' What they are not seeing is these people will have already been charged, found guilty and gone to prison for a violent crime. These charges aren't new, they are already on the books as being violent crimes. Its for people to look at BEFORE they bring someone into their homes. I need them to understand this bill does not add new crimes to the books, we are only saying if they commit one of these violent crimes they will have to register when released from prison. Level 3's for 10 years, Levels 1 and 2 up to 5 years depending on the severity. It would be determined by a panel of 5 created by the sponsor of the bill in the assembly (Aileen Gunther)."

We asked Driscoll which members of the state assembly have expressed that they would be inclined to vote for Brittany's law should they get the opportunity.

"The calls I've gotten back so far, of course Brian Kolb, Aileen Gunther Barclay, Barrett, Palmissano Ortiz, Santabarbara, Steck, Barnwell, Johns, Giglio, McDonough, Murray, Montesano, Raia, Dedekker, Crespo, Finch, Malliotakis, Friend, Hevesi, Norris, Ra, Stirpe, (unfortunately Oaks is leaving, but the man we feel will win, I talked with him when he was running for Senate, he said he would vote yes, will know on the 6th if he wins) ... Also think McLaughlin is a yes,... Cahills office just called and they are definitely willing to consider it if it makes it to the floor."

While the effort to establish a full account of where members of the assembly stand on this issue continues, this information helps to provide some insight as to its supporters and opponents within the state assembly.

Report on Child Victims Act

As we have mentioned in previous issues, the Child Victims Act is a proposed bill in the New York State legislature to significantly extend or eliminate the statute of limitations for the sexual abuse of children. The statute of limitations is an unjust an arbitrary time limitation, which allowed predators to walk free and denies justice to those abused. The Child Victims Act would help to correct this flaw in our legal system. For years, advocates have tried to convince the New York state legislature to pass the Child Victims. They have previously been able to get it passed in the state assembly, but have been unable to get it passed in the state senate. We had recently communicated with the Fighting for Children PAC (one of the leading groups involved in lobbying for the Child Victims Act) about what is causing the hold up in the state senate. It was reported that leading members within the state senate Republican Majority leadership were preventing the bill from being voted on.

Civility

Following the publication of the article on the Prohibition of New York by Syracuse.com, there were a number of other articles written by other media outlets based off of information from it. One of these articles was by Reason.com, titled "The Prohibition Party Returns to New York, Thanks to Andrew Cuomo". https://reason.com/blog/2018/10/26/prohibition-is-back-in-new-york-cuomo?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

For those who aren't aware, reason.com is a Libertarian-oriented website, and Libertarians and Prohibitions often have some significant differences in politic positions. And their article made it explicit, that they disagree with much of our positions. Though they also stated that they greet our reestablishment in the state and recognize that we deserve the chance to express our views. And indeed, it is well for all of us to recognize that it is possible for people

of differing political views to act in a civil manner.

An Attack on Our Republic

Recently, a man mailed pipe bombs to various public figures in our country in a failed attempt at mass assassination and domestic terrorism. We condemn the attacks committed by that man and any other attempts to assassinate public officials. Our republic is built upon free discourse and a peaceful democratic process. To launch violent attacks against public figures for political purposes is to attack our republic. As such, all decent citizens should condemn such domestic terrorism.

The Kavanaugh Confirmation and the Broader Problems of Alcohol and Sexual Violence

In recent months, we have seen the contentious debate over the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Bret Kavanaugh. During this process, Kavanaugh faced multiple accusations of past acts of sexual assault, as well as questions over his history as an unrepentant drinker. This article will not focus on the details of this contentious confirmation process the accusations specifically against Kavanaugh. Rather it will focus on the broader issues that this case helped bring attention to.

Firstly, there is the issue of sexual assault. Sexual assault is unfortunately far too common in our society. While most people generally recognize that sexual assault is wrong, there are some with malicious intents who hold toxic views that lead them to believe that it's ok for them to commit sexual assault. There are others who hold views that obscure their ability to recognize instances of sexual assault and thus impair their ability to provide support for victims of sexual assault and to oppose those who perpetrate the crime. Many people who have been sexually assaulted in the past have been afraid to come forward due to fear of not being believed or fear that the person who assaulted them could retaliate against them reporting. The traumatic impact of sexual assault can have a lasting mental impact on the person, and at times it can take time before a person who has been sexually assaulted feels safe to come forward. We as people and as a society should do more to combat the practice of sexual assault and to support those who have been harmed by it.

We must also make reforms to the way that our legal system handles sexual crimes. Many states have statutes of limitations for sexual assault. These states of limitations make it so that if a case of sexual assault is not reported and/or not prosecuted by law enforcement within a preset time limit that the case is prominently legally dismissed. That means that the person who committed the assault is exempted from legal accountability (even if they could be proven guilty beyond any reasonable doubt) and those who were assaulted are denied justice by the legal system. Instead of pursuing all crimes and

prosecuting based on evidence, the statutes of limitations have undercut this principle through an arbitrary deadline. The defenders of statutes of limitations try to claim that statutes of limitations help protect the rights of the accused. But that's not the case. If the statutes of limitations were eliminated than those who may then be prosecuted would be accorded the same standard of proof to convict them and the same opportunity to defend themselves as anyone currently prosecuted of the same crime. Eliminating the statute of limitations would improve justice by allowing all reports of sexual assault to be investigated, by elevating the principle of prosecuting and convicting based on evidence and reason, by allowing more people who were assaulted to seek justice through our legal system, by making it so that more people who can be proven guilty will face legal consequences, and allowing those who may not be guilty to defend themselves in a court of law. New York state and all the other states in this country should abolish the statute of limitations for rap, sexual assault, and the sexual abuse of children.

Another issue that has been brought up the issue of nation's destructive drinking culture and its relation to sexual assault. In the wake of the Kavanaugh hearings, some media outlets have run articles on some of the destructive aspects teenage and college drinking culture; including to sexual assault. It is good that they are bringing attention to the issue. Scientific research has shown that the consumption of alcohol can impair the parts of the brain that control violent impulses (which can result in an increased likelihood of violent aggression) and that alcohol is a contributing factor in many instances of violent crime. Alcohol is also our country's number one rape drug. Many would be rapists try to get their targets to drink alcohol in order to reduce their ability to resist attack. According to Partners for Prevention in Allegany County, alcohol use by the perpetrator and/or the person attacked, may be involved in as much 95% of instances of college sexual assault. Ultimately, the responsibility for sexual assault lies with the person committing the assault. Though, if we are to comprehensively address the problem of sexual assault, we must recognize that alcohol and the drinking culture surrounding it can play a contributing role in facilitating some sexual assaults.

Attending Midterm Discussion Event

Earlier this month the University at Buffalo held a public discussion forum about the midterm elections. State Chairman Jonathan Makeley was able to attend and participate in the discussion. During this, he was able to speak about the Prohibition Party's activities in this year's midterm elections, as well as general details about third party activities in the midterms, and how we make our political environment less binarily divisive by establishing fair and equal ballot access laws. Taking advantage of public discussion events is one good way to be able to help spread the word of our party.