

# LibertyRising

Our Vision: More freedom through less government, fewer regulations and lower taxes for all.

## What's happening?

### Bill of Rights Day

Tuesday, December 15, 2019 – Canceled due to Patriot Act. You will be notified by the government when your rights have been restored. Until then, obey!

### LP Sonoma

Monday, December 16, 2019 - 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Round Table Pizza Montgomery Village, 2424 Magowan Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95405

James Oglesby will be giving a 30-minute presentation on the Second Amendment (including Q&A).

### LP Sonoma

Monday, January 20, 2019 - 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM  
Round Table Pizza Montgomery Village, 2424 Magowan Dr. Santa Rosa, CA 95405

Derailing the Un-SMART train's sales tax extension will be discussed.

### Homelessness in Sonoma Co.

Tentatively, sometime in February: A panel on homelessness in Sonoma County will start the process of adopting our own public policy

### California Primary

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 - Presidential Election Primary, plus the SMART sales tax extension vote, and possibly a sales tax vote to assist fire departments.

## NRA declared a domestic terrorist organization

The San Francisco Board of Supervisor (SFBS) recently passed a resolution declaring the NRA a "domestic terrorist organization." Apparently, the NRA "musters its considerable wealth and organizational strength to promote gun ownership and incite gun owners to acts of violence." Furthermore the NRA "spreads propaganda that misinforms and aims to deceive the public about the dangers of gun violence," The SFBS even accuses the NRA of promoting "extremist positions, in defiance of the views of a majority of its membership and the general public, and that through their "advocacy has armed those individuals who would and have committed acts of terrorism."

Of course, the SFBS provided no evidence for their ugly accusations, showed no understanding of the Second Amendment nor of the First Amendment, and demonstrated a horrific level of intellectual dishonesty.

Clearly, the San Francisco Board of supervisors is a domestic tyranny. Libertarians should consider joining the NRA, and they should ponder the evil that lurks in those seeking power.

"Stay thirsty my friends," thirsty for liberty!

## News break

## Mises Institute comments

## on the Nobel Prize in economics

The headline for the article reads, "The Nobel Prize in Economic Science Awarded to Silly, Politically Correct, Technocrats." In this 10/14/2019 article Robert Wenzel briefly discusses the folly of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

Go to Mises.org for the full story.

We will not have good government until we have much less government. You see, it will still be arrogant, abusive, and wasteful, but it will be so small and weak that we won't care.

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## What's a Libertarian to do?

## LP Sonoma officers

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## Personal Responsibility



by William MacElroy,  
Chair

While Libertarians can find many examples of where egregious infringements upon our personal liberties are occurring, we also need to be vocal about the other side of the Libertarian coin: Personal Responsibility. One of the last resorts to government should be aiding individuals who should/can take care of their own affairs. We often hear about new and expanding programs to support people who "can't take care of themselves." This belies the Socialist's very dark view of the ability of human beings to make decisions and take actions to survive and thrive.

When government intercedes in the lives of individuals, it sends the message that some people are incapable. This reinforces the notion that "helplessness" is a cause for immediate subvention rather than an opportunity for the individual to solve the issues of their own circumstances. The Libertarian message needs to be clear: the responsibility for our individual success lies with us, not the government.

Examples where we should personally take responsibility include: health care, housing, education, sustenance and caring for our own

families. Find the word "public" in front of any program, and we'll see targets for replacing Socialist constructs with opportunities for Libertarian personal responsibility.

It should only be a desperate, last resort when government must subsidize the free individual. Libertarianism assumes a competent and rational individual to participate both in liberty and responsibility. In cases where an individual is truly *incompetent* and/or threatens the liberty and pursuit of happiness of others, then institutionalization may be required. But the end goal must be as temporary as possible, in order to return the individual to self-

*"[L]ike fire and fusion, government is a dangerous servant and a terrible master. You now have freedom—if you can keep it. But do remember that you can lose this freedom more quickly to yourselves than to any other tyrant."*

- Robert A. Heinlein

reliance. Programs must not be platforms for multiple generations of ongoing dependence.

### A simple start

Finish your bug-out bag.

Get your 3-week or 3-month supplies of food, water & necessities in order.

Prepare and practice your 30-second "elevator speech" explaining why you are a libertarian.

Learn how to write the "one-minute letter." The goal is not to convince someone, but to succinctly make your opinion known to your representatives. For example: *Dear Congressperson ShakyOnGuns*, I expect and demand that you honor your oath to defend the entire bill of rights. (signed) *Citizen Kane*

### What's the answer?

Q: Why is a county sales tax to "fund struggling [fire] departments" being considered for the March 2020 ballot? A: *Because the usually low voter turnout in the Primary Election will help insure the measure's passage.*

Q: When did America start to unravel? A: The Lincoln administration would be picked by many, but we recovered from that, so let's jump ahead to Theodore Roosevelt. This nation has never recovered from Teddy's insistence that he could do anything that the law did not specifically forbid. And, by law he meant Congress, not the U.S. Constitution! Every president since has happily trod in T.R.'s "progressive" footsteps.

Q: Why is democracy failing? A: Democracy has many charms for societies organized around campfires, but modern societies require free markets protected from predation by the majority. It has been estimated that around New York City there are ten billion products that need to be shipped, delivered, stocked, displayed, and sold. Only the free market, guided by real prices can accomplish that.

### What do you know?

## Why "Less Government"

Less government is central to the Libertarian Party philosophy because government is a dangerous force and must be constrained.

There is ample historical evidence of this – such as the graves holding the remains of nearly 200 million people who were murdered by their own governments in the last century.

We can't avoid the fact that government officials are people just like most others. While we can do a good job of avoiding corrupt strangers and businessmen, we can do little, and not quickly, about corrupt public officials. The harm they do ranges from the tawdry (financial scandals), to the ignominious (American citizens of Japanese ancestry forced into internment camps), and to the most deadly (Waco and Ruby Ridge).

Perhaps more insidious and widespread is the fact that it is impossible for a politician or bureaucrat to know what is best for the people. Yet, they likely do know what is best for themselves - election and re-election. Consequently, politicians are unmoved by the harm they do to others while steadfastly doing what benefits themselves!

## Comics

### 9/15 *The Press Democrat*

In her letter, Maryl Lindahl excoriates President Trump (sometime rightfully), and concludes with a question, "Are the 38% of voters who still support him also stable geniuses or just arrogant and ignorant?"

It's funny it never occurred to her that however bad our President is, perhaps he is still preferable to the alternative. Would Hillary Clinton have appointed similar Supreme Court justices? Isn't the pack of Democrat contenders gleeful at the prospect of marching the country off the cliff of socialism?

### 09/04 *The Press Democrat*

A self-claimed veteran, Jacob W.

Boudewijn, claims he was "trained with assault weapons meant for war." Indeed, he was trained with either the M-16 or the subsequent M-4 variant, both machine guns. It is funny he is so confused as the weapon of concern is the semi-automatic, AR-15 type of rifle, who no military has ever trained for war on.

### 09/02 *The Press Democrat*

A regular letter writer, Gene A. Hottel, penned an homage to Labor Day, remarking that labor is the source of wealth in America.

This will come as surprise to labor in so many countries, particularly those suffering from socialism where long hard hours yield little wealth and even less hope. The source of wealth is really freedom and entrepreneurship.

Life isn't fair and you can't make it fair by preying upon your neighbors to pay for your misfortune and mistakes.

### 08/17 *The Press Democrat*

Bloomberg Opinion columnist Noah Smith opines that unions can make a comeback from their heyday, particularly with massive intervention of the federal government in the labor market..

This is painfully funny, as the good that is supposed to be accomplished by unions is crushed under the burdens of featherbedding, protectionism, rejection of labor-saving devices, and rent-seeking that corrupts the political process.

### 08/17 *The Press Democrat*

In a letter to the editor, Jarold Wright, complains that the "Republican sycophants in Congress refuse to enact any meaningful legislation regulating assault rifles."

This is funny, as "meaningful" in this case means any imaginable regulation

regardless of any factual or logical evidence proving that it would be of "meaningful" benefit. Note that Mr. Wright also made the false claim that semi-automatic, assault-style rifles are weapons of war. They haven't been for decades, and America last went to war with semi-automatic rifles in Korea, nearly 70 years ago.

Under the "weapons of war" standard it would be difficult to find a rifle that one would be permitted to own. Of course, that is the real goal.

## Directory

*LibertyRISING is published by the Libertarian Party of Sonoma County, James R. Oglesby editor. Unless otherwise noted the opinions expressed are those of the editor.*

*The deadline for the January issue is 12/24/19. Please submit your letters, opinion pieces, and news to:*

*James R. Oglesby  
LibertyRising2019@gmail.com*

*Subscriptions are free to members, free by email, and \$10/yr by government mail.*

*Libertarian Party of Sonoma County:  
[www.LPSonoma.org](http://www.LPSonoma.org)*

*Libertarian Party of California  
[www.LPC.org](http://www.LPC.org)*

*Libertarian Party (national)  
[info@lp.org](mailto:info@lp.org)*

*"In a moral society, your fear of freedom cannot require my forfeiture of liberty."*

*Vantage Vigilance Valor*

## Media silence

### Silence on context

In an 8/26 editorial cartoon we were shown Uncle Sam bending over a treasure chest and exclaiming, "Why did you empty it in good times??" Of course, he was speaking to three Republicans "elephants in suits," in the classic hear no evil-speak no evil-see

no evil pose.

There was no room to show Democrats also emptying the treasure chest, whether it was President Obama, or a Democrat controlled Congress.

**A compliant media + politicians = a cesspool.**

## Homelessness

### A Better Way

In this series of short columns, we will report on the homeless situation in Sonoma County, look at the strengths and weaknesses of the popular solutions and then present a libertarian approach.

Let's start by examining the routes to homelessness. The major tipping points are drug addiction, mental illness, and financial crisis. One or more of these can happen at the same time, compounding the problem. Obviously, the personal attitudes and behaviors of the homeless (before and during the episode of homelessness) can (will) have a profound impact.

There is a caveat we must keep in mind as we attempt to solve this problem – anything done to make being homeless less arduous will make it more attractive to both becoming and staying homeless.

Thoughts to ponder:

It is best not to segregate the homeless from “normal” society.

It is best to allow the homeless to earn much of the help they get.

It is best to remember that we are helping people, who happen to be homeless, to achieve their goals.

It is best to remove imposed obstacles (many by government). We can't easily eliminate minimum wage laws, but the self-employed can earn less than the minimum wage for their hours of effort.

To dive into Libertarian solutions to homelessness, read the article in the January 2020 issue of Reason magazine.

**Politicians + sanctimony = disaster**

## Your \$0.02

### Book List

Choice - Cooperation, Enterprise, and Human Action, by Robert P. Murphy

[A great introduction to Austrian Economics]

Basics of Resistance, by Claire Wolfe  
[Who knew resistance could be such fun!]

Don't think of an elephant! (The essential guide for Progressives), by George Lakoff [Know thy enemy.]

Factfulness, Ten Reasons We're Wrong About the World - and Why Things Are Better Than You Think, by Hans Rosling [Know the facts.]

Submitted by James Oglesby

**This is the opinion section. Send in your two cents worth, just keep it short. Longer opinion pieces are welcome.**

### Easy things you can

**do to help grow the Libertarian Party (from national LP):**

- Vote for Libertarian candidates.
- Sign up for LP email announcements.
- Request our free info packet.
- Become a dues-paying member or donate to the **national LP**.
- Become a dues-paying member, or donate, to your **state LP**.
- If your state has voter registration, change your voter registration to Libertarian.
- Put a Libertarian bumpersticker on your car.
- “Like” the Libertarian Party Facebook page.
- Follow us on Twitter.
- Order a Libertarian Party t-shirt.
- Order doorhangers and distribute them around your neighborhood.

- Put a Libertarian Party sign in your yard.
- Fill out our volunteer form.
- Order wallet-sized copies of the World's Smallest Political Quiz and distribute them.
- Buy some Libertarian promotional brochures and distribute them.
- Donate to a Libertarian candidate.
- Volunteer to help a Libertarian candidate.
- Become a candidate and run for office.
- Contact your state or local party and get involved.
- Play Who's Driving?

### Contributions needed

While suggestions are welcome, submissions to LibertyRising are needed. Send in letters and opinion pieces, monitor your local newspaper, send praises about useful U-Tube channels & report on local government meetings.

**Stop consuming libertarianism and start participating.**

## Freedom tracks

### LP Sonoma

William MacElroy, Michael Tishler & Richard J. Brannock have resurrected LP Sonoma, a tool we can use to promote and defend freedom.

**Are you laying freedom tracks? If yes, let us know. If no .....**