

Libertarian Party Wins Ballot-Access Fight

Sean Vadney will be on the November ballot—and the LP Colorado just scored an important victory for ballot access. When Libertarian candidate Alex Astley withdrew from the Colorado Secretary of State race on August 26, the Libertarian Party of Colorado quickly moved to fill the vacancy. The Party's Vacancy Committee nominated Sean Vadney, the highest vote-getter at the Party's convention, and submitted the required paperwork. The Secretary of State's office rejected the filing, citing the statutory deadline for minor-party candidate replacements. That could have left Libertarian voters without a Libertarian candidate for Secretary of State in November. But Joe Johnson and the LPCO Board weren't willing to simply accept that result. At a special meeting on August 31, the Board authorized pro bono legal action to challenge the rejection. Attorney Nick Sarwark subsequently filed Case No. 2026CV33176, asking the Denver District Court to order that Vadney be placed on the ballot. **And on September 3, we won.** Following a hearing, Denver District Court Judge Adam J. Espinosa ruled that **Vadney should be placed on the ballot.** The court applied Colorado's "substantial compliance" standard, concluding that the Party's actions satisfied the requirements of the Election Code despite the timing of the candidate's withdrawal. Colorado law provides that the Election Code is to be liberally construed and that substantial compliance with its provisions or intent is sufficient for the proper conduct of an election. The court also concluded that the one-day delay in the withdrawal did not prevent the Secretary of State's office from carrying out its statutory duties related to preparing the ballot. **This victory is about more than one candidate or one election.** It shows the importance of having a political party willing to defend its candidates and voters. The LPCO and Nick Sarwark acted quickly, pursuing the matter through the courts rather than simply accepting the initial rejection. That's grassroots Libertarianism in action: when the rules stand in the way of voters having a choice, we don't just complain about them—we take action. Congratulations to Sean Vadney, the LPCO Vacancy Committee, Nick Sarwark, Joe Johnson (Campaigns Director), and everyone who stepped up to make sure Libertarian voters will have a candidate to vote for in November.



Campaigns Chair Joe Johnson poses with Sean Vadney, the new LP candidate for Secretary of State, and Nick Sarwark, the attorney representing the LP, at the Secretary of State's office.

Denver County Affiliate

Important! Denver County LP Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendar for the Denver County Libertarian Party Annual Meeting: **September 9, 7:00 PM**, at the **Atomic Cowboy on Broadway**, 141 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80209. Meet and hear 2026 Libertarian candidates – Blake Huber (US Senate), Eric Mulder (Governor), Chad Humphrey (US House District 1). and Jacob Luria (State Senate district 34).

Thank you to Kyle Furey, who is stepping down as LPD Chair, for his service and for helping keep the Denver affiliate moving forward.

At the Denver County Annual Meeting, members will elect a new Board of Directors for the county affiliate. Filling these roles will help the affiliate continue providing a local place for Libertarians to meet, exchange ideas, support candidates and ballot initiatives, and participate in Denver-area political activity. Board positions to be elected:

-Chair -Vice Chair -Treasurer -Secretary -At-Large Representative

Members interested in taking a more active role are encouraged to consider running. Board service is a practical way to contribute to the local party, collaborate with fellow Libertarians, develop leadership experience, and help shape the affiliate's priorities for the coming year. Experience is welcome but not required; willingness to participate and work constructively with others is the most important starting point. **Who can vote?** Any person registered to vote in Denver County with Libertarian listed as their party affiliation is a member and may vote at the Annual Meeting.

Whether you are interested in serving on the Board, supporting the affiliate's work, or simply meeting other Denver-area Libertarians, please join us on September 9. Your participation will help set the direction for the Denver County LP next year.

LPColorado News



Donald Vermillion



Libertarians March in State Fair Parade for Donald Vermillion

On Saturday, August 29, Libertarians from across the state rallied to Donald Vermillion's campaign at the State Fair parade in Pueblo. The day began early for those traveling from Denver, but Vermillion was ready with breakfast sandwiches for the crew, and ready with fliers, and ice pops for the parade crowds. And kids along the way were happy to get the ice pops, since temperatures were in the 90s. The fliers were targets for shooting, with the message, "Targeting Waste, Fraud, and Abuse." Donald Vermillion's house district covers the southwest corner of Pueblo, where about half the voters are urban/suburban. The remainder of the district stretches south to Walsenburg and then west to the San Luis valley. The campaign has been well organized from the start, and Donald pulled out all the stops to secure a place in the parade and take a bite out of the two-party duopoly. Keith Laube, the State Chair, has remarked—and volunteers who participated agree—the State Fair parade would be a great outreach opportunity for the LP in future years.



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Arapahoe County

Our September 10th meeting will be at Rancho Alegre (420 S. Chambers) as usual.

Chaffee County!

Jenn Coop and Keith Laube are canvassing Libertarians in the county to activate this group. More news soon!

Clear Creek County

Clear Creek has submitted its paperwork for full affiliation! Liberty Lounge will be Sunday the 20th at Pickaxe Pizza, 1600 Miner St. Idaho Springs CO. Chris Hardman will be on the KYGT talk show "What's Upstream" on September 30th from 1230-1:00pm. If you live outside the county KYGT live streams on their website. "An Evening at the Club Hotel," a fundraiser for Chris Hardman, will be held on Saturday, September 26th from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. Tickets are \$30/person at the door. RSVP at TeamHardman.com for more details—space is limited.

Denver County

Please see the article on page 4. Denver County Libertarian Party Annual Meeting: September 9, 7:00 p.m., at the Atomic Cowboy on Broadway, 141 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80209.

Douglas County

Douglas County Libertarians will hold a cleanup along Parker Road in lieu of their regular meeting (see the story on Page 3). The LPDC's regular monthly meeting will resume on October 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Wild Blue Yonder Brewery, 519 Wilcox Street in Castle Rock. The meeting will be held in the separate back room, which looks like a little house.

El Paso County

- Janet Turner will speak at the League of Women Voters (LWV) candidate forum for SD11 at the Downtown YMCA, (207 N Nevada Ave) on Saturday, September 12th at 2:30.
- Doug Jones will speak at the LWV candidate forum on Sunday, September 13th, from 1:00 PM to 2:00pm (YMCA First and Main, 3035 New Center Pt.).
- Richard Graf will participate in the Senate District 35 candidate forum hosted by the LWV from 6:30-7:30 pm on Monday, September 14, 2026, 6:30 PM until 7:30 PM, at the Black Forest Community Center (12530 Black Forest Rd.).
- We will have the table at the Get out the vote event on Sept 27 (12:00-5:00 PM at COATI, 514 S. Tejon St.).
- We will also have a table at the Springs Gun Show October 11 (Colorado Springs Event Center, 3960 Palmer Park Blvd, Colorado Springs).

Jefferson County

Jeffco is having a board meeting next Thursday September 10th at 7:00 PM. Official board business is to fill a vacancy for treasurer. Also candidate promotions. A Town Hall for Ross Mettler (HD 23) will happen on Sunday, October 11th from 3:00 to 6:30 PM. It will be held at the Carnation Room in the Wheat Ridge Rec Center. Refreshments will be provided. Check for future events at lpjeffco.org.

Pueblo County

For updates contact Donald Vermillion, 719-415-0867.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



KEITH LAUBE

Being the chair of the LPCO is fun and rewarding, and at times busy. This past month has been remarkably busy. I have knocked on over 300 Libertarian doors during the past few months. It has been great speaking to Libertarians and getting their thoughts on issues.

We had our Secretary of State candidate withdraw in last August. The LPCO vacancy committee selected Sean Vadney to be our Secretary of State nominee. However, due to the current state election law, the Secretary of State's office could not place Sean Vadney on the ballot. With the help of Nicholas Sarwark, attorney and sustaining member of LPCO, we were able to have our case heard in court. We prevailed and the judge ordered that Sean Vadney be placed on the ballot as the Libertarian candidate for Secretary of State.

Thank you to Joe Johnson and Jacob Luria for helping our candidates. Jacob has helped many of our candidates create a website. A candidate website allows voters to learn more about our candidates, which is the first step in earning their vote. Please go to <https://lpcolorado.org/> to see the list of 2026 Libertarian candidates. You can learn more about each candidate by clicking on their name.

Proud to be a Libertarian!!
Keith Laube, LPCO Chair

CELEBRATE THE CONSTITUTION IN GRAND LAKE

What better place to celebrate the Constitution than in the mountains of Colorado?

From September 14–20, 2026, the town of Grand Lake, just outside Rocky Mountain National Park, will host its annual Constitution Week celebration—a week-long tribute to the document that established the framework for the American experiment in self-government.

The celebration centers around Constitution Day on September 17, commemorating the signing of the U.S. Constitution in Philadelphia in 1787. Grand Lake's festivities bring that history to life with expert guest speakers and lectures, patriotic events, a parade, free activities for young people on Youth Appreciation Day, and even a spectacular fireworks display over the lake. Most events are free and open to the public.

Libertarian Brandon Wark to Speak



Brandon Wark, Libertarian podcaster (Free State Colorado), will speak on how Coloradans have successfully fought for the Blessings of Liberty and how a "new era of citizen activism" is needed.

**Date: Tuesday, September 15
Time 12:00 Noon**

"Citizen Activism & Securing the Blessings of Liberty"
Grand Lake Center - 301 Marina Dr.



The Libertarian Party of Colorado will be there on Saturday, September 19, with an outreach table. Jimmy Ellis is organizing local Libertarians to help staff the booth and introduce festival-goers to the Party and its message of individual liberty, limited government, and constitutional government.

This should be a particularly good opportunity for outreach. Constitution Week attracts people who already have an interest in America's founding principles, making it a natural setting for conversations about what the Constitution was intended to protect—and how those principles relate to the Libertarian philosophy today. And if we have more volunteers than we need at the table, there's another way to get involved: the parade! Volunteers may have the opportunity to join the LPCO contingent and put a little Libertarian presence into this very patriotic celebration.

So mark Saturday, September 19, on your calendar. Come to Grand Lake, enjoy one of Colorado's most scenic communities, celebrate the Constitution, help spread the message of liberty, and spend the day with fellow Libertarians.

Constitution, liberty, mountains, and fireworks—it's hard to come up with a better combination!

DOUGLAS COUNTY LIBERTARIANS TO PUT VOLUNTARY ACTION INTO PRACTICE

Libertarians talk a lot about **voluntary action**—the idea that free people can accomplish remarkable things when they choose to work together without being compelled to do so.

On September 26, the Libertarian Party of Douglas County will have a chance to put that principle into practice.

Instead of holding its regularly scheduled September meeting, the LPDC is taking its message out of the meeting room and into the community with a **highway cleanup along Parker Road**. Volunteers will spend about two hours picking up litter and helping make the community a little cleaner and better for everyone who lives, works, and travels there.

There won't be any mandates, regulations, or government programs involved. Just Libertarians choosing to show up, pitch in, and get something useful accomplished together.

We'll meet at **10:00 a.m. in the Kneaders parking lot at 19190 Mainstreet in Parker**. Garbage bags and trash-pickup sticks will be provided; just bring gloves and a willingness to work. Afterward, we'll head to lunch together and enjoy some well-earned food and conversation.

You don't have to live in Douglas County to participate. All Libertarians and friends of liberty are welcome. In fact, this is exactly the kind of activity that demonstrates what grassroots Libertarianism can look like: neighbors voluntarily cooperating to solve a problem, improving their community, and having a good time while doing it. **So come out and practice what we preach.** Bring your gloves, bring a friend, and show what voluntary action can accomplish!

October Meeting Returns to the Regular Schedule

The LPDC's regular monthly meeting will resume on October 5 at 7:00 p.m. at Wild Blue Yonder Brewery, 519 Wilcox Street in Castle Rock. The meeting will be held in the separate back room, which looks like a little house.

For more information, contact Wayne Harlos at 303-229-3435.

