



Activism in the American Spirit

This month saw the passage of yet another 4th July, celebrating the birth of our nation and the great values which our nation aims to embody. The values of a constitutional democratic republic, of protecting the inalienable rights of people, of promoting the general welfare, of equality, of justice, and the cultivation of human potential. Over 200 years ago our nation was established. It has had great achievement and progress, but also great challenges and has dealt with various social problems. Though it has had and continues to have many people to have worked to uphold our fix our problems, to improve our country, and to uphold our great values.

The Prohibition Party was born out of the reform activism of the 19th century. To this day we continue in the mission of social and political reform, to help create a better condition for our country; to help our country better embody the values which make it great.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed" Declaration of Independence

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Victory in Buffalo

This month saw a victory for anti-alcohol activism in Buffalo. As we had mentioned in the June issue, numerous residents of the Mastin neighborhood of Buffalo rose up to oppose an attempt to open a new liquor store in their neighborhood, at the sight of the former Gigi's restaurant. Residents voiced their opposition to the proposed liquor store, with nearly 500 signing a petition calling on the state liquor authority to reject the liquor license application, and many residents writing to and contacting state and city officials. Their activism moved multiple city and state elected officials, including city council member Ulysses Wingo, State Assembly Member Crystal People's Stokes, and State Senator Tim Kennedy to join them. On June 24th, it was reported that company who had sought to open the proposed liquor store had given up and withdrew their liquor license application.

This is great news. This goes to show what can happen, when decent people come together to stand against the alcohol industry. This also helps to show how anti-alcohol activism can win. When you have community members who are well aware of the negative effects of having alcohol produced and/or sold in their community, when you have motivated people in the community who will take on the cause of engaging and organizing community members, when you have people attending meetings and public demonstrations, when you have people messaging elected officials to call on them to take action, when you can get community groups and institutions on your side, and when you can convince local businesses that it is in their interest to oppose the alcohol industry, then you have a good shot at being able to win against the alcohol industry at the local level. The more we can foster local activism against the alcohol industry, the more we can organize that activism on a



state level, and the more we have citizens calling on their elected officials to do the duty, the closer we will be to defeating the alcohol industry and moving New York state in the right direction.

Links:https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/2cc7be_cff9ce438c5f4ae79563ecf9a2be790b.pdf
<https://www.wgrz.com/article/news/local/buffalo/no-liquor-store-coming-to-former-gigis-site/71-57711443>
<https://www.wivb.com/news/local-news/east-side-neighbors-victorious-after-property-owner-withdraws-liquor-store-application/1321609685>

Upstate Population Loss

The Binghamton Press and Sun put out an article on the declining population of Upstate New York. It was reported that 42 out of 50 upstate counties have reported population losses since the last census. While many would like to continue living in their home communities, limited economic prospects and limited opportunities for decent paying jobs has pressured a significant number of people to leave the state. The mediocre results of the state's current economic development programs have been insufficient to reverse this trend, and if things continue as they are, then upstate will continue to lose population, remain economically disadvantaged, and see many of its communities struggle.

Upstate New York is in need of a great revitalization. We in the Prohibition Party of New York offer a vision for revitalization through personal development, community improvement, holistic economics, public wellbeing, and ethical governance.

<https://www.pressconnects.com/story/news/local/2018/06/28/upstate-new-york-population-declining-census/721456002/>

Interview with Sheriff Barry Virts on STOP DWI New York

In this month's interview segment, we interviewed Sheriff Barry Virts about STOP DWI New York. Barry Virts is sheriff of Wayne County, the contact person for STOP DWI New York in Wyoming County, and Western NY Regional Chair of the NYS Stop-DWI Association.

Here are questions and responses from our interview:

Sheriff Virts, would you mind explaining for our readers STOP DWI New York is and what it does for the state?

STOP DWI New York is a nationally recognized program that focuses on reducing the number of alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents and fatalities. STOP-DWI stands for, "Special Traffic Options Program for Driving While Impaired." This program encourages surrounding counties in NYS to coordinate local efforts to reduce alcohol and drug related accidents. The mission of STOP-DWI is to reduce the number of persons killed or injured in alcohol related and other drug-related crashes, promote DWI prevention as a public priority, as well as coordinate local efforts in law enforcement, prosecution, probation, rehabilitation, public information, education and administration.

From what we understand, you are Western NY Regional Chair of the NYS Stop-DWI Association and the contact person for the STOP DWI effort in Wayne County. What sort of things are being done in the county and region to help reduce impaired driving?

Victim Impact Panels held four times a year, community outreach and school education partnering with the Council on Alcoholism of the Finger Lakes, enforcement crackdowns during holidays and key times of the year, roadside STOP-DWI educational Road Checks, civic organization presentations, No Empty Chair Campaigns prior to school graduation, "Have a Plan APP", social media, press releases throughout the year good host plans and traveling exhibits for our prevention and educational efforts.

Over the past several years, the state has significantly reduced restrictions on the alcohol industry. In addition, state agencies and funding have been used to promote the growth of the alcohol industry. Do you believe that these changes have helped to contribute to

drunk driving or have been detrimental towards working to reduce drunk driving?

With the limited time to respond and having no direct data or research at my disposal, I have no opinion to the state's policies.

Going forward, what sort of policies and efforts would you like to see established or strengthened in order to help reduce impaired driving?

Fines that fund the STOP-DWI Programs are collected first, rather than surcharges and other related court fees.

"The eternal difference between right and wrong does not fluctuate, it is immutable." - Patrick Henry

Corruption in New York

There is a corruption problem in New York state government. For too long, too many officials have misused their positions to benefit themselves or other special interests at the expense of the public. This year's series of high profile corruption trials have helped to demonstrate this. So far this year, several high-profile officials have been convicted of corruption. In 2015, former Speaker of the State Assembly Sheldon Silver was convicted of corruption, but his conviction was overturned after the supreme court had narrowed the legal standard of corruption. In the same year, former State Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, and his son Adam Skelos were convicted, and their convictions were overturned on the same basis. They were each put on trial again this year, and each were once again found guilty of corruption.

Joe Percoco, who was one of Governor Cuomo's closest political aids and his former campaign manager was convicted earlier this year of taking over \$300,000 in bribes and committing wire fraud. Alain Kaloyeros, who was head of the SUNY Polytechnic Institute and oversaw much of the state's economic development programs (including the Buffalo Billion Program), was found guilty of bid rigging in the awarding of state contracts. Louis Ciminelli of the LPCiminelli company, along with Steven Aiello and Joseph Girardi of the COR Development company were also convicted their roles in the bid rigging schemes.

Former State Senator George Maziarz took a plea deal to avoid trial over 5 felony charges related to the accusation that he had used campaign money to hide

payments to a former staffer who had been accused of sexual harassment. State Assembly Member Pamela Harris was convicted of defrauding FEMA and NEW York City out of \$48,000 that was supposed to go toward rebuilding from Superstorm Sandy. And Former State Senator Marc Panepinto was convicted of offering a job or money a staff member to keep quiet about him sexually harassing them.

While this is a high number of corruption convictions for a single year, the state has long had a significant problem with corruption. According to PolitiFact, the state has had over 30 corruption cases with state officials from 2005 to 2015, and that New York state has ranked as one leading states for corruption, since at least 1986. This needs to change. The people of New York must rise to challenge this corruption. We must pass stronger ethics laws, enact stronger anti-corruption efforts, and work to elevate me ethical and responsible people to public office.

Sources: Campbell, Jon. "New York Corruption Scandals: Here's Who Has Been Convicted in 2018." Democrat and Chronicle, July 20, 2018. Accessed July 25, 2018.

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/politics/albany/2018/07/20/new-york-corruption-scandals-heres-who-has-been-convicted-2018/795849002/>.

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Nationwide Ban On Smoking in Public Housing Goes Into Effect

A nationwide federal ban on smoking will go into effect at the end of this month. Beginning on July 31st, the Department of Housing and Urban Development will prohibit the smoking of tobacco in public housing units and common areas. The policy will turn over 940,000 units of housing into officially smoke free areas. HUD states that this policy will help to reduce smoking and accompanying health hazards, and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that this policy will save over 153 million dollars a year in repair costs and medical costs.

Source: Silverstein, Jason. "Smoking Will Be Banned in Public Housing Nationwide at End of July." CBS News, July 12, 2018. Accessed July 26, 2018. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/smoking-in-public-housing-will-be-banned-nationwide-at-end-of-july/>.

"Freedom can exist only in the society of knowledge. Without learning, men are incapable of knowing their rights." - Benjamin Rush



Clinton Fisk: Champion of Free Men

Clinton Bowen Fisk was born on December 8th, 1828, in the hamlet of Griggsville in Livingston County, New York. He was the fifth son of blacksmith Benjamin Bigford Fisk and Lydia Aldrich Fisk. In 1830, the family moved to Lenawee County, Michigan. Though 1832, his father died of typhoid fever and the family was plunged into poverty. His brothers and himself each had to start working at a young age. He was initially bound to work for a farmer until the age of 21. But after a few years of work, his release was procured. He spent the next ten years in hard work and study. At 13, his mother remarried and he was sent to study the Wesleyan Seminary in Albion, Michigan in 1843. He had intended to go on to attend college, but the development of eye problems forced him to abandon the prospects of further education.

Clinton Fisk turned toward pursuing a career in business in Coldwater, Michigan. His main areas of business were in the merchant, milling, and banking industries. He began working for L.D. Crippen, a leading merchant and banker in Coldwater. In 1850, he married Crippen's daughter, Jeannette Crippen. Clinton Fisk would establish himself as a banker in Coldwater. But he ended up losing his bank and most of his property in the Financial Crises of 1857. In 1858, he moved to St. Louis, Missouri and became a financial agent of the Etna Insurance Company and would work for them up to the start of the Civil War.

Fisk was an abolitionist and supporter of the Union. He served in the Home Guards and helped seize Camp Jackson in May of 1861. When the St. Louis Merchants Exchange seemed likely to influence Missouri in favor of the Confederacy, Fisk established the Rival Union Merchants Exchange, which soon overtook and absorbed the old exchange. In July, 1862, he started working to recruit a regiment for the Union army. In September, he became Colonel of the 33rd Missouri Volunteer Infantry. He then organized a brigade and was appointed Brigadier General on November 24th. He spent most of the war commanding troops in Missouri and Arkansas, protecting Missouri from Confederate raids. Notable actions of his command included taking part in Grant's campaign to take Vicksburg and repelling an attack on Jefferson City. By the end

of the war, Fisk had reached the rank of Major General.

In 1866, he joined the Freedman's Bureau as assistant commissioner of the Bureau of Refuges, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for Kentucky and Tennessee. In his position, he did what he could to help protect the safety of the newly freed African American population, to improve their economic and educational condition, and to promote peaceful relations between the White and Black residents of his jurisdiction. He worked with the American Missionary Association to establish some of the first free public schools in the South for both African American and White children.

He helped the American Missionary Association to procure an abandoned army barracks in Nashville, Tennessee, for the creation of a college to educate former slaves in the area, and also endowed it with \$30,000 of his own money. The school developed into Fisk University. The University continues to operate in present day.

After leaving the army, Fisk became involved the various forms of business, including the railroad industry, banking, mining, and land speculation. Fisk was vice-president and treasurer of the Missouri Pacific and the Atlantic and Pacific Railway companies, from 1866-1876. He returned to New York State and returned to banking. He also served as president of the New York Accident Insurance Company.

In addition, Fisk served on the boards of various colleges and non-profit organizations. He served on the boards of Drew Theological Seminary, Dickenson College, Carlisle College, The University of Pennsylvania, Albion College, the University of Michigan, and Fisk. He also served as vice-president of the Evangelical Alliance, a trustee of the American Missionary Association, and a manager of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1873, President Ulysses Grant appointed to the board of Indian Commissioners. Fisk was president of the board from 1881-1890.

Clinton Fisk was a strong supporter of temperance and prohibition. He gave various speeches and campaigned for the enactment of local prohibition laws and statewide prohibition amendments. For much of life he had been a member of the Republican Party. But the Republican Party's weakness on the prohibition issue led Fisk to leave the Republicans and join the Prohibition Party in 1884. He campaigned for Prohibition Party Presidential candidate John St. John. Fisk quickly rose in prominence within the Prohibition Party. In 1886, he was the Prohibition Party candidate for Governor of New Jersey. He received 19,808 votes (8.55%); the largest vote result of any Prohibition Party candidate for Governor in the state. In 1867, he was involved in a campaign to pass a state prohibition amendment in Michigan; which unfortunately was unsuccessful.

In 1888, Clinton Fisk was nominated as the Prohibition Party candidate for President. Due to health problems Fisk wasn't able to do much in person campaigning. But his campaign

excited many people throughout the country and Prohibition Party members campaigned hard. He received 249,819 (2.20%) votes. This was nearly double the number of votes received St. John in the 1884 election, the largest vote total for a Prohibition Party presidential candidate at the time, and the fourth largest vote total of any Prohibition Party presidential candidate, so far, in our nation's history.

In 1889, Fisk was one of the key financial supporters of the establishment of the town of Harriman, Tennessee. The town was a utopian temperance community.

In the fall of 1889, Fisk became sick from heart disease, and later contracted influenza, and was confined to his home at 175 W. 58th Street, New York City. He died on July 9th, 1890 and was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery in Coldwater, Michigan. In his life he had risen from humble circumstances, to gain success, and became a champion for advancing freedom, national unity, and improving the condition of people's lives.

For a more thorough account of Clinton Fisk, there is the book, *The Life of Clinton Bowen Fisk*, by Alphonso A. Hopkins. An electronic version of the book is available for free on Google Books.

<https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=g2iIAAAAMAAJ&rdid=book-g2iIAAAAMAAJ&rdot=1>

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"It is in the interest of tyrants to reduce the people to ignorance and vice. For they cannot live in any country where virtue and knowledge prevail." - Samuel Adams

Cuomo's Hoax and His Misguided Attempt to Legalize Marijuana

Governor Andrew Cuomo continues to move further toward socially regressive policy positions. Cuomo has recently moved in favor of trying to legalize recreational marijuana in New York state. Cuomo had ordered a New York state health commission to "study" the possible impacts of legalizing recreational marijuana. The quotes are because the study is actually a hoax. Not only is it faulty in its claims, it is a front for Cuomo to give a false image of legitimacy for his retrogressive agenda. Legalizing marijuana would be a big mistake. All would do is allow greedy companies to profit of poisoning people with a brain damaging narcotic, while removing much of the existing protections for the public, allow them to further a culture of drug use, and allow these companies to openly buy off politicians to prevent the state from enacting policies to deal with drug problems.

Makeley For Assembly Report

Here is an update of Jonathan Makeley's campaign for 146th district of the New York State Assembly.

Earlier this month, Makeley was interviewed for an article for Third Party Watch.

<https://sites.google.com/view/thirdpartywatch/secret/interview-with-jonathan-makeley-prohibition-candidate-for-146th-assembly-d?authuser=3>

On July 10th, the period for collecting petition signatures for the independent nominating petition to seek to get on the ballot began. Makeley and those who volunteered to help his campaign, have been working hard to reach out to voters and collect signatures. Unfortunately, the 1,500 signature requirement to get on ballot is a challenging standard, even for campaigns that are well funded, with plenty of politically experienced staff. While Makeley is gaining in signatures and there are still weeks left before the August 21st filing deadline, it is likely that he will not be able to collect the required signatures in time. Though Makeley has stated that he will work to collect as many signatures as he can and to spread his message to as many people as he can.

"Even if I am unable to get enough signatures to get on ballot, I will try to get as many signatures as I can, and regardless of how this election turns out, I will continue to help move our party move forward. November is not where it ends, it's just round one. By running for state assembly, I have helped to pave the road for the Prohibition Party's resurgence in state politics. For the first time in decades, a Prohibition Party candidate is running for office. I hope that my run will help inspire other people to run as Prohibition Party candidates for office. I intend to use all the things I have learned and will learn from this experience to help better promote the Prohibition Party of New York and help ensure that future campaigns by Prohibition Party candidates in New York state will go better (whether that be in any future campaigns I may do, or in advising and assisting other candidates). The cause of good government for the people continues onward."

Electoral Opportunity: School Boards

As the Prohibition Party grows in New York, we will have greater opportunities of running more candidates for office. One potentially fruitful area of opportunity is with local school boards. School board positions enjoy a number of factors which increase the likelihood of successful campaigns.

One of the largest barriers to minor parties running candidates for office in New York are the high petition signature requirements, especially for parties without state recognition. From our research, it seems that school boards are among the easiest positions in the state for getting on the ballot. It seems that the general standard for getting ballot access is a minimum of at least 25 signatures, and a minimum of at least 2% of the number of voters who had voted in the last school board election. Based on that, a candidate could be placed on the ballot in many school districts with only a few dozen signatures. A committee candidate with a few people helping them could have a reasonable chance at achieving this.

In addition, school board elections in the state are formally non-partisan. This means that there probably isn't much change of major party organizations getting involved with a school board election. In a certain sense, this can allow a Prohibition Party supported school board candidate to operate on a more level playing field. Though there will still be other dynamics at play, and a candidate would have to work to gain support among teachers, parents, and community members in order to have a good chance at winning.

By running such campaigns, it provides a good opportunity for grassroots organization and outreach: to gain the trust and support of everyday citizens and establish an active presence in communities. If a candidate is successfully elected to a school board, then it provides an opportunity to put some of our ideas into practice for helping to improve things and to establish a record of accomplishment that could build public credibility for the party. With grassroots support and public credibility, it can become easier to run candidates for more offices and run candidates for higher offices.

As such, school board elections provide one avenue of opportunity for

establishing a foothold in elected government.



Expanding Reach

Our public messaging efforts continue to reach an increasing number of people in New York State and beyond. This month a large increase in our twitter following. Not only did we reach over 100 followers, but our number of followers increased from 90 to over 160.

We continue to reach more people over Facebook. We've seen some of our highest numbers for weekly views and record high numbers of viewers in places such as Buffalo and Ithaca. Our most recent data shows that content from our Facebook page has been viewed by people in at least 159 communities across the state, in 51 out of 62 counties. We also reached people in 45 other states, and 47 countries.

Underage Drinking Statistics

Partners for Prevention in Allegany County has released some statistics related to underage drinking.

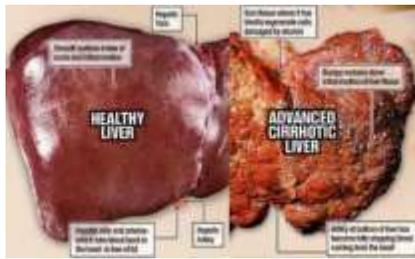
These include the statements that:

- People who begin drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependency, which can lead to liver disease and cancer.
- Higher levels of alcohol use are associated with unplanned or unprotected sexual activity among adolescents. This means an increased risk for pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.
- 95% of violent crimes on college campuses are alcohol-related. The majority of college rapes (95%) involve alcohol use by either the victim and/or the assailant. More than 70,000 students between the ages of 18-25 are victims of alcohol-related sexual assault or date rape.

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- 9 out of 10 teenage automobile accidents involve the use of alcohol.
- Alcohol use among teens is associated with the 3 most common causes of teenage deaths: accidental deaths e.g. car crashes, homicides, and suicides. On average 8 teenagers a day in the U.S. die in an alcohol-related automobile crash.

<https://ppaccentral.org/underage-drinking/>



"The people alone have an incontestable, unalienable, and inalienable right to institute government and to reform, alter, or totally change the same when their protection, safety, prosperity, and happiness require it." - Alexander Hamilton

They're Ruining Ice Cream

The apathetic and corrupt members of the state legislature continue to weaken state restrictions on the alcohol industry, at the expense of the health, safety, and wellbeing of New Yorkers. Earlier this month, the state legislature legalized the sale of beer and hard cider infused ice cream. Previously, the state had legalized the sale of wine infused ice cream, and with this it has further allowed the alcohol industry to infect the food market. In recent years, the alcohol industry has increasingly worked to advance itself by producing alcohol infused food and drinks. The main reason for them doing this is so that they can make more money. Though in the process, they are also working to further enlarge a destructive culture of drinking, and to entice more people into alcohol use, who may otherwise have been less inclined to do so.

Furthermore, they're ruining these food products. Ice cream does not have to have a brain damaging, organ destroying, cancer causing substance added to it.

The decent people of New York state must stand against this regressive policy direction. We must vote these reprobates out office and move the state towards polices to deal with the alcohol crisis.

<https://www.democratandchronicle.com/story/news/2018/07/10/beer-flavored-ice-cream-cuomo-oks-sale-beer-ice-cream-new-york/773963002/>

If you like the place you live in, if you love your family and you want to stay among your friends and still have a good job and a safe – and, of course, sober – community, Vote Prohibition" James Hedges

American Values

It is a well-established principle in our nation that our government exists to serve the people: to act a vehicle for us to come together to advance our general interests: to protect our rights, our lives, and our vital wellbeing.

It is written in our Declaration of Independence that governments have the responsibility to protect the natural rights of its people. Among these are the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The constitution states that one of the central purposes of our government to promote the general welfare, ensure domestic tranquility, and establish justice.

It is on these premises that the Prohibition Party is acing in the spirit of our country's essential values when we oppose the alcohol industry: which is destructive towards life, liberty, happiness, domestic tranquility, justice, and the wellbeing of the people.

The physical damages of alcohol are destructive to life. The mental damages of alcohol are destructive towards the operation of the ration will which is essential to actual liberty. And the vast array of damages and social ills produced by alcohol and inflicted upon people and society are destructive to both individual and societal happiness. The violence, criminality, and other social ills fueled by alcohol are destructive towards our domestic tranquility. And allowing for businesses to profit of a substance which poisons and kills people, while leaving others to suffer the costs is a great injustice. And all these damages to people and society, which are brought about by alcohol and the industry which produces, sells, and promotes it, are destructive towards the general welfare. From this it is clear that our goal of promoting temperance and abolishing the alcohol industry is beneficial to our country and is values.

It is the wets who demand the lives, liberty, happiness, and wellbeing of people be sacrificed, that the public health, safety, and justice, be crushed, and that morality, reason, and human rights be cast aside, so their capriciousness and greed can be unhindered. So that they can sacralize capriciousness and greed in the place our nation's essential values.

The alcohol industry is a lawless, anti-democratic, and anti-American force. The alcohol industry's actions are destructive to many of the values central to our nation. Their products have killed millions of Americans, cost our country trillions in damages, and caused vast suffering and damage to our society. Throughout our country's history they have acted to violate laws which restricted or prohibited their actions, and have despised our legal system for ability to oppose their destructive practices. Where they have not sought to violate our laws and governance, they have sought to corrupt them. They have used their money and influence to buy off politicians, to create laws favorable to them, and to oppose efforts to use public policy to deal with the problem of alcohol. They have even waged war against our constitution. When the 18th Amendment was in effect they sought to violate it, and recognizing the ability of it to combat their actions, they then worked to corrupt public officials, to secure its repeal.

They have even taken up arms in treason against our country. In early days of our nation, when our nation decided to place a tax upon alcohol, alcohol producers took up arms against our country in the Whiskey Rebellion. In response, George Washington marched our nation's army into the rebellious area and put it down. Though he was merciful towards them, he spoke strongly against their actions and that such actions were destructive towards our republic.

In the early days of our nation, people saw the social problems which our country had inherited (including slavery, the lack of women's rights, and alcohol) and began efforts to work to fix these problems: to work towards having our nation realize its full potential. From this reform activism our nation would achieve great progress. And from this reform activism the Prohibition Party was born in 1869. To this day we continue in the mission of social and political reform, to help create a better condition for our country.

Happy Birthday New York

On July 26, 1788 New York became the 11th state to ratify the U.S. constitution. As we celebrate 230 years of New York under the constitution, we look forward to working to help build a better future for the people of our great state.

Think NY Vote Dry