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That scenario is a long shot, but a growing petition with millions of signatures and a “Never Trump” movement has picked up steam since the Nov. 8 election with the hopes of convincing a large enough swath of the Electoral College to change its vote and go against a Trump presidency.

Republican Committee; and Gloria Lee Snover, an Easton real estate broker and Republican delegate.

In Michigan, the slate of 16 electors include Trump backer John Haggard; retired Hope College professor Dr. Jack Holmes; state GOP outreach chair Kelly Mitchell; and former Wayne, Michigan Republican

“Reportedly, dozens of Republican electors have signaled discomfort with Trump, but most have committed to supporting him

The Electoral College casts the official votes for president on Dec. 19.

So, who are these individuals who have the last — and ultimate — say in the presidential election and would they consider changing their vote?

In total, there are 538 members who comprise the Electoral College and they each gather in their respective state capitals to cast the formal vote for president.

They are selected at state and local party conventions and are almost always supportive of their party’s candidate.

To be chosen as an elector, an individual must not be a senator, congressman or hold any office of trust or profit in the country.

The slate of 20 Republican electors in Pennsylvania include Robert Asher of Montgomery County and owner of Asher’s Chocolates; Mary Barket of Northampton County and president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Republican Women; Margaret Ferraro, a teacher at the Nazareth Area Middle School and chairman of the Northampton County Re-

Party leader Ken Crider.

In Wisconsin, the 10 electors there include conservative Kim Travis; Third District elector Brian Westrate; and District GOP chair Jim Miller.

Westrate has previously gone on record against Trump.

“I didn’t vote for Trump [in the primary election]. I am not a Trump supporter,” Westrate said.

While Clinton’s national popular vote lead currently sits at more than 2 million, Trump won 306 of the crucial electoral votes while Clinton is at 232.

If all the electors vote for Trump, he’ll continue to easily exceed the 270-vote majority he needs to become president and he’ll be sworn in to office on Jan. 20.

That’s why the anti-Trump force needs 37 Republican defections.

Reportedly, dozens of Republican electors have signaled discomfort with Trump, but most have committed to supporting him despite their misgivings.

Read more at TheSkanner.com



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE OREGON FARM BUREAU

Oregon’s Bounty

To help consumers find family farms selling Christmas trees, and other favorites of winter harvest, Oregon Farm Bureau offers the searchable Oregon’s Bounty website. With a smartphone, search for “Oregon’s Bounty” or go directly to <http://oregonfb.org/oregonsbounty/> to quickly and easily find family farms selling Christmas trees — as well as other seasonal agricultural products, such as holly, wreaths, hazelnuts, chestnuts, cranberries, pears, apples, winter squash, broccoli, cauliflower, mushrooms, and garlic. Oregon’s Bounty allows visitors to search for farms by region and/or a specific ag product. Each of the more than 300 listings of farms and ranches includes hours of operation, contact information, and driving directions.

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anymore or that they don’t feel welcome on the street,” Wittenberg said.

Organizers say the project’s mission is two-fold: one objective is to collect and host these stories online. The other goal is to select three stories and commemorate them with a sign, plaque or other permanent outdoor fixture. The initiative focuses on the area of Alberta between 10th and 31st Avenues.

Former or current King, Vernon, Sabin or Concordia neighborhood residents, who have been affected by the social and economic changes to the area, are especially encouraged to share their experiences.

The idea for the historic markers came from an Alberta Main Street forum in February 2015 called “Honoring Our Past, Planning Our Future.” At the meeting, community members expressed a desire to recapture the African American history that had been erased from the area due to gentrification.

“I think it is important to the folks who may be new to Alberta Street to really begin to understand that they are entering a community that existed before they moved here,” Wittenberg said.

The community members also wanted the project to have eco-

“Community members expressed a desire to recapture the African American history that had been erased from the area due to gentrification

nomic opportunities for the Black community. The storytellers whose stories have been selected to become the marker will also receive a \$500 stipend and a consultation with the artist who will design the piece.

Ideally, Alberta Main Street would like the economic benefits to extend to every part of the placemaking process — paying African American storytellers, artists and fabricators to create the markers.

Jonathan Ling, an organizer with Alberta Main Street, said it is important to ensure the benefits go to the Black community.

“We would pause if we had trouble finding artists and fabricators that weren’t Black or African American,” Ling said. “It just doesn’t feel authentic if you

are going about it the other way around.”

They have received a few stories, but they hope to have more submissions before the Dec. 31 deadline. Kenya Budd, the equity and engagement coordinator with Alberta Main Street, said there is a lot of enthusiasm, but some people are reluctant to share their stories.

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Convictions cont'd from pg 1

to convict Williams under Oregon law.

“I don’t think people in Oregon know this rule. If we were the defendant, we would have an expectation that we would need a unanimous jury [to convict], and we don’t — but in federal court and in 48 other states we do,” Kaplan told *The Skanner*.

“If we were the defendant, we would have an expectation that we would need a unanimous jury [to convict], and we don’t — but in federal court and in 48 other states we do

According to Kaplan, Oregon’s law has been appealed several times but has never been heard by the state Supreme Court — and Oregon has no data tracking how many defendants have been convicted by non-unanimous juries.

Attorneys involved with Williams’ case say the case is unique, but echoes the intent of the original law — which

was “Effectively, in Mr. Williams’ case, the law is doing exactly what people hoped it would do in 1934, which is that a minority voice could not prevent a conviction,” Scott told *The Skanner*.

Oregon’s law, which was implemented in 1934 as the result of a ballot measure amending the Constitution, is one

of two like it in the country. Louisiana passed a law preventing non-unanimous jury verdicts in 1880, shortly after the end of slavery, Kaplan said, and this law was explicitly intended to expand the availability of free labor by increasing the state’s prison population.

Kaplan writes that Oregon’s non-unanimous jury rule was the result of a ballot measure in 1934 and was

precipitated by xenophobic and anti-Semitic media coverage of the trial of Jacob Silverman, a Jewish man tried for first-degree murder of a White, Protestant victim. Eleven jurors wanted to convict, but a holdout juror refused to convict, and the jury returned a verdict of manslaughter instead.

“Americans have learned, with some pain, that many peoples in the world are unfit for democratic institutions, lacking the traditions of the English speaking peoples,” wrote an editorial writer for *The Morning Oregonian* at the time. Shortly after the Silverman verdict, the Oregon legislature proposed a constitutional amendment allowing non-unanimous convictions in felony trials, which Oregonians passed (by a vote of 46,745 to 27,988) in a special election that year.

“This is a really unique situation, where you have a non-unanimous verdict where you have the defendant and the not-guilty-voting jurors being



PHOTO BY ALAN CORDOVA (CC BY-NC-ND 2.0) VIA FELICKR

A Multnomah County Circuit Court judge has said he’ll decide by Dec. 15 on a case that convicted a Portland man of felony sodomy charges on a 10-2 vote. Oregon is one of two states in the country that allows non-unanimous convictions of felony defendants.

of the same race and having the juror come forward with that information,” said Emily E. Elison, the attorney who wrote the Oregon Justice Resource Center’s amicus brief on the Williams case.