Pastor's election sets state history
He wins office on Libertarian ticket

By Kathleen Bohland
News Staff Writer

A church pastor has won the post of village trustee in Addison with 62 votes, becoming the first elected Libertarian Party official in Michigan.

The Rev. James W. Clifton, 36, of Addison United Church of Christ, won a two-year term Monday for one of three seats, outpolling four other candidates in the partisan election. Addison is a village of 650 people 15 miles south of Jackson.

Mr. Clifton had been appointed to a vacancy on the six-member board of trustees six months ago.

He has lived in Addison about 16 months, and said he has "flirted off and on" with the Libertarian Party since 1976 and formally joined it a year ago.

"THE BASIC" attraction to me was the party's belief in minimal government, free trade and open borders and a non-interventionist foreign policy," he said.

Locally, Mr. Clifton emphasized minimal taxes and property rights in his campaign, which he said attracted some of the village's conservative Republican voters.

(by Kathleen Bohland)

Libertarians vie for piece of the pie

By R. Bruce Dold

Still looking for a presidential candidate who can wrest the campaign away from the Evening Snooze? The Libertarians are back, and they want your attention.

They've got a presidential candidate, Ron Paul, who looks like a Republican (dark blue suits), talks like a Dixiecrat (with a Texas twang) and likes to heap praise on Jesse Jackson (probably just to miff some Democrats).

Paul, a former Republican congressman from the Houston area, was in Chicago over the weekend for a round of speaking engagements and an appearance at the state convention of Libertarians held at the Congress Hotel, where he gave the keynote address Saturday night.

When Paul went to Congress in 1979, he endeared himself to his colleagues by calling on them to give up their August vacations, take a pay cut every time the cost-of-living index rose, and vote in public to approve travel junkets to foreign lands.

That's the kind of stuff Libertarians just love. But then, they're people who, for yuks, talk about turning the federal tax system into a "supermarket," where you could buy just what you want with your taxes. Say, a share of a MX missile or a custodian's monthly salary at the Dirksen Federal Building.

There's a free-market answer to every question for them. So the federal government can't collect taxes on those cash-and-skip-the-receipt deals? Then abolish the income tax and legalize the whole "underground economy."

"Have you ever thought about it? There's no unemployment there," Paul told a crowd Friday afternoon at a City Club of Chicago luncheon. "Everybody has a job and nobody has to fill out any forms so they can give more to the government."

Want another one? If you legalize heroin, the drug pushers will go out of business because the profit margin will shrink and the overdoses will decrease because the quality of the drug will be known. "We have an epidemic. It's an epidemic of drug laws," Paul told the City Club.

Yet even Libertarians have some troubles with their own tenets. Paul rejects the party's platform that protects a woman's right to an abortion. Paul argues that he fundamentally opposes "any act of aggression against anyone," and he considers abortion an aggression against a fetus.

They are ideas that certainly sound more entertaining than the drab debates that have filled the 1988 presidential campaign. Yet the Libertarians are Sweet Sixteen and never been kissed by more than a few devoted lovers.

They have a bunch of small victories—Libertarians grabbed control of the City Council in Big Water, Utah, last year. Nationally, the party has struggled.

In 1972, at its inception, the party made a minor splash when (con't. back page)
Libertarian v.p. hopeful; Legalize drugs, dump IRS

By Stacey Evers

Daily Staff Reporter

People who vote in November for the Libertarian presidential ticket will be casting ballots against federal income, to reduce the elimination of the income tax, the party's candidate for vice president, says the party wants Andre Marrou, the Libertarian Party's candidate for vice president, says the party wants to "legalize drugs, dump IRS, cut federal bureaucrats," and to "support any one of the the Libertarian Party principles of self-sufficiency and that he would not spend more than $100,000 in his pursuit of the U.S. Senate seat, "I will not accept money from any special interest groups," he said.

"LANSING (AP) — Dick Jacobs, saying he wants to stop the big-spending "folds in Washington," announced Wednesday that he is running against Sen. Donald W. Riegle Jr. as a Libertarian Party candidate. "I don't care what you prefer," he said. "I will not accept money from any special interest groups." He then proceeded, but he gave no answer. The sheriff dragged Melechinsky across the courtroom to a seat by the door. Burns said he would prefer to stay in Melechinsky out of the courtroom, but Burns said she would not eject either. Melechinsky was silent during the argument. The closing arguments, both sides focused on whether Lewis's trial had been adopted as a libertarians for principal, Marrou said. "We need only to support any one of the `Republicans' now running for president. They may endorse any of the candidates who run, but they are unfortunately interchangeable. The differences on important issues between the most liberal of the candidates is not much different. They may endorse any of the candidates who run, but they are unfortunately interchangeable. The differences on important issues between the most liberal of the candidates is not much different."

Libertarian Dick Jacobs to challenge Riegle; wants to stop big-spending federal bureaucrats," Marrou said. About 10 percent of federal employees leave the government, allowing a 25 percent cut of the bureaucracy, Marrou said. The decrease would allow a 25 percent cut in the income tax. Marrou said the tax is unconstitutional.

"Libertarians also advocate a non-interventionist foreign policy. We would get rid of foreign spending," said Marrou. "One government to give something to another, it must first be removed by force -- through taxes," he said.

"Such a policy would bring back the United States troops now abroad and would also end U.S. government meddling, interfering and getting involved in the affairs of other nations." Marrou said.

Libertarian Party offers a public choice

By Carolyn Farrar

Courant Staff Writer

NEW RAVEN — James A. Lewis of Orange County has announced he will run for Ireland, having turned to the Libertarian Party, saying it is the only party that "will offer a quick pace to the same bad destination." If Americans want more government, higher taxes, larger bureaucracies, and less personal freedoms, they need only to support any one of the major parties, he said. Indian solutions to America's problems. The Libertarian Party has American solutions to America's problems. Richard G. Martin

Old Saybrook man convicted of not filling tax returns

By Richard G. Martin

Irvine

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"Neither rascally Libertarians."

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Libertarian candidate presents ‘alternatives’

By AL FRANK

For Ron Paul, “Super Tuesday” is just another day because, in his quest to be President of the United States, the 52-year-old Texas physician already has his party’s nomination.

While the Libertarian Party candidate was not campaigning himself into exhaustion this weekend before the 20-state round of primaries and caucuses, Paul was bringing his message to New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

Yesterday, the former, four-term congressman greeted the party faithful as the Libertarians held their state convention at the Holiday Inn in Kenilworth.

In an interview, Paul acknowledged he was a Republican while serving in Congress from 1976-84 but became disillusioned after the deficit ballooned.

But he said Republicans and Democrats must share the blame because both parties make deals aimed more at staying in power than solving the country’s problems.

“There’s no way anyone can expect conservatives and liberals to do anything about those problems,” Paul said. “Both serve each other’s purposes.”

Because he feels other voters have become similarly disgusted with the status quo, 1988 should prove a good year for Libertarians, Paul said, predicting his name will be on the ballots of at least 47 states, including New Jersey.

“Undecided seems to have the biggest majority,” he said, claiming no mainstream party candidate has emerged with broad support or a substantive platform.

Libertarians, on the other hand, offer a striking alternative to business as usual.

“We believe the country would be better off with a limited government rather than a government that pretends it can regulate the economy and infringes on individual liberties,” Paul said.

As president he said he would end income taxes and welfare and abolish the Federal Reserve. All troops outside the country would be called home.

About 90 percent of the State Department could be eliminated because the country would no longer involve itself in such debates as whether Manuel Noriega should remain in power in Panama.

The government departments remaining after paring or outright scrapping could be funded even without an income tax because corporate taxes, Social Security and franchise taxes would be retained, Paul said.

The candidate, whose running mate is Andre Marrou, a former Alaska legislator, said his views have not changed radically from his days in the House of Representatives.

Paul represented the 22nd District, in Texas until he was defeated in the Republican primary for Senate by Phil Gramm who later went on to win the seat.

Libertarian candidate predicts party’s growth

By Stephanie Ward/Gazette-Journal

Libertarian presidential candidate Ron Paul figures the best way to solve the many problems plaguing the country is to lessen government intervention and abolish the income tax system.

During one of many campaign stops in Reno Monday, Paul said the Libertarian Party principal of less government and more private competition is the only way to cure the ailing federal government.

“The best chance for people’s prosperity is with the Libertarian Party,” Paul said.

After serving four times as a U.S. Congressman from Houston, Paul said he could no longer stand the lies of Republicans and decided to switch parties.

A combination of events caused Paul to leave the Republican party. One of the biggest was President Reagan’s promise to balance the budget. Instead of balancing the budget, he doubled the federal deficit, he said.

These kinds of empty promises by Republicans, whose only interest is big business, Paul claims, is a glaring example of how a government that was designed to help the people only serves to hurt them once it is too big, corrupt and out of control.

Paul wants to dismantle almost all federal programs except those that serve to protect the public and administer laws.

“People know how to spend money better than the federal government,” he said.

By abolishing the income tax system, it puts people back in control of their lives and their country, he said.

“If there is a need for an income tax? Only if we perpetuate the American empire abroad and welfare at home,” he said.

Withdrawing troops from foreign countries, ending all foreign aid, stopping all grants to corporations and abolishing Social Security and fringe benefits payments is the only way to balance the budget, he said.

Paul wants to legalize all drugs, thus reducing the crime associated with drug trafficking.

He favors a strong defense but wants the money to be spent on defense at home.

Paul said that he and Democratic presidential candidate Jesse Jackson are the only ones with real insight to the crisis America faces if it continues to operate under the present system. But Jackson wants more government intervention as opposed to less, he said.

The Libertarian Party, which has about 200,000 registered members, 200 in Washoe County, is quickly becoming the people’s alternative, Paul said.