

Libertarian Attacks Fairfax School Budget

Libertarian Scott Bowden and members of the Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance (FCTA) cooperated to protest the Fairfax County School budget. Despite declining public school enrollment in Virginia's largest County in recent years, this year's budget submitted by Division Superintendent Burkholder called for a record \$538 million, or \$3291 per student.

The Fairfax County School Board met February 8 to hear public response to the proposed budget. Of the 37 speakers who addressed the budget, most were PTA presidents visiting the public trough with bland requests for special favors, or simply lauding the budget and expressing regret that more could not be spent. The AAUW Watchdog Committee and the League of Women Voters both said that in their expert opinions the budget was supportable. And of course there were the "special programs" people -- art, adult education, "exceptional" (dumb) children, etc. -- who wanted special considerations for their special programs. Only Bowden and FCTA's Captain Stever spoke against the proposed school budget increase.

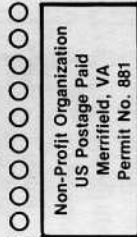
Stever complained of the partisan (Democrat) manner in which some school funds had been spent and asked that the budget be cut in proportion to the declining enrollment. Bowden railed at the budget for five minutes, comparing its expense per pupil to private schools in Fairfax County.

Bowden's ridicule of the SAT and "overall goodness" statistics brought snickers from many of the PTA presidents as well as the taxpayers in the audience. Bowden's concluding remarks calling for the budget to be cut in half were met with such applause that Madam Chairman Ann Kahn felt compelled, for the only time that night, to remind the audience that they were not to indicate approval or disapproval of the various speeches.

Excerpts from Bowden's speech follow:

"I have been told that this year's Fairfax County School Budget is the best one prepared to date... I am not impressed. It is a cross between an apology and an invoice, and the bottom line is inexcusable. At \$3291 per student per year, the Division Superintendent is offering the services of one of the most expensive ... school

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VIRGINIA LIBERTARIAN
 P.O. Box 6403
 Arlington VA 22206



Gene Burns First to Announce for Presidency

Gene Burns, nationally known speaker and Florida radio and TV commentator, announced his candidacy for the Libertarian Presidential nomination for 1984. Burns is the first candidate to throw his hat into the ring, having announced in early February. Adhering to the Libertarian precept of "no deficit financing," Burns has been quietly accepting donations, and plans to attend many Libertarian State Conventions throughout the country in his quest for the nomination.

With over 20 years experience in the media, Burns has hosted talk shows since 1967 in Baltimore, Boston and Orlando. His extensive knowledge of political affairs, eloquent and compelling speaking ability, and contacts in the media make Burns an excellent candidate who should run a strong race.

Burns says his philosophical pilgrimage from liberal Democrat to Libertarian was "evolutionary," and came after 12 years of watching both Democratic and Republican members of Congress, whom he refers to as Tweedle Dumb and Tweedle Dumber, "make a mockery of the Constitution." Burns said his candidacy will capitalize on the increasing feeling among Americans that there is something terribly wrong with their government.

So far, Burns has addressed State Conventions in Georgia and California. He received a standing ovation for his address on "political illiteracy" to the 1982 Libertarian National Committee.

Burns is an acknowledged expert on the Middle East, having travelled on assignments through-

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Mexican-American Libertarians Organizing

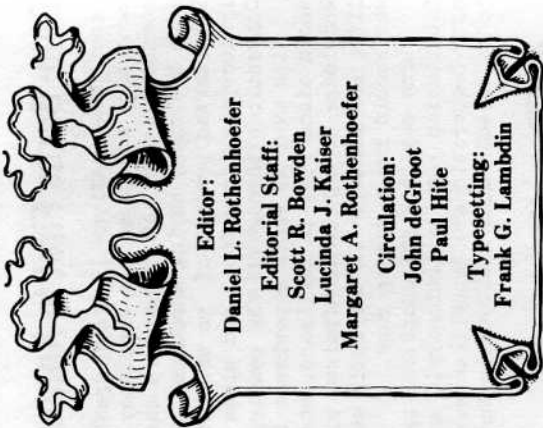
A Libertarian outreach to the Mexican-American community began in late February as National Chair Alicia Clark travelled to Minnesota to meet with the Minnesota Association of Mexican-American Voters, a rapidly growing organization with several thousand members around that State.

With assistance from Minnesota State Chair Frank Haws, Alicia was able to visit eight cities and conduct 14 media interviews in a two-day whirlwind tour to Minnesota's Mexican-American communities.

Tired of empty promises from Democratic politicians, the Mexican-American Voters' group is considering running two local candidates as Libertarians. Haws has been meeting with the group's leaders on a regular basis, discussing Libertarian positions on a number of issues. During Clark's tour, she talked extensively with members of this group about the LP position on immigration, Social Security, taxes, minimum wage laws, business regulations, welfare, and other topics of particular interest to Mexican-Americans. The "Question & Answer" flyer was also distributed in Spanish, and is now available from National HQ in Spanish for 5 cents each. This could be the beginning of a major outreach to the Hispanic community nationwide.



LIBERTARIAN



Editor:
Daniel L. Rothenhoefer

Editorial Staff:
Scott R. Bowden
Lucinda J. Kaiser
Margaret A. Rothenhoefer

Circulation:
John deGroot
Paul Hite

Typesetting:
Frank G. Lambdin

Volunteer

Reminder. Don't forget the State-wide fund raiser being conducted in the latter part of March. If you haven't done so yet, contact your District Chair and help make phone calls in your area to raise money for the LP.

Don't forget the Tax Day Protest. If you want to get involved, contact Phil Kaczmarek or your District Chair and see what tax protest activities are planned for your area, this April 15th.

UPDATE TO CONTACT LIST: The new 2nd District Chair is Al Anders, 1010 W. 36th St., Norfolk, VA 23508. Al's phone number is (804) 625-5068.



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Gene Burns

Presidency

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out that region, as well as other parts of the world. Burns has been to Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Nicaragua, Japan, Korea, Formosa, Hong Kong, Viet-

Nam, Thailand, India, Iran, Germany, Belgium and England, and continues to travel extensively in search of the raw material for his speeches and commentaries. On his radio show, Burns comments extensively on foreign affairs.

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LETTERS

The President's Commission on Social Security, after months of deliberation, came up with the predictable solution of - charging us more and giving us less. Unless a different retirement concept is enacted, this same solution will probably be used countless times in the future.

I find it strange that the very people that administer Social Security, the people that legislate changes to Social Security, the people that enforce and collect Social Security - don't themselves participate in Social Security, while the rest of us are forced to belong, like it or not.

Now, it just so happens that I do agree that there must be forced participation in some sort of retirement program. I'm sure many of us, myself included, would not save sufficiently for our retirement. But I don't consider Social Security as savings. This is Our Money they are using. Either our FICA payments are a tax (and should be paid by all working Americans, including those who work in State, Local, and Federal Governments) or the money we pay is going toward retirement.

If these payments are indeed for retirement, then they should be free from any future legislation, and exact retirement statements should be sent to each participant every year, stating the amount in his or her account, and projected retirement figures for that worker.

One of the main ingredients missing in Social Security is that until we can feel that it is our money, and that our payments are earning interest for our retirement, we will continue

to feel we're being taxed to support past generations, and that there's a very good chance that future generations might not feel as generous.

Another thing that really bothers me is the mathematics of Social Security. Since the money paid into Social Security does not earn interest, how can we get back more than we put in? Present retirees who have put hundreds of dollars into the system are getting back tens-of-thousands -- will that mean that we, who will put tens-of-thousands into the system will get back millions?

I think we all know the present system is doomed to failure, and it's just a question of time until a new system is proposed that would earn interest on retirement payments (similar to IRA's). This system would probably be operated by Savings and Loan companies, but monitored by the Federal Government. Billions of dollars going into S & L's and invested into our businesses would give a mighty boost to our economy, while lowering interest rates permanently. Under a system like this, obligations to retired and soon-to-retire workers now falling under Social Security would come out of the general tax fund. This would be the responsibility of every working American, and not just the people presently mired into the system.

My question is ... why doesn't the Libertarian Party initiate a program along these lines? I would think it would make a good platform to get the Party in front of the public ... and like I say, it's just a question of time.

Frank Lambdin
Herndon, Va.

We're trying. See page 5 for what we've managed to accomplish so far. Progress comes in small steps.
Ed.

Congressman Paul To Introduce Libertarian-Conceived Social Security Legislation



Sometime late in March, a new Bill will be introduced in Congress by Representative Ron Paul (R-Texas) which would totally overhaul the Social Security System along Libertarian guidelines. The Bill, now in progress, has been drafted with the help of LP National Social Security Project Coordinator Bruce Daniel, and substantial assistance from Alicia Clark, Honey Lanham, and Dave Bergland.

Specific language of the Bill was still being drafted at press time, and therefore unavailable, but we do have the salient points expected to be included, and present them here:

1. Freedom of choice must be granted to every American citizen to voluntarily opt out of the Social Security System.
2. No new workers are to be compelled by the government to join the Social Security System.
3. FICA payroll taxes will cease to be withheld from people voluntarily opting out of Social Security. The employer FICA tax will also be eliminated on those employees opting out of Social Security.
4. All persons voluntarily opting out of Social Security will relinquish all claims to future benefits that would be provided under Social Security, regardless of the amount "contributed" into the system to date.
5. Persons voluntarily opting out of Social Security will have their Social Security records destroyed by the Social Security Administration.
6. Government regulations pertaining to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA's) must be amended so that a person can put into these accounts at least the same amount previously withheld as FICA taxes (both employee and employer shares).
7. Persons opting out of Social Security must be able to purchase retirement insurance, disability insurance, survivors insurance (which is nothing more than life insurance), and health insurance (to replace Medicare coverage) with a portion of IRA contributions. All decisions pertaining to the type of IRA and the amount contributed to an IRA shall be the responsibility of the individual.
8. The earnings limitation now imposed on persons between the ages of 62 and 70 shall be eliminated. This will end the present

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Anti-Draft Rally Planned For DC March 19

The Libertarian Students Network (LSN) will hold a Draft Resistance Rally at a Post Office in Rockville, Maryland (a suburb of Washington, D.C.) on Saturday morning, March 19th.

At the Rally, Libertarian activist Paul Koon is expected to announce his intention to refuse to register. Koon has already received a NastyGram from Selective Service which offered threats if Koon doesn't register if required.

The LSN is planning to have speakers at the rally who will appeal to a broad base of supporters both libertarian and otherwise, and significant media coverage is expected.

Although LSN requires membership in the National Libertarian Party as a prerequisite for LSN membership, the organization hopes to place itself in the lead position of a "united front" of those groups opposing the draft and draft registration.

For more information about LSN or the Draft Resistance Rally, call Greg Kaza in Washington, D.C. at (202) 546-8353.



NatCon Delegate

If you would like to represent Virginia as a delegate to the Libertarian Party National Convention to be held in New York City this autumn, please submit your name to Henry Thrasher or to your LPVA District Rep.

National Convention Delegates will be elected at the LPVA State Convention in Richmond on April 17.

Daniel Kicks Off Social Security Protest

Bruce Daniel, National Coordinator of the Libertarian Party's Social Security Project, called for making the Social Security System voluntary in a press conference held January 31.

Daniel announced the beginning of a "major attack" by Libertarians across the country on the current System and the various stop-gap measures and fix-up solutions put forward by the Greenspan Commission and others.

"We are happy to announce that a bill will be introduced into the Congress within the next three weeks that will allow American workers to opt out of the System voluntarily and make private arrangements that better serve their own particular needs," Daniel said.

Daniel's announcement kicked off Social Security Week activities by the LP which included news conferences by Party officials and former LP candidates around the country to announce the Libertarian alternative, which would give those already dependent on Social Security the choice to stay with it, give everyone the option of dropping out, and prohibit the addition of new workers to the System.

Author to Speak in Arlington March 23

Warren Kearsse, a radio engineer for NBC, began to observe the erosion of our liberties a few years ago and began studying the situation. His observations on the money system, taxation, administrative law and a number of other topics are in his book **THE WAR AGAINST HONESTY**, published in 1976. Since then, Kearsse has been involved in numerous activities with tax protest organizations, decentralist groups, and libertarian study groups. Over the years, Kearsse has learned how to maximize personal liberty, and will speak on "How We Can Put Libertarian Government Into Effect Now" at the meeting of the Arlington Libertarian Committee to be held Wednesday, March 23 at 9 p.m. at Bob's Big Boy, Bailey's Crossroads, Virginia, across from the IRS.

Admission to Kearsse's talk is free, but seating is limited, so be sure to call in advance for reservations and/or directions. Call (703) 998-5693, days, or (703) 931-3777 evenings.



VOTE LIBERTARIAN



Tidewater Area Hears Libertarian Message

Thousands of listeners in the southern Tidewater and South Hampton areas of Virginia heard four solid hours of the Libertarian message this January 24.

LPVA Vice Chair Henry Thrasher (of the 4th District) and Doug Skelton (2nd District) were guest speakers on a four-hour marathon session of the Charlie Huddle Show on WTKR.

The broadcast ran from 8:00 p.m. until midnight, and it is

reported that Doug was just warming up shortly after 11 p.m. as Henry was hoping for a second wind.

The program included phone calls from several listeners who called themselves Libertarians and a couple of others who made it clear they were not. Topics of discussion included Social Security; the Military; and a particularly heated "debate" on Immigration.

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Social Security

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practice of the government discouraging older Americans to continue contributing their skills and knowledge in the marketplace.

9. Persons currently receiving benefits are to be notified that the system is bankrupt and his present benefit level will become a ceiling.

All future payments will be financed on an annual basis. The amount needed for funding will be derived from:

1. savings through the elimination of foreign expenditures (both military and economic);
2. selling government property;
3. proceeds from the minting and selling of American Gold Eagle coins to the public;
4. payroll contributions from people remaining voluntarily in the Social Security System.

The Social Security system must become a fully funded insurance program. The system can use general revenue only to the extent that its use is offset by implementing the first three (3) items above. An increase in the FICA payroll contributions on those remaining in the Social Security system will be necessary to fully fund their retirement (and all promised related benefits) and to make up any shortfall realized after exhausting the aforementioned recommendations for funding benefits for present beneficiaries.

Presidency

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The race for the 1984 Libertarian Presidential Nomination seems to be attracting a number of well-qualified candidates. In addition to Burns, the next candidate likely to announce is Sam Steiger, who got 5 percent of the vote when he ran for the Governorship of Arizona. And a group of Libertarians is now putting together a committee to draft third-term Texas Congressman Ron Paul at the LP National Con-

vention. Paul is the sponsor of the Libertarian-authored, recently introduced Bill to make Social Security a voluntary program, and is well-known in many Libertarian circles despite his present status as a "Republican."

Although it's still far too early to attempt a prediction of who the Libertarian Presidential nominee might be, one thing is certain -- 1984 is going to be an exciting year for Libertarians.

School Budget

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systems in the county. To put it more bluntly, if you offered education vouchers of \$2500, which I would consider to be far too generous, you would not only save \$791 per student, but those accepting the vouchers would have most of the County's approximately 33 private schools to choose from while still receiving a "free" education. "...None of the budgeted expenditures are tied to the purpose of the school system. In fact, the purpose of the school system is not

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Editor's Comment:

Help Wanted

One of the biggest dangers to any small movement, at least in the early stages, and this includes the Libertarian Party, is WORKER BURNOUT. It always seems that a few dedicated workers end up doing more and more of the work until they can't do any more. To prevent the loss of vital workers, each of us needs to do as much as we can to help the movement, but not so much that we destroy our own personal lives in the present for the sake of what we hope will be a greater measure of individual liberty in the distant future.

This newsletter needs your help -- now. We have just lost our typesetting, on very short notice, due to increased job pressures on Frank Lambdin, who has devoted massive time to this effort for months. Your Editor is under similar pressures. Write articles for us. Let us know what's happening out there. We don't have time to research, write and edit everything that's going on.

We also need help with typesetting and paste-up -- and we'll need that help before the next issue, or we won't be able to produce 16 pages the next time. The loss of Frank Lambdin's services as the press deadline approached has tripled my burden to produce this issue. And the efforts of a minuscule circulation staff to label, Zipsort, and bag the mags for the Post Office has caused immense personal burdens on those few, and brought several of them to the point of mutiny.

If you have been sitting on the sidelines, waiting for something to happen, call or drop us a line. We have plenty for you to do. The Libertarian Party is on the move. The future is now. Together we can make it happen.

They say there are three kinds of people in the world -- those who make things happen; those who watch things happen; and those who wonder what happened.

Which are you? Let us know.



School Budget

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even described except in political terms. But perhaps that is all it is...

"It is gratifying to learn that students in Fairfax County are earning SAT scores well above the national average. It tells us something that we already know, that a big Federal government spends big bucks and attracts intelligent workers who begot intelligent kids. What it doesn't tell us is why the Division Superintendent didn't also include comparisons of the public school system with that of the private services. But we already know that too. Not only would such comparisons provide a more realistic measure of the public school system's performance, it would also support a more credible view of the private schools..."

"The consumers are being asked if they like the product while the price tag is being hidden from them. And they are not being asked to compare the product with others. In fact, much effort is described in the ... Budget Justification on keeping public education in the same category as motherhood and apple pie. Generally, such advertising would be constructive. However, this is not a normal marketplace; people are not free to spend their money for whichever product they choose... The effect of this advertising campaign is to obscure the fact that there is even a marketplace.

"The budget does mention the declining economy... not ... in terms of hardship to the taxpayers ... but in terms of inconvenience to the budget... It speaks of the impact of the economy as possibly requiring that either additional funding be provided or that programs be curtailed. Always in that order... No programs are considered that might reduce (costs) to meet the goals of the system... none of the expenditures have been tied to the non-existent goals. We are simply asked to accept the fact that what we'll be getting this coming year will be a lot like whatever we got last year except that there'll be fewer students getting it, it'll be a little more expensive none-the-less, and most parents consider their local school "overall good" anyway. Such a platitude does not merit a half-billion dollar budget.

"As non-elected officials, you have been removed from most politics. As a tax-funded organization, you have been removed from the marketplace. All this in the hope that you might make a reasoned and wise determination of what is required from an education system and how to provide the most effective education in the most economic and efficient manner. However, if you are seriously considering this "budget" or anything similar to it, then it is not only politics and the marketplace that you have been removed from, it is also reality, and it should be your offices.

"It is time to stop dealing in propaganda and to decide exactly what it is that we really want from education. It is time to determine exactly what it is that promotes these objectives and what it is that simply wastes time and money. It is time to stop trying to compare how things are going this year versus last year. And it is time to cut this budget in half, to stop pretending that the public school system is your only option, and to stop pretending that public education is 'free'."



**Time
is running
out...**



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LPVa Contacts

State Chair:

Stew Engel
Owens, VA 22532
|703| 663-2279

Vice Chair:

Henry Thrasher
7416 Major Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23505
|804| 440-9294

Secretary:

Carolyn Paulette
4314 Forest Hill Ave.
Richmond, VA 23225
|804| 232-6644

Treasurer:

Sally Godsey
5808-F Willow Oaks Drive
Richmond, VA 23225
|804| 233-6246

1st District Chair:

Stew Engel
|see State Chair|

2nd District Chair:

John Alluisi
1421 Rylands Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
|804| 464-5436

3rd District Chair:

Jim Elwood
9204-C Cavalry Drive
Richmond, VA 23229
|804| 740-5126

4th District Chair:

Henry Thrasher
|see Vice Chair|

5th District Chair:

vacant

6th District Chair:

Thomas Carwile
Route 4, Box 126
Lynchburg, VA 24503
|804| 384-3392

7th District Chair:

John Kiley
Millwood, VA 22646
|703| 837-2238

8th District Chair:

Richard Gardiner
7404 Estaban Place
Springfield, VA 22151
|703| 569-6782

9th District Chair:

vacant

10th District Chair:

Paul Hite
2024 Peach Orchard Drive, #32
Falls Church, VA 22043
|703| 734-0712 |home|
|703| 849-0142 |office|

Arlington Chairman:

Marjie Rothenhoefer
P.O. Box 6403
Arlington, VA 22206
|703| 931-3777

83 LPVa Convention Coordinator:

Jim Turney
824 W. Broad St.
Richmond, VA 23220
|804| 788-7044
or leave message at
|804| 788-7008

Tax Protest Day Coordinator:

Phil Kaczmarek
P.O. Box 6403
Arlington, VA 22206
|703| 671-9849

83 Fund raising coordinator:

Jim Elwood
|see 3rd District Chair|

Social Security Week Coordinator:

John Kiley
|see 7th District Chair|

83 Activists Coordinator

Scott Bowden
P.O. Box 857
McLean, VA 22101
|703| 356-0750

Newsletter Editor:

Dan Rothenhoefer
P.O. Box 6403
Arlington, VA 22206
|703| 931-3777

Statement of Principles

We, the members of the Libertarian Party, challenge the cult of the omnipotent state and defend the rights of the individual.

We hold that all individuals have the right to exercise sole dominion over their own lives, and have the right to live in whatever manner they choose, so long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live in whatever manner they choose.

Governments throughout history have regularly operated on the opposite principle, that the State has the right to dispose of the lives of individuals and the fruits of their labor. Even within the United States, all political parties other than our own grant to government the right to regulate the lives of individuals and seize the fruits of their labor without their consent.

We, on the contrary, deny the right of any government to do these things, and hold that where governments exist, they must not violate the rights of any individual, namely, (1) the right to life—accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action—accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property—accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation.

Since government, when instituted, must not violate individual rights, we oppose all interference by government in the areas of voluntary and contractual relations among individuals. People should not be forced to sacrifice their lives and property for the benefit of others. They should be left free by government to deal with one another as free traders, and the resultant economic system, the only one compatible with the protection of individual rights, is the free market.

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