Libertarians gather in Indianapolis

By Bill Winter

C all it the Melee in Middle America. Or an Adventure in Indianapolis. Or just your Holiday in the Heartland.

Whatever you call it, it's the Libertarian National Convention — four days of debates, elections, and speeches that will define the destiny of the Libertarian Party for the next two years.

From July 3-7, the city best known for the cheers of basketball fans and the roar of the Indy 500 car race will be transformed into the epicenter of Libertarianism in America.

Flock into the city

A thousand or more Libertarian delegates from every corner of the nation will flock into the city, arriving by plane, car, train, and bus. They will flood into the Marriott Downtown Hotel and the Indianapolis Convention Center — and get to work.

Their assignment: Select among the three announced candidates who are vying for the influential position of LP National Chair, each offering a starkly different vision for the future of the party.

They will decide whether to change the party's Bylaws, the manual that serves as the "constitutions" of the party — determining its structure, the ethical rules that govern its staff and officers, and the relationship between the national and state organizations.

And, perhaps most crucially, they will debate the philosophical essence of the party. Delegates will decide whether to metamorphose, modify, or maintain the party's Platform — the document that serves as the ultimate definition of what it means to be a Libertarian Party member, and shapes the party in the eyes of the public.

Given America's new political realities following the September 11 terrorist attacks, the convention is shaping up as a defining event in party history, said Steve Dasbach, the LP's executive director.

Renewed faith

"Every National Convention is important, of course," he said. "But the 2002 convention is arguably more important than most, because it is the first to deal with the fall-out from the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon: The War on Terrorism, renewed faith in government, the USA/Patriot Act, and so on.

"Delegates have an enormous challenge in front of them. They've got their hands on the Libertarian Party's steering wheel, and will determine where the LP goes from here, and how fast, and in what direction."

However, the convention is not just all elections, politicking, and philosophical Sturm und Drang, he said. Attendees will also be treated to a world-class array of libertarian speakers.

See CONVENTION Page 2

LP targets races in

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Uncle Sam versus the Marlboro

A quick history of the War on Smok-

By Jonathan Trager

G rady Carter, a 68-year-old Floridian, got rich using a rather unconventional method: Smoking cigarettes.

In 1995, he filed a lawsuit against Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation — the manufacturer of Lucky Strike cigarettes — demanding that the company compensate him for his illness.

A five-year legal battle ensued. Ultimately, the Florida Supreme Court upheld a lower court verdict ordering the company to pay Carter

See SMOKING Page 2
Steve Kubby cleared of fugitive charges

Former California LP gubernatorial candidate Steve Kubby has been cleared of charges that he violated Canadian immigration law. On May 10, Canadian Judge B. Shaw Dyck ruled that Kubby had entered Canada legally, and that he is eligible to apply for Canadian citizenship as a political refugee. The process is expected to take at least a year.

Kubby had been arrested at his British Columbia residence in mid-April for growing medical marijuana. He was also branded as a “fugitive” who had fled Placer County, California to avoid jail time for a prior drug conviction.

Kubby’s wife Michele said she felt vindicated by the decision.

“A Canadian court has confirmed that Steve is not a fugitive, and I think the Canadian police and courts now recognize that they were lied to by Placer County officials,” she said.

At the hearing, the Canadian Immigration Service argued that Kubby should be immediately deported to the U.S. to face a 120-day jail term, a sentence ordered by a California judge in July 2001. But Kubby, 54, and his wife, Alka Stojcevic, said because U.S. prison officials block access to medical marijuana, deporting Kubby to serve his jail term would put his life at risk. Kubby suffers from adrenal cancer, and uses marijuana under a doctor’s recommendation.

“Mr. Kubby is a member of a particular social group who are being persecuted in the U.S.,” said Stojcevic. “As such, he is entitled to apply as a political refugee under the U.N. Convention.”

Judge Dyck agreed, and Kubby was released. He still faces a Canadian drug hearing for illegally growing medical marijuana.

Planned Atlas Shrugged mini-series in limbo

A plan to turn Ayn Rand's epic novel Atlas Shrugged into a mini-series for Turner Network Television (TNT) has been canceled, following a corporate reorganization. The mini-series, originally scheduled to be broadcast this fall, entered an “uncertain phase” after its contract expired in March, said Robert James Bidinott, director of the Atlas Society, an organization for admirers of Rand’s work.

The planned five-hour mini-series ran into problems when the economy slowed after the September 11 terrorist attacks, “making the $25 million cost of the film seem risking,” said Bidinott. “And making it hard to find a wining executive process of reorganization when its parent company, Time-Warner, merged with America Online. In quick succession, TNT first cut its financial commitment to the film to $10 million, then withdrew from the project altogether.

That left a project in the hands of executive producer Al Ruddy, who decided to turn Atlas Shrugged into a feature film rather than a TV mini-series. However, he was not able to line up the talent or the financing by the March deadline, said Bidinott.

The TNT termination was the latest in a long series of dead-ended Atlas Shrugged movies: Since the 1970s, six screenplays have been written. “But none have been cast, let alone filmed,” said Bidinott.

Medical pot initiative OK'd in Anchorage

A libertarian-led organization in Alaska has submitted petition signatures to put a medical marijuana paraphernalia initiative in the Anchorage ballot.

On April 9, the group Citizens for Implementing Medical Marijuana (CIMM) submitted more than 9,800 signatures to the municipal clerk in Anchorage — an event that drew coverage from two TV affiliates. If certified, the initiative will appear on the ballot in April 2003.

The initiative would amend the Anchorage Municipal Charter to include “the right to buy, sell, or possess those items which could be used to consume, grow or process marijuana for medicine,” said LP State Chair and CIMM Chair Al Anders.

“This initiative is necessary because even though Alaska state law allows medical marijuana use, Anchorage municipal law has never been changed to accommodate that right,” he said.

In fact, after Alaska citizens passed a 1998 initiative to allow use of marijuana for medicinal purposes, Anders said the Anchorage Assembly passed an ordinance that added criminal penalties for selling marijuana paraphernalia, such as certain kinds of pipes.

“Ironically, those items are commonplace and legally sold in other states where marijuana remains illegal for medical use,” he said.

Party announces targets in 2002 elections

Continued from Page 1
to oppose drug reform measures,” he said.

The new “spoiler effect” will be a key component of the LP’s efforts to end federal drug prohibition by 2010, said Crickenberger.

“The non-interventionist, free-market "Incumbent Killer Strategy" has already run "relatively effective" races in previous years.

Target: Bob Barr

The first target will be Bob Barr, a former federal prosecutor and four-term incumbent from Georgia’s 7th District.

One of the highest-profile and fiercest drug warriors in the U.S. House, Barr was an obvious candidate for the "Incumbent Killer Strategy," said Crickenberger.

However, Barr’s electoral situation is unique: Because of redistricting, Barr is competing against Republican Congressman John Linder in a primary election. The Libertarian Party will try to cause Barr to lose in the primary, which takes place in August.


"People find it unconscionable that drug warriors like Barr have continued their attack on sick patients," said LP Political Director Ron C negerken.

The LP will run targeted advertisement focusing on one aspect of the drug reform agenda that has broad public support, said Cengerken: Medical marijuana.

“In the wake of September 11, a lot of people find it unconscionable that drug warriors like Barr have continued their attacks on sick patients,” he said. “Most people oppose arresting nonviolent marijuana smokers — especially medical marijuana smokers.”

According to a November 2001 poll commissioned by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), 61% of respondents said they opposed arresting and jailing nonviolent pot smokers due to the increased threat of terrorism since September 11.

And a March 2002 Pew Research Center/Gallup poll found that 73% of voters support the medical use of marijuana with a doctor’s prescription.

$4,000 per race

To implement the “Incumbent Killer Strategy,” the Libertarian Party can legally spend up to $4,000 on each targeted race — $5,000 in direct candidate contributions and $36,000 in coordinated expenditures on ad- vertizing, said Cengerken.

Overall, the party expects to spend about $100,000 on the strategy, he said.

The money will be raised from current LP members and from the drug-reform movement, using direct-mail letters and e-mail appeals, said Cengerken.

Even non-Libertarian drug reformers should support the strategy, said Cengerken, because it could have a chilling effect on the willingness of other politicians to support the War on Drugs.

“It is important not only to defeat some of the worst drug warriors, but to defeat them because they are drug warriors,” he said. “If we push Barr, and do it successfully, for some of the worst drug warriors to wander the halls of Congress in 2003 as lobbyists, and say to their former colleagues: 'The reason I lost was because of the Libertarian Party and those damn drug reformers.'

Generic TV ads

In addition to the targeted races, the LP is developing a generic medical-marijuana television advertisement for use by Libertarian candidates, said Cengerken, and a “briefing booklet” for LP candidates to use against pro-Drug War opponents.

The Libertarian Party’s "Incumbent Killer Strategy" has already generated a flurry of media stories, including pieces in the Washington Post, FoxNews.com, Insight magazine, and the Hill newspaper.

For example, FoxNews.com wrote: "The non-interventionist, free-market Libertarian Party is spoiling for a fight. The Libertarian Party is planning to challenge several incumbents in November in a so-called national "spoiler" strategy that could put vulnerable Republicans on more shaky ground and help stir the suspense over whether the GOP can hold a House majority and wrest back the Senate from Democratic control."

The drug war strategy is one of 20 political strategies incorporated in the Libertarian Party’s comprehensive Strategic Plan, which was approved by the Libertarian National Commit-
Gary Johnson, Ed Clark, Larry Pratt, Tim Slagle

America's most outspoken anti-Drug War governor has been scheduled to speak at the Libertarian National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson, who shattered his Republican colleagues and electrified the drug reform movement with his blunt opposition to the War on Drugs, will address convention delegates in July.

LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach announced:

Joining Johnson to round out the list of convention speakers will be Ed Clark, the Libertarian Party’s record-setting 1980 presidential candidate; Larry Pratt, the proudly politically incorrect libertarian comic; and Rob Kampia, the articulate, media-savvy head of the Marijuana Policy Project.

“With these new speakers, the 2002 Convention offers a genuinely impressive array of libertarian heavy hitters who will address core freedom issues such as drug reform and protecting the Second Amendment,” said Dasbach. “And, of course, we have America’s favorite libertarian funnyman, Tim Slagle, to add a touch of humor.”

Leading critic

Headlining the speakers will be Gary Johnson, who says he “welcomes being called a libertarian” and has been described as the nation’s leading critic of the War on Drugs.

Johnson created a firestorm of controversy in GOP circles when he branded the Drug War a failure — calling it the “greatest problem our nation faces which has an immediate solution” — and advocated the legalization of drugs.

For his efforts, he was labeled “Puff Daddy Johnson” by former Drug Czar Barry R. McCaffrey — an ironic slur against a competitive “Ironman” triathlete who eschews even caffeine and nicotine.

Johnson has backed up his rhetoric with legislative action: During his eight years as governor, he promoted and signed bills to curb asset forfeiture, reform mandatory minimum sentences, and release many nonviolent drug offenders.

Johnson has also earned the admiration of many Libertarians for his fiscal policies: He cut taxes by more than $106 million a year, reduced the number of state employees, and vetoed more bills than all of the rest of the governors in the United States combined.

At the convention, Johnson “will speak on his efforts and successes to move New Mexico away from a Drug War mentality toward a policy of peace, justice, and compassion,” said Dasbach. “As an example of how to turn drug reform ideas into political action, Governor Johnson is not to be missed.”

Also speaking at the convention:

Ed Clark: As the 1980 LP presidential candidate, Clark and vice presidential candidate David Koch waged the most successful national Libertarian campaign in party history.

Buoyed by $3 million from the wealthy Koch, the Clark/Koch ticket garnered 921,000 votes — about 1% of the total in the election. The campaign also marked the first time a Libertarian candidate appeared on the ballot in all 50 states.

Two years before his record-setting...See JOHNSON

Bea Jones wins election to A

former Libertarian Party vice chair in South Carolina has won a spot on the Hardeeville city council, coming in second in a four-way race.

On May 14, Bea Jones took one of the two city council seats that were up for grabs in the non-partisan election. She garnered 46% of the vote.

The Hardeeville council has five members, each of whom serves a four-year term.

Jones, 44, said she was "humbled" by her victory.

"I am anxious to get to work and make changes that need to be made," she said. "I am eager to fulfill the faith the citizens have in me — and to show them that the government exists to serve them, not dictate terms to them."

Specifically, Jones said she will work to encourage growth and development in Hardeeville, and to do away with ordinances that infringe on individual and property rights.

Furthermore, Jones said she would focus on expanding business opportunities in the city.

"I want to make sure [businesses] know they are welcomed, and that we feel they profit not just themselves, but the city, also," she said.

Spent $470

Jones spent about $470 on her campaign. In addition to the $130 registration fee, she bought one large campaign sign and five small, wire-framed signs to advertise her candidacy.

Her victory illustrates why Libertarian Party members should be optimistic about the party’s pro-freedom message, said Jones.

"The more restrictive government becomes, the more adherents we have to our firm stance on individual rights, personal responsibility, and limited government," she said. "We see JONES Page 19

Mass. tax repeal initiative heads for A

Libertarian initiative to eliminate the Massachusetts income tax is headed for the November ballot, now that the state legislature has refused to consider the measure.

Carla Howell’s Committee for Small Government (CSG) has started to collect additional petition signatures to place the initiative on the general election ballot, after the May 1 deadline for legislative action passed, said CSG spokesman Michael Cloud.

Bay State politicians refused to consider the politically explosive initiative that would save state taxpayers $9 billion a year because of a “real-politics cost-benefit assessment,” he said. “They knew the Boston newspapers and TV news wouldn’t report it, [so] they saw no cost in failing to vote — and no

THE LEGISLATURE stonewalled us on a vote: We half expected that: But Birmingham’s tie was an eye-opener.

—Michael Cloud advantage in taking a vote. —According to the Massachusetts state constitution, both the State House and State Senate are required to hold hearings and vote on any initiative that gets preliminary approval. See TAX REPEAL Page 19
Michigan Libertarians get major win with new top-of-ballot status

By James Hudler

In what party leaders are calling a “huge legislative victory,” the Michigan Libertarian Party has pushed through a bill that “practically guarantees” the LP will retain its ballot status each election cycle. LP State Chair James Hudler said he was “very excited” about the new law.

“I have gone through the task of ballot access petitioning [for the LP] at least six times in the past 30 years,” he said. “The passage of this bill should ensure our ballot status for the next 20 years.”

On May 30, Republican Governor John Engler signed Public Act 399, which changed the definition of a party’s “principal candidate” from the candidate whose name appears at the top of the ballot to whichever statewide candidate received the most votes in an election cycle.

1% of winning vote

Prior to the bill’s passage, a party could only retain ballot status if its top-of-the-ticket candidate garnered a vote total equal to 1% of the winning candidate for secretary of state in the previous election.

The change is important because LP presidential candidates have traditionally not received enough votes to retain the party’s ballot status, said Tim O’Brien, former state LP executive director. The party was then forced to spend about $30,000 on a petition drive to regain ballot status after each presidential election. Moreover, the party has frequently opted not to run candidates for governor or U.S. Senate in non-presidential years, to increase the odds that the party would maintain ballot status, said O’Brien.

“Certain candidates — like those for state board of education — usually do get enough votes to maintain our ballot access,” he said. “So, in the past, we were forced either to not run top candidates, or to do so and then go through a grueling petition drive to get back on the ballot. We no longer have that dilemma.”

The victory culminated several months of lobbying work by Michigan Libertarians.

In October 2001, Rep. Leon Drolet (R) and Rep. Robert Goschel (R) introduced the bill to the House Committee on Redistricting and Elections. After the bill was passed out of committee, Libertarian Party members used an Internet lobbying tool — www.SpeakOutMichigan.org — to send e-mails to legislators. Each state legislator received about five or six e-mails on the subject, said O’Brien.

Caught their attention

“A handful of e-mails from concerned constituents might not seem like much, but considering this was a relatively unknown bill, it sure caught their attention,” he said.

Libertarian Party leaders also testified before the legislature, and the LP organized a coalition of Green Party, Reform Party, ACLU, and League of Women Voters activists to support the bill.

In March 2002, the bill passed the See MICHIGAN Page 18

Colorado activist offers calendar showcasing female libertarian activists

Arkansas LP files lawsuit over party status

The Arkansas Libertarian Party has filed a lawsuit to gain status as a recognized party, after the secretary of state ruled it had submitted too few signatures to qualify.

On May 17 in Little Rock, the suit demands that the LP be recognized as a political party, and that Libertarian candidates be allowed on the ballot in November.

The LP is waiting for a reaction from the secretary of state to determine whether the matter will actually proceed to court, said LP State Chair Gerhard Languth.

“The politics is a lot like a chess game, and we are just waiting to see how the government is going to move on this,” he said. “We aren’t sure what they are going to do right now.”

On May 6, the party submitted 10,300 signatures to the secretary of state on the assumption that 10,000 signatures were required. Three days later, Secretary of State Sharon Priet was rejected the LP petition, saying that 2,000 signatures — or 3% of the votes in the last presidential election — were required by law.

But Priet’s decision violated a 1997 court ruling that the signature requirement for third-party candidates must be the same as that of independents, said Languth. Currently, 10,000 signatures are...
Will you sign Carla Howell’s Small Government Pledge?

A Republican or Democrat could agree with one Libertarian position while advocating and advancing Big Government.

A Republican could call for privatizing Social Security — while dramatically increasing the War on Drugs and doubling Military Spending.

A Democrat could call for Ending the War Against Marijuana (and forcing other drug users into mandatory treatment programs) — while dramatically increasing spending on Medicare and Medicaid. While moving America toward single-payer socialized medicine.

A Republican could call for Ending the Income Tax — while imposing a 20% National Sales Tax. A Democrat could call for an End to Internet Censorship — while imposing greater government restrictions, regulations, and limits on political campaigns.

A Republican could call for the repeal of the Brady Bill — while giving the Federal government sweeping enforcement powers for all the other Federal Anti-Gun laws.

A Democrat might call for the withdrawal of U.S. troops from the 100+ countries in which they are stationed — while tripling the Department of Education budget.

A Republican or Democrat can call for less government in one area — while drastically expanding government authority, power, and spending in another.

Republicans and Democrats operate on the Hydra Principle: for every Big Government Program they cut off, they grow back two Big Government Programs to take its place.


You know it. Every Libertarian knows it. But how do we demonstrate the difference between the counterfeit promises of Democrats and Republicans and the 24-carat gold promises of Libertarians?

The Small Government Solution

While the Democrats and Republicans can hijack one Libertarian issue or another — they cannot hijack the core Libertarian issue: small government.

Or, more accurately, they cannot hijack our small government position without becoming Libertarians.

Because only Libertarians consistently support small government.

What is small government? It is a fraction of today’s Big Government. Small government is a night watchman — a tiny institution — a skeleton crew doing only the bare essentials. Small government is restricted to defending our lives, our liberty, and our property.

Anything beyond this is Big Government.

To be a Libertarian is to make government small.

The Small Government Pledge

Carla Howell’s small government pledge is:

2. The small government pledge is an Action Pledge, not just a statement of belief.
3. Every Libertarian who signs the small government pledge promises to actively and ambitiously initiate and support actions to make government small.
4. Each Libertarian candidate who takes the Small Government Pledge promises:
   1. I will vote against every government budget that spends the same amount or more than the previous year’s budget.
   2. I will seek to introduce and will vote for a government budget that is dramatically smaller than the previous year’s budget.
   3. I will vote against existing Big Government Programs.
   4. I will vote against any new or expanded Government Programs.
   5. I will seek to introduce and will vote for legislation that repeals existing Big Government Programs.
   6. I will seek to introduce and will vote for legislation that reduces the total funding, size, and power of government.
   7. My campaign issues, statements, and literature will consistently embody the small government pledge.

8. I will protect the meaning of the Small Government Pledge by refusing to “normalize” or adjust government spending to account for inflation, population growth, cost of living, and other exceptions, excuses, and rationalizations.

Each Libertarian activist who takes the Small Government Pledge promises to support only those candidates who take the pledge and live the pledge.

If you want to take the Small Government Pledge, please come to our web site for the Official Small Government Pledge Form. www.carlahowell.org

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Carla Howell’s Libertarian campaign for Governor is committed to the Small Government Pledge. Every issue Carla Howell advances is designed to make government small.

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Carla Howell’s Libertarian campaign is the Biggest and Boldest Libertarian campaign for Governor in Libertarian Party history.

If this is the kind of Libertarian candidate you want, if this is the kind of Libertarian Party you want, please make your most generous donation today.

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## The Small Government Pledge Form

**NO EXCEPTIONS! NO EXCUSES!**

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Curious anti-drug ad effects, and redundant Republicans

**Uncle Sam’s dope**

Looks as though scientists researching the medical benefits of marijuana may have inadvertently hit on a way to discourage Americans from smoking dope: Let the government grow it.

According to the San Jose Mercury News, participants in a publicly funded study into whether marijuana relieves pain in HIV patients are complaining that the research joints — grown on a government farm in Minnesota — are of low quality.

“I couldn’t smoke the stuff any more,” Phillip Alden told the newspaper. “I was disgusted with the federal grow.”

— The Wall Street Journal May 7, 2002

**Toy gun control**

In 1994, an English homeowner, armed with a toy gun, managed to detain two burglars who had broken into his house. He called the police. When the officers arrived they arrested the homeowner for using an imitation gun to put someone in fear. Parliament is now considering making imitation guns illegal.

— Joyce Lee Maloney The Boston Globe, May 26, 2002

**Bush-league laws**

Two nominal clauses recently have become evident: those that let their hedges grow high and those that prefer to trim them back. One group stands accused of impeding public safety; the other of endangering the planet.

And both have run afloat of petty totalitarianism and environmental inquisitors in local governments for doing with their private property what they see fit.

In Norfolk, Virginia, Doug Nicoll faces a year in jail and a $2,500 fine for trimming bushes on his lot without permission from the city’s “Wetlands Board.”

In Palo Alto, California, 61-year-old Kay Leibrand was arrested for allowing Xylousa bushes in her yard to grow taller than the 2-foot height limit set by the city. She faces up to six months in the county lockup for her crime.

Both parties say they were breaking the law when they did, or did not, trim the shrubbery in question. But ignorance of even idiotic laws apparently is no excuse.

Leibrand, who has lived in the same house since 1966 and currently is battling breast cancer, says her hedges border a backyard patio and garden area from the noise of autos whistling along the street. She wants to keep them the way they are.

But the city of Palo Alto says the bushes obstruct the views of motorists and pedestrians and could result in accidents. “This is about protecting kids who are too small to be seen from being hit by cars,” the city attorney has said, shrewdly playing the sympathy-for-children card.

Though Nicoll and his wife, Tammy, had been trimming back the bushes on their Norfolk-area property since they bought the place in 1994, that city’s Wetlands Board voted in March to fine the couple $1,000 for “conducting regulated activity without a permit.”

In between coffee breaks, a city environmental-services employee had been spying on the culprits for months, apparently worried that trimming the bushes could kill them, leading to erosion, storm-water run-off and the eventual destruction of the weal as we know it.

— Seattle Times Insight, May 13, 2002

**Dept. of Poisoning**

At a training seminar in January sponsored by the Minnesota Department of Health (which is the agency responsible for enforcing food-handling rules), at least 15 of the 150 participants came down with food poisoning, most likely from the catered box lunches or in-class treats.

— News of the Weird May 17, 2002

**Fiscally rancid**

Despite the fact that the Republican-controlled White House, the House of Representatives, and 30 governors, the nation is now in the midst of the biggest government spending spree since LBJ.

Incredibly, the domestic social welfare budget has expanded more in just two years ($96 billion) under George W. Bush than in Bill Clinton’s first six years in office ($51 billion).

Even more discouraging is the spending trend.

Every year since the Republicans first took control of the House in 1995, spending roadblocks have been further removed.

Domestic spending fell by an impressive 3% in real terms in the 104th Congress (1995-96) when Republicans seized control of the House and Senate for the first time in 40 years.

The next Congress raised spending by 4%, the next by 11% and this one is on pace to raise the budget by 15%.

All of this is reminiscent of the old Reagan quip that to say that Congress spends like drunken sailors is an insult to drunken sailors.

One only need look at the vote on the Farm Bill. I’ve covered federal budget issues for nearly two decades. If the Farm Bill wasn’t the most fiscally rancid legislation I have seen, it’s certainly in the top three.

Yet two out of three Republicans voted for it, and, worse yet, Mr. Bush not only signed it, he crowed that it would secure the “independence of the American farmer.” Independence from what exactly? The free market?

The budget bulge that we’re now witnessing were happening under a Democratic presidency. Republicans would be howling in indignant outrage.

If the tidal wave of spending isn’t soon reversed, the Republican Party may soon discover that it is both redundant and replaceable.


**10-finger defense**

Suppose you’re flying on a commercial airliner when a group of Arab men wielding weapons suddenly jump out of their seats, bound down the aisles, knock over the flight attendants and passengers trying to block their way, and then break through the cockpit doors.

Which of the following two thoughts would be going through your head? (1) “Oh no, we’re all going to die,” or (2) “I’m so grateful those pilots don’t have guns.”

John Magaw, head of the Transportation Security Administration, falls in the second category. [In May], he announced that his agency would not allow pilots to carry firearms.

If a terrorist manages to invade the flight deck however, the pilots have Mr. Magaw’s permission to resist with all 10 fingers of their bare hands.

— Steve Chapman The Washington Times May 28, 2002

**The price we pay**

[President George W. Bush] and his advisers are practitioners of the old political axiom that you can’t beat something with nothing.

Thus, the White House has either come up with lighter alternatives to the Democrats’ agenda, or in several key areas has embraced the Democrats’ proposals and effectively removed them from the campaign debate.

The bloated, big government, anti-free market farm bill that Mr. Bush signed is a case in point. It will add $83 billion over 10 years to federal farm subsidies. It makes farmers more dependent on government handouts. It will weaken our case against foreign agricultural subsidies in future trade disputes.

No one in the White House likes this bill, but it was seen as the price they needed to pay to pick up at least one additional Senate seat in the farm states of South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, Missouri, and Georgia, which have competitive elections this fall.

— Donald Lambro The Washington Times May 16, 2002

**Just say “No effect”**

Advertisements paid for by the federal government to deter teens from using drugs may actually be encouraging some viewers to experiment with marijuana, according to statements made by White House Drug Czar John Walters in mid-May.

Walters’ admission came just days before the release of a federally commissioned report announcing that the $1.8 billion anti-drug ad campaign has failed to discourage teens from using drugs, and in some cases, may actually encourage use.

According to the forthcoming review, conducted by Westat Inc. and the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, “there is no evidence” indicating that the government ads have had a “desirable effect on youth,” or led to a decline in adolescent marijuana use.

In fact, the evaluation noted that among 12- and 13-year-old viewers, the ads were more likely to encourage the use of marijuana.

Nevertheless, despite the campaign’s admitted failings, the Drug Czar is asking Congress to continue funding the program at present levels — approximately some $180 million annually.

Walters alleges that he will manage the money more efficiently than previous administrations.

— NORML Foundation May 16, 2002

**Render unto ‘seize-it’**

The Good Book instructs us to render unto Caesar what is his. But what do you do when that greedy eye on your local church — in order to replace it with a discount retailer?

This tale comes from Orange County, California. On Tuesday night the Cypress City Council voted 4-0 to invest its powers of eminent domain to seize land owned by the Cottonwood Christian Center, which would then be sold to Costco. The growing non-denominational Christian church had bought the mostly vacant land in 1999 because its existing building was burning at the seams.

“What the Cottonwood example demonstrates is that the First Amendment guarantee of religious freedom means nothing without property rights,” says Kevin Hasson of the Becket Fund. The public-interest law firm has been the most outrageous example of something going on all the time. If they can get away with this, imagine what’s going on at Patrick’s Cathedral as a Tustin, California, city councilman.

Cypress’s city fathers aren’t bigots; they simply insist that Cottonwood’s

**We must remember that a right lost to one is lost to all.**

— William Rech Smith, Jr.

That’s one of the great things about Libertarians: We’re not just interested in our rights. No, we will vigorously fight for everyone’s rights. Black and white. Men and women. Young and old. Even generations yet unborn. There’s a way you can make sure America’s precious rights won’t be lost by a future generation. By naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. To privately discuss this option, call National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 235-8000.
2-Way U.S. Senate Race for Michael Cloud
NO Republican Candidate. Republican Fails to Make Ballot.

It's Official! Secretary of State’s Office confirms that the Republican candidate for U.S. Senate fell 3,000 signatures short.

Weak Republican Party
Massachusetts Republican voter registration is only 13%. So the Massachusetts Republican Party concentrates its resources on races where it has a chance of winning. They know they can’t beat Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry.

So at their April 6th Republican State Convention, they didn’t nominate a candidate for U.S. Senate.

One Republican jumped into the race, got out of the race, then got back in again.

He needed 10,000 nominating petition signatures to make the Ballot. He turned in less than 7,000 signatures. He failed to make the Ballot.

Republican Agony and Embarrassment
Eight years ago, the Republicans thought they could elect a U.S. Senator in Massachusetts, 1994. The Republican Revolution. Republican Mitt Romney spent $7,624,491 in his U.S. Senate race against Ted Kennedy. Romney got 42% of the vote.

1996. Massachusetts Republican Governor William Weld spent $8,002,123 in his U.S. Senate race against John Kerry. Governor Weld got 45% of the vote.

2000. The Republican leadership wrote off the U.S. Senate race against Ted Kennedy. Republican businessman Jack E. Robinson decided to run anyway.

Mr. Robinson was dogged with accusations of driving under the influence of alcohol, plagiarism, and sexual harassment. In fact, the Massachusetts Media dubbed Mr. Robinson “Jack the Tongue.” Republican U.S. Senate candidate Jack E. Robinson got only 1% more of the vote than Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate Carla Howell.

His weakness. Her strength.

The Republican Party can’t win with well-funded serious candidates.

The Republican Party can’t afford to be humiliated by candidates like Jack E. Robinson.

That’s why there is NO Republican candidate in this U.S. Senate race against John Kerry.

John Kerry’s Strength
U.S. Senator John Kerry is polling between 70% and 80%.

John Kerry believes he’s unbeatable. He probably is.

With 70% to 80% in the polls, John Kerry believes he can safely ignore Michael Cloud’s Libertarian U.S. Senate campaign. He probably can.

With 70% to 80% in the polls, John Kerry will concentrate on his 2004 Presidential campaign.

This gives Michael Cloud a huge opportunity. He can campaign without interference. He can accept speaking opportunities and political events that John Kerry will simply skip.

John Kerry will not actively campaign for U.S. Senate. Michael Cloud will.

The Libertarian Difference
Michael Cloud will make a passionate and powerful case for personal responsibility, individual liberty, and small government. Libertarian.

Michael Cloud will call for an End to the War on Drugs. He will make the Libertarian case against Drug Prohibition. He will call for the immediate pardon of over 1,000,000 non-violent drug offenders serving time in federal prisons.

Michael Cloud will call for an End to the War on Guns. He will make the Libertarian case against Gun Prohibition. He will call for the immediate repeal of the reputed 20,000 Anti-Gun laws.

Michael Cloud will call for an End to federal government responsibility, authority, and involvement in Health Care. He will make the Libertarian case for private, competitive, free-market health care.

Our Secret Strength
Unlike the Republicans, we don’t have to win the election. As long as we fail forward.

Michael Cloud’s job, as the Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate, is to dramatically increase Libertarian support. Radically increase the number of Libertarian voters. Recruit hundreds of new Libertarian Party members. Enroll scores of new Libertarian activists. And increase our vote total. Fail forward.

Michael Cloud is a full-time Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate — running a full-time campaign. Not part-time. Not just before work. Not just after work. Not just on weekends or holidays.

Full time.

We have just over 117 days to campaign for personal responsibility, individual liberty, and small government. Libertarian.

117 days to reach out to Gun Freedom activists, Home Schoolers, Tax-Cutters, Fiscal Conservatives, and supporters of small government.

117 days to raise enough money to run serious TV advertising — and convince John Kerry to face me.


And maybe, just maybe, the most successful Libertarian U.S. Senate campaign in Libertarian Party history.

Please Help
2-Way U.S. Senate race. NO Republican candidate. Huge Libertarian opportunity.

Donate today, and we’ll give you the Libertarian U.S. Senate campaign you’ll never forget.

Donate to: Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate • 131 Bridge Street • Salem, MA 01970 • Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, plus occupation and employer for each individual whose contributions exceed $200 in a calendar year. Not tax deductible. No corporate checks. Paid for by Michael Cloud for U.S. Senate, William Pacheco, Treasurer.
A 12-step program for taxaholics, & raving about techno

**CONNECTICUT**
Libertarians rally to defend homeschooling

Libertarians joined over 1,000 people in Hartford on March 4 to rally against a proposed bill that would interject the state government into homeschooling.

The bill, HB 5535, would force homeschool teachers to have a high school degree, file a notice of intent with a local government school superintendent, provide a written curriculum that consists of at least 900 hours per calendar year, and schedule independent assessments of the child's academic performance.

“Homeschoolers made it clear they want to maintain their rights to choose how they educate their children,” said LP activist Linda Rasch.

Other Libertarians who attended the rally included LP State Chair Lynne Rasch, Vice Chair and former homeschooler Ned Vare, Secretary James Madison, Assistant Treasurer Andrew Rule, and Dawn Barry, homeschooler and former president of the Home Educators Association.

“Homeschooling is an ideal Libertarian issue, as homeschoolers are as-setting their right to make decisions about their family without ‘help’ from government bureaucrats,” said Rasch.

**GEORGIA**

‘Click It’ effort sticks it to state drivers, says LP

Libertarians are telling state legislators to “Stick It” after the government’s “Click it or Ticket” campaign caused traffic jams throughout the state over the Memorial Day weekend.

Police used checkpoints and additional patrolling patrols as part of a “massive crackdown” against drivers and children who were not wearing seatbelts — creating a massive inconvenience for drivers, said LP State Chair Helmut Forren.

“First, our government lies to us by claiming that the seatbelt law will never be used to pull people over,” he said. “Then they waste their limited law enforcement resources setting up checkpoints and roadblocks to harass peaceful citizens.”

Furthermore, said Forren, the Transportation Department’s own figures admit that 92% of parents already obey child seatbelt laws, making such a campaign unnecessary.

“It is too much to ask that our government servants treat us like the adults and law-abiding citizens that we are — and start paying more than just lip service to the job they should really be doing?” he asked.

**ILLINOIS**

Cal Skinner proposes reducing spending — not increasing taxes, said Skinner.

“I know what the people want, and it’s not higher taxes,” he said.

**ILLINOIS**
State LP honors midwife with ‘Vigilance’ award

Libertarians have honored a midwife with the state party’s Eternal Vigilance award, which is given to an individual for “outstanding service and dedication to the principles of liberty.”

Yvonne Cryns was presented with the award at the party’s annual convention, held March 23 in Rolling Meadows. Cryns gave an “emotionally charged speech” as she accepted the award, said LP Executive Director Scott Kohlhaas.

A professional midwife, Cryns was accused by the state of failing to properly recognize distress signs while delivering a breech-birth baby. The baby later died.

In 2000, a Lake County jury indicted Cryns on a charge of involuntary manslaughter, which carries a maximum of five years in prison. In 2001, a mistrial was declared after a jury split 10-2 in favor of conviction, and the district attorney announced he would pursue the case.

However, Illinois Libertarians said the state is persecuting Cryns because she practices midwifery without a license.

**INDIANA**

Libertarians speak out against job-skills tax

Libertarians are protesting a new state tax that forces business owners to pay for job-skills training for unemployed workers — saying the tax is designed to line the coffers of politically powerful unions.

The bill, HB 1962, taxes each employer’s total taxable wages from the previous calendar year at the rate of .09%.

The money collected will go to a new worker-training fund, which the Indiana Department of Workforce Development estimates will cost $59 million over three years.

However, the real motivation behind the law is to provide grants to politically powerful labor unions, charged LP Executive Director Brad Klopfeinstei.

“The fund’s board [of] consists of half union members, and is designed to allow labor unions to veto any grant request,” he said. “Will such a board give grants to non-union businesses? We wouldn’t bet on it.”

**IDAHO**

Kootenai LP: We won’t meddle with initiatives

Kootenai County LP candidates have pledged to “honor the will of the citizens” if elected, following a Republican-led attempt in the state legislature to overturn a citizen-approved term limits initiative.

At a press conference on April 29 outside the county courthouse, eight Libertarians signed the pledge, promising “never to vote to overturn, repeal or otherwise substantially alter any law enacted by the people through the exercise of their initiative rights.”

LP candidate Mike Bechstedt said he thought the LP could use the issue to recapture political offices from the Republican Party.

“We think we have some real viable people,” he said. “We’re tired of those Republicans running the show.”

Candidates who appeared at the conference included Stan Smith, (House 4B); Melissa Bitigovich (county clerk); Christian Kirsch (county commission); Mark Bechstedt (House 4A); Dan Gookin (Senate District 4); Ron Perry (Secretary of State); Andy Jolliff (House 2A); and Tom Macy (county commission).

**IOWA**

LP candidates speak at May Marijuanamar

LP members participated in an International Marijuanamar in Des Moines, highlighting the “human costs” of the War on Drugs.

Between 300 and 500 people attended the May 4 event, which was covered by CNN. The rally was hosted by Cures Not Wars, a national Anti-Drug War organization.

In a speech to the crowd, LP gubernatorial candidate Clyde Cleveland argued that the War on Drugs is a failure, and said legal hemp production could help lower farm costs. He also touted his plan for “bottom-up prevention awareness and money for drug education.”

In addition, Cleveland noted that he was wearing a hemp shirt, hemp pants, and even a hemp hat.

In a follow-up speech, state attorney general candidate Ed Noyes said he supported reforming Iowa’s marijuana laws and the state’s prison system.

For campaign information visit: www.clevelandforgovernor.org.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

Young Libertarian raises money for HIV testing

A young LP candidate for selectman in North Billerica has started a non-profit organization to raise HIV prevention awareness and money for HIV testing.

Heather Scott, 29, outside the county courthouse, was presented with the award at the party's annual convention, held March 23 in Rolling Meadows. Cryns gave an "emotionally charged speech" as she accepted the award, said LP Executive Director Scott Kohlhaas.

A professional midwife, Cryns was accused by the state of failing to properly recognize distress signs while delivering a breech-birth baby. The baby later died.

In 2000, a Lake County jury indicted Cryns on a charge of involuntary manslaughter, which carries a maximum of five years in prison. In 2001, a mistrial was declared after a jury split 10-2 in favor of conviction, and the district attorney announced he would pursue the case.

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Georgia Libertarians attend an ‘Over the Hump’ party to help statewide candidate slate hump

Left photo: Jessie Jenson and Tracee Carlisle (front, l-r), and Sharon Harris, president of the non-partisan Advocates for Self-Government (rear) attend an “Over the Hump” party thrown by the Georgia LP. Right photo: Georgia LP Executive Director Mark Mosley with Brett Wilcox and Lynn Krogseng.

The festive event, held May 13 at the Five Seasons Brewery in Atlanta, raised money to help Libertarian candidates get “over the hump” to pay filing fees and fund their campaigns, said Georgia Publications Director Tom Freese.

“Candidates, party officers, brand-new Libertarians, and longtime activists like Sharon Harris and [LP Political Director] Ron Crickenberger joined together for this important fundraising event,” he said. The party featured live music, door prizes, gift certificates, impromptu speeches by candidates, and gift baskets, said Freese.

new gun ordinance for parks

Fairfax Libertarians have adopted a resolution opposing sweeping new gun restrictions proposed by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

The resolution passed the county party executive committee by a vote of 4-0 at its monthly meeting in May, said LP County Chair Jim Turbett.

“The resolution provides an opportunity to point out that the Constitutional guarantee [to keep and bear arms] does not rely on the Second Amendment alone, and provides an opportunity to point out that the right exists even without the Constitution,” he said.

One provision in the newly released restrictions prohibits the possession of a firearm or ammunition within a park by anyone other than a law enforcement officer.

“The issue is advantageous for our party, because it affords us an opportunity to demonstrate that we are the party that can be relied upon to defend the right to self-defense,” said Turbett.

WISCONSIN

Ed Thompson campaign runs auctioned radio ads

Thanks to a public television auction and a canny bid, the Ed Thompson for governor campaign now has scheduled over 120 radio commercials to run in the Milwaukee metro area.

LP State Chair Bob Collison bid $8,000 for the advertisements at an auction hosted by a local PBS station in May. The ads, which will air in the

As Your National Chair, I Will:

- Increase the Efficiency, Responsiveness & Accountability of the National Office.
- Expand the Libertarian Message to a Larger Electorate.
- Deliver Sustainable, Quality LP Growth at All Levels.
- Provide Honest, Open, Ethical Leadership that will Bring Us Together.
- I Have the Political Experience, the Business Experience, and the Management Experience to MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

Please Join Me!

Geoffrey Neale for National Chair

To read about my specific plans and to learn more about me, please visit my website:

www.geoffreynale.com

or contact me at

Michigan

Allegan County party helps thwart annexation

Allegan County Libertarians have helped defeat a proposal to annex the county into the district of Kalamazoo Valley Community College — a plan that would have forced residents to pay higher school taxes.

On April 30, the annexation was defeated by county voters by a five-to-one margin, said LP County Chair Rick Dutkiewicz.

“The [local LP chapter] is claiming only a small part of the credit for this victory,” he said. “We owe plenty to the voters of Allegan County, who have a history of turning down frivolous millage requests.”

Over the past years, LP members wrote letters to the editor, attended government meetings, and helped pay for and distribute literature as well as “Vote No” yard signs. LP members were also quoted in several local newspaper articles and TV spots, said Dutkiewicz.

“Libertarians of Allegan County are proud to be living in a county that is tough on politicians,” he said.

New Hampshire

State LP raises money at techno dance parties

Libertarians are encouraging young voters to shake up the political scene by shaking their bodies to techno music at a late night/early morning dance event.

Launched in early April, Granite State Libertarians are hosting an “L” night each Saturday night from 2:00 am to 8:00 am at Club Spin in Portsmouth, where donations are raised for the state party and for LP candidates, said LP activist Joe Carringer.

“A lot of after-hours events don’t make it past their first month, so we’re very pleased our event has lasted longer than that,” he said.

The “L” night events — which feature high-energy, electronic dance music — have raised over $1,000 for the LP already, but should raise even more during the summer, said Carringer.

“Right now we promote the event with flyers, but we are looking forward to doing some beach promotion during the summer months,” he said.

Pennsylvania

Libertarian spreads LP message with cartoons

A Libertarian Party member is using an unusual medium to spread his pro-freedom ideas: Political cartoons.

Over the past several months, LP member Alfred Ellsworth has drawn libertarian-themed cartoons for the Greene County Messenger, a weekly newspaper.

Past cartoon topics have included corporate welfare, pork-barrel projects, eminent domain abuses and “general political corruption.”

“Most of the cartoons tend to have a local orientation, said Ellsworth.

“I feel that this is a powerful and legitimate means of showing the failures of the two-party system, the dangers in trusting in government, and my free exercise of the necessary criticism of government included in the First Amendment,” he said.

Ellsworth’s influence will soon reach a wider audience: The Herald Standard, a daily newspaper that circulates throughout Fayette County and parts of Greene and Somerset Counties, will start running his cartoons soon, he said.

Virginia

Fairfax party rejects Fairfax party rejects
Kentucky Libertarians help end

After a 16-year campaign, Kentucky Libertarians have helped end a “fraudulent and inefficient” vehicle emissions testing program in Jefferson County.

On April 8, Governor Paul Patton signed HB 618, which will eliminate the vehicle emissions test (VET) effective November 1, 2003.

In doing so, the governor ended a program that, instead of improving the environment, simply inconvenienced citizens and was “practically guaranteeing dirtier air,” said Libertarian George Baumler, a member of the STOP THE VET group which led the fight.

“The truth [has finally become] known about the counterproductive and fraudulent nature of the program,” he said.

An 89-7 vote HB 618 passed the Kentucky General Assembly on an 89-7 vote on March 12, and a companion bill passed the State Senate on a 26-12 vote on March 26.

The votes — and the governor’s signature — marked the conclusion of a political battle that began in 1986, just two years after the VET was implemented in Jefferson County.

The program required all privately owned cars and trucks to undergo an annual emissions test at local VET centers. For participating in the program, Jefferson County and the state of Kentucky became eligible for as much as $1.7 billion in annual federal highway subsidies.

However, Libertarians and other citizen activists said the VET did little to actually improve air quality.

“[Since 1986], air quality has continued to improve each year — even with more and more vehicles on the road, and more vehicle miles driven each year,” said Baumler.

“But this improvement in air quality came mainly from improved onboard emissions control equipment on newer cars and trucks, cleaner burning fuels, and older, more polluting vehicles simply wearing out and coming out of service.”

Since 95% of cars and trucks passed the VET, the test could not “be responsible for removing the tons of pollutants that VET proponents claimed,” said Baumler.

In addition, since the state participated in the VET program, the federal government allowed it to issue pollution credits to major industries, he said.

“Commercial polluters purchased the credits, so that they in essence could continue polluting at current levels, or higher,” said Baumler.

To combat the VET, Jefferson County Libertarians joined the fledgling STOP THE VET group, which allied with a conservative citizens’ action group called Take Back Kentucky.

Door to door Over the years, STOP THE VET lobbied the legislature, held forums, distributed handbills door to door, and wrote letters to the editor. Libertarians assisted with the efforts, and on March 14, the Jefferson County LD conducted a public meeting with a representative of the Jefferson County Air Pollution Control District to publicize the issue.

With Governor Patton’s signature on HB 618, the group finally claimed victory. The VET will terminate in late 2003, when the state’s contract with the company operating the program expires.

“Now that the VET-generated credit exemptions are gone, the Jefferson County Air Pollution Control District can concentrate on correcting industrial and commercial pollution, and the citizens of Jefferson County, Kentucky and surrounding areas can all begin to breathe a little easier,” said Baumler.

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ABC, CBS, & NBC Prime TV Advertising on our Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax
This Month — IF YOU HELP.

2,000,000 voters will see our TV ads on CBS, NBC, and ABC — 9 times. That’s right, they’ll see our Libertarian TV Ads 9 times.

2,000,000 voters will see and hear the powerful and persuasive reasons why we can and must End the Income Tax in Massachusetts. They will see and hear the huge, immediate, direct benefits of Ending the Income Tax.

As Harry Beckwith points out in Selling the Invisible, “Advertising is Publicity” and “Advertising begets Publicity.” Imagine the TV, Radio, and Newspaper stories we’ll trigger.

Imagine the thousands of new supporters and volunteers we’ll attract.

Imagine the hundreds of new speaking opportunities we’ll create.

Imagine the hundreds of organizations that will invite us to tell their membership about our Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax.

All because we began the advertising this month.

The Secret of EMILY’s List

Emily’s List raises money for women in politics. It was started to level the political playing field. To enable women in politics to compete with men.

It has catapulted a number of women in politics to success.

“EMILY’s” is an acronym for: Early Money Is Like Yeast.

Early funding is the key to success. In business and politics.

But Emily’s List has another important lesson for us.

Early Advertising Is Like Yeast.

Early advertising defines a political campaign. It explains what it is and why it is.

Early advertising ignites Media Coverage of the campaign.

Early advertising attracts new supporters and volunteers.

Early advertising demonstrates strength and credibility.

Early advertising is the critical factor in what we’re doing with our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax.

Huge Payoffs of Early Advertising

1. Supporters and Volunteers. Most people don’t get interested in or excited by a candidate or Ballot Initiative until the last 60 days before an election. Then they’ll put a Bumper Sticker on their car, a Yard Sign in front of their home. They’ll donate or volunteer in the last 60 days.

What if they volunteered and campaigned for 4 months — instead of just 60 days? How much more impact would they have?

2. TV, Radio, and Newspaper Coverage. Most reporters wait until the last 60 days before they cover a campaign or Ballot Initiative. Why? High voter interest.

What if we could trigger early, continuous, and substantial News coverage for 4 solid months instead of just the last 60 days?

4 months of ever-growing supporters and volunteers. Ever-growing Media Coverage.

4 months to move up in the polls. The higher we rise, the more the Media and Voters will talk about our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

60 days is not enough time to convince Massachusetts voters to End the Income Tax.

We need 4 months. We only have days to begin.

CBS, ABC, & NBC Prime TV Ads Reach 2,000,000 Voters

We must begin our Massive TV Advertising Blitz on ABC, CBS, and NBC in just days.

Our first 3-week TV advertising blitz will reach 2,000,000 voters. 9 times. And this is critical to everything we’ve worked for.

Exactly 4 months

Starting now gives us exactly 4 months to attract thousands of new supporters and volunteers, and grow our organization big enough to accomplish our goals.

Starting now gives us exactly 4 months to inform and educate the millions of voters in Massachusetts who are unfamiliar with our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax.

4 months to make them comfortable with our Initiative and confident that it’s right for their families. 4 months to move up in the polls.

4 months of ever-growing Media coverage.

This will only happen — IF YOU HELP NOW.

You can give as much as you want. There’s no limit to how much you can give. There’s no limit to how much your corporation can give. No limit to how much your business can give.

$5,000 or $2,500. $1,000 or $500. $250 or $150. We need the biggest donation you can make — so we can give you the biggest result we can.

Help us get our End the Income Tax
The court decision that Harry Browne was wrongly kept off the 2000 presidential ballot in Arizona because of an "unreasonably early" filing deadline has been overturned by the state supreme court. On May 24, the court ruled that the state's June filing deadline does not violate the First Amendment, as the party's 2000 presidential candidate had claimed in his lawsuit against the Arizona secretary of state. Browne vs. Bayless.

"We conclude that [the law] does not impose severe restrictions on Browne's First Amendment rights and furthers important regulatory interests of the State," wrote Judge Patricia Eicher in the court's decision.

The 5-0 ruling overturned a previous June 2001 appellate court decision in Browne's favor.

Maverick faction

Browne had sought to be placed on the Arizona ballot as an independent candidate in 2000, after a maverick LP faction nominated science fiction author L. Neil Smith as its presidential candidate. Browne appeared on the other 49 state ballots (plus DC) as the Libertarian presidential candidate. The Arizona high court decision marked the first time that such an early filing deadline has been upheld in a state supreme court, said Richard Winger, publisher of Ballot Access News.

"What is happening to the U.S., that the opportunities for late entry into the presidential election are being taken away from us?" he asked. "[It is] ridiculous and alarming." LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach said the decision "sets a terrible precedent."

"This poorly reasoned decision upholds an unnecessary roadblock for other third parties," he said. "Fortunately, barring another incident like the one in 2000, the LP should not have a problem putting its presidential candidate on the ballot again in Arizona."

As an independent

Consequently, Browne attempted to get on the ballot as an independent candidate, turning in nominating petitions and a state of electors in August. The secretary of state rejected his petitions, and the LP filed a complaint in district court. In September 2000, the district court rejected the lawsuit on procedural grounds, thereby upholding the June deadline.

The LP appealed, and in June 2001, an appellate court overturned the earlier ruling, saying the June deadline imposed a "suspect burden" on voters' rights by treating independent candidates differently than party candidates, and by imposing a greater burden on them.

The court also found the state had advanced no "substantial reasons" justifying the June deadline, and

See ARIZONA Page 18

Cuba trade embargo punishes Americans

By continuing to support the U.S. embargo on Cuba, President George W. Bush is undermining the freedom of the American people, Libertarians say.

The U.S. government has no business ordering Americans not to trade with Cuba. "The government is underwriting and encouraging a bumbling federal agency that is poisoning our children into using drugs. It's time to recognize the danger posed by cash-snorting bureaucrats who are addicted to your money, and abolish the drug czar's office," said Richard Winger, publisher of Ballot Access News.

"What is happening to the U.S., that the opportunities for late entry into the presidential election are being taken away from us?" he asked. "Politicians who are addicted to your money, and abolish the drug czar's office."

"If you're a parent who has trusted the government to keep your child from drugs, you have a right to be angry," he said. "Politicians have squandered your money and left your children in danger."

Cuba trade embargo punishes Americans

According to the U.S. International Trade Commission, U.S. firms lose between $600 million and $1.2 billion worth of business per year to trade with that nation, and travel restrictions created in 1963 impose freedoms: The freedom to trade and the freedom to travel.

But by focusing on removing Castro from power, Bush has ignored the fact that the embargo is undermining two fundamental American freedoms: The freedom to trade and the freedom to travel.

Federal law imposing sanctions on Cuba makes it illegal for U.S. firms to trade with that nation, and travel restrictions created in 1963 impose fines of up to $50,000 on Americans who are caught travelling there.

"The trade ban violates the economic freedom of every American," Dasbach said. "Individuals in a free country should be able to buy and sell goods freely to whomever they like, without government approval."

"According to the U.S. International Trade Commission, U.S. firms lose between $600 million and $1.2 billion worth of business per year by not being able to trade with Cuba. Why should American businesses and consumers be punished because Cuba is a communist state?"

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Apologize to Dionne Warwick for drug charges

Libertarians have a suggestion for the government officials who arrested singer Dionne Warwick at the Miami airport for marijuana possession: Drop the charges immediately — then apologize to Ms. Warwick.

"Americans aren't clamoring for protection from pot-smoking musicians, so why is the government arresting them?" asked Steve Dasbach. "In turbulent times like these, police agencies should focus on defending us from terrorists and other violent criminals. Dionne Warwick is neither — so the government should leave her alone."

The 61-year-old Warwick was detained at Miami International Airport in May when baggage screeners found 11 marijuana cigarettes in her lipstick container. Warwick, who gained fame in the 1960s for "Walk on By" and "I'll Say a Little Prayer," was charged with possession of less than 5 grams of marijuana.

"It's time to say a little prayer for the politicians and prosecutors who are so misguided that they're wasting valuable police resources on harmless marijuana smokers," said Dasbach. "How much more dangerous criminals will walk on by as law enforcement spends its time — and your money — prosecuting people like Dionne Warwick?"
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To learn more about the FSP:
view the frequently asked questions, articles, Statements of Intent, and Participation Guidelines

www.FreeStateProject.org
Gary Johnson, GOA's Larry Pratt

Continued from Page 3
ting presidential bid, Clark had run for governor in California, garnering 5.5% of the vote. He is also the author of the campaign book, A New Beginning.

“Ed Clark is an engaging, lively speaker with keen insights — and a respected elder statesman of the party,” said Dasbach. “Kevin who enjoys hearing about LP milestones and party history will enjoy hearing Mr. Clark speak.”

Larry Pratt of Gun Owners of America: Who better to speak about the battle to preserve the Second Amendment? —Steve Dasbach

Larry Pratt is the executive director of the 300,000-member Gun Owners of America (GOA), which Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) called "the only no-compromise gun lobby in Washington.”

GOA, which is "dedicated to promoting [Americans'] Second Amendment freedom to keep and bear arms,” also provides an e-mail alert service to members and offers legal assistance to individuals involved in gun-related lawsuits.

As head of GOA, Pratt has appeared on numerous national TV programs including the Today Show, Good Morning America, CNN’s Crossfire, Larry King Live, and many others.

He is also host of “Live Fire,” a Second Amendment show heard on over 100 radio stations across the USA.

In addition, Pratt is the author of Armed People Victorious (1986) and On the FIRING LINE: Essays in the Defense of Liberty (2001).

“Larry Pratt is standing tall on the front lines against the war on gun ownership,” said Dasbach. “Who better to speak about the battle to preserve the Second Amendment?”

Elected officials

Delegates to the 2002 National Convention will elect party officers, debate changes to the party platform, and revise party bylaws. They will also have the opportunity to attend various workshops, panels, luncheons, and entertainment events.

The convention will be held on July 3-7, at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis. The official convention hotel is the Marriott Indianapolis Downtown.

For convention package costs and single-event ticket prices, see full-page advertisement on page 15.

To register, visit: www.LP.org/
It’s not too late to partici-

G
ood news: Even if you’ve been procrastinating, you don’t have to miss the most
important, exciting, stimulating, and entertaining Libertarian event of the year — the

If you’re reading this by Thursday, June 27, you can still register in advance. Just log on to www.
LP.org/conv/2002/. Or, call (800) 272-1776 and register over the phone.

On Wednesday, July 3, you can register in person at the Marriott Downtown Hotel, starting at 3:00
pm. Or, you can register in-person on Thursday at 8:00 am, just before the Convention is called to order.

You can attend specific events (July 3-7) by purchasing tickets for the various speakers or entertain-
ment events at the convention. (Business sessions are free.)

You may even still have time to become a delegate for the Convention. Some states have not yet
filled out their entire delegate slates, and may be able to appoint you as a delegate at the convention.

Others still have openings for alternate delegates, who can fill in for missing delegates during business
sessions. For more information, contact your state party leadership.

It’s not too late to help make history at the 2002 Libertarian National Convention!
Can I still register for the Convention?

If you’re reading this by June 27 (Thursday), you can still preregister. You can register online at: www.LP.org/conv/2002/. Or, fax your registration form to: (202) 333-0072. Or, call (800) 272-1776 and register over the phone.

On July 3 (Wednesday), you can register in person at the Marriott Downtown Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana, starting at 3:00 pm. Or, you can register in-person on Thursday at 8:00 am, just before the Convention is called to order. (Late arrivals can also register on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.)

You can attend specific events (July 3-7) by purchasing tickets for the various speakers or entertainment events at the convention.

From the author of Healing Our World...

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Inspired by Dr. Ruwart’s Internet column at the Advocates Website (www.self.gov)

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ILANA FREEDMAN qualified for the ballot with more signatures than either of the Republican candidates, and more signatures than the Democratic incumbent, Marty Meehan.

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The incumbent has over $2 million in the bank. But ILANA FREEDMAN needs only $750,000 to win this race. How is this possible?

ILANA has an awesome campaign staff and a nationally recognized team of consultants behind her, not to mention the support of volunteers who are going to the max for this campaign. And ILANA's support comes from everywhere - from business and labor, senior citizens and college students, from rich and poor alike.

ILANA FREEDMAN is going to show that Americans still want to elect the best candidate, not just the one with the most money. And in this race, ILANA is the best candidate - by far.

ILANA needs to raise $300,000 by July 15th. That's the date when she needs to reserve her time slots for her September-October television and radio ads.

She needs your help now. Your contribution today will make a big difference!

If everyone reading this ad sends $10, ILANA will reach her goal in time.

If everyone reading this ad sends $25, ILANA will have met her budget for the race.

Give as generously as you can. And send in your contribution now. With your help today, ILANA can make that deadline in July.

Send your contribution today and Send a Libertarian to Congress in November!

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____ $ 250  ____ $500  ____ $1,000  ____ Other $ ______

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Occupation: __________________________ Employer: __________

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Arizona court deals party

Continued from Page 12 concluded that it was impermissible under the First Amendment.

However, the secretary of state appealed the decision to the state supreme court, which unanimously overturned the appellate court’s decision.

The high court ruled that the early deadline gives the state government the time it needs to prepare absentee ballots, print optical scan ballots, and complete any judicial reviews of ballot challenges.

But that line of reasoning is “non-sensical,” said Winger, given that the state primary deadline is only 90 days before the general election.

“The court claims that the state needs all this time [from the filing date to the election] for technical, administrative reasons, even though the attorney for the secretary of state admitted in court that they don’t need that much time!” he said. “It is a travesty of a decision.”

The decision was also odd, said Winger, because “for the entire 20th century — until 1993 — the petition deadline was in October or September. Suddenly, in 1993, it was moved to June!”

Dashbach said the party is considering filing an appeal for a rehearing, based on factual mistakes in the decision.

Arizona currently has the second-earliest filing deadline of any state in the nation. Texas, with a May primary, has an earlier deadline.

Texas candidate

A n LP candidate for state representative held a “competitive shootout” to raise money for his campaign.

On April 27, Michael Badnarik tested his shooting prowess against six other marksmen at Gook’s Sure Shot Gun Range in Austin. The participants competed for prizes by firing 10 rounds at a target 25 feet away, while supporters looked on.

“I wanted to give gun owners an opportunity to ‘rub elbows’ with a pro-gun candidate that does more than just talk about guns,” said Badnarik.

The $250 he raised helped his campaign, said Badnarik, who supports the repeal of all state gun laws.

“All our other rights are meaningless if we fail to protect the Second Amendment,” he said. “It is the right that protects all of the others.”

For more information, visit: www.EdThompson.com

Michigan LP scores major ballot reform

Continued from Page 4

House by a vote of 103-0, and was then introduced to the State Senate Judiciary Committee.

The bill passed out of committee, and the LP duplicated the tactics it used in the House. The Senate passed the measure 36-0 in late May.

“We were delighted when the bill passed the Senate, because we don’t have the same kind of connections there that we do in the House,” said O’Brien. “We knew that if it passed there, it would probably be signed by the governor.”

On May 22, the bill was sent to Governor Engler, who signed it one week later.

Next milestone

Hudler said the next major milestone in the party’s development will be gaining major party status. To be considered a major party in Michigan, one of a party’s statewide candidates must garner at least 5% of the vote.

“I look forward to the inevitability of that occurrence in the near future,” he said.

“In addition to changing the
Mass. income tax repeal initiative heads for ballot

Continued from Page 3

To appear on the ballot, the Massachusetts Small Government Act to End the Income Tax — which would repeal the Bay State's 5% tax on wages, the 5% tax on interest and dividends, and the up-to-12% tax on capital gains — must pass the first legal test. If the initiative passes, the average state taxpayer will save $3,000, said Howell, who is also the LP candidate for governor.

The initiative — dubbed "The Small Government Act to End the Income Tax" — would become law after the governor signs it. If the legislature rejects an initiative, supporters must launch a second round of signature gathering to qualify it for the ballot.

The lack of action from the State Senate was especially surprising because Senate President Tom Birmingham had publicly promised Howell that the measure would come up for a vote in that chamber, said Cloud.

"The legislature stonewalled us on a vote," he said. "We had expected that. But Birmingham's lie was an eye-opener."

The Committee for Small Government had delivered 75,629 signatures to the secretary of state on December 4, 2001 to pass the first qualifying threshold. According to state law, 57,100 valid signatures were required to put the initiative before state legislators.

Now, Libertarians must collect another 9,517 certified signatures by July 3 to qualify for the November ballot.

351 town clerks

"We need 12,500 certified signatures to make our initiative challenge-proof," said Cloud. "We have to distribute them to 351 different town clerks, get them certified, pick them up from 351 towns, and turn them in to the secretary of state's office. This is hard, but it's much less hard than the 75,629 certified signatures we collected last fall."

Once the final signature count is certified, Cloud and Howell will write a ballot argument in favor of the initiative. It will appear in the Massachusetts Voter Guide, which will be mailed to 4 million state voters in late summer.

If the initiative passes, the average state taxpayer will save $3,000 annually, said Howell, who is also the LP candidate for governor.

"This is the biggest tax revolt in Massachusetts since the Boston Tea Party," she said. "Eight months of suffocating silence."

Although the initiative could have an enormous impact on Massachusetts politics, most of the state's major media outlets — including the Boston Globe, the Boston Herald, and the local CBS, ABC, PBS, and Fox TV news affiliates — have refused to report on it, said Cloud.

"Our TV ad blitz will reach 2 million [voters], nine times. These ads will make the case for ending the income tax in Massachusetts," he said.

For more information, visit: www.smallgovernmentact.org. Or write:

Jones wins council

Continued from Page 3

can't convince the world — but we can convince one person at a time."

Jones served two terms as vice chair of the South Carolina LP in the late 1990s. She has written political columns for the Carolina Morning News, a local daily newspaper, for the past six years. Previously, she wrote for the Low Country Weekly and the Jasper County Sun.

Professionally, she has worked as a retail manager, and has been a volunteer Emergency Medical Technician and firefighter.

Located just a few miles north of Savannah, Georgia, Hardeeville has about 500 registered voters.
Smoking: Carcinogens, cartoons, and celebrity spokesmen on health — plus interest.

[Image 46x491 to 217x543]

Continued from Page 1
$750,000 for his medical expenses — plus interest.

"[This case was] about the cigarette companies being held responsible," said the triumphant Carter, the recipient of a bounty of just over $1 million.

Carter's case is just a microcosm of the new War on Smokers. Spearheaded by zealous public health crusaders and politicians, the conflict isn't being fought with bombs and bullets, but with dubious data and loaded language. For many, "Big Tobacco" has become public enemy #1.

It's almost enough to make a tobacco executive long for the good old days, when the yellow, aromatic plant wasn't considered such a menace to society.

Originally cultivated in the Americas, many Indian tribes believed tobacco had medicinal properties. After Christopher Columbus brought the plant back to Europe, smoking was widely regarded as a soothing experience. "It cures cancer of the breast, open and eating sores, scabs and scratches, however poisonous and septic, goiter, broken limbs, and many other things," he added.

Not everyone was as pleased. Pope Urban VIII forbade smoking tobacco in any Catholic church, a transgression punishable by excommunication. In Hindustan, the Mogul emperor would punish smokers by splitting their lips. In Turkey, Sultan Murad IV often drove a pipe through a smoker's nose immediately before his beheading.

But elsewhere, tobacco enjoyed immense popularity. French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte was said to have smoked about 50 cigarettes per day. German Prime Minister Otto Von Bismarck spoke fondly of smoking, saying it leaves one feeling "better tempered."

In America, mass antipathy toward smoking didn't emerge until the turn of the 20th century, and even then, the anti-smoking movement was mostly confined to puritanical pockets of "progressives" who claimed that the habit caused an array of infirmities — including color blindness, baldness, stunted growth, and sterility. Even during the height of alcohol prohibition in the 1920s, the tobacco industry was largely untouched by the heavy hand of government.

With the rise of television in the 1950s, cigarette advertisements became ubiquitous, and celebrity spokespersons for tobacco companies were commonplace. The turning point for American smoking came in 1964, when Surgeon General Luther Terry released a report that persuasively linked smoking to lung cancer. Soon after, the government required the Surgeon General's warnings to be printed on cigarette packs (1965), forbade cigarette manufacturers from running TV ads (1971), and banned smoking on interstate buses and domestic airline flights over six hours (1990).

And that was just the beginning.

Joe Camel, the smooth, sunglasses-wearing cartoon who promoted Camel cigarettes, was criticized not only for his suggestively shaped head, but also for his potential appeal to the Nickelodeon generation.

In the 1990s, the government launched an all-out offensive against tobacco companies:

In 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency put out a report that claimed "passive" smoking was responsible for about 3,000 lung-cancer deaths per year. Health activists used the report as justification for promoting a litany of local ordinances prohibiting smoking in private restaurants and businesses.

There was just one problem: The report was as phony as a candy cigarette. In 1998, U.S. District Judge William Osteen ruled that the agency had cherry-picked its data, and used unorthodox methodology to "prove" the connection between second-hand smoke and cancer.

"The court is faced with the ugly possibility that the EPA adopted a methodology for each chapter, without explanation, based on the outcome sought in that chapter," he wrote.

The judge's findings confirmed a Congressional Research Service report that stated there is no evidence to support classifying environmental tobacco smoke as a "Class A Carcinogen," the most definitive link between a chemical and cancer.

In 1996, Congress dragged executives of the seven largest tobacco companies — labeled the "Seven Dwarfs" by the mass media — in to testify before a committee. Before television cameras and millions of viewers, the Congressmen asked the executives whether they had evidence that tobacco was addictive.

In the spotlight and under pressure, the representatives made a major blunder. Rather than admit what the vast majority of Americans already knew — that nicotine, along with caffeine, chocolate, and Kung Fu movies are indeed "addictive" — they simply lied.

It was a public-relations fiasco from which the companies never recovered.

In the mid-1990s, David Kessler, the Ivy League-educated, bearded commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, decided to make regulating tobacco his personal crusade.

Appointed by President George Bush and retained by President Bill Clinton, Kessler had a reputation as an intense bureaucrat who passionately believed that nicotine should be regulated like cocaine or heroin.

When Kessler testified, he made something is right, will he use whatever moral, legal and regulatory persuasion he has," an FDA official once said. The "persuasion" Kessler decided to use was the force of law. He proposed a bill: SMOKING Pages: 23
The War on Smoking: Uncle Sam vs the Marlboro

Continued from Page 20

advertising within 1,000 feet of a playground or school, eliminating tobacco vending machines, and forbidding tobacco companies to sponsor public events. He also advocated limiting all other advertising to black text on a white background, except in adult periodicals.

Kesler argued that regulations would have been expensive: The Bar- ents Group LLC estimated the cost of implementing them at more than $1 billion for the tobacco industries and consumers. In addition, the policy would have meant billions of dollars in lost revenue for ad agencies, magazines, newspapers, and billboard companies. As a result, there was a fierce backlash and the new measures never got off the ground.

Frustrated by Kesler’s lack of success, anti-smoking forces opened a new front against the tobacco companies, claiming they were targeting children with seductive—and sexually suggestive—cartoon characters like Joe Camel. The Cartoon Battles had begun.

In 1988, Camel cigarettes were having a tough time. Public opinion polls revealed that the brand was widely perceived as an “old man’s” cigarette, and sales were slipping. Brand manufacturer R.J. Reynolds needed a new spokesperson.

The company got one in the form of Joe Camel, a smooth, sunglasses-wearing, cigarette-smoking cartoon. The character quickly became as well known as Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck.

As Joe Camel began popping up in ads, on tee-shirts, and on billboards, a curious charge was leveled against the new character: Portrayed as the object of desire of sexy females, some of the more perceptive Camel connoisseurs noticed Joe’s head had certain—ahem—phallic qualities.

In an interview in Print magazine, however, Mike Salisbury—the creator of Joe Camel—denied the charges.

“I was just trying to make this stupid [camel] head have some kind of expression I could change from ad to ad, and I remembered how Sean Connery as James Bond could move his eyebrows so expressively,” he said. “So I ripped off his eyes and eyebrows and Don Johnson’s hair.”

However, anti-smoking forces were less concerned with Mr. Camel’s artistic merit, and more concerned about his appeal to the Nickelodeon generation. R.J. Reynolds was using the character to recruit a new wave of juvenile addicts, they claimed.

These lawyers were just blowing smoke, countered a number of scholars. Studies by Harvard Economist W. Kip Viscusi and the Congressional Research Service showed that state governments actually make a profit from smokers — after factoring in cigarette excise taxes and pension ac-

The government funds heavy-handed tactics to convince people to stop smoking. Above: A take-off of a Marlboro ad makes a link between smoking and male sexual dysfunction. On page one: A bald-headed ad targeted at young people suggests smoking is a “smelly, puking habit.”

count savings that result from earlier smoking-related deaths. But in 1998, the “Big Four” tobacco companies — Philip Morris, R.J. Reynolds, Lorillard, and Brown & Williamson — decided it was better to settle than fight, and negotiated a deal with all 50 states. The total payout: A whopping $246 billion. In exchange, the companies provided tri-

al costs and what would undoubtedly have been a vicious smear campaign against them. They also gained immunity from future state suits.

Anti-smoking crusaders at the American Lung Association and the American Cancer Society were ecstatic, expecting the settlement money would be used to finance anti-smoking educational efforts.

They soon learned that government can be an unwieldy weapon. A study conducted in 2001, three years after the settlement, estimated that only 7% of the money from the tobacco settlement had been spent on such campaigns.

Instead, politicians spent millions of dollars repairing sidewalks (California), building schools (Colorado), doling out scholarships (Michigan), and various other vote-buying projects.

“There was a sense when the states settled the suits that it was a good deal,” said Cassandra Welch, manager of government relations for the American Lung Association. “The reality is, there’s an uphill battle in every state.”

Worse yet, the settlement money hasn’t come out of tobacco company revenues. Immediately following the settlement, the price of a pack of cigarettes soared by 45 cents, as consumers passed on the cost of the settlement to consumers.

And the federal government has been trying hard to raise that even further.

Prior to the state settlement, then-President Bill Clinton had unsuccessfully pushed for a $1.50 per-pack tax increase on cigarettes to finance new government spending. That proposal was defeated after the tobacco companies counterattacked with a $40 million advertising blitz.

In 1999, the federal government decided that if you can’t beat ‘em, sue ‘em. Taking a page out of the states’ playbook, the feds also filed suit, demanding to recoup the cost for billions of dollars of smoking-related health care, and accusing cigarette-makers of a “coordinated campaign of fraud and deceit.”

When Republican Attorney General John Ashcroft took over the helm of the Justice Department, many pundits assumed the tobacco suit would fade away.

That has not been the case. Instead, the Bush administration has continued pushing hard to seize up to $1 trillion from the beleaguered industry.

In addition, in March 2002, the Justice Department asked a federal court to impose Kesselman’s restrictions on the industry — including eliminating ads to text-only, black-and-white formats, reserving half the space on cigarette packs for health warnings, banning cigarette vending machines, and forbidding cigarettes from being labeled light or mild.

Such proposals have led some libertarians, including George Mason University economist Walter Williams, to decry would-be smoking regulators as “Cigarette Nazis.”

Exaggeration? You decide. The Nazis — or members of the National Socialist Workers Party — were vehemently opposed to smoking, labeling it a crime against the state.

Government-controlled health magazines — such as Gesundes-Volk (Healthy People: Journal for the Health and Entertainment of the Workforce) and Volksgesundheit (People’s Health) — were filled with anti-smoking articles. There See SMOKING Page 30

Harm no one. Let no one harm you.

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Jim Richardson’s campaign for sheriff will come down

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

As a deputy sheriff in Washington State over the past 22 years, Jim Richardson has worked under five different sheriffs. This November, he hopes to become the next one in charge.

The 55-year-old Richardson is running for the sheriff seat in Skamania County, a county of about 10,000 people located just over 20 miles east of Vancouver.

Thanks to his professional experience, Richardson said he has a “great opportunity” to pull out a victory in November.

“In this county, the sheriff is more of a business manager and budgeter than a patrolman,” he said. “I am more than qualified to handle the job, and have already received an outpouring of support.”

Richardson brings valuable partisan campaign experience to the race as well: In 2000, he ran for County Commissioner, receiving just under 31% of the vote in the three-way race. The victor garnered 35.5%.

And in 2001, Richardson successfully ran for county cemetery district commissioner, a position in which he currently serves.

Two-way contest

Now, Richardson will likely be running in a two-way contest against a Republican challenger. Fortunately for his campaign, said Richardson, many local residents are fed up with the Republican network, under which the sheriff’s office has become somewhat of a “paramilitary operation.”

“Local citizens are tired of being pulled over and harassed,” he said. “If I’m elected sheriff, these Gestapo tactics will stop.”

State LP Campaign Chair Kelly Haughten said the Richardson campaign could be a breakthrough opportunity for the state LP to chalk up its first-ever partisan win.

Richardson has accepted responsibility for policing the area — leaving far fewer resources to protect citizens and their property.

“Making major cuts may not be an issue as this package is also signed power over them,” he said. “If I’m made executive, Richardson said he has a “great opportunity” to pull out a victory in

In addition, Richardson said he has researched the methods of Sheriff Bill Masters in Colorado and intends to contact him for ideas on how to deal with “consensual” crime laws.

“Victimless crimes are responsible for most of the inmates in our jail at any given time,” he said. “I intend to try working with the court system locally in an effort to find alternate ways of addressing punishment for these situations.”

Filing for office in July costs only a $550 fee, and Richardson said the race is winnable with a war chest of about $8,000.

A matter of trust

Ultimately, the race will come down to “a matter of trust,” said Richardson.

“I don’t like to toot my own horn, but I really think we have a better than 50/50 shot of winning this thing,” he said. “It’s going to come down to who the voters trust the most to handle the responsibility and make the changes that need to be made.”

A former Democrat, Richardson joined the LP in 2000. He has been a sergeant in the Corrections Division for the last six years and was selected as “Corrections Officer of the Year” in 1999 by coworkers.

For more information, e-mail: jimr@skamania.net. Or call: (509) 427-4412. Or write: The Committee to Elect Jim Richardson Sheriff, P.O. Box 697, Cannan, WA 98610-0697. Any donation of $20.00 or more must be made by check or money order.

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POLITICS 2002

State Chairs, survivors, & woman of the year

In New State Chairs galore: In Alaska, Gordon Hartlieb was elected new State Chair, while Neta Karlen was elected State Chair in Nebraska. In Tennessee, Ray Ledford took over as State Chair after the death of Richard Pearl, Sr. In addition, Kevin Houston was elected State Chair in Minnesota, along with Albert Dedick (New York), James Hudler (Michigan), and J. Fred Staples (Maine). In Florida, Marcus Vahle was appointed the state LP’s Executive Director. In New Jersey, Emerson Elett was re-elected as State Chair.

At the Illinois LP state convention, March 22-24, David Thibodeau announced that he had joined the Libertarian Party. Thibodeau was the author of all three of the state party’s major victories in 2000. In addition, the Vermont LP nominated Christopher Costanzo for attorney general and Danny Lane for auditor of accounts. In Indiana, Andrew Horning has announced his candidacy for U.S. House (7th District). Horning was the Libertarian Party’s candidate in 2000. In New Jersey, Liz Macron won the state LP’s nomination to run for the U.S. Senate. In Colorado, David Atiken filed paperwork to run for secretary of state.

A flurry of Libertarians have announced that they will run for At-Large seats on the Libertarian National Committee at the upcoming National Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana: Alvin Andres (Alaska), R. Lee Wrights (N.C.), Starchild (California), Richard Freedman (Massachusetts), Austin Hough (Illinois), Sam Goldstein (Indiana), and BETE ROSE Ryan (Colorado). Current At-Large Representative Don Gorman (Indiana) has said he won’t run for re-election.

In Connecticut, charges have been dismissed against LP activist Richard Lien, who was arrested on Tax Day for allegedly trespassing on Post Office property during a rally, reported LP State Chair Lenny Rasch. In Washington state, Janice Moerschel was elected Chair of the Spokane County LP. Past Harry Browne radio shows are available for download in MP3 format from www.Harrybrowne.org/Archives.htm. Browne’s show is broadcast on 29 stations across America every Sunday at 10:00 pm (ET).

Media news: LP Press Secretary George Getz went 12 rounds with pugnacious Bill O’Reilly on the O’Reilly Factor on Fox News on May 7, debating whether Mike Tyson should be allowed to box. The winner: Getz by decision. The LP’s national office in Washington, DC fielded 19 calls in response to a May press release about an overweight aerobics instructor in San Francisco. The city’s Human Rights Commission had charged a fitness center with “discrimination” for refusing to hire the plus-size would-be Jazzerciser. Countered LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach: “It’s obvious that anti-discrimination laws are being stretched to ridiculous proportions.”

In Georgia, Michael Warren has announced a bid for Bibi City Commission. In Montana, Adam Floodlund, 24, will run for State House (District 30). Also in Montana, Stan Jones has launched his campaign for the U.S. Senate. In Nebraska, Dave Dawson will run again for governor. He last ran in 1998. In Idaho, Thomas Macy filed to run for Coeur d’Alene City Commissioner. In Missoula, Dave Palmer will be a candidate for State House (District 51), while Scott Wilson is running for U.S. House (District 5). In Texas, Dan Murphy has filed to run...
Explaining Communism so even high school students understand

A s a spokesperson for the Lib- erarian Party in San Diego, I have given speeches to scores of classes, both high school and college. I have found that conventional economic arguments seldom work well with young students, and particularly so with high school kids. Economic issues are usually not meaningful to those who have been wards of their parents and of the state all their lives.

As others have demonstrated better than myself, moral arguments are often more persuasive than the empirical reasoning. Still, some empirical evidence is helpful, particularly if the students themselves provide it.

From each, to each

I have adopted an analogy I extracted from another spokesman for liberty. To demonstrate the failure of the Communist principle of “from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs” (from the Communist Manifesto), I deliver some variation of the following speech:

“Currently your classroom performance is based on the free market, libertarian system of grading. The best “producers” get A’s and the worst get F’s, with the rest of you falling somewhere in between, depending on how well you do on the work.

“But it’s not fair. Many factors effect how well a student performs in this class. Some of you inherited better brains. Some eat better food. Some carry a bag. Some have to hold down a second job. Some of you have a sex life (or don’t have a sex life) — there are a million variables that affect how well you do in this class.

“Students of the world, unite! Imagine that we have a Communist coup in this class. We throw out your decadent capitalist professor and appoint me, a doctrinaire Communist, as your new teacher. Let’s apply Communist principles here in the classroom.

“Let’s make three assumptions: 1. Your grades are important to you — a good grade will help you get into a better graduate school, or obtain a higher paying job. (Let us ignore the fact that such rewards should not exist in a communist society.) 2. In spite of the fact that this course is presented in riveting fashion, you have other things you would rather do than study and attend this class. In other words, it’s a job, not an adventure. 3. The class grade distribution matches the classic ‘bell-shaped’ curve we all learned in statistics class. You remember the spread — a lot of Cs, less Bs and Ds and a few As and Fs.” (A little further explanation may be necessary with high school students and others not familiar with this basic statistical concept.)

“If a doctrinaire Communist, I know that the first rule is that we must redistribute the wealth ‘from each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs’ from the Communist Manifesto.”

“If I’m feeling frisky, I might in passing claim that this redistribution means the end of the U.S. Constitution and see if anyone picks up on my misstatement.”

“In this example, the ‘wealth’ is the class grade. The solution is elegantly simple. Everyone will receive the class average. What could be more fair? In this example, that would mean everyone would get a grade of C.

“Justice has arrived!”

“Now, let me ask three questions: 1. ‘Those of you who currently get A’s, you will now get the class average no matter how hard you work. Will you work as hard, harder or less hard?’ (Wait for a response. Gentle force them to answer.) 2. ‘Now, those of you who make Cs, you will get the class average anyway, so how hard will you work?’ (Wait for a response. If a student insists that students will work as hard or harder, be polite, but ask for a show of hands on the question.) 3. ‘I realize that the people making F’s have already dropped out of class, but if they had stayed, they would now get the class average. If it’s possible, wouldn’t they work even more under this system?’ (Wait for a response.)

Workers’ paradise

“Of course, by inference, those making B’s and D’s will also work less hard under this version of the workers’ paradise. Now, if everyone is working less, what will happen to the class average?” (Wait for a response.)

“Exactly. And that is why every socialist system eventually collapses. Under socialism workers will not produce and the non-producers learn that working literally doesn’t pay. As they used to say in the U.S.S.R., ‘We pretend to work, and they pretend to pay us.’

“If someone brings up grading on a curve as a cure for this problem, I explain how inflated grades are different from more goods and services. But sometimes the question makes for a nice transition into the nature of inflation.

About the author: Richard Rider is a longtime San Diego Libertarian must work with Greens

Perhaps the most strategically important thing the Libertarian Party organizations around the country can do is to embrace the Green Party whenever possible. It is often the case that Libertarians scorn those who hold views different from their own. This is after all a party of ideological purity. Thus, it is understandable that an attitude of impatience for other political groups or personalities develops. Too often however, in our zeal to prove every- thing right or wrong we fail to convince others that we are right.

When political outsiders like Ralph Nader or Jesse Ventura meet with some of the Libertarian Party members and leadership are slow to congratulate them and quick to criticize. This is so despite the fact that we should be celebrating every victory that ratifies the status quo.

In addition to the snobbery that comes from knowing that you are right about everything, there is also an element of wondering why these guys get the press and attention. There is frustration that so many fail to see that we — Libertarians — are the true alternative.

This is an understandable response considering the fact that Harry Browne fared almost as well as the much better publicized Pat Buchanan in the last election — unbeknownst to the media and their audience. Yet, we must take these blows to our esteem in stride. Let’s not be reactionary when our true goal is to create the reactions.

Property, rights, crime, and government’s

Editor’s note: The following essay is a summary of a lecture Ralph Shehevar gave to a drug policy class at the University of Denver on April 15, 2002.

Ronald Coase won the Nobel Prize in 1991 for what is now known as Coase’s Theorem. Coase’s Theorem states that if property rights are well defined, then, in the absence of transaction costs, the efficiency of resource allocations is not affected by the initial distribution of property rights.

In simple English, what this means is that it doesn’t matter who ends up “originally” owning things, the benefits to society is the same. Of course, it may not be fair to the people originally competing for the things, but once it is settled, then society as a whole benefits from the productive uses of the things.

There is, though, a big question: how do we go about defining property rights that are a condition of their existence? That is, the “well-defined property rights” means that something has to decide what belongs to whom.

In today’s society that body is called government. For the purposes of this lecture, let’s assume the current state of affairs: goods tithes exist, assign, and defend some property rights but make owning other property illegal.

So when government makes it illegal to own, say, peanuts or pot, then — as is beautifully explained in a gem of a paper, “Rico Constution and Regulaion in Informal and Illegal Markets” by Cross and Peña — informal and possibly violent illegal enforcement mechanisms will arise.

You are not going to go to the police or the courts to ask them to get your six pounds of marijuana back from the dealer who didn’t deliver. In order to do so you must depend on either your own violent tendencies or employ the efforts of some goon squad.

Thus, government trying to stop people from engaging in the production and defending resources.

Arbitrating body

Thus Coase’s Theorem demands that some sort of arbitrating body must exist because property rights would otherwise not be well defined. That is, the “well-defined property rights” means that something has to be done to arbitrate these things.

Property rights, crime, and government’s

Ears of the youth

If we hope to capture the nation’s attention, we must welcome our allies and work with them, realizing that an ally to libertarianism is anyone who challenges the state of things. Specifically, we need to work with the Green Party helping to augment their presence in the political arena, and doing the same for libertarianism in the process. The Greens have an important asset: they have caught the ears of the youth.

There has never been a grassroots political movement in the history of western civilization that did not rely on and owe its success to the youth. The Green Party is no exception. Their very existence is due to the numbers of young people who have rallied around their message. Moreover, they have done a good job of speaking to this vital constituency.

However, when one asks the youth that are enmeshed with the Greens about their political concerns, “universal health care” is not the first thing off their lips. They are interested in the issues of the day, but they are not as interested as they are in cars, music, and girls. See GOVERNMENT Page 25

See PROPERTY Page 25

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See EARS OF THE YOUTH Page 25
Property rights and the role of government

Continued from Page 24

that we don’t yet know about hemp precisely because societal resources are not going to be applied to illegal products.

300 uses of peanuts
George Washington Carver invented more than 300 uses of peanuts. Would he have worked most of his life on these wonderful uses for peanuts if peanuts were illegal?

We already know that hemp is extraordinarily useful. What we don’t know is how much more useful it can be. We don’t know because government prevents us from finding out.

When you in this class reach the point in your life where the reins of power pass into your hands, I sincerely doubt that hemp and/or marijuana will still be illegal. My unscientific poll of those on this campus tells me that the electorate will demand that marijuana be legalized. Whether it be in a year, five years, or 50 years is, in some measure, up to you.

Some of you will be the policy wonks of the 2030s. Some of you will be in a position to influence government. Learn the lessons that this dead man taught you here: government prohibition of anything creates the very ills that it seeks to correct. It robs our society of the benefits of invention. It reallocates resources from those things that make people happy to those that do not.

Government can be good. Where it defends property rights fairly, it is good. Where it prohibits activities that its citizens want that do not injure third parties, it is bad and must be corrected. It is unconscionable that someone wastes his life and taxpayer money by sitting in a jail for the possession or consumption of that which harms no one else.

Come join me in my fight to free us from the evils that this government has heaped upon us. Come help me correct these terrible wrongs.

About the author: Ralph Shnelvar is the Libertarian candidate for governor of Colorado. This essay reprinted from the May 2002 Colorado Liberty.

Libertarians and Greens: Cooperation

Continued from Page 24

about the drug war, abuses of the corporate oligarchy, and of course the environment. These are Libertarian issues with Libertarian solutions.

Unlike their leadership, the Green Party members care little about car safety, the dangers of cigarettes, and the need for everybody to be in a union. On the contrary, they want their freedom and a cleaner world to live in.

Thus, we have an amazing opportunity for dialogue, debate, and much-needed political energy. There should be debates on every college campus between the Greens and Libertarians. Likewise, Browne (or some other Libertarian Party spokesman) and Nader need to meet on every talk show possible, every C-SPAN panel, and in every public speaking opportunity.

No two-party system

We are in the position to present an alternative to the Republican and Democratic stranglehold on the Greens and the Libertarians. Presenting this to the public will clearly and artfully illustrate the shortcomings of the present system. It will show the reality that today, there is no functioning two-party system in America.

We happen to be well on our way, thanks to the transparency of the Gore versus Bush election. However, we must do more than isolate issues. Libertarians must present an alternative. Engaging the Greens is an important step in this process.

So let’s not be so threatened by the Green movement. Let’s see it for what it is: our movement.

About the author: Aaron Day works on development projects at the

Help us prevent the “next” President Kennedy

get free of freedom
Why you should attend the Individual Convention

On the tiny island of Anguilla in the northeastern Caribbean, the locals don’t call the holiday that falls on January 1st “New Year’s Day.” They call it Old Year’s Day.

Unlike Americans who look relentlessly forward, the Anguillans use the day to reflect on the year just past. Same holiday, just a different focus.

Taking a cue from the Anguillans, I’d like to suggest that the upcoming Libertarian National Convention is misnamed. Especially the “National” part.

Think about that word. It suggests a certain imposing scope. It sounds intimidating, impersonal. The whole nation is involved! How important can one solitary Libertarian be at such a national event?

If you attend a national convention, you’d be lost in the crowd, right? Anonymous, insignificant.

Actually, that’s not the case. And that’s why — in the spirit of the Anguillans — I’d like to encourage you to attend the upcoming Libertarian Individual Convention.

Same event. Just a different focus.

Because, you see, a single individual can have a profound impact on a convention. Ordinary Libertarian delegates can alter the outcome of debates and elections. Even one speech can have a dramatic impact.

I remember one convention a few years ago — perhaps it was 1993 or 1996 — when delegates were vigorously debating whether to remove the phrase “the cult of the omnipotent state” from the LP Statement of Principles.

Delegates stepped to the microphone like heavyweights entering the ring, and unloaded rhetorical jabs and uppercuts. Some argued the phrase sounded, well, cultish, and kept the party from gaining mainstream acceptance. It had to go, they thundered. Others said the phrase was a perfect distillation of what Libertarians were fighting against. It must stay, they roared.

Changing the Statement of Principles is a Herculean task. According to party bylaws, seven-eighths of the delegates must vote in favor of any change. But the sense on the convention floor was that the anti-cultists had won the momentum. Astoundingly, it appeared they were going to get the required votes.

A single delegate stepped up to the microphone. I can’t remember exactly what he said — only that his comments changed everything.

The Statement of Principles, he said quietly, was poetry, political poetry, and without a single word, he said, would be shameful.

His heartfelt speech did the trick. It swayed just enough delegates, and the motion fell a few, heartbreakingly votes shy of the required total.

One delegate. One speech. One individual who made a difference.

But it’s not just weighty debates where the individual is the star. You’ll also find that your best memories of a convention are individual events — unique happenings, away from the roar of the crowd.

Here’s my favorite: At the 1991 convention in Chicago, I was walking down a corridor with several other delegates from New Hampshire. At the time, New Hampshire had established a reputation as a real go-getter state. Our membership was soaring, and one out of every four Libertarians in public office in America was from the Granite State.

A few young delegates from another state — I can’t remember which — passed us and did a double take. They had recognized us.

“You guys are from New Hampshire, aren’t you?” they asked.

“Yes,” I said. “We are.”

They dropped to the ground in front of us and started gesticulating. Wayne and Garth style. “New Hampshire!” they exclaimed. “We’re not worthy! We’re not worthy!”

Our small New Hampshire delegation walked on air after that. I still smile when I think about it.

If you attend the 2002 Convention, you’ll have a chance to experience your own highlights — and perhaps be the individual who determines which — passed us and did a double take. They had recognized us.

...
Not unconstitutional

The letter from Chris Fortner in the June LP News raises two points about the Vermont LP’s opposition position to school prayer. Fortner said he would agree with our position against prayer in public schools except that he is opposed to having public schools at all. He should be aware, however, that the Vermont Libertarian Party also opposes public schools and has long objected to any government involvement in education.

Nevertheless, I would disagree that our opposition to public schools renders the issue of school prayer “moat” for Libertarians. The political reality in Vermont is that, whether we like it or not, we do have public schools here, and there is legislation under consideration to introduce religious observances into them. We oppose as a matter of principle any measures that would make an authoritarian government activity even more authoritarian. And we would support any measures that would make such activity less authoritarian, even if we can’t get rid of the activity altogether.

Immediate insistence on all-or-nothing libertarianism does severe damage to our Party. It weakens our influence. It regulates us to the political sidelines on many issues, and gives us an irrational utopian image. Our party in Vermont consistently supports government policies in the direction of greater liberty, even if such policies might fall short of Libertarian perfection.

Fortner’s second point is that the Constitution doesn’t authorize the federal government to carry out the actions they wish, as the tenth amendment says. Unfortunately there is nothing in the Constitution that prohibits the states from establishing public schools.

We simply must stop insisting that anything we don’t like is somehow “unconstitutional.” Such assertions are often untrue.

Not our candidate

An important correction must be made to Aaron Biterman’s letter “Local Power,” from the June Mailbox. John Wayne Smith is not a Libertarian Party of Florida (LPF) gubernatorial candidate. His candidacy was soundly rejected at the LPF convention in February. Please let Mr. Biterman and all the readers know that although he continues to falsely portray himself as such, Mr. Smith does not represent the many good Libertarians here in Florida.

DAVE HENDLER
Pinellas Park, Florida

We simply must stop insisting that anything we don’t like is somehow “unconstitutional.” Such assertions are often untrue.

The oddball problem

Some call them “oddball” candidates.

Others call them quirky, individualistic, bizarre, or offbeat. But LP News readers call them a problem.

In response to this month’s unscientific Pulse question — “Does the Libertarian Party run too many ‘oddball’ candidates?” — a 41% plurality agreed.

Such candidates, who focus on out-of-the-mainstream issues or brag about unconventional habits, beliefs, or lifestyles, put Libertarians in an embarrassing defensive position said one respondent.

However, 23.5% disagreed. Instead, they argued, unusual candidates are not a problem because they showcase the Libertarian Party’s individualistic nature in a positive way, and because they probably possess a “high degree of personal integrity.”

Another 23.5% did not specifically answer the question.

The question was triggered by a Joel Miller column in WorldNet-Daily.com, which took the LP to task for running “self-described Druid” Gary Copeland for governor in California. Such candidates, opined Miller, make the LP look like a “haven for oddballs.”

Here is a representative selection of responses:

■ I’m not sure if the LP runs too many oddball candidates, as I don’t know how many of our candidates are oddballs. If candidates are running their campaigns with a focus on their oddball characteristics, it may not be putting the best foot forward for the LP. We need to focus on the issues, not the personal quirks of the candidates.

— DAVE BARKER, Newington, Connecticut

■ Yes! California especially! Let’s face reality; mainstream voters will not feel confident about a Druid or a man who wants to make his pet ferret legal. If oddballs are the only LP candidates available, I suggest not running them and instead spending money on public relations for the party or a registration drive. These types of candidates also put Libertarians in an embarrassing defensive position and distract us from discussing the important issues with others.

— RICHARD PAUL OGVIST, Jr., Long Beach, California

■ Does the Libertarian Party run too many “oddball” candidates? Certainly we do, because that is primarily what the LP is: a nationwide collection of “oddballs” and one-issue fanatics. At the grassroots level, the party consists of individuals whose favorite pastime is flaming all other libertarians for their divergent views. The occasional candidate who offers something other than current political issues never receives any attention from the mainstream press, but the Druid, or the ferret candidate, are readily publicized, thereby perpetuating our loony image.

— KEI DORSET, Los Angeles, California

■ It depends what you define as the mainstream. I admire Gary Cope land for standing up and declaring his spirituality, even though most Americans don’t understand it. I can see how it could hurt a candidate, but probably no more so than our candidates who’ve advocated such “outside the mainstream” ideas as eliminating the income tax or the Drug War. The Democrats and GOP run candidates who are outside the mainstream in some way, such as declaring themselves communists or being convicted criminals, and it doesn’t seem to hurt them any. If a voter dissuades a candidate simply for being who they are, would they really be open to our ideas anyway?

— RICH TOMASO, Nashua, New Hampshire

■ “Beggars can’t be choosers.” The solution to the oddball problem involves building our membership, so that we have more presentable candidates to select from.

— MICHAEL R. EDLESTON, San Francisco, California

■ Most oddball candidates will automatically withdraw if they can’t see that the new goal of the Libertarian Party is to win elections. Everything the LP leadership does should be rewarding to those who win elections and discouraging to those who are not interested in winning. For example, the national party should disaffiliate with the LP leadership in any state party that is not increasing its state election results by more than the average state’s percentage of increase. Also the national leadership should set an example by voluntarily resigning if national election results fall below those of the previous election cycle.

— BRIAN EHDEMBURG, Salt Lake City, Utah

■ Freedom, choice, and individual responsibility are outside of the mainstream. Therefore, the Libertarian Party should be.

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THE PULSE

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an “oddball” for supporting freedom. Having said that, I believe that running an “oddball” candidate may be the “straw that broke the camel’s back,” and may turn away voters who would have otherwise voted for the Libertarian Party candidates and issues.
— Michael Hance, San Francisco, California

“Oddball” candidates can be used to our advantage. They obviously possess a high degree of personal integrity. When faced with criticism regarding a candidate’s “quirks,” ask the critic if they really know the candidate they’re favoring. Most likely they know the image, not the substance. Also remind the critic that the power party “squares” brought us to our current condition.
— Ken Parnale, Morrow, Georgia

Do “oddball” candidates give Libertarians a wacko image and damage the party? Yes, they probably do. Too many Libertarian candidates believe they are the “sole voice” of the party. If they refuse to separate their own opinions from party policy they are, in fact, committing a lie. This has nothing to do with free speech.
— Walter Money, Palm Bay, Florida

The problem isn’t that we run too many oddball candidates. After all, being an “oddball” didn’t hurt George W. Bush or Al Gore. The problem is choosing candidates who like to emphasize their “oddball-ness.” Playing up one’s differences from everyone else may be good for one’s ego, but it’s suicidal politically speaking.
— Walt Triemer, Simsbury, Connecticut

The problem is that the party doesn’t run its candidates; the candidates run themselves. To solve this problem: 1. A candidate must be approved by his local party, and by the party at the level he is running. 2. Each candidate must write and be “disowned.” 3. Each candidate must write and approved by his local party, and by the party at the level he is running their own opinions from party policy they are, in fact, committing a lie. This has nothing to do with free speech.

Sept. Question: Improve LP News?

H ere at the Pulse column, we’ve asked LP News readers about a myriad of topics: Political issues, party strategies, cultural questions, the proper response to terrorism, candidates, and so on. Now it’s time to ask about LP News. The newspaper you hold in your hands is the “official” voice of the party. It’s read by about 32,000 members, party supporters, and interested voters. It’s the one newspaper in America devoted to reporting on the national Libertarian Party, as well as state and local LP activity (and even some news from broader libertarian movement). Our question: Does LP News do a good job? Specifically, what part of the newspaper do you look forward to reading, or enjoy the most? And what part do you skip, or find most boring or irritating? And if you were suddenly appointed editor of LP News, what one thing about the paper would you improve, or add, or delete? And why?

Question: What do you like best about LP News? What do you

August Question: Is cloning ethical?

In a May 2 op-ed essay in the Wall Street Journal entitled “The Fall of Libertarians,” Francis Fukuyama argued that the limitations of libertarian thinking are “becoming increasingly clear” in the area of biotechnology. Fukuyama, who thinks cloning and genetic engineering should be banned, wrote that Libertarians support “the freedom to design [biotechnology] as they see fit. But, we should be “skeptical of arguments that say that genetic engineering is just another choice” since such an action is a “risks experiment.” Libertarians are wrong, he concludes, “to say that individual freedom should encompass the freedom to redesign those natures on which our very system of rights is based.” Is Mr. Fukuyama correct? Do Libertarians really support cloning and genetic engineering? And should they?

Entry Guidelines: Include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won’t be tallied. Enter just once per month.
E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org, (Pat “Pulse” in subject line.)
Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse.)
Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

THE MAILBOX

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for overhead off the top in lieu of allowing someone else to produce similar ads.
But I really like the idea of promoting the link between poverty and suffering and bad governments.
— Joe Coes, Dana Point, California

Slogan bandwagon
Is it too late to get on the slogan bandwagon? I have two suggestions, expressing both what we support and what we oppose:
“Freedom, Pure and Simple.”
— Brian Towry, Durham, North Carolina

Taxes and prices
Replace taxes with prices; at least a bummer sticker.
With prices, you decide what you can afford and when; you choose what to get; you make sure you get what you pay for; and both buyer and seller like the deal.
But with taxes, they decide what you can afford and when; they choose what to give you: you may not get what you’re supposedly paying for; and tax papers and records are likely to be brudge each other.
Replace taxes with prices.
— Andrew Lenz, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Now 34 pounds
I would like to thank LP News Staff Writer Jon Traeger for his notice about my campaign and my loss of (then) 31 pounds (now 34) in the June issue’s Affiliate News.
Plus, he spelled my name right!
— Jeff Dazell, Libertarian for Governor (Texas) Houston, Texas

You cannot take political control of a modern state from the inside without the support of at least some of its existing institutions.

Woo the military
As pointed out in a recent National LP fundraising letter, we are America’s only political hope for a free future.
For everybody’s sake, our over-riding goal should be nothing less than the taking of the reins of state, as opposed to the moving of public policy (advocated in our mission statement). That the Strategic Plan put forward by the National Committee does not really address one of the major elements that can be seen as necessary to accomplish this task.
You cannot take political control of a modern state from the inside without the support of at least some of its existing institutions. You simply can’t be against everybody. How can the libertarian ideal be of advantage to any of these folks? The obvious example would be our military. Since it is one of the institutions that justifies our union, we should immediately begin wooing the brass as well as the enlisted ranks with the prospect of much better pay, weapons, prestige, and safety by means of a clear mission. In other words; political bait.
Some of the money saved by the elimination of needless programs goes to them, and rightly so. People who agree to possibly die for their employer deserve better than average compensation, not food stamps.
Bringing existing institutions to our side is the greatest shortcut a political party can hope for. Point 5 of the Strategic Plan, favored by the majority of responding members, seeks to increase public support for our ideas.
However, the public follows their institutions, which is why every political season sees a sea of endorsements by groups such as the police and fire departments, to name a few.
I ask my fellow readers as well as the National Committee: who else can be brought to our side, and how? Their people will follow.
— Tony Shull, Everett, Washington

Too many laws
RepelladLaws.Org: This website does not exist, but it ought to. I am not a lawyer and I am too busy to make and maintain such a website. Maybe one out of the 30,000 individuals who read this page will see

See THE MAILBOX Page 29

You've won a Billboard giveaway! #4

LAST MONTH, PLEASE check your mailbox for the Summer issue containing further information about the 1999 RNC. YOU CAN'T MISS THIS ISSUE! Also, the cover story of YOUTH INVOLVEMENT: HOW TO PROFIT FROM IT! And the following articles:

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Stay tuned.
Arguments Show Why It Is Scientific & Philosophical

To push Republicans to be more conservative (as by cutting taxes more deeply) might work in some races.

Candidates should just run for the offices they’re most interested in and motivate Republicans to be more conservative (as by cutting taxes more deeply) might work in some races.

— Robert Goodman

The Advocates for Self-Government

The Advocates for Self-Government (ASF) sponsored an outreach project, the 2002 Lights of Liberty Award program, to reward outstanding libertarian activism. The 2002 Lights of Liberty Award program was available at TheAdvocates.org. Call 800-932-1776. The Advocates for Self-Government presented 2002 Lights of Liberty Award to candidates who are running independent of the Libertarian Party. The Awards were awarded at the 2002 Libertarian Party Convention in Austin, Texas.

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Is Abortion Aggression?  Scientific & Philosophical Arguments Show Why It Is

Go to: http://www.l4l.org for a literature list, send a S.A.S.E. to the Libertarian Party, 13404 Hathaway Drive, Wheaton, MD 20904. (301) 460-4141 libertarian@els.com

The Advocates for Self-Government

5 South Public Square, Suite 304, Cartersville, GA 30120

Advocates for Self-Government, 5 South Public Square, Suite 304, Cartersville, GA 30120

Note: if you meet the requirements in 2001 but aren’t on this list, you can still get your award and have your name added to the Honor Roll at our Website: Contact: Advocates for Self-Government.
Health care re-

Continued from Page 26

country club dues — they're financ-
ing a bigger and bigger health-care bureaucracy.

If the government ended these programs, the government would simply have to pay closer attention to how their health care dollars are spent.

Under such a system, each tax-
payer would personally pay for health insurance and medical costs — and then deduct those payments, dollar for dollar, from his or her tax bill.

According to the Council for Affordable Health Insurance, an $800 per-person tax credit could cover 90% of a typical health insurance plan tailored to their needs.

Deregulate insurance companies. Currently, the government forces insurance companies and HMOs to cover certain maladies and offer services — regardless of whether you need it or not. For example, businesses are gynecological services, which must be offered even in a plan bought by a man.

Politicians also force insurance companies to cover pre-existing medical conditions — such as glau-
coma or cancer — under their poli-
cies. A study by the American Society of Actuaries found that claim costs rise by an average of 38% wherever a guaranteed-issue rule is imposed.

Instead of further driving up costs, Congress should focus on deregulating health care, and allow consumers to choose a less inclusive plan tailored to their needs.

Blek prognosis? Considering the current trend toward a nationalized health care system, the American system looks bleak. However, the situation is still curable if we enact a healthy dose of free-market initiatives — not additional centralized controls.

As arguments rage over how to fix America's health care system, many falsely claim the debate is about who should get more power: The government, or health care companies.

Michael Tanner of the Cato Institute said there's another way. "It doesn't have to be more power to the government or more power to the HMOs. It could be power to the people.

—Michael Tanner

A ban on smoking?

Continued from Page 21

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—Michael Tanner
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July 3-7, 2002
Libertarian National Convention, Marriott Indianapolis Downtown Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. Speakers include Gary Johnson (governor, New Mexico), Ed Clark (1980 LP presidential candidate), Tim Slagle (comedian), Rob Kampa (executive director, Marijuana Policy Project), Larry Pratt (executive director, Gun Owners of America), Joe Bast (president, Heartland Institute), Damian Mason (professional Bill Clinton impersonator), Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), David Brin (award-winning science fiction author and futurist), David Nolan (LP founder), Steve Dillon (chairman, NORML), David Bergland (1984 LP presidential candidate), Harry Browne (2000 LP presidential candidate), Mary Ruwart (author, Healing Our World), Neal Boortz (radio talk show host), Don Gorman (former New Hampshire legislator), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Phil Miller (Greenfield, Indiana city councilman), Carla Howell (Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate), Ed Thompson (Wisconsin gubernatorial candidate), Michael Cloud (Libertarian persuasion expert), John Buttrick (Superior Court Judge, Arizona), Willy Marshall (mayor, Big Water, Utah), Spear Lancaster (Maryland gubernatorial candidate), Clyde Cleveland (Iowa gubernatorial candidate), and Bill Masters (Colorado Sheriff and author, Drug War Addiction). For information, visit: www.LP.org/conv/2002. Or call: (800) 272-1776.

July 27-August 2, 2002
Cato University, Westfields Marriott Hotel, Chantilly, Virginia. A week-long “seminar on liberty and limited government,” sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include Walter Williams (professor, George Mason University), Ed Crane (president, Cato Institute), Steve Davies (professor, Manchester University, U.K.), and Randy Barnett (professor, Boston University Law School). For information, visit: www.cato-university.org.

July 28-August 1, 2002

August 12-16, 2002
Summer Seminars in Political Economy, Independent Institute, Oakland, California. A seminar for high school and college-age students that “integrates economic theory and history.” Speakers include Joseph Fuhlig (Professor, Golden Gate University). For information, call: (510) 632-1366. Or visit: www.independent.org.

August 15-18, 2002

August 17, 2002

November 8-10, 2002
Marijuana Policy Project’s National Conference (co-hosted by Students for Sensible Drug Policy), Anaheim, California. Speakers include Bill Maher. For information, visit: www.mpp.org/conference.

December 1-4, 2002

February 15-17, 2003
California LP Convention, Ontario Marriott, Ontario. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail: convention@ca.lp.org. Or visit: www.ca.lp.org/

“if you’re fed up with politics-as-usual, disgusted with partisan antics, appalled at gerrymandered districts, and outraged at elected officials who put special interests above the public good, help at least one Libertarian candidate win state office. A single success would send shock waves throughout the state and the nation, forever changing the political dialogue and opening up the possibility that other alternative parties could also break the two-party stranglehold on public policy.” — Stephen Goldstein, The South Florida Sun-Sentinel, May 15, 2002

“Principled, focused, and idealistic, Libertarians have a simple agenda: small government, freedom, personal responsibility. Many of us accept these concepts, but have become accustomed to government handouts. The Libertarians keep us aware that liberty, not high-tax serfdom, was once the American dream.” — Barbara Anderson, The Sun (Lowell, Massachusetts), April 7, 2002