Local Campaigns Build Momentum

The LP has a number of interesting local campaigns developing around the country, and we will try to keep Liberty Pledgers informed of the latest developments.

• Nancy Lord's race for mayor of Washington, D.C., has been a particularly busy one. In addition to studying for her law school finals in order to receive her J.D. degree Memorial Day weekend, Lord attended an average of one candidates forum or other campaign event every other day during May. At one recent candidates forum, two candidates who had not been invited, a Democrat and an independent, showed up and when they asked to participate, forum organizers explained that only the major candidates had been invited—and Nancy was one of them.

A long-promised article finally appeared on Nancy on Page One of the "District" section in the Washington Post, traditionally a hard media nut to crack for Libertarians. During the same week, Nancy also appeared on a popular PBS talk/call-in television show.

Her appearance in Anacostia, one of the poorer sections of town, for the Anacostia Day Parade, brought a very positive response. People appeared glad to see her and open to what she had to say. Over 2500 pieces of literature were given out by volunteers as they walked the parade route.

• Nevada Libertarians plan to nominate candidates this month for each of six seats in the State Assembly which currently have an unopposed Republican incumbent. State LP Chair Dan Becan said they plan to latch onto a very high-profile and popular pro-choice ballot initiative which all six Republicans oppose and which appears to have overwhelming support.

• Petitioners in Northern Virginia collected over 2700 signatures in eight days to place U.S. Congressional candidate Robert Murphy's name on the ballot there. Murphy plans an active campaign for the seat, stressing the issues of environmental protection based on property rights, reproductive freedom, ending the War on Drugs, and dramatic cuts in federal spending.

Party Headquarters to See Summer Improvements

Assorted improvements are planned for the Libertarian Party Headquarters this summer. Two new interns, Kent Brintnall and Thomas Walls, will be working at the LPHQ, archiving and upgrading the LP computer system to allow easy access to statistical information such as membership renewal rates.

The LP will also be experimenting this summer with direct mail to new lists, including lists from several single-issue organizations.

In addition, LP activist Don Emsberger will be spending one week each month working out of the HQ this summer, primarily working on Committee Against Drug Violence activities.

Attention Candidates:
We would be happy to spread the word if you will let us know about your campaign successes. Send your campaign notes to Liberty Pledge Editor, c/o LP Headquarters.

Ohio’s insistent independent

Joe Bruns

Joe Bruns, 46 years old and a point of Ohio politics, is on a mission to get more than a few of his state’s electors to look to him as a presidential candidate. He is running, surprisingly, for the Libertarian Party nomination for the presidency. Bruns is the first Libertarian ever to be muscling for the nomination this year.

Bruns claims he will campaign among the people, and his campaign literature suggests he is going to listen to the people and who they want. Bruns has already conducted three surveys and has found that most Americans are fed up with the two major parties and would like to have a real choice in their presidential election. He is also a strong advocate of tax reduction, and he is pushing for a 10% flat tax.

Bruns has been rejected by some of his fellow Libertarians, who claim he is running a losing campaign. But Bruns says he is not interested in being the nominee for the Libertarian Party. He wants to be the nominee for the nation.

Bruns has called for a national convention of the Libertarian Party to be held in his hometown of Dayton, Ohio. He is hoping to attract a large enough following to ensure that he is the nominee for the Libertarian Party at the national convention.

Bruns says he will run a clean campaign, and he will not accept any contributions from special interest groups. He will also not accept any endorsements from other candidates.

Hayward, CA Sunday Review & Alameda Times Star

Sacrificing personal liberty to fight drugs

By Monte Enlow

SACRAMENTO - In a move aimed at capturing the attention of California voters, Governor Pete Wilson has announced a proposal to reduce the number of people incarcerated for drug offenses. The proposal, which is part of a larger initiative to address the state's growing prison population, has sparked debate among politicians and the public.

Wilson's proposal, which would allow eligible drug offenders to serve their sentences in community-based programs, has been praised by some as a bold step towards reducing the state's prison population. However, others have criticized the proposal, arguing that it would undermine the state's efforts to combat drug-related crime.

The proposal has also raised concerns about the impact on law enforcement and the public safety of reducing the number of people incarcerated for drug offenses. Some worry that reducing the number of people in prison could lead to an increase in drug-related crime.

Meanwhile, the federal government has also proposed changes to drug policy. The White House has announced a new strategy to combat drug-related crime, which includes increasing funding for law enforcement and treatment programs.

California's prison population has been on the rise for several years, and the state has been struggling to find ways to address the issue. Wilson's proposal is seen as one potential solution, but it remains to be seen how it will be received by the public and lawmakers.


Young Libertarian's wild idea: Challenge GOP's Louise Miller

By Monte Enlow

KIRKLAND - Jeff Jared is ready to take the plunge and challenge the Republican candidate in the upcoming Washington state Senate election. Jared, a 26-year-old libertarian, is running as an Independent candidate for the Senate seat vacated by Republican Louise Miller.

Miller has held the seat for four years, and she is considered a likely favorite in the race. However, Jared is not deterred by Miller's political experience.

"I'm not afraid of Louise Miller," Jared said. "I believe in the power of the people, and I think I have a message that the people want to hear.

Jared's campaign focuses on issues such as taxation, government waste, and the role of government in the economy. He plans to use his campaign to draw attention to these issues and to promote a more limited role for government.

"I'm not a political insider," Jared said. "I'm not a career politician, and I don't believe in the system.

Jared's campaign literature suggests that he is not afraid of taking on the Republican establishment. He plans to use his campaign to challenge the status quo and to offer a fresh perspective on governance.

"I believe that the people are ready for a change," Jared said. "I believe that the people want to be heard, and I'm going to do my best to make sure that they are heard.

Jared's campaign is still in its early stages, and he faces an uphill battle in his bid to unseat Miller. However, he is not deterred by the odds and is determined to make his voice heard.

"I'm not going to back down," Jared said. "I'm going to fight for what I believe in, and I'm going to make sure that the people are heard.

Jared's campaign is a challenge to the political establishment, and he is ready to take on the Republican candidate in the upcoming Senate election.

The race is set to be a close one, and Miller's experience and resources will be a significant advantage. However, Jared is not deterred by the odds and is determined to make his voice heard.

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The Libertarian Party will grow stronger in the 1990s if the organization becomes more businesslike and concentrates more on individual issues rather than on national elections, said Don Ernsberger, national director of the Libertarian Party.

Ernsberger spoke yesterday at the Libertarian Party of Ohio 1990 State Convention in the Radisson Hotel, 4000 Sinclair Rd.

If the party is operated like a business, it will serve more people more efficiently, and that will strengthen the party, Ernsberger said.

"Running candidates for office is the bottom line that this party is about, and we need to address the individual issues — at the federal, state and local levels," he said. "Here in Ohio, you have issues like the sheriff's raids on the X-rated bookstores in Columbus, the raid on the Mapplethorpe exhibit in Cincinnati, and other issues that the party should get involved in."

Ernsberger, an Ohio native living in Warminster, Pa., said the old way of the party was to "get behind a candidate for president, work 23 or 24 hours a day on getting the Libertarian candidate elected, then crash when we didn't have a Libertarian in the White House."

The Libertarian Party must focus on individual victories.

"When you read how the census was a flop, you should have smiled to yourself because the Libertarian Party was at the forefront of that effort," he said. "We can't take responsibility for its failure, but we know that many, many Americans agreed with us that the government had no business asking us to give them all this statistical information about what we own, where we live, what we make."

Ernsberger said Libertarians need to make more people aware of where the party stands on issues.

"The Libertarian Party is the vanguard of the movement that says the war on drugs is a catastrophe; that it has clogged the courts, wasted money and caused more crime," he said.

"When people begin to realize that legalization may be the solution to ending drug violence, they will learn that the Libertarian Party has been in the forefront of that effort."