

Sabrin battles for place in NJ debates

Is state Election Commission determined to exclude the Libertarian candidate from televised gubernatorial debate?

He raised more than \$236,000, turned in 50 pounds of supporting documentation, and even got a judge to rule in his favor — but New Jersey Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Murray Sabrin continues to face obstacles as he attempts to qualify for participation in this fall's televised debate.

Sabrin appeared to become the first third-party candidate in New Jersey history to qualify for state matching funds — and a spot in televised debates against his Republican and Democratic opponents — when he submitted paperwork documenting \$236,050 in contributions to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement

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**Matching Funds:
 Where I Stand**
By Murray Sabrin

ment Commission (ELEC) on September 2nd.

Sabrin, 50, had raised \$26,050 more than the \$210,000 minimum required by the state's public finance law — an accomplishment which stunned the political establishment, set a new all-time LP fundraising record for a non-presidential candidate, and earned him an outpouring of media attention.

He seemed certain to be-

come the first third-party contender in the 20-year history of the law to qualify.

But after quibbling over technical details for a week, ELEC officials tossed his case to an administrative law judge, asking whether Sabrin had met an additional guideline that requires candidates to show proof that they had committed to spend the money they raised.

Binding contract?

At issue: Whether Sabrin's campaign consultant's verbal agreement to purchase more than \$125,000 in radio and television advertising was a legally binding contract.

After reviewing the facts of the case, administrative law judge Beatrice Rylutki recommended on September 15th that ELEC qualify Sabrin, and said the campaign had "convincing proof that it had made a binding commitment to spend" the money required by the law.

However, the election commission, which could accept, reject, or modify the judge's ruling, refused to make an immediate decision — a delay which frustrated Sabrin.

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■ **MURRAY SABRIN:** "Our experience is a vivid example of bureaucracy blocking democracy." The Libertarian candidate is fighting stalling tactics from the NJ state election board.

KC Libertarian fights eminent domain grab

A Missouri Libertarian is fighting to prevent the Kansas City government from evicting 60 downtown businesses and turning their land over to a wealthy corporation to build a new entertainment complex.

And now LP member Grant Stouffer is considering forming a nationwide organization to prevent such abuses from happening elsewhere.

"They're doing this everywhere," said Stouffer about the growing tendency of city and state governments to seize private property for commercial purposes. "This is a cancer that



■ **STOUFFER:** "A cancer is spreading."

is spreading everywhere."

Stouffer is waging an uphill battle to keep the city government from evicting 60 small businesses and turning their land over to the Center-tainment Corporation, which wants to build a 33-theater entertainment complex in Kansas City—a plan which he calls a "glorious boondoggle."

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INSIDE

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 How "hidden taxes" raise the price of everything you buy

The 4-year struggle to privatize NH liquor

Can one Libertarian overcome great odds?

How difficult is it to privatize a state-owned industry?

Ask Miriam Luce in New Hampshire. As the only Libertarian on the State Liquor Commission, she's been trying for more than four years to sell the state-owned liquor business.

"There's no groundswell for privatization," she said of her efforts. "It may not happen this decade."

But that hasn't stopped her from trying, ever since she was appointed to the SLC in 1993. And it hasn't stopped privatization opponents—liquor store employ-

ees, Republicans, and Democrats — from working overtime to make sure she never succeeds.

With such a formidable array of opposition, why doesn't Luce give up?

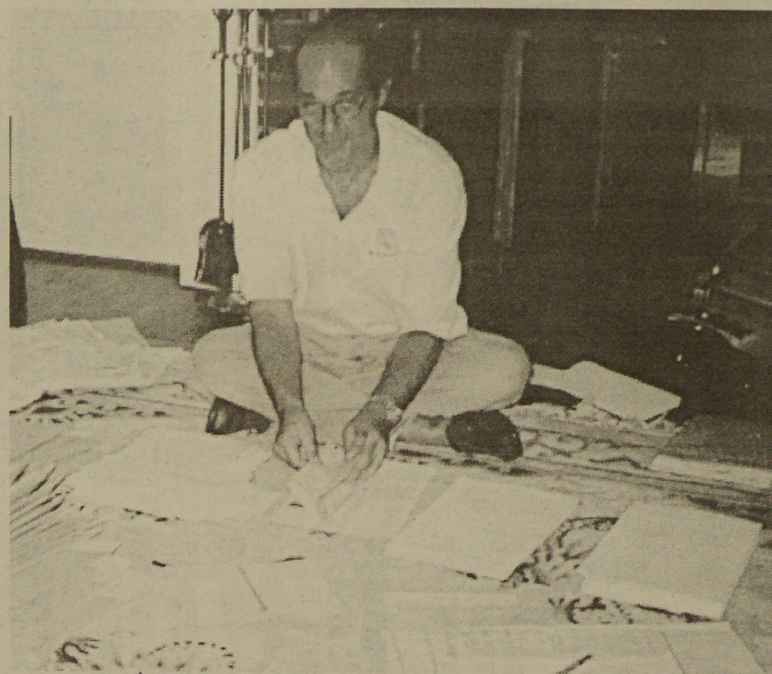
Because she's already overcome tremendous odds to earn her seat on the State Liquor Commission — something no other Libertarian has ever achieved.

Luce's unlikely career as a crusading privatizer began in 1990, when she ran as the LP's gubernatorial candidate and won 5% of the vote. It was enough to

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■ Over the Labor Day weekend, campaign volunteers Mike Panella (left), Ginny Flynn, and Blay Tarnoff verified stacks of contributor information. Detailed information was required for each individual contribution, or it would be rejected by the state election board.



■ Campaign volunteer Tom Fischetti compiles the three sets of documents required by New Jersey's Election Law Enforcement Commission to prove that Sabrin qualified.

Sabrin faces obstacle after obstacle in NJ

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"[This] is a vivid example of bureaucracy blocking democracy," he said. "We have clearly met the requirements to receive matching funds and to be in the debates. Murky, unjustified, and unnecessary bureaucratic red tape is holding up our campaign."

At *LP News* press time, the election commission had still not made a final ruling.

"I'm cautiously optimistic that the commission will agree with the judge's decision and approve my entry into the debate," said Sabrin, as he awaited word. "But if government can't even make a simple decision like this quickly, how can we trust it

to regulate the insurance industry? Unfortunately, the bureaucracy is alive and well."

The refusal by ELEC to qualify Sabrin earned the commission sharp attacks from several New Jersey newspapers, which accused the board of playing politics.

"ELEC [is trying] to use puddling bureaucratic technicalities to squash a viable third-party candidate [and] betrays its interest in protecting the powers that be," charged the Morris County *Daily Record*.

The delay shows that "the major parties [are] more interested in protecting themselves" than having open debates, wrote the *Courier-Post* in Cherry Hill.

If Sabrin gets approval from the commission, he will appear in at least two televised debates with Republican governor Christie Whitman and Democratic challenger Jim McGreevey on October 21st and 24th. In addition to New Jersey stations, the debate is scheduled to be broadcast on C-SPAN.

White House ambitions

Because the New Jersey contest is one of only two gubernatorial races in the country this year — and because Whitman has White House ambitions — the race is expected to attract the national media spotlight.

But Sabrin's dramatic entry into the race has already shaken the two-party system in the state, and attracted considerable attention to the college professor turned gubernatorial candidate — especially because 31% of NJ voters say they are undecided about their choice for governor.

"This man has the potential to get considerably more votes

Matching Funds: Where I Stand

By Murray Sabrin

New Jersey Gubernatorial Candidate

For the past 20 years I have promoted free markets, limited government and individual liberty in lectures, op-ed articles, and dozens of radio and television interviews. These efforts preceded the publication of my book, *Tax Free 2000: The Rebirth of American Liberty*. Since my book was published I have been interviewed on more than 200 radio and television shows. One of my doctoral dissertation advisors was Murray Rothbard. In short, my libertarian credentials are impeccable.

In March I was invited by the New Jersey Libertarian Party to consider being the gubernatorial candidate this year against Governor Whitman. I received the nomination on March 22nd, and helped gather enough signatures to qualify for the November ballot. Since then, we have assembled an energetic, competent, and professional team to guide the campaign, and raised sufficient funds (more than \$210,000) to qualify for the fall debates. If we are approved by the Election Commission we will receive nearly \$300,000 in state matching funds, and more in the future.

The election laws are a huge subsidy to the Republicans, and the rules effectively bar third party candidates who have limited financial means. Well, we surprised everyone — and I mean *everyone* — even members of the NJLP, who didn't think we would come close to raising \$210,000, let alone the \$240,000 we raised by September 2nd.

The LP has a simple rule regarding matching funds: It is up to the candidate. It is optional. I choose to exercise this option. Playing "by the rules" lends legitimacy and credibility in the public's eyes regarding Libertarian candidates; instead of making matching funds the "issue" candidates can concentrate on the real issues, the size and scope of government. State matching funds are, therefore, symptomatic of the problem — statism. Using statism — matching funds — to defeat statism is poetic justice.

For a political party to give candidates options and then for a candidate to be criticized for exercising an option flies in the face of what the LP is supposed to stand for — individual choice. Trying to live a "pure" life in an impure world is self-defeating. The task at hand is simple: Use the available means necessary to strike a blow for freedom, and when an LP candidate is elected governor or president, restoring liberty will begin, including the abolition of campaign matching funds.

than your run-of-the-mill third-party candidate," said Republican consultant David Murray. "He's an impact player. He offers a home for the disenfranchised."

And the *Star-Ledger* headlined the story: "Libertarian jolts race."

Sabrin's campaign has also earned the respect of Libertarians around the country, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger, who pointed out that Sabrin has raised more money — and raised it faster — than any non-presidential LP candidate.

Talk show host

Sabrin is a professor of corporate finance at Ramapo College in Mahwah Township, a radio talk show host on WVNJ AM-1160 in Oakland, NJ, and author of a book, *Tax Free 2000: The Rebirth of American Liberty*.

Although aware of the odds against him, Sabrin said that if he qualifies for matching funds and goes head-to-head with the Republican and Democrat in the televised debates, it's a wide-open race.

"This [would] put me on the same playing field," he said. "And if you're in a race, the objective is to win. I don't need anything else on my resume. I'm in this to win."

How to contact the Sabrin for Governor campaign:

■ Mail: 450 Seventh Street, Suite 8, Hoboken NJ 07030-2057
■ Phone: (201) 217-0744.

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West Virginia LP fights state investment scheme

State government should "divest, not invest," says LP

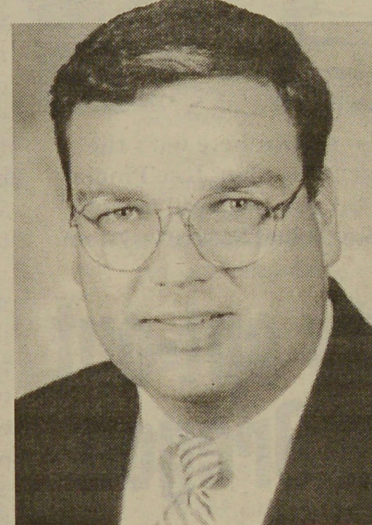
The Libertarian Party of West Virginia has emerged as the leading voice against a plan to allow the state government to invest in the stock market — a proposal that LP State Chair John Brown says is like "giving an individual who is getting ready to go bankrupt an extra gold card."

State residents will decide on September 27th whether to pass the Modern Investment Amendment, which will modify the state constitution to allow the government to invest billions of dollars from the state pension fund on Wall Street.

The state wants to invest in the stock market — which offers a higher rate of return than the bonds it currently invests in — because the seven state-run pension systems are underfunded by at least \$4.1 billion.

And that's the real problem, said Brown.

"The stock market shouldn't be a way to bail someone out because of their poor spending



■ BROWN: The stock market is "a Band-Aid solution."

habits," he said.

In fact, the multi-billion deficit was created by the state's poor financial management — not poor investment returns, he said. And investing their way out of the crisis "is going to be a Band-Aid" solution.

Instead, argued Brown, the

state should privatize its pension system.

"The question should be how to *divest* rather than how to invest," he said.

Responsible adults

"The key to solving this problem is to get the state out of the retirement business as quickly as possible," he said. "Teachers are responsible adults who are smart enough to invest their own money for their retirement, and they should be allowed the freedom to choose how they want to invest their money."

The LP's high-profile opposition to the amendment has earned it considerable newspaper coverage, editorial mentions, and radio interviews — and put them on a collision course with state Republicans, Democrats, and the state teachers' union, all of whom support the proposal.

A recent poll shows that 42% of state residents oppose the amendment, and 35% support it.



Liberty Sets Sail

The sailboat *Liberty* cruises down the Minnesota River in mid-July with LP member Forrest Wilkinson at the helm. The 10-person, four-boat flotilla also included Minnesota LP State Chair Charles Test, who learned a lesson in patience when it comes to waiting for liberty — the boat, that is. "*Liberty* is slower than a paddled canoe," he noted.

Miriam Luce's 4-year effort to privatize liquor in NH

Continued from Page 1

put the party on the map as a "major party" — and won Luce considerable respect for her effective, polished, and principled campaigning style.

Her reputation grew even more during her second run for governor in 1992, when she again won enough votes to maintain the LP's ballot status in a fiercely contested race.

But that wasn't as surprising as what happened next. Several months after the election, Governor Steve Merrill appointed Luce to the vacant spot on the SLC.

To this day, no one is quite sure why the Republican governor picked Luce. Some speculate he did it to tweak the state's Democrats, who were expecting the seat to go to one of their own. (By law, Merrill couldn't appoint another Republican.)

Others argue that Merrill did it to begin the process of privatizing the state's liquor business, which had been under state control since 1933.

But if that was Merrill's goal, he was in no hurry to advance it.

"I was unable to convince Governor Merrill that my privatization plan was something he could champion," Luce said. "My experience with most Republicans in this state is that they believe that government is better than the private sector. Most of them are just interested in keeping the money flowing [to the state]."

But Luce didn't discover that for several years. First, she was busy learning the liquor business and researching other states' privatization efforts.

Pseudo-privatization

During that time, she also had to fend off what she called "pseudo-privatization"—attempts by politicians to break off sections of the liquor business, such as warehousing and trucking, and parcel them out to their friends.

"Privatization involves private ownership, private management, and free market forces," she maintained — not "bidding out chunks primarily for the benefit of industry insiders."

It wasn't until 1996 that she



■ LUCE: "As a Libertarian, I have no interest in feeding the government machinery."

finally finished a privatization proposal that she thought was politically viable.

It was a radical plan to sell the entire operation, "wholesale to retail," to stockholders in an Initial Public Offering (IPO). In one fell swoop, it would have transformed a state-owned enterprise into a privately held corporation.

"We could get maybe half a billion dollars [from the sale]," said Luce — which would have been enough to wean the state government from the \$50 million in liquor revenues it collected annually.

"As a Libertarian, I have no interest in feeding the government machinery," she said. "But any plan that is not at least revenue-neutral is politically dead in the water."

She sent the plan to Merrill — and got back a note.

Unpersuaded

"He read my written plan, and sent me a short note that said he was unpersuaded," she said. Repeated efforts to meet with Merrill face-to-face to discuss the plan were met with silence from the governor's office.

Luce was disappointed — but not surprised. "I concluded that Governor Merrill was lying when he said he was seriously interested in looking at privatization," she said.

Then, a few months later, the state's political climate underwent a radical change. Merrill

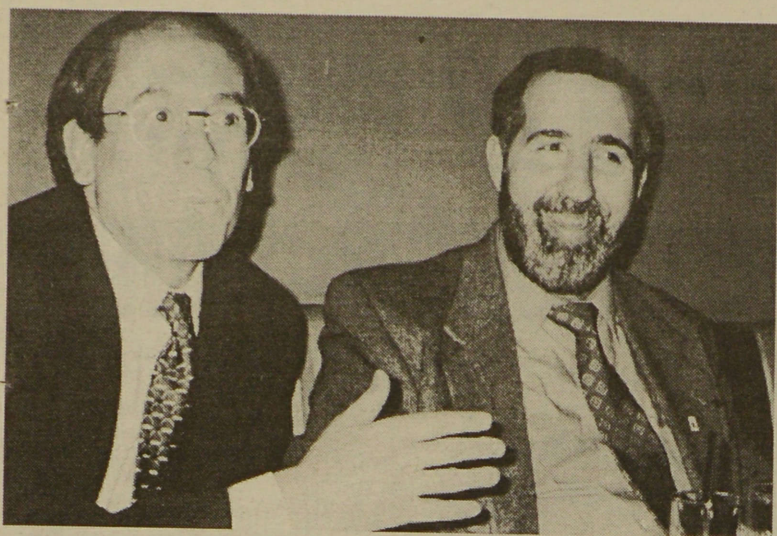
"REPUBLICANS are just interested in keeping the money flowing."

didn't run for re-election, and Democrat Jeanne Shaheen was elected governor in a surprise upset in 1996.

And if Luce had little luck with a Republican, she expects even less with a Democrat who had never expressed the slightest interest in privatizing anything.

But, with the patience of someone who faced overwhelming odds before, Luce still isn't ready to admit defeat.

"I'm never going to give up," she said. "At some point, I hope the governor and state legislators will look at the numbers and see that it's in their best interest to fully privatize the liquor business. I'll never give up my commitment that it's the right thing to do."



■ LP member Steve Buckstein (left) — shown here with the architect of the Chilean privatized pension plan, Jose Pinera — was the driving force behind the Oregon proposal to opt out of the federal government's failing Social Security system.

Social Security opt-out plan passed in Oregon

But the Libertarian-inspired proposal must still win Congressional approval

Oregon has taken the first step towards opting out of the failing Social Security system, thanks to an innovative plan promoted by a long-time Libertarian Party member.

The proposal — called "The New Oregon Option" and already passed by the state legislature — urges Congress to allow states to withdraw from the federal retirement system, and to allow state residents to stop paying Social Security tax.

The opt-out plan was promoted by Steve Buckstein, an LP member for more than 20 years and the president of the Portland, Oregon-based Cascade Policy Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan think tank.

"It's time for all Americans to talk about alternatives to Social Security," said Buckstein. "Oregon is the first state to ask Congress to begin the discussion."

The proposal won the support of both houses of the Oregon legislature, with the state Senate passing the resolution on March 14th, and the state Senate following suit on May 5th.

It was then delivered to Oregon's Congressional delegation, where it awaits action. Because opting out of Social Security is illegal, the plan must be approved by the U.S. Congress before it could take effect — a scenario that Buckstein says is not totally out of the question.

"We expect that it will be politically easier for Congress to vote for a waiver process," he said. "Once several states do opt out and set up their own plans, Congress may then get the cour-

age to privatize the system nationwide."

If passed by Congress, the resolution would "amend the Social Security Act to create a waiver system allowing states to opt out of Social Security and design their own privatized retirement systems for all workers," said Buckstein.

The "New Oregon Option" is not a perfect Libertarian plan, which Buckstein acknowledges.

A system like Chile

"We envision a system like the one Chile has adopted," he said. "Those below a certain age would begin investing in private plans. Older workers could receive Social Security or switch to a private plan. Those currently receiving Social Security benefits would continue to receive them."

The plan would free Oregon residents from paying federal FICA taxes — but would require them to invest in approved retirement accounts called Oregon Private Retirement Accounts (OPRAs), which would pay much higher returns than the anemic Social Security program.

However, Buckstein says the plan is a good first step towards ending the Social Security system.

"Libertarians have always known why Social Security must be privatized, but we now may have found a process that others can buy into to actually move in that direction," he said.

The full text of the resolution can be found at the Cascade Policy Institute's web site at: <http://www.CascadePolicy.org/ss/scr2.htm>

KC Libertarian tries to block city's eminent domain land-grab

Continued from Page 1

The city council voted on September 29th to approve the plan, and also decided to finance the construction with taxpayers' money through the sale of \$310 million in Neighborhood Improvement Bonds (NIB), which will be repaid through taxes.

"Centertainment will be built using our tax money," said Stouffer. "Taxpayers are on the hook for payment of this project."

Centertainment stands to make millions of dollars in profit if the deal goes through. That fact outrages Stouffer — because that money will be made at the expense of small, local business owners.

"This is a scheme to use our taxes to subsidize this uneconomical development and destroy 60 sound businesses," he said.

One case in particular stands out, he said: An elderly Korean named Mr. Ku, who runs a wig shop—and who faces eviction.

The rule of law

"Mr. Ku came to America because we had the rule of law," said Stouffer. "He wouldn't have [to worry about] some rich guy taking his business away."

But a city official visited Mr. Ku a few months ago and told him that his shop was going to be taken by the city and bulldozed.

"Mr. Ku kicked out this government official and told him, 'Business not for sale!'" recounted Stouffer.

But unless the City Council changes its decision, Mr. Ku will

**"IT VIOLATES
the essence of
why we are
Americans."**

have to sell his shop, whether he wants to or not, Stouffer noted.

"I don't think Mr. Ku understands why this kind of thing is possible in America," he said.

It's stories like that which keep Stouffer fighting the land-grab, he said, even when the odds look daunting.

Already, Stouffer said he has waged a letter-writing campaign to local newspapers, has testified at three city council committee meetings, is attempting to organize neighborhood groups, and has been personally lobbying newspaper editorial boards and the city council.

But because the city council approved the project, Stouffer said their options are becoming somewhat limited.

"There are no more votes, so the only way to stop it is through a lawsuit or a public referendum," he said — and both options are now being weighed.

But even if he loses this particular fight — and is forced to stand by helplessly as Mr. Ku's shop gets bulldozed by the city government — Stouffer said he wants to keep working to reverse the growing trend of commercial

The "Public Good?"

Why can Kansas City seize private property — and turn it over to a private corporation? Because of the "Poletown Case," which happened 16 years ago, said Stouffer.

In that famous legal precedent, a court allowed a city in Michigan to seize 500 acres of private property and give it to General Motors to build a new automobile manufacturing plant.

"[That case] switched the legal definition of public goods from roads and schools to private companies," said Stouffer. "The theory is that land becomes 'blighted' if the government could get more tax revenue from another business. Therefore, it's in the 'public good' to allow a land grab, because it generates more taxes."

eminent domain seizures.

"It's happening in many, many states," he said. "That's why I would like to form a national group to fight this kind of thing. It's going to get worse — and it violates the essence of why we are Americans."

■ **What you can do:** Interested in helping to form a nationwide anti-eminent domain group? Call Grant Stouffer at (816) 561-3596. Or write him at: P.O. Box 32731, Kansas City, MO 64171.



Talking Shop in Philadelphia

How to be effective in public office, even if you're a Libertarian minority of one — that was the topic of a "Victory 2000" panel discussion in Philadelphia, PA. Featured were Moreno Valley (CA) city councilwoman Bonnie Flickinger, former N.H. state legislator Don Gorman (center) and Holbrook (MA) Town Meeting Member Brian Thomas. "Folks went away with a renewed commitment to go out and fight for liberty in the political arena," said organizer Gene Cisewski. About 75 people attended the three-day event from August 30 to September 1.

How I Found Freedom In An Unfree World

BY HARRY BROWNE

This book shows how you can use libertarian principles and ideas in your personal, business, and social life to make yourself happier, richer, and freer than you ever dreamed possible.

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Government tries to fold, spindle, and mutilate your life, liberty, and property.

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Why? It's for your own good. *Just ask the government.*

It's for the good of others. *Just ask the government.*

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No doubt about it. Government tries to restrict and control you in many ways.

Some of these are avoidable and some aren't.

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Freedom is living your life the way you want to live it.

Why are you allowing needless interferences with your personal freedom?

What's keeping you from living your life the way you *really* want to live it?

"Traps," says Harry Browne. Traps are unexamined and unchallenged anti-freedom beliefs.

False assumptions, myths, and illusions.

You were exposed to these anti-freedom traps throughout childhood, taught them in public schools, at church, and

by people who want more government. People who believe government works.

How many of the 14 most common anti-freedom traps are affecting your work and relationships?

■ Are you making these two mistakes about individualism?

■ How is the Group Trap keeping you from doing what's best for you and those you love?

■ Do you know how to avoid the Previous Investment trap?

How many of the 14 most common anti-freedom traps have you vaccinated yourself against?

Let Harry Browne show you what's wrong with these traps, how to escape and protect yourself from them, and the libertarian alternative.

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You can use your libertarian ideas and principles to live the life you want to live.

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And, in the process, you could free the people you deal with every day.

You can free yourself from many restrictions and burdens of government. You can free yourself now from business problems, insecurity, exploitation, or the treadmill.

You can put freedom into your relationships, your marriage, or your family.

And you can free yourself from guilt, social pressure, unchosen obligations, demanded duties, and even emotional blackmail.

A New Life

"A book should be an ice pick to break up the frozen sea within us," said Kafka.

How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World says, "Yes."

"... I'm now free to live my life as I want to live it. Despite all-time high taxes, I pay ridiculously few taxes. Despite my irregular life style, I live my own life without interference from society.

Every day of my life is *mine* to use as I see fit. My time isn't committed to the state, to society, to a treadmill, or to fruitless relationships with people with whom I have nothing in common.

I haven't needed to hide my head in the sand to achieve this. I have valuable relationships—personal, professional, and romantic. I make far more money now than when I was restricted — and it takes far fewer hours to make it.

I'm involved with people who add to my life, and I'm independent of those who would take from it.

... *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* is not an autobiography. The title was chosen to let you know that at least one person has accomplished the freedom you seek, and that it can be done without changing the nature of the world."

—Harry Browne

"Two libertarian books changed my life," says Michael Cloud. "*Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand and *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* by Harry Browne."

"*How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* doesn't just give you ideas. It gets new ideas out of you. It shakes you awake. It disturbs and perturbs," says Cloud. "*How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* will change your life — and let you breathe the pure oxygen of liberty now."

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— Art Matsko, Publisher

THE ISSUES

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several recent Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Public schools: Not good enough for Congress

Public schools: They're good enough for *your* kids — but don't expect a Congressman to send *his* kids there. That's what a study from the Heritage Foundation reveals: That U.S. Senators are four times more likely than other Americans to send their children to private school, and U.S. House members are three times more likely.

"Congressmen get a failing grade when it comes to confidence in public schools," said Steve Dasbach, chairman of the Libertarian Party. "When they get a chance to vote with their children's education, they vote *against* government-run schools."

The Heritage Foundation found that only 14% of Americans send their children to private schools — but a whopping 50% of U.S. Senators do so, and 34.4% of U.S. House members.

"Congress thinks government-run schools are a great idea for your kids, but not for theirs," said Dasbach. "And who can blame them? Millions of average Americans would make the same choice — if the government wasn't taking close to half their incomes in taxes."

Why Megan's Law is not the answer

Megan's Law will be better at protecting the jobs of politicians than protecting the lives of children, the Libertarian Party charged.

"When politicians talk about community notification, what they really mean is: *We've just set more child rapists free in your neighborhood*," said Dasbach. "Megan's Law may make politicians feel better, but it won't make our children any safer."

The law, which was upheld by a federal appeals court in August, allows states to notify communities when sex offenders are released. Unfortunately, said Dasbach, the law won't change the fact that child molesters serve an average of just 37 months in prison — less than *half* the average sentence for such crimes.

Why are child molesters being sprung from jail so early? It's part of an ongoing trend to imprison fewer violent criminals.

"In 1980, a full 48.2% of newly sentenced offenders had been convicted of violent crime. By 1992, that number had fallen to 28.5%," Dasbach noted. "During the same time, the number of people in jail for drug crimes skyrocketed from 6.8% to 30.5%."

"Politicians had a choice: They could either keep child molesters behind bars, or imprison people for smoking marijuana. They chose to release psychopathic criminals who prey on children, and the murder of Megan Kanka — after whom the law is named — is the price we've paid for that policy," he said.

Why wasn't public warned about radiation tests?

Warning: The Surgeon General has determined that the U.S. Government is hazardous to your health. That's the grim warning the Libertarian Party wants to slap on politicians, after the federal government confessed that Cold War nuclear tests exposed 230,000 Americans to high levels of radioactivity — and may cause 75,000 people to develop fatal thyroid cancer.

"If it's good enough for the tobacco companies, it's good enough for the federal government," said Dasbach. "Americans have a right to know about the health risks associated with repeated dosages of government irresponsibility."

Last month, the National Cancer Institute admitted that government nuclear tests in the 1950s and 1960s exposed people in five states to enough radiation to cause lethal thyroid cancer. Especially vulnerable: Children under age five.

Even more astonishing, said Dasbach, is the fact that no one — except for Libertarians — is calling for criminal trials for the government officials responsible for the nuclear testing.

"Politicians ordered these dangerous atomic tests," he said. "Military personnel administered them. And federal bureaucrats hid the data for 15 years. Where are the demands for justice? How many people must die before politicians are held criminally responsible for their deadly decisions?"

How a waste-busting Libertarian shut down a Georgia city agency

When an elected Libertarian discovered that a town agency had frivolously spent \$17,000 on parties, plaques, and trinkets, he used it as leverage to get the agency abolished.

Now, Libertarian City Commissioner Bruce Van Buren is fighting to make sure that the Development Authority (DA) in Avondale Estates, Georgia, doesn't come back from the dead. And his efforts are drawing support from town residents upset over the waste of their tax money.

"We've got a lot of outraged people from all across the political spectrum," said Van Buren. "They tell me: *Go get 'em!*"

Van Buren was directly responsible for the abolition of the 20-year-old Authority in July, following an internal audit that uncovered over \$17,000 in questionable and frivolous spending.

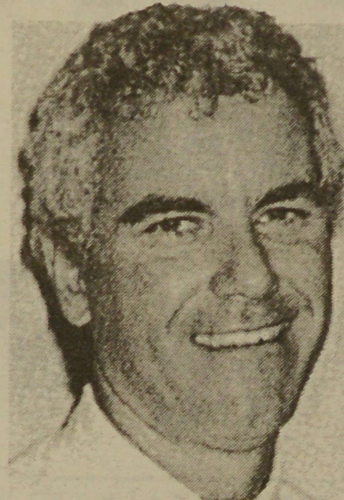
The expenses were attributed to a party to honor the city's participation in the 1996 Olympic Games, which had taken place in nearby Atlanta. But the spending occurred in May 1997 — months *after* the Olympics — which prompted Van Buren to inspect the DA's books.

"I was told that the city made tons of money on the Olympics, and therefore it was okay to have the party," said Van Buren. "So I said, fine. Let's find out how much money that is."

Van Buren uncovered thousands of tax dollars spent on "plaques, trinkets, photos, etched bottles, and other memorabilia." The expenses include \$2,034 for the party, \$1,020 on an oriental rug and paperweights, and thousands more on marble plaques, vases, and awards.

In all, the DA spent \$17,227.59 after the Olympics.

As a result of the audit, the City Commission voted in July



■ VAN BUREN: "Plaques, trinkets, photos, and etched bottles..."

to discontinue the Authority's operations and transferred all funds to the city's general fund.

But the mayor and several

Commissioners are now attempting to revive the Development Authority under a new name.

Van Buren hasn't yet directly challenged the proposal, but said strict spending rules will be required before he supports any new agency.

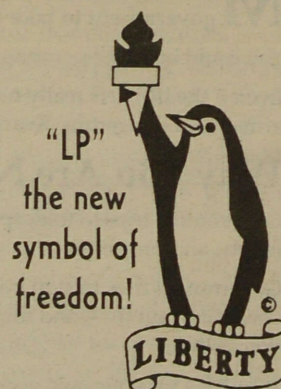
"If the new organization wants to perform any activities, it has to come before the Commission and ask for money on a per-item basis," he said.

Van Buren has been a City Commissioner since 1995 and an LP member since 1989. And the recent flap over the Olympic spending has confirmed all his Libertarian beliefs, he said.

"I can't change the universe — but the less government involvement there is, the better off everyone will be," he said.

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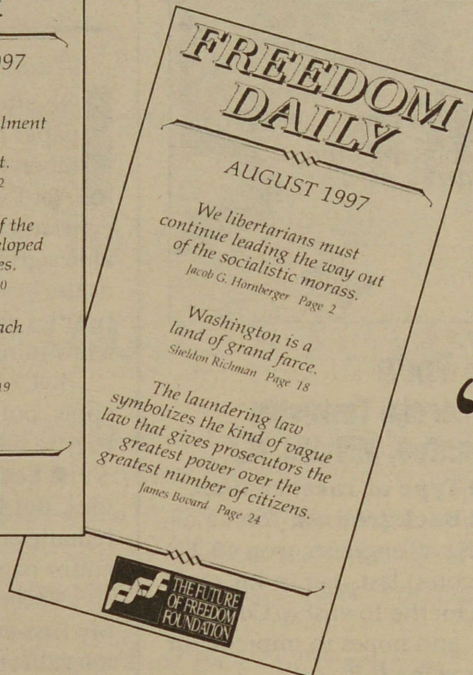
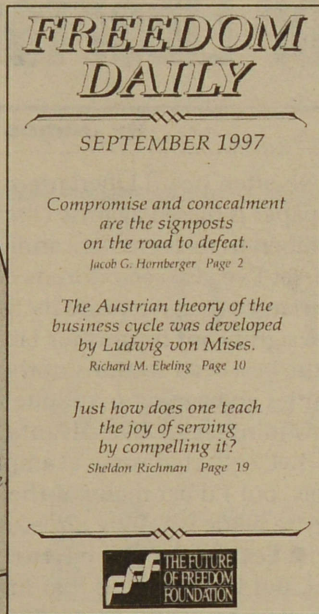
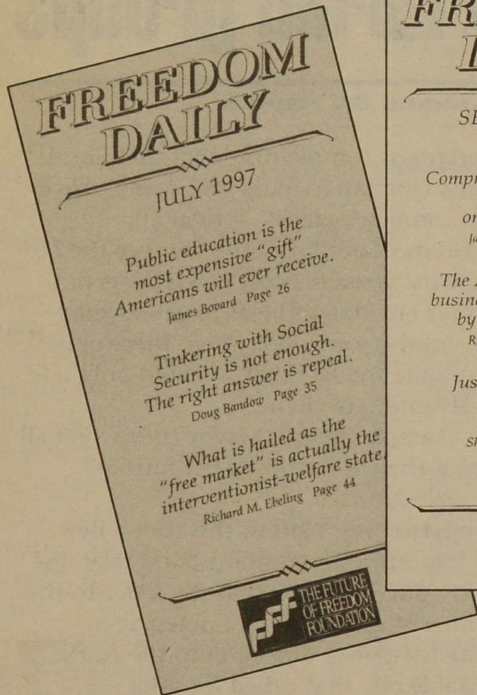
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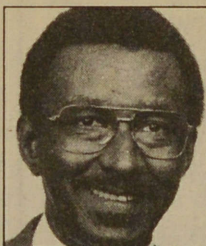
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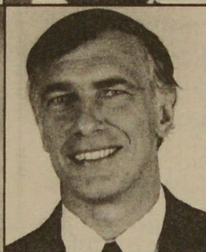
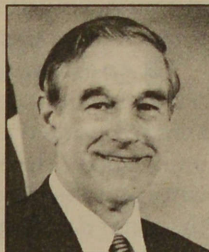


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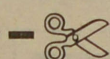
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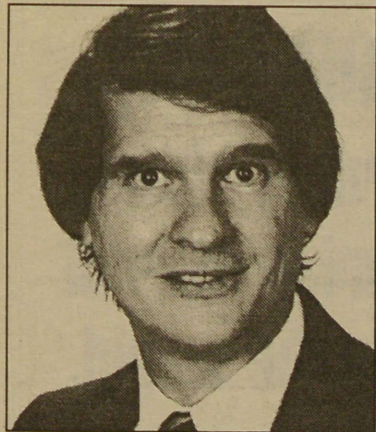
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CAMPAIGN '97 REPORT

Three campaigns to watch



Ken Krawchuk
Abington Township
Commissioner, PA

■ **Type of race:** Partisan.

■ **Background:** Krawchuk ran against the incumbent two years ago and received 25% of the vote in a two-way race.

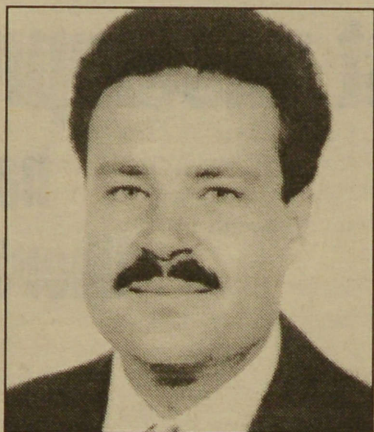
Since then, the incumbent has been weakened because he voted to raise his own salary 25% in August. "Politicians raising their own pay is a classic no-no that annoys almost everyone," noted Krawchuk. By contrast, Krawchuk pledged not to accept any salary when elected.

■ **Campaign Strategy:** Krawchuk is running in a district of only 2,000 voters. And he has already visited hundreds of those voters, starting with those who vote in every election.

In addition, Krawchuk has high media visibility, since he successfully defeated an ordinance which would have punished the graffiti victims rather than vandals, and is currently challenging the township's business tax in court.

■ **Outlook:** "[Krawchuk] has done everything right. He should be the poster child for the grassroots Libertarian movement," said LP of Pennsylvania State Chair Tim Moir.

■ **Contact Info:** Send contributions to: Krawchuk '97, P.O. Box 260, Cheltenham, PA 19012



Fred Collins
City Council
Berkley, Michigan

■ **Type of race:** Non-partisan.

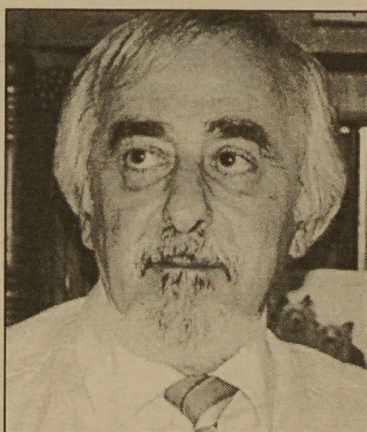
■ **Background:** Collins, his wife Pam, and their three children have lived in Berkley and been active in the Jaycees, Dads Club, and the Little League for 14 years.

■ **Campaign Strategy:** "Direct contact is the key to the Collins for Council campaign," said campaign manager Barbara Goushaw. "With just 6,300 voter households, Berkley is the perfect community for a candidate to have the direct contact with voters. Fred has been doorbelling the district every evening and weekend since May."

Plus, Collins' campaign plan includes two city-wide literature drops, lawn signs, and final week newspaper ads listing Berkley residents who have endorsed his candidacy — a list with over 100 names including the well-known former city mayor.

■ **Outlook:** "The response from the folks that I talk to has been great," said Collins. "They are fed up with the in-your-face local ordinances and the power struggles in the city council. They are ready for a change, and delighted to meet with a candidate who is too."

■ **Contact Info:** Send contributions to: Collins for Council, 1724 Mortenson, Berkley MI 48072



Dino Toro
Commercial Township
Committee, Millville, NJ

■ **Type of race:** Partisan.

■ **Background:** Toro, a retired Naval engineer, won 40.7% (458 votes) last year in his campaign for the Township Committee — and hopes to improve on his showing this year.

■ **Campaign Strategy:** In 1996, Toro received both radio and newspaper coverage for his race, and was included in a debate with his opponent. But this year, he is focusing even more on door-to-door campaigning.

"My race has four districts," he said. "In 1996, I won in the two districts that I walked completely. This year I'm walking the other two districts first, and will walk the whole town by election day."

■ **Outlook:** "Dino is showing the kind of determination we need in our candidates," said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger. "Over 90% of all candidates lose their first election. So analyzing your race to see where you could have done better, as Toro has done, and then running again, is critical for long term success."

■ **Contact Info:** Send contributions to: Dino Toro Election Committee, 315 Polar Rd, Millville NJ 08332. Phone: (609) 825-5678. E-mail: dinod2@juno.com

HowTo

Getting more publicity for Libertarian groups

By James W. Harris

I've often heard Libertarians complaining that their local paper is biased against Libertarian ideas and doesn't cover Libertarian events or candidates fairly — or at all.

Yet I've also seen dozens of opportunities for sure-fire Libertarian coverage repeatedly ignored. Most newspapers provide significant forums for Libertarian ideas to get covered — in the best-read sections of the paper. But often, these opportunities go begging — despite the fact that it would only take a few minutes to take advantage of them.

I've collected some examples below. Maybe they won't all apply, but I'd bet many of them do. And I'd bet further they're being woefully underutilized.

■ **Letters to the editor.** Yes, I know, this isn't a new idea. But I'm surprised that more Libertarians don't take systematic advantage of this. Surveys show that the letter-to-the-editor page is among the best read parts of a newspaper.

Never underestimate the power of a letter to the editor. My first-ever letter, a sizable one that called for drug relegalization, was sent to a newspaper in a medium-sized southern town. A senior editor promptly devoted his column to rebutting my letter, and so I wrote a follow-up letter, challenging his points. Meanwhile, the city's most popular radio talk show host called me and asked me to discuss the topic on his hour-long show! That's a lot from a single letter.

Get your message in print

Needless to say, not all letters generate such payback. But letters are read, giving cheer to your supporters, discomfort to your opponents — and who knows, maybe even changing a few minds. And they're fun, the feedback is immediate, and it's a great chance to get your message in print.

The smaller a paper is, the more likely it is to publish your letters regularly. In larger papers, you have more chance of being passed over, and more chance of being edited — but of course, you also reach a far larger audience. Best bet for them: A letter that's short, hard-hitting, and to the point.

■ **Anonymous call-in features.** These invite people to phone in comments on a wide variety of topics. These calls are then printed anonymously. The *Atlanta Journal* has a column called "The Vent," which prints short, aphoristic, often witty and caustic comments. These are widely read features that offer a natural, free forum for Libertarian views. They should be used constantly.

■ **Web site review pages.** Many newspapers cover the Internet and the Web on a weekly or daily basis. The *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* has a daily look at Web sites, and they give a prize each day to a person who calls in and recommends a favorite site. The Web is filled with great Libertarian sites. Libertarians should be regularly calling in and recommending them. Again, this only takes a phone call.

■ **Readers' Polls/"What Do You Think?" sections.** Many newspapers will pick a topic and discuss it on their editorial page, then ask readers to call, fax, write, or e-mail a short response. They will then pick a great many of the best responses and print them together. It is another opportunity to get the Libertarian view out there. Example: "As David Boaz of the Cato Institute notes in his new book *Libertarianism: A Primer* . . ." "As the Libertarian magazine *Reason* recently pointed out . . ."

Editor's note: This is Part One of a three-part series. Next month: How to get local news about Libertarian activities printed, and exploiting "Question on the News" columns. This essay reprinted from the Winter 1997 issue of *The Liberator*, a publication of the non-partisan Advocates for Self-Government. For Advocates information, call (800) 932-1776.

Announcements

The International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) has moved. New address: 836-B Southampton Road, #299, Benicia, CA 94510. Phone: (707) 746-8796.

ISIL is a non-partisan organization that monitors and reports on the libertarian movement around the world.

The Institute for Humane Studies (IHS) wants to find young writers who best "demonstrate [an] appreciation of a free society" — so they are sponsoring the 1997 Felix Morley Journalism Competition. First prize: \$2,500, which will be awarded to the best article published in a student newspaper between July 1996 and December 1997. Deadline for entry: December 1st, 1997. Additional prizes of \$1,000, \$750, and \$250 are also being offered.

For more information, or to enter, contact: IHS, George Mason University, 4084 University Drive, Suite 101, Fairfax, VA 22030-6812. Via e-mail: ihs@gmu.edu. Via phone: (703) 934-6920.

"I'm a libertarian," say 3 more celebrities

A major league baseball player, a management guru, and a controversial author: In the last month, they all announced that they're libertarians — sorta.

Joining the ever-growing list of self-identified libertarians are Los Angeles Dodgers catcher Mike Piazza; co-author of the business classic *In Search of Excellence* Tom Peters; and art critic and neo-feminist Camille Paglia.

In an interview in the October issue of *Penthouse* magazine, Piazza, 28, said he could never support a Democrat, thinks Newt Gingrich has "got a lot of great ideas" — but "when it comes to politics . . . I'm more of a libertarian, I think."

But Piazza seems a little unsure *exactly* what a libertarian is. While decrying the \$16 trillion the government wasted on welfare, he also argued that handguns should be banned because "people are not responsible enough, capable enough, to handle . . . having a weapon."

Piazza, a four-year veteran, is considered one of the five best players in major league baseball. He's a former NL Rookie of the Year, the leading vote-getter in this year's All-Star Game, and has a .326 career batting average.

Management guru Peters — who skyrocketed to fame with his influential 1982 bestseller *In Search of Excellence* — said his

politics are "totally screwed up." He explained: "I have . . . economic views that are far to the right of Jack Kemp, and social views that are far to the left of Jesse Jackson."

Which makes him, he said in an interview in the October issue of *Reason* magazine, "sort of a libertarian, kinda, in a way." But he stays away from that label, he continued, because he has "much too pessimistic a view of

humanity," which makes it impossible for him to be a "pure libertarian."

Peters is also the author of *Liberation Management* and *Thriving On Chaos*, and is the best-selling business author in history.

Feminist gadfly Paglia, who has long described herself as a 1960s-style liberal libertarian, reaffirmed her beliefs in an August 19th column in the online magazine *Salon* — while taking

a swipe at 1990s-style liberals.

"Liberalism's relatively recent addiction to authoritarian surveillance is one reason for the rise in this decade of the libertarian movement, to which I belong," she wrote.

Paglia is a Professor of Humanities at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, the author of *Tramps and Vamps*, and a long-time critic of the "feminist and academic establishment."

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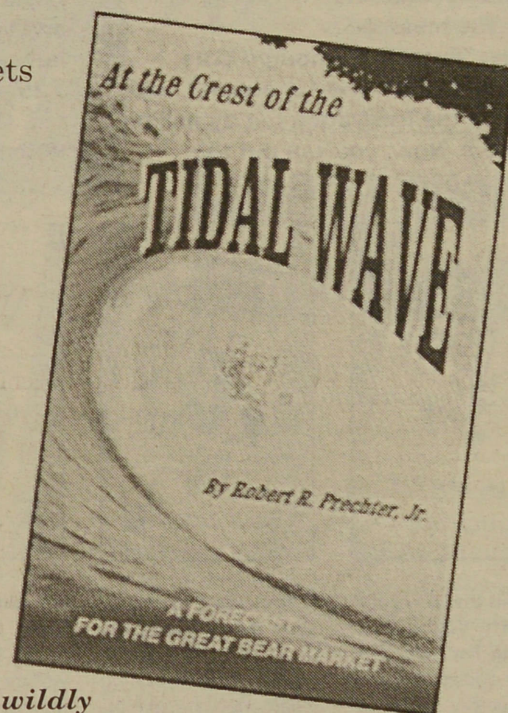
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"The state with the most growth gets the premier position in the convention hall," said committee member Steve Givot. "To keep the rules simple, this is a straight-ahead *percentage* contest. You grow the most, you get the best seats. Period."

This is a change from past years, when the largest state delegations were placed in front.

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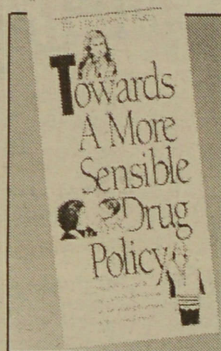
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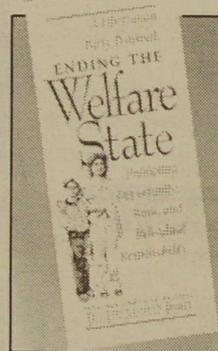
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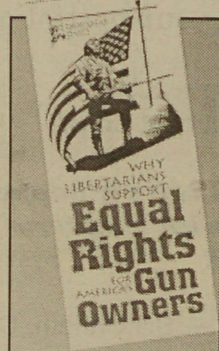
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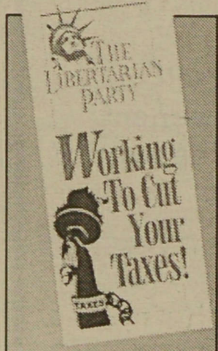
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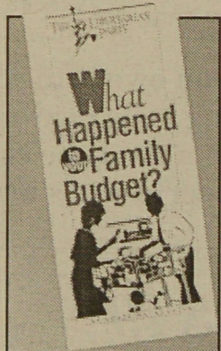
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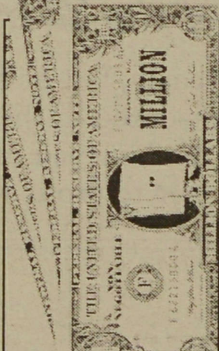
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■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95 (includes \$2 s/h charge)

■ **Enough Is Enough/Vote Libertarian Yard Sign.** 2-color (red & blue) 24" x 18," on sturdy foam-board. **Cost:** \$8.00 each

■ **LP Fact Sheets:** 2-page LP history (political highlights '71-'96) and 2-page bibliography (150 books about liberty). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy. **Cost:** \$1 each

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk:** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. **Cost:** \$1 for 100

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-682-1776** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5"). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5"). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You choose second line: ★ "800-682-1776" ★ "Defenders of Liberty." **Cost:** \$40 each

Tools for Campaigning

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. **Cost:** \$3 for set

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (Not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

Buttons (Cost: \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

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_____	Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____	Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____	Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	Tax Day Flyer: \$1,000,000 Bill
_____	2-page LP history/2-page bibliography. (Package.)
_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
_____	Why Government Doesn't Work book
_____	1996 LP Platform
_____	1995 LP Program
_____	Booklet: "Special Report"

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 _____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
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Iowa Libertarian saves town from tax

All it took was one speech — but it was a speech that saved the 1,100 residents of the little town of Roland, Iowa, approximately \$2,200 in new taxes.

When Libertarian Party member Roger Fritz heard that the City Council was planning to impose a \$2 per person tax to pay for a new social worker in the regional school district, he went to the town's August 12th meeting to speak against the plan.

And, to his surprise, he won. "The council had a little discussion right after my presentation, and denied the funding right then and there," he said.

The tax would have been used to help pay the salary of a new Family Development Specialist at the Roland-Story School District. Fritz was the only town citizen to speak against the plan — and apparently struck a chord with the local politicians.

"My main point was that I was against expanding the social services bureaucracy," he said. "And I think if I hadn't been there the council would have just rolled over and approved it."

Why did Fritz speak out against this particular expenditure? "I just thought it was wrong, and instead of just complaining about things I attempted to do something about it," he said.

His victory — small though it was — left him feeling "pretty happy," he said.

"I realize it was only \$2,200 saved in an indistinguishable little town on the northern plains, but I think it is a good example of what LP members can do," he said. "My taxes aren't going to go down because of my efforts. But it is \$2,200 that they won't have to raise someplace else."

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College group help offered

One of the country's leading experts on organizing Libertarian high school and college groups wants to help build the next generation of freedom-oriented student organizations.

So James W. Lark III has offered to share his "tricks of the trade" — based on more than a decade of experience in campus organizing — with any student group anywhere in the country.

"I am willing to assist libertarians, students or non-students, in their efforts to build campus groups," he said. "If I can help, don't hesitate to contact me."

Lark, an adjunct professor at the University of Virginia and faculty advisor to the student Liberty Coalition, said he can offer specific suggestions about how to start a college libertarian organization; how to publicize it; what activities to participate in; and how to keep it going.

Lark has served as a campus liaison for the LP, and has conducted three campus organizing campaigns on behalf of the party.

To contact Lark, call (804) 982-5016. Or e-mail him at: jwl3s@watt.seas.virginia.edu.

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Good sports & membership "zip"

Alabama

Two state party members "rubbed elbows" with the state's top political and business leaders at the 10th annual Government Affairs Conference August 10th through 12th.

The event marked the first time that LP members had been invited to such a high-level function sponsored by the Business Council of Alabama, said Lee County Chair **Scott Kjar**, who attended along with LP member **Christopher Nunneley**.

"Many of the guests commented favorably on the LP's presence and saw it as an indication that the party was maturing," Kjar said. "This was a great chance to increase our political contacts and open up the possibility of future coalitions and political alliances."

California

Steve Kubby, who is seeking the LP's gubernatorial nomination for the 1998 election, wants to unleash the power of the Internet to help citizens harassed by government agents.

Kubby has begun accepting e-mail complaints about instances of government "harassment, intimidation, and extortion." He will ask each person who files a complaint to pledge their vote to him, he said, then each complaint will be assigned a serial number designating its

"priority level" once he gets elected.

Kubby, who publishes an electronic magazine, said the Net can be a powerful tool to keep the government in check. "I can't tell you how many hard-luck stories I've heard about how arrogant government agents, cops and regulators intimidate and extort money from honest people who are just trying to make a living," he said.

California

The LP of San Diego County continues to play a leading role in the local anti-curfew movement. Party members collected more than 100 signatures on a petition to abolish the curfew at its latest march on August 2nd, which it dubbed a "Rally Against Age Discrimination."

Libertarians marched through the streets of La Jolla chanting slogans, handing out literature, and attracting the support of a number of onlookers.

"Like a subway train, the protest picked up people throughout the night," said **Dave Doctor**, leader of the event. "More than 90% of onlookers were against the curfew, even though many of them were over 30 [and over the curfew age]."

Colorado

State Libertarians have formed a coalition with the Concerned Commuters of Colorado

to fight a \$15.8 billion tax increase for public transportation.

The 67% tax hike on the November ballot would cost every family in Colorado \$200 a year for the next 35 years, said State Chair **Sandra Johnson**.

Rather than giving the transportation agency more money, Johnson argued that it should be abolished.

"This tax hike is a good deal only for the bureaucrats, bankers, and bond dealers," she said. "Everyone except the politicians and the entrenched bureaucracy stands to benefit from opening mass transit to healthy free-market competition."

Connecticut

State party members are working to establish a Jim Lewis Libertarian Foundation to honor the party's 1984 vice presidential candidate, who died in February.

The foundation will include an extensive library of Libertarian educational materials, many of them written by Mr. Lewis himself, who was a noted author and anti-tax activist. It will also offer educational courses.

"Jim dedicated 17 years of his life to advancing the cause of liberty," said Connecticut LP Chair **Carl Vassar**. "This library was a dream of Jim's, and one of the things he was working on before his death."

To complete the library, the party is seeking donations of Libertarian books and literature. Contributions can be sent to the Jim Lewis Foundation, 10 Garfield Avenue, Norwich, CT, 06360.

Michigan

The Michigan LP launched a new media campaign in August to spread the word about the Libertarian Party — and is offering a free monthly opinion column to newspapers, written by new State Chair **Tim O'Brien**.

"The liberal and conservative views are certainly well represented in the popular press," said O'Brien, "even though the Libertarian philosophy is clearly ascendant. For too long, ours has been a view without a voice."

O'Brien's voice, however, may be familiar to Michigan residents. For more than three years he presented the Libertarian view on the issues during biweekly political commentaries on Detroit's NPR affiliate, WDET. He also has been published in the



A penny for your thoughts

Do Minnesota residents want to be taxed to build a new sports stadium in Minneapolis? A whopping 88% say *no* — according to a "penny poll" conducted by the LP of Minnesota at its booth at the State Fair, from August 22nd to 28th.

"It's a no-brainer to the people — *no*, tax-money should not be used for a stadium," said State Chair **Charles Test**. The final results of the admittedly unscientific poll: Out of 4,282 votes, 3,767 voted no, and only 515 voted yes.

"Rank and file Minnesotans have repeatedly said 'hell no' to the idea of using tax money for another stadium," said Test. "What part of NO don't [politicians] understand?"

Shown above: LP member **Eric Olson** (left) displays one of the penny voting jars at the party's booth.

Detroit News and the *Detroit Free Press*, as well as in *Liberty* and *Reason* magazines.

Minnesota

Libertarians in the Twin Cities made major strides in the September 9th primary for City Council — scoring in double digits in several races, said State Chair **Charles Test**.

In Minneapolis, **Bob Odden** walloped the Republican, 17% to 10%, but placed second to the Democrat-Farmer-Labor incumbent. In St. Paul, **Anthony Sanders** earned 12% of the vote, and came within 1% of placing second in his precinct.

The two ran on a "Back To Basics" theme. "With Minneapolis government preoccupied with building another grand palace to professional sports and helping big business get bigger at the ex-

pense of the common citizen, Libertarian ideas are increasingly attractive," said Test. "These two earned those votes by convincing voters they had better ideas than the old parties."

Sanders also got major media coverage, appearing in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* as well as on candidate forums on cable TV.

New York

Party activists have discovered a new way to put a little "zip" into their membership growth strategy: "The Great Zip Code Race."

The rules are simple, explained newsletter editor **Jeffrey Russell**: "The party has created a chart that shows the number of Libertarians in each zip code, as defined by the first three digits. The zip codes that show the largest total increase

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Announcement

The Liberty Round Table (LRT) is offering prizes of up to \$750 for young adults who write the best essay on the topic: "Defending My Individual Rights."

"It is vitally important that young people of all cultures understand the nature of freedom and corollary principles of individual rights and responsibility," said contest organizer **Sunni Maravillosa**. "This contest is intended to give young scholars a chance to do something about defending their rights!"

Deadline for entries: March 1, 1998. Prizes will be awarded on July 4, 1998. Anyone up to age 21 can enter.

For more information, or to enter, contact: Liberty Round Table, 6546 South State Street, #122, Murray, UT 84107. Via e-mail: sunni-snake@utah-inter.net. Via phone: (307) 789-3300. Web site: <http://home.lrt.org>.

and the largest percentage increase will win."

The prize is a spot at the head table at the state party's 1998 convention.

New York

The LP of New York is looking for advice and suggestions for its next state convention, which will be held March 28th and 29th, 1998.

"The NY convention is looking for a few good Libertarian speakers, organizations, and products," said organizer **Jim Harris**.

Have any recommendations? Contact the New York LP via e-mail at: AUDGEO@aol.com. Or via phone at: (516) 286-7631.

Oregon

State party members are gathering signatures to repeal a new law that "recriminalizes" the possession of small amounts of marijuana.

The law carries a mandatory 6-month drivers license suspension — as well as a possible 60-day jail term and \$1,000 fine — for less than one ounce of pot. Under the old law, possession of less than one ounce was a violation similar to a speeding ticket.

The new law also "opens up citizens to the risk of search, arrest, and civil asset forfeiture by

"FIREWORKS are the 4th of July—loud, colorful, & a bit dangerous."

law enforcement agencies," said LP member **Jon Zimmer**.

The goal of the petition drive is to gather 70,000 signatures by October 1st to suspend the new law and place it on the November, 1998, general election ballot.

Pennsylvania

Pittsburgh Libertarians have joined the "Good Sports" coalition to oppose a \$700 million stadium tax that will appear on the November 4th ballot. The goal of the group is to "blow the whistle on corporate welfare" by fighting the half-cent sales tax.

Undaunted by the fact that stadium supporters in other cities have outspent their opponents by ratios of 300 to 1, LP activist **Dan Sullivan** said, "A penny of truth is worth a dollar of propaganda."

The coalition has conducted a series of media interviews on the issue and handed out 10,000

fliers at July Fourth celebrations and Labor Day parades.

South Dakota

Newspaper editor **Bob Newland** has announced that he will seek the Libertarian nomination for governor in the 1998 election.

To kick off his campaign, he lambasted politicians for "wasting millions of dollars" locking up nonviolent drug offenders and for "taking our firearms and telling us it's for our own good."

If elected governor, Newland said, he'll immediately start lining up legislators to help him repeal every law that does not protect citizens from aggression — "in other words, at least half the laws in South Dakota."

Washington

An attempt by the city of Burien to ban fireworks has sparked opposition from local Libertarians, who are participating in debates and putting out yard signs in an attempt to defeat the November referendum.

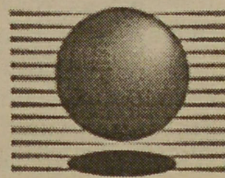
"Fireworks are the Fourth of July — loud, colorful, and a little dangerous," said **Matt McCally**, head of the Committee for a Traditional July Fourth. "Like our fundamental rights, they should be beyond political control."

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TALKINGPOINTS

The well-armed U.S. government, neosocialism, & biotech wonders

Neosocialism alive & well

Socialism is not dead, but alive and well and living in the regulatory agencies. The classical definition of socialism is public ownership of the means of production, distribution, and exchange. Socialism in that sense is dead.

No one has to nationalize industries — because the extraordinary growth of regulation has given effective control of them to the government. We can call it "Neosocialism." And it's right here.

Anyone who owns or manages a business must be aware of this neosocialism. They find hiring, firing, buying and selling, and just trying to operate vastly more complicated than they were fifteen or twenty years ago.

Socialism was advanced the first time under the banner of efficiency. It was supposed to be scientific. Planning was supposed to be rational. Today, neosocialism is being advanced under the banner not of efficiency, but of *equity*. It is supposed to make things fairer, more just. And this turns out to be an argument that is very difficult to resist.

The common thread, of course, is that the government still gets to tell the rest of us what to do. The central sociological fact about modern societies is the rise of what Irving Kristol has called "the New Class" — that group that makes its living from running the government and its ancillary manifestations.

The New Class is an international phenomenon. Take the European Union — this is a quintessential New Class creation. It is basically a supra-national bureaucracy built above the heads of the national legislatures.

EU rules required that all boots sold in Britain must come with a user's manual which includes this advice: "Each boot should be tried for fitting before use." Now, 18,000 European Union officials spend their time on this sort of invasive nonsense.

What can be done? As a boy in Australia during World War II, I dimly remember the headlines about the fall of Singapore, where the great guns notoriously faced out to sea. Nobody had ever imagined an attack could come over land. Nobody imagined this neosocialist attack on life, liberty,

MARC BEAUCHAMP
EDITOR

and the pursuit of happiness, either. Let me suggest that, as a first step, all of us who believe in private enterprise and individual responsibility make sure our guns are facing the right way.

— **RUPERT MURDOCH**

National Review, September 1

Let biotech grow

Biotechnology can give us microorganisms that act as vaccines, or that treat sewage and even clean up toxic wastes. Other techniques can shorten the time it takes a tree to grow to maturity.

Best of all, the benefits are not limited to the industrialized world. Biotechnology has been available almost immediately

many of these benefits.

The U.N.'s Trojan Horse here is the Biodiversity Treaty's international biosafety protocol — a euphemism for oppressive biotechnology regulations.

Take field trials of improved varieties of potatoes, corn, rice or cassava. No biologist, plant breeder or farmer would be allowed to grow and test a biotechnology-derived crop or garden plant even on a plot as small as one-tenth of an acre without prior, case-by-case approval from the U.N. bio-police.

Ironically, many proposed U.N. biotechnology regulations would actually stifle the development of environmentally friendly innovations that can help clean up toxic wastes, purify water and replace agricultural chemicals. Think of the chemical pesticides already made obsolete by pest- and disease-resistant varieties of wheat, rice, soybeans and other staple crops: all derived from biotechnology.

— **HENRY I. MILLER**

Hoover Institution

Washington Times, August 5

Double standard

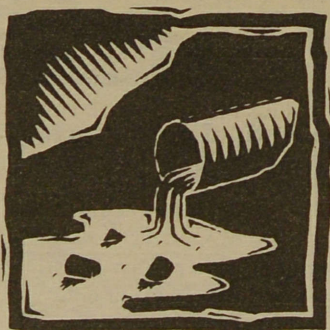
James Freeman, producer of the PBS show "Technopolitics," says he discovered a double standard at the Environmental Protection Agency during a visit to the agency in New York.

"You ask them: 'Who are your biggest polluters?' If you look at a list, you get people you'd expect. If you look at water pollution, it's a big GM truck plant, and guys who make machine tools and Corning and General Electric," Mr. Freeman said on NET television.

"But the Buffalo Sewer Authority actually puts out more toxic substances than all the corporations on their list of 200 combined! The corporate guys have to live under very tight restrictions, and the government guys don't, because they're not accountable. If you're going to get so strict regulating corporations, you ought to apply it to everyone, including the government. Then people in the government might realize some of these regulations are a little too strict."

— **INSIDE POLITICS**

Washington Times, August 6



POLLUTION:

"The corporate guys have to live under very tight restrictions, and the government guys don't."

outside the West. As it builds on traditional agriculture and microbiology to help improve regionally important crops, biotechnology leads directly to that highest goal of developmental politics: Self sufficiency. The U.N.'s proposals will nip this promise in the bud. A burdensome international bureaucracy enforcing ill-conceived regulation will stall, and even block,

Republicrats rule

The Republicans claim the tax cuts make the (budget) deal worthwhile. But the reductions amount to barely 1% of the revenue that the government will collect over the next five years, are partially offset by a number of new levies and give money to people who don't pay income taxes — thereby providing welfare in the name of tax reduction.

Alas, the Republicans are governing like Democrats — expanding government while preaching freedom.

— **DOUG BADOW**, Cato Institute
Syndicated column, August 6

Bureaucrats with guns

In the past couple of years we have witnessed the biggest arms buildup in the history of the federal government. I don't mean the Defense Department. The arms that are proliferating in Washington these days are at our own civilian population.

In 1996 alone, at least 2,349 new federal cops were authorized to carry firearms, according to the General Accounting Office. There are nearly 60,000 armed federal agents representing departments as diverse as the FBI, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Postal Service. Why do EPA agents need to be armed? Well, if you are in the business of seizing people's personal property in the name of saving endangered species, you might want to be armed, too. But is it wise policy? Is it in the spirit of the Constitution? Where do we draw the line?

— **JOSEPH FARAH**

Western Journalism Center

Washington Times, August 20

Money is good for politics

Campaign finance reform is nothing short of a frontal assault on the most basic of American freedoms, the freedom of expression.

When polls show that Americans place campaign finance reform near the bottom of their policy priorities, why are politicians and self-styled public interest groups like Common Cause and Public Citizen nearly apoplectic about taking money out of politics?

The short answer is that politicians don't like competition from well-financed opponents. "Public interest" groups resent the intrusion of private money into a world tightly controlled by the political class.

Since private money pays for information, the more of it there is in a campaign, the *more* candidates can communicate directly to the voters and the *weaker* the information gate-keeping powers of the media.

If Congress passed a law saying we could only spend \$1,000 a year on, say, computers, Americans would rise up and tell Congress we'll spend our own money as we darn well please, thank you very much.

Yet when it comes to something as important as expressing our political beliefs, we're supposed to say, sure Congress, whatever you say.

— **EDWARD H. CRANE**

Cato Institute

Washington Times, August 11

■ Send "Talking Points" contributions to Marc Beauchamp, 2231 Kings Garden Way, Falls Church VA, 22043. E-mail: mbeauch@ix.netcom.com

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ector and former State Chair of the hugely successful New Hampshire LP; Ron Crickenger, the LP's Political Director; Barbara Goushaw, campaign manager for Jon Coon's record-setting campaigns; and Michael Cloud, one of the LP's all-time champion fundraisers.

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— Steve Schaper
Chair, St. Louis LP Central Committee

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Success '97

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FIRST PERSON

Applying Theory Y: Why I'm a Libertarian

By Deborah Bishop

I'm a "kid nut," which is to say, I'm Nuts about Kids! From Scout leader, to step-parent, to foster parent, I've always found ways to keep kids in my life. I've also spent a lot of time studying to make sure that my involvement with children is as positive as I can make it. When I started researching the subject, I figured I'd find a plethora of different views that I could massage into a reasonable approach to growing happy, healthy children.

What I found instead surprised me. All the books and all the seminars seemed to have a common theme — and that theme was "personal responsibility."

In one way or another, they all stated that a happy child is one who is given more and more *responsibility* for his decisions and actions. They also agreed that it is important to allow a child to experience natural consequences for his actions, rather than imposing external, artificial consequences (i.e., punishments).

Since the findings were unanimous, they became the principal guideline for working with my foster children. The results were amazing. I found that children, even troubled ones, tended to grow the most when my partner and I gave them as much personal responsibility as they could handle. They seemed to learn the most and function the best when we limited our involvement in their daily decisions.

Over time, they thrived as they discovered their "new" abilities to influence their world and make themselves happy. And they tended to seek out and make more and more effective (some would say *good*) decisions about their own behavior. What a thrill: They were making this parenting stuff pretty darned easy!

Why do the rules change?

One day, while calculating my quarterly taxes, I started wondering why the rules change when we grow up. Why is it that children thrive on personal responsibility while we adults work better when we let others assume our responsibilities for us? Why do we encourage children *not* to call on us to solve their day-to-day problems, while we turn more and more to government to do it for us? What makes us so different from kids?

It really puzzled me, and I found myself scanning a shelf of old college texts, looking for some insight. I came across a book on personnel management, and I read a chapter on the two predominant theories of employee management.

The first, "Theory X," is based on the belief that employees must be carefully supervised to ensure that they are productive.

The second, "Theory Y," espoused the notion that employees flourish as they are *empowered*; that is, they are most effective when they are given responsibility and authority for regular decisions in the workplace. Wow! One treated employees like adults, and the other like children!

But which is which? Ironically enough, Theory Y is considered the "politically correct" approach to management. It also agrees with the generally accepted philosophy on effective parenting. So... what are we adults doing when we relinquish responsibility, issue by issue, to our "parents" — the government? Why is it okay to reject responsibility while encouraging children to do the opposite?

I don't believe it is. This is why I joined the Libertarian Party and became an activist. I believe that we are all children at heart, and we ought to start acting like it!

Deborah Bishop is a resident of Lakewood, Colorado. This essay is reprinted from the June 1997 issue of *Colorado Liberty*.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Do you have an interesting story to tell about your personal journey to libertarianism? Send a 500-word essay (and photo of yourself) for consideration in a future issue of *LP News*.

Why cars & pizza cost so much: The unseen burden of our taxes

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

LIBERTARIAN Solutions

By Bill Winter
LP News Editor

Would you like to buy a brand-new \$17,000 Ford Taurus for only \$9,350? And purchase gas to drive that new car for only 61¢ per gallon?

Want to order a piping hot, large-size \$12 Domino's pizza for only \$7.45? Want to pay only 79¢ for the next \$1.15 loaf of bread you buy at the supermarket?

And if you're having a party, would you like to pay only \$2.65 for a bottle of good whiskey, and 44¢ per bottle of premium beer?

Those are the prices you *would* pay, if the government wasn't taxing every product you buy, at every stage of its production, according to a study by Americans for Tax Reform (ATF), a non-partisan, Washington DC anti-tax group.

In other words, those are the prices you would pay if you lived in a *Libertarian* society — instead of a society where the cost of every product or service is artificially (but invisibly) raised by 26% to 75% because of taxes.

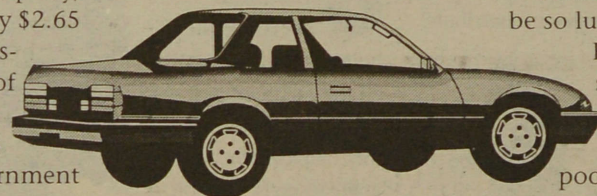
That's because the government (federal, state, county, and local) doesn't just tax a product when you buy it — it also taxes that product during every step of the production and distribution process.

For example, a company producing a can of soda is hit with at least 15 different taxes: Federal, state, and local income and workmen's compensation taxes for its employees; state and local

property taxes; energy taxes; and gas, tire, truck, and highway taxes to get the product to the supermarket. Each of those 15 taxes drives up the manufacturer's cost of doing business — and the price of the final product.

The result: A can of Coke or Pepsi that should cost you 32¢ costs you 50¢ — thanks to hidden taxes.

It's even worse with automobiles: ATF estimates that manu-



**THAT \$17,000
car would cost
you \$9,350 if
taxes didn't drive
up the price.**

facturers and car dealers pay 20 different taxes — each one contributing to the final sticker shock. The bottom line: It costs only \$9,350 to manufacture a car... but you pay \$17,000. The difference — a whopping \$7,650 — is pocketed by the government.

And the list goes on and on: Taxes account for 28% of the price of a restaurant meal; 38% of the cost of a pizza; 46% of the cost of a firearm; 75% of the cost of a pack of cigarettes; 43% of the

cost of beer; 72% of the price of liquor; 40% of the cost of an airline ticket; 31% of the price tag on a loaf of bread; 54% of the cost of gasoline; and 26% of the cost of electricity, according to ATF.

In other words, these hidden taxes are quietly picking your pocket every time you go to the store — while silently enriching the politicians and government bureaucrats.

But these taxes don't just impact your lifestyle: They have an even more dramatic effect on our nation's poor. After all, you may be able to afford to pay an extra 31% for a loaf of bread — but a person earning minimum wage, trying to buy bread to feed hungry children, may not be so lucky.

For liberals who constantly bemoan the plight of the poor, ask them: How would the poor benefit if every dollar they had to spend suddenly had *twice as much* purchasing power?

For conservatives who constantly lament the decline of the American family, ask them: How would American "family values" benefit if the price of feeding, clothing, housing, and transporting children suddenly plummeted by 30% to 50%?

A defender of big government once wrote: "Taxes are the price we pay for civilization."

He was wrong: Taxes are the price we pay for cars and gasoline that cost twice as much as they should; for electricity that is 26% too expensive; and for food that is 30% too expensive.

And more importantly, taxes are the price that America's poor pay for a government that pretends to help them — while significantly *decreasing* their standard of living, and silently eroding the value of every precious dollar they spend.

THE MAILBOX

The "For" Party

In the September 1997 issue of the *LP News* (The Anti-Party?), Steven C. Russell gives some great reasons why the LP should focus on positive things rather than being "anti-this, anti-that." This reminds me of a conversation I had with a Republican

about 10 or 12 years ago.

After it came up in conversation that I was a Libertarian, the Republican said something to the effect of, "Oh, you Libertarians — you're against everything!"

I responded that we Libertarians are not "against" anything.

Rather, we stand *for* such things as smaller government, lower taxes, personal freedom and personal responsibility. Thus, the Democrats and Republicans are actually "against" everything since they oppose these views.

It is unfortunate that so

See **MAILBOX** Page 17

THE MAILBOX

many of us have such negative views of our beliefs. A simple paradigm shift, such as the thought that Libertarians stand for the good, will prove that we hold the moral high ground.

DONALD J. HENNIG
Council Bluffs, Iowa

For and against

Steven Russell, in his letter in the September 1997 *LP News*, said that we need to be more than anti-government, we need to be for something, too.

The "something" libertarians are for is *liberty*. Unfortunately, liberty is an "absence concept." Liberty is the absence of coercion.

Health and silence are similar to liberty. Health is the absence of disease, and silence is the absence of noise.

To those proposing diseases, health advocates sound very "anti"—anti-cholera, anti-cancer, anti-AIDS, etc. Silence proponents are anti-loud music, anti-screaming, and anti-jack hammer.

The key to effective advocacy is to concisely state what you are for, as well as against. A good formula in public speaking is: Because I am *for* (liberty, education, public health, stability, etc.), I have to be *against* government involvement in (schooling, meat inspection, victimless crimes, etc.).

TOM GLASS
Houston, Texas

82% tax rate

Considering the Republican self congratulations and bipartisan solidarity over the new budget deal, we should be

asking our politicians and sending in letters-to-the-editor this question: Has anything happened that will reduce the expected 82% income tax rate that Clinton proposes for today's three-year-olds when they start working? Why not?

TOM MARTIN
Mentor, Ohio

Spiritual kinfolk

In your August issue, C.J. Chambers wrote the *LP News* saying the Libertarian Party isn't tough enough on the Republicans about non-economic issues. The writer says it is a "fact that the Republican Party is infiltrated with the neo-nazis of the Christian Coalition."

This is the kind of statement which makes Christians feel lonely in the LP. Some Christians I know support the Christian Coalition. But not a single one is even close to being a neo-nazi. Yes, the Christian Coalition is too statist, but so are most of the political organizations in this country.

Although I don't support the Christian Coalition, they are still my spiritual kinfolk. I don't appreciate attacks on them.

MARK FORSHEE
Farmington Hills, Michigan

New member fund?

Has anyone ever started a fund to pay the first year membership dues for people who are interested in our ideas but aren't willing to make a \$25 commitment at this time? After getting more involved and informed about the assault on our most basic liberties, they will soon be more than willing to pay the membership fees (or much more) to a political party that stands up for those most basic liberties.

JOSH CORN
Redlands, California

Jefferson Award

I'm proud to call myself a Libertarian after reading of the Libertarian Party's key role in fighting off martial law in Huntington Beach, California (September 1997). It's heartening to see my fellow libertarians battle oppressive government in the here and now, taking on unpopular but vital issues. I'm reminded of one main reason I moved to this country: There are still people here willing to speak out for freedom.

I was ecstatic to read of Elizabeth Macron's crucial victory against the New Jersey government's seizure of an innocent woman's car. Asset forfeiture is a vicious practice that must be stopped, and, if and when it's stopped, libertarians will have played a key role.

Thank you, Richard Boddie
See **MAILBOX** Page 18

THE PULSE

The most important issue: Taxes

Taxes, taxes, taxes — that's the single most important issue that the Libertarian Party should focus on, according to party members who responded to last month's Pulse survey.

An overwhelming 48% selected reducing, simplifying, or eliminating taxes as the one issue that the LP and its candidates should highlight to win more public support and/or votes. Out of that number, 20% specifically mentioned the IRS or the income tax.

Coming in a distant second was protecting "Liberty" in general, with 17% of the vote. Specifically mentioned were personal liberty issues, the right to privacy, and simply getting the government to "leave us alone."

Defending the Constitution or Bill of Rights was the third most popular answer, with 11% of the vote.

Rounding out the vote were numerous other issues, all in single digits — such as the Second Amendment, ending Drug Prohibition, educational freedom, term limits, and ending foreign deployment of U.S. troops.

Here's a sampling of the responses, and the reasons why Libertarians picked their "one most important" issue:

■ The single issue the party should highlight is *lower taxes*. Why? Because everyone can see how much taxes they pay. Everyone can understand and welcome a lower tax rate.

— **JEFFREY KRADIN**, Delray Beach, Florida

■ . . . Our Constitution. Our government was established as one of limited powers. Libertarians must emphasize how wise the Founders were, that their primary interest was in liberty, why they felt freedom was so important, and why they created the historic document they did.

— **CHARLES S. REBERT**, Redwood City, California

■ . . . Repeal of drug prohibition. Prohibition is now doing more damage to our fundamental rights than even the IRS. It is the easiest to use, and most flexible, excuse our rulers have for justifying each new abrogation of the Constitution which the bureaucrats and cops invent.

— **PATRICK L. LILLY**, Colorado Springs, Colorado

■ Retaining personal liberties must be our primary objective. Stopping our government from making criminals out of good citizens has always been the primary goal of our great party.

— **LISA HOFFMAN**, Bear Creek, Missouri

■ We have out-of-control federal government with out-of-control taxation, all based on a growing and relentless violating of the Constitution. Unless the federal government is reined in, our destiny is tyranny.

— **TOM CLUNIE**, Santa Cruz, California

■ Since we Libertarians know that everyone is entitled to keep and dispose of the fruits of their labor, we must relentlessly oppose taxation and the Internal Revenue Service with unwavering vitality.

— **BILL MURLEY**, Holiday, Florida

■ I vote for Liberty. Because no other party will even mention the word. They, instead, want to trade some of what little liberty we have left for some fake security hype they can convince us that they and only they can provide us.

— **MERRITT J. RUCKER**, Belen, New Mexico

■ . . . Removal of U.S. troops from foreign assignments. Training troops to preserve peace by protecting our own shores is a fundamental tenet of the LP, a policy that should appeal to parents and friends of men in service.

— **MARY R. KHAN**, Morgan Hill, California

See page 18 for November's Pulse question of the month.

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THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 17

and other libertarians of Huntington Beach and thank you, Elizabeth Macron. If there were a Jefferson award, you would all deserve it.

DAVID R. HENDERSON
Pacific Grove, California

Recruiting young people

I am writing to commend the staff of *LP News* for the great improvements made in the September issue. The presentation of the paper itself looks great, and is something I would be proud to display on my coffee table. "Libertarian Solutions" and "The Issues" are both great additions to the paper.

Since joining the party in the last presidential election, I have made it one of my top priorities to convert as many friends as I can to the libertarian philosophy, and I now feel I have another tool to use, the new and improved *LP News*.

I am 19 years old, so the pool of people I have tried to recruit from are all more or less of the same age. The good news is that they seem to be as sick of government as the older crowd, and much more open-minded to alternatives. In fact, in most cases

they were already libertarians at heart and didn't even know it.

I have found that a simple half-hour presentation is all that is needed for them to recognize that there are other choices, and that there are people out there fighting for changes that would have a profound effect on their lives. They don't care about capital gains cuts, they don't care about a balanced budget amendment — these issues have no effect on their lives. But when you tell them that libertarians fight for an America with little or no taxation and the restoration of individual freedom, these people begin to care.

In my experience, that is all that it takes. The youth of this country are looking for alternatives, we just have to provide them with one.

CHRIS AKEMAN
Atlanta, Georgia

Racial refusal

I like the LP's anti-ethnic campaign for the next census (September 1997).

The whole racial classification idea is ludicrous. I live with someone whose parents were born in Spain, but when she was in AT&T management the com-

pany refused to let her train "Hispanic" managers because she was too — *unHispanic? white?* — yet for promotion labeled her a disadvantaged Spanish-surnamed minority.

I have a black neighbor from Haiti, so he's recently Caribbean out of ancestral Africa, but with a French surname and native language, he's not "Hispanic" — what census label?

What about our Arab population? Geographers place their homeland in Asia, along with Israel, but everybody here considers both groups to be white, no matter how dark their skin.

The whole concept is a sad joke. We may all be "out of Africa" originally, but we're all here together now. There is no constitutional basis for asking where our ancestors have been, and no libertarian reason to care.

I believe it's a good issue for the LP to use to gain support — Repulocrat politicians will want to continue dividing Americans into separate and mutually hostile tribes, each seeking special benefits and protections from Washington, and America is getting sick of it.

BOB MULTER

Rindge, New Hampshire

Frivolous buying?

Kim Kotheimer's letter in the September *LP News* illustrates how desperately the libertarian message needs to be heard.

Kotheimer believes people buy whatever advertisers put before them, apparently to the point of bankruptcy, leading to exhaustion of "the planet's irreplaceable natural resources." She concludes that "the moment of truth" is coming, so "why take chances?"

Why indeed? Because only a dictatorship could (try to) prevent people from buying things. Kotheimer fails to understand that what she considers frivolous buying is price sensitive. If resources become depleted, prices will rise and sales will slow or cease, preserving the resources. The market will adjust by creating more appropriate products.

Regardless, Kotheimer's view is no solution. If she were to succeed in preventing people from "taking chances" (by prohibiting markets), she would only create a state system of such inflexibility that it would preclude solving resource depletion problems inadvertently caused by the state, thereby producing the very doom she seeks to avoid.

GREGORY M. FAHY, PH.D.
Gaithersburg, Maryland

Defending the NRA

A letter writer's objection to the NRA, that it only endorses Republican candidates, is simply not true (September 1997).

Unlike the LP, the NRA is a single issue association with millions of members of all political persuasions: Gun owners who want their government to abide by the Second Amendment. That sentiment is the NRA's prime directive and the source of its political clout. It is naive to expect the NRA to risk its political success on wider philosophical goals. Backing candidates without a chance of winning would be a disservice to its members. The LP must *earn* NRA support by fielding viable candidates.

Faulting the NRA for doing what works is ideological snobbery.

MICHAEL E. SKOVAN

Clinton Corners, New York

Grassroots efforts

The September *LP News* was the best issue ever. I particularly liked the articles on grassroots efforts to restore our rights.

MIKE STONE

Danbury, Connecticut

Winter appointed new LP News editor

The Libertarian National Committee, Inc., has appointed Bill Winter as the new editor of *LP News*.

Winter, who also serves as the party's Director of Communications at LP national headquarters in Washington, DC, got the nod at the LNC's meeting on August 16th. He replaces Randy Langhenry, who stepped down as editor in July.

As editor, Winter said he will "work to make *LP News* a newspaper that, every month, makes people proud to be in the Libertarian Party."

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THE PULSE

November Pulse Question of the Month:

Does the Libertarian Party have an "image" problem? If so, why—and what can be done about it?
(Please keep your answers to 100 words or less.)

Who can enter? Any LP member or subscriber to *LP News*. Include your name; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month, please.

When is the deadline? October 10th, 1997.

Where should I send my answer?

■ Via e-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include the word "Pulse" in the subject line.)

■ Via fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse)

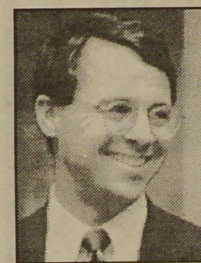
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The Pulse is a regular monthly feature of *LP News*, designed to keep a finger on "the pulse" of Libertarian Party members by offering a series of non-scientific public opinion polls.

Every month, we'll ask a question about some political, cultural, or strategic issue of interest to Libertarians. The following month, we'll report back the results. We'll tell you which answers were most popular, and print some of the most interesting and representative responses.

Do you have a suggestion for a future "Pulse" question? Send your suggestion to the same address or phone/fax/e-mail numbers above.

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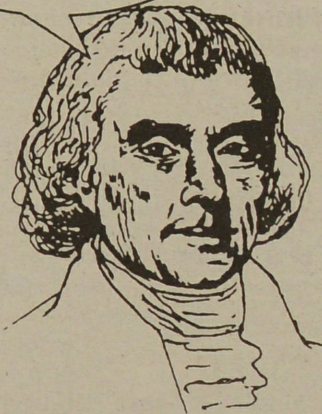
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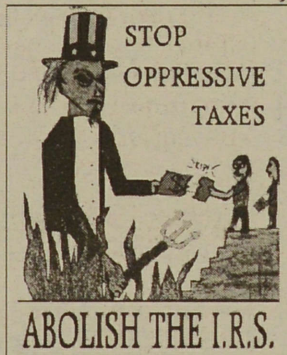
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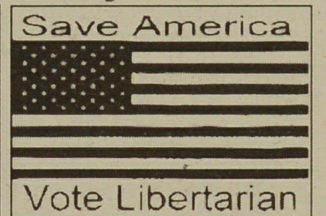


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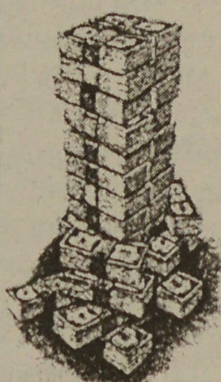
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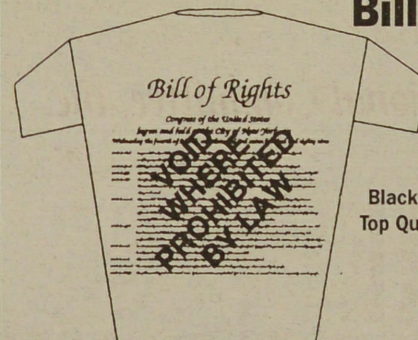
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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 4, 1997:

South Dakota LP State Convention, Chamberlin, SD.
Speaker: Bob Newland (LP candidate for governor). For information, call 605-352-4559.

October 18, 1997:

Connecticut LP State Convention, Holiday Inn, Hartford, CT.
Speakers Ray Dunaway (WTIC talk show host) & Dr. Howard Grayson (FIJA). For information call 860-666-6385.

October 18-19, 1997:

Maryland LP Convention and Campaign Workshop,
Gaithersburg, Maryland. For information call 410-239-0396.

October 18, 1997:

New Hampshire LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Nashua, NH.
Speakers include Nadine Strossen (ACLU), Jacob Hornberger, & Barbara Goushaw. For information call 603-627-3666.

October 18-19, 1997:

Success '97, Los Angeles, CA. For information call 202-333-0085.

October 25, 1997:

Hawaii LP Convention. Speakers include Marshall Fritz & Jacob Hornberger. For information call 808-487-4959.

October 25, 1997

Defender of Liberty Awards Banquet. Featuring David Boaz (Cato Institute), Jon Coon, & Michael Cloud. Advance

reservations required. At the Northfield Hilton in Troy, Michigan. For tickets, call 248-626-6322. Or e-mail: BGoush@aol.com.

October 26, 1997

Fundraising Seminar. Speakers: Barbara Goushaw & Michael Cloud. Near Detroit's Metropolitan Airport in Michigan. For reservations, call 810-784-8783. E-Mail: stacyvo@eesc.com.

October 30, 1997:

Heartland Institute's 13th Anniversary Benefit & Dinner, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont, Illinois. Speakers include Tanya Metaksa (NRA). For information, call 847-202-3060.

November 8-9, 1997:

Success '97, Denver, CO. For information call 202-333-0085.

November 15-16, 1997:

SLAM! State Libertarian Activists' Meeting, Las Colinas Wingate Inn, near Dallas/Fort Worth airport. For information, call Texas LP Chairman Jay Manifold at 972-405-8634.

November 21-22, 1997

Separation of School & State Alliance Conference, Arlington, Virginia. Speakers: Howard Phillips, Joseph Sobran, & John Taylor Gatto. For information, call 888-338-1776.

July 2-5, 1998:

Libertarian Party National Convention, Washington, DC; for information call 202-333-0008.

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INSIDE

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Murray Sabrin struggles
to qualify for NJ debate

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abolishes city agency

■ **PAGE 9** *"Yes, I'm*
a libertarian, too!"



FIRST WORD

These days, as more and more parents abandon their traditional duties, the government has started wasting time and money providing us with the advice that Mom used to give us: Wear your seat belt, wear a helmet, don't drink, don't drink and drive, don't have sex, don't do drugs, don't smoke, and stop that or you'll go blind! In what started out as a well-intentioned attempt to deal with the breakup of the family, the government is now teaching us what we used to learn at the kitchen table — whether it's sex education, nutritional advice, or why Daddy is living with his secretary. The point is, the government is treating us like children, and that's Mom's job. Does anyone have a problem with that?" — BILL MAHER, *Politically Incorrect*