

# LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle®



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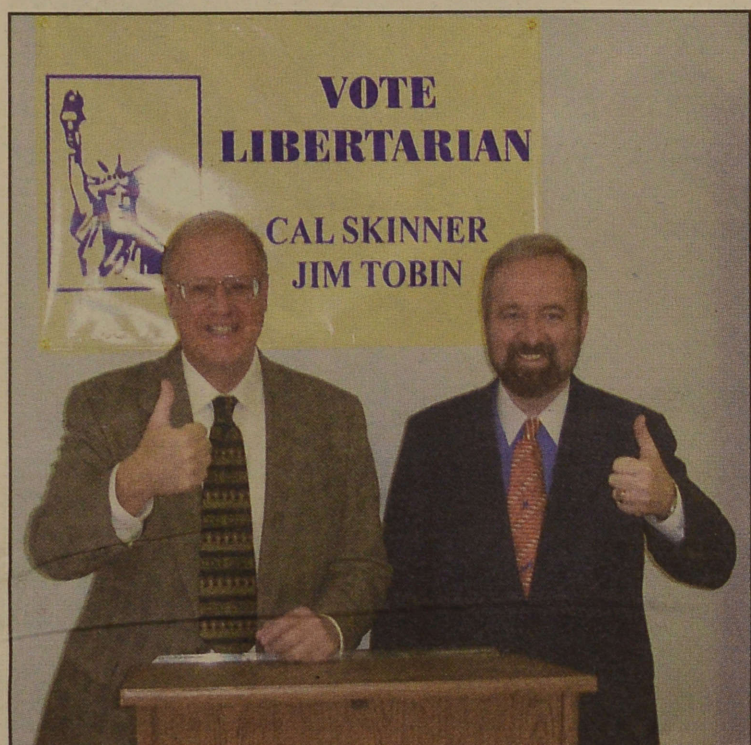
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■ Former eight-term state legislator Cal Skinner, Jr. (l) has won the gubernatorial nomination of the Illinois LP. With his running mate, Jim Tobin, president of Taxpayers United of Illinois, he promised to cause a "political earthquake" during his campaign.

## Illinois Libertarians pick ex-legislator for governor

A former eight-term state legislator in Illinois has won the Libertarian Party nomination for governor, and is promising to use his experience and media savvy to cause a "political earthquake" during his campaign.

Cal Skinner, Jr. received the endorsement at the LP state convention in Rolling Meadows on March 24.

Skinner, who served 16 years as a Republican in the State House, convincingly defeated LP member Gary Christ to earn the nomination. He will be joined on the LP ticket by lieutenant gubernatorial candidate Jim Tobin, president of Taxpayers United of Illinois.

The 59-year-old Skinner said getting the LP nomination was an "exhilarating experience."

### Greater autonomy

"I [am] privileged to win the nomination of Illinois Libertarians who stand, by their very nature, for less power in Springfield [the state capital], and greater autonomy for the citizens of Illinois," he said.

Skinner, who became a dues-paying LP member on March 23, brings

to the race a lengthy political history and knowledge of the inner-workings of government.

First elected to the state legislature in 1972, Skinner took a hiatus from statewide politics after losing a race for state comptroller in 1982. He successfully ran for the House District 64 seat again in 1992.

During his latest tenure in the legislature, Skinner served as the Republican spokesman on the Appropriations Committee. *See ILLINOIS Page 15*

By Jonathan Trager  
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

It's been called "the hottest think tank in Washington" by *Rolling Stone* magazine.

It's "an indispensable source of expertise," says the *New Republic*.

It's the "least whorish and most intellectually honest of Washington's think tanks," according to the *Financial Times Energy Economist*.

And in May, freedom-lovers will gather in America's capital to wish

## LP joins lawsuit to overturn campaign finance reform law

*Law imposes "unfair burden" on smaller political parties*

The Libertarian Party has become a plaintiff in a lawsuit to overturn the new campaign finance reform law, charging the measure places an "unfair burden" on smaller political parties.

At a press conference in the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington, DC on April 10, Libertarian Party Executive Director Steve Dasbach joined U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and others to sign onto the lawsuit, *McConnell v. FEC*.

The suit seeks to overturn the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act — formally known as the Shays-Meehan bill — which was signed into law by President Bush on March 27.

Also publicly joining the lawsuit at the press conference were the ACLU, the National Right to Life Committee, the Christian Coalition of America, the 60 Plus Association, Associated Builders and Contractors, and the James Madison Center for Free Speech.

### Two dozen groups

In all, about two dozen groups and individuals are now plaintiffs in the lawsuit, which was originally filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, DC in late March.

*McConnell v. FEC* charges that the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act violates the First Amendment rights of Americans by restricting their ability to "fully participate in the political process."

The Libertarian Party joined the



■ LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach (r) shakes hands with U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell at a press conference on Capitol Hill. At the event, the Libertarian Party announced it would join McConnell's lawsuit against the campaign finance reform law.

lawsuit in part because the campaign finance reform law has a disproportionate impact on third parties, said Dasbach.

"Once again, Congress has passed a law with no thought to the consequences — and especially with no thought to the consequences to anyone other than Republicans and Democrats," he said. "This law places an unfair burden on all smaller parties, which have fewer resources and

staff members to deal with its red-tape provisions."

Specifically, said Dasbach, the law will:

■ Make it illegal for young people to serve in some leadership positions in the Libertarian Party. Since the law bans people under 18 from contributing to political parties, and since many state Libertarian parties require party officers to be dues-paying mem-

*See LAWSUIT Page 2*

## Cato Institute celebrates 25 years of growth, influence

the libertarian Cato Institute a "happy birthday," honoring its role in advancing libertarianism over the past 25 years.

During three days of celebration, highlighted by a gala banquet on May 9, libertarians will celebrate Cato's influence, prosperity, and lofty standing on the world political scene.

At the event, the organization will



present the first-ever Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty — a \$500,000 award — to an undeclared nominee who has made

"an exceptional contribution to the cause of freedom."

The banquet will feature such distinguished guests as former English Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Italian defense minister Antonio

Martino, ABC News reporter John Stossel, and author and Cato Institute fellow P.J. O'Rourke.

And it will offer special publications to attendees, including a special 25-year Annual Report highlighting some of its accomplishments and a collection of pro-liberty essays entitled *Toward Liberty: The Idea That Is Changing the World*, edited by Cato Executive Vice President David Boaz.

"I'm very proud that we've lasted this long," said Boaz. "Just in terms

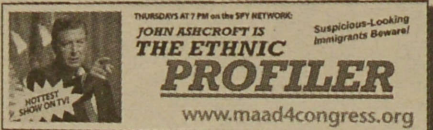
*See CATO Page 18*



## NEWS BRIEFS

### Billboard sparks publicity for LP candidate

**A**n LP candidate for U.S. Congress in California has made headlines with a tongue-in-cheek billboard that denounces ethnic profiling.



Maad Abu-Ghazalah, who is campaigning for the District 12 seat, erected the billboard on February 28. The sign has since drawn coverage from the *San Mateo County Times*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, the local NBC newscast, and a local Spanish television station.

Located along Highway 101 in Belmont, the 14' x 16' billboard shows Attorney General John Ashcroft promoting a fictitious television series called "The Ethnic Profiler." The sign also lists Abu-Ghazalah's website: [www.maad4congress.org](http://www.maad4congress.org).

"I was told that a key to a [successful] campaign is to ensure a constant flow of publicity," said Abu-Ghazalah. "For a third-party candidate, that means we sometimes have to resort to 'guerrilla' campaign tactics to ensure some level of coverage."

The billboard cost \$1,500 to produce, and \$15,000 to display in March. Abu-Ghazalah said the sign is part of his campaign to appeal to the 60% of voters in his district who are of foreign origin.

He faces incumbent Democrat Tom Lantos and Republican challenger Mike Moloney in the election. Both have expressed support for ethnic profiling in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

"Ethnic profiling is objectionable to the very foundation of what it means to be American," said Abu-Ghazalah. "Let us not let our valid concern for our security blind us into conducting a broad witch hunt against people based on their ethnicity."

### Father/son team runs for office in Maine

**F**red Staples and Brian Staples are giving new meaning to the phrase, "like father, like son" by both running for public office in Maine this year.

State LP Executive Director Fred Staples is running for U.S. Senate, while his son, Brian, is a candidate for State House.

Their campaigns are part of what Fred Staples calls his "50-50 plan," in which he aims to run 50 candidates for office and raise \$50,000 for the state party.

"I am aggressively recruiting candidates to run as paper candidates," he said. "After some candidates know their names will be listed on the ballot, they inevitably put more effort into their campaign."

Fred Staples, 47, will actively challenge incumbent Republican Susan Collins and a Democratic challenger for the U.S. Senate seat.

"My campaign is going to focus on the War on Americans," he said. "It's a war on drugs, on income, and on liberty. I will be making the case for a return to Constitutional limits."

Meanwhile, 21-year-old Brian Staples, a part-time student and car salesman, will run for the District 17 seat in the State House.

LP State Chair Mark Cenci predicted that both father and son will be excellent candidates for the Libertarian Party.

"I think it's fantastic that Fred and Brian decided to campaign under the Libertarian banner," he said. "Obviously, running for office runs in their family."

### Ayn Rand to be profiled on C-SPAN program

**N**ovelist and philosopher Ayn Rand will be recognized as one of the most influential American writers of the 20th Century in an ongoing series on C-SPAN.

On Sunday, May 12, Rand will be the subject of a two-hour show that will discuss her background, her literary influence, and the impact of her 1943 novel, *The Fountainhead*.

The show will broadcast live from Hollywood at 3:00 pm ET, and then be rebroadcast the following Friday (May 17) at 8:00 pm.

The Russian-born author joins fellow libertarian H.L. Mencken, as well as F. Scott Fitzgerald, Ernest Hemingway, Jack Kerouac, and William Faulkner on the series, *American Writers II: The 20th Century*.

On the show, experts will discuss Rand's work, visit sites important to her, and read excerpts from Rand's novels, speeches, and essays.

Rand (1905-1982), whose novels and non-fiction work heavily influenced the founders and early rhetoric of the Libertarian Party, was described by C-SPAN as advocating an "anticommunist philosophy" that believed "capitalism is most congenial to the exercise of talent."

Rand is the author of *Atlas Shrugged* (1957), *We, the Living* (1934), *For the New Intellectual* (1961), and *The Virtue of Selfishness* (1964).

For more information about the series, visit: [www.cspan.org](http://www.cspan.org).



■ Ayn Rand: Will be on C-SPAN

# Party becomes plaintiff in lawsuit against campaign finance 'reform'

Continued from Page 1

bers, the law locks young people out of many LP leadership roles, he said.

■ Make it illegal for the party to take soft money contributions to build a headquarters, as the Republicans and Democrats have already done.

■ Make it illegal for the party to sell ads to corporations in its monthly newspaper, or to rent its mailing list, since that revenue is classified as "contributions."

■ Require Libertarian state parties to file with the Federal Election Commission (FEC) if the national party shares membership dues with them, since the law more strictly regulates the financial relationship between national and state parties.

"Some provisions of the campaign finance reform law won't matter to the Republicans or Democrats, but they will have a significant impact on the Libertarian Party and other third parties," said Dasbach.

#### Stamp out corruption

The campaign finance law is also unfair because its stated purpose — to stamp out the perception of corruption among elected federal officials — does not apply to third parties, said Dasbach.

"Supporters of campaign finance reform say the law will end the 'obscene' flow of money to elected officials in Washington, DC, and end the public perception that elected officials can be bought and sold," he said. "But even though the Libertarian Party has yet to elect any U.S. House or U.S. Senate members, we are still forced to suffer under the law's restrictive provisions."

"That's why we are joining this lawsuit to overturn this flawed, unconstitutional, and destructive law."

#### Only one goal

Before joining the lawsuit, the Libertarian Party had criticized the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act as an "Incumbent Protection Act" that "has only one goal: Protecting the jobs of Capitol Hill incumbents."

In a February press release, the Libertarian Party noted the law — then called the Shays-Meehan bill —



■ LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach (r) talks to ACLU attorney Floyd Abrams at a press conference in Washington, DC on April 10. The ACLU also joined the lawsuit against the campaign finance reform law, charging it "creates more problems with the nation's campaign finance system than it solves."

would shut off funding for challengers by banning unrestricted "soft money" contributions to national political parties.

"Even though soft money is relatively insignificant, much of it goes to challengers — which explains why incumbents want to ban it," said Dasbach at the time.

"In contrast, most contributions from political action committees are funneled into the campaigns of incumbents, which explains why politicians who pretend to be appalled by the role of money in politics left PAC money untouched."

The bill would also stifle criticism of incumbents, said Dasbach.

"Shays-Meehan makes it a crime to mention the name of a federal can-

didate in any radio or television ad run by a corporation or labor union within 60 days of an election," he noted. "This gag-the-opposition strategy isn't just unconstitutional; it's positively un-American."

#### Center for Free Speech

Attorneys for *McConnell v. FEC* include First Amendment lawyer Floyd Abrams, former Solicitor General Ken Starr, and James Bopp, general counsel for the James Madison Center for Free Speech.

Separate lawsuits against the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act have also been filed by the National Rifle Association (NRA), and the American Center for Law and Justice, which sued on behalf of six teenagers.

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#### NATIONAL CHAIR:

Jim Lark  
P.O. Box 274 ♦ Free Union, VA 22940  
E-mail: [chair@lp.org](mailto:chair@lp.org)



#### EDITOR:

Bill Winter

#### STAFF WRITER:

Jonathan Trager

#### PUBLISHER:

Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

#### EDITOR EMERITUS:

Karl Hess ♦ 1923-1994

SEND NEWS, LETTERS, ESSAYS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR ADVERTISING:  
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.  
Attn: LP News  
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100  
Washington, DC 20037  
Phone: (202) 333-0008 x 226  
E-mail: [Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org](mailto:Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org)

SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS/ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE ADDRESS ABOVE:  
Attn: Membership Department  
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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."



# Ed Thompson at 7% in Wisconsin governor's poll

*"Common man" candidate enjoys flurry of nationwide media coverage*

**R**iding a wave of national publicity, the Ed Thompson for governor campaign in Wisconsin has passed \$100,000 in fundraising and is showing up at 7% in a new statewide poll.

The Libertarian candidate also stepped down as mayor of Tomah to dedicate himself full-time to his campaign.

"I chose not to run again for mayor of Tomah," said Thompson in his farewell State of the City speech on April 9. "I know what a job I have ahead of me for running for Governor of the state of Wisconsin."

Thompson had served a two-year term as mayor, before declining to run again in the April election.

Instead, he said, he would put his "full energy" into his campaign for governor.

"People from one end of the state to the other are telling me they're sick of what's going on," he said. "They want a common man with common sense — and that's what I plan to bring."

## Financial support

Thompson's "common man" appeal has already translated into financial support: In late February, the campaign filed documents with the Wisconsin State Elections Board, reporting just over \$105,000 in contributions. And by early April, the campaign had passed \$150,000.

"My campaign has already raised more than any other third party candidate has in Wisconsin history," said Thompson. "We are ahead of where Jesse Ventura was at this point in his campaign [in Minnesota]."

In March, Thompson received 7% in a survey of 500 Wisconsin voters conducted by Public Opinion Strategies. The poll, the first major poll to include Thompson, was published in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* and had a margin of error of about 4%. About 21% were undecided.

The polling results were about equal of those of Ventura at a similar point in his successful gubernatorial run in 1998, noted Thompson.

Thompson's popularity may have been boosted by a flurry of national media attention.

In March, his campaign was featured on the Fox News channel, on National Public Radio, and in the *Washington Post*. In addition, the *New York Times Magazine* promised to cover the April 13 state LP convention in Madison, where Thompson received the Libertarian nomination.

Josh Thompson, Ed's son and campaign manager, said he was "pleasantly surprised" by the national exposure the campaign is receiving.

"Journalists are recognizing the Ed Thompson campaign is a slice of Americana," he said. "Ed's just a regular guy with great name recognition and a great personality, and that



■ Ed Thompson greets a supporter at a fundraising event held at the Belmont Casino in Fort Atkinson. "There were so many Ed Thompson signs around that the Belmont casino looked as much like a campaign headquarters as a tavern," said campaign manager Josh Thompson.

makes for an interesting story."

Thompson's media blitz kicked off on March 12 with a front-page article in the Style Section of the *Washington Post*. The *Post*, widely considered the most politically influential newspaper in America, has a daily circulation of about 800,000.

## Offbeat past

The article, entitled, "The candidate on tap," highlighted Thompson's offbeat past, his delicate political relationship with his brother (and former governor) Tommy Thompson, and his tenacious campaign for Wisconsin's highest office.

Most surprisingly, the article was generally sympathetic, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

"The *Washington Post*, running a favorable article about a Libertarian candidate. Who'd of believed it?" he asked. "But that's the case here. The *Washington Post* reporter clearly decided that Ed is an engaging personality — even if the experts still say his campaign is a long-shot."

The article outlined Thompson's colorful resume — boxer, bartender, butcher, poker player, and prison guard — as well as the tavern owner's clashes with the law. It also detailed Thompson's rise to mayor of Tomah,

his decision to run for governor, and life on the campaign trail.

On March 16, National Public Radio aired a four-minute piece in which NPR reporter Chuck Quirmbach followed Thompson to a Holiday Inn in Jainesville. A former boxer, Thompson judged a boxing match as a publicity event.

Three days later, Thompson made an appearance on the prime-time Fox News cable program *On the Record with Greta Van Susteren*.

Thompson admitted he stumbled a bit during the interview, but said his communication skills are constantly improving.

"It's hard being alone in a room with just a camera and an earpiece, and you can't see the host at all," he said. "Plus I was just sitting there waiting for about 50 minutes before they even got to me. I'll get better though, I know it."

## The Today Show

In early April, the *Today Show* filmed Thompson on the campaign trail as he spoke at a University of Wisconsin campus, addressed a charter school in Milwaukee, shook hands at a campaign stop in Baraboo, and held a fundraiser in Waukesha.

In the November election, Thompson will face incumbent Republican Governor Scott McCallum and a yet-to-be-decided Democrat.

For more information, visit: [www.edthompson.com](http://www.edthompson.com). Or call: (608) 374-2537. Or write: Ed Thompson for Wisconsin Governor, P.O. Box 710 Tomah, WI 54660-1509.

# U.S. Rep. Ron Paul set to speak at Convention

**T**he only libertarian in the U.S. Congress has been confirmed to speak at the 2002 LP national convention in Indianapolis, Indiana — along with the president of the largest taxpayers organization in America.

Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) and John Berthoud of the National Taxpayers Union will address delegates during the July 3-7 convention, announced LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach.

Also confirmed to speak are 1972 LP presidential candidate John Hospers, 2002 Maryland gubernatorial candidate Spear Lancaster, 2002 Iowa gubernatorial candidate Clyde Cleveland, and English author/activist Sarah Lawrence.

## Blast from the past

"The speakers at this convention will cover the entire 30 years of the party's history," said Dasbach. "It will be a blast from the past for convention delegates. Any Libertarian will enjoy hearing from these experienced defenders of American liberty."

Leading the list of high-profile lib-

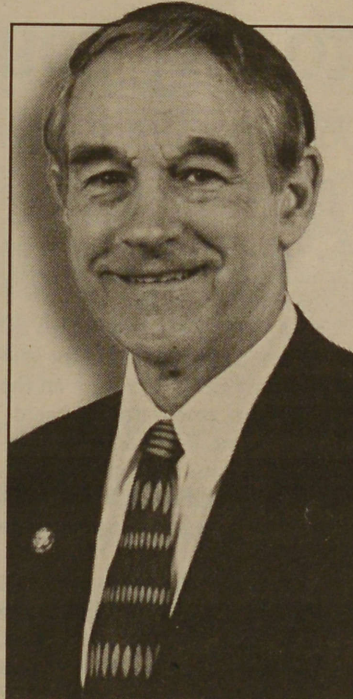
ertarians is Congressman Ron Paul, who former Treasury Secretary William Simon has described as "the one exception to the Gang of 535" on Capitol Hill.

Known as "Dr. No" for his refusal to vote for anything not authorized by the U.S. Constitution, Paul has received awards from such organizations as the National Taxpayers Union, Citizens Against Government Waste, and Young Americans for Freedom.

The soft-spoken libertarian was elected to the U.S. House in 1978. He served until 1986, when he returned to his medical practice in Surfside, Texas.

Paul resigned from the GOP in 1987, writing a letter to the national chairman of the GOP in which he said "there is no credibility left for the Republican Party as a force to reduce the size of government."

In 1988, Paul won the Libertarian Party presidential nomination, and appeared on the ballot in 46 states. He and vice presidential candidate Andre Marrou garnered over 430,000



■ Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) was described as the one principled "exception to the Gang of 535" in Washington, DC.

votes in the general election.

Paul remained outside of politics for the next 10 years, before stunning the Republican Party establishment by winning a primary election for his old U.S. House seat in 1998. He defeated a Democrat-turned-

See **CONVENTION** Page 30

# Nat. Committee calls for repeal of USA/Patriot Act

**T**he Libertarian National Committee has voted to call for the repeal of the USA/Patriot Act, charging that it "sacrifices" the liberties of American citizens.

At its meeting in Evergreen, Colorado on March 16, the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) voted 10 to zero, with one abstention, to urge the repeal of the bill, which was rushed through Congress in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

The resolution said the USA/Patriot Act "sacrifices many of our liberties and curtails many of our freedoms in the name of military security, thereby compromising some of the purposes for which [the United States] government was created."

## "Curtailling rights"

While "securing our liberties and protecting our rights are among the primary purposes of the United States government," Libertarians "do not support sacrificing our liberties and curtailment of our rights in the name of military security," the resolution noted.

**THE USA/PATRIOT Act "sacrifices many of our liberties and curtails many of our freedoms in the name of military security."**

—LNC Resolution

Therefore, "the Libertarian National Committee calls for the repeal of the USA/Patriot Act," it stated.

The resolution was introduced by LNC Secretary Steve Givot.

LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach applauded the LNC's action, and said the resolution will help define what Libertarians stand for in the post-September 11 world.

"The Libertarian Party has previously endorsed appropriate military

See **PATRIOT ACT** Page 23



## POLITICAL NEWS

### Givot launches re-election bid for secretary

LNC Secretary Steve Givot has announced he will run for re-election, emphasizing "the value of teamwork" in his campaign.

"No organization can be successful unless the participants understand how to work together effectively," he said. "I know how to do that, as I believe my record shows."

As secretary, Givot said he produced "the most detailed LNC minutes in the history of the LP," listing all decisions and summarizing the discussion points made in reaching those decisions.

In 2001, Givot also served as the facilitator of the LP's Strategic Planning Team, which developed a three-year framework for party activities. In August, the LNC approved the report by a vote of 15-1.

"My leadership in reaching that result demonstrated that I can help bring many discordant voices into harmony resulting in leadership by consensus," said Givot.

If re-elected, Givot said he would encourage the party to focus on "wedge issues" that have widespread public support — such as marijuana prohibition, which a majority of Americans oppose.

It is also important for LNC members to understand that principled libertarians can disagree on certain issues, said Givot.

"As a party, we need to learn to agree to disagree on certain things and then move forward together," he said.

Givot has been an LP member since 1980. He has since run for public office five times, and was elected LNC secretary in 1998.



■ **Steve Givot:**  
More "teamwork."

### Martin will seek re-election as LP treasurer

LNC Treasurer Deryl Martin has announced his bid for re-election, and said he will work to implement a number of new financial ideas for the Libertarian Party.

At the Tennessee LP convention on March 23, Martin said he will seek to remain the LP's top financial officer because there is "much more to be accomplished."

"I believe the party's financial performance can be improved in many ways," he said. "And I believe I have the knowledge and experience to make that happen."

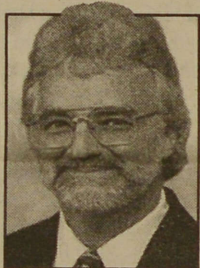
Since his appointment as treasurer in April 2001, Martin said the LNC has created a new reserve policy and has increased staff reporting requirements.

For the next LNC term, he has proposed streamlining budgeting procedures, simplifying performance reporting, simplifying financial reports, improving financial projections, instituting new project accounting practices, and creating a revenue-prediction model.

Professionally, Martin is a professor of Finance at the Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville, Tennessee.

"My professional life affords me the opportunity to serve our party and the greater libertarian movement in this way," he said. "It would be an honor to continue to serve in this capacity if re-elected."

Martin has served as the LNC Representative for Region 7 (2000-01), and as the LNC Alternate Representative for Region 8 (1998-00). He also served as the Tennessee LP secretary/treasurer (1992-98).



■ **Deryl Martin:**  
Much more to do.

### Iowa Libertarian seeks Green co-nomination

An Iowa Libertarian has announced he will seek the nomination of the LP and the Green Party for state attorney general, a strategy that may pave the way for a lawsuit against the state.

If he earns both endorsements, Ed Noyes said he will sue the state government to legalize fusion, so he can appear on the ballot under both party's labels. State law now prohibits fusion candidates.

"What could be more fundamentally unconstitutional than preventing an association of people, who wish to express themselves politically, from having their choice of [candidate] listed on a ballot?" he asked. "If our ability to participate in the political process itself is taken away, then our freedoms are lost."

Noyes is the co-author of *Restoring the Heartland* with LP gubernatorial candidate Clyde Cleveland.

In the book, the authors outline a plan to transform state politics by abolishing the income tax, reforming property taxes, moving toward environment-friendly energy self-sufficiency, overhauling the criminal justice system, and raising awareness of the "danger" of genetically modified organisms. The book is scheduled for release on May 1.

For more information, visit: [www.clevelandforgovernor.org](http://www.clevelandforgovernor.org). Or call: (888) 749-2002. Or write: Cleveland for Governor, 1705 Winding Hill Road, Davenport, IA 52807.

## Libertarian DA Norm Vroman re-elected in California primary

In California primary elections, the nation's only Libertarian district attorney was re-elected, while an LP city council member hoping to make the leap to county supervisor fell just short.

In the March 5 election, District Attorney Norm Vroman in Mendocino County retained his seat with 51.93% of the vote. The 65-year-old Vroman faced both a Democrat and a Republican in the race.

Because he garnered over 50% in the primary, Vroman won re-election outright, and does not need to run in the general election in November.

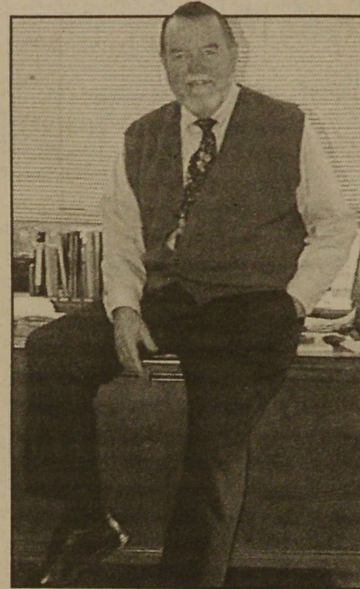
Vroman said his re-election victory will allow him to be judged not as "a political fluke — but [as] someone who has the support of the people of Mendocino County."

"I think the county's voters have spoken in a very positive and dramatic way," he said.

#### Ecstatic over victory

California LP Executive Director David Molony said the state LP was "ecstatic" over Vroman's victory.

"It's good to know that at least in one county in California, residents have a Libertarian as a prosecutor," he said. "We hope there will be more of those in the future."



■ **Mendocino County DA Norm Vroman:** "Voters have spoken in a very positive and dramatic way."

Vroman had significant campaign help from the Libertarian Victory Fund, a Nevada-based, non-profit PAC that contributes to local LP candidates across the country.

The PAC donated about \$7,600 to the Vroman campaign, and delivered a glossy, direct-mail promotional piece to about 11,000 local voters,



said LVF Director Chris Azzaro.

"We're very proud to have played a significant role in this important Libertarian victory," he said. "Norm Vroman is a real hero of freedom, and a great district attorney."

Vroman was first elected in 1998, when he ousted a 12-year incumbent. He has since taken the lead in implementing Proposition 215 — a 1996 measure that legalized medical marijuana in the state.

Located just north of San Francisco, Mendocino County has a population of about 85,000 residents.

#### Flickinger falls short

Meanwhile, Moreno Valley City Councilwoman Bonnie Flickinger fell just shy in her bid for Riverside County supervisor.

Despite finishing fourth in the five-way race, Flickinger trailed the second-place finisher by a mere 175

See **CALIFORNIA** Page 28

## David Eisenbacher wins election to city council in Troy, Michigan

*Joins two other Libertarians elected to local office in Wisconsin*

A Michigan Libertarian has won election to the Troy city council, coming in first out of five candidates and handily defeating two incumbents for the position.

On April 1, David Eisenbacher received 5,146 votes — 30% of the vote — to earn a three-year term on the non-partisan, seven-member board.

By contrast, Eisenbacher's incumbent opponents received 22% and 19% of the vote, finishing fourth and fifth. The top two vote-getters were elected.

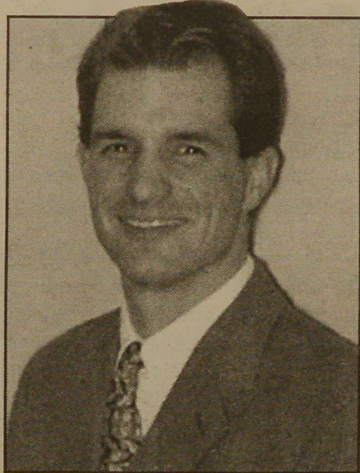
The 30-year-old Eisenbacher said he was "pleasantly surprised" by the results.

"It feels really good to have won so convincingly, considering that I had no polling data to gauge my support," said. "We won big."

#### Analyze budget

Eisenbacher said his first task as a city council member will be to analyze the city's \$125 million budget, and propose ways to cut taxes and spending.

"[I will work to] keep city spending and taxes low, lower, lowest," he said. "I'm excited to start working for Troy citizens. I know it is going to be



■ **New Troy, Michigan city council member David Eisenbacher:** "We won big. It feels really good to have won so convincingly."

a time-consuming job, but I believe I'm up to it."

Eisenbacher also said he will work to solve local traffic problems, and to promote free-market incentives to preserve open space and protect wetlands.

Barb Goushaw, Fred Collins, and Greg Dirasian served as Eisenbacher's campaign management team.

In addition, the Nevada-based Libertarian Victory Fund (LVF) made the \$500 maximum donation to Eisenbacher's race, and spent an additional \$1,000 in a get-out-the-vote effort during the final week of the campaign.

LVF Director Chris Azzaro said he was proud to have played a key role in the campaign, given that Eisenbacher narrowly lost his 2001 bid for a city council seat by fewer than 400 votes.

#### Persistence, drive

"[Eisenbacher] came back stronger, and more determined than ever," he said. "His persistence and drive — coming back to win the election this year — is truly inspirational."

Eisenbacher also received campaign help from the Liberty Leadership Council, a Michigan PAC. The group contributed consulting services and money.

Eisenbacher joins fellow Libertarian council member Martin Howrylak, who was elected in 2000. Howrylak is now the mayor pro-tem designate.

There are four other Libertarians currently serving on city councils in

See **EISENBACHER** Page 14



# An Open Letter from Carla Howell to Massachusetts Home Schoolers

by Carla Howell

Why Should Home Schoolers Support Carla Howell for Governor?

Do you think Massachusetts state government is way Too Big? Are your Massachusetts taxes way Too High?

Do you believe Massachusetts state government is Too Big, Too Sloppy, Too Nosy, and Too Bossy?

If you answered "yes," then I'm your candidate for Governor.

I believe small government is beautiful<sup>sm</sup>.

I vote small government.

Every Issue. Every Time.

No Exceptions. No Excuses.

Small government is a night watchman ... a tiny institution ... a skeleton crew doing only the bare essentials.

Small government is limited to defending our lives, our liberty, and our property.

Small government is a mere fraction of today's Big Government.

Small government is simple and cheap.

Small government is thrifty and prudent.

Small government is accountable and responsible.

There's no place to hide waste and corruption in a small government budget.

Small government leaves us with the resources and responsibility for educating our own children.

## Home Schooling

Parents who home school their children should have full authority, responsibility, and control over their children's education.

As Governor of Massachusetts, I will introduce a bill that would remove all government authority, regulation, oversight, and involvement in home schooling, cooperative schooling, and all other forms of privately-run, privately-funded education. I trust parents, not politicians. Families, not bureaucrats.

Parents who home school their children do a better job of educating their children.

Parents who home school their children instill better values and better discipline than the public schools do.

Home schooling costs a fraction of the price per child that public schooling does.

Home schooled children frequently win the National Spelling Bee...while many public school graduates cannot read their diplomas.

Over a million and a half children are being home schooled in America today. They can read and write and they know the difference between right and wrong. They are happy and healthy and love to learn.

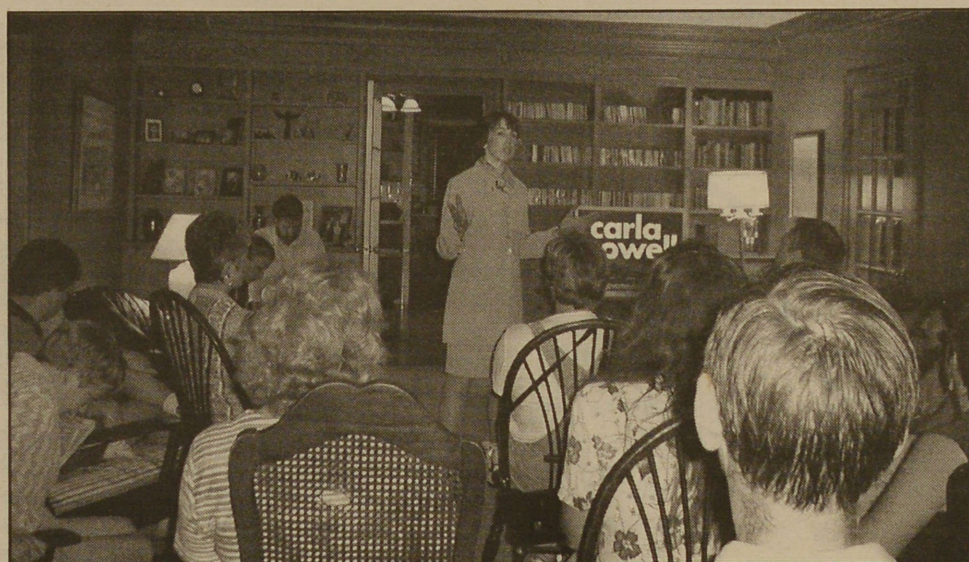
## Extraordinary Opportunity for Parents who Home School

I am the Chair and Co-Founder of the Committee for Small Government.

We collected 75,629 certified signatures to put our Tax Cut Initiative on the Ballot this November 5th.

Our Small Government Ballot Initiative will End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

It will Repeal, Remove, End ALL Massachusetts state taxes on every individual's and



Carla Howell Addresses Home Schoolers

married couple's wages and income, interest income, dividend income, and capital gains income.

Here's what this means to home schooling parents.

\$3,000 back each year. Every year you work. That's how much you get back when we End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

But it doesn't stop with you. Your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors all get back an average of \$3,000 a year.

3,000,000 working people in Massachusetts each get \$3,000. Every year they work.

\$3,000 a year to home school your children. To provide even better educational materials for your children.

Ending the Income Tax in Massachusetts will put \$9 Billion back into our communities and local economies.

The result? 300,000 to 500,000 new jobs in Massachusetts. We have 130,000 unemployed in Massachusetts. 300,000 to 500,000 new jobs means a job for every single one of them. A job for every family that wants to home school.

Do you know any out-of-work parents? They can have a new job and home schooling when we End the Income Tax.

Want more information? Visit [www.SmallGovernmentAct.org](http://www.SmallGovernmentAct.org).

## Get the Government Out of Home Schooling

Massachusetts government-run public schools are teaching-disabled. Fatally-flawed. Riddled with failure after failure. Static and stagnant.

Yet the bureaucrats and special interests who control Massachusetts public schools demand more and more authority, control, and power over home schooling.

Governor Carla Howell will oppose all expansion of state or

local government control over home schooling.

Governor Carla Howell will introduce a bill that would remove all government authority, regulation, oversight, and involvement in home schooling and all other private education. I trust parents, not politicians. Families, not bureaucrats.

No more "officials" demanding curriculums from home schooling parents. No more truancy officers dropping by. No more DSS meddling. No more day time curfews imposed by government that restrict home schooling choices. No more government inspections or visits.

Home schoolers have been pushed around too long.

We must take the initiative. We must take back our families. We must take back our authority and responsibility for the education of our own children.

Vote Carla Howell, Libertarian for Governor.

Small government is beautiful<sup>sm</sup>...

AND IT LEAVES HOME SCHOOLERS ALONE!

small government is beautiful<sup>sm</sup>,

Carla Howell,

Libertarian for Governor

small government is beautiful<sup>sm</sup>  
AND IT LEAVES HOME SCHOOLERS ALONE!

carlahowell

☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$150 CHLP502  
☐ \$85 ☐ \$65 ☐ Other: \$  
I'll pay by: ☐ Check ☐ Mastercard  
☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ AmEx

Here's my check: "Carla Howell for Governor." You may donate up to \$500 in 2002. And so may your spouse.

NAME		CREDIT CARD #	
ADDRESS		SIGNATURE	
CITY		STATE	ZIP
PHONE		EMAIL	
OCCUPATION		EMPLOYER	
EXPIRATION DATE			

Mail to: Carla Howell for Governor • 6 Goodman Lane • Wayland, MA 01778 • We are forbidden from accepting money orders or cash donations over \$50 per year. We are prohibited from accepting any debit card donations. Massachusetts requires us to report the name and address of all contributors, and also request the occupation and employer of individuals whose contributions total \$200 or more a year. Paid for by Carla Howell for Governor: R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer. [www.carlahowell.org](http://www.carlahowell.org)



## TALKING POINTS

# No-nudity door-answering, and Jesse Ventura's \$400 million lie

### ■ No nudes

Steamy Georgia afternoons apparently have taken their toll on Southern geniality. Lawmaker Dorothy Pelote has introduced a bill in the state House of Representatives to ban people from answering the door in the nude.

Currently, "the law allows [a person] to come to the door naked. It just doesn't let him go outside," Pelote says. "I don't even want him coming to the door naked."

— REASON, April 2002

### ■ Robert C. Byrd news

Senator Robert C. Byrd, the 44-year incumbent from West Virginia, [is a] champion pork barreler.

[Among] those projects built in homage to the taxpayer-funded pork slopping of Bob Byrd are the Robert C. Byrd Highway. The Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam. The Robert C. Byrd Green Bank Telescope. The Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing. The Robert C. Byrd Academic and Technology Center. The Robert C. Byrd United Technical Center. The Robert C. Byrd Federal Building. The Robert C. Byrd Hilltop Office Complex. Et cetera.

Every slab of concrete in West Virginia is named after Robert C. Byrd, apparently.

— PAUL JACOB, *Common Sense*, March 4, 2002

### ■ Falling standards

Is there nothing the Nanny State won't stick its nose into?

Elderly people are prone to injuries suffered in falls, but would federal legislation help prevent such accidents? One safety group says it would, and this week, it will lobby for something called "The Elder Fall Prevention Act of 2002."

The congressionally chartered National Safety Council is sending a delegation to Capitol Hill on Tuesday, to drum up support for the bill that seeks to prevent senior citizens from injuring themselves in falls.

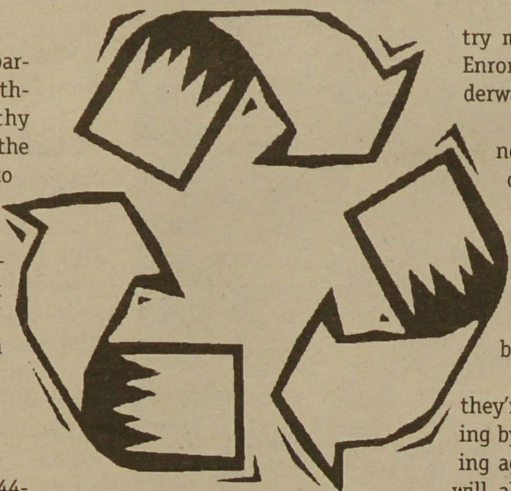
In the inimitable jargon of bureaucratic Washington, Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) noted that the legislation "would create effective pre-fall and post-fall interventions to reduce the incidence of falls and mitigate their impacts."

— CNSNEWS.COM, March 4, 2002

### ■ Lessons from Enron

The Enron experience has many lessons for the thoughtful [including] the risks facing the "socially responsible" corporation.

Consider first Enron as the perfect model of the politically correct corporation. Enron began as just an-



**YOU DON'T NEED  
a degree in economics  
to see that some-  
thing is wrong here.  
Isn't recycling  
supposed to save  
money and resources?**

other energy company, but soon branched out into wind and solar power because (according to the company's web site) it believed that "concern about global warming and the harmful effects of fuel emissions has created new demand for clean and sustainable energy sources."

It lobbied aggressively for the U.S. to sign the Kyoto global warming treaty, which would have required massive reductions in the use of carbon-based fuels, hoping to cash-in on scarcity by gaming the treaty's energy-rationing and trading provisions for huge profits.

Only a few years ago, Enron seemed invincible: highly regarded on both Wall Street and in Washington. Yet, even then, we now know, the firm was in trouble. Enron was losing money in its water, wind, and solar divisions and soon sold them off. Its hopes for major profits from energy management soon soured as consumers proved reluctant to pay more for green power. The Kyoto Treaty wasn't signed. And even the profits from trading derivatives proved illusive.

What can be learned from all this?

More regulations, [some politicians] assert, are needed to prevent future Enrons. But companies are already heavily regulated and the regulators clearly missed this totally. And rushing to impose new regulations on an already heavily regulated indus-

try may even stymie the positive, Enron-induced changes already underway in the business world.

Many firms have already announced an end to the practice of allowing the auditor fox to advise the corporate henhouse and are rushing to open their internal operations to external observers, assuring investors that they are not cooking books via off-budget gimmickry.

Firms that can't explain what they're doing can expect downgrading by investment analysts and rating agencies. Corporate governance will also improve. Directors will be asking a lot more questions in future Board meetings.

And rank-and-file employees throughout America are already rethinking the value of putting all their eggs in one basket.

Markets aren't perfect, but marketplace errors encourage positive responses. Those burnt in the Enron failure have learned important lessons, as has almost everyone else in the business world.

— FRED SMITH, *C.E.I. Update*, February 2002

### ■ What lack of freedom?

We hear a lot of carping about wartime threats to civil liberties, so it's worth considering how civil liberties are treated in the enemy's part of the world.

In Syria, lawmaker Mamoun Homsy has been sentenced to five years in prison for "trying to illegally change the nation's constitution." A Syrian court also gave him a six-month sus-

pended sentence for "defaming the government through his claims that Syrians lack freedom."

— OPINIONJOURNAL.COM  
March 20, 2002

### ■ Ventura's lies

As the whole world knows, Jesse "The Body" Ventura is one tough guy, a former Navy commando [and] professional wrestler.

Mr. Ventura swept into office in 1998 partly by promising to "veto any new taxes and any increase in existing taxes."

But that was when budget times were flush. Now that the economic recession has pinched tax receipts, Mr. Ventura has decided to break his promise and pinch taxpayers to the tune of \$400 million in tax increases this year, with more to come.

When Mr. Ventura became governor in 1999, state spending totaled \$21 billion; today it's close to \$28 billion, a more than 30% increase. If Minnesota had held its spending growth to even 20%, there'd be no budget problem today.

Mr. Ventura responded by sending the state legislature a barrage of tax hikes. The tax on gasoline would rise by a nickel a gallon, and cigarette levies by 29 cents per pack. Some corporate taxes would increase.

Mr. Ventura has defended breaking his no-new-tax pledge with an appeal to patriotism. "In a time of war and in defense of our country, I will break any campaign promise," he's said, as if Minnesota's state budget is financing the Pentagon.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL  
March 12, 2002

### ■ Recycling reality

[New York City] spends \$240 per ton to "recycle" plastic, glass, and metal, while the cost of simply sending waste to landfills is \$130 per ton.

You don't need a degree in economics to see that something is wrong here. Isn't recycling supposed to save money and resources?

Some recycling does — when driven by market forces. Private parties don't voluntarily recycle unless they know it will save money, and,

hence, resources.

But forced recycling can be a waste of both because recycling itself entails using energy, water and labor to collect, sort, clean and process the materials. There are also air emissions, traffic and wear on streets from the second set of trucks prowling for recyclables.

The bottom line is that most mandated recycling hurts, not helps, the environment.

— ANGELA LOGOMASINI  
*Wall Street Journal*  
March 19, 2002

### ■ Family values

In February, the National Republican Congressional Committee withdrew the "Republican of the Year" award that had been scheduled to be presented to Virginia activist Mark A. Grethen; the committee had just learned of his conviction on six counts of sex crimes involving children.

— NEWS OF THE WEIRD  
March 10, 2002

### ■ World-Building

The conventional wisdom is that to prevent terrorism, the United States needs to build civil societies in failed states and in poor or oppressed countries.

But a new study from the Cato Institute argues that nation building efforts might actually increase the risk of terrorism.

In "Old Folly in New Disguise: Nation Building to Combat Terrorism," Cato foreign policy analyst Gary Dempsey argues that it is time for a reality check.

If the United States were to engage in nation building missions in all countries that are oppressive, or in which terrorist groups operate, then it would be dealing with as many as 3.6 billion people, or 59% of the world's population, he says.

— CATO INSTITUTE, March 21, 2002

### ■ Addicted to taxes

A new study from the Council of State Governments raises serious questions about the conflicting goals of the tobacco settlement.

According to the report, falling cigarette consumption will cause state revenues from the settlement to come in 20% lower than expected. Through 2010, states will get \$14 billion less from Big Tobacco than originally projected.

Predictably, the states are whining about lost revenue, saying it will increase pressure to cut spending.

This only goes to prove that the settlement was never really about reducing smoking. It was always about one thing: extorting money from the tobacco industry.

In theory, the purpose of the settlement money was to fund cigarette prevention programs. But a General Accounting Office report last year found that only 7% of funds were used for this purpose. The rest went for general government spending.

The truth is that the states never actually wanted smoking to fall. They wanted the money far more than they wanted healthier citizens.

— BRUCE BARTLETT  
*The Washington Times*  
March 13, 2002

**"Politics: (noun) From the Greek, poly, meaning many, and ticks, meaning bloodsuckers."**

— ANONYMOUS



It's easy to laugh at politics. But it's far more difficult to do something about the problem of a government that's gotten too big, and politicians who all too frequently act like bloodsuckers. As a Libertarian, you've made a commitment to work for a better America. But there's one way you can help that you may not know about: By naming the party in your will or insurance policy. To have a confidential discussion of this option, call National Libertarian Party Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 858-0915. Or e-mail him: dnc@multipro.com.



# ABC, CBS, & NBC Prime TV Advertising on our Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax in 24 Days — IF YOU HELP.

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

2,000,000 voters will see and hear the powerful and persuasive reasons why we can and must End the Income Tax in Massachusetts.

They will see and hear the huge, immediate, direct benefits of Ending the Income Tax.

As Harry Beckwith points out in *Selling the Invisible*, "Advertising is Publicity" and "Advertising begets Publicity."

Imagine the TV, Radio, and Newspaper stories we'll trigger.

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

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

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

All because we began the advertising in 24 days.

## The Secret of EMILY's List

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

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

"EMILY's" is an acronym for: Early Money Is Like Yeast.

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

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

## Early Advertising Is Like Yeast.

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

Early advertising ignites Media Coverage of the campaign.

Early advertising attracts new supporters and volunteers.

Early advertising demonstrates strength and credibility.

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

## Huge Payoffs of Early Advertising

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

What if they volunteered and campaigned for 6 months — instead of just 60 days? How much more impact would they have?

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

What if we could trigger early, continuous, and substantial News coverage for 6 solid months instead of just the last 60 days?

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

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

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

We need 6 months. We only have 24 days to begin.

CBS, ABC, & NBC Prime TV Ads Reach

2,000,000 Voters

We must begin our Massive TV Advertising Blitz on ABC, CBS, and NBC in 24 days.

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

## Exactly 6 months

Starting in 24 days gives us exactly 6 months to attract thousands of new supporters and volunteers, and grow our organization big enough to accomplish our goals.

Starting in 24 days gives us exactly 6 months to inform and educate the millions of voters in Massachusetts who are unfamiliar with our Libertarian Ballot Initiative to End the Income Tax.

6 months to make them comfortable with our Initiative and confident that it's right for their families. 6 months to move up in the polls. 6 months of ever-growing Media coverage.

## This will only happen — IF YOU HELP NOW.

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

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

Help us get our End the Income Tax message out. Please donate today.

## CBS, NBC, & ABC Prime TV Ads to End the Income Tax

NO LIMITS TO HOW MUCH YOU CAN DONATE! • NO LIMITS TO HOW MUCH YOUR BUSINESS CAN DONATE!

NAME (Please Print)

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

CREDIT CARD #

SIGNATURE

EXPIRATION DATE

OCCUPATION

EMPLOYER

PHONE

EMAIL

☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$1,000  
☐ \$750 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250  
☐ \$150 ☐ \$85 ☐ Other: \$

I'll pay by: ☐ Check ☐ Mastercard  
☐ Discover ☐ Visa ☐ AmericanExpress

Here's my check made out to: "The Committee for Small Government"

Mail to: Committee for Small Government • 6 Goodman Lane • Wayland, MA 01778 • Massachusetts law requires us to report the name, address, occupation, and employer of each individual whose contributions total \$200 or more. No money orders over \$50. Paid for by the Committee for Small Government, R. Dennis Corrigan, Treasurer. Carla Howell, Chair

[www.SmallGovernmentAct.org](http://www.SmallGovernmentAct.org)



## AFFILIATE NEWS

# Libertarians work against pork, school prayer, and zero tolerance

### ■ ARIZONA

#### Party challenges state's 'open primary' in court

Libertarians have filed a lawsuit against the state government in federal court in Tucson, challenging the state's "open-primary" system.

Filed on March 19, the suit challenges the law requiring all political parties to allow registered independents and members of unqualified parties to vote in their primary elections.

"It's a question of freedom of association," said LP State Chair **Peter Schmerl**. "We're required to let folks who aren't Libertarians vote in our primary, yet we can't nominate anyone who is not a registered Libertarian."

**Barry Hess**, a co-plaintiff in the lawsuit who is seeking the LP endorsement for governor, said political parties should have control over how their candidates are nominated.

"While it's unlikely that independents would affect the outcome, it should still be up to us as a party to decide whether independents can vote in our primary," he said. "Besides, as a Libertarian, I want to be nominated by Libertarians."

### ■ COLORADO

#### Libertarians testify for concealed-carry bill

Two LP candidates have testified before the state legislature in favor of a bill that would relax the state's concealed carry law.

On February 14, LP legislative candidate **Mark Holden** and gubernatorial candidate **Ralph Shnelvar** encouraged legislators to pass HB1242.

The bill, currently pending in the Appropriations Committee, would make Colorado a "shall issue" state, forcing government officials to issue a firearms permit to any eligible citizen within 10 days of application.

"[HB1242] is one of the more rational bills being considered by our state representatives," said Holden.

If HB1242 was passed by state legislators, Colorado would likely see a decline in the crime rate similar to what happened in Vermont, which has a similar law, said Shnelvar.

"I predict that Colorado would be yet another state where crime would go down and it would show, again, that the vast majority of people act responsibly," he said.

### ■ DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

#### Libertarian activist starts 'peace' petition

Over 200 LP members have signed a "Libertarians for Peace" petition opposing the U.S. government's



#### Delaware LP protests General Assembly

■ In front of the state capitol on March 16, a group of more than a dozen Delaware Libertarians protest a state government that is "becoming too intrusive."

The rally was held concurrent with the state LP convention in Wilmington, and was designed to send a message that the "Delaware General Assembly is becoming too intrusive in private matters, in particular the private rights of homeschoolers and privately owned restaurants and bars," said Brad Thomas, Chair of the New Castle County LP.

"When government begins to restrict private affairs, whether in privately owned businesses restricting smoking or in the private homes of parents who only want a better education for their children, the assembly has too much power and will not cease if it is not stopped cold," he said.

Protesters carried signs that said, "More Regulation, Worse Education," and "Stop Restricting Freedom."

current War on Terrorism.

Written by Washington, DC LP activist **Carol Moore**, the petition calls on the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) — or delegates at the upcoming national LP convention — to pass a resolution declaring that the United States should "immediately cease current or planned military attacks on peoples of other nations."

It further demands that the government end military and economic support for foreign entities, terminate all trade restrictions, and bring home all U.S. troops who are stationed abroad.

The goal is to have at least 1,000 signatures by the national convention in July, said Moore, a candidate for LNC secretary.

"[Petition signers] know that America was attacked on September 11 because of our meddling, especially in the Middle East," she said. "Let's make protecting Americans through non-intervention even more

of a signature issue than ending the War on Drugs."

View the petition at: [www.PetitionOnline.com/libs4p77/petition.html](http://www.PetitionOnline.com/libs4p77/petition.html).

### ■ GEORGIA

#### LP blasts spending that makes a 'swine blush'

State politicians have passed a budget that contains "enough pork-barrel spending to make a swine blush," Georgia Libertarians have charged.

The \$16.2 billion budget boosts total government spending by \$700 million over last year, said LP State

Chair **Helmut Forren** — an increase that is particularly irresponsible given the weak economy.

"Once again, the politicians are pigging out over taxpayers dollars in a spending free-for-all that is nothing more than a vote-buying scheme for incumbents," he said.

The budget includes pork-barrel projects such as \$250,000 for a golf program for children, \$65,000 for a set of cattle scales, \$50,000 for an indoor batting facility, and \$122,000 to build a life-sized bronze statue of a mule and a farmer at the Agriculture Exposition Center.

"We should be grateful that the state legislature meets for only 40 days out of the year," said Forren. "State taxpayers could not afford anything longer than that."

### ■ GEORGIA

#### Make sales tax 'vacation' permanent, urges party

After instituting a brief sales tax holiday in March, Libertarians are asking Governor Roy Barnes one question: Why not a permanent sales tax vacation?

The question came after the government suspended its 4% sales tax on March 29 and 30, and announced plans to do so again for two days in August, said LP State Chair **Helmut Forren**.

"We enthusiastically support the sales tax holiday to stimulate the economy," he said. "Yet, if Governor Barnes believes that suspending sales taxes for just four days a year will fuel economic growth, imagine the benefits that would result from a permanent sales tax holiday!"

Complete elimination of the sales tax could be achieved simply by rolling back state government spending to 1996 levels, said Forren. The sales tax will cost Georgia consumers almost \$5 billion this year.

"There are at least five states that have no statewide sales tax whatsoever," he noted. "State legislators should consider adding Georgia to that list."

### ■ GEORGIA

#### LP allows voters to pick most 'ridiculous' law

What is the most "ridiculous" bill introduced in the Georgia legislature over the past year?

Thanks to an interactive LP poll, state residents can now vote on their favorite — or, rather, least favorite — legislation.

Visitors to [www.lpgeorgia.com](http://www.lpgeorgia.com) can view a list of "ridiculous" bills the party has compiled, and vote for the worst one, said LP State Chair **Helmut Forren**.

"It seems that legislators had a lot of spare time on their hands if they were able to present bills as absurd as these," he said. "Over 1,000 bills have been introduced during the

session — some excessive, some intrusive, some of them just plain silly."

The list of bills includes HB993, which designates grits as the state's official processed food; HB1329, which regulates the amount of money that may be paid to Bingo game attendants; and SB461, which prohibits anyone under age 65 from hunting marsh hens from a boat powered by an electric motor.

The website keeps a running tally of the votes, and by mid-April, more than 2,000 people had participated in the poll, said Forren.

### ■ INDIANA

#### Governor gets rare praise for 'right' Fund decision

Libertarians have congratulated lame-duck Governor Frank O'Bannon for using money from the Build Indiana Fund to pay a portion of the state's \$1.3 billion budget deficit.

"The Party of Principle believes that choosing what's right over what's expedient is always the best decision — and O'Bannon did that," said LP Executive Director **Brad Klopfenstein**.

Created in 1989, the Build Indiana Fund was intended to finance capital projects such as sewers, roads, and fire engines for localities with casino taxes.

But Democratic and Republican politicians routinely misallocated millions of dollars to non-profit organizations, for-profit businesses, and religious groups to gain political support, said Klopfenstein.

Although O'Bannon's action was commendable, Klopfenstein said the state's troubles are not over yet.

"Now it's time for the General Assembly to step forward, and help solve Indiana's problems of out-of-control spending and a property tax code that needs an overhaul," he said.

### ■ MARYLAND

#### College students host successful Liberty Week

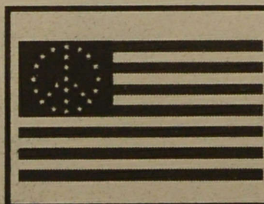
Western Maryland University Libertarians hosted a weeklong political event featuring various speakers

## Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: State Parties  
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
Click on: Organization  
Click on: National Committee  
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership  
Visit: [www.LP.org](http://www.LP.org)  
See: Special Features (left side)  
Click on: LP Members



**libertarians4peace.net**  
Make the LP the Peace Party  
Contact [info@libertarians4peace.net](mailto:info@libertarians4peace.net)



and hands that turned out to be a "resounding success."

Hundreds of students and local residents attended the "Liberty Week" event held March 25-30 on the campus in Westminster, said **Jeremy Keil**, president of the campus students for liberty.

"I thought Liberty Week was extremely successful," he said. "The administration and local citizens are now aware of a politically active student population."

Featured speakers included former Libertarian Party presidential candidate **Harry Browne**, former Green Party presidential candidate **Ralph Nader**, Cato Institute Fellow **Doug Bandow**, local legislator **Carmen Amedori**, Carroll County Commissioner **Julia Gouge**. Libertarians also collected contact information from potential party prospects.

"I believe this event allowed and encouraged more students to exercise their political power," said Keil.

#### ■ MARYLAND

### It's official: Lancaster and Hill file for office

LP gubernatorial candidate **Spear Lancaster** and lieutenant gubernatorial candidate **Lauren Hill** have officially become "declared candidates" in their bid to win high office.

On April 3, the two libertarians signed the required Declaration of Intent at the State Board of Elections office in Annapolis. Each received the LP endorsement in January.

"I feel honored to have the opportunity to discuss issues that have a major impact on the citizens of Maryland, and have been ignored by the old-line political establishment," said Lancaster.

Hill said she is "proud to be a part of a positive change for Maryland," while campaign manager **Steve Boone** said he was "excited about being able to be a part of the first campaign since 1966 to put third-party candidates on the ballot [in Maryland]."

Currently, volunteers for the Lancaster-Hill campaign are gathering 40,000 signatures to gain a spot on the November election ballot.



### The jackhammer technique of campaigning

■ A "before" and "after" look at the challenges of running a campaign in Maine in early Spring: LP State Chair **Mark Cenci** uses an electric jackhammer to drill in the frozen ground to place a campaign sign — and then poses with the successful result.

"No, that is not a .50 caliber machine gun I'm holding in my hand — it's the jackhammer," said Cenci, who was running in a special election for Maine State Senate (District #27) on March 5.

"I used a portable generator and an electric jackhammer to break open the frozen ground along the roadside in order to put up my campaign signs."

Cenci won 1.5% of the vote in a five-way race.

"The vote totals are just one measure of progress," said Cenci. "I'm glad I decided to jump into this race. The benefits will accrue for a long time."

#### ■ MICHIGAN

### Libertarians blast bill to expand police searches

If a bill being considered in the Michigan legislature is enacted into law, citizens could become the new target of the state's secret police, warn Libertarians.

Passed by the State Senate on February 2, SB 803 authorizes state police to intercept telephone calls and e-mails for crime-fighting purposes.

LP State Chair **Ghazey Aleck** said the state legislature is "heading down a slippery slope that could end with the destruction of [the right of Michigan resident] to live unmolested and in private."

Citizens should contact their state representatives in the House to oppose a similar bill that is now being considered, said Aleck.

"Law abiding people should never have to be afraid of the police — yet this is what is being accomplished by the onslaught of laws like these," he said.

#### ■ NORTH CAROLINA

### State LP uses 'Tax Rally' to point out tax burden

Raleigh Libertarians participated in a "Tar Heel Tax Rally" on April 8, to demonstrate the Libertarian Party's support for cutting taxes and lowering government spending.

The purpose of the event was to raise awareness of the "growing tax burden, state and local budget woes, and deteriorating business climate" in the state, said LP State Chair **Barbara Howe**.

The state has a projected \$1.3 billion deficit in 2002, despite the fact that legislators raised the statewide sales tax by a half-cent just last year.

Representatives of the John Locke Foundation and the North Carolina chapter of Citizens for a Sound Economy spoke at the rally, and the dozen or so LP members in attendance sported signs and gave interviews to local journalists, said Howe.

"It's always worthwhile to get people to pay attention to what legislators are doing," she said. "Many people don't realize how much tax money legislators waste every year."

#### ■ OKLAHOMA

### Ballot access reform bill dies in committee

Oklahoma Libertarians have come up short in an attempt to pass a bill that would reform the state's ballot access laws, widely considered to be the most restrictive in the nation.

Filed by Rep. Sue Tibbs (R-Tulsa) in February, HB 2654 died in the House rules committee after legislators refused to bring it up for a vote.

The bill would have slashed the number of signatures required to put

a candidate on the ballot from 5% of voters in the previous statewide election — currently about 80,000 signatures — to only 5,000 signatures.

It would also have slashed the 10% vote percentage a presidential or gubernatorial candidate must receive to maintain party ballot access status to just 1%.

Oklahoma LP Chair **Richard Prawdzienski** said he was disappointed with the results, but said he is not giving up the fight.

"Change takes time," he said. "I hope Oklahoma LP members will stay in the battle for ballot access reform until there is positive change."

#### ■ TEXAS

### LP: End state's arbitrary 'zero tolerance' policies

Libertarians have called for the repeal of "zero tolerance policies" after a Bedford high school student was suspended for bringing a bread knife to school.

LP Political Director **Robert "Rock" Howard** said the party strongly opposes laws and regulations that "restrict or eliminate human judgment from the application of justice."

"Tying the hands of judges, juries, and administrators so that they cannot 'do the right thing' stands against every principle of fairness that our judicial system is designed to uphold," he said.

Taylor Hess, 16, was suspended in March from Bell High School when a school administrator found the bread knife in the student's car.

Hess claimed the knife fell out after he and his father transported items to a Goodwill store.

"While this type of event is not surprising or even uncommon, it does

highlight the obvious downside of any arbitrarily applied policy," said Howard.

#### ■ TEXAS

### 200+ attend March rally for the Bill of Rights

Libertarians held a Bill of Rights Day rally in Austin, drawing media coverage for their attempt to "raise public awareness of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights."

Between 200 and 250 people attended the March 23 event, said LP activist **Michael Badnarik**, who organized the rally.

"We are planning to have [rallies] every month until the people realize how much of what Congress does is unconstitutional," he said. "When enough people are informed, they will motivate their legislators to correct the problem."

Featured speakers included radio talk show host **Don Crawford**, LP members **Wes Benedict** and **Tom Allen**, and **Rick Stanley**, a Colorado LP candidate for U.S. Senate.

The rally, which was co-sponsored by Republican legislator **Suzanna Gratia-Hupp** and the Armed Females of America, generated coverage in the *Austin-American Statesman*, the *Austin Review*, and the *Daily Texan*, said Badnarik.

#### ■ VERMONT

### Libertarians object to prayer in public schools

Libertarians spoke out against two bills in the State House that seek to establish prayer in public schools — charging the legislation violates the First Amendment.

Although the LP recognizes the Constitutional right of free worship, it is not appropriate for government functionaries to lead observances in their official capacity, said LP State Chair **Brendan Kinney** in a March 10 press release.

"Religion should fall within the purview of parents and churches, not within the purview of government, in any form or under any excuse," he said. "Particularly in the cases of public schools, where the environment is by necessity regimented, compulsory prayers — or moments of silence for the purpose of prayer — constitute the fostering, encouragement, and establishment of religious observance by the government."

H541 would require the recitation of a brief prayer at the start of each day, while H559 would require the daily observance of one minute of silence for the purpose of a "free exercise of religion." Both are currently pending in the House education committee.

However, the state LP "strongly opposes any attempt by government to inject religious practice into public classrooms," said Kinney.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Party hires new director of development

The Libertarian Party has hired a new employee to raise revenue for its political activities: Public relations specialist Eric Caron.

On March 6, Caron started his new job as Director of Development at LP national headquarters in Washington, DC.

With a long history of networking in libertarian circles, the 37-year-old Caron said he is looking forward to the challenge of building the Libertarian Party's war chest.

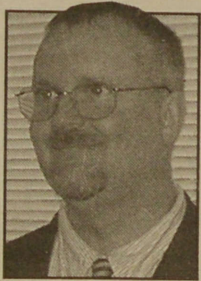
"I am going to work my heart out to make the Libertarian Party better funded than ever before," he said.

Caron's goals include obtaining pledges from members for specific projects, soliciting more money from businesses, and targeting major donors who already contribute to other libertarian-oriented groups.

The keys to success will be personally attending "as many functions as possible," and developing personal relationships with potential donors, said Caron. "There is a lot of money out there for an organization like the LP, but you can't be afraid to ask for it."

Caron brings considerable experience to his new position.

In the 1990s, Caron was the Director of Public Relations for the Heartland Institute, a libertarian think tank in Chicago. He has also served as the Director of External Relations at the American Legislative Exchange Council, and as the Manager of Field Membership for the National Association of Manufacturers.



■ **Eric Caron:**  
"Better funded."

### LP candidate offers free magnetic signs

An LP candidate for U.S. House in California has created about 500 magnetic car signs advertising the party, and is offering them for free to LP activists and candidates.

Developed by Michael Benoit, each of the red, white, and blue banners features an imprint of the statue of liberty, and a bold "Join the Libertarian Party" message. In addition, each 24" x 7.5" sign lists the National LP toll-free telephone number and website address.

Benoit, 51, said he started selling the signs four years ago at various libertarian functions.

"I got the idea [to make the signs] from a cognition that when people see something over and over again they become familiar with it and curious at the same time," he said. "There is no cheaper form of advertising either."

A pair of signs costs \$15.00, including shipping, and Benoit said he would appreciate donations. However, he also said he will send a free pair to anyone who guarantees to place them on their vehicle, or who is a Libertarian Party candidate.

"Just imagine 1,000 vehicles with these signs on them, 365 days per year," he said. "Now that's great exposure!"

Benoit is running for the District 52 seat in the U.S. House in California. The district comprises San Diego and Imperial counties.

To request or purchase a sign, e-mail: [mblibertarian7@aol.com](mailto:mblibertarian7@aol.com). Or mail: Michael Benoit, 8781 Cuyamaca St. #D, Santee, CA 92071.

### Sophocleus campaign + OPH = party growth

When John Sophocleus hits the campaign trail, he isn't just looking for votes — he's looking for new LP members, too.

That's why the Alabama gubernatorial candidate has started scheduling Operation Politically Homeless booths at campaign stops across the state.

Since January, campaign volunteers have used OPH booths at 15 different events where Sophocleus spoke, and have gathered the names of 350-450 prospective party members.

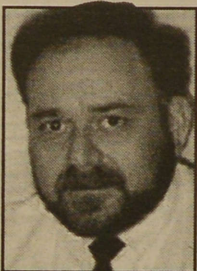
Developed by the Advocates for Self-Government, OPH has proven to be a "very powerful tool for identifying prospective Libertarians," said campaign manager Scott Kjar.

"Every time we take a road trip, we build an OPH into the schedule," he said. "Often, these are on a college campus, and we have folks working at the booth while John is giving TV, newspaper, or radio interviews, or shaking hands at gun dealers, in natural food stores, etc."

Kjar said OPH-booths will continue to play an integral part of the Sophocleus campaign, and may generate up to 7,500 new prospects.

"Hopefully, we will be able to do OPH all over the state from now until November," he said. "We continue to try to find ways to use OPH to further the cause."

For more information about the Sophocleus for Governor campaign, visit: [www.votesoph.com](http://www.votesoph.com).



■ **John Sophocleus:** Prospecting

# Cancer knocks Aaron Russo out of race for governor in Nevada

Award-winning movie producer Aaron Russo has nixed his plans to run for governor in Nevada, following a diagnosis of bladder cancer.

Russo's physician confirmed the existence of a malignant tumor in late March. On April 3, the 58-year-old Russo underwent an operation to partially remove the tumor for a biopsy.

As a result of his condition, the former gubernatorial hopeful said he would forego launching a statewide campaign and instead focus on regaining his health.

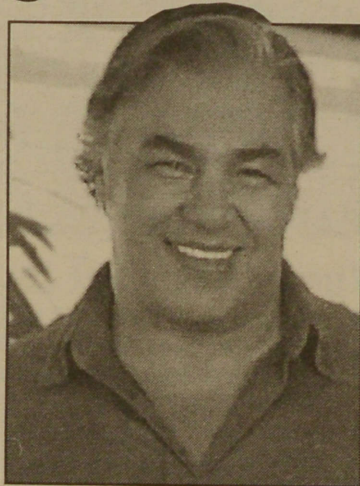
The producer of such Hollywood blockbusters as *Trading Places* (1983) and *The Rose* (1979), Russo said he regretted not being able to run for office.

"This is a huge disappointment, but I must make my health my top priority," he said. "I hope that someone fills the void left by my departure. [The state needs a] governor who understands that state sovereignty is the solution to many of Nevada's problems."

#### Speedy recovery

Libertarian Party Political Director Ron Crickenberger wished Russo a speedy recovery.

"Aaron Russo has been a good friend to liberty, always willing to courageously speak out on the important issues," he said. "Now, that courage will be an invaluable ally as Aaron fights this deadly disease. He



■ **Aaron Russo:** "This is a huge disappointment, but I must make my health my top priority."

is in our hearts, and we're all hoping for a full, fast recovery."

Russo, who joined the LP in 1999, had said he would run a gubernatorial campaign that focused on slashing taxes, ending "government control over the economy," and challenging the federal government's "authority over Nevada citizens."

Although he had announced in January that he would run as a Libertarian, over the past few months, Russo had considered running as an independent, said Crickenberger.

"Russo wanted a campaign team in place before he formally announced he would seek office under the Libertarian Party banner," he

said. "Despite our best efforts, that never quite happened."

Numerous attempts over the past year to fix him up with a Libertarian campaign manager were unsuccessful, said Crickenberger.

#### Did not 'click'

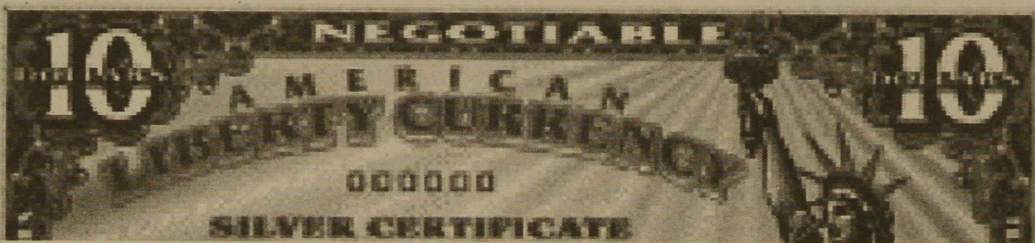
"We put Aaron together with campaign consultant Jerry Russell, who has 150 wins under his belt, and with Doug Friedline, who was Jesse Ventura's campaign manager," he said. "We also lined him up with an experienced Libertarian campaign manager. We even put him in touch with [former Clinton consultant] Dick Morris. But Aaron just did not feel that he 'clicked' with any of them."

Russo said he expects to regain his health quickly, and may mount a run for the governorship or for U.S. House at a future date.

"My condition is not going to stop me from speaking out on issues that concern Nevada," he said. "I will continue to fight for justice."

Russo joined the Libertarian Party after losing the GOP gubernatorial primary to current Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn in 1998. He came in second place, garnering 25.9% of the vote in the four-way contest.

Professionally, Russo has won a Tony, an Emmy, a Grammy, and has been nominated for six Academy Awards and two Golden Globe Awards. He was the first Hollywood movie producer to command a \$1 million fee.



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# GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY —VS— *Personal Responsibility*

**Michael Cloud, Libertarian for U.S. Senate (MA)**

**Y**ou don't even live in Massachusetts.

**Why should you care about Massachusetts U.S. Senator Democrat John Kerry?**

Because Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry raises your taxes — whether you live in Massachusetts or not.

Because Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry imposes dangerous, destructive Anti-Gun laws on you and your loved ones — whether you live in Massachusetts or not.

Because Democratic U.S. Senator John Kerry's votes create massive government authority, control and mandates over your health care — whether you live in Massachusetts or not.

You're not safe from John Kerry's United States Senate votes. You can't run. You can't hide. Even though you don't live or vote in Massachusetts.

## **John Kerry: Apprentice to Dukakis & Kennedy**

There are no accidents in politics.

John Kerry was Michael Dukakis' Lt. Governor. Junior Senator John Kerry is the political understudy of the Darth Vader of Big Government: Ted Kennedy.

John Kerry's U.S. Senate votes have the fingerprints of Ted Kennedy all over them.

John Kerry was on Al Gore's short list for Vice President in 2000.

John Kerry has launched his Democratic campaign for President of the United States. He'll start campaigning hard — if he can just coast through his fourth Coronation to the U.S. Senate.

Would you like to change John Kerry's U.S. Senate race from a Coronation to a Campaign?

Because Michael Cloud offers the Libertarian Alternative. A campaign of ideas. A campaign of basic choices. A campaign of competing visions of America's future.

## **Personal Responsibility Sets Us Free**

Personal responsibility makes us self-reliant. Self-supporting. Thoughtful. Productive. Personal responsibility makes us prosperous and civil.

Yet everywhere in America, Government Responsibility advances, while personal responsibility retreats.

Government Responsibility expands, while personal responsibility shrivels and shrinks.

Government Responsibility grows stronger, while personal responsibility grows weaker and weaker.

Why?

Because too many people believe that personal responsibility is a hard and painful burden — that it means blame and punishment — that personal responsibility means just one more thankless task.

So they surrender responsibility to government. And Big Government is happy to take it.

## **Government Responsibility is a Trap**

Big Government grows by assuming responsibility.

Government Responsibility doesn't work.

Government Responsibility makes things worse.

Government Responsibility creates new problems.

Government Responsibility means programs that squander and waste.

Government Responsibility diverts money and energy from positive and productive uses.

Government Responsibility IS the problem.

*Personal responsibility is the solution.*

## **The Bitter Harvest of Government Responsibility**

Health Care? Senator John Kerry and his colleagues vote more federal Government Responsibility. They drive us toward a single-payer, Big Government Health Care monopoly. One big VA hospital for America. That's Government Responsibility.

Guns and Self-Defense? Senator John Kerry and his colleagues consistently vote for more government authority, more government control, and more government responsibility. John Kerry advances, endorses and embraces the Brady Bill, the Assault Weapons Ban, and the Million Mom March. His Anti-Gun laws, regulations and restrictions disarm and endanger responsible gun owners. That's Government Responsibility.

Federal spending? Senator John Kerry and his

colleagues consistently vote for higher and higher federal budgets. In 1992, the federal budget was \$1 Trillion. Today, with 10 years of John Kerry's votes, the federal budget is over \$2 Trillion. Doubling federal spending means doubling the taxes taken from working Americans. The Bitter Harvest of Government Responsibility.

## **Government Responsibility or Personal Responsibility?**

Government Responsibility is the problem. Personal responsibility is the solution.

Personal responsibility is the price of liberty. Personal responsibility sets us free. Personal responsibility leaves us with the freedom and resources to support our families, raise and educate our children, plan our careers, and save for our own retirements.

Personal responsibility thrives with small government. And small government survives when personal responsibility thrives.

Government Responsibility or personal responsibility?

Government Authority or personal authority?

Government Control or personal control?

Big Government or small government?

## **John Kerry or Michael Cloud?**

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## 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.

### Digital piracy bill should be rejected

The Consumer Broadband and Digital Television Promotion Act (CBDTPA) should be rejected by Congress because it would turn the government into a "rent-a-cop" for the entertainment industry, the Libertarian Party said.

"The CBDTPA will not only inconvenience consumers and throw roadblocks in the way of new technology, it will vastly expand the power of the government," warned LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach.

"While the federal government may have a legitimate role in protecting copyrighted material, that role does not extend to acting as a technology rent-a-cop to protect the profits of huge entertainment corporations."

In early April, Senator Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC) filed S-2048, the Consumer Broadband and Digital Television Promotion Act.

The bill would make it a federal crime — punishable by five years in jail and a \$500,000 fine — to sell software or hardware that does not contain shielding measures that make it impossible to play or record copy-protected materials like songs, movies, or TV shows.

But the CBDTPA goes far beyond any reasonable role the government might have in protecting copyrighted works, said Dasbach.

"According to the Constitution, the federal government has the power to grant exclusive copyrights," he said. "But the CBDTPA doesn't just target criminals who illegally steal copyrighted materials. It treats every consumer as a potential digital pirate — while turning federal bureaucrats into the Digital Police."

### Keep the U.S. out of Middle East fight

As violence explodes between Israelis and Palestinians, Libertarians have some surprising advice for President George W. Bush: Don't get more involved in the Middle East peace process.

"Further U.S. meddling in this troubled region may well backfire and lead to the deaths of American soldiers, diplomats, and even tourists, while doing nothing to achieve a lasting peace," said Steve Dasbach. "Bush should resist the impulse to get more involved in a conflict that poses no immediate, direct threat to the United States."

Since a wave of suicide bombings killed more than 40 Israelis, and the Israeli military moved forcefully into Palestinian-controlled territory, the region has teetered on the brink of all-out war.

In reaction to the growing crisis, many political leaders have encouraged Bush to get "more involved in the peace process."

But more U.S. meddling in the Middle East runs contrary to the U.S. national interest, said Dasbach.

"The worst thing the U.S. government could do is to get more involved in this seemingly intractable, centuries-old conflict," he said.

Instead, said Dasbach, the U.S. government should stop selling weapons to Israel and the Arab states; pull the plug on foreign aid programs; and above all, refrain from placing U.S. troops in the region.

"The latest outbreak of bloody violence in the Middle East is a human tragedy," he said. "Let's not compound the tragedy by needlessly sacrificing American lives."

### California tax bill is start of 'War on Fat'

Legislation that would impose a "fat tax" on soda in California is the first wave of a new "War on Fat" being waged by busybody politicians, the Libertarian Party warned.

"This is the next great battle of American politics: Keeping politicians out of our refrigerators," said George Getz, the Libertarian Party's press secretary. "But to the fat-cat politicians in California and elsewhere who want to impose new food taxes, we say: Fat chance. If Americans wanted the government to tell us what to eat, we would have elected Jenny Craig president."

In California, State Senator Deborah Ortiz has filed S.B. 1520, which would impose a new tax on distributors of soda and other sweetened drinks. The bill would add about 2 cents to the cost of a 12-oz soda, and the money — as much as \$300 million a year — would be used to fund childhood obesity prevention programs.

In addition, California State Assemblywoman Wilma Chan has filed a bill that would require the state to study the feasibility of taxing junk food to fund new health and dental services for children.

What do these bills have in common? They will allegedly encourage Americans to consume the "right" food and drink, said Getz.

But the real agenda is to fatten the coffers of government, while giving politicians new power to micromanage what we eat, said Getz.

"What you eat is a matter of personal preference," he said. "Our eating habits aren't the government's business — and politicians shouldn't be allowed to tax our twinkies in the name of public health."

## 100-year-old retired professor becomes oldest LP life member

From the imposition of the income tax in 1913, to the U.S. entry into the Great War in 1917, to the passage of a Constitutional amendment granting women's suffrage in 1920, the early 20th century was a time of major historic milestones in America.

Cloyd Anthony remembers them all.

And in early February, the 100-year-old Anthony made a little history of his own: He mailed in a check to the national Libertarian Party's Washington, DC headquarters for life membership.

In doing so, the Sebring, Florida resident became the party's oldest life member.

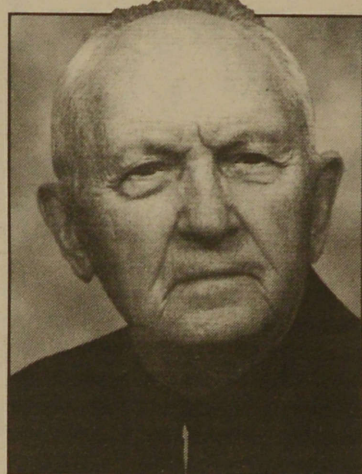
Anthony said he was glad to donate \$1,000 to "the only political party that is not owned by special interests."

"I am not wealthy, but I am inclined to put my limited income where my heart is," he said.

#### Populist Democrat

Born and raised in rural Indiana, Anthony said the first politician he recalls admiring was William Jennings Bryan. Bryan ran for the presidency as a populist Democrat in 1896, 1900, and 1908.

During his childhood and early adulthood, Anthony remembers the first line of Model-T Ford cars, the first meeting of the Federal Reserve Board, and the First World War — known



■ LP Life Member Cloyd Anthony: The first politician he admired was William Jennings Bryan.

then as the "Great War."

As an adult, he worked as a sociology professor at the State University of Indiana, lecturing there about such controversial reforms as equal rights for women and blacks.

Anthony first joined the LP about 10 years ago, when an "anonymous donor" left copies of *LP News* and the LP Platform on his doorstep.

"I realized that neither major party has stood for freedom," he said. "Only the Libertarian Party has defined liberty for the masses."

For his 100th birthday in 2001, Anthony's 10 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren threw him a party on September 15 at a local In-

diana elementary school.

It felt good to be in the presence of his friends and family, said Anthony.

"I did appreciate the party," he said. "Many of my former colleagues and students attended. I was deeply moved and had to shed tears."

LP Executive Director Steve Dasbach congratulated Anthony for his "life-affirming" decision to become a Libertarian Party life member at 100.

"There's a saying: If you're not a liberal when you're 20, you have no heart, and if you're not a conservative when you're 40, you have no brain," he said. "Well, if you're not a Libertarian when you're 100, you're not Cloyd Anthony. We're honored to welcome him as a life member of the Libertarian Party."

#### "Palms of Sebring"

Currently, Anthony spends his days with his daughter, Mary, in the "Palms of Sebring" retirement home in Sebring, Florida. He also has a son, Mark, who lives in Indiana.

Anthony knows he might never see a Libertarian president.

Nevertheless, he said he is proud to be a member of the Libertarian Party, and plans to enjoy his life membership as long as he can.

"When my turn comes, I will accept the end with gratitude for my longevity," he said. "Until next year, then, may we live in peace, and may God bless us all."

## As Your National Chair, I Will:

- ◆ Develop & Deliver More Tools into the Hands of Affiliates, Candidates & Activists.
- ◆ Increase the Efficiency, Responsiveness & Accountability of the National Office.
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- ◆ Expand the Libertarian Message to a Larger Electorate.
- ◆ Deliver Sustainable, Quality LP Growth at All Levels.
- ◆ Provide Honest, Open, Ethical Leadership that will Bring Us Together.

***I Have the Political Experience, the Business Experience, and the Management Experience to MAKE THIS HAPPEN.***

**Please Join Me!**  
**Geoffrey Neale**  
**for National Chair**

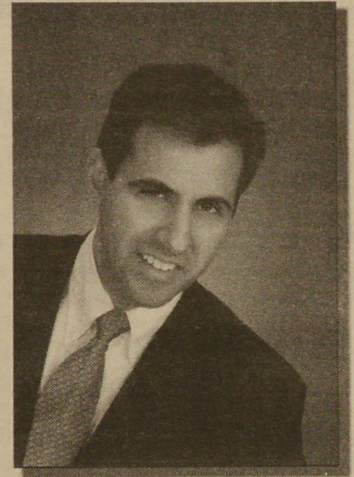
*To read about my specific plans and to learn more about me, please visit my website:*  
**www.geoffreyneale.com**

*or contact me at*  
**(512) 263-1681 or**  
**liber8or@austin.rr.com**





# Five Reasons to Elect Eli Israel For Libertarian National Chair



## 1. Vision

Eli Israel's vision is the "New Libertarian Party," a blueprint for the Libertarian Party as a major party all across America by Election Day 2010. When we build the New Libertarian Party, it will have the size, the strength, and the effectiveness it needs to compete with the Democrats and Republicans and change the nature of politics in the United States.

To achieve this, Eli Israel is committed to working to achieve the following first steps by Election Day 2004:

- **Double our membership** nationally and in each state.
- **Double the tools, training, and funding** of the national party and every state affiliate.
- Work to ensure that the national party and affiliates at all levels **actively support all our campaigns** – both high-profile, party-building races and electable Libertarians in winnable races.
- Promote a Libertarian Party culture of **productivity, teamwork, and action**.
- Work together with the local, state, and national parties to **double the number of elected Libertarians**.

*"I agree wholeheartedly with Eli Israel's vision..."*

- Helmut Forren, Chairman, LP of Georgia

## 2. Performance

In the time that Eli Israel has served as Executive Director and then Chair of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Libertarians have experienced tremendous growth:

- Paid membership **increased 158%** to over 895
- Number of registered Libertarians **increased over 601%** to over 18,447
- Number of Libertarian officeholders **increased over 1,000%** to more than 30
- Annual budget of the Massachusetts party **increased over 1,600%** to more than \$100,000

*"Eli has done an excellent job of helping to increase Libertarian voter registration in Massachusetts..."*

- Dr. Scott Lieberman, LNC Rep, California

*"...Eli Israel has done more for the state party...than anyone who has ever been Chairman, and I've known ALL of them!"*

- Walter Ziobro, Treasurer, Massachusetts LP

## 3. Energy

Eli Israel is a farsighted, energetic Libertarian leader. He promotes the growth of the Libertarian Party by inspiring activists to outperform their own expectations in meaningful, exciting work.

*"Even after over 20 years in the Libertarian Party, I find myself energized by the quality of leadership Eli Israel will bring to the Libertarian Party."*

- Joe Hauptmann, Former State Chair, LP of Indiana

## 4. Professionalism

Eli Israel is the founder and president of ProManage, a management consulting practice for the software industry. In acquiring his 16 years of business experience, he has managed teams of engineers and multimillion-dollar budgets as a Manager for Sun Microsystems and as Director of Engineering for CableSoft.

*"Eli has the drive, business sense and principles that the Libertarian Party needs as we prepare for the next presidential cycle..."*

- Chuck Williams, Chair, South Carolina LP

## 5. Experience

Eli Israel has served as Chair of the Libertarian Party of Massachusetts for 3 years and, before that, as Executive Director for 2 years. During his 1998 campaign for Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, he participated in a televised debate with his Democratic and Republican opponents.

In the last 5 years, he's raised over \$188,000 for the Libertarian Party and Libertarian candidates. He's a Member-At-Large of the Libertarian National Committee, as well as a member of the national LP's Executive Committee.

For 5 years Mr. Israel has worked as an activist at all levels of the Libertarian Party. Convention organizing. Membership growth. Candidate recruitment, training, and support. Coalition building. Petitioning. Grassroots local committee organizing.

*"Eli Israel is my pick for Libertarian Party Chair in 2002. He has been extraordinarily effective in Massachusetts, and he's also one of the most positive forces on the LNC this term..."*

- Dan Fylstra, Former LP Vice Chair

## Want to Find Out More? Want to Get Involved?

Get Eli Israel's free online campaign newsletter, the "New Libertarian News," by sending email to [info@eliasisrael.org](mailto:info@eliasisrael.org) or by visiting our website at [www.eliasisrael.org](http://www.eliasisrael.org).

Want to become a delegate to the Libertarian National Convention? Want to support Eli Israel? To find out how, visit us at [www.eliasisrael.org](http://www.eliasisrael.org).

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For Libertarian National Chair

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☐ I will cast my first-ballot vote for Eli Israel at the Libertarian national convention.  
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☐ I will make a contribution to help get the message out about this exciting campaign.  
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## LNC WRAP-UP

### Libertarian National Committee March 16, 2002 meeting highlights

**H**ere are highlights of the Libertarian National Committee (LNC) meeting which took place in Evergreen, Colorado on March 16-17, 2002. Attending were the party's four officers (Chair Jim Lark; Vice Chair Ken Bisson; Secretary Steve Givot; and Treasurer Deryl Martin); eight regional representatives; two alternate representatives; and four members of the LP national staff. [Note: This is not the official minutes of the meeting.]

■ LP treasurer Deryl Martin reported that the party is in its "best financial situation since September 11," 2001, with donations on an upward trend.

■ Region 1 Rep. Mark Nelson moved that Executive Director Steve Dasbach and Martin develop options for how to account for projects and their associated costs [when money is raised specifically to pay for that project], and report to the LNC by June 1, 2002. The motion passed on a voice vote.

■ LP Director of Communications Bill Winter announced he would be resigning from his position at the end of July. On a voice vote, the LNC granted Winter an honorary life membership for his "exceptional" work at the LP national office.

■ On a unanimous vote (with one abstention), the LNC voted to urge the repeal of the USA/Patriot Act. [See story on page 3.]

■ On a voice vote, the LNC appointed the following individuals to the Credentials Committee, which will serve at the upcoming National Convention: Gary Johnson, Dena Bruedigam, Richard Fisher, Bette Rose Ryan, and Nick Dunbar.

■ Dasbach reviewed the metrics of the Strategic Plan. Highlights included: There are now 297 Libertarians in elective office; the LP will apparently run more candidates than it did in 2000; membership is down 4% since the start of the year; there is not yet any progress on the number of affiliates with active, written plans to close performance gaps; there are 204 LP campus listings and 74 LP campus groups; and the latest Zogby poll indicates that 1.5% of young adults (18-24) polled self-identify as having a libertarian political philosophy.

■ The Governance Task Force — which will make recommendations to the Bylaws Committee at the National Convention — took a straw poll on LNC sentiment about various possible changes to the party's bylaws. The LNC expressed general support for: 1) Having simultaneous voting for vice chair, treasurer, and secretary at the national convention; 2) Selecting At-Large LNC Reps. via "approval voting"; 3) Reserving the first five minutes of Bylaws/Platform discussion for amendment-free debate; 4) Requiring the LNC to immediately state in writing its reason for disaffiliating any state party; and 6) Prohibiting LNC members from being affiliated with any other political party. The LNC expressed a lack of support for: 1) Allocating convention delegates in proportion to state population (rather than LP membership); 2) Prohibiting national LP candidates from calling for more media coverage under the "Equal Time" rule; and 3) Electing At-Large LNC Reps by instant run-off voting. The Governance Task Force will pass on these sentiments to the Bylaws Committee.

■ The LNC debated the merits of adopting the "Carver Model" of governance. Under the Carver Model, a board sets broad strategic goals and instructs the CEO to work with his/her staff to achieve them, without micromanagement. LP Secretary Steve Givot proposed a resolution that urged LNC members to "become fully informed" about the Carver Model before the July 3, 2002 meeting, at which time the LNC will vote whether to adopt it as a model of governance. It passed on a voice vote.

■ Arizona LP State Chair Peter Schmerl proposed the creation of a Libertarian Party Foundation, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization that would introduce libertarians to high school students via scholarships, essay contests, etc. On a voice vote, the LNC directed Chair Jim Lark to gather information — including legal advice — about charting such a foundation, and give a report at the July 3, 2002 meeting.

■ On a voice vote, the LNC agreed to change the distribution of membership dues under the Unified Membership Plan (UMP) so that if a state party recruits a new member, the state party keeps all but \$13 of the payment (or \$500 for a Life Membership). States would have the option of accepting this as an alternative to the current UMP plan. The LNC also agreed to adopt a \$5 student membership.

## Amidst controversy, Jacob Hornberger will run for U.S. Senate as independent

**F**ollowing a barrage of ethical charges against him, Jacob Hornberger has announced he will run as an independent for the U.S. Senate in Virginia.

On March 21, Hornberger said he would not seek the LP's endorsement to run for incumbent John Warner's seat in the U.S. Senate.

In an e-mail "Open Letter" to Virginia Libertarians, Hornberger said, "When I first began contemplating entering the U.S. Senate race, I fully intended to do so as the official candidate of the Virginia Libertarian Party.

"[But] after much thought, reflection, and soul-searching . . . I have decided to run for the U.S. Senate seat from Virginia as an independent candidate."

Hornberger, 51, the president of the non-partisan Future of Freedom Foundation, said he made the decision to "grant Chairman [Jim] Lark his request."

In mid-March, Lark had posted a message to the Virginia LP forum, charging that "during the past two years, [Hornberger] has engaged in actions that I consider to be at best reckless and at worst disgraceful. He has issued several articles and e-mails that contain a goodly measure of falsehoods and misleading statements that have served to cast aspersions upon various Libertarians."

Lark, the national LP Chair and a member of the Virginia LP state committee, suggested that Hornberger should run as an independent.

"I do not want the L.P.Va., a party I have worked vigorously to build for the better part of 16 years, to nominate candidates (especially for state-level races) for whom it must be said, 'He may be a scoundrel, but he's our scoundrel,'" he said.

Lark said he had been reluctant to get involved in the debate about Hornberger's nomination.

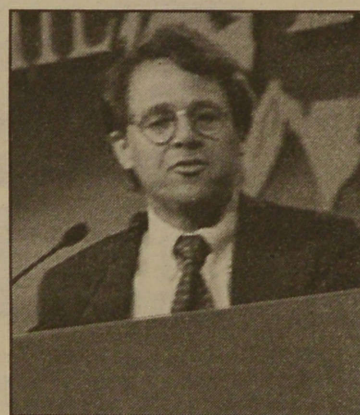
### Especially painful

"This situation is especially painful for me, in that Mr. Hornberger is someone for whom I used to have great respect and affection," he said. "However, given what I know of his regrettable behavior, I simply could not remain quiet about this situation."

In response, Hornberger hinted that Lark was opposing his Senate candidacy because Lark was antagonistic to Libertarians "who were battling in favor of ethical principles in the national LP."

"As many of you know, I have been very dissatisfied with the direction that the national Libertarian Party has taken for the past several years," said Hornberger. "Nevertheless, I had hoped that we could keep the ethics battle at the national level and out of the Virginia LP."

"[However, Lark has] made it clear that he fully intended to interject what was happening at the national level into the Virginia Libertarian



■ **Jacob Hornberger: "I have decided to run for the U.S. Senate seat from Virginia as an independent candidate."**

Party, and he has in fact done so."

Lark countered: "I don't know what Mr. Hornberger means by this accusation, and he has not responded to my request that he provide an explanation of, and evidence for, his claim. As I have made very clear, my opposition to his endorsement is based upon his documented lack of integrity and my belief that this lack disqualifies him from service as the [Virginia LP] Senate candidate."

Other state LP members also scoffed at the suggestion that Hornberger withdrew from the race simply because of Lark's request.

Hornberger's campaign had "aroused much controversy within the Virginia Libertarian Party," noted Chuck Eby, who writes for the Virginia LP website.

"Opposition to Hornberger's campaign fell into either of two groups. One suggested that Libertarians should focus efforts on more localized races; while the other suggested that running a candidate for the U.S.

Senate was fine — just not this particular one. The combination made his endorsement uncertain at the Virginia LP state convention [which took place on April 6]."

Immediate past State Chair Marc Montoni said, "Hornberger had alienated a substantial portion of the LPVA membership, and many planned to vote in favor of NOTA [none of the above] as a direct result. The odds of him winning the LPVA endorsement were slim and getting slimmer every time he opened his mouth."

Eby said much of the controversy had been generated by Hornberger's four-year "campaign against perceived ethical violations" allegedly committed by the Libertarian National Committee, the 1996 and 2000 Harry Browne for President campaigns, and LP national office staff.

Since 1998, Hornberger has sent out almost 60 e-mail messages that accused various Libertarians around the country of being "crooked, corrupt, and unethical."

### Divisive to party

"These continued allegations have alienated a sizable number of Libertarians nationwide and especially in Virginia," said Eby. "Many in this group opposed a Hornberger endorsement; some because they believe that Hornberger's continued pursuit of this matter is divisive to the party; others because they believe that Hornberger was less than honest with his accusations."

While not addressing the ethical charges against him, Hornberger said his decision to run as an independent will address the "wasted resources" concerns.

"[Running] as an independent  
See **HORNBERGER** Page 16

## Eisenbacher, 2 others win in Michigan and Wisconsin

Continued from Page 4

Michigan: Fred Collins (Berkley), Andy LeCureaux (Hazel Park), Bill Bradley (South Haven), and Mark Owen (Owosso).

Professionally, Eisenbacher works as a program manager for an automotive corporation.

Troy, a suburb of Detroit, is the 12th largest city in Michigan and has about 85,000 residents.

### Iron County Board

In other election news, Wisconsin Libertarian Gene Cisewski was elected to the Iron County Board of Supervisors.

Cisewski defeated a four-term incumbent, 61 votes to 38 votes, to claim the District 3 (Hurley) seat on the 15-member, non-partisan board.

In his campaign, Cisewski promised to fight tax increases, slow the



growth of county government, and defend private property rights. He also chastised the incumbent for approving major building projects that had been twice rejected by voters.

Cisewski is a former member of the Libertarian National Committee and former chair of the Washington, DC LP.

Also in Wisconsin, Libertarian Kevin Scheunemann was returned to the Kewaskum Village Board when no challengers ran against him or three other incumbents. Scheunemann was first elected in 2001.



# In Illinois, Skinner nominated for governor

Continued from Page 1

priations Committee for Infrastructure and Public Safety, and was the chairman of the Privatization Committee.

Skinner has also served as McHenry County treasurer. Professionally, he has worked as a budget examiner for the United States Bureau of the Budget.

In 2000, he lost his seat in the Republican primary by 1,800 votes.

Despite the fact that some Republicans urged him not to enter the race for governor as a Libertarian, Skinner said he is determined to "shake up" the system.

"No matter how hard the Republican Party establishment has sought to discourage me, I am still ready to do my part to inject some unorthodoxy into the Illinois political landscape," he said.

A press conference on March 26 that publicly debuted the Skinner/Tobin ticket generated coverage from three television news crews. The campaign has also been covered by the *Chicago Sun Times*, the *Arlington Heights Daily Herald*, the Associated Press, WGN cable television, and the Shaw News Service.

Skinner will need 25,000 signatures from registered voters by the deadline in June to get on the ballot.

During the 30-week period preceding the election, Skinner said he will hold a weekly press conference. Each event will focus on one issue that affects Illinois citizens, such as pork-barrel spending, liquor taxes, and vehicle fees.

## Power-party candidates

"I guarantee you the views I have will differ markedly from the power-party candidates," said Skinner.

Skinner's running mate, Jim Tobin, said he is glad state residents will have the opportunity to vote for lower taxes in the upcoming election.

"Every Republican and Democrat running for statewide office is a tax-raiser!" he said. "Illinois taxpayers have no real choice this November unless the Libertarian Party is on the ballot. The Skinner/Tobin team will give them that choice."

Tobin won the LP gubernatorial endorsement in 1998, but was unable to get on the ballot because the state Board of Elections invalidated more than 36,000 of his signatures.

State LP members said they were thrilled with the Skinner/Tobin ticket.

"This is the strongest slate we've run," said Ryhs Read, LP candidate for state treasurer. "I think we're going to make a good showing."

Illinois LP Executive Director Scott Kohlhaas said the Skinner/Tobin ticket offers "exciting prospects" for the state party.

"These are the most qualified candidates the Illinois LP could possibly have nominated for statewide office," he said. "At the very least, they give the Libertarian Party a great shot at automatic ballot access for 2004, and they have the potential to give the Democratic and Republican candi-

dates a run for their money as well."

In Illinois, a statewide candidate must earn at least 5% of the vote to gain ballot access for the party in the following election.

In return for running for governor on the LP ticket, Skinner said the Libertarian Party has pledged to aid him in an effort to place an initiative on the state ballot in 2004. About 268,000 signatures are required to qualify the initiative.

The proposed measure would cap at six the number of years an Illinois legislator could serve as a "caucus leader." Caucus leaders currently serve an unlimited period of time.

## November face off

In November, Skinner will face off against Republican state Attorney General Jim Ryan and Democratic U.S. Representative Rod Blagojevich.

Both major party candidates have

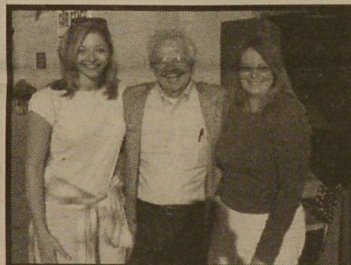
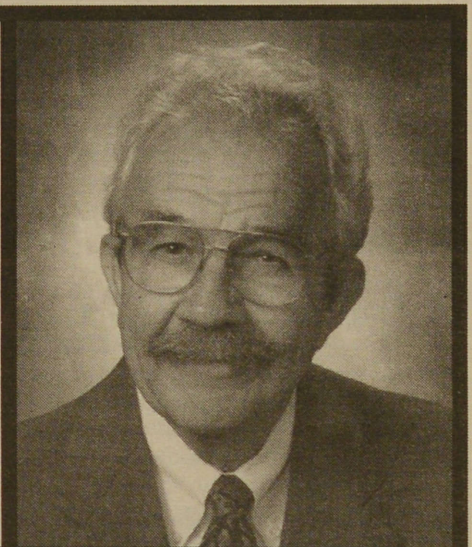
been tarred with scandal: Ryan has been accused of playing a role in trading vehicle licenses for bribes, while Blagojevich has been accused of illegally collecting legal fees while serving in the U.S. House.

Skinner said the tarnished reputations of his two challengers will work to his advantage in the race.

"This campaign is an opportunity for Illinois voters who feel that 'enough is enough' to vote their consciences," he said.

For more information, visit: [www.il.LP.org](http://www.il.LP.org). Or write: [lpi@il.LP.org](mailto:lpi@il.LP.org). Or call: (800) 735-1776.

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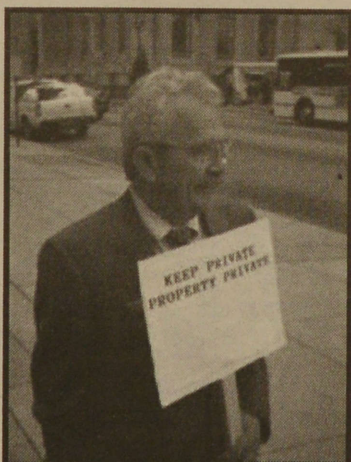
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Spear is well on his way to be the first third party gubernatorial candidate in Maryland since 1966. That will shake them up!!

Marylanders will have the libertarian message delivered by a charismatic speaker, and one of the major ad marketing areas in the state is the DC metro area.

Print, radio, and TV messages will be heard by political insiders, Hill staffers, and the national media as well as Maryland voters.



This is an opportunity to make a foothold in one of the biggest Democratic strongholds in America. Our chief Democratic opponent, Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, already has a whopping \$5.5 million banked in her warchest!

Our primary Republican opponent, Robert Ehrlich, is a pro-gun control politician making Spear the only candidate standing tall for Second Amendment rights.

We want to send the message that there is a valid alternative to the "one size fits all" politics of the 'Demopublicans' and the 'Republicrats'.

Our campaign plans to:

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- ♦ place together hard-hitting campaign literature
- ♦ set up an effective news release system
- ♦ create a comprehensive media campaign via radio, newspaper, and roadside advertising

By doing all of the above we will show the citizens of Maryland, as well as the whole Mid-Atlantic region, that the libertarian movement is the new driving force in American politics.

With the current political situation in our state, *anything could happen* – perhaps even a Minnesota-style upset???

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■ The *Libertarian Alternative*, as it appeared on the BBC (l-r) co-hosts Dusti Taylor and Mark Selzer, with British comedian Squeaky McClean and California gubernatorial candidate Gary Copeland.

## Libertarians appear on the BBC

Mark Selzer's dream of getting nationwide publicity for his Libertarian cable access show has finally come true.

The only problem is, the nation was Britain. And the television personality who interviewed him was Squeaky McClean.

Selzer's program — the *Libertarian Alternative* — was showcased on March 22 on the *Big Breakfast Show*, a lighthearted BBC morning program that features comedy and news.

"I think they chose our show because it's interesting, and higher quality than most shows on English television," said Selzer, who hosts the Los Angeles-based *Libertarian Alternative* with Dusti Taylor.

Selzer had been contacted in mid-March by Big Breakfast producers, who were in California to cover the Academy Awards. They asked to film the production of a "typical" American cable access show, with English comedian Squeaky McClean as one of the guests.

"Squeaky and the crew were looking for a fun contrast to interviewing Mel Gibson and Russell Crow, so they asked to be included in the *Libertarian Alternative*," said Selzer.

During the taping, Selzer, Taylor, and LP gubernatorial candidate Gary Copeland spoke and joked with McClean about politics and pop culture in England and America.

"Squeaky was no John Cleese, but he was funny," said Selzer. "He even did a magic trick at one point where he supposedly pulled the underwear he was wearing out of a bag. That was a lot of fun."

Unfortunately for the *Big Breakfast Show*, the jocular exposé of Libertarians didn't help its ratings — it was canceled on March 29.

Created in 2001, the 30-minute *Libertarian Alternative* reaches Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, and parts of Oregon.

## Hornberger will run as an independent in Virginia

Continued from Page 14

candidate will result in a win-win for everyone," he said. "Those who wish the party to avoid statewide races and concentrate on winning local races will be free to do that."

"Those LP members who support my candidacy will still be able to participate in what I believe is going to be a very exciting and dynamic political campaign. And of course I win, too, because I still get to run for the U.S. Senate seat and advance libertarianism."

State party leaders were uncertain what impact Hornberger might have on the U.S. Senate race.

Montoni said Hornberger could end up in a two-way race with just incumbent John Warner, or a three-way race with Warner and a Democrat, or a four-way race with Warner,

a Democrat, and a Lyndon LaRouche-affiliated independent candidate.

Hornberger is the founder of the Future of Freedom Foundation, a Virginia-based libertarian think tank known for its "no compromise" attitude. In 1996, he won the Thomas Paine award from the Libertarian Party for excellence in explaining libertarian principles.

## CORRECTIONS

■ In the April issue's *Libertarian Solutions*, it stated: "[Harry] Browne said the government should offer a reward of between \$200 billion and \$1 trillion to the first private company to develop a working [missile defense] system." In fact, Browne suggested it might cost the government between \$200 billion and \$1 trillion to develop such a system. The amount he said he would have offered a private company to develop such a system, were he elected president, was only \$50 billion.

## Oregon Libertarians help squash effort to pass \$800 million in new 'sin taxes'

Oregon Libertarians have succeeded in an effort to defeat proposed "sin tax" increases and an "ill-advised" term-limits proposal in the state legislature.

LP Executive Director Richard Burke said the LP helped save taxpayers \$800 million in new taxes in the special legislative session in February.

In addition, the party helped defeat a referendum proposed by state legislators that was designed to compete with a stronger, citizen-backed term limits initiative.

Both victories "further established [the LP] as a significant player in state politics," said Burke.

"I'm very pleased at what we've accomplished here in Oregon," he said. "We've found that when we take action, we can be very effective at influencing the decisions of state legislators. And we also generated some great publicity for the Libertarian Party."

The effort began in January, when Democratic Governor John Kitzhaber called a special legislative session to fill an \$800 million hole in the state budget. Kitzhaber supported an increase in cigarette and alcohol taxes as a partial solution to the state's budgetary woes, said Burke.

### 'No New Taxes' tour

In response, the LP launched a statewide "No New Taxes Media Tour," holding press conferences in 27 cities to rally the public against the tax hikes. Burke said the tour yielded dozens of media interviews and a daily report on a major Portland radio station.

As a result of the publicity and other grassroots lobbying efforts, hundreds of anti-tax letters, faxes, e-mails, and phone calls were sent to legislators from Oregon residents, said Burke.

The LP also held a press conference in the state capital in Salem prior to the legislative vote. There, the LP informed a crowd of political journalists that the party would run candidates in the November elections against any Republican legislator who voted in favor of a tax increase.

This warning was effective, said Burke, because of the slim majority the GOP has in the legislature. In the House, Republicans hold a four-seat majority; in the Senate, they have a one-seat edge.

Consequently, the tax bills never made it to the floor, said Burke.

"When we threaten to run tar-



■ Oregon LP Executive Director Richard Burke: Lobbying wins helped establish state LP "as a significant player in state politics."

geted candidates who campaign on private property rights and tax cuts, we have a definite advantage against the Republicans," he said. "Most of them didn't want to risk raising taxes under those circumstances."

A "stunned" Kitzhaber then called a second special legislative session at the end of February, said Burke, and again called for tax increases.

In response, Republican State Representative Cliff Zauner and Republican/Libertarian State Senator Gary George distributed copies of an LP news release to legislators, again warning that anyone who voted to increase taxes would be targeted for defeat in November.

As a result, only the bill to raise cigarette taxes made it to the House floor, said Burke. The bill failed on a 30-30 vote.

### Four-letter words

"According to Zauner and George, the LP's position caused no small amount of concern in the Republican caucuses," said Burke. "Allegedly, a number of four-letter words were used in reference to our strategy."

During the same session, the State Senate was set to consider a term-limits alternative to a citizen's initiative being promoted by LP activist

Eric Winters. The alternative had already passed the House, 31-27.

The citizen's initiative, spearheaded by Portland businessman Ted Piccolo, would limit legislators to three terms in the House and two in the Senate. After a total of 12 years in office, incumbents would be banned for life from serving again.

The politician-supported referendum was far more lenient, said Burke. That proposal would limit legislators to 12 consecutive years in office in either house, and allow legislators to later run again for office.

Although volunteers are still gathering signatures to place the Piccolo initiative on the ballot, Burke said it is "almost guaranteed" the drive will be successful. Putting both initiatives on the ballot would have confused voters, and may have led to the defeat of both measures, he said.

### 'Arrogantly vote'

Winters convinced Term Limits America, a national PAC, to support the Piccolo initiative. The PAC pledged to financially support candidates who "[oppose] incumbent Republicans who arrogantly vote to place this competing measure on the ballot."

Backing down in the face of that political threat, Senate President Gene Derfler chose not to bring the measure to a vote, said Burke.

"Although Libertarians are divided on term limits, the Oregon LP believed this case was a matter of putting citizen measures before the proposals of politicians," said Burke.

While pleased with the LP accomplishments, Burke said the battle is not yet over. Governor Kitzhaber has already said he will call a third special session in late May or June.

So, the LP will continue to pressure politicians to cut spending instead of increasing taxes, said Burke.

"If we succeed again, we will have another legislative victory," he said. "But if the Republicans raise taxes, the LP will be able to grow dramatically at their expense in the elections ahead. Once again, we can't lose."

# #1

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Meehan is a *big government, bring-back-the-bacon Democrat*. He broke his term limits pledge when he discovered that he liked the power that comes with an increasing number of terms in office.

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# Cato Institute celebrates 25th birthday

Continued from Page 1

of endurance, it's an accomplishment. We've grown up a lot over the years also."

Boaz joined Cato shortly after the institute was founded in 1977 by current President Ed Crane and Executive Board Vice President Charles Koch. At the time, the San Francisco-based organization had only a handful of staff members and a budget of just \$1 million.

But the Cato Institute, named after the pseudonymous author of a series of libertarian pamphlets written prior to the American Revolution, quickly rose to prominence due to the scholarship of such libertarian thinkers as Murray Rothbard, Richard Epstein, and James Buchanan.

Now located in Northwest Washington, DC, Cato currently boasts a staff of about 100 full-time employees and a \$14 million budget. The non-partisan organization accepts no government funds, receiving donations only from individuals, businesses, and private foundations.

In 2001, it was second only to the Brookings Institution in mass media citations of think tanks, according to media-watchdog group Fairness and Accuracy In Reporting.

Despite its surge in influence, Cato's mission is the same as when it was first founded: "To broaden the parameters of public policy debate to allow consideration of the traditional American principles of limited government, individual liberty, free markets and peace."

## Educate the public

To that end, Cato policy experts write reports, conduct research, testify before Congress, publish books, and generally seek to educate the public on libertarian ideas.

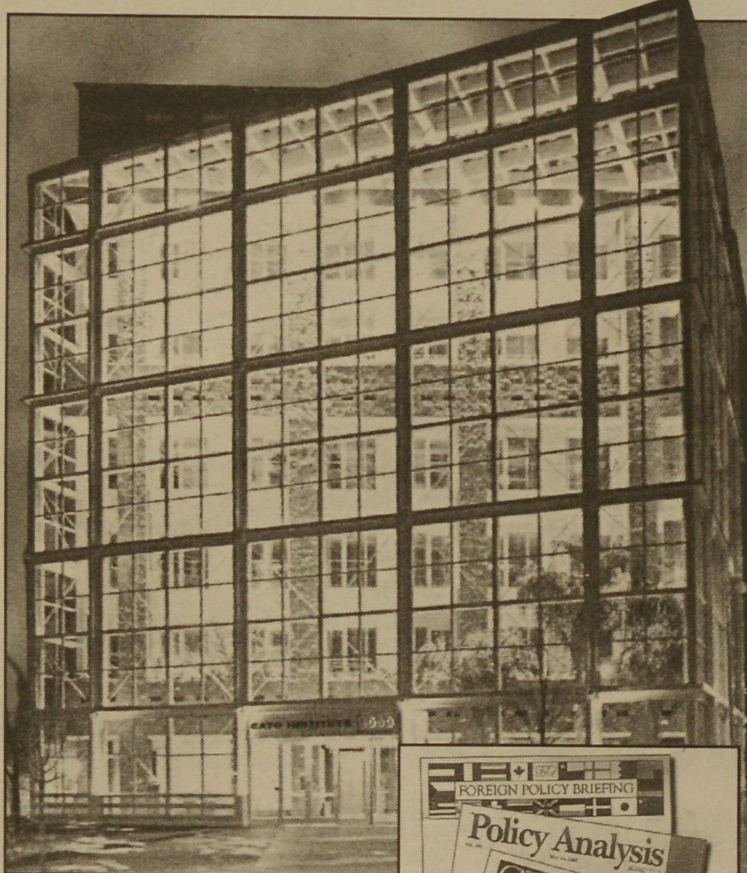
Regular Cato publications include the biannual *Cato Handbook for Congress* — dubbed by the *Washington Post* as a "soup-to-nuts agenda to reduce spending, kill programs, terminate whole agencies and dramatically restrict the power of the federal government" — and *Regulation*, a quarterly magazine that analyzes recent additions to the *Federal Register*.

Cato has also published a veritable library of free-market books, including *It's Getting Better All The Time: Greatest Trends of the 20th Century* by Stephen Moore and Julian Simon, *The Politics of Envy: Statism as Theology* by Doug Bandow, and *Libertarianism: A Primer*, by Boaz himself.

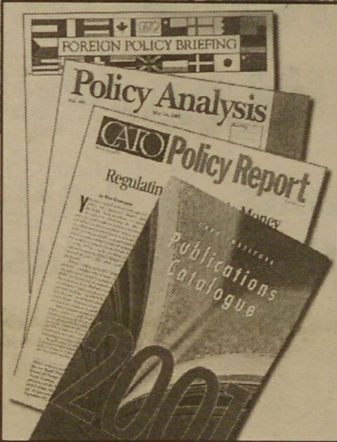
"Our goal has always been to establish the libertarian perspective as part of the mainstream debate on public policy," said Boaz. "And I think we've come a long way. Libertarian ideas that were not being seriously considered before are now addressed to a much greater extent."

Among Cato's foremost accomplishments is popularizing Social Security privatization, said Boaz.

In 1979, the debut issue of the *Cato Policy Report* contained an article advocating the privatization of the Social Security system — a subject that was considered the "third



Above: The Cato Institute's gleaming glass headquarters in Washington, DC. Right: A sample of Cato's publications.



rail" of American politics at the time.

Since then, said Boaz, popular opinion on the issue has shifted, and many public opinion leaders consider Social Security privatization a viable policy proposal.

Moreover, President George W. Bush has appointed several individuals with links to Cato to serve on his Commission to Strengthen Social Security, which has been charged with developing a plan to privatize 2% of retirement contributions.

"We are very proud of the work we've done in the area of Social Security privatization," said Boaz. "Right now, privatization is just a gleam in the eye of the president, but just the fact that he ran on a platform that included partial Social Security privatization is noteworthy."

Cato has also helped deliver the

libertarian message of free markets and limited government to citizens overseas. During the 1980s, the institute was involved in smuggling pro-liberty literature into Poland and the Soviet Union, both under communist rule at the time.

In 1988, Cato hosted a conference in Shanghai, China — the first free-market conference held in the country since its communist takeover — and a 1990 conference in Moscow, Russia, following the collapse of the Soviet Empire.

Cato has also distributed over 2

million copies of a pocket version of the U.S. Constitution, said Boaz.

"Our pocket Constitution has helped to revitalize the idea of restoring government to its Constitutional limits," he said. "A lot of politicians on Capitol Hill have been seen carrying it around."

National Libertarian Party Chair James W. Lark congratulated the Cato Institute on its longevity and "important contribution to the liberty movement."

"The Cato Institute is one of the reasons I am optimistic that the libertarian perspective of individual liberty and personal responsibility will triumph in America," he said.

## Widely known

In the nation's capital, the Cato Institute is widely known and respected by citizens of all political stripes, said Kat DeBurgh, chair of the Libertarian Party in DC.

"Everyone knows about Cato here," she said. "I have heard liberals call it 'The Libertarian Mecca,' and

while I don't pray five times a day in the direction of Cato, I do sometimes give directions to my apartment using it as a reference point."

What does Cato have planned for the next 25 years?

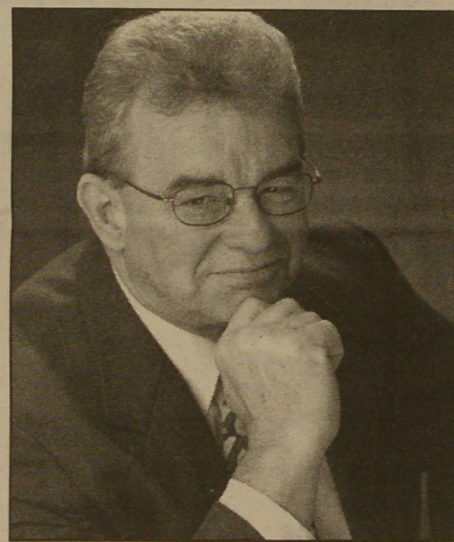
Boaz said the organization will develop newly launched projects such as the Center for Educational Freedom, which promotes deregulation and privatization of schools, and a Center for Representative Government, which promotes ideas such as legislative term limits and free-market campaigning.

In addition, the institute also has plans to publish an annual journal called *Cato Supreme Court Review*, which will analyze major Supreme Court decisions from a libertarian legal perspective.

"We want to do more — much more," he said. "Look for Cato to get bigger and better."

"We want libertarian ideas to play an integral role in public policy debate outside of the Beltway as well as inside of it, so the average American understands fundamental libertarian principles."

For more information, visit: [www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org).



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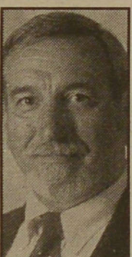
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HARRY BROWNE



PARTY FOUNDER  
DAVID NOLAN



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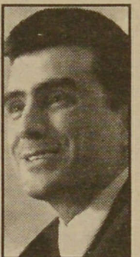
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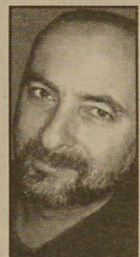
## SPEAKERS



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RON PAUL (R-TX)



COSTA RICA  
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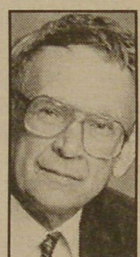
AUTHOR  
MARY RUWART



MA. CANDIDATE  
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## Party loses majority on Leadville, Co. city council

Less than five months after gaining a majority on the Leadville, Colorado city council, Libertarians have lost control of the local legislative body — at least in name.

On March 21, council member Joe Swyers changed his Libertarian registration to unaffiliated after a number of local citizens protested Libertarian efforts to repeal a business licensing fee and reduce regulations.

"It's not uncommon for forces of the status quo to resist Libertarian reforms," said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger. "What is unusual in Leadville is that this dispute cost us a Libertarian officeholder."

Swyers' decision reduced the number of registered Libertarians on the seven-member city council from four to three.

Swyers said he decided to distance himself from the party after Libertarians were branded as "anarchists" during a city council meeting and in letters published in local newspapers.

At a contentious city council meeting on March 20, a Libertarian motion to eliminate a \$50 business-licensing fee and limit a weed ordinance met with fierce opposition, said Swyers.

The elimination of the fee would have saved about \$15,000. However, opponents of the repeal argued that eliminating the fee would jeopardize the city's ability to lobby for grant money from the state. In 2000, the city received about \$190,000 in grants from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

### 'Trashing their yards'

Opponents of the weed regulation repeal charged that if it passed, the city wouldn't be able to "control weeds growing in people's yards," and that "people are going to start trashing their yards."

After a number of business owners at the meeting also spoke in favor of the business fee, the council unanimously voted to keep it in place. The weed ordinance reform effort failed on a 4-3 vote.

Meanwhile, an anti-Libertarian publicity campaign kicked off with two op-eds published in the weekly *Herald Democrat*. Written by Leadville Mayor Chet Gaede, both essays charged that Libertarians are trying to advance an agenda that is not supported by most Leadville citizens.

Several other disparaging letters followed in the weekly *Leadville Chronicle*. One letter-writer claimed the libertarian agenda was not "compatible with democracy," while another labeled the Libertarians the "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse."

A small business owner, Swyers said his sales have slumped by one-third as a result of "personal retribution" against his political positions.

"Even after 30 years nationally and 30 years locally, the majority of Americans are not ready for a Libertarian majority," he said. "I am trying to disassociate myself from anar-

chism both for my personal economic survival and to remain politically viable enough to remain in office until the end of this term."

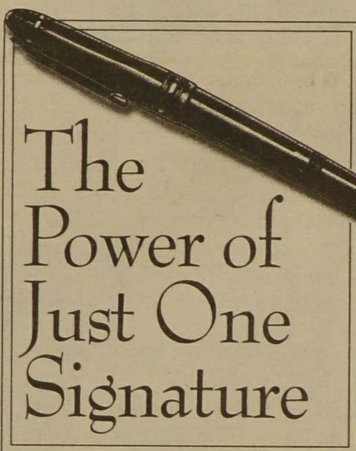
Colorado LP publications director Ari Armstrong said it was "bizarre" that Swyers did not publish his own response to accusations of anarchism, and said Libertarian Party members need "to work within the system to promote political change."

"Responding to [Libertarian] critics by granting them the moral high-ground and getting defensive never gets good results," he said. "At any rate, I wish the Leadville city council well."

### Second majority

In November 2001, the Leadville Libertarians became the second working Libertarian majority on a legislative board in LP history. That feat was first accomplished in the late 1980s in Big Water, Utah.

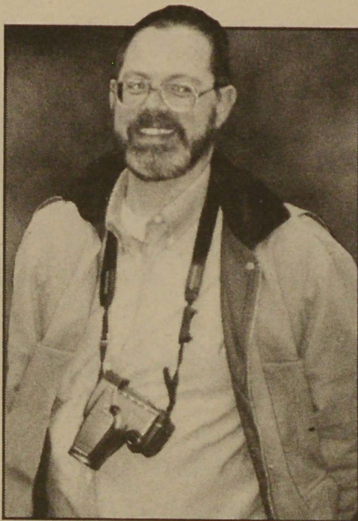
In the non-partisan election, registered Libertarian Carol Hill defeated an incumbent and challenger in Ward 1, garnering 48.6% of the vote. Registered Libertarian Ken Cary won election in Ward 2 with 52% of the vote in a two-way race.



**D**o you think our government has gotten too big and too powerful? Do you think a maze of bureaucrats and politicians are chipping away at the freedoms Americans used to take for granted? Do you think the Bill of Rights is being silently repealed — one precious freedom at a time?

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**■ City council member Joe Swyers is trying to "remain politically viable enough to remain in office until the end of this term."**

The two newly elected council members joined Joe Swyers (Ward 2) and Lisa Dowdney (Ward 3). Both were elected in 1999, but Dowdney registered as a Libertarian shortly after the 2001 election to create the Libertarian majority.

Crickenberger said he regretted Swyers' decision.

"Joe's decision to change his Libertarian registration is disappointing — but not as disappointing as the actions of some Leadville residents," he said. "However, we hope that one day Joe will be willing to again proudly identify himself as a Libertarian."

## LP candidate training offered at Convention

The Libertarian Party will offer a campaign training seminar at the upcoming National Convention that will teach candidates the "tricks, techniques, and lessons of Libertarian success."

The event — entitled the Libertarian Victory School — will be held from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday (July 2-3), just prior to the National Convention at the Indianapolis Marriott in Indianapolis, Indiana, announced LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

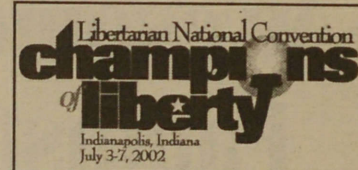
"The Libertarian Victory School is your ticket to more campaign success," he said.

Presenters at the Libertarian Victory School include:

■ **Ron Crickenberger**, manager of the winning campaign of Bruce Van Buren for Avondale Estates City Commission (Georgia), and named "Rising Star of Politics" by *Campaigns and Elections* magazine.

■ **Don Gorman**, former Libertarian New Hampshire State Representative, and newly elected member of the Deerfield School Board.

■ **Chris Azzaro**, Director of the Libertarian Victory fund, a political action committee dedicated to elect-



ing Libertarians to local office. Since its founding one year ago, the LVP has assisted nine winning Libertarian races with campaign help.

The two-day seminar will teach candidates how to maximize the last four months of a campaign; how to raise campaign "seed" money; how to earn "free" media; how to effectively use volunteers; how to craft powerful direct mail; and more.

"The Libertarian Victory School is your opportunity to learn the tricks, techniques, and lessons of Libertarian success," said Crickenberger.

The cost for the Libertarian Victory School is \$30.00 with any paid convention package, or \$60.00 without a convention package. Registration includes morning coffee and pastries, and a Libertarian Victory School manual.

For information, call Crickenberger: (202) 333-0008 Ext. 227. Or e-mail: RonCrickenberger@hq.LP.org.

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# Governor Gary Johnson (almost) shuts door on LP presidential bid

**R**epublican New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson has said he does not plan to seek the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination in 2004 — but hinted there was a chance he might do so in the future.

At the Massachusetts LP convention in Woburn on April 6, Johnson said he wouldn't think about running for president for at least six to 10 years, and then expected to run as a Republican, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

"Governor Johnson made it clear that he expected any presidential campaign would be under the Republican banner," said Crickenberger. "However, he did say he would use whatever strategy was best to advance the drug reform agenda — which could include running as a Republican, or under a third-party label."

## More unequivocal

Johnson, who has gained national prominence for his opposition to the War on Drugs, had given a more unequivocal answer when asked about a Libertarian presidential bid at a press conference on February 28.

"If I were to do that [run for president], I would want to win, and I really think the Libertarian candidate doesn't have that chance," he said, according to an article from the Associated Press.

Speculation about a Johnson for president run had spiraled in Libertarian circles after the governor



■ Massachusetts LP State Chair Elias Israel (l) shakes hands with N.M. Governor Gary Johnson, who spoke at the state convention — and squashed hopes he would seek the LP's presidential nomination in 2004.

agreed to speak at the Massachusetts LP state convention and at the Wisconsin LP convention on April 13.

Johnson also came in first place in a January online presidential straw poll hosted by the Cass County LP in Missouri, with 17.3% of the vote.

On the other hand, some New Mexico Libertarians who tried to con-

vince Johnson to run for president in 2002 now say they are less excited about the possibility.

"He's moved in the wrong direction, and he signed legislation making things tougher for third parties. I think he is less of a libertarian than he used to be," said LP State Chair Joseph Knight.

## POLITICS 2002

### Libertarians on C-SPAN, Fox News, ABC.com

■ In Colorado, **Steve F. Gresh** has filed to run for state representative (District #20). In Massachusetts, **Kevin Litten** has announced he will run for U.S. House (District 2). In Missouri, **Tamara Millay** will run for U.S. Senate. Also in Missouri, **Paul Kientzy** and **Andrew Finkenshtadt** filed to run for St. Charles County Clerk. In Maryland, **Dave Margolis** is running for Howard County Council (District 5). In Wisconsin, **Jay Trommer** will run for State Assembly (District 58). In New York, **Lee J. Monnet** has been endorsed by the state LP executive committee to run for State Assembly (District 112). In North Carolina, **Richard Moore** will run for Rockingham County Commissioner. In Texas, **Robert Paty** will run for Nacogdoches County Treasurer.

■ In Washington, **Charlie Novy** was named state LP "Activist of the Year." In North Carolina, **Kevin Rollins** has been re-elected Chair of the Buncombe County LP, while **Charles Hickman** was elected Chair of the Beaufort County LP. In Pennsylvania, **John Haley** has been elected State Chair. In Virginia, **Michelle Vachris** was elected Chair of the Virginia Beach LP.

■ **Media notes:** The Libertarian Party was a co-signer in a full-page ad in the *New York Times* on March 6, placed by the Coalition for Compassionate Access. The ad urged the federal government to stop arresting medical marijuana patients. On March 14, Colorado Sheriff **Bill Masters** appeared on *Washington Journal* on C-SPAN.



On March 29, former LP presidential candidate **Harry Browne** appeared on *Hannity & Colmes* on the Fox News Channel. On March 28, LP Executive Director **Steve Dasbach** debated the "fat fax" with a representative of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) on the ABC.com website with host Sam Donaldson.

■ In Georgia, Marietta businessman **Sandy Thomas** will seek the LP's nomination for U.S. Senate. In Missouri, eight Libertarians have launched campaigns: **Darla R. Maloney** (U.S. House, District #2), Dr. **John C. Mruzik** (U.S. House, District #9), **Kurt Trachte** (State House, District #18), **Jason T. Werges** (State House, District #20), **Timothy Doubledee** (State House, District #157), **Gary Stocker** (St. Louis county executive), **Van Fiegenschue** (Texas County clerk), and **Mike Ferguson** (Belton City charter commissioner). In Michigan, **Barry Campbell** has filed to run for Sheriff of Marion County.

■ In Delaware, **George Smith** has been elected State Chair. In Indiana, **Greg Stempfle** was elected Chair of the Wayne County LP. In Texas, **Robert "Rock" Howard** has been appointed political director. In Washington, **Jonny Whiting** was elected Chair of the Pierce County LP, **Laren McLaren** was elected Chair of the Snohomish County LP, and **Michael Strong** has taken over as Chair of the Skagit/San Juan County LP.

■ In Illinois, Round Lake Area Schools Board of Education member **W. Guy Finley** has joined the Libertarian Party. In New Jersey, **Frank Warren** was appointed to the North Plainfield Environmental Commission. In Michigan, **Dave Collver** was appointed to the Hazel Park Zoning Board of Appeals. In Oklahoma, **Chris Powell** was defeated in his race for Bethany City Council on March 19. The victim of an anonymous "Voter's Guide" hit piece that surfaced the day before the election, Powell won 34% of the vote in a two-way race. "What our campaign did was very successful, and had it not been for eleventh-hour dirty tricks, I am certain we would have won," he said.

■ In Massachusetts, **Steve Olson** is running for State Representative (7th Plymouth District), while **Matt Dailey** is running for Tewksbury Selectman. In Montana, **David A. Merrick** is running for State Representative (District 60). In Virginia, **Rance Edwards, Jr.** has qualified for the ballot to run for Blacksburg town council. In New Jersey, **Ned Kelley** is running for a seat on the Lebanon Township Committee. In Massachusetts, **Carla Howell** debated three potential Democratic challengers on April 3 at St. John's Prep School in Danvers in a forum sponsored by the Essex County Selectman's Association.

■ In Mississippi, **Harold Taylor** will run for U.S. House (District 1). In Hawaii, **Jeff Mallan** and **Lehr Duquesne** are considering running for U.S. House (District 2) while **Aaron Anderson** is weighing a run for Hawaii County Council. In North Carolina, **Christopher Cole** will run for U.S. House (District 9). In Texas, **Ron West** will run for State House (District 91). In Alabama, **Larry Darby** has dropped his bid for attorney general. In Georgia, **Wayne Parker** has been nominated to run for U.S. House (District 11).



## THEY'VE STOLEN OUR GOLD! #2



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# OFFICIAL LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



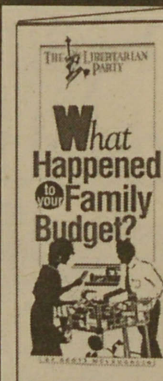
■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party political ideas and policies.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



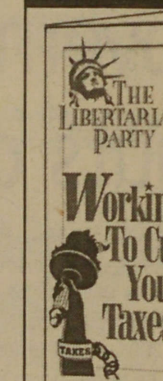
■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, shelter & clothing combined.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's 5-point anti-crime program that protects civil liberties while providing more resources to fight real criminals.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100



■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP will reduce the cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, & ending income taxes.  
★ Sample: 50¢  
Or \$7 for 100

## LP Literature & Books

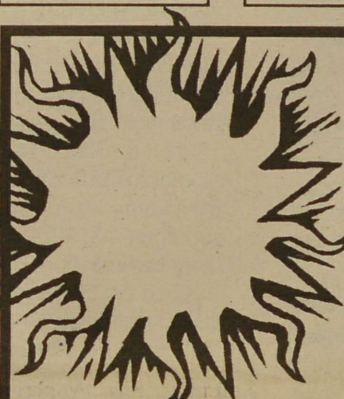
■ **Why Government Doesn't Work** by Harry Browne. The 1996 Presidential campaign manifesto: Explains why government doesn't work, and why it will never work as well as voluntary solutions. Outlines a Libertarian plan for victory. Hardbound, 245 pages. **Cost:** \$11.95

■ **Libertarianism In One Lesson** by David Bergland. Expanded 8th edition. The classic introductory work. Outlines Libertarian positions on all major political issues and contrasts them to liberals and conservatives. A must-read. Softbound, 158 pages. **Cost:** \$10 each; or 5 for \$35.

■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners — unlike the Republican Party, which constantly sells them out. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending — and points out that the federal government spends more than \$1 million every five seconds. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



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Spring is here, summer is coming — so a Libertarian's heart turns to (what else?) *outreach!* That's right: All over America, county fairs, flea markets, concerts, and other outdoor events will soon be attracting crowds of people. And wherever people gather, there's an opportunity for Libertarian outreach.

Will you do your part this summer to spread the word about the Libertarian Party? We have a wide variety of compelling, attractive outreach literature for sale. With your help, we can make the next five months the sizzling summer of Libertarian growth!

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-2000) and a comprehensive two-page bibliography (featuring more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

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

## Bumperstickers

\$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

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

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

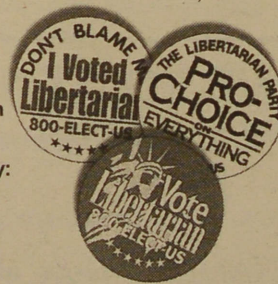
## Buttons

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

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US



## Windbreaker (Jacket)

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

## Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. A must read! **Cost:** \$3.00 each

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

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

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. **Cost:** \$3 for set

## Large Banners

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which you want on the order form.) **Cost:** \$40 each

## Yard Sign

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN.** Red, white, & blue on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for campaigns. **Cost:** \$8.00 each.

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There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow up to 2-3 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add \$5 for Post Office box deliveries. Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party.

## Yard Signs

Q'NTY COST  
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## Ready-to-use Literature

\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"  
\_\_\_\_\_ Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"  
\_\_\_\_\_ America's Libertarian Heritage booklet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)  
\_\_\_\_\_ World's Smallest Political Quiz  
\_\_\_\_\_ "Million Dollar Bill" Literature

## Large Banners

\_\_\_\_\_ "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5')  
Please check preferred second line:  
☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-ELECT-US

## Bumper Stickers

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian  
\_\_\_\_\_ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!  
\_\_\_\_\_ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN  
\_\_\_\_\_ Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

## Tools for Campaigning

\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian Political Action Booklet  
\_\_\_\_\_ Statue of Liberty logo master  
\_\_\_\_\_ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk  
\_\_\_\_\_ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

## Books for Sale

\_\_\_\_\_ Why Government Doesn't Work • Browne  
\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarianism In One Lesson • Bergland

## Windbreaker Jacket

\_\_\_\_\_ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL.

## Buttons

\_\_\_\_\_ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian  
\_\_\_\_\_ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US  
\_\_\_\_\_ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

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\_\_\_\_\_ Merchandise Total  
\_\_\_\_\_ RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling  
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Expires

Signature

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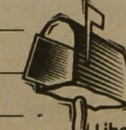
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## HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER



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Washington, DC 20037



## THE VOLUNTEER

# How to publicize and conduct an enjoyable, effective LP meeting

■ **Editor's note:** What does it take to host a successful, well-attended, interesting meeting for your state or local Libertarian Party? Here are some practical suggestions.

**W**hy host a Libertarian meeting? First, because it is fun and emotionally rewarding.

Second, because regular meetings are essential for any successful group. Ideally, your meetings should be held at the same place and time every month.

In addition, make sure to:

1. Book your meeting rooms at least 6-8 weeks in advance to allow plenty of time for advertising. Major events will usually require at least three to four months advance booking. Many newspapers and radio stations also offer free advertising for community activities.

One of the most common — and serious — mistakes most groups make is not scheduling activities far enough in advance to allow time for adequate advertising.

2. Schedule a time that is most convenient for your audience. For community groups, Friday or Saturday night is frequently best. At most colleges, the best time is usually mid-week and mid- or late-afternoon.

### Fun and exciting

3. Make your meetings interesting, fun and exciting. Schedule controversial speakers. Debate with the opposition. Have tasty snacks. Recruit attractive hosts and hostesses to greet people. Get everyone involved in discussions and projects.

Meet at interesting places, such as modestly priced restaurants. If you



meet in a home, serve chocolate fondue, wine, home-made pizza, and other tasty foods. Have a barbecue or swim party. Make your meetings an activity people look forward to.

Regarding speakers, you can locate excellent free speakers through local colleges, ACLU chapters, and libertarian groups.

4. Advertise, advertise, advertise. No one will come to your meeting if they don't know about it far enough in advance to plan to attend. I recommend a monthly bulletin listing meetings at least two meetings in advance. A bulletin sent in early or mid-June, for example, should advertise meetings in July and August.

Advertise your meetings to non-members. There are many inexpen-

## By Jarret Wollstein

sive, yet effective ways of advertising, including free listings in the club news section of all local papers and other groups' newsletters, wide distribution of flyers created on a home computer, and mentions on local radio and TV bulletin boards.

Also, post to all relevant Internet newsgroups and to all local Libertarian e-mail discussion lists.

If there are libertarian-leaning talk radio hosts in your area, they will probably be glad to mention your meetings on their program — giving you a listening audience of thousands or even millions of people for free.

In each case, get your announcements out early. Many weekly newspapers need your announcement 2-3 weeks in advance, and even daily newspapers may require more than a week of advance notice.

### Checklist for success

Here's a check-list for running successful meetings:

✓ Advertise at least 4-6 weeks in

advance. Schedule exciting and controversial speakers.

✓ Meet at a regular location that's easy to find, conveniently located, and has plenty of free parking.

✓ Don't book too large a room. It looks bad to have ten people in a room designed for 100.

✓ Arrive early to make sure everything is properly set up; that the sound system works; that literature is displayed, etc.

✓ Greet everyone, and make them feel welcome. I strongly recommend having an attractive, well-dressed, gregarious woman at the registration table or by the front door to greet everyone.

✓ If the meeting is small, put chairs in a circle. Have each person introduce him or herself.

✓ Start your meeting on time.

✓ Get names, addresses, and telephone numbers of everyone who attends. If you have a college group, be sure to get both the campus and home addresses of students.

✓ Provide name tags, particularly if you have a large and growing group.

✓ Serve tasty refreshments or meet at a restaurant.

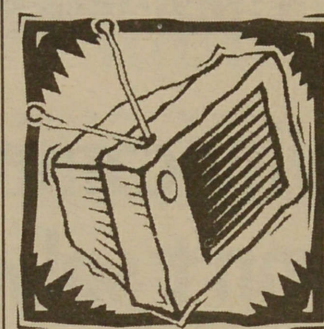
✓ Have literature on hand. You should have a brochure describing your group, including objectives, activities (give specific examples of past successful events), publications, membership fees, and the name, phone, fax or e-mail address of local contacts (including best times to call).

✓ Usually limit speeches to 15 to 30 minutes. Most people's attention spans flag after about 30 minutes. And allow plenty of time for questions.

✓ Get feedback. Ask people what they liked and disliked about the meeting, suggestions for future activities, and if they would like to help out with the group.

✓ Thank everyone for coming and invite them to come back.

■ **About the author:** Jarret Wollstein is a director of the International Society for Individual Liberty. This article is reprinted from the ISIL brochure, "Creating a Successful Libertarian Outreach Organization." For more information about the International Society for Individual Liberty, visit: [www.isil.org](http://www.isil.org).



## How to get the media coverage the LP deserves

**N**ews flash: Journalists aren't out to get you.

In most cases, they are just trying to do their job. Help them do that job, and you'll get better coverage. Be hostile, unprofessional, or unhelpful, and you'll get worse coverage.

Here are seven simple suggestions that will make your relationship with the media smoother and more harmonious.

1. Reporters have deadlines to meet. Avoiding them annoys them, and often provokes them to write, "Repeated attempts to reach [you] were unavailing."

2. Don't say anything "off the record" or "on background" unless you have complete, personal, and time-tested trust in the reporter. And even then, establish explicitly what can and can't be printed.

3. Accuracy is your responsibility. Reporters are fallible. After an interview, ask to have your statements read back to you to correct errors or clarify your message.

4. "That's not what I meant" is no defense . . . if that's what you said. Newspapers and magazines print quotes, not context. If you sense that a statement could be misinterpreted, don't make it.

5. Know your lines before going on stage. Preparation for your appearance before the press is vital. Write down your key messages and practice delivering them. If you're dealing with a touchy subject, have someone ask you some really tough questions beforehand.

6. Talk to the print media first, so you can mentally condense your replies for the TV and radio people. Since TV seldom gives you more than 20 seconds of airtime, don't ramble. Talk in soundbites — short, meaningful quotes. Make your point, and keep making it, so that no matter what soundbite they use, it'll be one you want.

7. If you're on TV, don't frown, fidget, or slump. Be poised and aware of your facial expressions. Direct your gaze at the camera: Looking away, down, or at the microphone can make you appear evasive, drowsy or dazed, respectively.

## LNC: Repeal USA/Patriot Act

Continued from Page 3

action to bring to justice the ruthless terrorists who killed 3,000 Americans on September 11," he said. "However, with this resolution, the LNC has drawn a line in the sand, and made it clear that Libertarians will not tolerate any infringement of our basic civil liberties in the name of combating terrorism.

### Real patriotism

"When Republicans and Democrats passed the USA/Patriot Act, they did an easy thing, given the mood of the public. When the LNC voted to repeal the bill, they did a difficult thing — because real patriotism entails defending the Bill of Rights, even when doing so is unpopular, instead of sacrificing fundamental American principles during a time of crisis."

The USA/Patriot Act gave the U.S. attorney general the power to install the carnivore e-mail snooping system without a court warrant; expanded the legal definition of a "terrorist;" and made it easier for the government to tap multiple phones as part of a "roving wiretap."

The bill was signed into law by President George W. Bush on October 26, 2001, after passing the U.S. Senate 98-1, and the U.S. House 356-66.



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## THE FORUM

# Why campaign finance reform won't solve government's woes

*"When buying and selling are controlled by legislation, the first things to be bought and sold are legislators."*  
— P.J. O'Rourke

On March 27, President George W. Bush signed the campaign finance "reform" bill — to the delight of both the Left and the Right.

The bill banned national political parties from accepting unregulated "soft" money, prohibited certain kinds of advertisements, and limited the power of political action committees (PACs).

Regardless of their political affiliation, politicians from Bill Bradley to John McCain cheered the success of their demands to limit the amount of "special interest" money that was "influencing" and "corrupting" the American election process.

These politicians have one thing in common: They all want to clean up the system. But no one wants to identify what makes the system so corruptible.

The dollars floating around American politics make it clear that our "representatives" belong to someone other than those who voted for them: They belong to those who paid

for them.

Candidates and political parties dependent upon donations from "special interest" groups were being influenced by their contributors to vote auspiciously on legislation affecting those interests. The result was frequently corporate welfare — subsidies and grants, or laws that restrain or even forbid competition.

From tariffs to Internet taxation, most anyone who can be threatened or strengthened by government interference tries to steer things their way. Corporations, most often cast as the villain in the campaign finance debate, did not create this mess. They are guilty only of making sure it works for them.

### The solution

Politicians assured us the solution was campaign finance reform. Primarily, we were told, more constraints on soft money (money given directly to political parties) and hard money (contributions to a specific candidate) were needed.

But these are not realistic solutions. Hard money has been regu-

lated for over 20 years, and restricting advertisements in an effort to "return government to the people" is simply not acceptable in a free society.

That Americans have forgotten the proper role of government is precisely what "reformers" are counting on.

Dragging out the same tired, old clichés waxed so eloquently four, eight, or 12 years ago, politicians proposed more laws to manage a problem made possible only by government's pervasiveness! When people feel control over their lives slipping away in the shadow of a corporate leviathan, they instinctively seek to limit the amount of control that can be had over legislators — instead of seeking to limit the amount of sway the legislature has over them.

To restore trust between the indi-

vidual voter and his representatives requires an understanding of how their Constitutional relationship has been breached.

The only moral purpose for government is the protection of its citizens against acts of force and fraud. The Founding Fathers subordinated government to the will of the individual by limiting it to clearly defined functions.

Elections were never meant to provide new "rulers." Elected officials were expected to carry out delegated tasks only. They were expected to govern, not rule. Today, politicians regulate, tax, and oversee activities that were never supposed to feel their touch — and then lay blame on those who pay for their campaigns!

In the last 100 years, control of the economy has been the major battleground for political expansion.

From the forced provision of employee benefits (including medical leave), OSHA regulations, and the minimum wage, to affirmative action and anti-trust laws, companies often feel the heavy hand of government in their affairs.

Whether it is morally "right" or "wrong" for them to try, in return, to influence the behavior of government is irrelevant.

See **REFORM** Page 25



## What if guns were treated just like cars?

**Editor's note:** Using the argument, "We should treat guns like we treat cars," opponents of gun rights demand more government licenses for weapons, or more mandatory testing of gun owners.

"After all," they say, "in order to drive a car, you must take a test and get a government license. Why shouldn't we require at least as much when you buy a gun?"

In response, Ron Miller produced this tongue-in-cheek response, examining what it would be like if guns were, indeed, treated like cars.

**1** You could get a simple license from the state for a nominal fee, and only have to take a test that any idiot could pass. You'd only have to renew it every 10 years.

**2.** You could kill and injure people with your gun while drunk, and still have your lawyer get your gun back because you need it for work.

**3.** You could carry in any state at any time — because possession of a gun is honored nationwide. It's also considered a basic American civil right.

**4.** You would see commercials on TV pushing the newest, latest guns which you could lease for just \$25 per month (subject to the fine print).

**5.** You could finance a fancier gun than you can really afford by taking a five-year loan with approved credit.

**6.** You would have a gun safe built into every house. In the upscale houses, you would have three gun safes. Inexpensive houses and mobile homes would just have a gunrack by the door.

**7.** You'd have gun storage lockers at the shopping mall in which to store your rifle while shopping.

**8.** You could buy ammunition at the 7-11. Full-service station means they'll reload your magazines for you.

**9.** If the price of ammunition rose 20%, the federal government would release war reserves of ammo to bring the price back down to the consumer's comfort level.

**10.** Every 16-year-old would be looking forward to the day when he could take the family revolver to school.

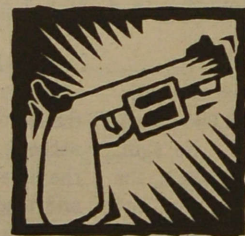
**11.** Schools would have shooter's education classes to make sure the kids could pass the test. They would show gory films of gunshot wounds. The squeamish would throw up.

**12.** Old people who can hardly see would still be permitted to shoot in public, because to disarm them would be to damage their self-esteem.

**13.** There would be such a thing as gun safety.

See **GUNS** Page 25

By Ron Miller



# Cowboys and Indians: A tale of two cultures

This past year, I have been privileged to work with a young man from India. I shall call him "Vid." In the office, we often refer to Vid as our "faithful Indian companion," but I don't think he gets the joke.

Vid is an atypical Indian, quite Western in many ways. He often says, "My mother prays to cows, I eat them!"

You can learn a lot listening to Vid. Once, he happened to mention that his people do not listen to the radio. Don't they have radios in India? Yes, they do.

### Nobody listens

So what was the problem? After a little digging, I found out that the Indian government controls the radio stations. Their programming choices, from what I can tell, are mostly public service announcements. So, nobody listens.

Once, while speeding down the interstate, Vid said that his people could not travel like this — the roads simply were not good enough. The government builds the roads, and apparently, they do not do it well.

Okay, India is a train country, but there is a lack of flexibility in trains,

good for delivering bulk supplies but bad about delivering just-in-time inventories, or people, in a timely manner.

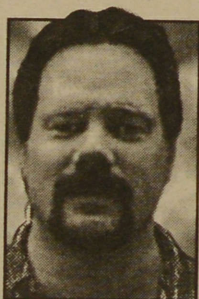
But India has far greater problems. I have told Vid — though I am sure he already knows — that the big challenge for India in the coming generation is to make its great mass of population, now mired in poverty, productive.

Millions of poor people have to be fed, and that takes a lot out of an economy, especially if those people cannot put anything back in.

What I have not told Vid is that it is his own government and his own society that prevent these people from being productive.

Laws, traditions, influence-peddling, and a lack of property rights keeps these people firmly rooted in their miserable lives.

It will not be until these people



By John Berntson

can keep what they earn that they will prosper.

One hope for these people is Vid, and many thousands like him working over here.

You see, my office is sort of turning our Indian into a cowboy. Once Vid had an American team leader, but now he is alone. He must stand up, argue and cajole, and take complete responsibility, not just for his own work, but for the project as a whole.

### Using chainsaws

Vid spends many weekends on our boss's ranch, using chainsaws and tractors, learning auto mechanics and carpentry. These are things he would never be able to do at home. People of Vid's middle class simply do not do work that can be done by the working class.

This is not snobbery. The belief, prevalent in most of the world, is that doing "working class" work takes bread from their mouths.

And this is the real problem for India: The idea that their economy exists to create jobs. The more jobs, the better. Indians want to put these people to work, so they support policies that employ the most people, in the name of the common good.

But it is not work that these people need, it is *product*. That is why mankind has economies; not to have more labor, but more production. The Indians need more cowboys — people focused on getting the job done by the most efficient means possible. This will free up energies that can be spent creating more desperately needed product.

Maybe Vid will show them how.

Meanwhile, the notion of the common good — as opposed to individual rights — continues to gain ground in our country, the home of the cowboy.

People are taught to believe the "common good" outweighs all other considerations. As a result, our own economy becomes mired with feel-good, make-work projects, and more productive effort is channeled into unproductive endeavors.

To avoid this, we must teach our own people why they should want to be cowboys.

**Editor's note:** John Berntson is State Chair of the Colorado LP. This essay reprinted from The March 2002 issue of Colorado Liberty.



# The DEA's misguided 'War on Hemp Soap'

Don Wirtshafter looks like any other businessman. A kind, friendly man, his company, Ecolution, sells environmentally friendly products, including lotions, shampoos, and soaps made with a distinct variety of Cannabis sativa L. This variety of cannabis is also known by a more common name — hemp.

American farmers grew hemp for centuries, until a bizarre legal reclassification by the government in 1970 turned the plant into a Schedule I "controlled substance." While the import and sale of products made with hemp have been technically legal, the busybody and intrusive government is up to its old tricks.

## Microscopic trace

Acting under a draconian Clinton-era order that went into effect in October, the Drug Enforcement Agency plans to enforce an edict criminalizing all products that may introduce any microscopic trace of tetrahydrocannabinol into the body. Also known as THC, the substance gives marijuana its euphoric quality.

Despite the fact that the Controlled Substances Act of 1970, Chap-

ter 22, Sec. 802-15, makes a clear legal distinction between psychotropic marijuana and harmless hemp fiber, and that Chapter 21, Sec. 801 has always exempted hemp oil and products like bagels with poppy seeds, federal agents have decided to reinterpret the Act to include food or health products made with hemp.

On October 9, 2001, DEA officials told Don Wirtshafter he had 10 days to destroy practically his entire store inventory. (Public outrage forced the DEA to extend that until March 18, 2002.)

Claiming health foods are "controlled substances," DEA agents threatened Don and Ecolution with federal prosecution if they failed to obey the government proclamation.

What was Don's crime?

Was he defrauding the consumer? No, he was offering quality products made from a durable, inexpensive natural fiber and oil.

Was he selling a dangerous product? Absolutely not. A harmless business, Ecolution was simply an innocent bystander in America's misdirected "War on Drugs."

Can products made from industrial hemp be used as recreational drugs? The answer is "no." Innocuous hemp is often confused with marijuana.

But, while marijuana contains 5% to 20% THC, industrial hemp contains less than 0.3%. Compare that to non-alcoholic beer, which has 0.5% alcohol. Ecolution products have a THC content of only 1.5 parts per million, so minute it would not be detected by most tests.

"The [hemp] industry has done an

incredibly responsible job in removing THC," said Wirtshafter.

Fortunately for Ecolution, Don is also an attorney who plans to fight the DEA's freedom-crushing jihad.

In March, the Vote Hemp Project won a "motion to stay" from California's 9th Circuit Court, which temporarily keeps the DEA from confiscating products that happen to have been made with hemp products.

A day earlier, 22 members of Congress wrote the DEA, telling them the rule was "overly restrictive" and urged the agency to "establish realistic standards which take into account current testing technologies, and better define trace levels of THC which are permissible for human use."

## Not able to regulate

Even John Ashcroft's Justice Department opposes the DEA. In a March 23, 2000 letter to the agency, John Roth, chief of the Narcotic and Dangerous Drug Section,

told the DEA, "We are not able to regulate or prohibit the importation of 'hemp' products based on any residual or trace content of naturally occurring THC."

He concludes the letter by advising the DEA that "it is our legal opinion that we presently lack the authority to prohibit the importation of 'hemp' products."

But legality has yet to stop the DEA's quest for greater power. After three decades of escalating police power, drug use is still rampant.

While reasonable people would conclude this proves government is incapable of controlling personal behavior, drug warriors interpret their failure as proof that only more government power can crush drug use.

In their crusade, the hemp industry is another village to be burned. For honest businessmen like Don Wirtshafter, the "War on Drugs" is destroying his American dream.

■ **About the author:** Donny Ferguson is a Falls Church, Virginia, resident and is a writer for the Virginia LP.

By Donny Ferguson



# Treating guns just like cars

Continued from Page 24

as "public weapons" for the masses.

14. You would have MADS: Mothers Against Drunk Shooters. MADS would conduct a campaign of public education — instead of trying to use the force of government — to prohibit irresponsible drinking and shooting.

15. You'd have businesses like "Jiffy Gun-Clean" to make life more convenient.

16. You'd have huge eyesores where piles of guns are left to rust in the open at "Gun Junk Yards."

17. The Japanese would be trying, and succeeding at taking over the market for efficient, reliable high-quality guns. The Koreans would be trying to sneak in at the low end of the market. The Germans would be selling premium brands based on better workmanship.

18. Ted Kennedy would have shot Mary Jo Kopeckne instead.

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# More reform futility

Continued from Page 24

They are subsumed by their overwhelming desire to survive. Corporations have mastered the art of political "influence" — of directing legislation to create a favorable environment for their industry or company at the expense of everyone else.

That's what the advocates of campaign finance reform hope to stifle, but they are missing the forest for all the green.

## Its proper place

We don't need to "get money out of politics" — we need to return government to its proper place.

We need to remove it from our businesses and bank accounts. Government should be protecting private property, not micromanaging it.

If no precedent had been established allowing the government to interject itself between people en-

gaged in the voluntary exchange of goods and services, no incentive would exist for anyone to interject himself between the government and the people.

Corporate attempts to control the legislative agenda are a symptom of a political process hostile to free competition.

In short, instead of trying to limit the amount of money that can be contributed to political campaigns, we should be drastically decreasing the size and scope of the government — and its ability to micromanage people's lives and businesses.

When politicians no longer hold the reins of power over everyday life, it will no longer be profitable to control the reigns of politicians.

■ **About the author:** Scott McPherson is the past media coordinator for the Libertarian Party of Oklahoma.

# FREEMAN

a novel by  
**JAMES RUSHING**

"A thought-provoking novel about truth, justice, and artistic vision — and the relationships among a unique group of men and women who seek those ends." —David F. Nolan, Libertarian Party Founder

"Freeman is an interesting novel that will appeal especially to freedom lovers. The characters sometimes engage in philosophical dialogues. The story is about an artist and the government's war-on-drugs. It moves forward agreeably and the reader will be interested in how it turns out. The cover is appropriately colored gold and shows the Statue of Freedom." —Fred Foldvary, Libertarian

"My criticism is the length: it is too short! Only glancing blows are struck to the philosophical under girding. I enjoyed the book and believe others will also."

—Christopher Jagge, Libertarian, Texas

"This book was a total surprise to us. It's refreshing, and it grabs your thoughts and changes your way of thinking and approaching your own existence, using five primary values that will allow you to form a personal philosophy of life that works."

—Alvaro & Marisa Riet,  
Libertarian Activists, California

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## THE CHAIR

# A few final thoughts, advice, and thank-yous

Some of you may know the story of the farmer whose son decided to study agricultural science in college. The son, whose dream was to follow in his father's footsteps and turn the family farm into a model of farming efficiency, studied well and took his degree with highest honors.

On graduation day, the son began to explain to his proud father some of the many wonderful ideas that he (the son) had for improving the family farm.

The father smiled a knowing smile and said, "Shucks, boy, I ain't farmin' half as well as I know how to now."

I relate this story to illustrate that in many cases of human endeavor, we already know what we need to do to succeed, but for various reasons we just don't do what we should do.

Some championship basketball teams with which I am familiar won not by virtue of extraordinary players or brilliant tactics, but rather by doing the simple things very, very well. Doing the simple things very, very well did not require great skill or technique, but rather dedication and a willingness to work hard.

In evaluating the performance of Libertarian organizations (including those in which I am actively involved), I frequently discover that the organization's performance could be improved substantially simply by doing the basics well.

For example, many Libertarian groups are actually quite good at prospecting. However, some of those groups are very poor at following up with those prospects in a timely manner. This is not surprising: follow up involves nontrivial amounts of work.

A prime example of failure to attend to basics concerns post-election activities. Following the election, Libertarian campaigns should analyze the voting data, thank volunteers and others who assisted the campaign, and prepare and distribute information about the campaign.

However, rarely is such work done, frequently because campaign team members are exhausted after Election Day, or because they must focus their attention on their jobs, their families, etc.

As we pursue our activist efforts, let us resolve to farm at least as well as we know how to now.

As this is the final "From the Chair" column of my term, allow me to offer some benedictory comments.

It is a great honor to serve as Libertarian Party chairman, and I am grateful for the tremendous support I have received from party members.

I am often told I have a thankless job. Quite the contrary: the vast majority of Libertarians I have met are extremely appreciative and supportive of my efforts. Also, I am overwhelmed by the very flattering feedback I have received concerning these efforts.

When my term ends, among other things I plan to continue my work with campus outreach. Marc Brandl, a staff member, is helping to develop more campus contacts and active organizations. I look forward to working with him on this aspect of Libertarian activism.

In particular, I hope to spend some time on tour next fall doing on-site campus organizing work in various states.

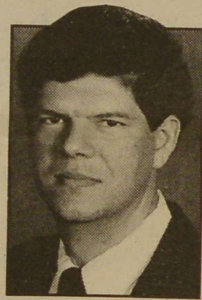
I wish to express my gratitude to my Libertarian National Committee colleagues and the LP HQ staff for their fine work, and for their support and friendship. My LNC colleagues labor mightily at substantial personal cost to help the LP achieve its mission.

In particular, I wish to thank those who have served on the Executive Committee with me: Ken Bisson, Joe Dehn, Dan Fylstra, Michael Gilson De Lemos, Steve Givot, Eli Israel, Deryl Martin, and Mark Tuniewicz. These gentlemen have provided enormous help to me by virtue of their knowledge, wisdom, and dedication to the cause of liberty.

Among the staff, special thanks go to Executive Director Steve Dasbach. Mr. Dasbach, who served as chairman for five years prior to becoming the national director (now executive director), has been tremendously helpful to me.

Finally, to the many great members and friends of the Libertarian Party: thanks for your work for liberty.

I look forward to great things in the future.



By James W. Lark

LP NATIONAL CHAIR

# Turning 'Freedom to Farm' into reality for American agriculture

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

By Jonathan Trager  
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Think only poor farmers receive federal farm subsidies?

Think again. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, many farm subsidies are little more than handouts to large agribusinesses and non-farming millionaires.

Consider this: In 2000, NBA star Scottie Pippen received \$26,000 for growing hardwood trees on his Arkansas property.

Billionaire media mogul Ted Turner received \$190,000 for raising bison on ranches he owns in Montana, South Dakota, and Florida.

And former Chase Manhattan Bank Chairman David Rockefeller received \$146,000 to help operate a 3,000-acre spread in New York state.

In total, the USDA reports that most farm subsidy recipients have an average household income of about \$135,000 — more than double the average worker's income.

Shocked? Don't be. Federal farm policy has a long history of running roughshod over taxpayers for the benefit of the tiny percentage of Americans who are involved in food production.

## Hardscrabble farms

First implemented in 1933, farm subsidies were designed to help hardscrabble family farms survive the Great Depression. However, as the number of farmers decreased in the following decades, the government's role in (and the price tag for) the farming industry grew ever larger.

Eventually, Big Brother was determining everything from "target prices" for grains to the number of individuals allowed to grow peanuts.

In 1996, a reform-minded Congress had enough, and passed the "Freedom to Farm Act."

This "landmark legislation" was supposed to end the subsidy-payment racket once and for all by helping farmers to gradually transition out of the system.

Specifically, the law authorized farmers to receive a series of dwindling payments totaling \$36 billion over the seven years. After that, politicians promised, America would be farm-subsidy free.

Of course, Libertarians know that "transitional reforms" proposed by

## Libertarian SOLUTIONS

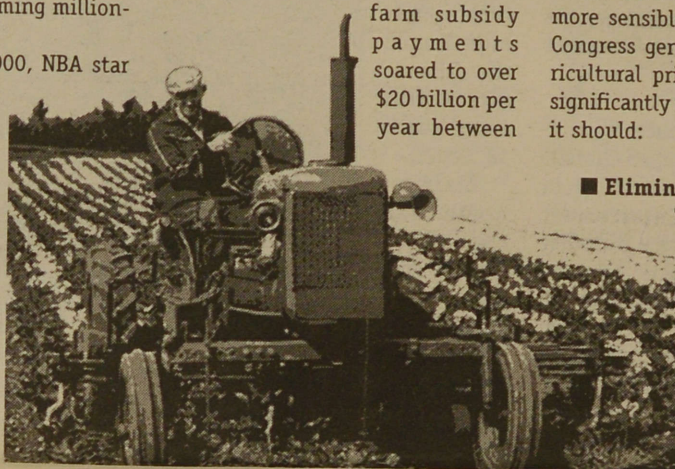
politicians have a nasty habit of turning into no reform at all. This case was no exception.

Faced with a sharp downturn in the agriculture market in 1998, Congress passed the "Agriculture Relief Package" that bailed out farmers to the tune of \$6.6 billion.

The handouts didn't stop there.

According to the Cato Institute,

farm subsidy payments soared to over \$20 billion per year between



**COULD FARMERS survive the elimination of handouts from the government, or would such a reform demolish American agriculture?**

1998 and 2001 — more than double the \$9 billion per year paid out to farmers before the "Freedom to Farm Act" was passed.

This year, Congress passed "The Farm Security Act," which allocates another \$170 billion in agricu-

lture handouts over the next 10 years — the equivalent of more than \$1,600 from each household in America.

Even more offensive is how subsidized farmers lobbied for the legislation. In late September 2001, growers of more than 20 federally subsidized agriculture commodities sent a letter to Capitol Hill politicians that argued that increasing farm welfare was a matter of "national security." And in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks, most politicians happily agreed.

It's time for America to adopt a more sensible agricultural policy. If Congress genuinely wants lower agricultural prices for consumers and significantly more "freedom to farm," it should:

## ■ Eliminate direct handouts.

The USDA says there are about 2.6 million recipients of federal farm subsidies per year. Could those farmers survive the elimination of farm handouts — or would such a reform demolish American agriculture?

To answer this question, one need only look at New Zealand, which ended all farm subsidies in 1994. Before reform, government subsidies had accounted for more than 30% of the value of New Zealand's agricultural production.

But since ending the subsidies, only 1% of farms have since gone out of business. Meanwhile, farm productivity has soared 40%, according to the Federated Farmers of New Zealand.

The economy of New Zealand is roughly five times more dependent on domestic farming than is America. If such bold economic reform can be undertaken there, it can and should be done here as well.

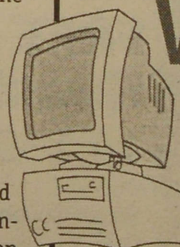
**■ Drop crop insurance programs.** Currently, the federal government helps farmers obtain insurance in case an earthquake, hurricane, drought, or other weather-related disaster strikes.

Unfortunately, the government insurance program loses money every year. In 1999, the crop-insurance deficit was about \$11.3 billion. That year, farmers paid only 25% in insurance premiums — and taxpayers made up the difference. That's why the Cato Institute has estimated that disaster insurance cost taxpayers more than \$7 billion per year from 1977 to 1995.

In the 1996 "reform" legislation, farmers were given an option to opt out of compulsory insurance payments — if they agreed to be ineligible for disaster assistance in the future. But when the flood disaster

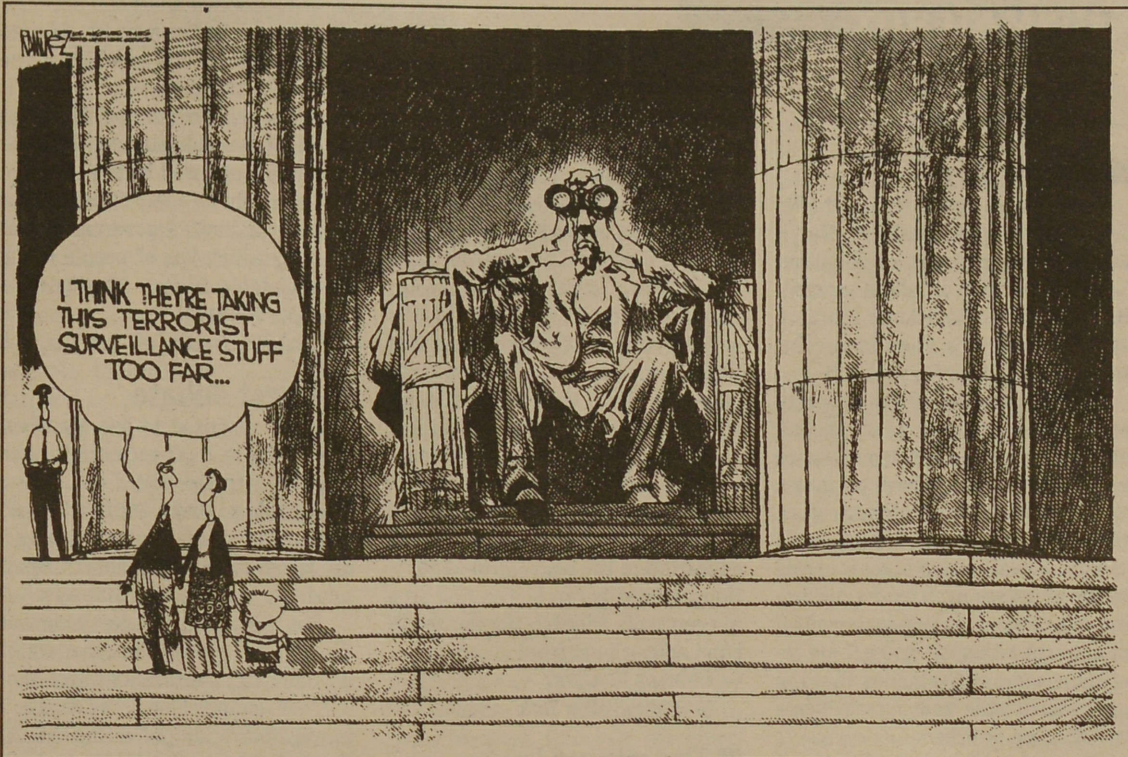
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## THE MAILBOX



### Cartoon comments

In responding to the "Frank & Ernest" cartoon that spoofed libertarians (News Briefs, April 2002), *LP News* editor Bill Winter said, "Libertarianism defines the relationship between individuals and government."

I've heard this sort of definition from other libertarians, but doesn't libertarianism also define a more fundamental relationship: those that are between two or more individuals?

The cartoon shows Moses holding the Ten Commandments and saying, "The libertarians are going to go bananas." To which Winter said, "It's not our job as Libertarians to tell people what is or isn't a proper religious belief." Surely, however, "Thou shalt not steal" and "Thou shalt not commit murder" are libertarian commandments, too.

Perhaps the LP needs to make it plainer that this is basic libertarianism as well as a common religious belief.

— DORIS GORDON  
Wheaton, Maryland

### Slogan suggestion

In answer to The Pulse, [April 2002] I submit an idea for a new party slogan: "Harm No One. Let No One Harm You."

Premise: Libertarians should build their image on what they believe and hope to achieve. I submit that this new slogan contains both.

Firstly, what we believe: "Harm no one," is universally accepted as a moral and ethical way to live and precisely speaks to the Libertarian ideal that no individual has the right to initiate force.

Secondly, "Let no one harm you," strongly implies an individual's right

to self-defense and balances the non-aggression ideal; "Harm no one," with a pledge to resist aggression; "Let no one harm you."

This slogan is a package. It teaches in eight words that one must not only be non-aggressive but he must resist aggression.

— JAMES RUSHING  
Laguna, Beach, California

**SURELY, "THOU shalt not steal" and "Thou shalt not commit murder" are basic libertarianism as well as a common religious belief.**

### Beautiful slogan

I was really attracted to Carla Howell's slogan, "Small government is beautiful." It has no negative phrases and could be appealing to even Ted Kennedy.

— JIM FULLER  
Harlingen, Texas

### Good Government

The Libertarian Party: "The possibility of good government."

It is what we are all about as Libertarians. This motto demonstrates our positive outlook while illustrating our direction, our intention and our motivation. It is a clear and concise sound bite that instills in the general public what we, as Libertar-

ians, are doing.

Creating the possibility of good government has always been the libertarian mission, both as a philosophy and as a political party. And it flies in the face of our detractors, who would dismiss us as irrelevant, while it crystallizes our resolve.

— RICK MCGINNIS  
Austin, Texas

### Three more slogans

I have three slogans for consideration.

1. "Champions of Freedom." It invokes an image of fighting for freedom as well as vocal support of the masses.

2. "The Practical Alternative." It's what we offer. It also evokes curiosity — alternative to what?

3. "Partners in Freedom." It shows we need to help each other achieve the goal of freedom.

— MIKE ALFORD  
Mishawaka, Indiana

### Where's Ron Paul?

Ron Paul is the *only* libertarian in Congress, so he should get some mention in every issue of *LP News*.

Why didn't you cover his gold bill? Too busy talking about open borders, libertarian dog catchers elected in Iowa, homosexuals owning guns, and the rest of the irrelevancies that fill every issue I read?

Why didn't you cover his "Get out of the UN" bill?

You're doing a wonderful job. A wonderful job of diluting the Libertarian Party into nothing — just like you and your friends did to the National Rifle Association.

— ROGER MASON  
Wilmington, North Carolina  
See MAILBOX Page 28

## THE PULSE

# The biggest challenge

Challenges, wrote Joshua J. Marine, "are what make life interesting; overcoming them is what makes life meaningful."

If that's true, the Libertarian Party has an interesting few years ahead of it, and the opportunity to lead a very "meaningful" political life, according to the responses to this month's unscientific Pulse survey.

In response to the question — "What is the single biggest challenge facing the Libertarian Party over the next few years?" — *LP News* readers came up with a wide variety of problems, obstacles, conundrums, and hurdles Libertarians will have to tackle.

Leading the list with 29.4% of the vote: Getting more publicity for the party, so the LP's philosophy can "become known to the majority of the populace."

In second place (17.6%): Growing the membership, so there will be more Libertarians to help the party succeed.

And tied for third place (each with 11.8%) were building the party's grassroots or state organizations, and overcoming the pro-government sentiments that resulted from the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Here's what *LP News* readers say the LP's biggest challenge is:

■ **Notoriety for the party.** The party and its tenets must become known. It is my guess that with enlightenment, at least 70% of the population would embrace the Libertarian Party. In order for this to happen, I think an all-out media blitz is required. We can flood the ballots with Libertarian candidates but if people do not know what Libertarians stand for, this is an exercise in futility.

— JAMES M. YOUNG, Reno, Nevada

■ **Dealing with the post-9/11 America.** After I got over the shock of seeing the second plane hit, my first thoughts were of the victims and their families. Right after that came my fear for the other victims: Freedom-loving American citizens. I knew it wouldn't be long before people would say, "Take my civil liberties. Please."

— GITEL SARAH HESSELBERG, Chicago, Illinois

■ **How to grow our grassroots base without wasting resources on campaigns we can't win.** It is obvious that the national media simply will not take the Libertarian Party seriously until we can win offices in Washington, i.e. Congress or Senate, or at the state level, governor. Given the press hostility and the cost of waging high-visibility campaigns, I think the party should continue to strengthen local and state parties and continue to seek as many local offices as possible.

— JACK MCHUGH, Claymont, Delaware

■ **Overcoming "lesser of two evils" voting.** Solution: Acceptance voting (or something even better). This would break the inertial monopoly of the current major parties because voters who might worry about vote-splitting would be able to hedge their votes. Since Demopublicans will never upset the system, we need to use initiatives (something we're good at) to amend state constitutions in states that allow it. This door is open to us and could lead to the halls of power; let's take it.

— JEFF FISHER, Vancouver, Washington

■ **It's a constant worry of mine that the LP exists in a vacuum, that there's no base where we can touch reality, find opportunities to listen, and marshal strength.** It would be heartening to see the LP membership borrow a page from the civil rights movement and develop bases of support in our churches, businesses, schools, and social gatherings. We might be surprised at the resources — in activists, contributors, voters, and sympathizers — we find there.

— KEN PARMALEE, Morrow, Georgia

■ **Marketing, brand recognition and increasing our numbers.** Elections are won on name recognition, party affiliation, and money. We should target the Libertarian message to major groups (Hispanics, women and other groups who vote regularly) using spokespeople who "look like they do." We should not waste any resources on people under age 25. They never have voted, they do not vote now. The few who do vote will be socialists until they get a taste of the real world.

— WILLIAM O. REESIDE, JR., East Setauket, New York

■ **Not be ashamed of itself.** It seems that many in this party seem to think that we should be "less public" about Libertarian positions. There are many reasons why our candidates have failed and believe me when I tell you that aggressive, public displays of Libertarianism are not one of those reasons. Let us not take the weak-kneed, "I'm almost a Republican," passionless, cowardly, dishrag approach. Let us be proud. There is no such thing as a non-controversial issue. As we become more public the people will get used to our logic eventually.

— DANIEL MICHAEL, Havre de Grace, Maryland

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## THE PULSE

Continued from Page 27

■ Sustainable growth. New fame. What would happen to the party if Clint Eastwood ran for president and lost? Step-by-step, we are loudly becoming our own organized giant rather than a Ross Perot party or dotcom political bubble.

— KEITH GARDNER, Alexandria, Virginia

■ Overcoming restrictive ballot-access, campaign-finance, campaign-spending, campaign-speech, and candidate-debate laws. These unjust policies put an almost insurmountable burden on even the largest and strongest "small parties" to compete in the electoral arena. Look north for a sad tale — Canada's 1993 election "reforms" have nearly put the LP of Canada out of business. U.S. laws are headed in the same direction.

— DAVID C. ALAN, Washington, DC

■ Same as it ever was — getting the message to the public. The average man doesn't hear our message, or hears the distorted views usually expressed in the media. As long as this is the case, we will remain the political cult that wants to throw senior citizens on the street with the armed druggies.

— MIKE ALFORD, Mishawaka, Indiana

■ Membership. The LP membership loss numbers for February 2002 are far in excess of what I had anticipated. Let us all work together to increase membership and retention.

— AARON BITERMAN, Beverly, Massachusetts

■ Teaching the populace who we are and what we stand for, and that we are a legitimate choice. Many people think Libertarians are just 1960's hippies. When the major media portrays us as merely wanting to legalize drugs, we need a candidate who can spin that into our stance on the major issues the Democrats and Republicans are debating.

— CARROLL MURPHY, Sweden, Maine

## July Question: Oddball Candidates?

In a column on WorldNetDaily on March 29, Joel Miller had some blunt advice for the Libertarian Party: By allowing candidates with "quirky beliefs" to run for public office, the party runs the risk of being seen as a "haven for oddballs," he wrote. Miller's column was triggered by a spate of publicity about Gary Copeland, the LP's candidate for governor in California. Copeland, wrote Miller, "is a self-described Druid. He even listed it in the voter's guide. But hyping one's druidity is hardly a good political move. Getting the attention the LP deserves may be difficult, but allowing a guy like Copeland to be the party's public voice . . . is not the attention the party needs." When the party becomes "less known for its values and more for its voodoo, the message is lost," he warned — which is a shame because the LP is the "only party with ideas that actually deserve attention and respect." Is Miller right? Does the party lose credibility with voters by running candidates who are outside the mainstream — and who go out of their way to publicize that fact?

■ QUESTION: Does the Libertarian Party run too many "oddball" candidates? If so, what can be done to solve the problem? (Please keep your answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: June 8, 2002

## June Question: Why join the LP?

Here's your opportunity to be part of a research "focus group" to help the party. As you may know, Libertarian Party membership has been falling over the past year. So the party is planning to gear up a major membership-recruitment drive during the second half of 2002. In order to make it as effective as possible, we need to better understand the reasons why people join the party. So, we turn to you: Why did you join the Libertarian Party? To elaborate a little, which was the most significant factor that prompted you to decide to become a dues-paying LP member? Was it a special book? A particular argument? A certain LP spokesperson? A particular friend or family member? Did you join for a moral reason? A practical reason? A political reason? Did another party disappoint you? Or did you join from the ranks of the formerly politically apathetic? What exactly prompted you to join?

■ QUESTION: What is the single most important factor that convinced you to join the Libertarian Party? And why? (Please keep your answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: May 8, 2002

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include your name and your city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 27

### ■ A first step

Jack Simons misses the point ("No Tax Credits," The MailBox, March 2002) in his criticism of Jonathan Trager's promotion of tuition tax credits (Libertarian Solutions, February 2002) as part of a libertarian solution to fixing America's schools.

A good portion of my property taxes, as well as some of my federal and state income taxes, goes toward public schools that I have no intention of sending my children to when they reach school age. However, if I can get a credit on my taxes for some of the expenses incurred from sending my children to a private school or educating them at home, I am recouping some of the money that the government stole from me to educate the children of others.

Granted, tuition tax credits do not meet the pure libertarian vision of a free market in education completely severed from government control. But anything that helps parents afford an

education for their children outside of the public school monopoly will help to stimulate a private, for-profit education marketplace.

Libertarians like Simon might object, but what is their alternative? I am reminded of the band of revolutionaries in Monty Python's *The Life of Brian* who almost sit around and talk about what they are going to do once they have kicked the Romans out of Judea, but they never get around to actually doing anything.

It is not realistic to expect that some groundswell of public support will end government involvement in education in the near future. Education tax credits can be the first step in eventually winning the war to expand educational freedom.

— THOMAS KEARNEY  
Plainview, New York

### ■ The silliest law?

In the March issue, *LP News* had a list of laws which by almost any standard whatsoever can be regarded as silly.

I suggest that a list of a dozen or so of those laws be selected and used to poll which of the selection is the silliest. In the process of polling it should be pointed out that this is the result of over-legislation which is completely opposed by the LP.

This might be a way of getting our message of limited government out in a way which lots of people would find palatable. Beats a harangue!

— HANS SCHMIDT  
Lamoine, Maine

### ■ Ferret debate

I was surprised to see my advocacy of ferret legalization criticized in a letter to the editor in *LP News* [The Mailbox, March 2002] as an advancement of an "irrelevant issue." OK, fair enough, I thought, this person has a right to feel that way.

But then there was her comment about "I can move to another state" if I don't like California's ferret ban.

That reminded me of my days as a young Libertarian protesting against the draft. I took a lot of ridicule back then, too. And I often heard, "If you don't like it here, you can move to another country."

See THE MAILBOX Page 29

# In California's March primaries, one victory and one narrow loss

Continued from Page 4

funds, a campaign plan, and consulting services to Flickinger's campaign, said Flickinger is still a "shining star in the world of Libertarian politics."

"Considering the fact that she was outspent by a large margin by most of her opponents, these results are an impressive statement on her reputation and service to her local community," he said.

"We are all very proud of her many years of work for the cause of freedom."

### Libertarian reforms

Flickinger, 60, first won election to the Moreno Valley city council in 1992. She has since accomplished many Libertarian reforms, including privatizing the local library system, defeating a proposal to build a taxpayer-funded baseball stadium, and eliminating the city's Design Review Board.

It is important for Libertarians to actively protect incumbents such as

**CONSIDERING THE  
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inger's reputation.**

Vroman and Flickinger, said Azzaro.

"Our incumbents don't get much establishment support because they aren't afraid to rock the boat politically," he said. "But the Libertarian Victory Fund isn't going to allow our

local Libertarian incumbents to get targeted by the other parties and kicked out of office."

Molony said both races have set the stage for a "very promising" general election this fall.

### Biggest slate

"We are already looking forward to November," he said. "We expect to run our biggest slate of candidates ever, and build on our successes to date."

In the Libertarian primary for governor, Gary Copeland won 17,626 votes, according to the California Secretary of State's office, defeating write-in rival Art Olivier.

Libertarians also participated in primaries for U.S. House, state senate, state assembly, and local and county races.



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## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 28

But we Libertarians cherish our freedom, and I feel compelled to defend them, not flee.

I am afraid Ms. Chapman missed the beginning of my candidate statement, "Don't Take Your Rights For Granted!" I hope people would understand the ferret issue is only an example. I regret that the 250-word limit did not allow me to advance my positions on "the energy crisis, education, crime or any real issue."

Lastly, I have to wonder how sincere a libertarian Ms. Chapman is if she finds the drug issue "irrelevant." If she wants to leave the Libertarian Party, I for one would not miss her.

— PAT WRIGHT

LP Candidate for Lieutenant Governor, San Diego, California

### ■ Solutions, not laws

In the April Mailbox, Sam Borso, who recently defected from the Republicans to the LP, finds drug legalization a "scary proposition."

Recovering addicts train themselves to pass over feeling better fast in favor of feeling better in the long run. But the time for such training is in elementary school, before a person gets hooked. The government could probably develop an effective self-management curriculum for less than it spends on anti-substance propaganda.

This is the Libertarian Party, Sam. We strive for solutions to dilemmas. Republicans pass more laws, hire more cops, build more jails, spend more money, and order more of the same when desired results are not achieved.

A Republican President would have approached the space race by asking Congress for a law against gravity.

— BOB DOSTAL

Iowa City, Iowa

### ■ Drug ad kudos

I would like to praise the Libertarian Party for its war declaration on the War on Drugs [*LP News*, April 2002]. It is high time for the Libertarians to bring on board the millions of open-minded individuals who see the Drug War for what it is, one of

the many battles against American freedom.

The LP's Anti-Drug War campaign strategy is a great way to bring on young, freedom-loving idealists. And hopefully, it will be a great way to open the minds of traditional Republicans and Democrats who have been brain-washed by their own tax dollars to actually think that kidnapping drug users is a good, moral thing.

The Libertarian Party's ad campaign has led me to renew my membership and then some.

— Keith Gardner

Atlanta, Georgia

### ■ Wedge issue?

I have just finished reading my March issue of *LP News* and I have two reasons for disagreeing with those members who take exception to the "War on Drugs wedge issue."

First, the National Committee deliberated the issue and determined it to be the primary issue in the coming year and we should all support the committee's decision.

Secondly, I believe that the so-called "drug war" is the seminal issue underlying all other encroachments of individual liberty we have experienced in the past thirty-two years.

It is the mind-set that the government has the authority to tell people what they can or cannot put into their own bodies, or that the government has the authority to interfere with a consensual economic transaction between citizens that underlies the massive federal government.

If the Libertarian Party stands for anything it stands for individual liberty, and nothing is more indicative of a free society than the right of self determination.

— PERRY A. McCULLOUGH

Taft, California

### ■ A former Democrat

In the April *LP News*, Sam Borso of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania wrote that the Libertarian position on the legalization of drugs is offensive to many people and the party needs to

abandon the issue in order to be more attractive to potential new Libertarians.

Mr. Borso also wrote that the drug issue is a tough obstacle to overcome when trying to convince others to join up. He is a former Republican.

I, however, am a former Democrat. For me, the Libertarian stance on the failed drug war was actually quite a selling point.

Now that I've been a card-carrying member of this party for a full year, I understand that some people can be unresponsive to the idea of legalizing drugs. But let's face it. There are plenty of Libertarian beliefs that are downright unsettling to others. While legalized drugs and prostitution may seem like radical concepts to some, gun rights and the end of welfare are all bitter pills for those less conservative to swallow.

The beauty of Libertarianism is how all its policies work together to help create a better America. These are wonderful, forward-thinking ideas that really do boil down to just three things: Limited government, personal responsibility, and freedom for all.

— ROBBIE COTNEY

Atlanta, Georgia

### ■ Voting reform

I want to inform Libertarians about an effort by a non-partisan, nationwide group of voting reform advocates on behalf of a Libertarian candidate.

I'm on a mailing list for discussing election methods like instant runoff, and approval voting, as well as proportional representation. Tired of only discussing the mathematics, we decided to raise money for a candi-

**I DISAGREE THAT  
electing candidates  
to low-level offices  
is an unimportant  
step. Such an office  
gives you several  
political legs up.**

date who supports approval voting. In approval voting, the voters simply indicate their approval or disapproval of each candidate. You don't have to worry about the "spoiler effect" or "wasted vote syndrome" when using approval voting.

The candidate whom we chose was Paul Hager, a Libertarian seeking the party's nomination for Secretary of State in Indiana. Mr. Hager is intelligent, articulate, and very devoted both to Libertarian ideals and real election reform.

The American people are intelligent and rational, and normally cast their one and only vote for the candidate most likely to defeat their least favorite. Approval voting would allow them to support Libertarians without worry, and hence Mr. Hager's efforts deserve your full support.

To learn more about approval voting and Paul Hager go to [www.hager2002.org](http://www.hager2002.org). To learn more about our initiative please call me at (805) 685-8455, or e-mail: [asmall@physics.ucsb.edu](mailto:asmall@physics.ucsb.edu).

— ALEX SMALL

Isla Vista, California

### ■ Local success

I disagree with Jonathan Trager's assessment in the March *LP News* [The Forum] that electing candidates to low-level offices such as library and school boards is an unimportant step.

Biographies of politicians (for instance, those in *Campaigns & Elections* magazine) show that indeed one can be elected to a legislature by being one heck of a soil and water district commissioner first.

Such an office gives you several political legs up. First, it shows voters that you can be trusted with power — power that may include considerable spending discretion. You can get a reputation as either thrifty or extravagant with the public purse. Even if you don't affect the total amount spent, you can steer it toward wise and not foolish purposes. Mr. Trager to the contrary, these office holders DO have the power to demonstrate much; simply proving you're not a crook is a considerable accomplishment as far as voters and the media are concerned.

Second, it gets you known to people who have a particular stake in, and/or pay particular attention to, government. Think news media, analysts, and good government groups.

Third, it shows voters you're serious. You fully intend to serve in office, not just to run for show. After all, you've already done it.

— ROBERT GOODMAN

Bronx, New York

### ■ Libertarian values

I would like to add another letter to the ongoing War on Terrorism/Harry Browne debate [*LP News*, Feb- See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30

## Governing Ourselves: How the LP is its Own Worst Enemy, And How We Must Change

Libertarians give lip service to believing in market forces. But the LP has not governed itself in such a way to promote maximum success in the political marketplace.

**The LP must decentralize if it is to have any chance of success.**

The centralization of the LP has resulted in infighting, mismanagement, misplaced priorities, dependence on others for basic needs of local organization operations, and perhaps worst of all, an unprepared leadership making inappropriate policy decisions.

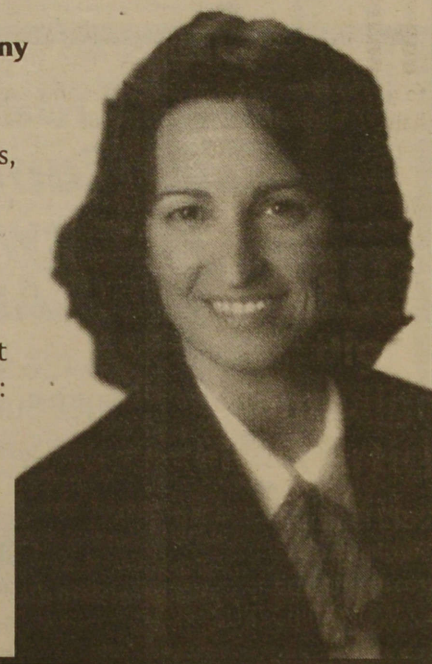
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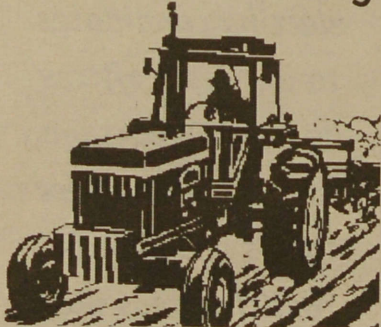


## Farming the free-market way

Continued from Page 26

struck in 1998, politicians ignored the pledge, and delivered billions of dollars to farmers who had opted out.

The government should require farmers to buy private insurance, rather than rely on taxpayers to foot the bill for every unforeseen emergency. By removing itself from the disaster-insurance business, the government would stop crowding out free-market alternatives.



■ **End commodity cartels.** Farmers who produce beef, chicken, and most vegetables get no federal handouts. Other farmers, such as those who grow peanuts, tobacco, sugar, and rice, harvest taxpayer handouts to the tune of \$10 billion per year.

The most egregious example may be federal dairy policy, which divides the country into several regional compacts, and sets different baseline prices in each region. This is why milk prices can vary significantly between states, says Kevin McNew, agriculture professor at the University of Maryland. Overall, the USDA estimates that consumers pay an extra \$1.8 billion annually because of inflated milk cartel prices.

The latest "farm security" boondoggle contains more of the same, effectively boosting the price of milk by as much as 26 cents per gallon.

It is difficult to defend why producers of some farm commodities should receive government price supports, while others receive no such

advantage. A better solution would be for politicians to stop playing favorites, and require all producers to compete on the open market.

No matter how you slice it, the current policy of transferring money from the pockets of middle-class Americans to wealthy growers and landowners is incompatible with the free market system. Just ask U.S. Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA), chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

### Every bushel, bale

During the debate over the latest agriculture bill, Harkin asked whether "we should continue to support every bushel, bale and pound that's being produced in this country?"

When a politician from an agricultural stronghold such as Iowa is asking that question, isn't the answer obvious?

If farmers concentrated more on milking cows and less on milking taxpayers, the American economy would be much better off — and so would most American consumers.

## THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 29  
ruary-April 2002].

Mr. Browne, in my opinion, is on the side of Libertarian values.

No trial has proven the guilt or motives of anyone in [the September 11 terrorist] attack. We should know better than to forsake our principles of objective pursuit of justice and to blindly trust the statements of government officials, particularly in light of new evidence of U.S. duplicity in the Pearl Harbor attacks.

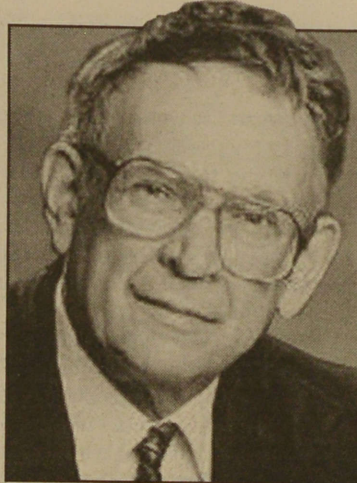
Our emotions have allowed us to

be misled many times in the past. Many journalists are beginning to point out the Emperor's lack of proper dress in our current war.

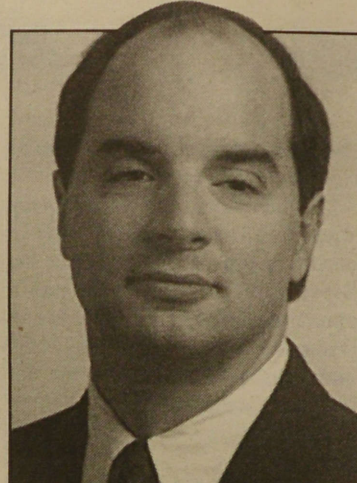
This war has many factors that citizens need to examine in order to chart our course, rather than leave our fate to the soundbites of those in office.

Mr. Browne is attempting to guide us through this maze of emotional reactions and I applaud his effort.

— JEREMY LYNES  
Atlanta, Georgia



■ **John Hospers:** In 1972, he was the historic first presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party.



■ **John Berthoud:** As head of the 335,000-strong National Taxpayer's Union, he works for lower taxes.

## John Hospers, John Berthoud to speak at 2002 Convention

Continued from Page 3

Republican for the nomination, and went on to win the general election.

"Ron Paul is that rare combination on Capitol Hill: A politician who actually cares about the Constitution," said Dasbach. "Libertarians won't want to miss the opportunity to hear a speech given by the lone libertarian legislator in America."

■ **John Berthoud** is the president of the National Taxpayer's Union, a non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting lower taxes, less waste, and limited government. NTU boasts about 335,000 members.

Individuals who have heaped praise on the organization include libertarian economist Walter Williams, libertarian columnist Deroy Murdock, and former Republican President Ronald Reagan.

This will be Berthoud's second time addressing LP national convention delegates. At the 2000 convention in Anaheim, California, he gave a rousing speech titled "The Battle on Behalf of Taxpayers."

He is presently an adjunct lecturer at George Washington University in

Washington-DC, where he teaches graduate courses on budgetary politics.

■ **John Hospers** is best known in libertarian circles as the first presidential candidate of the Libertarian Party.

In 1972, just months after the founding of the fledgling party, he and vice presidential candidate Tonie Nathan appeared on the ballot in just two states. The Libertarian duo won about 3,900 votes — including a vote in the Electoral College from renegade Nixon elector Roger MacBride.

Hospers is the author of *Libertarianism*, an early defining book of the Libertarian movement. He also chaired the Philosophy Department at the University of Southern California.

■ **Spear Lancaster** is seeking to become the first third-party gubernatorial candidate to appear on the Maryland ballot since 1966.

A longtime "yellow-dog Democrat," the 70-year-old Lancaster left the Democratic Party for a brief stint with the Republican Party, before joining the Libertarian Party in 1996. He gained the gubernatorial nomination of the Maryland LP in January.

■ **Clyde Cleveland:** In October 2001, this Iowa gubernatorial candidate became the first LP candidate to earn the endorsement of a state Natural Law Party — and he is seeking the endorsement of the Iowa Green Party as well.

The owner of seven investment companies, Cleveland was named the "First Socially Conscious Investor" by Conscious Investors, Ltd in 1986.

He is the author of *Restoring the Heartland* with attorney general candidate Ed Noyes, a book that lays out a detailed libertarian plan for Iowa that focuses on a "bottom-up" approach to government.

■ **Sarah Lawrence** is the founder of Taking Children Seriously, and the editor of the *TCS Journal*.

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### Elect officers

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

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

For more information, visit: [LP.org/con/2002/](http://LP.org/con/2002/). To register, call: (800) 272-1776.

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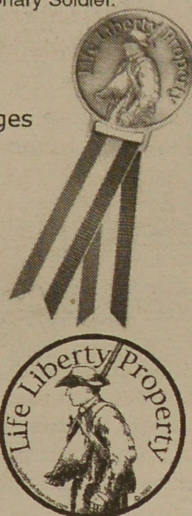
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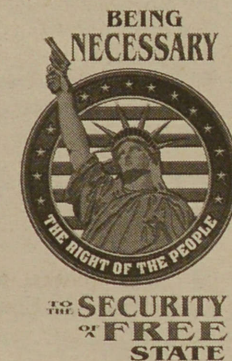
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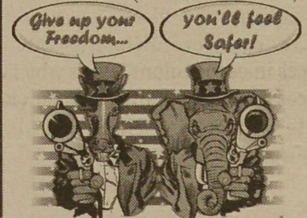
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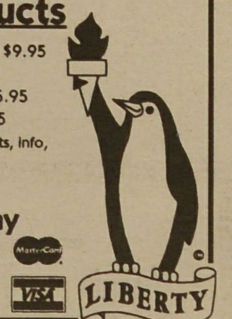
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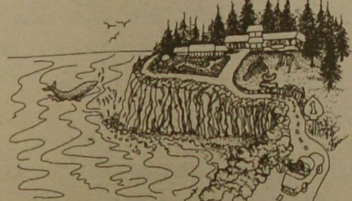
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### LIBERTARIAN PARTY®

2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100

Washington, DC 20037

(202) 333-0008 • Fax: (202) 333-0072

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### CONTACT LP NEWS

2600 Virginia Ave. NW, Suite 100

Washington, DC 20037

Phone: (202) 333-0008 x226

Fax: (202) 333-0072

E-mail: Bill.Winter@hq.LP.org

Website: www.LP.org/lpnews

## UPCOMING

### ■ May 3-5, 2002

**North Carolina LP Convention**, Village Inn Golf and Conference Center, Winston-Salem. Speakers include Chris Azzaro (executive director, Libertarian Victory Fund), Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Ken Lankford (Madison town alderman), and James W. Lark (LP national chair). For information, call: (919) 286-0152. Or visit: [www.lpnc.org](http://www.lpnc.org).

### ■ May 3-5, 2002

**Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) National Convention** and 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration of Laissez Faire Books, Bally's/Paris Resort Hotels, Las Vegas, Nevada. Features workshops, panels, and debates. For information, visit: [www.FEEnationalconvention.org](http://www.FEEnationalconvention.org).

### ■ May 4, 2002

**Utah LP Nominating Convention**, Salt Lake County Council Chambers, Salt Lake City. For information, contact Cabot Nelson at (801) 466-9315. Or e-mail: [adjustable\\_pliers@yahoo.com](mailto:adjustable_pliers@yahoo.com).

### ■ May 9, 2002

Cato Institute's 25th Anniversary Gala, Washington Hilton & Towers Hotel, Washington, DC. For information, visit: [www.cato.org](http://www.cato.org).

### ■ May 17-19, 2002

**Michigan LP Convention**, Marriott Hotel, Troy. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (248) 592-9731. Or e-mail: [gdirasian@lpmich.org](mailto:gdirasian@lpmich.org).

### ■ May 17-19, 2002

**Colorado LP Convention**, National Mining Hall of Fame & Museum, Leadville. Speakers include Bill Masters (San Miguel County sheriff), L. Neil Smith (science fiction author), Wayne Laugesen (editor, *Boulder Weekly*), Ed Quillen (columnist, *Denver Post*), and Emma Phillips (Families Against Mandatory Minimums). For information, e-mail: [ari@co-freedom.com](mailto:ari@co-freedom.com). Or call: (303) 412-8356. Or visit: [www.lpcolorado.org/lp2002/](http://www.lpcolorado.org/lp2002/).

### ■ May 17-19, 2002

**Missouri LP Convention**, Ramada Inn, Jefferson City. Speakers include Jeff Foli (Libertarian mayor, Chillicothe), Vin Suprynowicz (columnist),

Dr. Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), and Marc Brandl (LP Campus Coordinator). For information, visit: [www.st-charles.lpmo.org](http://www.st-charles.lpmo.org).

### ■ June 7-9, 2002

**New Mexico LP Convention**, Holiday Inn, Santa Fe. Speakers include Rick Stanley (U.S. Senate candidate, Colorado), Willy Marshall (mayor, Big Water, Utah), Peter G. Simonson (executive director, New Mexico ACLU), and Bruce Bush (Drug Policy Alliance). For information, call: (505) 330-7713. Or e-mail: [nm\\_libertarian@yahoo.com](mailto:nm_libertarian@yahoo.com).

### ■ June 7-9, 2002

**Texas LP Convention**, Market Center Embassy Suites Hotel, Dallas. Speakers TBA. For information, call Nancy Neale: (512) 263-1681. Or e-mail: [torchess@austin.rr.com](mailto:torchess@austin.rr.com).

### ■ July 3-7, 2002

**Libertarian National Convention**, Marriott Indianapolis Downtown Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. Speakers include David Brin (award-winning science fiction author and futurist), David Nolan (LP founder), Steve Dillon (chairman, NORML), David Bergland (1984 LP presidential candidate), Harry Browne (2000 LP presidential candidate), Mary Ruwart (author, *Healing Our World*), Neal Boortz (radio talk show host), Don Gorman (former New Hampshire legislator), Sharon Harris (Advocates for Self-Government), Phil Miller (Greenfield, Indiana city councilman), Carla Howell (Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate), Ed Thompson (Wisconsin gubernatorial candidate), Michael Cloud (Libertarian persuasion expert), John Buttrick (Superior Court Judge, Arizona), Willy Marshall (mayor, Big Water, Utah), and Bill Masters (Colorado Sheriff and author, *Drug War Addiction*). For information, visit: [www.LP.org/con/2002](http://www.LP.org/con/2002). Or call: (800) 272-1776.

### ■ July 28-August 1, 2002

**International Society for Individual Liberty (ISIL) World Conference**, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. Speakers include Enrique Gheri (co-author, *The Other Path*), Ken Schoolland (author, *The Adventures of Jonathan Gullible*), and Rigoberto Stewart (co-founder, Movimiento Libertario, Costa Rica). For information, visit: [www.ISIL.org](http://www.ISIL.org). Or call: (707) 746-8796.

## Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

Watergate Office Building

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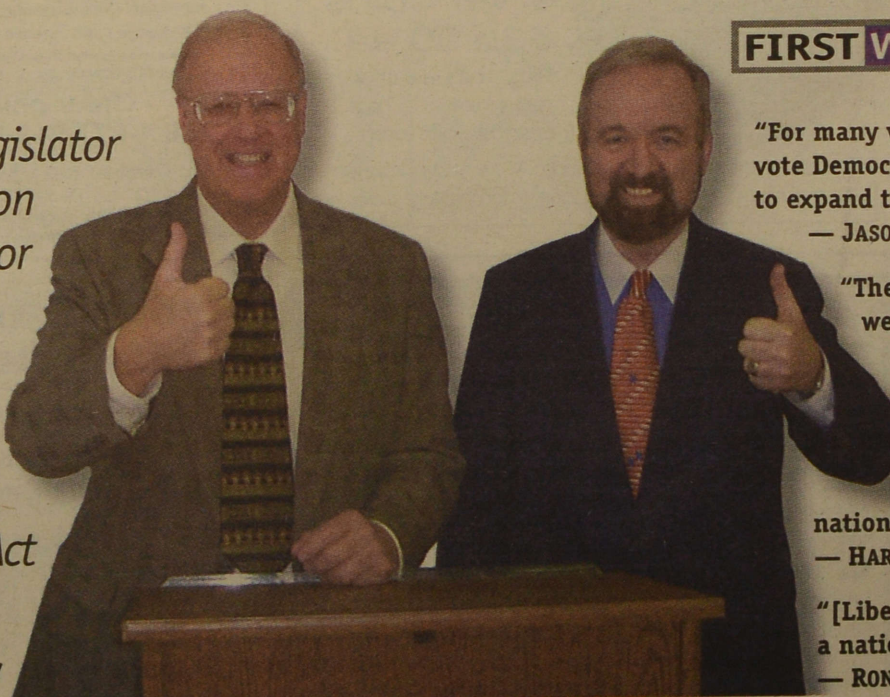
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## FIRST WORD

"For many voters, the choices seem limited: vote Republican, vote Democratic, or vote not at all. But another party is trying to expand that range of options . . . the Libertarian Party."

— JASON CARR, *Midland Daily News* (MI), February 10, 2002

"The two-party system as it now exists is terrible. If we ever want representative democracy again, we absolutely must do something to change it. One way to change it — perhaps the best way — is to support 'third-party' candidates. If we offer enough support to the Greens and the Libertarians, sooner or later we'll get the attention of our nation's entrenched political mafia."

— HARLEY SORENSEN, *San Francisco Chronicle*, March 25, 2002

"[Libertarians have] dreams of downsized government, of a nation endowed with personal freedom and liberty."

— RON WALTERS, *St. Augustine Record* (FL), January 31, 2002