

New entry for '96?

Tompkins eyes presidential race

Long-time Libertarian activist and Arizona state party chairman Rick Tompkins, whose 1988 campaign for the U.S. Senate against John McCain (R-AZ) garnered the first newspaper endorsement for a Libertarian running for a major office in the Grand Canyon State, said he's been "pleasantly surprised" by the groundswell of requests, both in the Southwest and from such other states as Pennsylvania, Illinois, Colorado, and California, that he throw his hat into the ring for the party's 1996 presidential nomination.

Tompkins announced April 10 that he has authorized formation of an exploratory committee, and that he would be willing to commit to a full-time 1996 campaign if support is widespread enough to promise a reasonably competitive opportunity to win nomination.

Harry Browne and Irwin Schiff have already officially announced their campaigns for the 1996 Libertarian Party presidential nomination.

Libertarian national committee member Tamara Clark said inquires about a Tompkins campaign were coming in at such a volume in early April that some consideration was being given to moving up any planned announcement from the original target date of June 1995, to possibly as early as the date of the Arizona state convention, April 29-30.

"Rick has already been tentatively booked to speak at the Connecticut convention in September," Clark said April 10." People are basically urging me to get the

word out that Rick may be available so that people don't feel it's necessary to commit to anyone else until they have seen what Rick's campaign will be about. There are conventions in Illinois and Pennsylvania in the next two weeks; in both cases people in those states called and asked for at least a letter from Rick, so they can tell people 'wait to see what your options are before committing your support'."

"The most important thing now is to find whether there's support for the kind of grassroots campaign I would want to run," said Tompkins, a 55-year-old Air Force veteran who also serves as national spokesman for the Montana-based Fully Informed Jury Association and as vice president of the Arizona School Choice Trust.

Asked to specify the kind of campaign he envisions, Tompkins said: "For a long time I've felt our presidential

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National office moving to Watergate complex

fter being located for years in an office described by some in the media as "a run-down row house in a Washington, DC, slum," the Libertarian Party's national headquarters is moving next month.

"We had definite goals in mind for our new headquarters—a top-notch, professional setting, with room to expand, at a frugal price," said Perry Willis, LP national director.

"And because we were patient we found something better than we had hoped for—a great office at a frugal price at the most prestigious address in Washington, DC ... The Watergate Office Building."

The Watergate Office Building is a sweeping, impressive structure. It borders a pleasant, tree-lined neighborhood on Virginia Avenue, just blocks from the Kennedy Center and historic Georgetown.

It's the home of several other prominent organizations, such as the American Film Institute and George Washington University. And it's also the former headquarters of the Democratic National Committee, and the building where Richard Nixon almost toppled the Republican Party in the

"It's the building that signaled the beginning of the public's disenchantment with the older parties," said Willis. "If you think Watergate was trouble for the Republicans the first time, wait until you see what we've got planned for 1996!"

The party was able to afford the move because the Watergate is under new management and is aggressively seeking new tenants.

"We are a frugal organization," said Willis. "In 1992 we accomplished for \$600,000 what it cost Ross Perot \$18.5 million to do—50 state ballot status. And now we're moving into Washington's most prestigious address for the same price we'd pay for a mundane office in the business district."



The party would like to acquire new funishings for the new office, however.

"We have the same mismatched, dented, irregular furniture the party has used for the last decade," said Willis. "We don't want luxury, we want a sharp professional office."

The party is currently in the middle of a fund-raising campaign to raise the money needed for that purpose.

"We talked to our architects, and they tell us that we can furnish our new headquarters for the rock-bottom price of \$15,000," said Willis. "We're ready to start projecting the image of a winner—a political party on the move. We need your help."

The party is planning an open house at the new headquarters sometime in August or September. "Every contribution of \$25 or more will get you a personal invitation to our open house," said Willis. "We'll invite you and your family to come and see exactly what you helped pay for."

"It's time to take the next major step in our development as a serious player in American politics," he said.

Ballot access

New Hampshire LP faces serious ballot threat

The New Hampshire Libertarian Party is fighting to keep its ballot status, which is threatened by HB 333. The bill passed the House in mid-March by 259-86, and it had a hearing in the Senate in mid-April

Most of the bill does not deal with ballot access, but a Democratic-sponsored amendment was attached to the bill the day it was heard in House committee.

Existing law provides that a party is qualified if it polled 3 percent for governor at the last gubernatorial election (which occurs every two years).

HB 333 provides that, in addition, a party must have membership of at least 1 percent of the total state registration, after it has been qualified for two years.

"Basically, [HB 333] is aimed at wiping the Libertarians out as a legal party," said Libertarian State Rep. Don Gorman. "The argument is that it costs too much to print the ballots for the primary—that's the feeble excuse they are coming up with.'

The New Hampshire LP had .5 percent of the registration at the last tally in September 1994. The party could not easily do a registration drive to gain another 3,300 members because in New Hampshire no voter can change party registration between elections except by the cumbersome procedure of visiting his or her town clerk.

There is no postcard registration in the state, and the federal post card form can't be used since New Hampshire is exempt from the federal law-states that permit people to register on election day are ex-

Gorman is not sure how the situation will play out. He said the Libertarians' argument "got a very fair hearing in the Senate-an awful lot of Libertarians showed up." Gorman said those who testified im-

pressed the senators. "I've talked to a lot of the senators, personally, but I really don't know how it will come out of the Senate. I think it will be a different version than the House, which means it will go to a committee of conference, if the Senate doesn't kill it outright."

The difficulty in killing the bill outright is that the ballot access restrictions were attached to the "First in the Nation Bill," dealing with keeping the New Hampshire primary the first in the nation, something nearly everybody supports. "So you can't just kill the bill, or you'll kill that too," Gorman said.

"I think that the biggest argument that impressed the senators was that we would obviously have no choice but to include this in the lawsuit that we already have in federal court on the fact that we can't have Libertarian ballot clerks," Gorman explained. "Most of the senators were not aware of that lawsuit, so that kind of got their attention.

"There were also several bits of testimony about Supreme Court rulings about making retroactive laws to change a party's status once the party has been established. We've got them really thinking on this," he

Gorman estimates that the bill will come to the Senate floor about the first of May.

"It is definitely aimed at one thing and one thing only, and that's wiping the Liber-

Gorman said that increasing registration to 1 percent from one-half percent doesn't sound like a lot, until you put it in perspective. He said there are roughly 150,000 registered Democrats in the state, "and if you said we want you to go out and register 300,000..."

Gorman said the Libertarians got support from the Natural Law Party, the Green Party, and Ross Perot's people.

And there is a flip side, according to Gorman. "Assuming that it doesn't take effect immediately and they wipe us off the face of the earth, it may surprise the hell out of them if we go out and get the 1 percent. It has galvanized a lot of people into action.

There was one fellow who was so mad he said he was going to round up a bus and drive it around the neighborhood and bring his neighbors down to the town hall to register them as Libertarians. He probably

"We're not going to take this lying down. In the long run, this may work out well, but for the immediate future, it's a nightmare.'

Portions of this article first appeared in Ballot Access News, Box 470296, San Francisco, CA 94147.

Libertarian Party NEWS

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NEWS now online

Libertarian Party NEWS articles are now available online. Through the efforts of volunteer Joe Dehn, a former LP national secretary, computer users around the world now have access to the NEWS.

Each month, NEWS articles are posted to Internet's World Wide Web (WWW)

"We've received many requests to get the NEWS online, and through the efforts of Joe, we have finally succeeded," said Randy Langhenry, NEWS editor. "At the present time, all major articles, as well as the 'Talking points' column and more, appear each month."

NEWS articles from part of 1994 through this current issue are now available via the LP's WWW facility, located at:

"http://www.lp.org/lp/"

Other past issues, including all of the 1994 editions, will soon be available as well.

To access the articles, select the LP NEWS page from either the "Current Activities" page or the "Directories and Lists" page (under "publications").

A table of contents page lists the articles by issue. Another page lists the "Talking points" columns alphabetically by subject.

(Note to maintainers of other WWW sites: The articles are stored one per file, to make it easy for you to include links to individual articles in your pages. Files have URLs of the form: http://www.lp.org/lp/

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lpn/YYMM-XXXXX.html where YYMM denotes the month of publication and XXXXX is a short name related to the topic of the article.)

The following is a sample of what the table of contents page now looks like:

February 1995

- * Feet to the Fire LP delivers challenge
- * Congress: Ratings and outlook
- * Murray Rothbard: 1926-1995
- * Brown running in CA
- * Campaign retrospective: How an LP candidate in MD won last election
- * 'California Liberty' hitting the streets
- * AZLP hitting talk radio airwaves
- * Terry Inman (obituary)
- * Talking points: Corporate welfare, taxes, and SS explored
- * A call to pens (and phones, faxes, etc.)

Additionally, the LP WWW site has online resources corresponding to items regularly printed in the NEWS. These may be maintained independently of the NEWS, and the online versions do not necessarily correspond to the printed version that appears in any particular issue. These resources include: calendar of upcoming events, LP membership form, LP products catalog, national officer/LNC directory, and state chair/contact list.



Deadline:

First of the month prior to date of issue. Example: Advertising for June issue due

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Editor Emeritus

1923-1994

Karl Hess

Editor Randy Langhenry News, Letters, Art, Photos, or

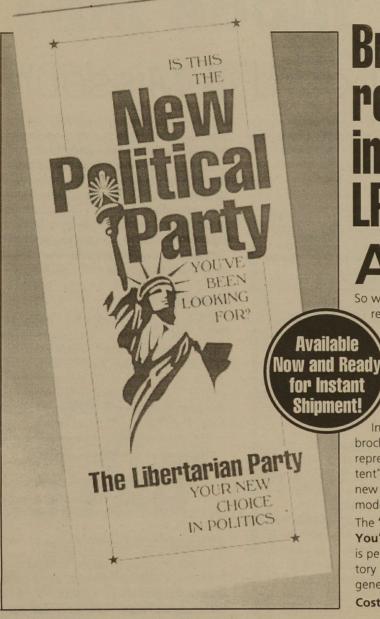
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Brand-new, redesigned introductory LP brochure

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The "Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?" brochure is perfect for outreach booths, introductory packages, and campaigns. Order a generous supply today!

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■ Liberty Today tabloid newspaper. Brand-new, updated 4th edition, with several new articles! 12 pages, green & black ink, numerous photographs. Comprehensive overview of LP activities, politics, personalities, and philosophy.

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■ Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights? Flyer, maroon ink. Our hard-hitting outreach to the gun rights community, listing 10 compelling reasons why the Libertarian Party deserves their support.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ LP Program. 4 pages, maroon ink. Details LP positions on education, employment, political corruption, health care, and violence & crime. Provides steps the LP would take immediately to solve these problems. Cost: Sample: \$1

or \$10 for 100

■ "Million Dollar Bill." Green ink. Front: A faux \$1,000,000 bill. Reverse: Highlights Federal spending (\$1 million every five seconds) and the LP alternative. Perfect for Tax Day or general outreach. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 per 100.



■ Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy. Brochure. Compares Drug Prohibition to alcohol prohibition; discusses

the Prohibition/crime link; makes the case for legalization.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



■ The Libertarian Party: Working to Cut Your Taxes. Brochure, 2-color (green & black). Outlines how Libertarians would drastically reduce taxes and government spending.

Cost: Sample: 50¢



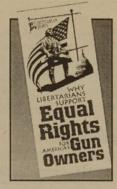
■ What Happened To Your Family Budget? Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Hard-hitting look at how government impoverishes the "typical" family through taxes and

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100 or \$5 for 100



■ Solving the Health Care Crisis. Brochure, 2color (purple & black). Part of Project Healthy Choice, detailing the LP's innovative 5-point free market health care reform proposals.

Cost: Sample: 504 or \$5 for 100



■ Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners. Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains the LP's pro-Second Amendment position, and defends the right to own guns.

Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100



■ Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again. Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's 5-point Operation Safe Streets "Crime Control" program.

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■ High-quality, lined windbreaker, blue with LP logo and party name on front. Available in M, L, XL. (Specify on order form.) Cost: \$25 each

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& blue.)

■ Vote Libertarian/800-672-1776 (Blue & white.) ■ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything! (Red, white, & blue.)

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

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Literature

■ Libertarianism in One Lesson by David Bergland. 126 pages, 6th edition. The classic, critically praised introductory work about Libertarianism. Cost: \$8 each or 5 for \$25

■ LP Platform. 24 pages, dark purple ink. The 1994 platform of the LP, with the "official" party positions on individual rights and civil order, trade, the economy, domestic concerns, and foreign affairs. Cost: Sample: \$1 or \$50 for 100

■ LP Fact Sheets: 2-page LP history (political highlights from 1971 to 1993) and 2-page bibliography (over 150 books about Libertarianism). Sold as a set only. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ America's Libertarian Heritage by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. An excellent overview of Libertarian philosophy, covering politics, free markets, social issues, and more! Cost: \$1 each

■ World's Smallest Political Quiz cards. Perfect for "politically homeless" booths, and an excellent lowcost hand-out! Cost: \$1 for 100

Tools for Campaigning

■ LP Statue of Liberty Logo master. Cost: \$1 each

■ Newsprint Ads: "Libertarian Party—Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads for newspapers, newsletters, or magazines. One each: general, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, taxes. Cost: \$3 for set.

■ Libertarian TV Ads: A videotape compilation of TV ads by LP candidates, from State Representative to President. (For information only; not broadcast

■ Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning. 32-page handbook written especially for LP candidates, full of advice, "realworld" suggestions, and tips. Cost: \$3.00 each

Cost: All buttons are \$1 each or 75¢ for 5 or more.

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

■ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Affiliates

Goodwin elected to school board in Missouri

Arizona

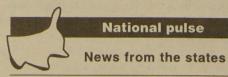
Ed Kahn, a prominent attorney and former president of the Pima County Republican Club, has announced his Libertarian Party candidacy for mayor of Tucson. The election is partisan and will be held in November this year.

Kahn is participating in the city matching funds program, but has agreed to put all matching funds toward the voter registration drive of the state party so the LP can get on the ballot in 1996.

To qualify for the matching funds program, Kahn must receive contributions of \$10 or more from 300 city residents. After that is accomplished, all contributions from anyone, anywhere, will be matched dollar for dollar. The maximum contribution for the program is \$270.

For more information or to offer support, contact Ed Kahn for Mayor, P.O. Box 11, Tucson, AZ 85702, or call 520-323-1656.

The Maricopa County LP is sponsoring a Freedom Road Rally Poker Run on May 7. In addition to the road rally, participants



will receive meal tickets and Freedom Rally T-shirts. Prizes will be awarded and live entertainment will be offered. Tamara Clark is coordinating the event for the county LP. For more information, call 602-248-8425.

California

LP member Pat Wright of San Diego was featured in People magazine in late March. Wright has, for the last five years, been working to repeal a state law that forbids the keeping offerrets as pets. Wright is the founder of Ferrets Anonymous, a group that helps get captured ferrets out of the state and finds them new owners. It is estimated that more than 100,000 ferrets are now living "illegally" in California. The article included several mentions of the Libertarian Party. Thanks to Wright's efforts, a bill is currently under consideration that will allow ferrets to live freely in the state.

Colorado

Dale Doelling finished second in a threeway race for city council in Grand Junction. Doelling received 24.5 percent of the vote. He campaigned on a plan to "launch an assault on regulations and ordinances that restrict people from forming small businesses of their own."

Steve Cummings, of Fort Morgan, has been writing letters to the local paper about the school board. After noticing his letters, the board asked him to sit on an advisory committee. There have also been suggestions that he run for mayor of Fort Morgan.

Connecticut

Libertarians kicked off the 1995 campaign season in late March in Oxford with an event sponsored by "Joy in Oxford '95," the campaign committee of John Joy, LP candidate for selectman.

The Republicans held a similar event at the same site several hours after the Libertarians, and Joy campaign manager Mark Tuniewicz noted to the press, "I understand that they've invited only fellow Republicans, and are charging \$20 per person to attend. Our event is free and open to the

"I'm truly excited," said Joy about his candidacy. "For the first time, Oxford voters will have a genuine choice for responsible town leadership. I believe that I can bring principled leadership to the Board of Selectmen and would welcome the opportunity to help build a better Oxford.'

Delaware

Dave Wood has already gotten a good start on his campaign for state representative in 1996. Wood has become involved with various local civic organizations and is obtaining an Adopt-A-Highway section in the Claymont area under the name of his campaign group, "Friends of Dave Wood." The immediate goal is to have most area voters recognize his name by the end of this year. For more information, or to offer support, contact the Friends of Dave Wood, 31 Hillside Road, Claymont, DE 19703.

Hawaii

Olelo (The Corporation for Community TV) video producer/cameraman/editor and LP member Roger Taylor is helping LP state chair Blase Harris with two ongoing video projects. "Illuminating Alternatives" is an issues-oriented video magazine with in-depth interviewers Blessing Joao, Tish Love, and Blase Harris.

The other project involves video taping episodes from "Jonathan Gullible," the award winning pamphlet by Ken Schoolland. Keith Rose is coordinating efforts to involve the youth theater group at the University High School in Honolulu.

Illinois

State party members, led by state chair Jeanette Clinkunbroomer, are fighting against Senate Bill 34, a ballot access bill that makes it illegal to pay people to circulate petitions "if any part of the payment is based upon the number of signatures." The bill has already passed the state senate. "These laws and proposals have a definite impact on who citizens can vote for on Election Day," said Clinkunbroomer. "All of these measures are no more than stealthy and underhanded ways for Republicans and Democrats to keep themselves-and themselves only-in any elected office in this state."

see Affiliates on page 6

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Talk about waste

Winter slams NEH grant for 'blabbermouths'

The federal government doesn't think Americans talk enough.

So the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) gave away \$1.6 million of taxpayers' money recently as part of a new program to encourage a "National Conversation."

"Only in America!" marveled Libertarian Party spokesman Bill Winter. "Only in America would the government pay people \$1.6 million to talk more. I mean, this is the nation of Rush Limbaugh, New York cab drivers, and Bill Clinton's State of the Union speeches! Insufficient chatter is not generally perceived to be one of America's most pressing problems."

New staff at LPHQ

Cynthia Fellows has been hired by the national Libertarian Party to fill the newly created position of ballot access coordinator/projects manager.

Fellows left her position as production manager for Ambrose, Caporoso, Fellows, Inc., an advertising agency in Chatham, NJ.

Fellows also has worked for the American Institute/Institute for International Research as the assistant director of personal computer group and as a marketing assistant.

Fellows is a member of the Morris/ Essex Libertarian Party in the Morristown area of New Jersey, and served as the group's secretary for the past two years.

In searching for a new staff member, the national LP was looking for someone who was "politically ambidextrous," a staff member able to juggle many different assignments and tasks.

As ballot access coordinator, Fellows will work with party experts to plan, coordinate, and implement a nationwide ballot access strategy. Fellows will also be expected to learn various state laws regulating the funding of petitioners to ensure that the party is in compliance with all regulations.

As Projects Manager, Fellows will plan, manage, and complete miscellaneous office and political tasks. She also will work to help solve membership and affiliate service problems.

Fellows joined the national office staff in Washington, DC, on May 1.

Candlestick Publishing is accepting manuscripts with theses opposing drug prohibition. Manuscript should be short enough to become small book or booklet and must be typed or printed, nothand written. Judging will be based on theological, philosophical, and economic soundness, also style and readability. Copy not returnable. Submit to, CANDLESTICK PUBLISHING, P. O. Box 39241, San Antonio, Texas 78218-1241 Or send for a free catalog.

The National Conversation program is designed to get "Americans to think and talk about themselves" and stimulate discussion "about what the American people are as a nation," according to news reports. The money was distributed in grants around the country to "creative people," communities, and civic groups.

NEH spokesman Gary Krull said the

\$1.6 million will be spent on "guidelines, moderators, and meeting rooms" for the National Conversation.

"I'm not a government bureaucrat, so maybe I'm missing something, but Americans seem to have no problem finding places to chat—on talk radio, in coffee shops, on the street, and on the telephone," said Winter. "And we seem to manage our conversations quite nicely, thank you, without federally subsidized moderators and guidelines."

"Americans used to believe in free speech. Now NEH bureaucrats believe in expensive speech—expensive, tax-subsidized speech. Here's the Libertarian Party's two-cents' worth of conversation: Abolish this preposterous program. End this boondoggle for blabbermouths," said Winter.

There are over 7,687,142 libertarians in America – and most of them don't even know they're libertarians.

Times/Mirror 1994 nationwide survey

Gallup polls disagree. They say there are over 32,879,934 libertarians in America.

At least one out of every 25 people you meet are already libertarians — and don't even know it. These people don't need to be convinced or argued with or converted. They just have to be shown they have a political home.

How do we reach these libertarians? Good news! We have a tool. It's effective, easy and proven. It's even fun! And now it's more powerful than ever before.

peration Politically Homeless is the fastest, easiest, most effective way to quickly reach large numbers of libertarianminded people. It's fun and it works, even if you're shy. Just set up Operation Politically Homeless anywhere there are lots of people—festivals, street fairs, gun shows, concerts, conventions—and watch it happen.

Here's how it works. An Operation Politically Homeless booth is staffed by a few libertarians. They simply ask passers-by to take the "World's Smallest Political Quiz." Most people are glad you asked. Those who score libertarian — typically 20-40% — are then asked if they would like more information about libertarian ideas. They leave you their names and addresses.

Yes, it's that easy.

But does it work?

Yes — amazingly well! Check out these results:

344 names and addresses collected *in one day* at a music festival by Texas Libertarian Party members!

■ 97 hot prospects gathered *in just 4 hours* by Cincinnati libertarians at a tax protest!

798 libertarian contacts gathered by Florida LP volunteers at a three-day arts festival!

■ 350-plus names and addresses collected *in just 8 hours* by Georgia libertarians at a rally!

Operation Politically Homeless guarantees you'll collect at least a few dozen names and addresses anywhere there are people gathered. You'll quickly find people eager to know more about liberty — guaranteed!

What's in it for you?

Operation Politically Homeless is the most powerful libertarian recruiting tool ever invented. You quickly and easily identify lots of potential local supporters, so you can rapidly

build your organization. An Operation Politically Homeless booth is also a great way to energize an organization. You will instantly see concrete results from your efforts. You'll see faces light up over and over again as people realize, for the first time, that they're really libertarians — that they do have a political home.

The biggest benefit of all: there will be lots more libertarians as a result of your efforts. More people who share our ideals, our values, our vision. Thousands more people who are part of the *solution* instead of the problem. And isn't that what we all want?

Now we've made this powerful tool even more effective.

We've just added a whole new dimension to Operation Politically Homeless — a way to make sure that the thousands of new libertarians contacted receive a strong, effective follow-through.

Now every name you gather will hear from the finest organizations and publications in the libertarian movement.

Here's the plan. Using Operation Politically Homeless, you and your local libertarian organization gather dozens or hundreds of prospect names. You use these names in the most effective way to build your local or state organization.

Then: send those names to the Advocates. We'll in turn make them available to America's leading libertarian organizations and publications.

Remember how you felt?

Remember how you felt when you please information the world? When you learned there were other people who shared your political views?

How would you like for one out of every 25 people you encounter to experience that same feeling?

Imagine: tens of thousands of libertyhungry people receiving free catalogs, subscription offers, sample publications, candidate brochures and other professionallyproduced material — all from the leading organizations and publications in the liberty movement.

Every good salesperson knows that prospects often have to be exposed to an idea several times before they begin to accept it. *Now we can do that* — we can show each and every fledgling libertarian a *world* of libertarian activities, ideas, and organizations.

This new addition to the Operation Politically Homeless program greatly leverages your outreach efforts — at no additional cost or effort to you!

A libertarian movement bigger than you ever dreamed possible!

People are hungry for libertarian ideas. We want to reach thousands — tens of thousands — of people with those ideas — fast! We want to quickly build strong libertarian organizations. Operation Politically Homeless is the

Excited? So are we. If you or your organization have an Operation Politically Homeless booth, now is the *best time ever* to put it to use.

Would you like to run an Operation Politically Homeless booth yourself — and discover hundreds of new libertarians?

You can evaluate the benefits yourself at no cost! Just call us—at our expense, please—and we'll rush you a FREE information kit packed with facts and figures about the world's finest libertarian outreach

No Risk — No Obligation.

Call today for your free "Operation Politically Homeless" Information Kit: 1-800-932-1776. Fax: 1-404-417-1305

Please call now — hundreds of libertarians in your town are waiting!



Advocates for Self-Government, Inc., 3955 Pleasantdale Rd. # 106A, Atlanta, GA 30340.

Affiliates

continued from page 4

Michigan

LP member Al Garcia, fund-raising chair of the 1994 Jon Coon U.S. Senate campaign, ran for city council in Troy. The election was on April 3, 1995.

Garcia declared his write-in candidacy for the office only 16 days before the elections, and the news didn't make the local papers until five days later. He was supported by Tax Cap, a group founded by Councilman Robert Gosselin. Councilman Gosselin is a county, state, and national Republican Party delegate with a libertarian philosophy.

Garcia decided to run following a debate between the declared candidates on March 16. "The incumbents exhibited the same kind of tendencies we observe at the federal legislative level," said Garcia. "I became more concerned by observing what we see so much of today in our elected officials when they say one thing, but mean and do another. There is no wonder the average citizen does not trust government. Government does have an important function, but it is not to do what private enterprise can and will do better while creating job opportunities.

"I finally became outraged when one

council member indicated that Troy is great because we have good government. We may have well intentioned elected officials, however, we, as individuals, must continually remember, as well as remind our elected officials, that our country is great, our states are great, and our cities and towns are great NOT because of good government, but rather because of individual sovereignty, self reliance, and a limited government," Garcia said.

Garcia received 576 votes, more than 4 percent, as a write-in candidate—a very encouraging result. He also received three write-in votes for mayor, although he wasn't in the running for that office.

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Minnesota

LP members participated in a tax protest rally at the main post office in Minneapolis. Coordinators for the rally included Rory McGovern and Charles Test.

Missouri

Kevin Goodwin, vice chair of the Mid-Missouri Libertarians, has been elected to the Columbia, MO, school board. Goodwin has already taken office on the seven-member board, and he will serve a one-vear term. His school district has more than 15,000 students.

"It's going to be an interesting year," Goodwin said. "We're having an impact." He said at his first board meeting he raised a number of issues that had some members "scared to death."

He narrowly defeated an incumbent by running a very active issues-oriented campaign. He appeared at all of the occasions for the candidates to speak their minds and got the people of Columbia to reconsider the way their children were being educated. Particularly noteworthy were the issues of Outcome-Based Education (OBE), which Goodwin opposed, and redistricting-Goodwin is in favor of the more traditional concept of neighborhood schools.

Goodwin identified himself as a libertarian (the election was non-partisan) and garnered a lot of support from teachers. Goodwin owns the Tiger Tales Bookstore.

Hugh Emerson, running a "no-key" as opposed to a "low-key" campaign for city council in Columbia, got more than 100 votes without spending anything on his write-in campaign. Apair of complimentary articles about him came out in the local papers in media-saturated Columbia, home of the University of Missouri's prestigious journalism school.

The March 31, 1995, edition of the Jefferson County News Democrat featured a front page story, with a color photo and additional sidebar story, on the Libertarian Party and the county LP's central committee chair Mary Anne Gassmann. The article was repeated in the Sunday edition of the Journal newspapers, which are delivered to all county residences. Jefferson County is just south of St. Louis and has a population of about 180,000.

We got the interview because one of the editors of the journal newspapers saw one of our fliers advertising our February outreach meeting featuring a speaker from

see Affiliates on page 7

The Case for Free Trade and Open Immigration edited by Richard M. Ebeling and Jacob G. Hornberger **Order Now!!** Only \$9.95 softcover \$17.95 hardcover published by The Future of Freedom Foundation

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> —Doug Bandow Senior Fellow, Cato Institute Author of The Politics of Envy

"The authors make clear how import restrictions undermine America's living standards by making thousands of consumer products needlessly more expensive. They also make clear why today's immigrants—both skilled and currently unskilled—are every bit as important as the fabled immigrants who made America great during the 17th, 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. Bravo!"

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LP presidential campaign contacts

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Schiff for President c/o Jeff Kanter P.O. Box 221440 Beachwood, OH 44122 216-248-9995 (mailbox #3) 216-248-9994 (fax) e-mail: kantnow@aol.com

Affiliates

continued from page 6

NORML," said Gassmann. "We have had outreach meetings on Waco, gun rights, FIJA, outcome-based education, etc., and we plaster the county with our fliers. But it took a meeting whose subject was a 'controlled substance' to get the newspaper's attention enough for a story."

The excellent article not only clearly stated the Libertarian philosophy, but also publicized the LP's monthly meetings and the Party's telephone number.

Montana

LP member Jerry O'Neil is an independent paralegal fighting a proposed state supreme court order that would require that "paralegals/legal assistants who do not work under the direct supervision of a lawyer may not perform work which would be considered the practice of law, or hold themselves out to the public as paralegals/ legal assistants in the course of their employment."

O'Neil said that "requiring that all paralegals 'work under the direct supervision of a lawyer' would be comparable to the Montana Legislature requiring that all lobbyists work under the direct supervision of college graduates who hold master's degrees in political science."

O'Neil helps many destitute clients who otherwise could not get legal help, acts as a mediator and arbitrator, and often advises clients on finding specialized attorneys.

Nevada

Ernest Walker, the LP's elected member of the Sparks City Council, has announced he is seeking re-election. For information or to offer support, write Ernest Walker for Sparks City Council, 410 L St., Sparks, NV 89431, or call 702-359-6754.

Bob Days has stepped down as chair of the Clark County LP for medical reasons, and Chris Azzaro has assumed the position of acting chair.

The Clark County LP participated in two tax protest rallies, one at the IRS local headquarters and one at the main post office in Las Vegas.

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New Jersey

At the annual convention in March, the following new state party officers were elected: Len Flynn, chair; Ed Wiessmann, vice chair; Emerson Ellett, secretary; Lou Stefanelli, treasurer.

Spurred by last year's successful rally, Monmouth County Libertarians participated in tax day protests at local post offices and distributed LP materials, including "What Happened to Your Family Budget" fliers and LP "\$1,000,000 bills." Emerson Ellett helped coordinate the rallies.

North Carolina

Sean Haugh of Durham has assumed the position of newsletter editor for The Tarheel Libertarian, the state newsletter.

Oregon

Keith Sweigart and Nick Kirpatric are both campaigning hard as candidates for the local school board in Clackamas County.

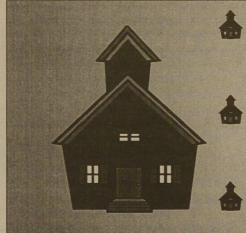
Libertarians have a new radio talk show on station KKEY-1150 AM. The show airs Saturdays from 2 to 3 p.m. Coordinating the program are Gene Nanni and John

Benneth.

Pennsylvania

Montgomery County Libertarians staged a large tax protest rally in Northeast Philadelphia on April 15 at the IRS's Philadelphia Service Center, one of the largest IRS installations in the country. Don Ernsberger, LP candidate for U.S. Senate in November and an LP national committee member, served as master of ceremonies. Others who were slated to speak at

see Affiliates on page 14



Do public schools succeed in creating obedient supporters of the welfare state?

Would vouchers only make a bad situation worse?

Should public schools be abolished, not reformed?

A Conservative Book Club Selection!

Separating School & State

by Sheldon Richman Senior Editor at the Cato Institute

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A thrilling book. An exhilarating vision of how much better off everyone will be with 100% private, voluntary education.

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National Timely, brilliantly argued, and consistently on the side of the angels.

-Robert Higgs, author of Crisis and Leviathan

A truly engaging and original book. —The Michigan Review

Nr. Richman is right to fear that state

education undermines personal responsibility.

I recommend Separating School and State.

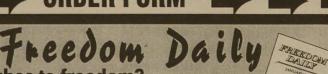
This book makes a powerful contribution.

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riangle This is educational polemics at their most bracing. -Booklist

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When it comes to liberty and principles, we don't compromise. Perhaps that's why Nobel laureate MILTON FRIEDMAN said: "FFF is doing good work and is making an impact." (Liberty, 7/91, p. 20) Or why former Congressman RON PAUL said: "With uncommon discipline and uncompromising devotion to principle, FFF is at the forefront of the freedom movement." Or why Laissez Faire Book's ANDREA RICH says: "FFF always reminds us of the moral arguments for freedom, not just the practical ones."

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The real debate is yet to come

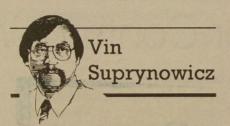
s anyone watching the shadow-boxing match in Washington anymore? Tune in your evening news and put a stopwatch on the footage of Republicans debating whether one federal program or another should be "cut" in a way which will make it 4 percent bigger next year. Compare this to the time devoted to O.J. Simpson, Michael Jordan, and the reproductive success of the polar bears at the local zoo.

This is not a question of how "good" local TV news is. These broadcast versions of the Police Gazette know how to read the ratings, and what the ratings tell them is that scarcely 10 percent of viewers pay any attention to the "debate" in Washington anymore, because that debate is now literally, by any pragmatic definition, insane.

Declaring the Republican "Contract With America" a failure as it approached its 100th day, House Democrat leader Richard Gephardt on April 4 declared, "The Contract With America has proven that the Republicans have their own notion of commonsense. Rather than helping working families to get ahead, they've proposed slashing student loans... as well as education for homeless children. Rather than investing in America's children, they cut school lunches for children who could literally go hungry without them; ... and nutrition assistance for pregnant women and babies that saves almost four times what it cost."

Do our heads look like turnips? When do we see our earnings from these "investments"?

What? Our reward is the satisfaction of seeing all the recipients of our heisted paychecks happy and prosperous? As Dr. Rob-



Commentary

ert Higgs, research director for the Independent Institute in Oakland, CA, points out, "It would take little more than \$50 billion to raise every poor person above the official poverty line, yet the percentage of the population in poverty hardly budges while annual welfare spending amounts to four times as much. Where's the money going? You guessed it. The money goes mostly to poverty fighters—the planners, researchers, social workers... and assorted apparatchiki."

Nor does any welfare program "save more than it costs." Instead, as Peter Kirsanow, labor counsel for the Leaseway Transportation Corp. of Cleveland and member of the African-American leadership group Project 21, writes this month: "The paternalistic welfare state and the welfare culture it has spawned are suffocating large segments of the Black community. . . . Before the inception of the Great Society, Black illegitimacy trends were actually declining. The illegitimacy rate was 23 percent in 1963." Today, it's at 68 percent and climbing.

Department of Health and Human Services figures show "a 50 percent increase in the value of AFDC and food stamp payments led to a 43 percent increase in the number of out-of-wedlock births," Kirsanow reports in his essay, for the National Center

for Public Policy Research. "The replacement of the black father with the welfare state has produced a number of deleterious results. Perhaps the most alarming is the increase in crime." During the '50s and '60s, Kirsanow found, the number of black male murder victims dropped by 20 percent. But since then, "One study showed that a 50 percent increase in welfare benefits resulted in a 117 percent increase in crimes committed by young black males."

Save us more than it costs? The welfare state has not only never returned a penny of the \$5 trillion looted from productive uses and "invested" in it (how many jobs could those funds have created in the private sector?), it has saddled us with the inestimable cost of an entire generation transformed into illiterate thugs.

But the lie within the lie here is the false credit Mr. Gephardt gives the Republican Party for "slashing" such evil schemes. The GOP has the votes, right now, to end Food Stamps, to end AFDC, to pass a 1996 budget containing not one cent for the federal department of Health and Human Services and a dozen other worthless ant farms

But the Republicans will do none of these things. They will pass a 1996 budget larger than this year's. They will continue to run huge deficits, and authorize the Treasury and the Federal Reserve to create more and more funny money to cover their debts, until their welfare and Social Security checks are worth about as much as a handful of rubles amongst the empty shelves of a Russian government store.

As Gerald Celent predicts in The Trends Journal, "Americans from all walks of life believe their government is untrustworthy and incompetent. The changes they want will result in sweeping sociopolitical restructurings during the next 10 years... 66

Robert Prechter writes in the Elliott Wave Theorist, a financial investment newsletter, "A third party is likely to win in either 2000 or 2004 and be either fascist in nature or radically freedom oriented, (such as) America's third largest party, the Libertarian Party."

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Indeed, by 2000, a viable, non-aligned third party will emerge and one of the existing parties, if not both, will become extinct."

Robert Prechter writes in the Elliott Wave Theorist, a financial investment newsletter, "A third party is likely to win in either 2000 or 2004 and be either fascist in nature or radically freedom oriented, (such as) America's third largest party, the Libertarian Party."

That is the real debate the American people are waiting to take part in. Once the issue is put as between a repressive central government anxious to disarm the public and put down rebellion in any form (from home-schooling to alternative medicine to tax avoidance), and parties anxious to restore freedom through a 90 percent reduction in all government powers, budgets, and intrusions, we will find Americans are not such a dull and complacent lot, at all.

It will just turn out they were waiting for this interminable cartoon to end, and the main feature to begin.

Vin Suprynowicz is the assistant editorial page editor of the Las Vegas Review-Journal. His column is syndicated in the U.S. and Canada via Mountain Media Syndications, P.O. Box 4422, Las Vegas, NV 89127-4422.

Legislation

LP joins fight against Communications Decency Act

The Libertarian Party has joined numerous other groups, including the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC), the National Coalition Against Censorship (NCAC), the Computing Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR), and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), in publicly opposing the Communications Decency Act of 1995, which is designated as SB 314 and HR1004.

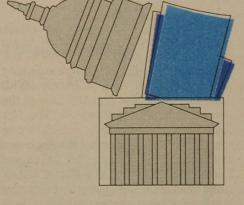
According to EPIC, the act, if passed, will regulate the content of private communications and the expression of public opinion. In its latest form, the act makes every person who creates, makes, or solicits "any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, or other communication which is obscene, lewd, lascivious, filty, or indecent" subject to criminal prosecution. It also gives the

FCC sweeping new authority to regulate on-line communications, and curtails First Amendment rights that currently exist for print communication.

EPIC notes that "there is a genuine concern about the type of materials that are available to children via the Internet. EPIC also believes that a thoughful, long-term solution to this problem will require the participation of parents and schools, and the development of good technical and educational measures. We do not believe that the contents of private communications or the expression of public opinion should be regulated by the government."



The following column addressing the Communications Decency Act of 1995 first appeared in the *Colorado Springs Gazette Telegraph* on April 1, 1995. It is reprinted here with permission.



Don't curb cyber-porn at the expense of freedom on-line

By BARRY S. FAGIN

What explains the unquenchable urge to control the lives of others? Why, when faced with a problem, do we so often reach for the heavy hand of government? Must we always use censorship, force, and punishment instead of debate, restraint, and tolerance?

On the Internet, up till now, the answer has been a resounding "No." This global network of computers is revolutionizing the way we live, work, and play. Through the Internet, you can work at home, make travel reservations, stay in touch with your kids at college, order a pizza, and check your congressman's voting record, all with the click of a mouse. The Internet is the modern American frontier. It is largely unregulated, dizzyingly chaotic, and home to some of the freest discussion and transmission of information anywhere on the planet. Censorship is virtually unheard of.

All that is about to change. Recently, the "U.S. Communications Decency Act" began making its way through Congress. All indications are that this bill is on a fast track, as part of telecommunications-reform legislation. If passed and enforced, this act will cripple the Internet as we know it. While drafted with the best of intentions, as such laws often are, the practical conse-

see Legislation on page 15

Report card

LP gives GOP B-minus for Contract With America

ow that the first 100 days of the 104th Congress are officially over, the Libertarian Party has issued a "freedom" report card on the Republican Party's Contract With America.

And they give Republicans a Bminus for their efforts.

"We wanted to wait until the finger-pointing, back-slapping, name-calling, and congratulations have died down so we could make a calm, dispassionate assessment of the Contract With America," said Steve Dasbach, chair of America's third-largest political party.

"Our grading criteria was simple: Did the elements of the Contract reduce the size, cost, and intrusiveness of government? Did it increase the personal and economic freedom of American citizens? These are the fundamental issues that Libertarians are concerned about."

Dasbach said the B-minus grade reflected Libertarian approval of many elements in the Contract, but noted, "Republicans missed many opportunities to do more. And we saw some backsliding on several important issues. Overall, the Republicans had a chance to make history, to launch a real revolution, and to live up to their libertarian campaign rhetoric. Unfortunately, they fell somewhat short of that goal."

The Libertarian Party's grades for the Contract ranged from an A for the Line-Item Veto, which won the Libertarians' "whole-hearted endorsement," to a D for the Taking Back Our Streets Act, which Dasbach called "dangerous."

The specific grades for the major components of the Contract:

1. The Congressional Accountability Act, which requires Congress to live by the same laws it imposes on the American public. Grade: C+

"This was a procedural issue, and largely symbolic," said Dasbach. "We would have preferred that Congress reverse this bill—and let American citizens opt out of those oppressive laws, like Congress used to. That would have been real reform!"

2. The Fiscal Responsibility Act, a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced federal budget. Grade: B.

"Balancing the budget is the minimum we Libertarians would expect of any fiscally responsible government, so this amendment was a step in the right direction," said Dasbach. "But it does nothing to reduce the current, bloated federal budget."

3. The Line-Item Veto, which allows the president to veto specific items in the federal budget. Grade: A

"This gets our whole-hearted endorsement; it gives politicians power to do nothing but cut government spending. Of course, we really need to take a meat ax to the federal budget, and the line-item veto is just a surgeon's scalpel. But it's a start," said Dasbach.

4. The Taking Back Our Streets Act, which modifies the Omnibus Crime Bill of 1994. Grade: D

"At best, a one-step-forward, two-steps-

back bill," said Dasbach. "This dangerous bill weakens the Fourth Amendment, gutting one of the basic civil liberties of Americans—the right to be secure against unreasonable searches and seizures. And it does nothing to roll back the unconstitutional semi-automatic weapons ban, which violates the Second Amendment. But it did reduce the price tag of the crime bill from about \$30 billion to \$24 billion, and did introduce some elements of victim restitution."

5. The National Security Revitalization Act, which restricts the president's ability to participate in U.N. "peacekeeping" activities around the globe. Grade: B+

"This places admirable restraints on the president's military powers, and makes it extremely difficult for the president to send American troops to die in another Somalia or Haiti," said Dasbach. "On the negative side, it didn't reduce the military budget by a single penny, and didn't extract the United States from our expensive, needless NATO burdens."

6. The Regulatory Flexibility Act, which places a moratorium on new federal regulations. Grade: B+

"This will force federal bureaucrats to stop churning out useless, costly regulations for a year. That's good," said Dasbach. "On the other hand, current regulations cost Americans between \$430 billion and \$1 trillion a year, and this oppressive level of regulatory overkill is simply maintained. But the bill is a good step in the right direction."

7. The Personal Responsibility Act and the Family Reinforcement Act, which replaces many federal welfare programs with block grants to states. Grade: D

"Another missed opportunity for real reform," said Dasbach. "It's more talk than action, and simply shifts wasteful welfare



programs from the federal level to the state level. It's not the step towards private, voluntary charity that Libertarians would like to see."

8. The Common Sense Legal Reform Act, which puts caps on legal damage awards and institutes a "loser-pays" provision. It would also require compensation for property owners if federal regulations reduce the value of their property by 20 percent or more. Grade: B+

"The legal clauses may bring some common sense to our court system," said Dasbach. "But the most important element of this bill will restrict the ability of bureaucrats to 'take' property through burdensome regulations. That's extremely welcome. But Libertarians would have liked to see this kick in at 1 percent—not 20 percent. Why should bureaucrats be able to steal 20 percent of the value of your property?"

9. The Job Creation & Wage Enhance-

66

Our grading criteria was simple: Did the elements of the Contract reduce the size, cost, and intrusiveness of government? Did it increase the personal and economic freedom of American citizens? These are the fundamental issues that Libertarians are concerned about.

— Steve Dasbach

"

ment Act, the American Dream Restoration Act, and the Senior Citizens Fairness Act, which grant a \$500 per child tax credit, cut the capital gains tax, and allow Social Security recipients to earn more income before benefits are cut. Grade: C

"This bill includes \$189 billion in tax cuts, and Libertarians approve whenever Americans are allowed to keep a little more of their own money," said Dasbach. "But this legislation avoids any meaningful reforms to America's fiscal time-bomb, Social Security. Again, we're seeing the Republicans duck the tough issues."

10. The Citizen Legislature Act, which imposes term limits on the U.S. House and Senate. Grade: No grade.

"The Libertarian Party doesn't take a position on term limits," said Dasbach. "Yes, it would be nice to see some of the entrenched, big-spending politicians rotated out of office. But most Libertarians don't see any real benefit in simply cycling bad Republicans and Democrats in and out of office quicker."

The 'Hundred Days' hoopla

BY DAVID NOLAN

As I sit here writing this, the Newters are cavorting about the Capitol steps in celebration of their alleged triumph in passing some-most-all of their "Contract With America" within the first 100 days of the new GOP-dominated Congress. The 100-day time frame, of course, was chosen to mirror the Great March Into Socialism which occurred during the first 100 days of Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency. Ostensibly, Newt & Co. were going to reverse the process and lead us out of the Rooseveltian Desert and into the Promised Land of Oz.

How well did they do? Well, to paraphrase the words spoken by Neil Armstrong when he set foot on the moon, it may have been a big leap for Newt Gingrich, but it was only a small step for Mankind.

The proposed Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution passed the House, but died by one vote in the Senate—blame that treacherous lying weasel Dianne Feinstein for that one. The move to impose congressional term limits didn't even get

that far. ("What? You mean US? You actually want to limit OUR terms? Surely you jest . . .")

A few good things did transpire. Congressional staff cuts. Increased accountability. A three-fifths requirement for future tax increases. A one-year freeze on new federal regulations, and tougher limits on the imposition of unfunded mandates. The line-item veto. Restrictions on placing U.S. troops under U.N. command. Hesitant steps toward de-federalizing welfare.

On taxes, a mixed bag. No real fundamental changes, just a re-shuffling of deductions, exemptions and credits. Best move: tax incentives for private health care insurance. Worst: the \$500 per child tax credit, a blatant subsidy to overbreeders which will shift the tax burden even further onto the less fecund.

The bad news: more censorship, more funding for police-state programs, and a further loosening of restrictions on the use of illegally-obtained evidence—all cloaked in the usual bilious rhetoric of "family values" and "making our streets safe again."



No action to date (and none likely!) on undoing the latest round of damage to our Second Amendment rights.

All in all a very mixed bag. Give them an A-minus for procedural changes, and a genuine attempt to reduce the nightmare of red tape and over-regulation. A C-minus or D on taxes. And a flat F on respect for the Bill of Rights. That works out to a C-minus average, which is better than any other Congress of late, but still far short of the fundamental change that this country still needs; a change that is likely to arrive around the year 2004, with or without the Republicans' assent.

David Nolan is the founder of the Libertarian Party. This article is scheduled to appear also in the current California Liberty.

Talking points

A look at Libertarian trends, regulation, and more

Cliches and uninformed statements are easy to dismiss as senseless prescriptions from political outcasts and fringe ideologues. Libertarian advocates—be they candidates, state officers, speakers, pamphlet writers, or other spokespersons—may gain credibility for Libertarian ideas by presenting facts and quoting expert opinion that bolster LP positions. This column will provide the ammunition you can use to confound the skeptics and impress those searching for answers by citing mainstream publications and recognized opinion leaders (for and against individual liberty). Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Issue: Libertarian trends in America

For Libertarians there is good cause to be at least cautiously optimistic about the prospects of shrinking government and expanding freedom. The reason for this is not so much the capture of both houses of Congress by the GOP as it is a general libertarian trend among the American people. This trend had a great deal to do with transforming a Congress that was dominated by Democrats into a Congress that wasn't—a fact that conservative Republicans would do well to keep in mind.

"The sad truth is that many politicians,

Libertarian talking points

Charles D. Poe

Democrat and Republican, still don't get it. Economic conservatism and social libertarianism are the new center of American politics. Poll after poll shows Americans wanting smaller government, lower taxes, and more money husbanded for their families. People, especially white male heads of families taking the brunt of corporate downsizings, say they need greater resources to deal with the transition to the global, competitive Information Age. Until government shows it can deliver on services, they need to buy their own.

"Nowhere is there a call for more government, in people's personal lives. Just the opposite. Republican governors, who now run the largest states of the union, know this as they cut spending, reform welfare, and lower taxes. If the Republican Party gets hijacked at the national level and substitutes a message of morality for opportunity and inequality for upward mobility, it will lose the center and surely fall."

Editorial in Business Week, Nov. 28, 1994.

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"Peter Jennings' post-mortem on the election was that the 'voters had a tempertantrum.' Time magazine said Newt Gingrich has merely exploited 'the politics of anger.' Maybe these experts were too angry themselves to see the obvious. They have overlooked abundant evidence that behind the results was a rational and benign impulse to live and let live.

"Sentiments about homosexuality, which mortally offends true believers on the right, provide a gauge. Voters not only in liberal Oregon but in Idaho (which last voted Democratic in a presidential election in 1964) rejected anti-gay ballot measures.

"The election also brought to 216 the number of out-of-the-closet gays holding various offices around the country. The head of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund said that this year, 'It was far more hazardous to be an openly Democratic candidate than openly gay and lesbian.'

"This is in step with a national trend, writes Paul Varnell in Chicago's gay Windy City Times, noting that in recent years, opposition to letting gays teach in public schools and serve in the military has declined sharply. A majority now favors both.

"Efforts to curb abortion, pornography, and suicide also failed at the ballot box, which may not be quite what the religious right had in mind. Oregonians and Coloradans turned down amendments to their state constitutions that would have unleashed the vice squad on videos and magazines baring too much flesh. Wyomingites took the position that individual freedom includes the right to abortion.

"An electorate that repudiates gun control while accepting homosexuality, that wants something 'conservative' like lower taxes but also something 'liberal' like the right to suicide, may seem badly confused to those imprisoned in traditional ideological straitjackets. It should not be surprising, though, in a country whose founding document celebrated every person's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

"Nor is it inconsistent with a desire to scale back the size, cost, and authority of the government. The message of the election is that Americans want Washington to wield less control over their lives and are ready to accept the responsibilities that go with taking more control themselves. A citizenry accustomed to the comforts and constraints of the nanny state has resolved to try adulthood."

Stephen Chapman in the Chicago Tribune, Nov. 27, 1994.

Issue:

Product liability reform

The issue of lawsuit abuse and proposals for tort reform are much in the news lately, but the focus of this attention is almost entirely limited to those instances in which private parties contend with each other in court and in so doing involve the government merely as a referee. A much more serious type of lawsuit abuse occurs when government at any level participates in civil litigation as a plaintiff in an effort to achieve ambitious social engineering objectives that would have little chance of success in the ordinary legislative process. The current effort to drive the tobacco industry out of

business and thereby make people healthier is only the first step. When government at the federal, state, or local level instigates punitive lawsuits of this sort, it seeks nothing less than the power to effectively outlaw, by means of civil litigation, any business activity that it targets for extinction.

"Alcohol kills more than 100,000 Americans each year. Automobiles cause nearly 50,000 fatalities. And margarine—that's right—claims as many as 30,000 lives each year.

"Yet beer companies and wineries are not barred, by law, from advertising on television. Automakers are not required, by law, to affix warning labels to their vehicles. And food companies do not face class action suits from patients who blame their heart disease on margarine.

"That's why it is unfair that the tobacco industry has been targeted for financial ruination by, first, the plaintiffs bar and, now, state government agencies. Smoking poses a health risk to those who take up the habit. But so do many other consumer products.

"But bashing cigarette makers is oh so politically correct these days. We don't hold 46 million smokers responsible for their habit, for the health problems they bring upon themselves. We blame tobacco executives.

"Since private sector lawyers have failed to take down the tobacco industry in the courts, lawyers for state agencies are getting into the act, filing the most dubious tort claims against cigarette makers on behalf of state residents.

"Both state and federal courts will be tied up with tobacco litigation for the rest of this decade and beyond. And if, perchance, one of these lawsuits succeeds, it not only will be the death knell for the tobacco industry, it will embolden revenue-seeking states to go after various other manufacturing industries.

"[P]roduct liability reform will be incomplete unless lawmakers also include protections for consumer product makers. They ought to adapt a provision along the lines of an 8-year-old California law, which declares that a manufacturer cannot be held liable if a product is known to pose health risks to consumers and if it is a common consumer product intended for personal consumption, such as sugar, castor oil, alcohol, tobacco, and butter."

Joseph Perkins, syndicated columnist, in The Houston Post, March 3, 1995.

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"The state of Florida thinks it has found a way to curb smoking and make the tobacco companies pay for the damage their products cause to Medicaid recipients. This week it files a class action lawsuit against the tobacco industry, asking \$1.43 billion to cover the cost of treating Medicaid patients suffering from cancer or other illnesses related to smoking.

"The suit follows the passage of a new law by the Florida Legislature removing several burdens of proof from the state which had frustrated similar lawsuits in the past. Under the new law, the state no longer must prove each Medicaid recipient's ill-

see Talking points on page 11

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When the U.S. Constitution was proposed, America's founders demanded that it recognize our natural rights or they would reject it outright. *The Bill of Rights* is the real Contract with America since the Constitution would not have been possible without it.

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Talking points

continued from page 10

ness was caused by smoking. Instead, health statistics may be used to prove that tobacco caused a percentage of certain types of illnesses suffered by smokers on Medicaid. Furthermore, the law no longer requires the state to prove that patients smoked a certain brand of cigarette. Damages against tobacco companies can be assessed based on their share of the market.

"Add to government's ham-fisted approach the greed of lawyers anxious to grab the pot of gold at the end of this legal rainbow and this lawsuit starts to smell worse than a cheap cigar.

"Tobacco today. Alcohol and hamburgers tomorrow. Your house the next day and mine the day after that. And then what? Better stop them now before we have to ask that question. There are better ways to curb tobacco use than this lawsuit."

Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas in The Houston Post, Feb. 23, 1995.

Issue: Affirmative action

Government-mandated discrimination on the basis of race, sex, or other group characteristics has less respectability now than it has had in several decades. George Will describes the political momentum that has affirmative action on the defensive, and Thomas Sowell reminds us that it was a bad idea all along—even before politicians had the nerve to say so.

"In 1996, California voters almost certainly will use the initiative process to put into the state constitution a ban on the state using 'race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin as a criterion for either discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group in the operation of the state's system of public employment, public education, or public contracting.' Advocates of affirmative action, who understandably prefer to denounce its detractors than to defend its premises or consequences, call the California Civil Rights Initiative (CCRI) a provocation. The initiative is prompting emulative legislation in Congress and is exerting a gravitational pull on the competition for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination.

"People who consider the language of CCRI provocative should remember the way Democrats talked just 20 years ago. Their 1976 platform said: 'To achieve a just and healthy society and enhance respect and trust in our institutions, we must ensure that all citizens are treated equally before the law. . .' But the next paragraph pledged 'vigorous' policies of 'compensatory opportunity.'

"For two decades liberalism, which by now has little ideological clarity beyond its belief in racial, ethnic, and sexual preferences, has tried to speak the language of the nation's convictions while serving the diametrically opposed desires of a few factions. This project is about to collapse under the accumulating weight of its contradictions."

Syndicated columnist George Will in the Houston Chronicle, March 2, 1995.

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"When I did an international survey of affirmative action programs for my 1990 book, 'Preferential Policies,' the consequences I found again and again were these:

"• The benefits of affirmative action went overwhelmingly to people who were better

off, while the poorer members of the same groups either didn't gain ground or actually fell further behind.

- "• Polarization between groups increased, erupting repeatedly into lethal violence in India, Nigeria, and Sri Lanka.
- "• Frauds became commonplace, whether by false claims of belonging to the group in question or by having a genuine member of such a group become a 'front' for people who weren't members but who received government favors anyway.
- "• Despite claims that such programs are a 'temporary' means to advance particu-

lar groups, the programs have not only persisted but expanded to include other groups, ultimately encompassing a majority of the country's whole population.

"No wonder defenders of affirmative action don't want to talk about its consequences but only about its good intentions."

Syndicated columnist Thomas Sowell in The Dallas Morning News, Feb. 19, 1995.

Although George Will writes about affirmative action as if it has been imposed on the country entirely by liberals, it has in fact also been supported by conservatives, in-

cluding two leading contenders for the 1996 Republican presidential nomination.

"The candidate leading in the polls is Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, and the one now favored by the Beltway conservative phone booth is Texas Sen. Phil Gramm. It was Mr. Gramm who led the presidential poll at the recent Conservative Political Action Conference, the annual group-grope that is to the Beltway Right what the Mystic Knights of the Sea was to Amos 'n' Andy.

"Indeed, both Mr. Dole and Mr. Gramm these days do good imitations of Sir Galahad, see **Talking points** on page 15

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Letters

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When Tyrants can be ridiculed as well as feared, their days are numbered.

I wonder whether any of our benefactors would be willing to endow an annual award, perhaps in solid gold, to the person who has done most to spread the freedom philosophy to John and Jane Q?

If so, I'd like to nominate Dave Barry as its first recipient. His hilarious and widelynoted piece on the IRS in your April issue, with its accurate comparison of government to cement, is worth it on its

> A.J. Davies New London, NH

Leafleting

In regard to the FIJA article (April 1995 NEWS): While I don't believe that Ms. Regas should face criminal charges, I cannot understand how anyone who claims to respect the rights and property of another can condone the tampering of another's property (vehicle) without their consent.

Personally, when someone messes with my vehicle (i.e., placing brochures under the wiper blades) without my consent, to put it bluntly, it pisses me off! This blunt statement becomes a understatement when the vehicle in question is my motorcycle.

While members of the FIJA should be commended for passing out leaflets to

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Staying in touch

Letters to the editor

individuals who voluntarily accept them, the practice of placing them upon someone's parked vehicle should be discontinued.

> Ben Steele III Durand, MI

Not Jefferson

Sandi Webb's article (April 1995 NEWS) begins with a quotation attributed to Thomas Jefferson. It's a dandy libertarian quote all right, but Jefferson never said it.

The passage does indeed occur in Jefferson's "Commonplace Book," but this is not a work Jefferson wrote; commonplace books, common in the 18th century, were handwritten collections of passages and quotations by various authors, assembled into notebooks for personal references.

The passage in question, which Jefferson obviously found worth recording, actually comes from Chapter 40 of "On Crimes and Punishments" by the 18th century Italian classical liberal legal scholar Cesare Beccaria.

This mistake is unfortunately part of a larger pattern, all too frequent among libertarians, of careless misattributions to Jefferson.

This is a habit we libertarians really should break. If we keep up these careless inaccuracies, some statist is going to catch us out and embarrass us. Let's get our act together, guys!

Roderick T. Long Chapel Hill, NC

Spread the word

I am a police officer and have been a member of the LP for about two years. I learned of the LP through another nonmember at the police department. He told me the LP was not a bunch of bleeding hearts, big government liberals.

I wrote to tell you of the technique I have used to spread the word of the LP to others. I have converted at least five others. I believe most or a near majority agree with the principles of the LP, but are uninformed. I have taken it upon myself to reproduce 150 copies of [a California LP] flier. I have enclosed a copy of this flier with every letter or bill I send out.

I believe this tactic is relatively inexpensive and can be followed by all members to promote the LP. The idea behind sending a copy with the bill is that the data entry clerks, I am sure, are bored out of their minds, and by receiving something different in the bill that they do not have to forward, they may read it during a break. If we can touch just one person, we will have the domino effect of exposure to their circle of acquaintances.

I hope that other members of the LP take up the idea. I was hoping to take other mild mail-oriented steps. One was taken by another LP convert, who is also a police officer. He had a "Vote Libertarian" stamp made to stamp letters and other

1996 and 1998—the year we become the number-two party-are marching toward us and we all must take responsibility to make it happen!

Jim Raetz Culver City, CA

Jorgensen

As a long-time libertarian, I welcome the campaign for national office by Jo Jorgensen. She is the best campaigner I have ever seen. Too many LP candidates "preach to the faithful" without thinking how it sounds to non-libertarians. In the 1992 congressional campaign, Jorgensen got the attention of the local media by talking to ordinary voters.

I think she had more local air time in 1992 than the national LP campaign. I hope she becomes our VP candidate. **Douglas Taylor**

Williamston, SC

Congressional campaigns

I have an idea for something new for LP campaign strategy in 1996. Let's have our own "Contract With America." Remember, the Republicans launched their own "Contract" by having about 320 of their congressional candidates on the U.S. Capitol steps, on Sept. 27, 1994. They all signed an enormous piece of paper on which were their 10 promises, if they got a

We are having our national convention in July 1996 in Washington, DC. We could also have our U.S. House candidates on the steps of the Capitol at that time. For those candidates who couldn't be there, surely each non-attendee candidate could designate someone from his state who could serve as his or her proxy.

No third party has had candidates for the U.S. House on the ballot in even half the districts since 1920. To enhance the publicity for our own "Contract With America," we need to run at least 218 candidates for the U.S. House. We can do this with no extra petitioning except for some minimum petitions. I define 150 or fewer signatures to be minimum. Our biggest hurdle will be to find people willing to be candidates.

We need to have at least 218 candidates, so that we can call on the American voters to elect a Libertarian majority to the U.S. House. It's a theoretical barrier that we must surmount to have any logic in our appeal. In theory, if we don't even have 218 candidates, it is literally impossible for the voters to vote in a Libertarian majority into the U.S. House.

Remember, anyone who runs for Congress who raises less than \$5,000, and spends less than \$5,000, need not report campaign finance information to the FEC. Paper candidates are OK for this purpose. Let's try for this! We need something new. If you agree, pass the idea on to your state, and if you are a state in which Libertarians can run for U.S. House with no petitioning beyond what is already planned, start now to find

The previous high for Libertarians running for U.S. House was 154 in 1982. **Richard Winger**

Ballot Access News editor San Francisco, CA



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— Joseph Addison

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see page 4

Tompkins

continued from page 1

campaigns have been less valuable than they might have been, because they have never done enough to help local growth and activism. Until our local organizations become much more active and effective, so they can have real impact on local issues and campaigns, we have no business thinking we can have much, if any, national impact.

"So if I were to run, my campaign would be substantially different. It would focus on doing everything possible in a hands-on, direct-involvement way to build membership, activism and effectiveness at the local level all around the country, more than any other LP presidential candidate has done."

"Rick's concept is a presidential campaign that would develop the party at a grassroots level," said Clark. "His goal is to see viable state legislative and congressional candidates and a presidential candidate in the thick of things during the primaries in the year 2000, building to even greater success in 2004. And he knows the way you do that is with someone at the head of the

ticket now who articulates the issues logically, and shows our positions can work in the real world, that people will begin giving you their votes in the smaller local races. He sees that that is how it's got to start."

"What's interesting about that," says Nevada editorial writer and syndicated columnist Vin Suprynowicz, "is that it's not just theory. That's exactly how Rick has helped build their party down in Arizona. The fact that you've got Ernie Hancock and Tamara Clark, along with many others, so active in Arizona, the fact that they've made so much progress with school choice and Fully Informed Jury Act, all have to do with the kind of quiet, steady work Rick Tompkins has been doing down there as chairman for so many years.

"When you call Arizona you don't just get answering machines and excuses, you get people at newspapers, doing outreach to gun people and home-schoolers. And the key to that has always been that Rick didn't care who got the credit, Rick didn't care if the press or the public perceived someone else as being in charge—a lot of the time someone else is in charge—he just encouraged these people, made sure that they understood that liberty is for everybody, and turned them loose."

Asked the major reason being cited why a fresh face is needed in the race, Tompkins, who produces and co-hosts a five-nights-aweek libertarian talk radio show on KXAM in Scottsdale, said: "I don't want to denigrate anyone else who might seek the nomination. As long as they're sincere, I say the more choices the better.

"But we've all heard tragic stories about young women who were convinced they could 'change' a young man after they married him. And the party right now is like that hopeful young bride. There's a hard enough struggle ahead of us without going into the fight with the delusion that we can choose a standard-bearer who's not already strong on the issues, who's reluctant to firmly enbrace the party's stand on the issues, because we figure he or she can 'brush-up' on them later.

"That's not going to work. There's too much real work for a candidate to do out there on a local level, and presenting our views to the public and the media. We can't afford to start with the handicap of a candidate who isn't stout-hearted on the personal right to bear arms, who's reluctant to talk about ending the War on Drugs, who's reluctant to talk about murders at Waco and Ruby Ridge, who hasn't done his or her homework on the government school monopoly and the government medical monopoly and how destructive they are."

What is needed now, said Tamara Clark, is feedback, especially from other parts of the country. Clark asked that anyone with comments on Tompkins' campaign, either positive or negative, call Rick Tompkins at 602-930-1268, or e-mail Tamara Clark at tclark@indirect.com.

SFLP condemns DEA

Dennis Peron, founder of the Cannabis Buyers Club, was alerted in early April by a high-ranking member of the San Francisco city government to a planned federal raid. Peron temporarily closed the club, which provides marijuana to patients with medical prescriptions, soon after learning the raid was scheduled.

"The federal government's marijuana madness has reached a new level of absurdity," charged Mark Valverde, secretary of the San Francisco LP and a 1994 state senate candidate. "They are willing to hurt people with AIDS, cancer, and other debilitating diseases by denying them pain-relieving use of medical marijuana, rather than admit that marijuana prohibition is not only a costly failure, but a policy founded on the immoral premise that some in power have the right to dictate private behavior of others."

Reports are that the federal officers aborted the raid after failing to receive assistance from local law enforcement. San Francisco Police Chief Tony Ribera, Sheriff Mike Hennessey, Mayor Frank Jordan, and members of the board of supervisors are all on record as supporting medical marijuana and have adopted a "hands off" policy to the club.

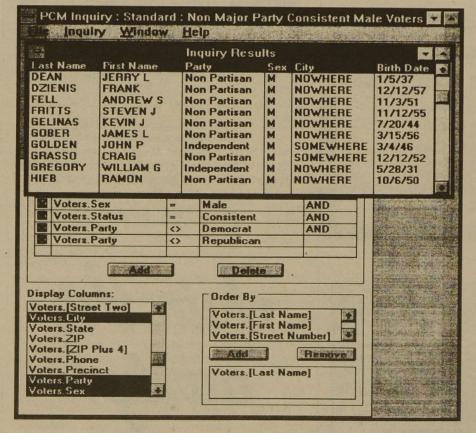
"I applaud the courage of the official who alerted Dennis Peron of the impending raid in defiance of the federal stormtroopers," said Valverde. "Hundreds rallied today (April 11) at the federal building against this outrage. If the feds had followed through with the raid, there would have been thousands. It's time the federal government ended its war on the American people. It's time to end the madness of marijuana prohibition."

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Affiliates

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the rally included **Frank Szabo** of United We Stand America and **Charles Weatherley**, a noted author, lecturer, and tax law expert. Other former and future Libertarian candidates participated, as did current Libertarian officeholders.

Tennessee

Scott Benson has announced that a bill has been sponsored in the state legislature that would allow Libertarian Party candidates to be listed explicitly as "Libertarian" on the ballot in state elections. Currently, state law mandates that LP candidates be listed as "Independent."

Jes Beard of the Hamilton County LP was on a local television call-in program recently arguing for the abolition of federal funding for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

GOLD for the people. Minted gold coins, patriot multi-level marketing plan, \$60 to start - unique. Details: Yanaar Jane Jee, (707) 865-2668; fax (707) 865-2578; P.O. Box 397; Monte Rio, CA 95426.

Texas

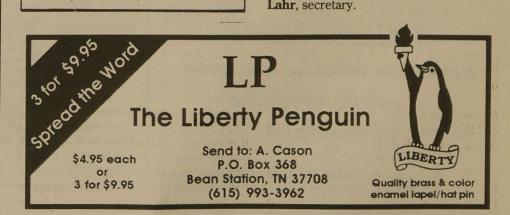
LP activist and candidate **Greg Knapp** has been hired to co-host a call-in political radio talk show in Dallas. His show airs from 7 to 9 a.m. weekdays on KGBS-1190 AM.

Washington

LP activist **Tom Isenberg** is hosting a regular radio talk show, called "Tom's Diner," on Tuesday nights from 9 to 11 p.m. on KVI-570 AM. His first regular show aired April 4. KVI is the number-one rated talk station in the Seattle-Tacoma market and it has a huge (and loyal) audience of conservatives, populists, and libertarians.

"I encourage you to call my show with whatever comments or questions you want to bring up," said Isenberg. "Plug the LP if you like. Talk about why you're a Libertarian. What important information do you want the citizens of Puget Sound to know?" In King County, the call-in number is 206-421-5757.

The Spokane County LP recently elected the following new officers: Leonard Melman, chair; Dave Bible, vice chair; Craig Grossman, treasurer; and Ron Lahr, secretary.



Talking points

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whose strength was as the strength of 10 because his heart was pure. But the tarnished truth is that neither gentleman is especially pure of heart ideologically. Both voted for the 1991 Act and thereby helped expand affirmative action and its racial discrimination against whites. When they strut about how against it they are now, rank and file Republicans need to recall the truth.

"Not only did Mr. Gramm vote for the racial quotas imposed by the 1991 Civil Rights Act, he also supported the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which outlaws discrimination against the 'disabled' and includes those infected with AIDS. Like the Civil Rights Act, the ADA is an affirmative action measure, creating government privileges for one group at the expense of others."

Syndicated columnist Samuel Francis in The Houston Post, Feb. 28, 1995.

Issue: Regulation

One of the biggest challenges facing lawmakers who genuinely wish to reduce the size of government is the tangled thicket of federal regulation that has for many years crippled economic initiative throughout the country and that now leaves virtually no sector of American life untouched. The Contract With America addresses this problem, but it is by no means certain that even the newly-elected Republican Congress has the political will to confront and defeat a solidly-entrenched bureaucracy that will vigorously defend its prerogatives to the bitter end.

"Instead of worrying that the new Congress may go too far in reducing the amount of government regulation, Americans should be concerned that Congress's Contract with America may not go far enough in unraveling the red tape that binds virtually every aspect of our lives.

"Governmental regulations are an enormous hidden tax on our economy. By even the most conservative estimates, the total cost of complying with regulatory mandates is more than \$500 billion annually—or \$5,000 for every household. More people (18.7 million) now work in federal, state, and local government agencies that create and enforce regulations than are employed in private-sector manufacturing jobs (18.1 million). This is a striking illustration of how bureaucracy has metastasized to the point where it now is larger than many of the industries it regulates.

"The reams of regulations that spew forth from Washington hurt our productivity and reduce job opportunities. The Small Business Administration estimates that small-business owners, who are the chief job creators in this country, spend 1 *billion* hours each year filling out government forms. All that paperwork has a chilling effect on the willingness and ability of business owners to expand their work forces.

"We need to take a good, hard look at the impact of government regulations and loosen the stranglehold that red tape has on our economy."

Bruce A. Gates, chairman of Project Relief and vice president of the National-American Wholesale Grocers' Association, in USA Today, Jan. 6, 1995.

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"Predictably, the regulators and their inside-the-Beltway allies are out in full cry, forecasting terrible consequences if their regulatory powers are circumscribed in any way. They're making the absolutely insupportable claim that reform of the existing regulatory morass can be equated to the repeal of 25 to 30 years of efforts to enact environmental, health, and safety safeguards. In fact, regulatory reform would make those safeguards far more effective.

"By one estimate the total cost of regulation in the United States today—including costs that are passed along, unseen, like stealth taxes, to ordinary Americans—amounts to at least \$5,000 per family per year. Obviously, it's important that these

family resources are applied to the worst problems in ways that make sense. Accurate assessment of risks can help us get those priorities right. And it's all the more important to apply our resources efficiently. Cost-benefit analysis can help us do that.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist or computer engineer to understand that. In fact, ordinary citizens make these same kinds of judgments every day. But, even as regulators impose huge burdens on private citizens and businesses, forcing them, for example, to make costly and time-consuming justifications for what they do, many

of the Washington crowd complain bitterly when asked to apply some sensible thinking to the government's regulatory activities."

Wendy L. Gramm, economist and wife of Sen. Phil Gramm, in the Houston Chronicle, March 1, 1995.

Thanks to the following for clippings used this month: Alan Perlman, Highland Park, IL; Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL; Dave Walter, West Chester, PA; and Research Etc., Princeton, LA.

Legislation

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quences will be far more odious than the problems it is trying to solve.

Briefly, the Communications Decency Act establishes criminal penalties for the transmission of images or text deemed lewd, obscene, or harassing. Based on the public statements of the bill's sponsors, the intent is to protect children from viewing inappropriate material. A laudable goal, to be sure.

However, nobody can make you download smut. If you're looking for titillating material on the Internet, you won't find it by accident. You've got to go looking for it, and it's not easy. (Trust me, I know. As a young hacker, I had a lot of time on my hands.) Nowadays, computer bulletin boards require filed proof of age before accessing adult areas; most are very security conscious. The image of innocent victims being assaulted by unwanted information is simply not the reality of the Internet.

Furthermore, not every parent wants protection by Congress. I am the father of two small children. I'm sure that, within the next few years, they will acquire Internet access and begin "surfing" the net. Before they do, I will explain to them what is out there, what they are likely to find and how they are expected to behave themselves. But I insist on deciding what material is appropriate for them and what is not. No one has the right to decide what my children should and should not see.

Most importantly, the Communications Decency Act could make it more difficult for service providers to remain economically viable. The American portion of the Internet could be crippled, cutting us off from a valuable resource whose full potential we are only now discovering. How ironic if, in the name of children everywhere, we threw out the baby Internet with the bath water of obscenity.

If the history of mankind has taught us anything, it is that freedom comes at a price. Freedom means a higher crime rate than we might otherwise prefer, because we worry that someday we might be convicted wrongly. Freedom means that we have to tolerate hateful and ignorant speech, because we worry that someday our own views may not be popular. Freedom means that we tolerate others accumulating wealth, even though we may feel envious, because we realize that the forced redistribution of that wealth in the long run just makes us all poorer. Freedom means that, in time of war, good men and women will be asked to risk their lives because we think it better to die free than to live as slaves. All these

things are the price of freedom.

Freedom of information has its price as well. A knowledgeable Internaut can, with a little work, obtain access to stories and images that some people find obscene. In fact, with a little more work, she can access material that most of us find obscene. Finally, with a great deal of work, she could find material so repugnant and morally offensive that any sane person would be sickened by the thought of viewing it. And you know what? I can live with that.

I can live with that because I know that repulsive material is one infinitesimal part of what the Internet is all about. I can live with that because I know how to protect my children better than politicians do. I can live with that because, as a computing professional, I recognize the absurdity of try-

ing to determine what particular patterns of electrical energy should and should not be allowed on a wire. I can live with that because I know, in the long run, that banning expression of any kind has never solved anything.

But most of all, I can live with that because, as a free citizen of a free country, it is the only way I want to live. I just wish our elected officials felt the same way.

Dr. Fagin is a professor of computer science at the U.S. Air Force Academy. He is a member of the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an organization that favors the extension of constitutional protections into cyberspace. The opinions expressed in this article are his alone, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Air Force Academy or the U.S. Air Force.

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Libertarian National Committee 1528 Pennsylvania Ave., SE Washington, DC 20003

Upcoming Events

May 6, 1995:

Minnesota LP Convention; Hopkins House, Hopkins; for information call 612-644-4053. Speakers include Harry Browne, Karl Granse, Bob Illingworth, and Bill Gray. May 7, 1995:

North Carolina LP Convention; Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte; for information call 704-548-1889 or 704-734-0564. Speakers include Harry Browne and Irwin Schiff.

May 12-14, 1995:

Ohio LP Convention; Holiday Inn on the Lane, Columbus; for information call 216-248-9995. Speakers include Robert Anton Wilson, Irwin Schiff, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Harry Browne, and Frederick Mann. May 13, 1995:

Alaska LP Convention; 3 Rivers Tesoro, Talkeetna; for information call 907-248-HEMP

May 20, 1995:

Virginia LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Richmond; for information call 800-619-

May 20, 1995: Kentucky LP Convention, Best Western Motel, Louisville; for information call 502-635-1153. Speakers include Harry Browne, Irwin Schiff, Carol Ann Rand, and Jo Jorgensen

June 10, 1995:

Missouri LP Convention, Ramada Inn, Columbia; for information call 314-443-4883 or e-mail: hemerson@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us

Washington State LP Convention, Mountaineers Club, Tacoma; for information call Pat Michl at 206-862-

June 11, 1995

Oregon LP Convention, Monarch Hotel and Conference Center, Portland; for information call Gene Nanni at 503-235-9810.

June 16-17, 1995:

Florida LP Convention, Orlando.

June 30-July 2, 1995:
Texas LP Convention, Guest Quarters Hotel on Westheimer, Houston; for information contact Joe Lusardi at 713-784-1776 or 800-422-1776

Second Annual 2nd Amendment Rally, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA; for information call 707-429-

Alabama LP Convention, Montgomery. Speakers include Harry Browne and Jacob Hornberger.

Aug. 26, 1995:
South Dakota LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Sioux Falls; for information call 800-639-2623 or 605-255-4032. Speakers include Tim Slagle.

4032. Speakers include 1:m Slagle.
Sept. 23, 1995:
Connecticut LP Convention, Stamford; for information call Mark Tuniewicz at 203-777-7498. Speakers include Harry Browne, Jo Jorgensen, and Gene Burns.
Sept. 30, 1995:
West Virginia LP Convention.

Send upcoming event notices early to: Libertarian Party NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503.

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