

Russell Means runs for N.M. governor

Indian rights activist and actor gains unanimous nomination

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Indian rights activist and celebrity Russell Means has been formally nominated as the New Mexico LP's candidate for governor in 2002, gaining the unanimous support of the delegates at the state convention during the weekend of June 8-10.

Although Means was unable to attend the convention in Farmington due to a prior engagement, the nomination was accepted on his behalf by his wife, Pearl.

"We've got 50% of New Mexicans not registered to vote, or who do not vote," she told delegates. "Why are they not voting? Could it be they don't have a choice? Now they have a choice — a third party."

By appealing to those voters — and by stressing Libertarian principles — her husband has a

real chance to have an impact on the race, said Pearl Means.

"The Libertarian Party is a party of principles," she said. "Russell Means is a man who does not compromise his ideals or principles."

New Mexico LP Chair Joe Knight said he was pleased with the outcome.

Surprised

"I was honestly surprised that there wasn't a single vote in opposition, especially since it is done by secret ballot," he said. "But all of our delegates seem to be in agreement. Now we need to ask Russell what the Lakota [Indian] word for 'charge!' is."

By winning the unanimous vote, Means easily qualified for the early nomination under New Mexico LP bylaws, which require a two-thirds vote of approval.

The power of Means' celebrity

See **RUSSELL MEANS** Page 2



■ Russell Means at the press conference announcing his campaign for governor of New Mexico: "In order for my people to be free, Americans have to be free. I want to champion the Libertarian Party as the moving force for freedom in Constitutional law in this country."

Libertarian appointed Superior Court judge

In what appears to be a historical first, Libertarian John Buttrick has been named a judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court in Arizona.

Buttrick was approved on May 1 by the state's Republican governor, Jane Hull, beating 39 other contenders for the position.

"The other 39 were, of course, Republicans and Democrats," said Buttrick — demonstrating that the Libertarian political label is not necessarily an obstacle for LP members seeking public office.

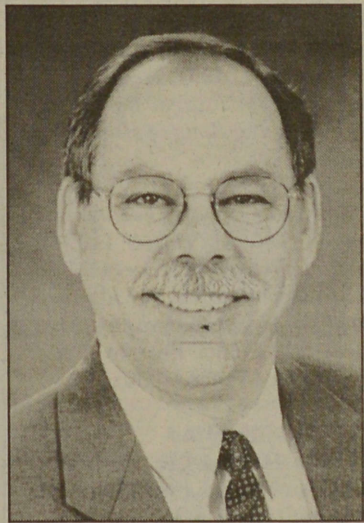
"Many Libertarians have given up on the party label because they think they can't get into office," he said. "But it's just not true. I think Libertarians can really benefit from seeking out appointed positions."

Buttrick was initially screened by a commission of 16 members — all registered Democrats and Republicans — for the position. He was selected even though his "party affiliation was known throughout the entire selection process," said Buttrick.

First time

"This is believed to be the first time any third-party member has ever been appointed to a judgeship in Arizona," he said. "It may possibly be the first time a registered Libertarian has been appointed to any judgeship anywhere in the country."

For the past 25 years, Buttrick has worked as an attorney for Brown and Bain, a Phoenix law firm. Specializing in prod-



■ Superior Court Judge John Buttrick: "It may be the first time a Libertarian has been appointed to any judgeship."

uct liability, contract, environmental, and patent litigation, he has represented high-profile clients such as IBM and Intel.

He is also well-known in Arizona for his political activity, in-

See **BUTTRICK** Page 11

SPECIAL FEATURE

Government is "compassion"

By Glen Allport
FREELANCE WRITER

A strange and chilling thing has happened right under our noses: Big government, the most violent and murderous entity the world has ever known, has stolen the idea of "compassion."

Millions of people, even in America, have become convinced that compassion usually requires government intrusion, and that whenever government does anything, compassion is being expressed.

This is true even when the "compassion" is visibly harming people; when, for example, it is driving up the cost of medical

care. It's true even when the "compassion" involves destroying consumer protection, or creating violent crime, or incarcerating millions of non-violent people, as with Prohibition I (the War on Alcohol) or Prohibition II (the War on Drugs).

However, confusing govern-

See **COMPASSION** Page 12

PAGE 3:
LNC investigates Perry Willis policy violations
Seeks more information from Libertarian Party members

NewsBriefs

WA death-threat man pleads guilty

A man who made more than a dozen death-threat phone calls to the Washington state LP has pleaded guilty to two charges — but won't spend any additional time in jail.

On May 8, Richard Mote, 43, pleaded guilty to one count of felony harassment and one count of gross misdemeanor harassment at a hearing in Olympia.

Mote was released on credit for time already served in jail, but must serve three years of community custody; undergo mental health, drug, and alcohol assessment and treatment; and take any prescribed medication. He was also ordered not to contact anyone in the Libertarian Party.

State Libertarians said the sentence was a mixed blessing.

"I'm glad he's getting some help. I think that's what he needs," said state Executive Director Jacqueline Passey Bartels. "[But] I would have been happier if he had been kept in jail while he was being treated.

"Given what I have heard about his past behavior, I am worried about the possibility of future harassment. It seems like he gets very obsessed with people, and that's scary."

Mote had been arrested on February 22 after he had repeatedly called the Washington LP's toll-free number and said, "I want some of you Libertarian people to die in vengeance." His violent, obscenity-laced threats also included hints that he might send letter bombs to LP members or plant car bombs.

After being arrested, Mote was declared sane after a two-week mental health evaluation. He had faced three counts of felony harassment and two counts of misdemeanor harassment.

Party joins anti-OECD campaign

The Libertarian Party has joined more than 40 organizations to denounce regulations that would "compromise financial privacy" on a global scale.

In a letter sent on May 15 to U.S. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, the coalition stated its opposition to an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development proposal that would allow world governments access to private bank account records.

"We are concerned that proposals of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for increased bank reporting on customers do not respect our financial privacy," the letter stated.

LP National Director Steve Dasbach called the proposal "outrageous," and said the LP and others had already defeated a U.S. government attempt to implement similar regulations on the federal level in 1999.

"Two years ago, the federal government's attempt to impose 'Know Your Customer' bank-spying regulations was killed by a massive outcry from the public," said Dasbach. "Now, they're trying to impose these rejected regulations indirectly, by having them adopted internationally."

Created in 1989, the OECD is composed of 26 nations and two international organizations. The Paris-based group advocates uniform tax rates across nations in order to stop "harmful tax competition" between high and low-taxed countries.

New book reviews liberty movies

The first-ever guide to libertarian-themed films is now available. The book, *Miss Liberty's Guide to Film and Video: Movies for the Libertarian Millennium*, was written by Jon Osborne and published in May.

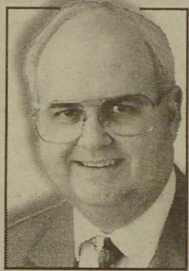
With reviews of over 250 movies, it is the perfect companion for any Libertarian who has wandered "the aisles of Blockbuster trying to find something worth renting," said Osborne.

"One of the reasons this guide is important is that the visual arts have become the dominant media through which people adopt values, form opinions, and gather information about the world," he said.

The list of libertarian-leaning films was collected during a five-year span, said Osborne.

"I started what I thought would be a short list of films, based on recommendations from fellow libertarians," he said. "Later, I greatly expanded that list through my own research. Then I hit upon the idea of starting an e-newsletter on the subject. Hundreds of my newsletter subscribers started writing in, suggesting more films. I ended up with an unparalleled list of libertarian-themed films, which I spent two years reviewing."

Miss Liberty's Guide can be ordered from Laissez-Faire Books: (800) 326-0996. Or: www.laissezfairebooks.com.



■ Steve Dasbach: "Outrageous."

Indian rights activist Russell Means starts campaign for N.M. governor

Continued from Page 1

status was displayed by the media coverage that followed his nomination: The event was covered by the Associated Press and was mentioned in newspapers around the country, usually in the "People" or "Celebrity" column.

Means, who has acted in popular films such as *Natural Born Killers* and *The Last of the Mohicans*, had announced his candidacy at a coffee house in Farmington on May 28, where he was cheered on by Libertarian supporters who wore badges that read "Russell Means Freedom for New Mexico."

"In order for my people to be free, Americans have to be free," said Means at the time. "I want to champion the Libertarian Party as the moving force for freedom in Constitutional law in this country."

Wounded Knee

A native member of the Lakota Nation in South Dakota, Means became the first national director of the American Indian Movement in the 1960s, which sparked his interest in politics. He rose to national prominence during the controversial 1972 Indian take-over at Wounded Knee, on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota.

He later became active in the Libertarian Party, seeking the LP presidential nomination in 1988. Despite being narrowly defeated by Texas Congressman Ron Paul, Means remained a Libertarian Party supporter, and was a keynote speaker at the 2000 LP National Convention in Anaheim, California.

In 1992, he began a new career in Hollywood, appearing in *The Last of the Mohicans* (1992), *Pocahontas* (1995), *Hearts and Bones* (1999), *Natural Born Killers* (1994), and *Song of Hiawatha* (1997).

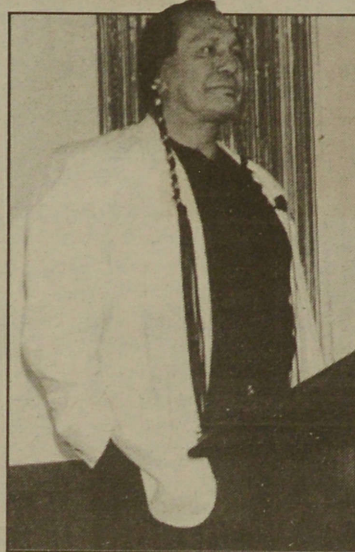
On television, he has starred in episodes of *Walker, Texas Ranger* (1993), *Profiler* (1996), and *Touched By an Angel* (1994). He has also recorded two albums, and wrote an autobiography titled *Where White Men Fear to Tread* (St. Martin's Press, 1995).

Excited

New Mexico LP Chair Joe Knight said he was excited about the potential of a Means candidacy.

"Given Russell Means' charismatic persona, oratorical mastery, grasp of libertarian principles, sense of purpose and direction, passion, and celebrity stature, he should be an awesome candidate," he said. "This could even be a winner! After all, Jesse Ventura did it — and he's a clown next to Russell."

Although he is not yet a reg-



■ Russell Means: "I love the Libertarian Party and its platform. It doesn't change."

istered Libertarian, Means, who gives his age as "62 winters," said he thinks of the LP as his natural political home.

"I love the Libertarian Party and its platform," he said. "It doesn't change with the rise and fall of the gross national product."

Average voters

Despite his respect for libertarian philosophy, Means said he understands the importance of phrasing libertarian goals in ways that appeal to average voters. For example, he prefers to use the term "drug decriminalization" as opposed to "legalization," which he said many people mistake as tacit approval for drug abuse.

"I'm against legalization," he said. "I want to decriminalize drugs. Decriminalization of drug laws will free the slaves in prison who are political prisoners."

Unfortunately for Libertarians, Means' gubernatorial campaign may have already hit a le-

gal snag.

On May 29, the Associated Press reported Means might be ineligible to be a candidate, because state law prohibits ex-felons from holding public office unless they have been pardoned.

Means served a year in prison in South Dakota after being sentenced in 1975 to a four-year term for his leadership role in the confrontation at Wounded Knee.

Means dismissed the potential setback with a quip. "I've already committed my felonies, so people won't have to worry about me as governor," he said.

Knight said the Libertarian Party will fight the law in court if the state tries to bar Means from running in the race.

"We feel Russell can run — and this is only one more shot in a continuing effort from the state to deter third parties," he said.

According to the state constitution, said Knight, a gubernatorial candidate is only required to be a citizen of the United States, be at least 30 years old, and have lived in New Mexico for five years.

In the meantime, Knight said the top priority is getting Means' name on the ballot, which requires about 3,000 registered voter signatures. The petition drive is currently in progress.

"High-profile"

Although the details have yet to be finalized, Knight said he expects a "high-profile" campaign, with large fundraising events and possibly other Hollywood celebrities, that will target new voters and take support from Democrats, Republicans and Greens.

"We're just getting started," he said. "[Current Republican] Governor Gary Johnson dabbled in liberty. Russell Means will walk low in it!"



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LP-inspired ballot access bill gets signed into law in Oregon

Bill effectively gives party continued statewide ballot status

Despite a "near death experience," a bill that effectively gives the Libertarian Party statewide ballot access in Oregon was signed into law by Governor John Kitzhaber on June 5.

The bill, SB 777, was written by Libertarian Party member Richard Burke and introduced by State Senator Gary George, a Republican who became a Libertarian Party member in January.

"I'm excited about the passage of this bill," said Burke, a former LP State Chair who now works as the legislative aide to Senator George. "It will help spur Libertarian Party membership growth, which is definitely the key to our future political success."

Automatically

The bill grants statewide ballot status to any political party with .5% — about 10,000 — of registered voters. Because the LP currently has about 14,000 registered voters in Oregon, it will automatically qualify for statewide ballot status.

Prior to the bill's passage, parties had to poll at least 1% of the vote in a statewide election to gain ballot status for an entire slate of candidates.

"The meaningful thing about this [bill] is that instead of focusing our resources on an unelectable candidate in a statewide race just to retain ballot status, we now can focus our resources on district and local elections, where we can have a major impact," said Burke.

The bill passed overwhelmingly in the Senate in May, by a vote of 23-3.

However, Burke said the bill almost died in the House when an Oregon House member couldn't understand the language.

"I had to personally meet with House leaders and explain to them why they needed to pass the bill," he said. "I spun it as a bill that would benefit everybody."

Specifically, Burke argued that major party candidates for statewide office would benefit because a third-party candidate would be less likely to "spoil" the election in the immediate future.

"Both the Democrats and the Republicans are pretty freaked out about third-party candidates spoiling their chances in a gubernatorial or U.S. senatorial race," he said. "Especially after Ralph Nader helped cause Gore's defeat."

In fact, Burke said he had been nervous that Democrats would withdraw their support once they realized the Green Party would not qualify under the bill.

The Greens have only 9,000 registered voters in Oregon, slightly less than the number required for statewide ballot access. As such, they would have no incentive to sit out the higher level state races — and could continue to pose a threat to Democrats.

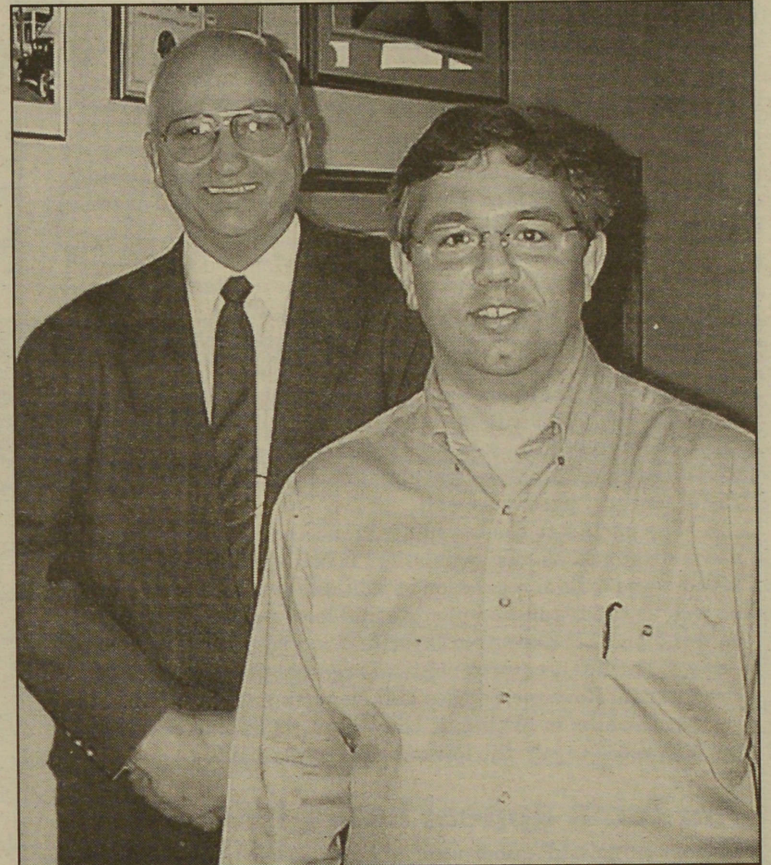
"I was holding my breath there for a while," said Burke. "But fortunately, they never even brought it up."

53-5 vote

Burke's persuasion worked: The Oregon House passed the bill by a vote of 53-5 on May 21.

Now, Burke said he is pushing another ballot access bill, SB 747, which would grant major-party status to any party with a voter registration base of 5%. Under current law, a party must win 15% of the vote in a statewide race to qualify for major-party status.

"Major party status is important in Oregon in order to get more media coverage during pri-



■ A ballot access reform bill written by past Oregon LP State Chair Richard Burke (right) and sponsored by State Senator (and Libertarian Party member) Gary George has now been signed into law by the governor.

maries and inclusion in certain candidate debates during primary season," he said.

SB 747, which was also introduced by Senator George, could be signed into law before the legislative session is over, predicted Burke.

In the future, Burke said he

will continue to promote libertarian-leaning legislation with long-term benefits for the LP.

"Legislators are only thinking about their next election cycle," he said. "[Libertarians] are concerned with building the party and making it successful in the future."

Mary Ruwart lobbies for top spot in the FDA

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Scientist and LP activist Dr. Mary Ruwart has kicked off a campaign to convince President George W. Bush to appoint her as the next commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration.

While acknowledging that she may be a longshot, Ruwart, who has a BS in biochemistry and a PhD in biophysics from Michigan State University, is urging supporters to send letters endorsing her bid directly to the White House.

Powerful position

"We need to make my appointment the letter-writing campaign of the year to overcome the resistance that Bush might have to appointing a libertarian to such a powerful position," she said.

The FDA, which is responsible for approving and regulating medical drugs and inspecting food for safety, employs more than 9,000 people and has a 2001 budget of about \$1.29 billion.

The FDA commissioner oversees the sprawling federal agency and sets policy for the day-to-day operation of its Washington, DC headquarters and nine field offices.

Having worked as a research scientist for the Upjohn pharmaceutical company and taught in the Department of Surgery at St. Louis University, Ruwart said she has the expertise to "seriously reform" the agency.

"My goal will be to facilitate the conversion of the FDA from a bureaucratic regulatory regime into a market-oriented support system that maximizes our access to life-saving medications," she said. "I believe that I have the experience and the skills to create such an environment."

Ruwart has run for public office as a Libertarian about a dozen times, including bids for the LP's presidential nomination in 1984 and vice-presidential nomination in 1992. She is now serving her second term as a member of the Libertarian National Committee.

In addition, she writes a monthly column called "Ask Dr.



■ Mary Ruwart: Wants to "facilitate the conversion of the FDA from a bureaucratic regulatory regime into a market-oriented system."

Ruwart" for the Advocates for Self-Government newsletter, and has written a book titled *Healing Our World: The Other Piece of the Puzzle* (1992, SunStar Press).

Ruwart said the idea to campaign for FDA commissioner had been proposed months ago, but she wanted to gauge her chances before announcing her intention publicly.

"When Nancy Lord Johnson

See RUWART Page 15

LNC starts investigation of Willis policy violation

The Libertarian National Committee has launched an investigation into former LP National Director Perry Willis after he admitted that he violated party policy by secretly working for the Harry Browne for President campaign in 1996.

Willis acknowledged in early May that he had written fundraising letters for the Browne campaign — in direct violation of Libertarian National Committee (LNC) instructions — while he worked at the party's national headquarters in Washington, DC.

In response, the LNC Executive Committee passed a resolution at a May 23 telephone conference:

■ Recommending that the party halt any further action in a lawsuit being filed against the Federal Election Commission by RealCampaignReform.org, a group headed by Harry Browne and Willis.

■ Prohibiting the party's national HQ staff from entering in any business dealings with Willis or Browne without prior approval.

■ Thanking the individuals

JIM LARK:

The LNC wants "to find out what happened in this situation."

who brought forward information about Willis' actions.

Then, at a May 30 telephone conference, the LNC Executive Committee expanded and clarified that resolution by:

■ Recommending that the entire LNC censure Willis.

■ Noting that it is "presently unclear" whether Harry Browne or other campaign staffers knew, or were involved in, Willis' actions.

■ Requesting that Harry Browne provide a public statement to "clarify the circumstances" surrounding Willis' actions.

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NewsBriefs

Indiana LP joins S 527 lawsuit

The Libertarian Party of Indiana and the Andy Horning for Governor (2000) committee have joined a federal lawsuit seeking to overturn a law requiring most political organizations to file with the IRS.

The lawsuit, originally filed by the National Federation of Republican Assemblies, seeks to strike down Internal Revenue Code S 527 (Public Law 106-230, 114 Stat. 477).

The law, passed by Congress in 2000, requires all "political organizations" that raise and spend more than \$25,000 annually to file information about their contributors with the Internal Revenue Service. It was allegedly passed to regulate only "special interest front groups" that raise money for advertisements during campaigns, but apparently applied to a wide array of political parties as well.

"The parties to the lawsuit contend that, although the statute is disguised as 'tax' legislation, it actually amounts to broad-based federal regulation of political speech and association, as well as the regulation of state and local political processes," said Indiana LP Executive Director Brad Klopfenstein in early June. "[The law] requires political organizations to be pawns of the Internal Revenue Service and Department of the Treasury."

Meanwhile, in Michigan, the state LP's executive committee also voted to join the lawsuit as a co-plaintiff.

Jim Tobin appeal heard by court

Past Illinois LP gubernatorial candidate Jim Tobin has finally gotten a court to agree to rule on whether state election boards have absolute immunity from lawsuits.

On May 7, Tobin's lawyers appeared before the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals in Chicago, arguing that the Illinois State Board of Elections (ISBE) should not have "quasi-judicial absolute immunity."

The case is a spin-off of a suit Tobin filed after he was kept off the Illinois state ballot in 1998, following an ISBE ruling that he had not collected enough valid petition signatures.

Although the Tobin campaign filed more than 61,009 signatures, the board ruled that fewer than 25,000 were valid. Tobin sued for \$5 million in damages, charging the ISBE was politically biased.

In July 2000, a district court agreed that the ISBE should not have discounted petition signatures gathered by circulators not registered to vote, but ruled that individual ISBE board members could not be sued for damages because the board members have quasi-judicial absolute immunity.

"The ISBE was composed of representatives of both major political parties, it is inherently politically biased and therefore should not be granted immunity," said Tobin attorney Steve Merican. "Third parties and independent candidates are made especially vulnerable if election boards are declared immune."

"Situations where members of the board stand to gain from their decision, and whose political allies and cronies stand to gain... will happen time and again if [the court allows] quasi-judicial absolute immunity." The case is Tobin for Governor v. Illinois State Board of Elections.

Libertarian is #1 website writer

Libertarian Garry Reed has become the most popular columnist on the www.Newsguy.com website — although he had to start an e-mail lobbying campaign to accomplish that feat.

Reed, a resident of Texas, appeared as the #1 ranked columnist on the Newsguy.com's "Bestsellers List" in late May, beating out 13 other writers with his column, "The Loose Cannon Libertarian."

Reed won the columnist's spot in April after challenging the owners of Newsguy.com: "I'm betting that The Loose Cannon Libertarian will end up generating more traffic than any other feature on your site. If it doesn't, cancel me!"

To make sure he could live up to his boast, Reed sent a mass e-mail to every LP "state newsletter editor, webmaster, and student campus organizing guru," urging them to visit Newsguy.com and read his column. "I inaugurated [a] campaign of blatant, self aggrandizing media hype," he confessed.

The campaign worked: "By the third article we were numero uno!" said Reed.

Now, "As long as libertarians keep reading and supporting, I'll keep firing my Loose Cannon salvos," he said. "Together we may discover some of those many libertarians who aren't quite sure they're libertarians yet."



■ **Jim Tobin:**
No immunity

LP finally wins 2000 presidential ballot access lawsuit in Arizona

The Libertarian Party has belatedly won a lawsuit acknowledging that Harry Browne was improperly kept off the Arizona ballot as an independent presidential candidate in 2000.

On May 29, the Arizona Court of Appeals struck down as unconstitutional the state's early filing deadline for independent candidates.

The June 14 deadline, which is two months before the state's "major" parties must select candidates, "unfairly and unnecessarily burdens independent candidates," the court ruled in a unanimous decision.

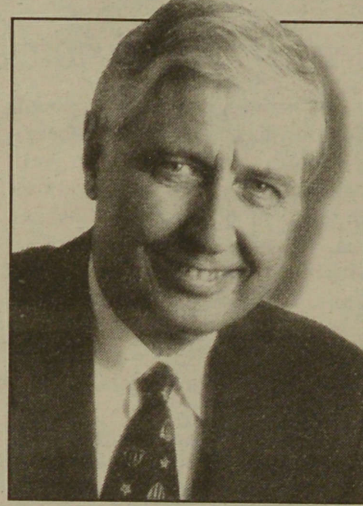
"The deadline does impose a suspect burden because it treats independent candidates dissimilarly from the major parties' candidates, thereby substantially impacting the rights of the voter," wrote Judge Rudolph J. Gerber.

Overtured

With the decision, the court overturned a Maricopa County Superior Court ruling that had upheld the June 14 deadline — at the time, the second earliest independent candidate filing deadline in the nation — and had denied Browne a spot on the November 2000 ballot.

Libertarian Party leaders hailed the ruling.

"It may seem like a Pyrrhic



■ **Harry Browne:** "I just hope this doesn't mean we now have to rerun the entire 2000 campaign!"

victory, but it should make it much easier for independent candidates to get on the ballot in the future," said Harry Browne. "So I'm glad the LP continued to pursue this case. I just hope this doesn't mean we now have to rerun the entire 2000 campaign!"

Libertarian Party National Director Steve Dasbach said the decision was an overdue but important victory for ballot access.

"It would have been nice to have won this decision last year, so Harry Browne could have been on the ballot in all 50 states, instead of 49," he said. "However,

the ruling is still important because it helps set the legal precedent that early filing deadlines and other forms of ballot access discrimination are improper and illegal."

The case will set an influential legal precedent, agreed *Ballot Access News* publisher Richard Winger.

"The more precedents we get against early deadlines, the easier it is to stop hostile [ballot access] changes in the future from state legislatures," he said.

The Arizona state legislature will now push back the filing deadline to comply with the ruling, predicted Winger.

Denied a spot

The Libertarian Party and Harry Browne had filed a lawsuit against Arizona's filing deadline in August 2000, after Browne was denied a spot on the ballot by a splinter group of the Arizona Libertarian Party.

Browne, the party's official presidential candidate, had been nominated at the Libertarian National Convention in July, and, with VP candidate Art Olivier, was already on the ballot in 49 other states and the District of Columbia.

But the maverick Arizona group placed Colorado science fiction author L. Neil Smith on the

See **ARIZONA** Page 13

Georgia Libertarians file 'dramatic' lawsuit against unfair ballot rules

In what could be a landmark case for the Libertarian Party, the Georgia LP has launched a legal challenge against the state's "ridiculous" ballot access requirements for third-party candidates.

Filed on May 24 at the U.S. District Court in Atlanta, the lawsuit seeks to repeal a law that is so stringent that no minor party has been able to place a candidate for U.S. House on the ballot in over three decades.

"This is a dramatic lawsuit," said Richard Winger, editor of *Ballot Access News*. "It is the most important ballot access lawsuit filed by any minor party in 30 years."

Candidates

The plaintiffs will include Libertarians who want to run for U.S. House in 2002, and other Libertarians who want to vote for LP Congressional candidates, but are unable to do so.

Georgia LP Executive Director Mark Mosley said that if the

RICHARD WINGER:

"It is the most important ballot access lawsuit filed in 30 years."

lawsuit is successful, it will be a "quantum leap" forward for the state party's profile.

"If this lawsuit succeeds, the Georgia LP will, for the first time in its history, be able to reasonably place Libertarian candidates on the ballot for the U.S. House," he said. "You cannot offer the public a pro-freedom libertarian choice if you can't even get a Libertarian on the ballot."

Currently, Georgia has one of the most onerous ballot access laws in the country, said Winger:

If a party's most recent presidential or gubernatorial candidate has not polled at least 20%, all district candidates — for U.S. House, state representative, and state senate — must submit petition signatures of 5% of registered voters in the district.

That works out to about 14,000 petition signatures for each Congressional candidate, or about 160,000 valid signatures to run a full slate of 11 U.S. House candidates.

Lower requirements

The Georgia LP has been able to run candidates for statewide races such as governor and U.S. Senate because those requirements are lower, said Winger. For those races, a candidate must submit petitions from only 1% of registered voters to get on the ballot, and win a vote total equal to 1% of voters to retain ballot status.

However, no minor party in Georgia has been able to meet the

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How to Make Liberty Happen Now

For the Next Elections: Instant Libertarians

"16% of Americans are libertarians" said the Rasmussen Survey. (*LP News*, October 2000) So why is Washington D.C. growing faster than ever?

Buried in the article is the key: most of those 16% don't know they're libertarian! Even though they have somehow withstood the calls to dependency upon the megastate, they look upon proponents of political and economic freedom with ignorance, suspicion and fear.

It's obvious, if we're going to make liberty happen, we're going to have to look to the free market for a solution.

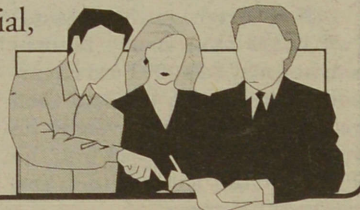
LIBERTARIANS
16%
RASMUSSEN SURVEY

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Talking Points

The crime of 'drunken sitting,' & America's killer playgrounds

How politicians think

The Senate has many members like Ohio's Howard Metzenbaum, who advised [a colleague] how he himself dealt with periods of criticism. "I pick out the busiest street in Cleveland. As I walk down the sidewalk, all sorts of people are passing me by. I look at each one of them and say to myself, 'Screw you!'"

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
May 15, 2001

Drunken sitting

(New Brighton, Minnesota) Two years ago, Bruce Barnes bought a new \$40,000 Ford Excursion, drove it to a bar and then went home. Later that evening, he walked outside, climbed into the SUV, started the engine, and cranked the stereo.

A neighbor phoned the police about the noise, and officers arrested Barnes for drunken driving. The prosecutor said Barnes was charged because he was found in the driver's seat with the engine running, which put him in control of the vehicle. He pleaded guilty and, because it was his third DUI offense in five years, the city seized his Excursion.

An appeals court upheld the forfeiture, although one justice found the situation ridiculous: "Barnes was not convicted of drunken driving but of drunken listening to music in his own driveway..."

"If he had not had the misfortune to be playing the Rolling Stones rather than Neil Diamond, he would still have his vehicle."

— PLAYBOY, July 2001

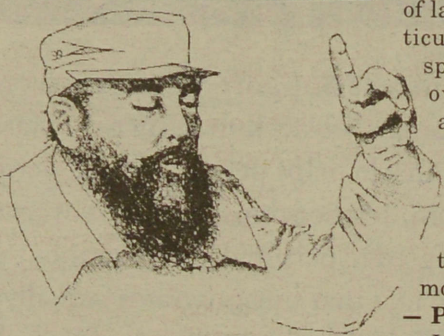
Government at work

In April, a national park ranger at the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, DC ordered a group of patriotic-essay contest winners to stop singing the National Anthem because they did not have a permit for a demonstration.

— NEWS OF THE WEIRD
June 1, 2001

Election auction

The staged controversy over campaign finance is actually a distraction. It diverts attention from the root cause of the problem: the unconstrained use of government power to discriminate. That is, to play favorites, punish enemies, and reward friends. H.L. Mencken argued an election is "an advance auction sale of stolen goods." The goods of today's politi-



FIDEL CASTRO: His fans explain the difference between capitalist and communist lobotomies.

cal system are special protections, subsidies, grants, or regulations that fall outside the realm of public health and safety.

In a regime of unchecked commercialization of legislated paybacks, money does not corrupt politics, as the reformers claim. Rather, politics corrupts money. When something of great value can be granted by officeholders instead of earned in the competitive marketplace, all roads lead to the Capitol.

The total amount spent in elections is insignificant when compared to the economic value

of laws and rules that favor particular interests. For example, spending on federal elections over the last two years amounted to about \$2.5 billion, according to the *Wall Street Journal*. During the same period, the U.S. government spent about \$3.25 trillion: roughly 1,300 times more money.

— PAUL R. FARAGO
Intellectual Ammunition
May/June 2001

A growing problem

Congress's own Budget Office projects that federal spending will rise from 19% of the Gross Domestic Product in 1996 to 42.7% by the year 2040. Most of that growth is attributable to entitlements and interest [on the federal debt].

— CAPITAL IDEAS
May/June 2001

Why stamps cost 34¢

The USPS [United States Postal Service] lost a reported \$85 million attempting to market such new products as stationery, ties, tee shirts, and baseball caps.

— THE WASHINGTON TIMES
May 14, 2001

The pen is mightier...

Raleigh "Trey" Walker III [was] suspended for drawing weapons. That's drawing — as in illustrating, sketching, depicting. In March, Trey, a third-grader at Lenwil Elementary School in West Monroe, La., drew a picture of a soldier holding a knife — a tribute, his father said, to a rela-

tive in the Army.

Principal Edward Davis put Trey on "in-school suspension" for a day, saying he found the picture upsetting. "We can't tolerate anything that has to do with guns or knives," Mr. Davis [said].

Willie Isby, director of child welfare, added that "the punishment is not that bad, in light of the fact that we have been having all these killings in schools." Mr. Isby also vowed to suppress "copycat drawings."

— JAMES TARANTO
The Wall Street Journal
May 18, 2001

Playground peril

In less than the time it takes to read this informative little item, some innocent child somewhere in the United States will have fallen off the monkey bars and gotten a boo-boo.

In fact, playground accidents are "a leading cause of injury to children," an official with the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently warned. These accidents occur every 2.5 minutes in this death trap we call America, according to statistics just released by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

"Despite the danger, no mandatory federal safety standards are in place in public playgrounds where most children play," *USA Today* recently lectured in an article on the subject, seemingly implying some dereliction of duty in the regulatory arena. CPSC has drawn up some voluntary guidelines for safer playgrounds, but only five states have adopted them in whole. Other states blithely ignore them, the paper sternly noted, putting their youngest citizens in harm's way.

"At a bare minimum, all states should be required to adopt the CPSC guidelines," said a spokesperson for the National Program for Playground Safety, a group financed by taxpayers through the CDC to lobby for stronger and more uniform playground standards.

— SEAN PAIGE
Insight, May 30, 2001

Regulation overload

For the past five years, Cato scholar Clyde Wayne Crews, Jr. has compiled a respected tally of the cost of regulation to the American economy. This year's edition of *Ten Thousand Commandments: An Annual Policy-maker's Snapshot of the Federal Regulatory State* is now available. Here are the key facts:

- Regulation costs the economy \$788 billion a year, equivalent to 7.9% of U.S. GDP.

- The 2000 Federal Register contained 74,258 pages, a 4% jump over 1999.

- In 2000, 4,699 regulations were at various stages of implementation throughout the 50-plus federal departments, agencies and commissions, an increase of 3.5% over the previous year.

— CATO INSTITUTE
June 4, 2001

Ideological lobotomy

[Communist sympathizer Ron Radosh visited Cuba with a group of fellow Americans and] toured the Havana General Psychiatric Hospital...

Mr. Radosh noted that many of the patients seemed "glazed and drugged out." The hospital director explained, "We are proud that we have a larger proportion of hospital patients who have been lobotomized than any other mental hospital in the world."

This boast caused consternation even among some of the Castrophiles who were Mr. Radosh's traveling companions. One New Jersey therapist grumbled that it was a "horror."

But another member of the group glared at him: "We have to understand that there are differences between capitalist lobotomies and communist lobotomies."

— MONA CHAREN
The Washington Times
May 29, 2001

Grand Outspenders

I was not surprised when I received a fax the other day from the Republican Policy Committee in the U.S. Senate, boasting that "since Republicans took control of Congress in 1995, federal education spending has exploded." The headline: "GOP Outspends Democrats on Education."

— ED CRANE
Cato Policy Report
May/June 2001

Taxpayers strike out

According to a recent NTU study by Paul Gessing, when you tally up all the taxpayer-subsidized funding of stadium construction over the last decade, the taxpayer strikes out to the tune of \$7.5 billion.

[Meanwhile], between 1990 and 2000, the average Major League Baseball player's salary jumped 243%. The average National Football League player's salary increased 143%.

— PAUL JACOB
Common Sense, May 7, 2001

Freedom Index

According to the 2001 Index of Economic Freedom, only 12 countries can be considered free. The report is overly optimistic, however; it understates the repression in the freer countries, according to Paul Craig Roberts, research fellow at The Independent Institute.

"Hardly any of the index's 12 free countries are really free," writes Roberts. "For example, both the United States and Great Britain fall in the 'repressed category' of the index with regard to tax burden..."

The share of personal earnings collected as taxes in the index's freest countries often rivals the one-third taken from feudal serfs by their lords.

"How can property rights be secure when taxation can claim a feudal lord's share of a citizen's working time?" asks Roberts.

— THE LIGHTHOUSE
June 4, 2001

**"Knowing is not enough;
we must apply. Willing is not
enough; we must do."**

— JOHANN VON GOETHE



We know liberty is a better alternative than big government. And, as Libertarian Party members, we've shown a willingness to work to make America a better, more free land. But we must apply that knowledge; we must do the political work required to win freedom. How? One easy and effective way is to name the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion, call National LP Treasurer Deryl Martin at (931) 858-0915. Or e-mail him at: dnc@multipro.com.

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There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow up to 2-3 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add \$5 for Post Office box deliveries. Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party. **Federal law** requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Books for Sale

Q'NTY COST
 Why Government Doesn't Work • Browne
 Libertarianism In One Lesson • Bergland

Ready-to-use Literature

Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"
 Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
 Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
 Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
 Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
 Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
 Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
 Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
 America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
 Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
 World's Smallest Political Quiz
 "Million Dollar Bill" Literature

Yard Signs

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian
 I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
 ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
 Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Buttons

Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
 VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-ELECT-US
 Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL

Tools for Campaigning

Libertarian Political Action Booklet
 Statue of Liberty logo master
 LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
 Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

Large & Small Banners

Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5'w)
 Please check preferred second line:
☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-ELECT-US
 Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5'w).

Total Due

Merchandise Total
 RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling
 RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange
 Send to a Post Office Box: \$5 extra
 TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

☐ Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)
☐ Bill my Visa ☐ Bill my MasterCard
☐ Bill my AMEX ☐ Bill my Discover Card

Acct. #

Expires Signature

Name

Membership ID# [On label]

Street

City State Zip

Occupation

Employer



Celebrate the true spirit of July 4th!

What are you doing this 4th of July? Going to a barbecue? To the beach? To a parade?

Instead, why not celebrate the true *spirit* of the holiday by telling people about the Libertarian Party — the only party dedicated to the classic American tradition of "liberty for all"?

Our literature can help you. It presents our positions on a wide range of issues in a compelling and easy-to-understand way. Our brochures and booklets will help your friends and neighbors embrace the benefits of liberty... and understand why the Libertarian Party is the best means to achieve the *rebirth* of liberty in our nation.

The July 4th holiday: Why bother to celebrate it if you don't use it to celebrate *liberty*?

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

Yard Sign

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH / VOTE LIBERTARIAN. Red, white, and blue ink on sturdy foamboard. Measures a big 24" x 18". Perfect for LP campaigns or rallies.

Cost: \$8.00 each.

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.

★ Cost: Sample: 50¢
 Or \$7 for 100

HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER



By phone...

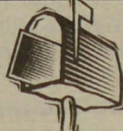
(202) 333-0008 Ext. 221

(202) 333-0072 by fax



By mail...

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 NW, Suite 100
 Washington, DC 20037



LITERATURE BUTTONS & MUCH MORE!

LP Literature & Books

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

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

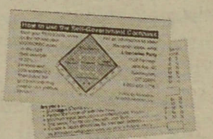
■ **Which Political Party is 100% Pro-Gun Rights?** Full-page flyer. 2-color (red & blue). Hard-hitting defense of the Second Amendment, designed especially for the gun community. Explains why the LP will never betray gun owners — unlike the Republican Party, which constantly sells them out. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$7 for 100

■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. Cost: \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending — and points out that the federal government spends more than \$1 million every five seconds. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 2000: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1999) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. Cost: Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

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



Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me...I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; 800-ELECT-US phone number below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

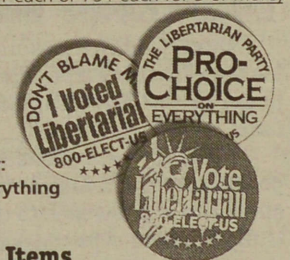
■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

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

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-ELECT-US



Miscellaneous Items

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

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian Political Action: Techniques for Effective Campaigning:** 32 pages. Comprehensive explanation of winning campaign techniques for Libertarian candidates. A must read! Cost: \$3.00 each

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

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

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. Cost: \$3 for set

Large & Small Banners

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

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) Cost: \$40 each

Affiliate News

Libertarians fight grocery tax, quiz bikers, offer to redistrict, & commend Republicans

■ ARKANSAS

Libertarians launch bid to repeal grocery tax

Arkansas Libertarians have kicked off a petition drive to repeal a sales tax on groceries, saying that the tax discriminates against the working poor.

"This tax is perhaps the most regressive tax in Arkansas," said State Chair **Gerhard Langguth**. "Not only does it hit low-income individuals the hardest, but the people on food stamps are exempt, so it provides an incentive not to work."

For the measure to be included on the election ballot in November 2002, Libertarians must gather 75,000 valid signatures by July 1, 2002.

However, the LP is already getting some outside help. In a June 1 editorial, the Arkansas Democrat said that the state LP was to be commended for addressing a "continual moral outrage that neither Democrats nor Republicans have had the hardihood to address directly."

"I think we'll get broad support for this," Langguth said. "We've definitely struck a nerve."

■ CALIFORNIA

Power crisis is result of 'Eastern Europe' policies

Have California politicians learned anything from the state's power crisis? Nyet, say Libertarians.

In fact, "wrongheaded" proposals are threatening to turn the state into a throwback to the centrally planned economies of eastern Europe, warned State Chair **Aaron Starr** on May 22.

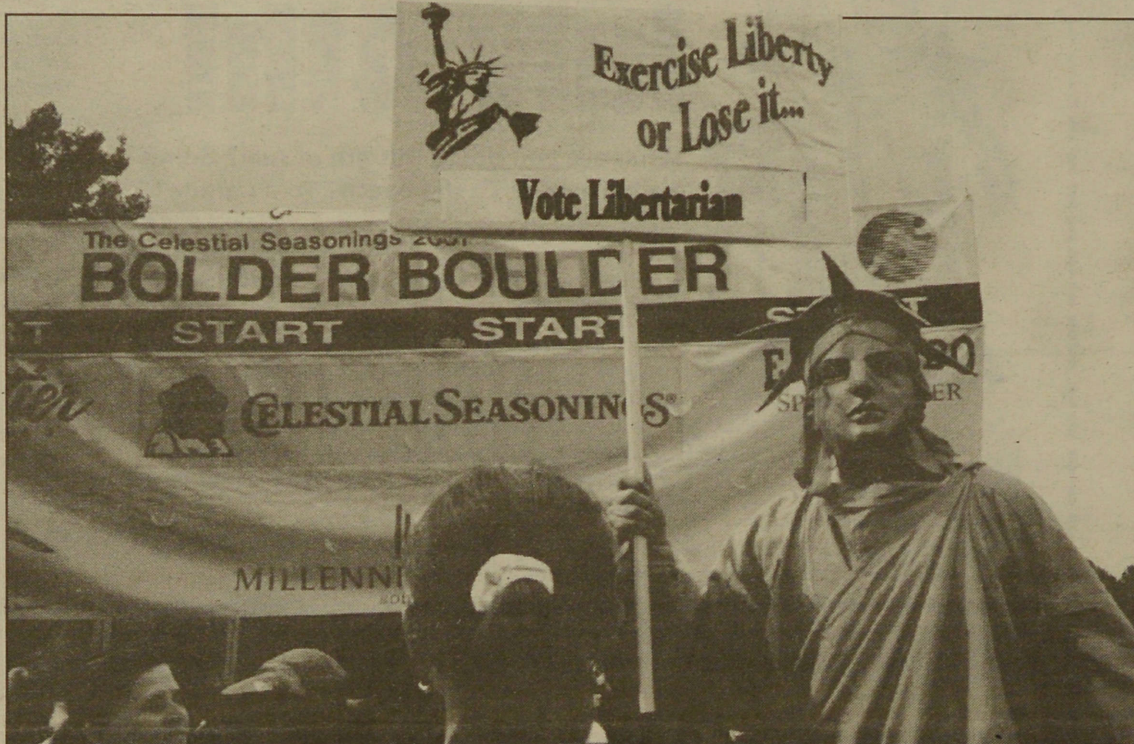
"Our elected leaders are turning to the failed policies of East Germany and Cuba in a colossally foolish and senseless scheme to control the crisis," he said.

Don't believe it? Just look at the recent announcement that Californians would receive 30 minutes' warning before blackouts, said Starr.

"Where else do we see shortages and blackouts on a regular basis?" he asked. "Only in countries like Cuba."

The state's excessive regulations — including retail price controls and state control of power transmission — have created a situation like in the old Soviet Union, where there were "long lines for such abundant products as bread and milk," said Starr.

"Californians deserve better



Winning the race for liberty in Colorado

■ Who's that at the Boulder County (Colorado) 10 K race? It's "Lady Liberty" — aka LP activist **Joe Johnson** — who walked the entire distance, towering above an estimated 100,000 participants and spectators on 18-inch stilts.

"By walking this race course, and handing out thousands of million dollar bills [Libertarian outreach literature], we brought the message of freedom directly to the people," said Johnson.

"All along the route, you could hear people yell, 'Yeah! Go Libertarians!'" said local LP activist **Elizabeth Bennett**. "It was a great feeling."

At the event, held on May 28, Boulder County LP members registered Libertarian voters, recruited several new members, and received about 50 requests for information.

leadership. As long as politicians keep proposing solutions that have failed massively in other countries, the crisis will not be alleviated."

■ COLORADO

State Libertarians reject shooting range 'welfare'

State Libertarians have announced their opposition to a plan to subsidize gun ranges, saying "Hunters don't need welfare."

"The idea of improving our shooting ranges is a good one," said State Chair **Bette Rose Smith** in early May. "But not every good idea should be subsidized by the government."

Her comments came in response to a suggestion by Governor **Bill Owens** that the state might spend tax dollars to "improve" gun ranges.

Ironically, the same governor had signed bills that denied young adults the right to purchase a firearm; that required more gun owners to register with the federal government; and that required

gun owners to use trigger locks.

"First **Bill Owens** shoots gun owners in the back with his anti-gun policies, then he tries to win back their votes by putting them on the government dole," said **Smith**. "When will politicians learn that what law-abiding gun owners want is to be left alone?"

■ CONNECTICUT

Windham LP petitions to 'liberate' referendums

Windham Libertarians have started circulating a petition to make it easier to place referendum questions on the ballot.

Currently, the town's charter requires 200 signatures from registered voters to qualify a referendum — a threshold that is too high for a town of 11,000 registered voters, said LP activist **Marvin Edelman**.

"Government must be answerable to citizens," he said. "This limitation of the people's access to petition and referendum to which they are entitled as American citizens makes a mock-

ery of local democracy."

Anyone with a "serious interest" in the town should be able to trigger a referendum, he said.

To this end, a coalition of Libertarians, Republicans, Democrats, and Greens are going door-to-door gathering signatures for the effort.

"It is time 'We the People' demand that our selectmen stop denying us the very political liberties they enjoy," said **Edelman**. "It is a matter of equal rights."

■ INDIANA

LP city councilman saves money with TV merger

A Libertarian city councilman has succeeded in a campaign to merge two taxpayer-funded television studios into one — and consequently save taxpayers thousands of dollars.

Phil Miller, who was elected to the Greenfield city council in 1999, said the merger would reduce the total tax burden by cutting production costs and equipment maintenance.

"Since before my election to the city council, I've been arguing that at least one of the two government TV studios in Greenfield, a city of about 15,000 people, should be shut down," he said. "Finally, we made it happen."

The merger decision was finalized at a meeting on May 10. Although the Republican council president took most of the credit in the local media, it is local taxpayers who will benefit the most, said **Miller**.

■ MARYLAND

'Pernicious' power of MEDC must be curbed

Working with state taxpayer and property rights organizations, the Maryland LP is seeking to repeal legislation that would grant greater power to the state government's economic development organization.

The bill, SB 486, enables the Maryland Economic Development Corporation to confiscate private property under an eminent domain provision, compete with private businesses under a tax exempt status, and use its government-endowed authority in other "pernicious ways," said **Spear Lancaster**, who is seeking the LP nomination for governor in 2002.

The anti-SB 486 coalition needs to collect 46,128 signatures by June 30 in order to trigger a referendum, said **Ken Timmerman**, president of the Maryland Taxpayer's Association.

"The Libertarians have been a great help in supporting this petition drive to reduce the power of this truly monstrous organization," he said. "And I believe that we will all be successful."

■ MICHIGAN

Libertarians battle plan to expand school district

Allegan County Libertarians passed a resolution on May 15 condemning a county commission's proposal to expand a school tax district.

The Allegan County Commission said the expansion of the Kalamazoo Valley Community College district would benefit Allegan County, which currently does not have a community college.

However, ACL Chair **Rick Dutkiewicz** said the proposal — which does not as of yet have a voting date — would ultimately boost the property taxes of county taxpayers.

"Libertarians are not opposed to higher education, but we are opposed to higher taxes," he said. "We support the idea that lower taxes are good for every social group except politicians."

The ACL is joined in its opposition to the proposal by the Citizens for School Accountability.

"We must let the proponents of bigger government know that their actions will not go unchallenged," said **Dutkiewicz**. "When the people hear about the tax implications of this expansion, the voters will take our side."

MICHIGAN

Website helps state LP fight Internet tax plan

The Michigan LP has resurrected its cyber-petition website — SpeakOutMichigan.org — in an attempt to defeat a bill that could pave the way for states to tax Internet purchases.

The bill, SB-433, would allow Michigan and other states to reciprocally enforce sales tax laws and authorize third-party collection agents, said state Executive Director **Tim O'Brien**. The bill could also potentially impose a new 6% "service" tax on Michigan residents.

"This could be a very sweeping bill [that takes] thousands of sales taxes between the various states into account," he said.

The bill has already been unanimously voted out of the Senate Finance Committee, so Libertarians are mobilizing quickly to try to stop it, said O'Brien. For example, the party is using SpeakOutMichigan.org to collect signatures opposing the bill.

"We are going to do everything we can to have our state lead the way to make Cyberspace a free trade zone," he said.

MICHIGAN

Outreach poll: Majority of bikers are libertarian

Surprise: The Wild Bunch is libertarian.

At least, that's what the Midwest Michigan LP discovered when they gave the World's Smallest Political Quiz to bikers who rolled into Baldwin for the annual "Blessing of the Bikes" event, May 18-20.

"They probably never dreamed that anyone would ask them for their political opinions, let alone agree with them," said Midwest Michigan LP Chair **Brian Kluesner**. "And [local LP] members certainly never dreamed they would find so many closet libertarians."

Libertarians set up an Operation Politically Homeless booth at the event, and administered the quiz to 156 bikers. Of those, 73% landed in the libertarian portion of the Nolan chart, said Kluesner.

"This event was a huge success," he said. "Bikers confirmed our belief that the vast majority of people are peaceful, honest individuals. [And] many people found a new political home."

NEW YORK

Manhattan LP: Drug War targets poor, minorities

The drug war has become "a war on minorities and poor people," Manhattan Libertarians charged after the New York Police Department released data showing that 88% of people stopped and frisked in the city are of African or Hispanic origin.

"These statistics should be a wake-up call to all New Yorkers," said **Jim Lescynski**, the party's Media Relations Director and City Council candidate. "This report



Colorado students meet libertarian author

Colorado University Libertarians (l-r) Alez Baia, Flux Neo, Heather Demarest, Brian Schwartz, and Matt Zenthoef meet with libertarian author David Friedman (second from right) on March 5.

Friedman, a professor of law and economics and the author of such libertarian classics as *The Machinery of Freedom: A Guide to Radical Capitalism* and *Hidden Order: The Economics of Everyday Life*, spoke to about 200 students at the Boulder campus on the topic of "Arguments for and Against Government."

"Articulate libertarians like Dr. Friedman are one of the many antidotes CU Libertarians will use to fight outdated statist philosophies with the logic of liberty," said Baia.

shows us just how racially lopsided the government's immoral drug war really is."

The only remedy to such racial injustice is to end the drug war, he said — and to help accomplish that, the Manhattan LP will run a slate of at least 10 candidates for local office in November.

"It should come as no surprise that the politically marginalized are the targets of these unconstitutional searches," said Public Advocate candidate **Travis Pahl**.

NORTH CAROLINA

State Libertarians offer fair redistricting plan

The North Carolina LP has offered to act as an "independent group" to create a redistricting plan for the 2002 Congressional elections based on "common sense, instead of political maneuvering."

At a public hearing before the General Assembly's joint redistricting committee on May 3, State Chair **Barbara Howe** said the Libertarian plan would avoid gerrymandering districts based on race, incumbency, or party affiliation.

"The Republican and Democratic Parties have shown by their past performances that they are more interested in preserving their political power and guaranteeing retention of their office holders than they are in bringing about truly representative government," said Howe.

However, the Libertarian plan, which only splits three counties in the state, will energize vot-

ers in districts that are now overwhelmingly slanted toward one political party.

"Let the Libertarian Party create the redistricting plan," challenged Howe. "You have nothing to lose but your apathy."

NORTH CAROLINA

Party adopts resolution opposing death penalty

Delegates to the May 6 state convention have adopted a resolution calling for a moratorium on government execution of convicted murderers.

According to LPNC Executive Director **Sean Haugh**, the resolution passed overwhelmingly, with the support of more than 75% of the delegates.

"We recognize that Libertarians may have a good-faith disagreement on the issue," said Haugh. "But in North Carolina, the general feeling among Libertarians is that killing people who have already been jailed is an initiation of force."

Specifically, the resolution called on Governor Mike Easley and the General Assembly to halt executions until the state can implement policies and procedures that administer the punishment more "fairly and impartially," decrease the risk of executing innocent persons, and prevent the execution of mentally retarded persons and minors.

"Our goal is to abolish the death penalty entirely, but we believe the current resolution is progress in the right direction," Haugh said.

OKLAHOMA

LP touts decriminalization of marijuana at 420 rally

Touting marijuana decriminalization, Libertarian activists distributed buttons, literature, and bumper stickers in Oklahoma City during the annual "420 rally" held on April 20.

The state LP co-hosted the rally with the state NORML affiliate and the Drug Policy Forum of Oklahoma.

"Which side are you on?" Oklahoma LP Finance Chair **Tom Laurent** asked the crowd. "Either the state owns you and controls what you put in your body, or you own you and control what you put in your body."

Libertarians added more than 75 new names to the state mailing list, and garnered media attention from several television and radio stations, said Laurent.

"We told everyone there are two parties in the U.S.," he said. "The government party has a lot of names, like Republican, Democrat, Green, etc. The individualist party is named Libertarian."

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh Libertarians 'celebrate' tax freedom

A group of Libertarians and "libertarian-leaning" Republicans gathered in Pittsburgh's Market Square on May 12 to celebrate "Tax Freedom Day" — the day when Americans officially pay off their state and federal tax debt.

"It's ridiculous that this year the average Pennsylvanian has to

work four months for the government," said LP activist **Harold Kyriazi**. "That's not freedom."

Calculated by the Tax Foundation, Tax Freedom Day varies from state to state due to differences in tax rates. In Pennsylvania, Tax Freedom Day fell on May 3.

The rally drew an appreciative audience, said Kyriazi.

"One especially enthusiastic group of youngsters came up [and] declared that 'Libertarianism is the coolest,'" he said.

TEXAS

Lubbock Co. Libertarians defeat new baseball tax

Lubbock County Libertarians have helped defeat a proposal to raise a hotel occupancy tax from 13% to 15% and implement a new 5% tax on rental cars in order to finance two county baseball fields.

"We have no problem with building ball fields with private dollars," said Lubbock County LP Chair **David DeLamar**. "But a tax like this one hurts businesses."

The proposal was voted on in a special election held on May 5, and defeated by a margin of 57-42%.

However, tax supporters are already regrouping to gather enough signatures and put a similar proposal back on the ballot, said DeLamar.

"It doesn't matter how many times the supporters try to pass [the tax]," he said. "We are going to be there to oppose it every time."

WASHINGTON STATE

Libertarians commend GOP for (tardy) tax stand

Libertarians in Washington did something unusual on May 7. They congratulated Republicans. (And rebuked them, too.)

When the state Republican Party endorsed Initiative 747, which would strictly limit future tax increases, Libertarians were quick to commend them.

"We welcome the Republicans' action, but wonder what took them so long," said State Chair **John Mills** — noting the state LP had endorsed the measure three weeks earlier.

"[And] while the Republicans' endorsement came on a 20-1 vote of the party's executive committee, the Libertarians' support of the measure was a unanimous vote of the party's membership," he said. "Taxpayers should recognize that the Libertarian Party is unambiguously on their side."

I-747 would require state and local governments to limit property tax increases to 1% annually, unless voters approve a larger increase at an election.

When do Human Beings Begin? "Scientific" Myths and Scientific Facts

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The Review

The case against the Drug War

After Prohibition: An Adult Approach to Drug Policies in the 21st Century, edited by Timothy Lynch. The Cato Institute. 193 pages, softbound. \$9.95. Available at www.Cato.org.

Reviewed by Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

I confess: When I joined the LP, I was one of those people who wished Libertarians would stop talking about the drug issue. It costs us votes, I argued. It makes us seem too radical. And it makes it easy to caricature us as dope-smoking hippies.

However, as I read more about the issue — most importantly, about the drug war's catastrophic impact on our civil liberties — I changed my mind. Eventually, I realized the issue was too important for Libertarians not to talk about.

After Prohibition is an excellent book for any LP member who shares my early concern about the drug issue. While not perfect, it lays out in clear, reasonable, well-researched terms exactly why the War on Drugs is so dangerous — and why it must be stopped.

The book consists of expanded versions of a dozen papers and speeches delivered at the Cato Institute's "After Prohibition" conference, held in October 1999. Highlights include:

■ **"It's Time to Legalize Drugs,"** by New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson. A triathlete who shuns all drugs (including alcohol, coffee, and chocolate!) Johnson is an excellent spokesman for the pro-legalization movement. His essay is personal, passionate, and persuasive.

■ **"The Drug War and the Constitution,"** by Steven Duke. In just 19 pages, Duke outlines the devastation caused by the War on Drugs: Police breaking into people's houses, exploding flash grenades, and shooting innocent bystanders. Asset forfeiture laws that allow police to steal property from the powerless. Racial profiling that unfairly targets minorities. The list goes on. It's hard to imagine anyone reading this chapter and not being outraged at what the drug warriors have done to the Bill of Rights.

■ **"Militarized Law Enforcement: The Drug War's Deadly Fruit,"** by David B. Kopel. Another extraordinary essay, which explains how Congress "amended" the Posse Comitatus Act (which prohibits the military from engaging in law enforcement activity) to allow U.S. troops to "assist" police in drug surveillance. Once that loophole was established, military equipment, manpower, and money flooded through. Today, Marines patrol the Mexican border; NORAD is used to track planes that might be carrying drugs; and Navy SEALs train law enforcement in "advanced military operations in urbanized environments."

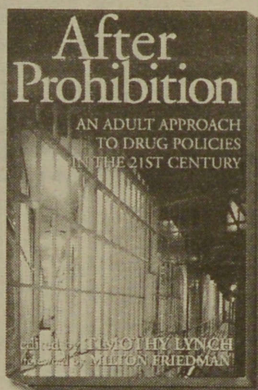
That's not all. Did you know the Coast Guard — which is exempt from the Posse Comitatus Act — has heavily armed ships patrolling Ecuador, Guatemala, and Bolivia? Or that the Border Patrol (equally exempt) has personnel in Bolivia?

After Prohibition is weakest in the area suggested by the title: That is, what would America be like "after Prohibition," if we ended the war on drugs? Strangely, the book never addresses that question. That's a curious omission, since one common objection faced by Libertarians is: "Well, wouldn't the country be even worse off if everyone were allowed to take drugs?"

Another weak section is the debate that ends the book; between anti-Drug War Daniel Polsby, a law professor at George Washington University, and rabidly pro-Drug War Dan Lungren, former California attorney general.

Polsby states that "the libertarian's theoretical case for legalizing drugs seems to be quite inconclusive" (and he's arguing for legalizing drugs!), so he resorts to a few pragmatic arguments in a not particularly persuasive way. Lungren, meanwhile, trots out the usual conservative arguments: We've got to save "the kids" (of course!) and drugs are morally wrong. Oh, and he says that if drugs were legalized, you'd end up "flying in a plane with a pilot who just smoked a joint." (Because, of course, airlines wouldn't bother to ensure that their pilots don't fly drunk or stoned. After all, airlines don't care of their multi-million-dollar planes crash, killing hundreds of their customers. Right.)

Those gripes aside, *After Prohibition* is an excellent addition to the growing library of anti-Drug War books. Like everything the Cato Institute produces, it's professional and informative. I confess: If I wasn't already persuaded that the War on Drugs is a great threat to liberty, this book would have convinced me.



LP staff member leads campaign to end draft registration system

A staff member at the Libertarian Party's national headquarters is spearheading a national campaign to abolish draft registration.

Marc Brandl, 25, who works as the LP's Campus Coordinator in Washington, DC, has helped start a group called the Campaign to End Selective Service, which is rallying support for a new bill to end draft registration for young men.

The coalition includes College Libertarians of America, the Center on Conscience and War, and others.

"Forcing young people to register for the draft violates everything this nation stands for," said Brandl. "Selective Service is also an unnecessary leftover from the 1960s that hangs over the head of every young American male. It's time to abolish it once and for all."

HR 1577

On June 7, the Campaign to End Selective Service (CESS) launched a website — EndSelectiveService.org — to generate support for HR 1577, a bill that would repeal the Selective Service Act of 1979. The bill was filed by Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX).

There are numerous good reasons to repeal Selective Service, said Brandl:

■ **It's expensive.** The federal government spends \$24 million annually on Selective Service

MARC BRANDL:
"Forcing people to register violates everything this nation stands for."

— and has spent \$500 million since 1980.

"If we end Selective Service, we could trim military spending and return that money to taxpayers," said Brandl.

■ **It's unnecessary.** In a 1993 report, Pentagon officials wrote: "It is highly unlikely that we will have to reinstate the draft in the foreseeable future. Consequently, peacetime draft registration could be suspended without irreparable damage to national security."

■ **It's un-American.** Federal law mandates that every American male register for the draft within 30 days of his 18th birthday. Penalties for failing to do so include four months in federal prison and/or a \$2,500 fine.

"There is no greater hypocrisy than enslaving men in the name of freedom," said Brandl. "This campaign is one small step to restore the fundamental right to control one's own body."

■ **It violates privacy.** "By registering for the draft, personal information about you is shared with a variety of federal and state agencies, including the IRS, Social Security Administration, Department of Education, Department of Labor, and in some states, the DMV," said Brandl. "The Selective Service System serves as a multi-million dollar government information sharing agency."

Brandl said a bill similar to HR 1577 passed the House once before.

"In 1999, the House passed a bill to eliminate Selective Service, but it ultimately died in the Senate," he said. "If the bill passed the House two years ago without any effort such as this one, there's no reason why it can't pass again and gain greater support with a concentrated campaign."

Pressure

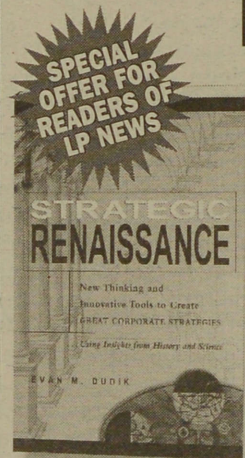
With the website, Brandl said that he hopes to put enough pressure on Congress to pass HR 1577 before the current session ends.

"HR 1577 represents a real opportunity to end the draft, once and for all," he said. "Visit EndSelectiveService.org and let your Congressperson know it's time for the draft to go. Let's leave the draft to professional sports — not the Pentagon."

The website allows people to send a letter to their U.S. Representative and U.S. Senators, urging support for HR 1577.

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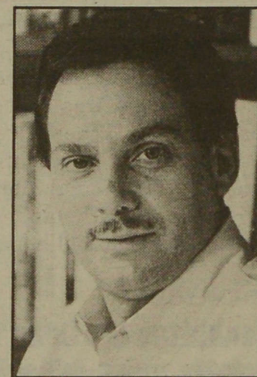
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John Buttrick appointed AZ Superior Court judge

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cluding a run for governor in 1994 and a campaign for state representative in 1998.

LP National Director Steve Dasbach said Buttrick's appointment is a major milestone for the Libertarian Party.

"This is a big step forward for the party's credibility," he said. "Keep in mind, the government is composed of three branches: Legislative, executive, and judicial. Libertarians have tended to seek legislative and executive positions, but may forget the judicial branch wields just as much power.

"John's appointment signals that the Libertarian perspective has now begun to be heard in the court system. Hopefully, John will be a pioneer for many more Libertarian judges in the future."

A victory

LP National Chair Jim Lark said Buttrick's appointment was a victory for the party.

"He's going to make a fine judge," he predicted.

As a Superior Court judge, Buttrick, 53, has jurisdiction over all civil matters where more than \$10,000 is in dispute, as well as felony criminal matters up to and including capital offenses. However, Buttrick said the majority of his cases will likely deal with civil litigation.

His libertarian ideology will rarely influence his actions as a judge, said the Harvard Law School graduate — and then only in cases involving federal or state Constitutional questions.

"It's the job of lawyers to raise Constitutional questions and the judge to rule on them," he said. "Were I to read Constitutional issues into a case where the facts did not warrant it, my decision would likely be reversed by the Court of Appeals. So it doesn't make any sense for me to do that."

However, in applicable cases, Buttrick said he will uphold the legitimacy of jury nullification, which is endorsed in the LP National Platform.

Jury nullification is the legal doctrine that allows jurors to rule on the validity of the law itself, as well as the facts in a case. For example, jurors could vote to acquit someone charged with a medical marijuana offense, even if he was technically guilty, to show disapproval for what they believed to be an unfair law.

Hard work

Buttrick said he earned his appointment as judge the old-fashioned way: With hard work and honesty.

"Many people had said that I might have a better shot at getting appointed if I switched my registration to Republican or Independent," he said. "But I think it actually hurts you if you show that you are willing to change your convictions whenever it's professionally expedient."

In addition, Buttrick said he had built up a network of influential figures who supported him.

For example, his appointment was endorsed by members of the Goldwater Institute — a Phoenix free-market public policy foundation — and by the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, whom he had met during his gubernatorial and state representative races.

"As you sow so shall you reap," said Buttrick. "I ran very

sound campaigns in the past and received a lot of favorable press coverage, as well as admiration from other political parties. So I had some supporters in this effort.

"A lot of politicians think 'If I had more guts, I'd be a Libertarian.' They may not say so out loud, but that's what's going on in their heads. So when the opportunity arises to support something that is libertarian — and is politically safe — they are willing to come halfway out of the closet."

As Maricopa County Superior Court judge, Buttrick will serve until 2004. If he wishes to continue serving after that, he will have to stand for election for a four-year term.

Until then, said Buttrick, he is looking forward to hearing legal arguments instead of making them.

"I wanted to take a step in a new direction, and now I have that opportunity," he said. "I'm going to honor the Constitution every chance I get."

Buttrick has served as a member of the National Committee (1997-2000), and was the chair of the LP National Platform Committee (1998 and 2000).

CORRECTION

■ In the May issue of *LP News*, a "Forum" essay by R. Lee Wrights ("George W. justifies a vote for Libertarians") contained an inaccuracy, due to an editing error. The essay should have said Congress reduced President Bush's proposed tax cut by \$400 billion.

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Government is compassion. Oh, really?

Continued from Page 1

ment coercion with human compassion is an utter catastrophe in judgment, and the long-term results are harsh indeed.

There are powerful reasons why people are eager to make this particular mistake, and I believe libertarians must begin to understand those reasons before we will have any chance to reverse the damage.

Pop quiz: In light of the above, consider the following four assumptions:

1. Government takes compassionate care of its citizens, almost as parents take care of their children.

2. Forceful redistribution of wealth is a natural part of that compassion.

3. A large, strongly centralized government is necessary for #1 and #2 above.

4. For the same reasons, much or all of a nation's resources belong to the government, which it can use as it sees fit.

Now the question: what type of modern government uses those assumptions to justify, maintain, and increase its power over the citizens?

Answer: Pretty much all of them.

More alike

If most governments, regardless of what they call themselves, behave according to the four assumptions above (and they do), then we should consider them as being fundamentally more alike than different. Clearly, our own federal government is in this category — despite those four assumptions being at odds with our Constitution and Bill of Rights.

To simplify discussion, I will refer to all of these big-government schemes generically, as "socialism."

The popular success of socialist ideas is astonishing, especially because their results have so often been horrifying failures. Even partial implementation of these principles has never shown more than modest success (if that).

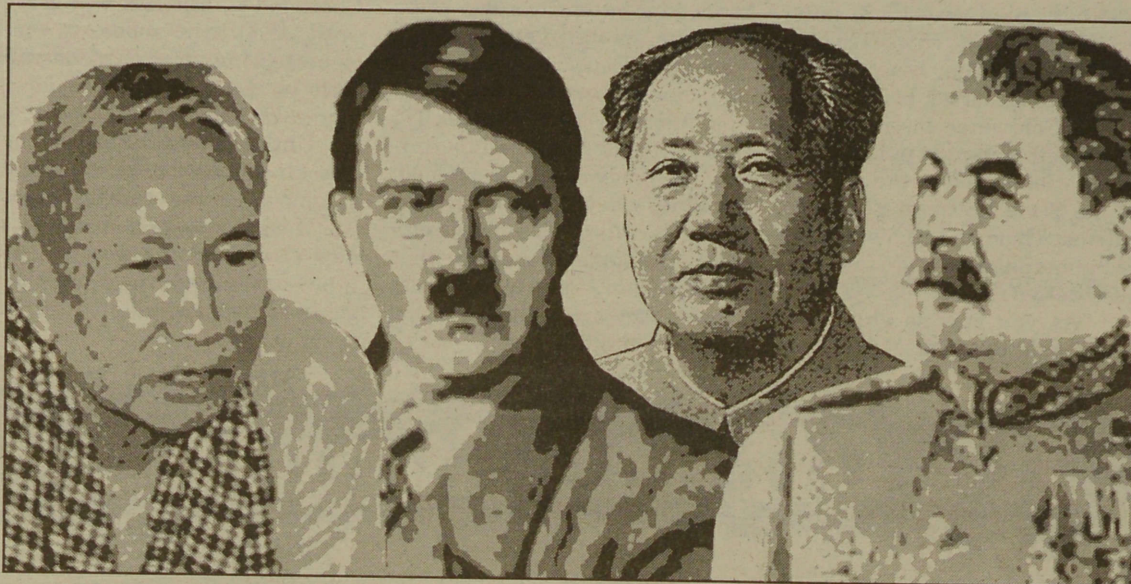
Most libertarians understand that I am being too kind. See, for example:

■ *The Black Book of Communism: Crimes, terror, repression*, by Stephane Courtois, et al.

■ *Death by Government* by Dr. R. J. Rummel.

Both Rummel and the *Black Book* estimate the number of innocents murdered by Communist governments in the 20th Century at roughly 100 million, and Rummel suggests nearly 180 million deaths from all government murder in the period, not counting war dead. He clearly identifies centralized government power as the cause of these murders.

That total is about the population of England, France, and



■ A "Rogues Gallery" of government killers: (l-r) Cambodia's Pol Pot; Nazi Germany's Adolf Hitler; Communist China's Mao Tse-tung; and the U.S.S.R.'s Josef Stalin. Altogether, the world's governments — including those four — killed 180 million people in the 20th Century.

Germany combined; or about three times the total 1999 population of California, the most populous state in the Union.

I don't believe such a number can be understood in human terms. Here is another try, however: A typical Super Bowl crowd is about 75,000. Governments thus murdered the equivalent of 2,400 Super Bowl crowds in the past century. That's almost 5,000 murders, on average, every single day.

Whatever else we say about those numbers, we must also say this: They are real. They are well-documented, if necessarily imprecise — they may be high or low by several million souls. They represent actual human beings, murdered in cold blood.

Pause here a moment, please. Think about one person being murdered — hanged, shot in the back of the head, buried alive, or otherwise killed. Now try to wrap your mind around this:

■ 100 million murders by Communist governments. Or this:

■ 180 million murders, by governments of all types.

Try next to understand why such an engine of mass murder could ever be considered the well-spring of compassion.

Rigged toys

Time magazine reported during the Soviet war in Afghanistan that the Soviet army was scattering anti-personnel mines in the form of toys rigged to explode. This certainly sounds "reasonable" in the sense governments use the term: One imagines that quite a few potential rebels were prevented, via this method, from opposing the Soviet invaders.

Does the public have any problem with that? Apparently not; it is perfectly normal for governments to murder innocents, including children, for whatever reasons they please. Mikhail Gorbachev, the CEO of the Soviet Empire at the time, is still con-

sidered by many to be a kind, wise, and compassionate statesman. Call him a "criminal" and you are simply being rude. He was named as *Time's* Man of the Year for 1987.

Contrast that with how Bill Gates would be seen if Microsoft employees were known, on Microsoft orders, to have placed anti-personnel mines in boxes of competitor's software. No amount of "he didn't know!" would clear his name; Gates would have been hunted down and imprisoned by now, and no one would think that rude in the least.

It isn't only identifiably "Marxist" governments involved in such horror, of course. Even

ing has not dawned on most people.

"Compassion" is, of course, the key here. Compassion is socialism's alleged reason for being, and this lie is the single most important factor in the popularity of socialism and other big-government schemes.

Even Republicans have finally picked up on this. George Bush was elected on a platform of "compassionate conservatism," which many have pointed out is only another name for "liberalism." (Or, as any libertarian can tell you, "socialism.")

Dismantle the Department of Education? Of course not! Increase its funding instead. Cut back federal meddling in health care? Never! Who would be so cruel as to even think it? Especially with the costs skyrocketing as they have been . . . since, uh . . . since the government got involved in health care.

We now have a Republican president and a Republican Congress who are not merely preserving but expanding the socialist/liberal welfare state in America. While this is not the first time Republicans have done this, they are doing it today with a new gusto and openness.

So are the voters: They want more compassion. And of course more compassion requires bigger government. Everyone knows that.

Vile and cunning

The idea that government, in any form, can implement compassion for us is a vile and cunning lie, but no matter: It is a lie that people are desperate to believe.

Until more libertarians, and more people generally, fully understand what is happening here, we will get precisely nowhere.

To repeat: Socialism (and "big government" generally) has stolen the idea of compassion.

By constantly repeating the lie that government's reason for

taking people's money and running people's lives is to exercise compassion, socialists have been wildly successful at selling a system that, in fact, destroys compassion.

That's why much of the American public apparently sees federal programs (of any type) in the same light that socialists see socialism — as expressions of concern and compassion, which no caring or sensible person could oppose. The bottom line is that if "government equals compassion," then more government must be better.

Care about people

One needn't be an Einstein to see where that puts libertarians in the public mind.

Government must get larger because we care about people. We care about children and the sick and the elderly. We care about endangered species. We care about the environment. We care about the poor.

With so much to care about, perhaps socialism isn't such a bad idea. Government clearly isn't large enough to help everyone! So perhaps we should quit worrying about labels, have the courage to quit being shills for big business and the rich, and finally make the stretch to a progressive, truly compassionate form of government.

Don't laugh. Many of your neighbors are in full agreement with that paragraph.

The arguments for socialism are poorly grounded in either reason or experience, but — as every libertarian soon discovers — that means little to most people. Reason is not the issue here.

Feeling is.

That pretty much sums up why our rational approach to selling liberty isn't working. Feeling is an ancient, deeply grounded part of human life. In contrast, intellect is a fragile and shallow film that has emerged in the last few seconds of evolutionary time. Intellect and reason are laughably weak, and are notoriously easy to mislead, to distract, to fool.

Real power

Nor do they exert any real power over our lives, compared to feeling — for example, read the warning label on a pack of cigarettes and then ask why millions of Americans smoke. If reason was as powerful as we like to think, tobacco companies would have been out of business long ago.

Win the intellect and you win little; win a person's feelings and you have won it all.

Given the "government equals compassion" equation, one quickly sees the emotional power that attaches to socialism. Whatever the socialist group in question, it promises to take care of

See **COMPASSION** Page 13

SOCIALISM
and big government
generally has
stolen the idea of
compassion.

Compassion

Continued from Page 12

people. This form of government is, for those who embrace it, a profound champion of love, brotherhood, and decency. It is the last, desperate hope for a compassionate and healthy world. To oppose such a thing would not be simply an error, but a monstrous and genuine evil.

I believe that socialists see the matter in exactly such fashion: As a struggle between good and evil. Socialism is good (compassionate, loving, caring, brotherly, decent, kind) and whatever opposes socialism is evil (cold, cruel, mean-spirited, selfish, hateful).

Politics appears

Consciously or otherwise, this is how politics appears to many people. And I empathize with them. I take the libertarian view that freedom is "good" while slavery and other forms of unfreedom are "evil." I see governments everywhere destroying the compassion and prosperity that most people believe government can create for them.

But I do not think people foolish for taking these matters so seriously; only that they are confused about whether freedom (or socialism) will create the world they want. In either case, the concerns are powerful:

SOCIALISTS see politics as a struggle between good and evil; love and cruelty.

- Life or death.
- Good or evil.
- Compassion or cruelty.

Why would anyone be lukewarm on such issues? And how could we expect people to see libertarians as anything other than tools of the Antichrist, given the framework that socialists have created and successfully sold?

It is no longer a question of "will socialist thought become entrenched in America?" because it already has. Rather, the question is "can anything reverse the rush towards full socialism in both American minds and American government?"

I do know this: Compassion is not created at gunpoint, and doing things at gunpoint (or by threat) is the single methodology of government. One finds little agreement between the thoughts of Chairman Mao and George

Washington, but the two certainly agreed on this:

"Political power grows out of the barrel of a gun." — Mao

"Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force." — George Washington

Using politicians and bureaucrats to enforce compassion is a horrible mistake, if only because those who gravitate towards power over others tend not to be especially compassionate.

For that reason, the results of government "compassion" are seldom what the supporters of big government had hoped for. Inefficiency is actually the best-case scenario, despite pundits' constant surprise that government programs are not working well (certainly, not as well as non-coercive alternatives). Always a puzzle, that.

Violence, coercion

All of history shows that government is exactly as dangerous as one would suppose, given its foundation of violence and coercion.

Power not only corrupts: It attracts corruption and evil — and then feeds it.

Despite my argument that intellect is far weaker than feeling, I believe these facts about government are ones that we, as libertarians and as human beings, would do well to be more vocal about. Not only are they good reasons to support smaller government, but they touch on the feelings of those we are speaking to.

We have seen that govern-

ment is not compassion, and that too often it creates needless horror and misery.

What, then, is the solution?

The first step is understanding that compassion must be not merely addressed but showcased by any political group in America that hopes for success.

But political success is nothing if we do not also build a foundation to sustain and support our desired political reality of liberty. If we want to ever see more respect for individual rights, compassion must become more than a campaign issue.

Greater compassion must become a daily reality in the lives of

people generally.

That will not, cannot, happen overnight, but movement in the right direction must begin at some point if we are to succeed. Compassion and liberty are not at odds: They require each other.

Conveying that truth to others is the first great challenge facing the modern libertarian movement, including the Libertarian Party.

■ **About the author:** *Libertarian Party member Glen Allport lives in Oregon. For a greatly expanded version of this essay, visit: <http://paradisemodel.org/compassion.htm>*

LP wins Arizona lawsuit

Continued from Page 4

ballot as the LP candidate for president, and Nevada newspaper columnist Vin Suprynowicz on as vice president.

In response, the party decided to qualify Browne for the Arizona ballot as an independent candidate for president. In a whirlwind petition drive, the party collected 22,000-plus signatures at a cost of about \$65,000 and filed them on August 17.

Since state law required independent ballot petitions to be turned in by June 14, the party filed a lawsuit to overturn the deadline.

At the time, said Dasbach, "We were fairly confident we

would win, since every prior court ruling has held that such early filing deadlines are unconstitutional. No court ruling had ever upheld a June filing deadline for independent presidential petitions."

Despite that confidence, a Maricopa County Superior Court judge ruled against the party, and the U.S. District Court in Phoenix refused to overturn the decision.

However, in its May 29 ruling, the Arizona Court of Appeals rejected the Superior Court's legal reasoning, ruling that the state had no compelling interest to set the deadline for independent candidates so early.

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The Issues

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

Thermal imaging decision is not enough

If you think the Supreme Court's decision curbing the use of thermal imaging devices means you're safe from surveillance, think again, the Libertarian Party warned: Police still have a frightening arsenal of high-tech "Peeping Tom" devices.

"Don't celebrate yet," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director. "Police can still employ an appalling array of science fiction-style devices — including X-rated X-rays that display your naked body; radar guns that see through walls; and ion sniffers that detect traces of drugs in the air."

"The government is like a compulsive voyeur. If you pull the curtain in one window, Uncle Sam just peers in another. That's why the battle over the Fourth Amendment has just begun."

On June 11, the Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that police violated the Fourth Amendment when they used a thermal imaging device — which monitors heat patterns through the walls of a house — without a search warrant.

The ruling is a victory for privacy, acknowledged Dasbach. But it won't be the end of the debate.

"The Supreme Court ruling was a good first step — but it was not enough. We need the Supreme Court to unequivocally declare that there is no high-tech exemption to the Fourth Amendment. Not for thermal imagers. Not for super X-rays. Not for the next dreadful device that police develop," he said. "In short, we need a Fourth Amendment that is even more powerful than the high-tech surveillance equipment police are using."

Congress must nix 'Money for Marriage'

A plan by the Bush administration to provide poor single mothers with "marriage incentives" — such as a \$5,000 cash payment for marrying the father of her child — is an attack on family values and should be rejected, Libertarians say.

"Shame on George W. Bush for considering the idea of bribing Americans to get married," said Steve Dasbach. "Marriage is a decision to be made by two adults — not two adults and the federal government."

On May 22, a House Ways and Means subcommittee held a hearing to discuss ways the government can "promote" marriage for young, single mothers on welfare. The hearing was scheduled by conservatives who are dismayed that welfare reform has not done more to reduce the number of out-of-wedlock births.

Ideas under consideration include forcing states to set up "marriage skills" classes in high schools, marriage mentoring for single parents, and offering women at high risk of out-of-wedlock birth cash payments of \$5,000 if they get married.

However, given politicians' track record of breaking up families via harmful welfare programs, the best thing conservatives can do is give American families a D-I-V-O-R-C-E from the government, said Dasbach. "And they can start by pulling the plug on this money-for-marriage scheme," he said.

U.N. slavery reparation plan is flawed

An upcoming United Nations conference on racism is expected to demand massive financial reparations from Western nations for the "terrible exploitation" of slavery — but the U.S. government should refuse to take money from taxpayers to pay for such historic misdeeds, the Libertarian Party said.

"Reparations will not right a historic wrong; they will only impose a modern wrong on Americans who are not responsible for the historic crimes of slavery," said Steve Dasbach.

"Even worse, reparations would deflect attention away from the fact that hundreds of millions of people still live in bondage — not to slave masters, but to their own governments."

As U.N. representatives from around the world prepare to meet in South Africa for the World Conference Against Racism, August 31-Sept. 8, African nations are lobbying for a proposal that calls for former slave-trading nations to make "restitution."

The exact nature of the restitution is not specified, but some of the African Group's 53 nations have proposed billions of dollars of no-strings-attached "foreign aid" from Western nations.

However, the proposal ignores the fact that many of the African nations demanding reparations for past slavery are, themselves, enslaving their own people, said Dasbach.

According to the Index of Economic Freedom report, 35 of 42 sub-Saharan African countries are "mostly unfree" or "repressed."

"If there are reparations to be paid, perhaps it should come from the dictators who rule those 35 unfree and repressed African nations," he said. "They could pay reparations to their own citizens, whom they impoverish, imprison, and mistreat."

LP falls short on medical privacy effort

Despite more than 61,000 e-mail messages, 13 co-sponsors, and a last-minute "Action Item" from the LP national office, the Libertarian Party has fallen short in an effort to derail the federal government's so-called medical privacy regulation.

On June 15, a 60-day window for Congress to "veto" the regulations slammed shut, with no action taken on HJR 38, a bill filed by Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX) that would have repealed the new regulation.

As a result, the Health & Human Services' regulation, which will force doctors to turn their patients' confidential medical records over to the government, has officially gone into effect. The regulation was drafted by the Clinton administration and was quietly implemented by President George W. Bush.

"We gave a great effort, but we've lost what we always knew would be an uphill fight," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach.

STEVE DASBACH:

"The politicians won and the American public and privacy lost."

"The problem was that Democrats supported the regulation because it was Bill Clinton's baby; and Republicans supported the regulation because George W. Bush endorsed it."

"It was classic Washington, DC bipartisanship: The politicians won, and the American public — and privacy — lost."

Since the LP launched its campaign against the regulation in mid-April, 61,816 people had signed a petition opposing it at the www.DefendYourPrivacy.com

website by mid-June, and 13 Congressional co-sponsors signed on in support of HJR 38.

However, that wasn't enough to move the bill out of committee, because House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-IL) refused to schedule the measure for a vote. Capitol Hill sources said the House schedule was "very light" the week of June 15, and "a vote could easily have been scheduled. Hastert just didn't want to."

Although touted by government officials as a medical "privacy" regulation, the rule mandates that doctors must turn patient records over to federal agencies for "safekeeping" and permits law enforcement agencies to access medical records without a search warrant.

A spokesman for Congressman Paul's office said they are "not quite sure yet" what additional action will be taken, but a meeting to "hash out a plan as to where to go from here" was scheduled for late June.

'Mainstream' LP group is formed

A California Libertarian has started a new organization that he says will try to move the Libertarian Party in a more action-oriented, "pragmatic" direction.

The group, the Libertarian Mainstream Caucus (LMC), was formed in December 2000 and already has more than 70 members, said founder Gene Trosper.

"We must determine what we can do to make the LP a competitive political force," he said. "For us to succeed, that means wrapping our package nicer and playing the political game smartly."

Specifically, said Trosper, the LMC will try to get LP members to move away from a culture of "philosophical debates and bookishness" — which has "created an organizational culture which expects failure."

"Logic would seem to dictate that [political] victory for liberty would be the ultimate goal of Libertarian Party members," he said.

To accomplish its goals, the LMC has adopted a "10 Points of Progress" statement, which urges Libertarians to reconcile "warring factions" in the LP, establish realistic short-term policy goals, and make pragmatic changes to the LP platform.

The LMC will distribute literature at state conventions, and encourage members to seek LP leadership positions to make platform/bylaw changes, said Trosper. There is no monetary fee to join.

For more information about the Libertarian Mainstream Caucus, visit: <http://users.ez2.net/lmc>. Or e-mail: gtrosper@ez2.net. Or call: (909) 244-2630.

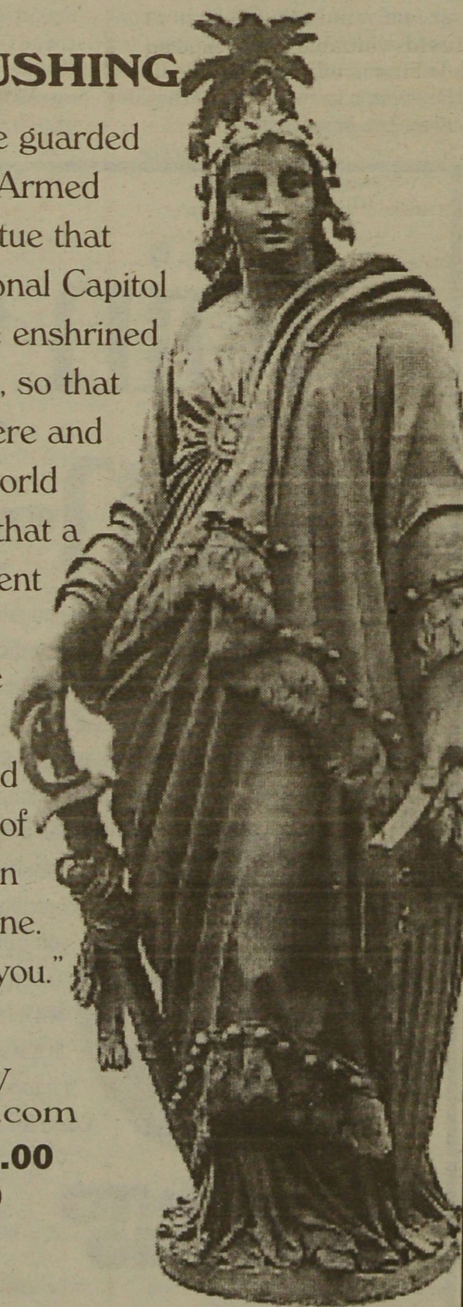
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Mary Ruwart lobbies for FDA commissioner's job

Continued from Page 3

of the American Preventative Medical Association sent me a letter asking if I would consider seeking the FDA commissioner's job, I laughed," she said. "I didn't think that Bush would ever appoint a Libertarian. But with the appointment of [Interior Secretary] Gale Norton and [Deputy Interior Secretary] Lynn Scarlett, I now think I have a chance."

As FDA commissioner, Ruwart said she would:

■ **Speed the delivery of medications.** "For almost 20 years, I was a research scientist at a major pharmaceutical company and understand the impact of regulatory delays," she said. "As [FDA commissioner], I would pursue a more cooperative approach with pharmaceutical firms in order to speed the delivery of new, life-saving medications."

■ **Foster communication between drug companies and physicians.** "Doctors often prescribe approved medications for off-label uses in order to give their patients the best health care options," said Ruwart. "However, the FDA discourages drug companies from sharing information that would educate physicians about these choices for their patients. As [commissioner], I would make this valuable knowledge on off-label use available to our dedicated health care practitioners."

■ **Support alternative medical practitioners.** "Health care professionals who utilize non-traditional methods of treatment are often subjected to prejudicial treatment by the FDA, even in the absence of patient complaints," she said, adding that she would intervene "only when patients were at risk, thereby broadening our health care choices."

■ **Refrain from regulating nutritional supplements.** "Whenever Congress considered giving the FDA more control over nutritional supplements, voters inundated their representatives with protests," she said. "The American public clearly wants the freedom to choose what vitamins and minerals to take."

■ **Implement a drug-testing "opt-out" rule for terminally ill patients.** Currently, said Ruwart, FDA examiners are in a "no win situation" — if they delay approving a life-saving drug, some Americans may suffer or die needlessly. But if they approve a drug without meeting rigorous testing regulations, they are blamed for negligence.

"As [commissioner], I will alleviate this situation by allowing terminally ill patients to 'opt-out' of the approval process," she said. "They will then have access to potentially life-saving medications which are not yet through FDA review."

Although there is currently no timetable in place for appointing an FDA commissioner, Ruwart admitted she already

faces some fierce competition.

On March 18, the *Los Angeles Times* reported that Tennessee Senator Bill Frist, an influential Republican and a licensed physician, is backing Georgetown pharmacologist Dr. Raymond Woosley for the job.

Alternatively, pharmaceutical industry representatives reportedly favor either Dr. Michael Friedman or Dr. Bruce Burlington, both former FDA employees, or Dr. Ed Scolnick, president of

Merck Research Laboratories.

"If I am going to get appointed, a groundswell of grassroots support needs to take place," said Ruwart. "The three key groups in this effort are the American public, the alternative healers, and the trade associations. I am going to need some level of support from them all to be successful."

Ruwart said the Life Extension Foundation, an organization that promotes medical advances

via free-market policies, has already offered to encourage its 65,000 members to write letters to President Bush in support of her candidacy.

Written letters

In addition, U.S. Representative Ron Paul (R-TX) and the American Preventative Medical Association have written letters to the president on Ruwart's behalf.

"If Bush really wants a free-market individual to fill this slot

and I get enough support, he may realize that I'm the person he's looking for," she said.

Acknowledging that the LP Platform calls for the abolition of the FDA, Ruwart said her campaign is an important step in that Libertarian direction.

"If I am successful in moving the FDA in a more market-oriented direction, can full privatization be far behind?" she asked.

To support Dr. Mary Ruwart for FDA commissioner, write to: President George W. Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20500.

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LNC launches investigation into Perry Willis policy violation

Continued from Page 3

■ Requesting that anyone with information about the situation contact the LNC no later than August 18.

■ Resolving to answer all outstanding questions about the situation by the next LNC meeting, which will be held on August 25-26, 2001 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The two resolutions are a sign of how seriously the LNC regards Willis' violation of party policy, said LP National Chair Jim Lark.

"The EC was trying to make it clear that we want to find out what happened in this situation, that we welcome anyone with pertinent information to provide that information in a timely manner, and that we view such violations of our policies (and our trust) to be a very serious matter," he said.

Anyone with information can call Lark at: (434) 973-5958. Or e-mail him at: chair@LP.org.

The LNC also has internal auditor Bill Redpath examining the 1996 Browne campaign records for additional information.

Harry Browne said he would issue a statement about the matter, but had not done so by LP News press time.

Came to light

Willis' covert dealings with the 1996 Browne campaign came to light at the April 21 LNC meeting in Washington, DC, when former LP Secretary John Famularo distributed to LNC members an invoice from Perry Willis dated February 28, 1996.

The invoice, which was sent to Dean, Spear, & Associates of Fullerton, California, requested a \$2,000 payment — \$500 each for three fundraising letters and for one "prospecting" letter — and had the notation: "Billing for February 1996, Browne for President contract."

At the time, Dean, Spear, & Associates was doing graphic design work for the Browne campaign. Jack Dean, a Browne campaign staff member, was a partner in the company.

Famularo — a longtime Pennsylvania LP activist who had served as LP Secretary from 1993-1996 and LP database programmer in 1996 — did not say how he acquired the invoice.

Famularo also did not explain why he had not turned the document over to the LNC at an earlier date.

"As of this moment, Mr. Famularo has not informed me how or when he obtained the invoice," said Lark. "According to comments from my LNC colleagues, it appears Mr. Famularo

was in possession of the invoice from at least November 1996.

"I have contacted Mr. Famularo to thank him for providing copies of the invoice to the LNC, and to request that he provide any additional information he has concerning the Willis matter, including when and how he obtained the invoice."

Famularo apparently provided the document at the meeting because the LNC was debating whether to join a lawsuit that will challenge the legality of the FEC. The lawsuit will be filed by RealCampaignReform.org, a group affiliated with Harry Browne.

By a vote of 10 to four, with two abstentions, the LNC agreed to conditionally join the proposed lawsuit — a decision that has been jeopardized by the new revelations about Willis, said Lark.

"While it is still possible that the LNC will decide to participate in the proposed FEC lawsuit, I strongly doubt that we shall do so as a plaintiff if one of the co-plaintiff organizations includes Mr. Willis in a major role," he said.

Shortly after the LNC meeting, Lark said he contacted Willis and asked for an explanation about the invoice.

In response, Willis issued a document on May 11, admitting that he had knowingly violated LNC policy by secretly writing fundraising letters for the Browne campaign.

In the statement — which is online at www.harrybrowne.org/policy — Willis said he did the work for the Browne campaign to "save the LP from a meltdown."

At the time, he said, "the Browne campaign was doing aggressive public outreach to non-Libertarians — conducting broadcast and press interviews, making public appearances, generating inquiries,

and recruiting new members. It was also running deep into debt and was in danger of having to curtail its outreach activities.

"None of the other [presidential] campaigns were doing much outreach on behalf of the LP. If the Browne campaign had to curtail or suspend its outreach, the party would go from one outreach-oriented campaign to none."

He decided to write the fundraising letters, said Willis, because "as I saw it, the restriction I disobeyed was an impediment to the growth of the party. I helped the Browne campaign raise money to do outreach to non-libertarians. One result of this is that the party grew significantly for the only time in its history."

At the time, Browne was seeking the party's presidential

LNC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S MAY 23 & MAY 30 RESOLUTIONS

[May 23] In light of information recently made available concerning violation of LNC policy by Perry Willis and the possible concealment of information about this violation by other persons associated with the Harry Browne campaign, the Executive Committee hereby

1) Recommends that no action be taken to involve the Libertarian Party in the lawsuit against the FEC proposed by Browne and Willis, or any other project proposed or managed by them, until all related questions have been answered to the satisfaction of the full LNC.

2) Directs the national staff, until such time as the matter can be addressed by the full LNC, to not enter into any business relationships, including but not limited to rentals of the LP mailing list or advertising in LP News, with Browne or Willis or any entity of which either of them is an officer, director, or employee, without prior approval of the Executive Committee.

3) Expresses its appreciation to those individuals who have been willing to assist the LNC by bringing forward information about this matter and requests that anyone else who may have relevant information make it available to the LNC without delay.

[May 30] To clarify the intent of, and expand upon its resolution of May 23, 2001, the Executive Committee hereby:

1) Recommends that the LNC censure Perry Willis for his acknowledged violation of LNC policy in 1995-96 in working for the Browne campaign while being employed by the LNC.

2) Recognizes that while Harry Browne was the head of the campaign, it is presently unclear to what extent he or others were involved in Willis' actions or decisions.

3) Requests that Harry Browne provide a public statement to the LNC to clarify the circumstances surrounding Willis' actions, and any lessons that may be learned therefrom.

4) Requests that all persons having any information relating to Willis' actions, or any other intentional violation of LNC policy by other persons, provide that information to the LNC Chair no later than August 18, 2001.

5) Clarifies that its resolution of 23 May 2001 requires the national staff to seek Executive Committee approval before entering into new business dealings with Willis or Browne, but is not per se a blanket prohibition against such dealings.

6) Sets a goal that any and all questions related to these matters be resolved to the satisfaction of LNC members by the time of, and be reflected in the minutes of the LNC's August meeting, and asks all LNC members and other persons to work together to achieve resolution by that date.

nomination, competing against Doug Ohmen, Rick Tompkins, Irwin Schiff, and 12 other lesser-known announced candidates.

As national director — a position he held from 1993 to 1997 — Willis was not allowed to "endorse, support, contribute any money, or use his title or position to aid any candidate in any party primary, or in any campaign for office, or nomination, within the party or any state party," according to the LP's 1994 Policy Manual.

Prohibition

However, by early 1996, Willis was operating under an even stricter prohibition from the LNC.

In early 1995, Willis had been paid to write a "campaign plan" for the Browne campaign. The document was targeted at Browne's major donors, and attempted to persuade them to make large contributions to the Libertarian Party for ballot access and membership growth.

During the same time, LP Director of Communications Bill Winter was paid to do freelance graphic design work for the

Browne campaign.

Payments for both projects were publicly documented by the Browne campaign in its FEC filings.

At its August 1995 meeting, the LNC discussed the matter, but did not conclude that Willis or Winter had violated the Policy Manual, since the two employees had not used their "title or position" to grant any special advantage to the Browne campaign in its quest for the presidential nomination.

At its December 1995 meeting, the LNC passed a resolution requiring any staff member to get permission from the LNC Chair before accepting any additional outside work, political or otherwise.

At the time, Willis said the campaign plan was finished, and he would not accept any other Browne campaign projects. Winter voluntarily ceased his previously contracted graphic design work for the Browne campaign in January 1996.

However, in his May 11, 2001, statement, Willis acknowledged he had done additional work, without LNC permission.

He apparently directed his payments through Dean, Spear, & Associates so there would be no public paper trail.

In doing so, Willis violated the trust of Libertarian Party members, said Lark.

"I was very disappointed to learn of Mr. Willis' violation of LNC policy and subsequent misrepresentations," he said. "I assume Mr. Willis genuinely believes that he acted in the best interests of advancing liberty. In his [online] statement, he raised some debatable issues concerning restrictions on the actions of LP employees. However, I find his justification for his actions to be unacceptable."

Willis said he now regrets having misled people.

"I think I may have put some individuals who had defended me against an endless series of false charges in an awkward position and I deeply regret having done so," he said.

Allegations that Browne was unfairly helped by the LP national office dogged the last few months of the campaign, but didn't prevent Browne from garnering a first-ballot victory with 68% of the vote at the party's presidential nominating convention in Washington, DC in July 1996.

However, charges that the national office helped Browne win the nomination were false, contended Willis.

"There were no instances that I'm aware of, including the letters in question, where anyone in the national office used their official position or a unique LP asset to influence the outcome of the nomination," he said.

Partly as a result of those allegations, the LNC changed its Policy Manual in April 1997 to prohibit any LP staff member from working as a "volunteer, employee, or contractor" for a public candidate prior to nomination, or a candidate for LP office.

Resigned

In September 1997, Willis resigned as LP national director, but continued to do work on a contractual basis for the party — overseeing its Project Archimedes membership growth efforts — for about 18 months.

In April 1998, Willis became the campaign manager for the Browne for President 2000 campaign.

Allegations about an "improper" relationship between the Browne campaign and the national LP were again a factor in the race, but Browne went on to secure the LP's nomination in July 2000. Winning 56% of the first-ballot votes at the convention in Anaheim, California, he became the party's first two-time presidential candidate.

Now, the LNC is attempting to learn who else might have known about Willis' actions, said See **INVESTIGATION** Page 17

JIM LARK:

"We view such violations of our policies to be a serious matter."

Georgia LP files 'important' ballot access lawsuit

Continued from Page 4

Congressional requirements in the last 37 years, said Winger — which has had a disproportionate impact on the Libertarian Party.

"I believe that if not for these ridiculous requirements, [the LP] would probably have U.S. House candidates in every single district in Georgia," he said. "It is a great paradox, since Georgia gave [LP presidential candidate] Harry Browne his highest percentage of the vote in 2000."

Georgia residents also cast 135,888 votes for the Libertarian candidate for Public Service Commissioner in a three-way race in 2000, said Winger.

"The evidence is overwhelming that many Georgia voters want to vote for Libertarians for U.S. House," he said.

National LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger agreed.

"Given that Georgia has done well in statewide races, and U.S. House races typically get a higher percentage, Georgia would be one of our strongest states," he said.

Won't be easy

However, winning the lawsuit won't be easy, said Winger.

In particular, the Georgia LP must overcome a prior Supreme Court decision that upheld the state's ballot access laws, he said.

In the 1971 case, *Jenness v. Fortson*, three Socialist Workers Party nominees had argued that the state's ballot access laws violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution by making it much more difficult for minor par-

ties to gain ballot access.

But the Supreme Court rejected that argument. The court ruled there was no significant disparity in difficulty, since major-party candidates had to face primary challenges, which serve as an equivalent ballot "obstacle."

In addition, the court cited the successful statewide ballot drives of gubernatorial candidates George Wallace (1968) and Bo Callaway (1966) as proof that the requirements could be met.

However, Winger said that since the *Jenness* ruling, Georgia state law had changed dramatically. Changes included:

■ **Petitioning regulations.** When the Supreme Court handed down the *Jenness* decision, the ballot access deadline was in September. Since 1986, however, the deadline has been in July, reducing by three months the time available to collect signatures.

In addition, Georgia petitioners must now notarize all signa-

tures, which "adds to the expense and paperwork," said Winger.

■ **Primary competition.** In the last five elections, two-thirds of Republican and Democratic U.S. House candidates in Georgia ran unopposed for their party's nomination. Thus, major party candidates no longer have more difficulty getting their party's nomination, said Winger.

Also, the Supreme Court ruled in 1995 and 2001 that Article One of the U.S. Constitution

bars states from "discriminating against a class of candidates for Congress."

Given the changes in law, Winger said the lawsuit has a good chance of succeeding.

Optimistic

"I'm very optimistic," he said. "In every ballot access case heard by the U.S. Supreme Court, the court has found that a total major party monopoly on the ballot is a sign of an unconstitutional law. When you think that in 37 years, only Democrats and Republicans had access [to U.S. House races], we have a good shot."

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"Every libertarian club or chapter should have at least one Operation Politically Homeless booth, and maybe more than one. And they should use them — all the time!" — **Ron Crickenberger**, National Libertarian Party Campaign Director

"Operation Politically Homeless probably uncovered more budding young libertarians in one day than we've found in the entire past year." — **Libertarian Association of Massachusetts** newsletter.

"Folks, OPH has got to be one of the best PR devices ever invented! We signed up new members and made lots of friends. The neatest thing about OPH is that it works so well, and it's just so much fun for everybody." — **Dave Tartaglia**, Pennsylvania

"At least twice, maybe three times, we actually chased people away to close the booth. We said, 'I'm sorry, we'll come back next month, but we gotta go.' And we'd just start folding up, and there's still be people standing there, still waiting to take the Quiz." — **George Schwappach**, Texas

"I've done several OPH booths now and I am still amazed at how easy it is to get even shy volunteers to come out of their shells and invite people in to take the Quiz." — **Allan Wallace**, Outright Libertarians

"We dwarfed the attendance at all the other student booths. We were far and away the most raucous, the most popular, booth." — **Doug Wichman**, Louisiana.

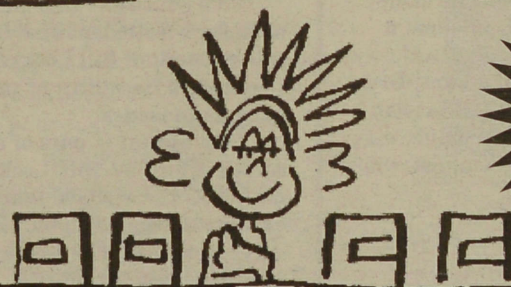
"I ended up staying four hours simply because it was so much fun!" — **Reg Dominy**, Georgia

"A wonderful experience and great fun. It was amazing to me that there are people out there who can score 100/100 [on the Quiz], and yet have never heard of libertarianism. OPH and the World's Smallest Political Quiz are powerful tools!" — **Louis James**, Illinois

"I could not believe the number of people who stopped at our booth! There were so many that I barely got a chance to sit down. I saw many faces light up with understanding." — **Elle Spertus**, Massachusetts

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"At times, we had six, seven, or eight people lined up at our booth taking the Quiz. By the final day we had over 500 colored dots on the chart and dozens of names." — **Ed McGuire**, Vermont.

"We handed out 3,000 of the Quizzes, placed 1,000 stick-on dots on the chart, and had more action at our booth than the 'other guys.' The result made for impressive PR." — **Richard C. Price**, Idaho.

"Operation Politically Homeless is undoubtedly the movement's most valuable tool. My personal experience with this activity was the most rewarding thing that I have done in my 15 years with the Libertarian Party — and that includes the six televised debates for U.S. Senate that I did in 1982 and the Vice President's nomination and year of campaigning in 1984." — The late **Jim Lewis**, 1984 Libertarian Party vice presidential candidate

"OPH is great. Unlike the other political booths, we had something that intrigued people — they wanted to see and take the Quiz. A great way to discover new libertarians!" — **Beth Morgan**, Georgia.

"The OPH booth was a big hit. Numerous people stated it was the most interesting exhibit." — **Carl Wimmer**, Kentucky.

"It is fun. Usually we'll have a couple of dozen people standing around the booth, a big crowd. Most of the time people just jump right into it. They really want to talk these questions out." — **Kirk Applegate**, Ohio

"It was a lot of fun. And a lot of light bulbs went on. That's what I love about OPH — that little flash of enlightenment!" — **Brian Towey**, North Carolina

"I never tired of turning to people whose dot I'd just placed in the libertarian quadrant and asking innocently, 'Did you know you were a libertarian?' and seeing the look of discovery." — **Victor Germann**, Libertarian Party of Monroe County Indiana

"It's difficult to express the sensation. After putting their dot on the OPH chart, I usually then turn to them, extend my hand, and say: 'Did you know you are a libertarian? Welcome home.' The feeling is awesome." — **Blay Tarnoff**, New York Libertarian Party

LNC investigates Willis violations

Continued from Page 16

Lark, and will likely take some action at its August meeting.

"Depending upon what we find, the LNC can take a variety of actions against Mr. Willis and others," he said.

Lark said he is currently sending inquiries to individuals — both in and out of the 1996 Browne campaign — to learn if anyone else had knowledge about Willis' actions but did not reveal it, or if anyone knew of other possible offenses.

The LNC will conduct a thorough investigation to try to resolve the issue, said Lark — and then get back to working on the Libertarian Party's primary political goals.

"Although it is necessary for us to investigate this matter, I would much prefer to spend my time working on strategic planning for the LP, campus organizing, and other such projects," he said. "We want to get to the truth as quickly as possible, so we can get back to the business of building a libertarian society."

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Politics2001

Races, results, & recognitions

■ In Michigan, **Andrew LeCureaux** has announced he's running for Hazel Park city council. In New York, the Central New York LP expects to endorse **Jennifer Daniels** for mayor of Syracuse, reports the *Syracuse Post-Standard*. In Maryland, two Libertarians have announced campaigns for the State Assembly in 2002: **Bill Prohaska** (District 47A) and **Lorenzo Gaztañaga** (District 46). In Pennsylvania, **George Wright** is running for director of the Crawford Central School Board. In Arizona, **Jonathan Hoffman** is running for Tucson city council (Ward 3). In Minnesota, **Gary DeYoung** is a candidate for mayor of St. Paul.

■ In California, **Kim Goldsworthy** got 2.5% of the vote in a special election for the State Assembly (District 49) on May 15, in a four-way race. In Missouri, **Allen Underdown** won 26% of the vote in a two-way race for St. Charles city council on April 3.

■ In Massachusetts, **Richard Herchenreder** was elected Chair of the Franklin County Libertarian Association. In Missouri, **Doug Burlison** is the new Chair of the Greene County LP. In New Mexico, **Bob Ziesmer** was elected as the Chairman of the San Juan County LP. In Maryland, **Roy L. Meyers III** was elected Chair of the Hartford County LP. In New York, **Albert Dedicke** was elected Chair of the Livingston County LP. In Hawaii, on May 19, **Roger Taylor** was elected State Chair at the state convention. In North Carolina, past gubernatorial candidate **Barbara Howe** was elected State Chair on May 6. She also won the "Most Outspoken for Liberty" award. In California, **Hal Chiprin** has been appointed chairman of the Political Prisoners Support Committee by the Santa Barbara LP.

■ In New Hampshire, **Phil Greazzo**, director of the N.H. Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, joined the Libertarian Party on May 8. In Florida, longtime LP activist (and former State Chair) **Lisa Bullion** was appointed to the Natural Resources Committee of the League of Women Voters (Orange County). In New Jersey, **Doug Friedline** has resigned as campaign manager for the Mark Edgerton for Governor campaign. Friedline cited "different points of view on how the campaign should be managed."



■ **Doug Friedline: resigns**

■ The Libertarian Victory Fund PAC has produced a 15-page guide for running an effective campaign for office. Request a free copy from: Director@LibertarianVictoryFund.org. In Colorado, San Miguel County Sheriff **Bill Masters** had an anti-Drug War op-ed published in the *Denver Post* on May 13. In Maryland, **Doris Gordon**, national coordinator of Libertarians for Life, was named the "iFeminist of the Month" in March by iFeminist.com, a website that celebrates "individualist feminism."

■ A collection of almost 1,000 Libertarian articles and letters-to-the-editor are available at Libertarian-Resources.com, reports **Bill Holmes** of California. The site also lists 1,500 media outlets to which letters-to-the-editor, articles, and press releases can be sent. Past LP presidential candidate **Harry Browne** has joined WorldNetDaily's Speakers Bureau. "Harry Browne proved he is one of the most lucid and clear thinkers in America during the last presidential campaign," said World NetDaily Editor Joseph Farah. "His words resonate with libertarians and non-libertarians alike."

■ **Media news:** In May, the National HQ helped schedule 14 radio interviews for **Kenny Kramer**, the LP candidate for mayor of New York. Most interesting media contact of the month: From a freelance writer for the *National Enquirer*. No, she didn't ask about Elvis being kidnapped by UFOs; she wanted a quote about a "humor consultant" who was paid \$2,000 an hour by Ohio to boost the morale of state employees. On May 31, LP Press Secretary **George Getz** appeared on the Michael Medved Show (syndicated on 130 stations). Medved called Libertarians "Losertarians" for costing the Republicans two seats in the U.S. Senate. Getz's retort: "We Libertarians have our own nickname for Republicans, based on their voting records. We call them *Democrats*."

■ In Michigan, the Oakland County LP won the "Outstanding Affiliate Award" at the state convention on May 4-6. Also in Michigan, Van Buren County LP's Lady Liberty statue took second place in the Jamestown Township Memorial Day Parade. In Massachusetts, **Katie Rosen** is organizing a Libertarian Student Committee at the UMass campus in Dartmouth.

California Attorney General's office plans to get involved in Kubby case

The ongoing legal saga of Steve Kubby has taken another unexpected turn, with an announcement by the California Attorney General's office that it will get involved in the high-profile case.

On May 31, the California Department of Justice said state prosecutors had approved "on a preliminary basis" a plan to file a brief in an appeals court to try to get two drug convictions against the former LP gubernatorial candidate turned back into felonies.

The brief would attempt to overturn a Placer County Superior Court judge's decision in March to reduce Kubby's convictions for possession of minute quantities of psilocybin and mescaline to misdemeanors.

Kubby, 54, said the announcement was surprising and probably politically motivated — but could work to his benefit.

"It's a completely bizarre move on their part," he said. "[However], we have moved into the big leagues! It's going to be a big benefit [in terms of generating more] media."

Frustration

California Attorney General Bill Lockyer probably decided to intervene in the case, speculated Kubby, because of his "frustration at our successful defense of Prop. 215," which legalized medical marijuana in the state.

"It's political," said Kubby. "I have been a strident and very vocal opponent of Bill Lockyer" and the state's handling of medical marijuana issues.

The appeal is part of a "concerted effort by Bill Lockyer to discredit" the medical marijuana movement, said Kubby. "His involvement in [the] prosecution shows his real agenda."



■ **Steve Kubby:** A decision by the state attorney general's office to file an appeal in his case is "a completely bizarre move" that shows "we have moved into the big leagues!"

However, the appeal by the Attorney General's office means that the Kubby defense team will receive "thousands of dollars of transcripts for free that we would have otherwise had to pay for," he said. "We are anxious to post the entire trial transcript to the Net, so other patients can use our tactics and motions."

Kubby's attorney, Julie Mumma, said the appeal will also allow the defense to challenge the legality of the original search of Kubby's Olympic Valley home, which started the two-year legal battle.

"We are prepared to litigate this matter all the way," she said.

New evidence

The Attorney General's appeal is especially interesting, said Kubby, because new evidence has come to light suggesting the

peyote had been planted by the police in an effort to frame him.

In early June, journalist Pete Brady sent Kubby a note, claiming that the peyote used as evidence in the trial had "disappeared from [a police] evidence locker and reappeared in [a film can in Kubby's home]."

Concocted

"During my entire trial, I maintained that I had never seen the peyote and never knew it was in the house," said Kubby. "No fingerprints or any other physical evidence linked me to that film can. Based on this evidence, it seems clear that the peyote charge was concocted by [police] to justify their illegal raid and obtain a conviction against me."

The announcement by the Attorney General's office — and

See **KUBBY** Page 19

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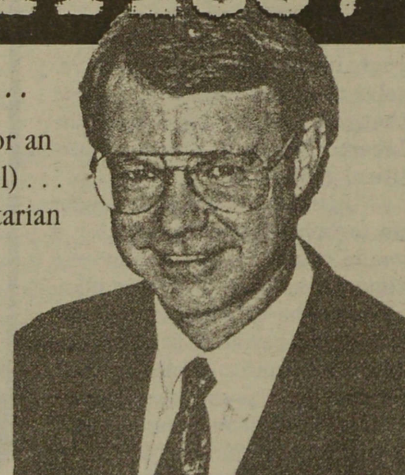
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Attorney General jumps into Steve Kubby case

Continued from Page 18

the planted peyote charges — are just the latest development in an ongoing legal saga that has had more plot twists than a John Grisham novel. Some previous highlights:

■ **November 1996:** California voters pass Proposition 215 (the Compassionate Use Act), which legalizes the use of medical marijuana in the state.

■ **November 1998:** Kubby runs for governor of California on a platform of ending the state's

War on Drugs.

■ **January 1999:** Police raid the home of Steve and Michele Kubby and charged the couple with violating 19 drug laws. Both plead not guilty, arguing that they used marijuana in accordance with the law — Steve to treat a rare form of adrenal cancer under doctor's orders, and Michele to alleviate irritable bowel syndrome.

■ **December 2000:** After a four-month trial, a jury votes 11-1 in favor of acquittal. A mistrial

STEVE KUBBY:

"We moved into the big leagues! It's going to be a big benefit [in terms of] media."

is declared.

■ **March 2, 2001:** A judge dismisses all medical marijuana charges against the Kubbys. He also reduces two additional felony charges against Steve Kubby — for possession of "minute" quantities of psilocybin [mushroom] and mescaline [peyote] — to misdemeanors.

The judge said he accepted Kubby's explanation that the mushroom stem had been used to research a book, and that the peyote buttons must have been

left by a visitor. Kubby is sentenced to 120 days of house arrest and a small fine.

■ **April 10, 2001:** Kubby announces he will not "spend a day in jail or pay a dollar's fine" for the misdemeanor charges to protest a "broken criminal justice system."

■ **April 27, 2001:** A superior court postpones until July 20 any decision about whether to require Kubby to serve time in jail for refusing to serve his misdemeanor sentence.

■ **May 31, 2001:** The California Attorney General's office announces it will file an appeal in the Steve Kubby case.

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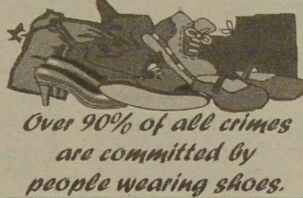
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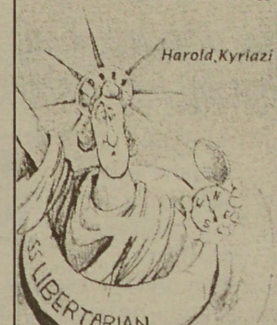
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The Forum

Mike Piazza: Our new mascot?

The Libertarian Party occasionally entertains banter regarding whether its name should be changed, and whether its mascot should be a French statue or a penguin wearing sunglasses.

Allow me to chime in.

Regarding the name change, precious few people cannot correctly pronounce the word "supercalifragilisticexpialidocious." If people can learn to say a 34-letter, 14-syllable nonsensical word, they can learn to say "libertarian."

Might it have been more convenient had we begun as the "Liberty Party"? Who cares?

Libertarian isn't just acceptable, it's beautiful. Even its caricatures are festive — being a librarian is a noble profession, indeed; and although I know nothing about them, I'm quite positive it's hip to be a Liberian as well.

As for the mascot switcheroo, since the lovely Lady Liberty is tattooed on my shoulder, it's clear why I personally do not support the penguin push. However, if we're hell-bent on changing mascots at all, I have a brilliant idea:

Let's use Mike Piazza, catcher for the NY Mets.

Here's my theory:

The mascot is supposed to represent the team, right? If a team's city is known for something, that can be the mascot. For example, the Utah Jazz (those funky Mormons); or Tornado Alley's Tulsa University Golden

Hurricane (yes, just one); or the Los Angeles Dodgers — those who avoid being hit by falling debris in earthquakes.

Alternatively, mascots can be wild creatures. Since Mike is also a heavy metal drummer, one could scientifically categorize him as "party animal." Ergo, the "scary mammal" prerequisite is covered.

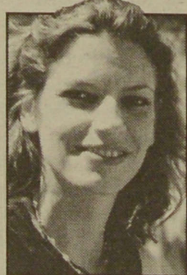
My theory, however, is based on the former idea — a representation of something. We libertarians are known for our solid principles.

Piazza unmistakably personifies these principles.

No dumb jock

To start with, per capita, this party has very few Dan Quayle-types running loose. Our mascot must be intelligent. Piazza isn't a dumb jock. He's articulate and kind of interesting. He was even on *Celebrity Jeopardy*, though according to my mother, he missed some answers she thought he should have known. Ease up, Mom — he won.

Furthermore, we believe in doing all we've agreed to do. Piazza is amazing in this respect.



By Stephanie Yanik

Though the guy may not always succeed, he's giving it all he's got, all the time. He takes wild pitches and foul tips to the head, neck, chest, arms, legs, and that personal area where he gives the pitcher signals. He will kamikaze himself anywhere for fly balls, and run bases — even slide — all with a catcher's body.

Whoever he plays for will get maximum bang for their buck. That's integrity.

Moreover, although he wishes everyone would forget about it, since one of the hallmarks of libertarianism is self-control, the following example screams personal responsibility.

Last season, Roger Clemens briefly knocked Piazza unconscious with a brush-off pitch to the head. Several weeks later, Clemens again pitched to Piazza, who hit the ball, shattering his bat in the process. As fate would have it, a piece of the bat flew towards the mound. As Piazza ran to first, Clemens threw the sharp, wooden splinter back at him.

It was so reprehensible that Piazza had moral grounds to charge the mound and beat the living crap out of Clemens.

But he refrained.

That's who I want on my team.

Finally, 225 years ago, a group of men penned their Hancocks on a piece of hemp paper — an act that threatened death by hanging. Not because of



the hemp (back then the drug war was called "slavery" and hemp was actually revered) but because they were absolving allegiance to the crown, declaring that they would "mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor" to accomplish the severance.

Royal Navy

That same day, 90 miles away, the inimitable Royal Navy anchored its vessels in New York harbor, determined to get the traitors.

Our Founders knew the British were coming. And they signed the Declaration of Independence anyway. My God.

Illustrating the fierceness of conviction the founders entrusted to us, I offer Mike Piazza in the following scenario.

Let's listen in: "... rounding third now is Chipper Jones — Pi-

azza standing tough at the plate — Jones still charging — and the throw to home is... GOOD! This is gonna be epic — OOOHHH!!

"Piazza and Jones collide in a horrible way! They're both down! — but wait — they're moving — Jones is shaking his head now.

"Look! Piazza's glove is... he's got the ball! Piazza held on to the ball!!! Un-be-LIEV-able! And the umpire calls it — Jones is OUT! Game over — Mets win!!! Oh what a finish..."

Yeah, Piazza could be our mascot.

My tattoo, however, will remain as is.

■ **About the author:** Stephanie Yanik, an otherwise die-hard Cardinals fan, is an LP Party member who lives in Virginia. She can be reached at StephanieYanik@AmericanLibertyFoundation.org.

A modest immigration solution: Kick (almost) everyone out

Politicians keep debating who we should let in. Isn't it time to start debating who to kick out?

Being a long-time "open borders" man, I have a question I've been fairly dying to ask those on the opposite side of the issue: Do the reasons that grant government the power to identify and repel foreign "undesirables" also grant it the power to identify and expel domestic ones?

Simply put, if you are anti-immigration, are you also pro-expatriation?

Consider the possibilities. Neo-con ex-Governor Pete Wilson (R-CA) wanted to ward off immigrants because he feared that they'd go on welfare and other relief programs. But what about our own welfare queens?

If the point is to keep all moochers out of the country, where is the logic in letting any stay inside? If the problem with

"people on welfare" is the people and not the welfare, wouldn't it then make sense just to exile all people, native and alien alike, who apply for welfare? Wouldn't that lower the rolls, to say the least?

Paleo-con magazine *National Review* opposes further immigration because it's convinced that contemporary immigrants almost inevitably become Democratic voters. Ergo, if the objectionable element is a demographic group that preponderantly supports the Democrats, wouldn't right reason enjoin Buckley & Co. to propose the expulsion of blacks and Jews? (I have to be careful here: One man's reductio ad absurdum could become one madman's idee fixe.)

By Barry Loberfeld

Faux-con editor Michael Lind (*Harper's*) wishes to block the entry of foreign unskilled laborers in order to maintain low-end wage rates. Then why not force the exit of some American unskilled laborers in order to jack up wages even higher for the lucky few left?

Mr. Lind doth protest much in his attempt to distinguish his anti-immigrationism from those of other known conservatives — and we can understand why.

Non-Christian

Recon theologian (and false Y2K prophet) Gary North gives his blessing to the faithful "work[ing]" politically to cut off [non-Christian] immigration as part of their goal of establishing a Trinitarian confession for the nation." Will he presently conclude that that goal correspondingly requires the "politically"-effected exodus of the non-Christians here?

That possibility should be of

no small concern to Judeo-con columnist Don Feder (*Boston Herald*), who himself has the chutzpah to insist that today's non-European immigrants will never assimilate into mainstream culture, not like such earlier immigrants as... the Ashkenazic Jews (his forebears).

If he would bar those peoples who he arbitrarily predicts will never assimilate, would he boot those who have thoroughly demonstrated their inability/unwillingness to ever do so, such as... the ultra-Orthodox Hasidim?

Mr. Feder fears something else from immigrants — secession: What if "50 million Mexicans chose to move to California and Texas [and] these new Americans (then constituting a majority in the states where they settle) wanted to secede and unite the territory with Mexico[?]"

I don't know: What if all them good ol' boys still wavin' the Stars and Bars ever grew into a major-

ity that then wanted to secede and resurrect the Confederacy? If prevention of secession is grounds for holding Paco South of the Border, is it also grounds for shipping Bubba there?

Alien Nation

Anglo-con writer Peter Brimelow, the immigrant author of the anti-immigrant *Alien Nation*, warns that immigrants "break down white America's sense of identity."

Oh. Well, if we shouldn't allow non-whites in for fear of weakening white racial solidarity, should we throw them out in the hopes of strengthening it?

But the Oscar in this category goes to anarcho-con economist Hans-Hermann Hoppe, another anti-immigration immigrant.

Now follow the reasoning here. Whenever the government grants immigrants access to compulsory public institutions (e.g., See **IMMIGRATION** Page 21

An argument for 'Universal Food Care'

Imagine the following story of a truly caring governmental program. You might even compare it to a universal health care program.

The government has decided that since food is a necessity of life, no one should ever have to go without it. To make sure everyone has enough food to eat, the government pledges to pay the food bills of everyone in the country. Even the rich will benefit from this, since everyone has to eat. Even they don't oppose the new legislation.

The cooks in America are thrilled. Now they can offer the masses the kind of treatment that was limited before to the rich. Everyone starts eating out. Ramen noodles go out of business, while the steak industry flourishes. The poor are eating like

kings. Even if they had plenty to eat before, they've never had such a richly varied diet.

Incidentally, the amount of money the nation spends on food goes up. It's only natural, though, since people are eating food that's more expensive to make.

Prices

But it's also because the food producers can charge whatever prices they want, since their customers aren't limited by price anymore. The government, after all, has lots of money.

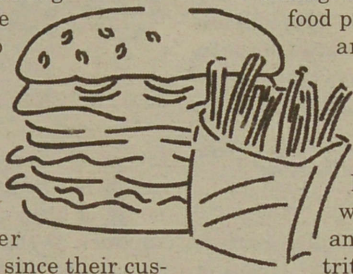
Food companies can get profits that were impossible before. In effect, the government has taken tax money from everyone and

used it to line the pockets of the food producers.

After a little while, in response to public outrage about skyrocketing food prices, Food Boards are set up to limit exactly what the government is and is not willing to pay for. Cantaloupe farmers war with Kraft Macaroni and Cheese over nutrition versus cost efficiency, though they had never had a conflict of interest before.

The paperwork involved for food producers is enormous. The government has to know what it's paying for, so food producers are now spending more time comply-

By Jennifer Kerns



ing with guidelines and less on making food (which is becoming more scarce as a result). Since the paperwork is done by the companies, not the government, the government agency can proudly say that it has a mere 3% overhead cost for administration, while private administration costs have skyrocketed.

Greedy

People start wondering why food costs so much more of the GDP than it had before. It must be the fault of the greedy food producers.

Private companies can't be trusted, even though they were more "private" back before the government stepped into the food business.

People start to joke about Soviet breadlines making an appear-

ance in the Land of the Free. After all, not as many food companies are left after all the new regulations, and after the government refused to buy certain food products.

Someone asks what it was like before the government paid for food.

"No one had enough food except the rich," the person is told. "The rich could just go to a store and pick from thousands of items. The poor, however, couldn't afford food at all. Now, the government makes sure we all have plenty of soup, potatoes, and bread."

"Wow," says the enlightened questioner.

Looking at the nearby soup line, he wonders in gratitude, "What would have happened to us all if the government hadn't helped out?"

About the author: *Libertarian Party member Jennifer Kerns is a student at the University of Florida.*

A modest immigration solution

Continued from Page 20

the schools), it violates the freedom of association of natives who don't want to integrate with foreigners. Therefore, as long as public education (like public assistance) remains an absolute, the freedom-loving anti-statist can, in good conscience, support the State's restricting of free immigration.

The question almost irresistibly asks itself: If the government must keep out people you don't want your children sitting next to in class — say, Zulus or Koreans — must it similarly kick out other people you also don't want them sitting next to — say, Navajos or Lakotas?

Delirium

It would be comforting to think that such delirium is confined to the fever swamps of the American Right.

Alas. Many in the civil rights community — Coretta Scott King and the Black Leadership Forum, for example — accuse immigrant browns of taking work away from resident blacks.

Fine, so the U.S. won't admit anyone who could compete in the job market. Better yet, it will banish everyone who isn't of African descent, leaving more than enough jobs open for everyone who is. There you have it: Ethnic cleansing in the name of racial equality.

But outdoing even that is the view held by such environmental-

ists as perennial doomster Paul Ehrlich. For him, the movement of population from the less-developed nations to industrial America means only more people consuming more resources and creating more pollution.

But would just closing

America's borders forestall global ecological disaster? Wouldn't the green thing to do be to have the U.S. and all the other industrial nations drive the entirety of their populations into the jungles, deserts and tundras of the world?

Fancy that: Khmer Rouge

primitivism on an international scale. Maybe Pol Pot can now truly rest in peace, knowing that there are still those who share his vision.

Support for mass expatriation is the perversely perfect flip side of the opposition to mass immigration. If we ever really took seriously the ideas justifying that opposition, not only would we not have anybody coming to America,

we wouldn't have anybody left in America.

Yes, we are very much a "nation of immigrants" — our real "sense of identity" — which is exactly why ending immigration would be nothing less than a collective act of self-negation.

About the author: *Libertarian Party member Barry Loberfeld lives in New York.*

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FROM The Editor

Confronting America's Czar-crossed lovers

America is czar-struck. I didn't realize how bad the problem had become until I read that Philadelphia had appointed — get this — the city's first "Health and Fitness Czar."

Apparently, Philadelphia Mayor John Street became offended last year when *Men's Fitness* magazine named Philadelphia the "fattest city in America." So the mayor decided — in what's now an all-American tradition — to appoint a Czar.

He's not a real czar, of course. American czars are the, ahem, cubic czarconium of Russian royalty. But the fact that the mayor's first reaction to a perceived problem is to appoint a government bureaucrat with a Russian autocrat's title is troubling.

Throughout our history, Americans have had a distrust of royalty and fancy titles. You'll find no Health and Fitness King. Or Emperor. Or Queen. And the only Dukes we allow are the Dukes of Hazard. But, strangely, we make an exception for czars.

So we have to ask: Is there something about Russian czars that American politicians should wish to emulate? Let's see . . .

There was **Ivan IV Vasilyevich** (czar from 1547-1584). He was affectionately known as "Ivan the Terrible" for "numerous acts of extraordinary sadism." His great military accomplishment was the invasion of Siberia, where he invented frostbite.

There was **Peter the Great** (1682-1725), who defeated the Ottomans in 1696. Buoyed by this success, he later declared war on love seats, water beds, and La-Z-Boy recliners.

There was **Boris Fyodorovich Godunov** (1598-1605). His "good government" initiative was to impose serfdom on the peasants.

There was **Catherine the Great** (1762-1796). (The Great™: *Official Nickname of the Czars!*) She was famous for getting frisky with — well, let's not get into details. Suffice it to say, had things worked out a little differently, her descendants would be 5-2 favorites to win the Kentucky Derby.

And there was **William Bennett** (1989-1990). As the Drug Czar for George Bush (aka George Bushilyevich I), he popularized asset forfeiture and mandatory minimum sentencing. And he imposed serfdom on the peasants. No, wait. He just fantasized about that last one.

OK, so Bennett wasn't a real Russian czar. But he was the granddaddy of the American czarority, and started the tradition that led, eventually, to Philadelphia's Health and Fitness Czar.

Is Philadelphia alone in its czar-mania? Nyet.

In March, Utah appointed its first "Porn Czar." Or, rather, a Czaress: She's a woman. And she's a virgin. Which apparently makes her uniquely qualified to wage war against sex.

Also in March, the FBI appointed a "Counterintelligence Czar." His job is to keep an eye on the Ottomans, who are still mad about that dust-up in 1696.

In February, California Governor Gray Davis appointed a "Power Construction Czar." Principal duty: To make sure the governor's flashlight has enough batteries during the blackouts.

But Americans want more. We want to pack them in like, well, czardines. Here's the current "Wish Upon a Czar" list:

■ Privacy advocates are lobbying for a **Privacy Czar**.

■ Congressman Charlie Gonzalez demands that President George W. Bush (George Bushilyevich II) name a **Border Czar**.

■ Conservationists want the federal government to appoint a **Salmon Czar** for the Northwest, reported the *Seattle Times*.

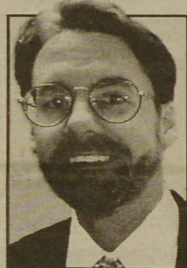
■ Silicon Valley executives want a **Technology Czar**.

■ And one fellow, Rob Brezsny, is lobbying to be appointed to a new Cabinet-level post: "**Fool Czar**," reported Salon.com. His job: To explain "how dangerous it is to take everything so goddamn seriously." We think he's joking. But we thought that about William Bennett, too.

This is a scary list. It's bad enough to be governed by politicians. Soon, we could be despotically ruled by czars living in St. Petersburg on the Potomac.

You'd think this is an issue Libertarians could use to rally support from the peasants — I mean, the voters. Smash czarist tyranny! Let's party like it's 1917! We even have an obvious slogan: "Voting Libertarian means never having to say you're czarry."

Ouch. Sorry about that last one. Puns are the lowest form of humor. Except for czarism.



By Bill Winter, Editor

What caused the energy crisis, and what can be done to fix it?

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

By Jonathan Trager
LP NEWS STAFF WRITER

Ballooning gasoline prices. Skyrocketing home heating costs. Rolling blackouts in California.

What is the deal with the "energy crisis" in America? Has the free market failed?

Judging by the popular demand that the government "do something" to fix the problem, some politicians and pundits certainly seem to think so.

But Libertarians know better. The fact is that asking government to solve problems is like asking your dog to sort your tax forms — you just end up with a big mess. And a confused dog.

Before Americans decide on solutions to America's energy problem, they need to understand its underlying causes. And understand why confused politicians are barking up the wrong tree when they claim government can "fix" the problem.

Energy is crucial to the progress of industrial civilization. However, it is still a commodity. As such, energy is susceptible to price variations due to changes in supply and demand. Such changes transmit valuable information to consumers and producers, inducing changes in behavior, which inevitably force prices back to equilibrium.

That's the way things work in the free market. Unfortunately, the current situation demonstrates how far we are from such a spontaneous order.

Natural causes

In recent years, the price of electricity and gasoline has risen significantly, partially due to artificial causes — such as OPEC oil supply restriction — and partially because of natural causes — such as varying weather conditions and pipeline problems.

Instead of allowing the free market's invisible hand to work its wonders, legislators have tried to "save the day," thus turning what would otherwise be a temporary inconvenience into a long-lasting problem.

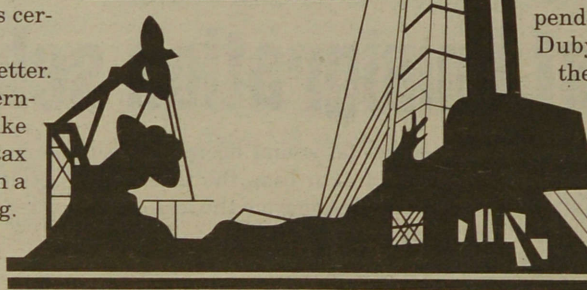
Case in point: California, the quintessential example of how government should not approach energy policy.

Had politicians not been so determined to demonstrate a commitment to "protecting" the environment and consumers via regu-

Libertarian Solutions

lation, Golden State residents might not be facing up to 250 hours of blackouts during the summer, as the California Independent System Operator has recently warned.

Even now, instead of repealing the proliferation of government regulations, many politicians advocate the more so-called environmentally friendly



QUESTION:

Is today's "energy crisis" proof that the free market has failed?

route of increasing energy "efficiency" and tapping "alternative" energy sources. Unfortunately, neither of these measures is a viable solution to energy woes.

Why not? Because energy conservation, which can be effective on the household level, is ineffective on a large scale. Small gains some individuals make often induce much greater consumption in others.

In fact, according to Dr. Herbert Inhaber of the American Nuclear Society, energy efficiency

has improved by 57% since 1949, but energy consumption has increased by 323% over that same period.

In terms of generating energy from sources more economical than fossil fuels or power plants, there are only two problems: Such sources do not yet exist, and Americans seem unlikely to trade in their air conditioners for windmills until such resources appear.

More drilling?

Realizing that neither of these suggestions will effectively address America's energy problems, President Bush has proclaimed the solution lies in "energy independence." In other words, Dubya wants to increase the domestic oil supply by drilling on federal lands, such as the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve.

Exploring undeveloped American fields for alternative energy sources might indeed be beneficial. Unfortunately, oil is a world commodity, and its price is determined on a global scale. Were America to boost domestic oil supply by tapping into natural reserves, OPEC would likely cut its production levels further, thus keeping current prices high.

The truth is, there is only one sure way to conquer the energy supply problem: Allow markets to set prices, instead of politicians.

To that end, here are some steps Libertarians would take:

■ **Repeal energy taxes.** The average "Big Oil" company makes a profit of only about 4 cents per gallon of gasoline purchased. So much for the "price gouging" hypothesis that California Governor Gray Davis has been trying to sell to his constituents.

Government taxes, on the other hand, typically account for about 40-50 cents per gallon of gasoline in most states. The government is supposed to use this money for road maintenance, but instead, politicians often use it to finance numerous pork-barrel projects for their home districts. For example, last year House Transportation Chairman Bud Shuster used \$30 million to build a moving sidewalk in his home town of Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Repeal this tax, and it would not only help put politicians on a pork-free diet, but it would reduce gas prices by as much as one-third.

In addition, repealing taxes on energy producers would provide necessary capital and increase the profit-motive to de-

See **ENERGY CRISIS** Page 26

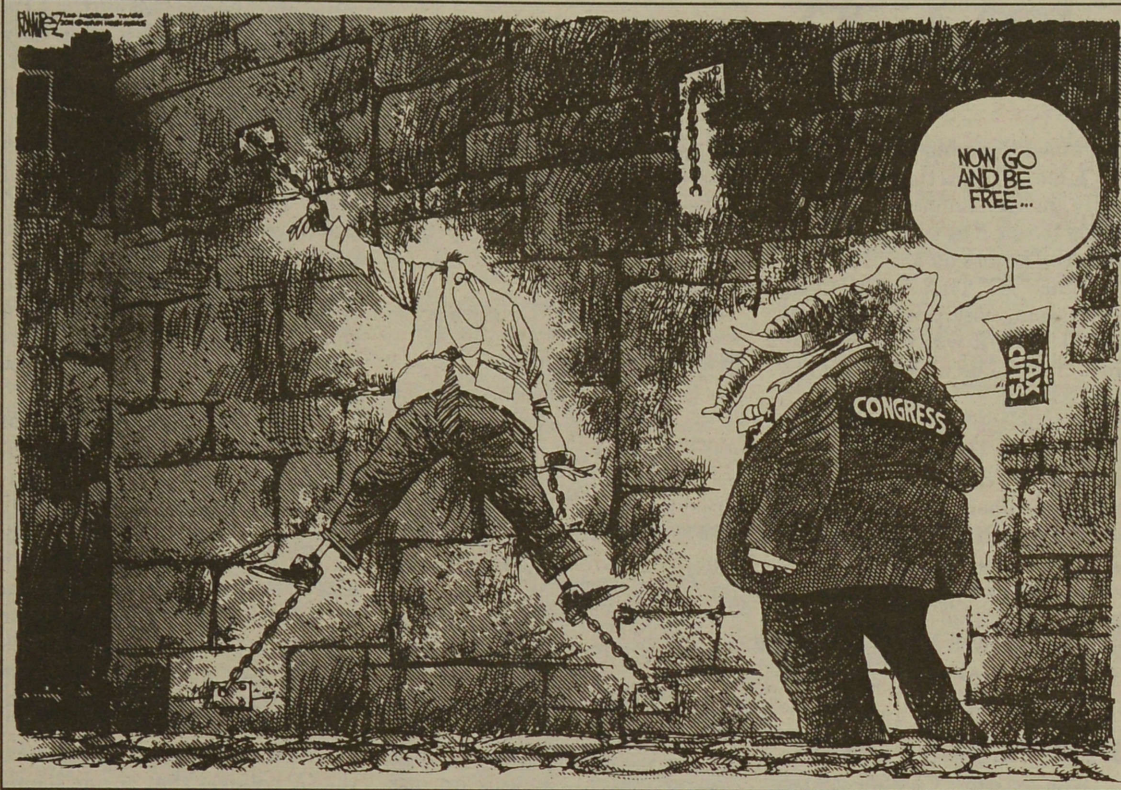
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The Mail Box

■ OPH Challenge

The Discover Liberty article [LP News, June 2001] says, "the Washington state LP [is] leading the nation with a commitment of 60 days of OPH booths this summer."

Actually, we have over 100 days of outreach booths planned for the rest of the year (in addition to the six days we've already done in 2001).

How about a little friendly competition? I bet the Washington state LP can beat all the other states for total days of outreach booths for 2001. I'll buy a round of drinks for the state chairs and executive directors carousing at the national convention next year if we don't.

Does any other state want to challenge us and take me up on this bet?

— JACQUELINE PASSEY BARTELS
Executive Director,
Washington State LP
Seattle, Washington

■ Search: Understandable

I welcome Gary Thomas ["Can We Search Your House?," May 2001] as an LP member, but I hope that neither he nor anyone else thinks that his story wouldn't have happened if Libertarians ran the government.

The police who searched his house weren't looking for drugs or porn or anything else that we would legalize — they were looking for a cop-killer.

Yes, the officer was less than ideally courteous to Mr. Thomas, lied about footprints to justify the search, and should have shown his ID when asked. But the rules he broke are already in place, and most of us would find his actions understandable, if not technically

excusable, under the circumstances.

As long as there are cops and cop-killers, incidents like this will happen, no matter what party — even ours — is in office.

— STEVE KLEIN
Lake Forest, California

SUDDENLY,
*there was a guy in
a flak jacket, in my
kitchen, pointing
a gun at me!*

■ Search: Overkill

I, like Gary Thomas, knew who I wanted to vote against but not who I wanted to vote for, until I became a Libertarian. I, too, want to stop feeling like the government is over us, and more like it is us!

This was most definitely underscored to me by what took place on October 27, 1998, at around 10:30 pm.

My wife and I were in our recliners watching TV in the rear den when suddenly we hear this loud group of incoherent male voices and strong pounding on the front living room door.

I have knee problems, so I responded slowly. On the way, I heard the crashing of a door being broken in and then there was a guy wearing a flak jacket, in my kitchen, pointing a gun at me! It was the Huntington Beach police.

My son, who does have a

record of drug violations, had been staying in a camper in the back yard. As it turned out, this raid was about him.

I was told to put my hands on my head and sit down. There were an excess of five armed men in my house! My wife and I were waiting as the police began searching. I told them where to find my son and his things — which was not in the house.

After thinking about this overkill and the fact that I wasn't going to be compensated for my busted doorjamb, I made the comment, "I guess that we are now being protected and served, eh?"

To which was replied: "We've had about enough of you. You will sit down and be quiet or we will trash your house and take you away in handcuffs!"

After a while, things calmed down and I was treated in a more civil and apologetic manner. But it's a sad day when one needs to be more apprehensive of the police than of criminals!

— H.R. BOWLES, JR.
Huntington Beach, California

■ Search: Anti-police

I feel I must write to express my concern for the article, "Can we search your house?"

Upon reading this I thought I was going to read about a citizen not giving permission and the ensuing troubles they had with the authorities. Yet this was not the case. Instead it was a direct and venomous attack upon law enforcement.

After reading this article, the main idea that I got from the article was very anti-law enforcement and opinionated against police officers.

See THE MAILBOX Page 24

The Pulse

When 'spying' is appropriate

It's been said: "Your right to swing your fist stops where my nose begins."

But that simple statement doesn't end the Libertarian debate over national defense — it's where the debate begins. Where exactly does another nation's "nose" begin? And when is it appropriate for the United States to (defensively) swing its fist?

Case in point: The recent spy plane crisis with China. Was it proper for the United States to monitor a potential military threat from international air space? Or was such behavior another example of needlessly provocative global adventurism?

The former, said a solid majority in response to this month's unscientific Pulse question.

By a vote of just about exactly 60% to 40%, LP News readers said it was a legitimate military defensive function for the United States to monitor what one respondent called "a criminal nation with nuclear capabilities."

But the minority who disagree really disagreed, calling the U.S.'s actions "intimidation and intervention."

One interesting note: This question drew the lowest response of any Pulse question asked in the last two years... suggesting that perhaps Libertarians (in the post-Cold War environment) aren't very interested in foreign policy questions. Or, perhaps, suggesting there was no simple answer.

Here is a representative sample of responses:

■ The way I see it, China is like a neighbor that lives down the street from you, a crazy neighbor who behaves erratically towards you, sometimes claiming to be your best friend, and then for no reason, pointing guns at your house and your family and calling you an enemy and behaving irrationally towards your other friends in the neighborhood. If I had a neighbor like that, you had better believe I'd want to keep an eye on him, every single time I drove by his house! I think we have a right to protect ourselves from erratic, potentially hostile oppressive governments like China's, especially when they possess the capabilities for harming us from a distance.
— TRENTON ISAACSON, St. Cloud, Minnesota

■ We should not have been there in the first place. If Taiwan believes they need this type of security, they should be doing it themselves. We would certainly not want spy planes probing our coastal areas from so-called international waters, so we should respect others as we wish to be respected.
— GLENN WILKINS, Troy, Michigan

■ Any student of military tactics worth their salt will tell you that you must know the capabilities of your enemies, both present and future. The EP-3 elint (electronic intelligence) aircraft was doing just that. The more you know, the fewer casualties you suffer on the battlefield. Interventionist policy? Nope, common sense!
— CHRIS SCHWEHR, Yuma, Colorado

■ China is a criminal nation with nuclear capabilities. Because of this, the U.S. must continue monitoring this potential enemy, for its own security. Communist China's basic premise is the idea that man must exist for the sake of the state. The right of a nation to determine its own form of government does not include the right to establish a slave state. Any free nation has the right to invade China or any other slave pen.
— ROBERT D. BROWN, Vancouver, Washington

■ The U.S. should not be spying on China. Spying without a declaration of war violates the Fourth Amendment. I don't want to hear that the Fourth Amendment doesn't apply for foreign countries. The Fourth Amendment doesn't apply to foreign countries just like it doesn't apply to civilians here. The Constitution applies to the government. If the U.S. would spy on China without a search warrant, you can bet they'll use Carnivore [an e-mail spying system] on us without one also.

— RANDOLPH JOSEPH MILLER, Portland, Oregon

See THE PULSE Page 24

ThePulse

Continued from Page 23

■ China is growing to be the world's most powerful nation. They have the population, technology, and economic strength. We'd be fools to not learn all possible through all legitimate means.

— BILL CHELLEW, Superior, Wisconsin

■ The Libertarian Party should have sent out a press release calling for an end to the U.S. military presence in Asia, and worldwide, and an end to all surveillance by military aircraft. Satellite and U.S.-based radar surveillance can protect this country from attack. The LP must take every opportunity to express the LP's commitment to nonintervention and free trade.

— CAROL MOORE, Washington, DC

■ Why not tell China — you refused to return our property quickly and in a civilized manner; no problem, keep the plane. By the way, imports from your country will now carry a 50% tariff. That will continue until you figure out how to return our plane to us and give us an unconditional, world televised apology for the accident caused by your hot dog pilot.

— BILL KENYON, Las Vegas, Nevada

■ Surveillance outside the airspace or territorial waters of an observed country has long been a common practice. Most international law experts agree such surveillance is not a hostile act that would justify any armed attempt to prevent it. "Eternal vigilance is the price of freedom." Our history, from the Barbary Pirates to Hitler, demonstrates that sometimes this vigilance must be exercised (peacefully in this case) far from our shores.

— SHAWN P. RIFE, Lompoc, California

Sept. Question: Local v. national?

Local! National! Winnable races! High-profile races! Like beer fans with rival chants — "Tastes great!" "Less filling!" — Libertarians have long debated the proper political strategy for the party. We'll call the two tribes The Localists versus The Nationalists. On one side, some Libertarians say "all politics is local." The LP will succeed, they argue, by focusing relentlessly on *winnable* local races, and by pouring resources into *local* affiliates rather than the national party. Until we elect lots more local Libertarians we'll go nowhere, they declare. Sounds good in theory, the other side says, but it won't work. They argue that the party needs high-profile races like the presidential campaign or a well-publicized U.S. Senate bid to energize activists and recruit new members. Electing dog catchers won't build a viable political party.

■ Question: Does the LP need a *local* or *national* strategy? Are local races and affiliates the answer? Or is the national LP (and high-profile races) crucial to our success? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: August 8, 2001

August Question: Winning the Drug War?

Are Libertarians 100% wrong about the Drug War? For years, we've been saying the War on Drugs has *failed*. Millions of people have been locked up and billions of dollars have been spent, with little benefit. But statistics touted by Drug Warriors suggest otherwise: According to surveys, the USA experienced a 72% drop in cocaine use and a two-thirds decline in marijuana use between 1986 and 1991. And even with a slight uptick in teenage drug use recently, overall drug use is still well below what it was in the 1980s. This proves, they say, the War on Drugs is effective and Libertarians mistakenly want to declare "defeat" in a war we're winning. Are they correct?

■ Question: *Is the Drug War working?* If not, what explains the sharp drop in drug use from 1986-1991? And how would you respond to Drug Warriors who make that argument? (Please keep answer to 100 words or less.)

■ DEADLINE: July 8, 2001

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TheMailBox

Continued from Page 23

I feel this article reflected badly on the Libertarian Party trying to reach as wide a range of potential voters as possible.

Since Mr. Thomas DID give permission, why publish the article? Unless it was to disenfranchise those of us who support law enforcement!

C'mon now! Let's try and publish articles that are about infringements on our liberties, not a ranting about impolite police officers which are only humans also and have feelings too. How would we react if someone we knew was killed and we were helping to search for their killer?

— GARY B. CARTER

Reno, Nevada

■ Search: Killing people

The article, "Can we search your house?" reminded me of a recent piece of news from Eugene, Oregon, [where police were called to a domestic disturbance, and shot an innocent bystander].

While I'm glad it prompted Mr. Thomas to join the LP, one must say he was lucky that it was such a comparatively mild incident. Around here, they're killing people.

— KYLE CHRISTOPHER-COURIER
Eugene, Oregon

■ Contentious issue?

I was surprised to see that it is a "contentious issue" to run a Libertarian candidate that might cause "the defeat of a candidate who is not horrible by a candidate who is horrible." [From the Chair, May 2001].

I was particularly surprised to read this in light of the LP's most recent fundraising drive, pointing out how we are finally starting to have an impact on the electoral process, and how we need to run as many candidates as possible.

Putting aside the issue of the "lesser of two evils," from a strategic standpoint it is a terrible mistake to give up running candidates in particular races in the hopes that a "not horrible" candidate will be elected. If it is true that the presence of our candidates affects the positions of Republican and Democratic candidates in the same races, by capitulating we stop applying pressure to them to adopt Libertarian positions.

If the same proposition is not true, then by capitulating we deprive the voters of a Libertarian choice and potentially Libertarian victory.

We are a political party, not a PAC or lobbying group oriented toward pressuring established parties. As such, we need to run as many candidates as possible, all the time, until we win. That is the only way we will have liberty in our time, or any time.

Indeed, I believe one of the great achievements of the LP in

the past few years is increasing the number of candidates we have for partisan office on a nationwide basis. We need to keep up that good work.

— BRIAN SCHAR

Redondo Beach, California

■ Waffle house

Lately I've been seeing signs of waffling on our principles within the party.

For example: In the May LP News, we have the Strategic Planning Team listing the proposed idea of "eliminating the party's purity police." What?!

Then Jim Lark asks how we are to welcome new members with different ideas than ours, without sacrificing Libertarian principles. The answer is simple; if you don't agree with our principles (one version of which appears on our membership card), you are not a Libertarian.

If you disagree with part of the bloated LP Platform, which most of us have never seen, that's a different story. Some issues are just too complicated to be written in stone.

— MARK STRYKER

Jersey Shore, New Jersey

SMOKING LAWS:

"Why don't we make it legal to poison all our drinking water?"

■ Loony idea

One of the problems facing me as a Libertarian, and possibly all third parties, is the risk of being considered a loony.

Well, in the May issue the suggestion to shut down the IRS by the protest mail campaign is a perfect example [News Briefs]. If this is a serious proposal, the instigator obviously has not been a bureaucrat, as this would just justify the need to increase the size of the IRS.

If it is meant to be a joke, I fear the reader would still use it to discredit the serious purpose of the party.

— HOWARD ZIMMERMAN

Roanoke, Indiana

■ Smoke pollution

My wife and I have been members of the Libertarian Party for quite some time. We were once

quite enthusiastic about the LP's views because we felt that they reflected clear-thinking and honesty, qualities which are hard to come by in politics.

It now seems obvious to us and others we know that both of these qualities have disappeared and have been replaced by avarice instead. When the LP decided to enlarge itself by championing the cause of smokers in the fashion that has become increasingly apparent, we knew it was undeserving of support.

The idea that the owners of establishments serving the public should be the only ones responsible for smoking policies on their premises smacks of either idiocy or political propaganda. Why don't we allow these same owners to be the only ones responsible for battery and murder of other types as well? Why should we have state and federal laws against other kinds of bodily harm?

And while we are at it, since the LP believes that no one seems to have the right to breathe unpolluted air, why don't we make it legal to deliberately poison all our drinking water just for the benefit of those who enjoy certain kinds of drugs in their water? If this seems melodramatic, it is only because you have not lived long enough to see what nicotine addiction does to all of us.

Had smokers and other drug addicts not been so ill-mannered as to force their habit upon the rest of us, laws against smoking in public places would not be necessary. It is always lack of consideration for others that leads to new laws. We have no objection to such people slowly killing themselves as long as they do it in private and without harming those who wish to live in a healthy environment.

— LEW PRICE

Garden Valley, California

■ Napster: Catching up

Eric Bryant's case for the condemnation of Napster was short on principle and long on non sequitur. Let's examine some indisputable facts [The Forum, May, 2001].

When the government writes and enforces copyright law it is the taxpayer footing the bill. One hundred million taxpayers, give or take, pay the tab for copyright security for Metallica and a fistful of record companies. One hundred million taxpayers, give or take, who may or may not supposedly "benefit" from the copyright law by buying recorded music or video or printed words, but every day of their lives pay for the enforcement of the copyright law in cash or burden. This is known as socialism.

And be assured this is a one-way street. A year ago the Big Five record companies were found guilty of colluding to keep CD prices artificially inflated. I haven't seen my rebate check, yet. I haven't seen prices fall, yet.

And now that we're able to burn our own CD's we know how

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 25

Beginner's Introduction

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— KEN SCHOOLAND

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 24

ridiculously cheap they are to manufacture if we don't have to pay for the music; and don't forget, the record companies don't pay for music either — for the most part they only pay royalties to the artists *after* all their expenses are recouped. And, of course, many, if not most artists have signed over any applicable copyrights for this privilege.

What we see with the tremendous volume of music being traded on Napster is merely the free market playing catch-up.

Now, if you'll excuse me, I will go avail myself of the court-approved practice of making copies of my copyrighted music for friends and family. I consider everyone with a computer and modem a friend.

— MICHAEL DOEGE

Macomb Township, Michigan

■ Napster: Progress

Although I agree with Eric Bryant's conclusion about Napster, I disagree with one of his points.

He wrote that the purpose of copyright law is "to prevent an individual or group from profiting or otherwise benefiting from the intellectual or material products of another individual — without that individual's legal consent."

But this, it is clear, is not the basis of our current intellectual property law, which may be found in Article I, Section 8 of the U. S. Constitution, where congress is granted the power: "To promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors, the exclusive Rights to their Respective Writings and Discoveries."

Which is at some variance from the reason set forth in the article I quoted from. My quote is a demonstration that while Mr. Bryant is wrong, this section of the Constitution is not meant to be taken literally absent the opening phrase of its grant of power to Congress.

Otherwise, I wouldn't be able to legally quote the article.

Which may, in part, explain why this power is granted to congress to promote progress, instead of simply securing an exclusive right to authors and inventors.

— LOUIS RUSS

East Brunswick, New Jersey

■ Napster: Lower prices

I was outraged to read something so un-Libertarian as the anti-Napster propaganda that

appeared in *LP News*. I'm just hoping that Eric Bryant, who wrote the piece, doesn't realize the kind of government intervention he is promoting.

Napster is a way for the market to dictate what's to become of the music industry. A major paradigm change must occur so music can progress into the digital age. People just aren't going to pay \$18 for a CD anymore. I'm tired of hearing about starving artists like

Metallica and Sheryl Crow, and how they're losing money to Napster, when it's simply not true.

Downloading a song on Napster is a passive way of telling the record companies they've lost — that consumers are going to refuse to pay \$18 for a CD. If prices go down, I'd be willing to bet Napster usage would've gone down, but alas, the government has already stepped in.

The Libertarian Party should be mortified at the restrictions now placed on Napster, which is now a subscription-only pay-per-month service with royalties going to record companies. Since

when did our party advocate government restriction of business?

— JOSEPH LEKOSTAJ

Naperville, Illinois

■ Napster: Copyright

I cannot believe that Troy Klyber is denying the validity of copyright law [The MailBox, June 2001]. He writes that it is monopolistic and mislabeled as a property right.

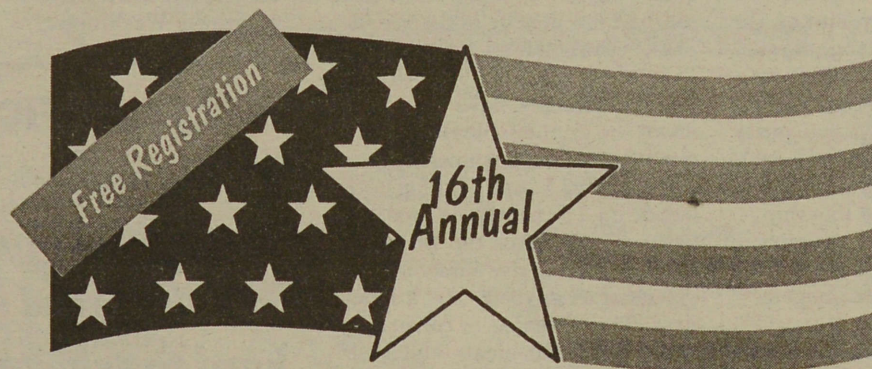
The whole purpose of granting a monopoly to the owner of a patent or a copyright for a designated period of time is to enable its owner to reap the economic benefits that his creativity en-

titles him to earn if his/her idea is economically accepted in the free market. Otherwise, we would have no inventors, composers, writers, painters, sculptors, performers or poets.

Every copyrighted product states that: "Unauthorized duplication is a violation of applicable law." Obviously Mr. Klyber knows not what he writes about. I am further greatly dismayed that your paper even headlines an excerpt from his letter, lending additional credence to his position.

We have not yet arrived at the point where the government

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 26



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TheMailBox

Continued from Page 25

monitors copyright and patent violations. These laws only bestow the right to recover from the thief economic damages suffered by the owner of that property. The American Society of Composers, Authors and Performers and Broadcast Music, Inc. monitors media of all sorts to protect the rights of its members to be compensated for their work.

Mr. Klyber writes: "If I copy your song you still have a copy of your song." The copy of it does not benefit us, it is the playing of it that brings us pleasure or economic benefit. If Mr. Klyber does not believe that let him bottle a soft drink and advertise it as "Coca Cola."

Our Constitution charges our government with the responsibility of protecting all our unalienable rights granted to us by our Creator. This is one of them.

— CLARK WALTER

Asheville, North Carolina

Kramer dismay

I have just learned of Kenny Kramer's bid for mayor of New York as a nominee of the Libertarian Party, and, frankly, I am dismayed [LP News, June 2001].

I cannot believe that the Party is backing a registered Democrat, whose prior attempt to run for mayor (as a Democrat), was merely an absurd publicity stunt, calling for such initiatives as giving homeless people cell phones so that they don't look like they're just talking to themselves! This candidacy makes the Libertarian Party a laughingstock and lends credence to the perception that the Libertarian Party is not a legitimate political party. The party has worked too hard to establish its credibility to be represented by someone like this.

I'm afraid that in the pursuit of name recognition, the party's credibility has been damaged.

— LORI RITTER

Knoxville, Tennessee

Police roadblock

I began my summer vacation by driving home down a seven-mile stretch of rural highway between Emerson and Acworth.

A man with a gun told me to stop and said "How you doing?" He instructed me to present my driver's license and automobile insurance. I presented this, and was sent on my way.

No big deal? This was a police roadblock checking for seatbelt violators. Law enforcement officials with guns denied me of my responsibility for myself. My freedom was compromised.

I always buckle up, and I do so without regard for what politicians say is best for me. My seatbelt use is none of their business, because it does not affect the safety or freedom of others. Elected officials have forgotten about the unalienable rights that our constitution acknowledges.

Liberty? I make a choice to buckle up. I do not use my seatbelt because politicians tell me to do so. My choice to live safely is simply none of anybody else's business. This freedom is consistent with Libertarian ideals, and it follows what America's founding fathers intended.

Free country? Free citizens own themselves and are responsible for their own actions. I am responsible for my own actions, and I do not threaten the freedom or safety of others. Laws that deny me of this responsibility also deny me of my freedom.

— FRANK D. NESBIT

Acworth, Georgia

Seatbelt outrage

It is important that the public know that the Libertarian Party is working for them in practical (non-abstract) ways.

Therefore, as a Libertarian, I will constantly remind the public about a recent case where a person was immediately arrested, handcuffed with hands behind her back, and hauled to jail, for her unfastened seatbelts.

Libertarians note important distinctions: No one inside that motor vehicle was threatening anyone else outside that vehicle. No emergency or situation existed which justified more than a citation or timely summons, if that.

Such incidents simply would not happen in a Libertarian state. That is because a libertarian-minded government would see to it that it does not happen.

A libertarian government serves the people, not petty dictators. Those wanting to be handcuffed and dragged off to prison if they are a few seconds late getting to their parking meter, or the like, should keep on subsidizing the two-party monopoly!

— CARL LITTMANN

Wyncote, Pennsylvania

No name change

Now that the LP has achieved major party status in a few states and is getting media attention, what will people think if we change the name? [The MailBox, June 2001] The LP must have

something to hide — or we have a new name to go along with some change in the party ideology?

I think it would be a mistake to change the name. Remember that some voters are confused very easily. Why sacrifice the name recognition that the LP has worked so hard to achieve?

I have heard Libertarians and the libertarian Cato Institute interviewed on National Public Radio more times in the last few months (twice today alone), than I heard during the entire 2000 presidential campaign. We are coming into range of the mainstream's radar. Let's not turn the cloaking device on now.

— JASON CONSTANTINO

Aberdeen, Washington

WHY SACRIFICE the name recognition the LP has worked so hard to achieve?

Libertarian Church?

Those who suggest changing the name of the Libertarian Party are concentrating on the wrong word. Judging from the intolerant, Holier than Thou letters from the Purity Police, the problem isn't with "Libertarian." It's "Party" that needs to be changed.

Libertarian: Congregation? Dogma Debating Society? Religious Order? Church?

— DON WACKER

Issaquah, Washington

Abortion & impact

I would like to reply to two letters [The Mailbox, May 2001] responding to my article "Recruiting more pro-life libertarians" [The Forum, March 2001].

Paul Boehm accuses all "pro-choice" LP members of being libertarian impostors. Michael S. Wolf overstates the importance of the disagreement among LP

members, and disacknowledges the rational arguments made by "pro-life" libertarians.

Just what is accomplished by these attitudes? Both authors seem to want the LP to be a tiny, elite club whose membership is restricted to only those who agree with them 100% on all issues.

How about if we all instead aim for a very different goal for the LP: To support the fundamental principles that we can agree on while becoming big enough to have a real impact on the world?

— BRADLEY BOBBS

Van Nuys, California

Fiscal irresponsibility

Jonathan Trager's Libertarian Solutions article [May 2001] presents some good points. He did make one comment that needs clarification.

When discussing a balanced budget amendment, he states, "The budget 'surpluses' of recent years exist only by counting excess Social Security receipts as part of general revenues — which they are not — and consequently slating them for expenditure."

Unfortunately, Social Security receipts are part of general revenues, and are not subject to being held in trust for individuals, although the administrators would let us believe otherwise. The Cato Institute has published articles detailing the Supreme Court's rulings on those funds, stating that we have no right to that money. Congress can increase, reduce, or eliminate our "retirement" at will, and the people have no recourse.

It is not that Congress includes these funds in general revenue income that is causing the budget surplus, it is that they do not include the future liabilities of the fund as a budget expense.

It is this off-budget expenditure (and others) that blinds the public to what is really going on in the way of government fiscal irresponsibility. The only way to stop it is by using the Libertarian solution of privatizing the entire program.

— TERRY W. DONZE

Wheat Ridge, Colorado

Fixing the energy crisis

Continued from Page 22

velop more economical "alternative energy sources" that environmentalists crave so badly.

Deregulate the market.

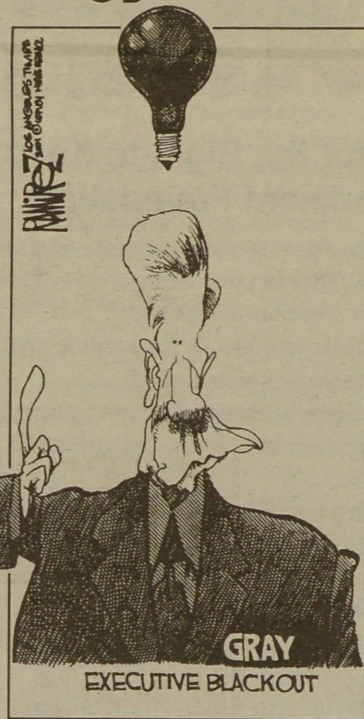
Regulation drives up the cost of production, which translates into higher prices for consumers. To the extent that producers are legally restricted from passing along some of the cost, supply declines.

Although some politicians and pundits claim California did deregulate its market in 1996, nothing could be further from the truth. While state legislators did do away with many wholesale restrictions, they imposed brand new price caps on the retail side — not exactly deregulation.

All told, Jerry Taylor and Peter Van Doren of the Cato Institute estimate that while electricity demand grew by 12% in the state during the three years following "deregulation," supply grew by less than 2%.

Here are some California energy regulations that should be repealed: The regulation requiring a special "low-emission" blend of gasoline; the federal Public Utilities Holding Company Act, which dictates structure and service territories to electric power companies; and the ban on nuclear power plants, which has been amended to the state's constitution.

As long as American population and technology grows, there will be an increasing need for energy, which must be produced from existing natural resources before it is available for consump-



tion. Already the market is starting to react to the energy shortage, and the construction of power plants is booming.

Asparagus policy

Again, it is important to remember that energy is a commodity, like any other. There is no need for a "national energy policy" — as both Republicans and Democrats seem to believe — any more than there is a need for a "national asparagus policy" or a "national toilet paper policy."

Perpetually frustrating government regulators, the free market has shown us again and again that if left to its own devices, it always delivers the goods. It can do so again with energy, if given the chance.

UpComing

October 25-28, 2001

Cato University Summer Seminar, Hotel Omni Mont-Royal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 218-4633. Or visit: www.cato-university.org.

October, 27, 2001

New Hampshire LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Concord. Speakers include Libertarian State Representative Steve Vaillancourt (L-Manchester) and Richard Winger (publisher, *Ballot Access News*). For information, call Rosalie Babiarz at: (603) 523-8315. Or e-mail: rosalie@endor.com.

November 2-5, 2001

Libertarian International Fall Convention, Prague, Czechoslovakia. Speakers TBA. For information, visit: www.libertarian.to

March 22-24, 2002

Illinois LP Convention, Holiday Inn, Rolling Meadows. Speakers TBA. For information, e-mail Julie Fox: Dobie1214@aol.com.

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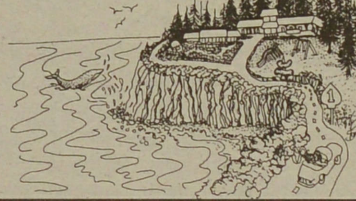


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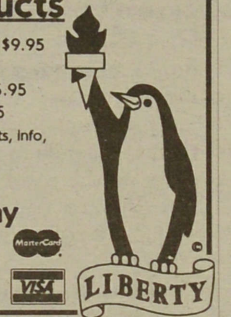
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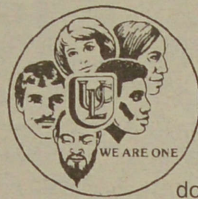
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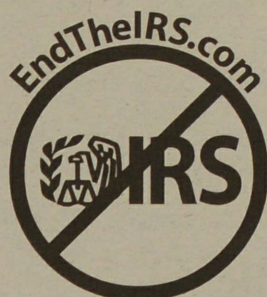
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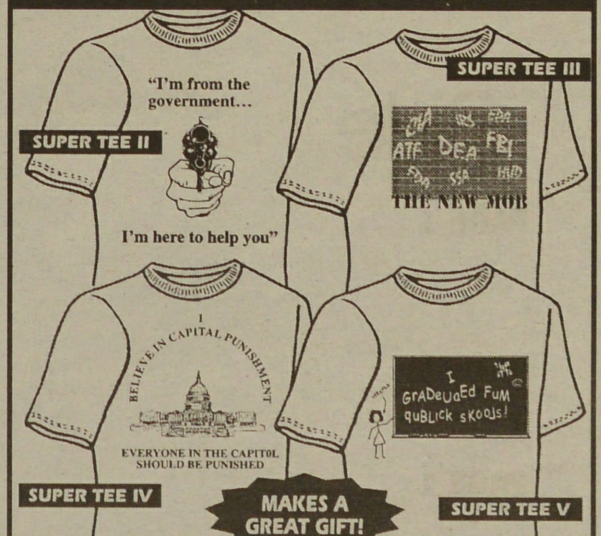
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UpComing

■ July 9-13, 2001

Summer Seminars in Political Economy, Holy Names College, Oakland, California. Hosted by the Independent Institute and Holy Names College. Open to high school and college students. Covers history and principles of economics from a free-market perspective. Speakers include Joseph Fuhrig (Professor of Economics). For information, call: (510) 632-1366. E-mail: CClose@independent.org. Visit: www.independent.org.

■ July 13-15, 2001

Texas LP Convention, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Houston Intercontinental Airport. Speakers include Russell Means (Indian rights activist, actor, and author), Carla Howell (2000 U.S. Senate candidate, Massachusetts), Carol Jones (Texas Citizens for a Sound Economy), and Marshall Fritz (Separation of School and State Alliance). For information, e-mail: torchess@texas.net. Or call Nancy Neale: (512) 263-1681.

■ July 27, 2001

Special Dinner Banquet with John Taylor Gatto, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Worcester, Massachusetts. Cost: \$55.00. Sponsored by the Massachusetts LP. Gatto is the author of *The Underground History of American Education*. To register, call (978) 828-1538. Or e-mail: kpirrello@LPMA.org.

■ August 4-10, 2001

Cato University Summer Seminar, Rancho Bernardo Inn, San Diego, California. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (202) 218-4633. Or visit: www.cato-university.org.

■ August 13-17, 2001

Summer Seminars in Political Economy, Holy Names College, Oakland, California. Hosted by the Independent Institute and Holy Names College. Open to high school and college students. Covers history and principles of economics from a free-market

perspective. Speakers include Joseph Fuhrig (Professor of Economics). For information, call: (510) 632-1366. E-mail: CClose@independent.org. Visit: www.independent.org.

■ August 18, 2000

Nevada LP Convention, El Dorado Hotel, Reno. Speakers include Aaron Russo (Hollywood producer), Chris Azzaro (founder, Libertarian Victory Fund), Dave Rigdon (Libertarian City Councilman), and Jessi Winchester (author and political activist). For more information, call (775) 685-2615. Or e-mail: NVdirector@aol.com.

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Campaign Training for Winners, St. Louis, Missouri. Exact location TBA. Seminar on how to win campaigns, featuring former New Hampshire State Representative Don Gorman. For information, call (877) VOTE 4 US. E-mail: gtlake@aol.com.

■ September 21-23, 2001

Gun Rights Policy Conference, Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center, Cincinnati, Ohio. Co-sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep & Bear Arms. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (425) 454-7012. E-mail: info@saf.org.

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Freedom Summit, Embassy Suites Hotel at the Biltmore, Phoenix, Arizona. An annual seminar "dedicated to promoting and advancing human freedom." Speakers include Jacob Hornberger (president, Future of Freedom Foundation), Vin Suprynowicz (syndicated columnist), Clint Bolick (vice president, Institute for Justice), Don Boudreaux (president, FEE), and Aaron Zelman (executive director, Jews for the Preservation of Firearm Ownership). For information, visit: www.freedomsummit.com.

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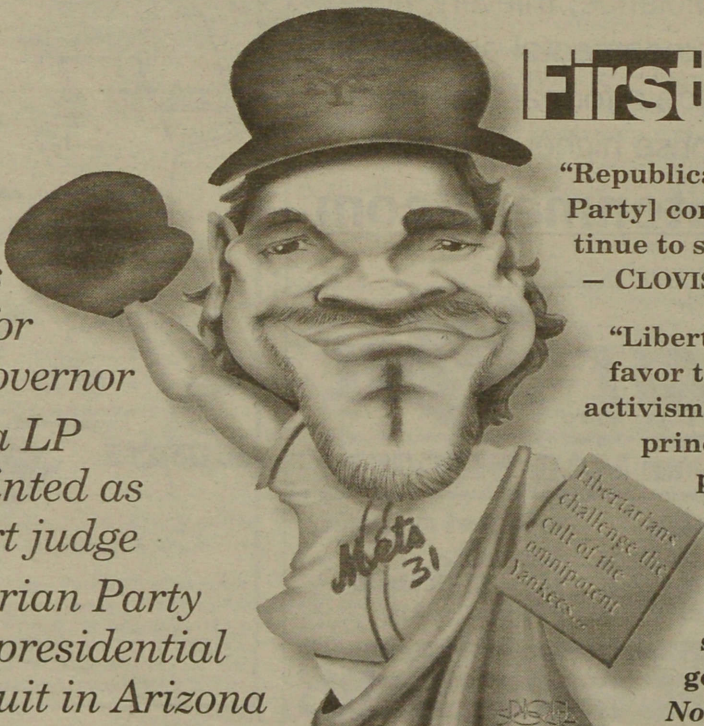
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Side

■ **PAGE 1** *Indian rights activist Russell Means launches bid for New Mexico governor*

■ **PAGE 1** *Arizona LP member appointed as Superior Court judge*

■ **PAGE 4** *Libertarian Party (finally) wins presidential ballot access suit in Arizona*



First Word

"Republicans are running scared. As long as it [the Republican Party] continues to advocate big government policies, it will continue to see its members turn to the Libertarian Party."

— CLOVIS NEWS JOURNAL (Clovis, New Mexico), May 2, 2001

"Libertarians, as a rule, want less government, not more. They favor tax cuts, less onerous regulation, and limited government activism. But unlike conservatives, they are consistent in their principles, and don't think the government should be telling people how to conduct their private lives."

— STEPHEN MILLER, syndicated columnist, May 25, 2001

"Libertarians are moral idealists. Libertarians believe that through man's ingenuity, a free market and a free society can make the world a better place and that the government mostly gets in the way." — DARRELL E. MCGUIRE, *North County Times* (Escondido, California), April 6, 2001