

LIBERTARIAN PARTY NEWS

The Party of Principle

September 2000 The Official Monthly Newspaper of the Libertarian Party ★ Volume 15 / Issue 9

Harry Browne campaigns across USA, unleashes television advertising blitz

Libertarian candidate briefly catches Pat Buchanan in the Rasmussen poll

By Bill Winter
LP NEWS EDITOR

The Harry Browne for President campaign has surged into high gear over the past month, making appearances around the country, running \$10,000-a-day in television advertisements, and briefly tying Pat Buchanan in the polls.

"The campaign is moving at high speed now," said Perry Willis, Browne's campaign manager.

"We're trying to reach every voter we can through campaign appearances, local and national media, and TV advertising — to make sure they know that a vote for Harry Browne is the only vote they can cast for smaller government."

In early- to mid-August, Browne made more than a dozen major campaign stops around the USA, speaking to audiences of up to 600 people.

In the first major speaking tour of the campaign, Browne visited San Jose, California (August 1), San Diego, California (August 2), Orange County, California (August 3), Smyrna, Tennessee (Au-

CAMPAIGN 2000
Interview with
Harry Browne
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gust 5), Little Rock, Arkansas (August 7), Hot Springs, Arkansas (August 8), Cromwell, Connecticut (August 10), Lexington, Massachusetts (August 12), Portland, Maine (August 13), Houston, Texas (August 16), Austin, Texas (August 17), Dallas-Ft. Worth, Texas (August 18), and New Orleans, Louisiana (August 19).

Overflow crowd

One of the highlights of the trip, said Browne, was when he spoke to an overflow crowd — estimated by a local newspaper at more than 600 — at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia.

"The atmosphere [was] electrifying," said Browne. "[Campaign fundraiser] Michael Cloud begins the program by asking



■ LP presidential candidate Harry Browne speaks to a crowd of about 200 people at the Sheraton Hotel in Lexington, Massachusetts on August 12. It was one of a dozen major appearances around the country scheduled from early to mid-August for the campaign.

those who are attending their first Libertarian event to stand. Over half the audience does. When Michael introduces me, I am overwhelmed by the reception of the audience. These people know what we stand for, they want it, and they know that only Libertarians can provide it."

The reason for the large turn-

out, he said, "is that many Libertarians have made it a point to bring several non-Libertarian friends with them to the event."

Twice the size

"The Georgia Libertarian Party is one of the strongest in America. It seems that every time I come here, the audience is twice

the size of the last appearance," he said.

The week after the appearance, a Rasmussen survey showed Browne polling at 2.4% in Georgia — "an indication of how valuable our Atlanta event was," said Browne.

Other highlights of the campaign
See **HIGH GEAR** Page 18

Party runs Congressional majority

The LP becomes the first third party in 80 years to accomplish this feat

It's official: The Libertarian Party will run candidates in more than half of all U.S. House races this November — making it the first third party in 80 years to accomplish that feat.

At least 245 LP candidates in 44 states have declared their intention to run, or have already qualified to be on the ballot for the 2000 election, LP Political Direc-

tor Ron Crickenberger has announced. And that number could creep up to 250 by the time filing deadlines close in late September.

That's well over the 218 candidates needed to pass the halfway mark for the 435-seat U.S. House.

"With this historic line-up of Congressional candidates, we're going to give the American public

the opportunity to vote for a Libertarian majority in Congress that will support the Constitution and the Bill of Rights — instead of trampling on them," said Crickenberger.

History books

Americans have to go all the way back to 1920 in the history books to find the last third party

— the Socialist Party — that ran candidates in so many Congressional races, according to the *Washington Times*.

"The last party to achieve this was the Socialists, and I don't have to tell you what kind of effect they had on American public policy," said Crickenberger. "We want to have the same impact, but in the opposite political direction."

Even more significantly, the
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Libertarian Party helps strip out bad MAPA provisions

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LP lobbies against U.S. House pay hike

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Carla Howell is back in a three-way race

NewsBriefs

The LP spoofed by TheOnion.com

The Libertarian Party has been "Onionized." One of the Internet's most popular humorous sites — www.TheOnion.com — turned its satirical spotlight on the party on July 19, printing an article that poked fun at the LP's allegedly tiny size.

Entitled, "LA Efficiency Chosen As Site of the 2000 Libertarian Convention," the article noted that "upwards of 45 Libertarians" were expected to gather in a Los Angeles apartment for the party's national convention. In expectation of the crowd, the article claimed, party leaders ordered "12 two-liter bottles of Pepsi, Sprite, and Diet Mountain Dew."

Mixing real figures such as presidential candidate Harry Browne with fictional characters, the article predicted ideological battles over whether the convention's pizzas should be pepperoni or mushroom-and-green-pepper.

Party leaders greeted the article with good humor.

"The fact that we're well-known enough for The Onion to poke fun at is a good sign," said LP Communications Director Bill Winter. "In fact, if the Onion's staff wants to come to our next convention, we'll even buy them their own two-liter bottle of Diet Mountain Dew."

Ironically, the Libertarian Party's real National Convention — held at the spacious Anaheim Marriott in California in July — was the largest third-party convention in 52 years, reported Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*. The LP convention, which attracted 1,200 total attendees, was second only to the Progressive Party's convention in 1948.

The 'L-word' is getting more popular

Libertarianism is getting more popular — in news stories, at least.

Over the last few months, the number of news stories featuring the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism" has "dramatically increased," said Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates for Self-Government, a Georgia-based non-partisan educational organization.

That increase is reflected in the growing number of articles cited in the Advocates' daily e-mail "clipping service," *Libertarian Clips*, she said.

"When we first began *Libertarian Clips* last year, we found only a few stories a day," said Harris. "Now, we frequently carry a dozen or more stories daily."

Libertarian Clips, a free daily e-mail newsletter, compiles libertarian articles from online newspapers, wire services, and other news sources, and sends a short summary of each story and a URL to subscribers.

"Libertarian Clips is a great way for libertarians to keep up with what the media is saying about libertarianism, the Libertarian Party, [and] libertarian organizations," said Harris.

The recent surge in stories "reflects the election-year activity of libertarians, as well as a growing interest in libertarian ideas in general," she said.

To sign up for *Libertarian Clips*, visit the Advocates' website at: www.self-gov.org. Or e-mail: advocates@self-gov.org.

LP member runs to reform the NRA

A Libertarian Party member has announced that he is running for the National Rifle Association's Board of Directors to try to change its "Country Club Republican attitude."

Robert K. Restivo, a resident of Grape Creek, Texas, and Libertarian candidate for the Tom Green County Commission, announced in mid-July that he has launched an effort to collect signatures from at least 250 NRA voting members to qualify as a candidate for the NRA Board of Directors.

"I have serious complaints about the way the NRA conducts business," said Restivo. "Specifically, the Country Club Republican attitude they have regarding compromise in legislation."

If elected to the Board of Directors, his goals will be "to move the NRA to a no-compromise position on legislation, and gain support for Libertarian candidates," he said.

To qualify for the election, Restivo needs 250 signatures from "NRA voting members" — either NRA life members or annual members who have been active for five consecutive years.

Restivo is a life member of the NRA, Gun Owners of America, and the California Rifle & Pistol Association.

To sign Restivo's petition or to help his campaign, call him at: (915) 465-4422. Or e-mail: electrestivo@netzero.net.

Libertarian Party runs candidates in majority of U.S. House districts

Continued from Page 1

Libertarian Party is running candidates in 14 of the 19 U.S. House races that Washington, DC's *Roll Call* newspaper has described as "Toss-Ups" — races that are too close to call between the Republican and Democrat.

Libertarians are also running in nine of the 18 Congressional races *Roll Call* says are "leaning Republican" but are closely contested, and 17 of the 23 races that are "leaning Democrat" but are very tight.

Deciding factor

So, the Libertarian Party candidate could be the deciding factor in two-thirds of the closest U.S. House races, noted Crickenberger.

"Libertarian candidates could literally hold the balance of power in the U.S. House this year," he said. "With political pundits saying that control of Congress is still up for grabs between the Democrats and Republicans, the Libertarian Party could play king-maker."

If Libertarians do affect the outcome of the 2000 Congressional elections, it wouldn't be the first time.

In 1996, LP candidates caused the Republican Party to lose seven U.S. House seats, according to former California Congressman Bob Dornan.

At the time, Dornan said, "Seven good Republicans lost their seats because a Libertarian was in the race [in 1996]" — the same year the Republican majority in the House dropped from 38 seats to 20 seats.

The ability to contest a majority of U.S. House races is also significant, said *Ballot Access News* publisher and third-party expert Richard Winger, because the last "minor" parties to accomplish that feat all elected people to Congress.

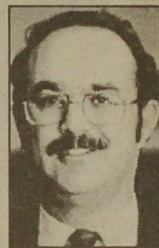
Same league

"In the past, any party strong enough to run candidates in a majority of districts was strong enough to elect at least one to Congress," he said. "It suggests that the Libertarian Party is getting into the same league as the minor parties who have done it in the past."

In the 20th Century, only the Progressive Party, the Prohibition Party, and the Socialist Party were able to field candidates in more than half the U.S. House districts, and all went on to elect members of Congress, he noted.

Another side-effect of running so many Congressional candidates, said Winger, is it almost guarantees that the Libertarian Party will achieve another political and historic first: Winning more than a million cumulative

SOME U.S. HOUSE RACES TO WATCH



■ David Nolan, founder of the Libertarian Party, candidate in California's District 47.



■ Charlie Westlake, the first-ever LP U.S. House candidate in Florida (District 11).



■ Ron Crickenberger, the LP's Political Director and candidate in Virginia's District 8.



■ Debra Monde, running a well-funded campaign for District 17 in Texas.

BY THE NUMBERS:

States with double-digit numbers of Libertarian U.S. House candidates: California (45); Texas (24); Ohio (18); Michigan (16); North Carolina (12); and Indiana (10). States with no U.S. House candidates: Arkansas, Georgia, Rhode Island, North Dakota, New Mexico, and New York.

WHAT THE MEDIA SAYS:

"Other more famous third parties, such as the Green and Reform Parties, are not even close to fielding so many congressional candidates."

— *The Washington Times* (July 9, 2000)

THE LP'S PREVIOUS RECORD:

166 U.S. House candidates in 1998, when they won a cumulative total of 906,808 votes.

Congressional votes.

"The Libertarian Party is bound to get over a million votes, which would make the LP the first third party in history to achieve that," he said.

The Libertarian Party is also running more Congressional candidates than "all other third parties combined," announced Washington, DC's *The Hill* newspaper. However, Winger said that claim was difficult to confirm, because many filing deadlines have not yet passed.

Libertarian candidates for the U.S. House are expected to be on the ballot in every state except for Arkansas, Rhode Island, Georgia, North Dakota, New Mexico, and New York, said Crickenberger.

Leading the list of states with the most Libertarian U.S. House

candidates is California with 45, followed by Texas (24), Ohio (18), Michigan (16), North Carolina (12), and Indiana (10).

In addition to the candidates for U.S. House, another 22 LP candidates are running for U.S. Senate this year.

Media attention

The Libertarian Party's historic Congressional slate has already attracted the attention of the media, with news stories appearing in the *Washington Times* and *The Hill*.

The *Washington Times* noted: "It is just possible that the next speaker of the House will be neither a Republican nor a Democrat . . . If the Libertarians win all their races, they could take the majority away from the Republicans and Democrats alike."



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Libertarians help kill 'worst' MAPA language

After LP lobbying campaign, committee removes "Sneak and Peek" provisions

A Libertarian Party lobbying campaign has apparently been successful in eliminating two of the most "dangerous and unconstitutional" provisions from a controversial new anti-drug bill.

In late July, the House Judiciary Committee voted to remove language from H.R. 2987, the "Methamphetamine Anti-Proliferation Act" (MAPA), that would have made it a federal crime to distribute certain kinds of information about drugs, and would have allowed law enforcement to secretly search people's homes.

The action came after the Libertarian Party and other civil liberty and electronic privacy groups mounted a fierce lobbying campaign against the bill.

Defend civil liberties

"Once again, the Libertarian Party has successfully helped defend Americans' civil liberties against the federal government's efforts to restrict the First Amendment and gut the Fourth Amendment," said LP Press Secretary George Getz, who helped coordinate the anti-MAPA campaign.

"This bill still shouldn't pass, but at least now some of its most dangerous and unconstitutional provisions have apparently been removed."

The bill currently awaits action when the U.S. House reconvenes after Labor Day. If it passes the House, it would probably head for a conference committee where any differences between the House and Senate versions would be hammered out.

The Libertarian Party started publicizing MAPA in May, when it learned about some of its frightening anti-First Amendment and anti-Fourth Amendment provisions, said Getz.

Meth labs

The bill, sponsored by senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Orrin Hatch (R-UT), passed the Senate unanimously last November. Supporters said it was designed to fight so-called "meth labs," which produce a dangerous form of amphetamine.

However, buried in the text of the bill were provisions that would give the government the power to:

■ Put you in jail for 10 years for "illegal teaching." For example, it would have been illegal to tell someone how to grow marijuana, or even to mention where you could purchase a book about growing medical marijuana.

"The War on Drugs has been turned into a War on Words," said LP National Director Steve Das-

bach, in a statement on the bill.

"This bill would make certain kinds of Constitutionally protected speech illegal, and give politicians the power to put Americans in prison for writing, posting, or advocating information the government doesn't like."

■ Put you in jail for three years for "illegal linking." It would have been a crime for any "communications facility to post, publicize, transmit, publish, link to, broadcast or otherwise advertise" — or even provide "indirect advertising for" — Internet sites that sell so-called drug paraphernalia.

27-0 vote

The U.S. House had quietly allowed the pay raise to move forward on June 21 by approving a Treasury bill on a 250-173 vote. The same day, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its own version of the Treasury bill — also allowing a salary increase — on a 27-0 vote.

The bill is currently awaiting

THE DANGERS OF HR 2987

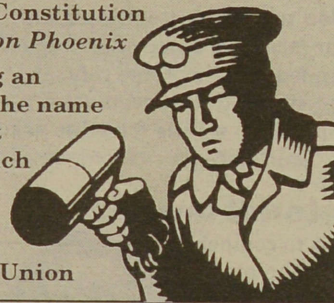
What civil liberties experts said about H.R. 2987, the "Methamphetamine Anti-Proliferation Act" (MAPA):

■ "MAPA, if passed by Congress, would empower federal agents to search your home and take your property without immediately informing you — possibly without ever informing you. Naturally, it gives unscrupulous law enforcement officials opportunities to plant evidence or to spice it up pursuant to getting an easy conviction." — R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr., *The Washington Times*

■ "Yet another illustration of politicians trying to escalate a war they can't win." — David Boaz, *The Cato Institute*

■ "This ludicrous legislation runs up against a vital First Amendment principle: that though the government may outlaw certain activities, it may not outlaw speech even if such speech advocates those activities. Feinstein and Hatch refuse to recognize that right, and it makes you wonder what other parts of the Constitution they find inconvenient." — *Boston Phoenix*

■ "Congress is again considering an assault on our civil liberties in the name of the 'war on drugs.' This latest attack comes from HR 2987, which includes several challenges to our rights of free speech, privacy, and due process." — The American Civil Liberties Union



scribed as "Sneak and Peek." Current law requires federal agents to announce their presence before entering, and to show a properly issued search warrant.

■ Allow federal law enforcement to take "intangible" items — such as copies of your personal papers or your computer's hard drive — and never furnish a list of what they took. Current law requires federal agents to provide an immediate inventory of all seized items.

"The Fourth Amendment is supposed to protect Americans against unreasonable searches and seizures," noted Dasbach. "That's why current law requires police to have probable cause and a valid warrant, to announce their intention to conduct a search, and to provide an inventory of whatever they take."

Picks the lock

"But how can you determine if a search warrant is valid if the search is done in secret? How can you challenge an improper search if you're never told about it? How do you know whether police illegally seized items if they don't have to tell you what they took? This bill doesn't just allow law enforcement to pick the lock on your home — it picks the lock on the Fourth Amendment," he said.

In response, the Libertarian Party issued several press releases blasting the anti-Fourth

See **MAPA** Page 21

LP lobbies against new Congressional pay hike

Party opposes another \$3,800 per-year pay raise

For the third time in four years, the Libertarian Party has joined an effort to put the brakes on a Congressional pay raise.

On July 26, the Libertarian Party signed a letter from the Congressional Accountability Project, demanding that the U.S. Senate kill a proposed \$3,800-per-year pay raise — which would boost salaries for U.S. House and U.S. Senate members to almost \$150,000 per year.

The letter, which was also signed by representatives of the National Taxpayers Union, the Reform Party, U.S. Term Limits, and the Free Congress Foundation, was sent to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS), and Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD).

The letter described the latest pay hike as an "effort at self-enrichment" that was a "waste of taxpayer dollars, an insult to the taxpayer, and a violation of the

public trust."

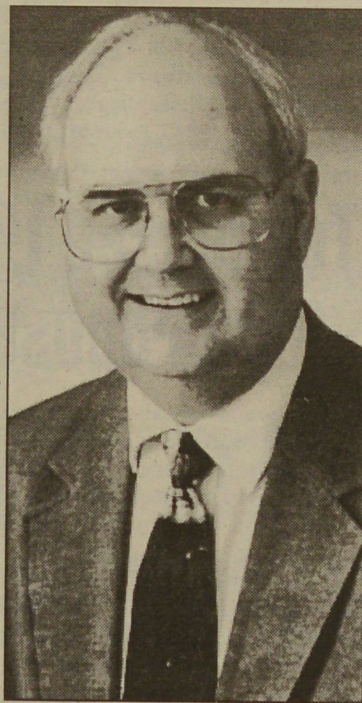
It urged the Senate to "listen to your constituents, exercise dignified self-restraint, and forgo the pay raise."

"Congress is overpaid, over-generous to themselves with taxpayers' money, and overconfident if they think they can get away with this," said Steve Dasbach, the party's national director, who signed the letter. "This latest pay raise has outraged the majority of Americans who already think that politicians are living the lifestyle of the rich and famous."

27-0 vote

The U.S. House had quietly allowed the pay raise to move forward on June 21 by approving a Treasury bill on a 250-173 vote. The same day, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its own version of the Treasury bill — also allowing a salary increase — on a 27-0 vote.

The bill is currently awaiting



■ **Steve Dasbach:** "Congress is overpaid, over-generous to themselves with taxpayers' money, and overconfident."

full Senate approval, but won't face a vote until the Senate reconvenes after Labor Day.

Under a 1989 law, U.S. House members and Senators get an automatic pay raise every year unless they specifically vote to block it by inserting language into

See **PAY RAISE** Page 21

Indiana LP member gets Supreme Court hearing

A Libertarian Party member from Indiana is heading to the Supreme Court as a plaintiff in a case that will decide whether it is constitutional for police to set up random roadblocks to search for illegal drugs.

Joell Palmer, 21, will visit Washington, DC on October 3 to watch the nation's highest court hear arguments on *Edmond v. City of Indianapolis* — a case he and another Indiana resident filed after they were stopped by police in 1998.

"I'm happy to know that I am actually going down in history as someone who fights the corrupt system," he said.

Stopped in 1998

Palmer, who works as a waiter at an Outback Steak House and is the LP candidate for the Indiana House of Representatives (District 91), began his rendezvous with legal history after he was stopped in late 1998 by Indianapolis police.

Palmer was one of 1,161 driv-

JOELL PALMER:

"I was waiting for them to violate my rights. They always do."

ers stopped between August and November. The Indianapolis police department had set up six "narcotic checkpoints" in various locations, and drivers were asked to show their license and registration while a drug-sniffing police dog circled the cars.

Although the stops were supposedly conducted at random, "they stopped me because I had a targeted 'Pot User' car — a '79 Black Trans Am — and long hair," said Palmer.

After the police stopped him, See **SUPREME COURT** Page 12

NewsPolitics

No time, no place, and no libertarian

It turns out that when Joel Klein, the Justice Department's chief prosecutor in the Microsoft antitrust case, offered to debate the merits of the case "anytime, anywhere, with any libertarian," he didn't exactly mean anytime.

Or anywhere.

Or with any libertarian.

In late July, a "special assistant" at the D.O.J. wrote to the California-based Independent Institute to say that Klein was declining an invitation to debate because "it would not be proper for us to participate in a public debate relating to United States v. Microsoft Corp."

The response came about six months after Klein had told an audience at North Carolina State University that the merits of government antitrust regulation were so powerful, "I will debate that anytime, anywhere, with any libertarian."

The following day, Robert Latham at the Independent Institute faxed Klein a letter, taking him up on his offer.

Latham wrote: "As publisher of two highly regarded books on antitrust policy, the Independent Institute is very interested in this issue. Therefore, I invite you to participate in such an event before a local audience at our facility or some other venue."

Six months later, Klein responded with his terse refusal.

"When the most visible defender of antitrust regulation retracts his own offer to defend his position, we are forced to ask, 'What principles does he defend?'" said Latham.

Utah LP files gubernatorial lawsuit

The Utah LP has filed a lawsuit to compel the state to put Douglas Jones, the real Libertarian Party candidate for governor, on the ballot.

On July 25, Libertarians filed suit in Third District Court in Salt Lake City to place Jones on the ballot, instead of rogue candidate Dub Richards, who claims to be a member of the Constitution, Democratic, Independent-American, Libertarian, Natural Law, Reform, and Republican parties.

"[Such] broad spectrum, multi-party membership is impossible," said LP State Chair Jim Dexter — and should have disqualified Richards from a spot on the ballot.

Richards had approached the LP in March, offering to run for governor and claiming to support the Libertarian platform, said Dexter. The LP agreed to pay the \$465 filing fee if Richards joined the party.

Richards took the money and "decided to file as a fusion candidate" under every available party banner, said Dexter.

Then, "Richards appeared at the [nominating] convention, refused to join, and started espousing his personal philosophies which were totally at odds with Libertarians' basic belief in less government, lower taxes, and more personal freedom," he said.

In response, the convention unanimously nominated Douglas Jones for governor, asked the state to strip Richards of his Libertarian-funded spot on the ballot, and filed the lawsuit when the state refused.

Libertarians want the state government "to obey Utah's election code [by] certifying the convention's choice as the party's nominee," said Dexter.

Strong polls for Movimiento Libertario

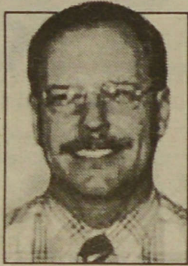
Costa Rica's Libertarian Party — Movimiento Libertario — would elect six Congressmen if elections were held this summer, says a poll released by *La Nacion*, the country's leading newspaper.

According to a survey taken in June, the Movimiento Libertario (ML) would win 9.7% of the general vote for the next congressional elections, which will be held in 2002. The survey had a margin of error of 2.8%.

"Despite the fact that we haven't started our campaign, and the other political parties already have, the Movimiento Libertario keeps growing as a political alternative in Costa Rica," said incumbent ML Congressman Otto Guevara.

Movimiento Libertario was founded six years ago and elected one Congressman in its first general election in 1998, thanks in large part to the country's proportional representation voting system.

During its first two years in Congress, the Movimiento Libertario has fought for the abolition of all public monopolies, including the Central Bank, and Guevara was voted "Costa Rica's best Congressman" in several polls.



■ Doug Jones:
Real candidate

Court ruling: Carla Howell back in three-way U.S. Senate race

Repudiated Republican candidate gets back on the ballot

In a setback for the Carla Howell for U.S. Senate campaign in Massachusetts, the state Supreme Court has put the Republican candidate back on the ballot.

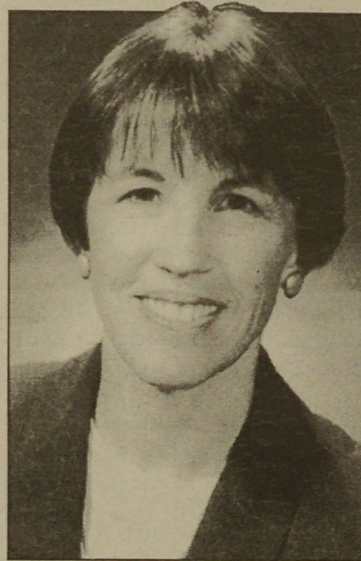
As a result, instead of the much-anticipated two-way match-up with Democratic incumbent Ted Kennedy, Howell is in a three-way race — albeit a three-way race that features Jack E. Robinson, a Republican opponent who is disorganized, unpopular, and has been repudiated by the state's GOP leadership.

"It's a shame that Robinson is back on the ballot," said Howell. "He's been rejected by [the] Republican governor, rejected by the Republican leadership, and rejected by grassroots Republicans in Massachusetts."

"[However], this may be even better than a two-way race: A three-way race where the Republican candidate is ignored and the Libertarian is viewed as the only serious challenger! Such a weak Republican opponent gives us a golden opportunity to attract small-government Republicans to our party and to show our strength."

115 more

On July 18, the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled that the Secretary of State had erred by disqualifying 129 of Robinson's contested signatures. The decision gave the Republican 10,115 valid signatures, or 115 more than



Carla Howell: With the Republican back in the race, "this may be even better than a two-way race."

needed to qualify.

After the decision, Robinson's campaign remained in turmoil. The *Boston Herald* noted that the GOP candidate "made the calls alerting the media [about the court decision] himself because he has no staff" and had only \$192.67 in his campaign account.

And the state Republican Party reiterated that it would not endorse Robinson, thanks to his embarrassing past which includes drunken driving charges, accusations of sexual harassment, and a restraining order from a former girlfriend.

Because of Robinson's weak-

ness, Howell said the decision to put him back on the ballot is a mixed blessing for her campaign.

"I wasn't sure if we'd be better off with or without him," she said. "On one hand, his absence allowed us to focus the race on the striking contrast between Big Government Ted Kennedy and small government Carla Howell."

Surpassing

On the other hand, with Robinson back on the ballot, "we stand a better chance than ever of surpassing him in votes — even though his party has 25 times as many registered voters. It would be a major victory for the Libertarian to surpass the Republican — or to even come close," said Howell.

"The other advantage is that it may increase the chances of Ted Kennedy including me in a debate. He might be willing to invite us both to debate him with the hope we'll split the vote."

Despite the partial disappointment, having Robinson back in the race "never changed our campaign strategy or activities at all," said Howell.

"Speaking engagements. Media interviews. Yard signs. Bumper stickers. Ads. Endorsements. Small government news. Newspaper columns. A million things to do every day. We've remained extremely busy throughout the campaign with one unwavering goal: To give voters a choice

See **THREE-WAY RACE** Page 10

Tennessee LP member files petitions to stop proposed increase in 'wheel tax'

A Tennessee Libertarian has turned in enough signatures to get a referendum on the ballot to try to block a proposed increase in the county's "wheel tax."

On July 19, Greene County LP Chair Dan Burgner submitted more than 2,500 signatures to the County Election Commission — far more than the 953 signatures required to qualify the referendum for a spot on the November ballot.

The referendum would allow county residents to vote on a proposed \$17 increase in the county "wheel tax," a car registration tax people pay for license plates.

\$500,000 a year

The proposed tax hike would cost county residents up to \$500,000 a year, and would help "complete the funding package" for

DAN BURGNER:

"I'm against all taxes. I'm not just zeroing in on the wheel tax."

construction of a new high school.

Burgner said he launched the petition drive with the help of Greene Countians for Spending Reform because he is "against all taxes. I'm not just zeroing in on the wheel tax."

In addition, he said, the tax hike is not needed since the Greene County Board of Education has a \$27 million budget, and

the added cost of the interest payments for the new construction amounts to just 5% of the school system's annual budget.

"Five percent of any budget is chump change, petty cash, and pocket change," he said. "They've got plenty of money."

Widespread support

The petition drive won widespread support from local residents, said Burger, with "Constitutionalists, Republicans, and Democrats" helping to gather signatures. "In fact, I don't believe I would have pulled it off without them."

Although he is widely known as a Libertarian, Burger said he didn't try to attach the Libertarian Party label to the petition drive.

"I didn't want the public to See **REFERENDUM** Page 10

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★ **Harry Browne Tri-Fold Brochure**

A concise introductory piece about Harry Browne, Libertarian principles on major issues, and who should run your life - you or the politicians. 8-1/2" X 11-1/2" tri-fold 80lb glossy sheet, printed both sides in 2-colors. Shipped in bundles of 100.

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100-Pack \$10
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★ **Harry Browne Tabloid**

32 page information piece contains detailed Libertarian essays and information about the LP. If you want to give people just one piece of literature that will answer most of their questions, this is definitely the piece.

1 Tabloid \$2.00
10-Pack tabloids \$7.80
50-Pack tabloids \$22
100-Pack tabloids \$34

★ **Harry Browne Button**

2-1/4 inch, three colors, screen-printed on bright white with Poly coating for durability. All metal body with Safe-Pin fastener.

1 Button \$1.00
10-Pack buttons \$7.50
50-Pack buttons \$25
100-Pack buttons \$40

★ **Harry Browne Auto Sticker**

Two colors, screen-printed on bright white Zip-Strip Vinyl. These stickers are vividly readable and backed with Easy-Off adhesive - assisting removal.

1 Auto sticker \$1.00
10-Pack auto sticker \$7.50
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100-Pack auto sticker \$40

★ **Double-Sided Yard Sign with Wire Frame 16" x 26"**

Screen-printed on 18 point white card. Polyethylene coated on both sides for weather resistance. 8-gauge high tensile strength steel wire frame included.

Item# HB192
1 Yard sign \$10
3-Pack yard signs \$23
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50-Pack yard signs \$229
100-Pack yard signs \$349

★ **Corrugated Plastic Yard Sign with Frame 16" x 24"**

Two colors, imprint on both sides. Manufactured of white, all weather corrugated plastic. Screened printed in two colors on both sides. 12-1/2" x 33" frame included.

\$20.00 Each

★ **Corrugated Plastic Yard Sign with Metal Rods 24" x 35"**

Two colors, imprint on both sides. Manufactured of white, all weather corrugated plastic. Insert included rods into the vertical flutes and slide your finished sign into the ground.

\$26 Each

Help Spread the Word about Harry Browne

Harry Browne is being heard!

The word is out! Harry Browne is getting favorable attention from areas of the media that previously ignored the Libertarian party and Libertarian candidates. He's been included in the three major, non-partisan polls, Gallup, Zogby and Rasmussen. A major first for the Libertarian Party. He's also been the subject of an Associated Press story distributed to nearly 100 newspapers nationwide. Additionally, he's the only Libertarian qualified to participate in the League of Women Voters online Democracy Project, CBS's online President Match, and AOL's presidency project.

Harry Browne is primed and running hard for 2000. With your help even more Americans will hear of Harry Browne and his persuasive presentation of Libertarian solutions to the problems we face.

This is the year we can make great gains in visibility and new members. Help promote Harry, the LP and Libertarian principles - all at the same time. The Harry Browne Store has numerous outreach tools to assist you. We have products to fit every budget - from the buck in your pocket to discounted multi-packs your organization can buy and sell at a profit. If you can afford to give them away, that's great too!

Your satisfaction is guaranteed! If you are dissatisfied with any products you order from us, simply return them with the invoice within 30 days of purchase. We'll promptly issue you a refund.

★ **Hand Held Rally Sign 14" x 22"**

Screen printed in two colors on both sides of 24 point white card stock. Also great for windows (inside) or hanging on walls, displays, and booths. Not suitable for prolonged outdoor exposure.

1 Sign \$6.50
3-Pack signs \$12
10-Pack signs \$31
50-Pack signs \$107
100-Pack signs \$158

★ **Stick-Mounted Rally Sign 12" x 19"**

Screen printed in two colors on both sides. Poly coated for weather resistance. Sign has a 2" center pocket for inserting a 30" x 1-1/8" x 1/8" wooden stick included with each sign. No staples needed!

1 Sign \$7.50
3-Pack signs \$14.00
10-Pack signs \$36
50-Pack signs \$133
100-Pack signs \$214

★ **Harry Browne for President Caps**

Embroidered image, 6 panel, 100% cotton twill. Natural color crown. 6 rows stitching on dark blue, memory-shape visor. 1 size fits all poly snap adjustment. Top-quality cap made in USA.

1 Cap \$17.95
3-Pack \$45
10-Pack \$130
50-Pack \$499
100-Pack \$799

★ **Harry Browne T-Shirt**

Fruit of the Loom - Lofteez, 100% pre-shrunk cotton in Natural color. Fully double-needle stitched, cover-stitched armholes and seam-less collar. 3 color HB Logo on front. 2 color message on back. Sizes: M L XL 2XL 3XL. Specify sizes! Size mixing okay on Multi-Packs!

Add \$2 Each 2XL or 3XL Size Shirt.
1 Shirt \$17.95
3-Pack \$45
10-Pack \$130

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Talking Points

Revealed: Why Jesus hates guns & Capitol Hill's little tax problem

■ Define this: Gargantuan

IRS regulations, court cases, and other tax law supporting materials total nearly 47,000 pages.

By contrast, *Webster's Unabridged Dictionary*, which contains definitions for every word in the English language, consists of only 2,783 pages.

— NTU DOLLARS & SENSE
July/August 2000

■ Seize their assets!

Members of Congress and their staffs owe about \$10.5 million in back taxes, according to IRS data. As of October 1999, the nonpayment rate topped eight percent in the House and seven percent in the Senate. The balance owed by all federal employees is estimated at \$2.4 billion.

— PLAYBOY, September 2000

■ Helping the consumer?

If the Microsoft antitrust case was about saving the consumer money, then the government failed in its mission.

The U.S. Department of Justice's antitrust action against Microsoft has cost mutual fund owners big bucks, according to *CRN* research. The recent plunge in Microsoft's share price is partially—but not exclusively—the result of the government's antitrust action, *CRN* analysis shows. And this drop is costing mutual fund shareholders much more than what they may gain from breaking up the company.

"This is once again a case of the government being penny-wise and pound-foolish in their actions," says A. Gary Shilling, president of A. Gary Shilling & Co., an economic consulting and investment advisory firm.

— CRN MAGAZINE
June 26, 2000

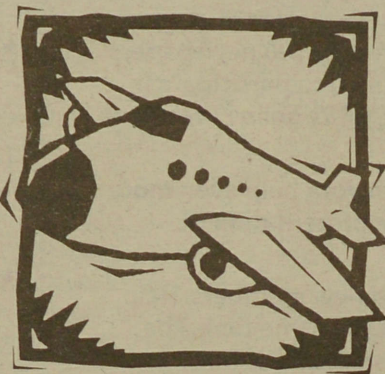
■ The GOP sure won't

[Congressman and former LP presidential candidate Ron Paul] votes against just about every bill that provides funding for the federal government and just about every bill that would extend government power.

Republicans say they admire Paul's views, even though most of them wouldn't carry them so far.

"He's a beacon," says John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-IL. "He's the guy who keeps saying, 'Government's too big. Government's too big.' Somebody has to keep saying that."

— USA TODAY, July 3, 2000



A PILOT FLEW A Boeing 727 while legally drunk.

Thanks to the ADA, the airline had to put him back to work flying jets.

■ Fly the drunken skies

It's been 10 years, but few people have forgotten the time that a Northwest Airlines pilot made news by flying a Boeing 727 with 58 passengers while legally drunk. Norman Prouse was arrested when the plane landed in Minneapolis and served more than a year in prison. But from his point of view, at least, the story had a happy ending: In 1995, Northwest put him back to work flying jets.

How did that happen? Well, Mr. Prouse went through an alcohol rehabilitation program for his problem, thus gaining the protection of the Americans With Disabilities Act, which bars discrimination against people with handicaps, including disorders like alcoholism. So when he and the pilots' union demanded that he be rehired, Northwest apparently decided it had little choice but to go along.

[Late July] marked the 10th anniversary of the enactment of the ADA, and everyone agreed it was a wonderful occasion. Attorney General Janet Reno issued a Justice Department report exclaiming, "There is so much to celebrate." George W. Bush proudly reminded everyone that "my father's signature made it the law of the land." For some reason, none of the celebrants saw fit to

mention Mr. Prouse.

In fact, no one questioned the law's effectiveness or acknowledged that it might be anything less than an unalloyed blessing to all.

[For example], The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission sued Conrail after it barred an employee from a railroad dispatcher's job because his heart condition can cause him to black out, arguing that he presented no "direct threat" to people.

— STEPHEN CHAPMAN
The Washington Times
August 2, 2000

■ It worked in Albania!

This platform was adopted by the delegates of the membership of the Greens/Green Party USA at their annual Green Congress meeting in Chicago:

- 30-Hour Work Week: A 6-hour day with no cut in pay.
- Free Child Care: Available voluntarily and free for all who need it, federally financed, and community controlled.
- Strengthen Anti-Trust Enforcement: Require breakup of any firm with more than 10% market share unless it makes a compelling case every five years in a public regulatory proceeding that it serves the public interest to keep the firm intact.

• Maximum Income: Build into the progressive income tax a 100% tax on all income over ten times the minimum wage.

— GREENS/GREEN PARTY USA
May 26-28, 2000

■ Dry Water

A low-taxing government that leaves its citizens free of arbitrary controls while administering hugely expensive programs to protect them against any unpleasant contingency—well, that's like asking for dry water.

— STEPHEN CHAPMAN
Intellectual Ammunition
July/August 2000

■ Why Jesus is anti-gun

Meeting recently in their 73rd General Convention in Chicago, Episcopalians passed a resolution that calls upon all members "to work intentionally in their several communities, legislatures and institutions toward the removal of handguns and assault weapons from our homes, other residential communities, and vehicles."

But, why? Since there are many law-abiding Americans who

use guns in self-defense every year, why seek to deny these persons the capability to use guns to defend themselves, their families, friends and/or property?

In an attempt to get an answer to this question and others, we spoke with Duncan Moore, who served on the Peace And Social Justice Commission which drafted this resolution:

Q: Why remove guns from the home when a dozen studies and polls show that as many as three million Americans annually use guns in self-defense, including handguns?

A: Well, I haven't seen those studies. The studies I've seen show that the presence of a gun in the home vastly increases the likelihood that a member of the household will be injured by that gun.

Q: So, you're unaware of the self-defense data I just mentioned?

A: I know that many people make this argument. But, I don't subscribe...

Q: I'm not talking about arguments. I'm talking about studies and polls. In fact, a Gallup Poll in May of this year showed that 14.3 million adult Americans say they have used a gun in self defense. Are you aware of any of this data?

A: I'm aware that some people allege that such studies exist.

Q: So, have you checked out these allegations to see if they are true?

A: No, I've been reading the medical literature which is fairly straightforward on the risks involved in keeping a gun in the household.

Q: But, I'm talking about self-defense! I'm talking about the risk posed to criminals by armed homeowners who have guns to protect themselves, family and property. Do you care about this?

A: No, I don't believe that's true. It's a bogus argument. I subscribe to the argument that guns are not Christian. That is the crux of my argument.

Q: And where in Scripture do you see support for your view?

A: Jesus doesn't talk about self-defense. Jesus talks about caring for other people. And if we care deeply for other people, we

should remove the weapons that cause other people harm.

Q: But, wouldn't caring for other people include protecting yourself, family and friends by, when necessary, using guns against criminals in your home?

At this point, Moore says this conversation is not being conducted "properly" because he is being "proselytized." He hangs up the phone.

— LARRY PRATT
Gun Owners of America
July 2000

■ No tax-funded love?

At the National Fatherhood Initiative's Third National Summit [in Washington, DC on June 2, Vice President Al Gore said] he's also worried about "emotional" deadbeat dads—"fathers who communicate with their children across a glaring TV set and don't communicate from the heart at all; fathers who pay the bills, but leave a deficit of love and caring and self-esteem in their children's lives"

He didn't offer a solution to this issue, which is perhaps another indicator that the era of Big Government is indeed over; it takes some courage to admit that the state can't solve problems as pressing as the dearth of good dinner-table conversation.

— MICHAEL W. LYNCH
Reason, August/Sept. 2000

■ Feel safer?

Federal law enforcement is a growth industry. Federal criminal court cases rose nearly 13% between 1997 and 1998. And in 1998, there were 83,000 federal law-enforcement officers, up 17% in five years.

— REASON, August/Sept. 2000

■ Bill's last fans

Bill Clinton may have a tarnished image with adults—but little kids are still on his side.

According to a new survey by the *World Almanac for Kids*, children consider Clinton to be the most important person in the world and even rank him above their mothers and fathers.

Kids place Pope John Paul II No. 2 on the list.

— LAS VEGAS REVIEW JOURNAL
July 18, 2000

"Life without liberty is like a body without spirit."

— KHALIL GIBRAN

As a Libertarian, you understand that "life without liberty is like a body without spirit." And, you want your children and grandchildren to be able to continue to enjoy that spirit of liberty, even when you are no longer here to share it with them. There is a way you can make that happen—by naming the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. To discuss this option confidentially, call national Libertarian Party Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (508) 472-5321. Or e-mail him at: Treasurer@lp.org.

Carla Howell Polls 16% Against Ted Kennedy

First Rasmussen Research U.S. Senate Poll for Massachusetts:

Rasmussen Research, lead story: "Senator Ted Kennedy is leading Libertarian candidate Carla Howell 63% to 16% in the Massachusetts race for the U.S. Senate. While Kennedy holds a solid lead, Howell could be in a position to achieve one of the largest vote totals ever achieved by a Libertarian candidate."

The good news for Carla Howell, says Rasmussen: "74% of Massachusetts voters have never heard of Howell or have no opinion of her."

"Out of the 26% of the voters who have heard of Carla Howell, 62% are voting for her," noted one political pundit.

How much will this 16% increase when the Carla Howell campaign runs \$300,000 in TV Advertising?

Will Carla Howell's 16% in the first U.S. Senate Poll convince Major Media in Massachusetts to give us even more coverage?

We're ahead of Jesse Ventura in 1998

September 1998: Jesse Ventura 10%-12% in the polls.
August, 2000: Carla Howell 16% in the polls.

Why is every Major Gun Rights Activist and Tax-Cutter in Massachusetts endorsing and voting for Carla Howell?

Why has Carla Howell been invited to speak to a crowd of 60,000?

Why is PBS TV station WGBH doing a campaign documentary?

Because of your donation. And our work.

With your help, we EARNED our Poll Numbers, Endorsements, TV, Radio and Newspaper coverage.

We received one piece of rotten news and some good news. Nine days after we posted our last *LP News* ad, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, in an arbitrary and inconsistent ruling, ordered the Ballot Law Commission to put Republican Jack Robinson's name on the ballot. Despite the fact that Robinson's petitions contained numerous fraudulent signatures and outright forgeries. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court didn't want to examine the thousands of uninspected petition signatures for perhaps hundreds of additional fraudulent signatures and forgeries. Good News: Robinson's campaign team quit. He has no volunteers. At his first campaign event, no one attended. But the media calls this a three-way U.S. Senate race.

A few endorsements

Jack Durkin, President, Gun Owners Action League (NRA Affiliate) said: "The Second Amendment is Carla Howell's Holy Grail. She supports the rights of gun owners

Ted Kennedy 63%
Carla Howell 16%
Unsure 21%
— AUGUST 11, 2000 —

more than any other congressional candidate you can vote for. I plan to vote for her. I hope you will, too."

Barbara Anderson, Chip Ford, and Chip Faulkner: 3 of the most influential Tax-Cutting Activists in Massachusetts. Lovett Peters, Chairman, Pioneer Institute [Premiere Privatization Policy Group in Massachusetts]. Richard Egan, Founder and Chairman, EMC Corporation. Education Reformer John Taylor Gatto, author of *Dumbing Us Down* and *A Different Kind of Teacher: Reflections on the Bitter Lessons of American Schooling*.

It gets even better

September 16: Carla Howell will be a Featured Speaker at the Mass Cann/NORML Freedom Rally to End Anti-Marijuana Laws — 60,000 on the Boston Common.

60,000 people will hear Carla Howell tell why we must Immediately End Drug Prohibition. Immediately End the Insane War on Drugs.

Immediately pardon all 1,000,000 non-violent federal drug prisoners — and make that prison cell space available for murderers, rapists and child molesters.

Radio Ads: Already \$20,000 in Carla Howell, Libertarian for US Senate, "small government is beautifulsm" Radio Ads.

TV Ads: We must produce and pay for \$300,000 in TV Advertising. Hard-hitting, persuasive TV Ads. On Gun Rights. The Biggest Tax Cut in American History. Ending Drug Prohibition and the Insane War on Drugs. "Small government is beautifulsm."

Massachusetts voters are seeing Car after Car with Carla Howell bumper stickers. House after House with Carla Howell yard signs. Gun Club after Gun Club with Carla Howell campaign fliers.

16% for Carla Howell

According to the Rasmussen poll, we've reached roughly 1,700,000 people in Massachusetts. 62% of the people who have heard us say they are voting Carla Howell for U.S. Senate.

With \$300,000 in TV Ads, we will get dramatically more TV News coverage, Talk Radio Appearances and Newspaper articles — and reach the 74% of Massachusetts voters who haven't heard our message. 863 TV Ads. \$300,000 in TV Ads.

You can still donate up to \$2,000 to our Libertarian campaign. \$1,000 for the primary. \$1,000 for the general election. So can your spouse.

Your \$2,000 donation will reach 640,000 voters — 13% of the voters who have not seen the Carla Howell "small government is beautifulsm" message.

Or \$1,000. Reach 320,000 voters.

Please donate \$500.

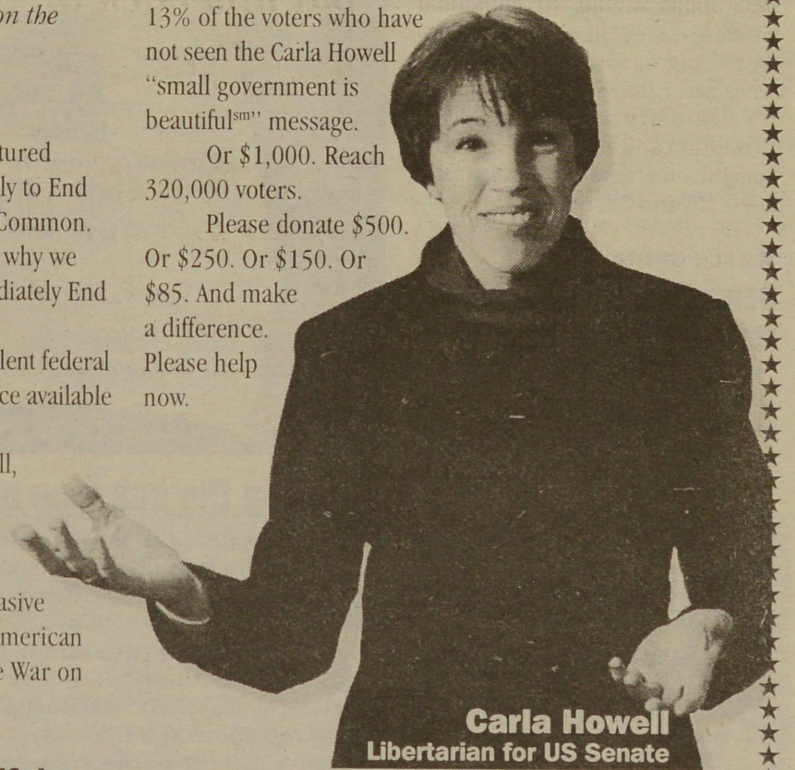
Or \$250. Or \$150. Or

\$85. And make

a difference.

Please help

now.



— "small government is beautifulsm" —

carla howell

Libertarian for U.S. Senate
\$300,000 in TV Ads

Here's my best contribution to make this happen:

One-time Contribution: ☐ \$2,000 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500

☐ \$250 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$85 ☐ Other: \$ _____

I'll pay by: ☐ Check: "Carla Howell for US Senate" (no corporate checks)

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You can donate \$2,000 — \$1,000 for the primary, \$1,000 for the general election.

Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

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A \$2 million Prohibition gamble, & legalizing Greenfield bake sales

■ ALABAMA

Libertarians win ruling on special election dates

State Libertarians have won the right to name candidates to two special elections after they complained to the Secretary of State's office about "illegal" filing deadlines.

On July 19, Governor Don Siegelman pushed back the date of two elections by three weeks after Libertarians pointed out that the previous date, August 12, didn't allow third-party candidates the required six days after a runoff election to sign up for the general election.

"[The previous] filing deadlines were clearly illegal," said Alabama LP vice chair **Matthew A. Givens**. "The party contacted the Secretary of State's office and the Governor's office. After a few days of discussions, [they] agreed we were correct in our claims. The new filing deadlines are in complete accordance with state law."

The party is now attempting to recruit candidates to run in the special elections in House Districts 28 and 38, he said.

■ CALIFORNIA

Reform Party implosion was inevitable, says LP

The Reform Party's self-destruction — displayed at its tumultuous national convention in Long Beach — was as inevitable as "death and taxes," the California LP declared.

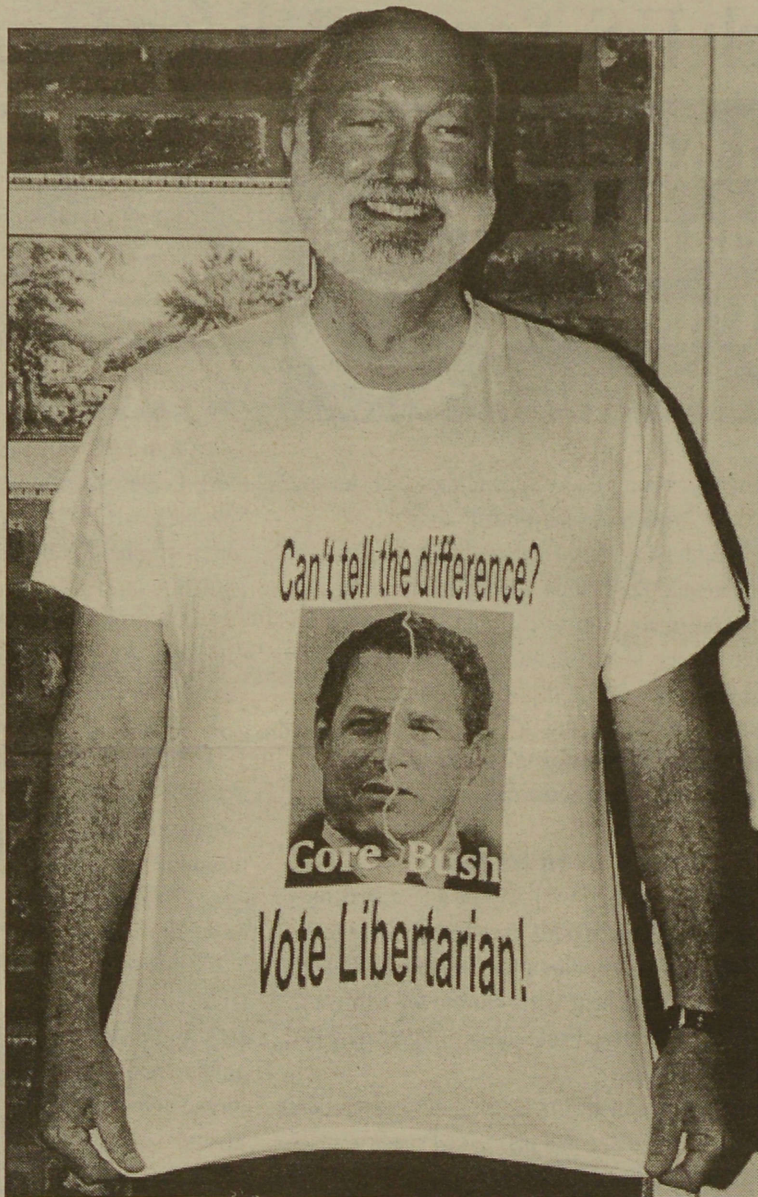
"The Reform Party has been in a coma for some time, and all signs were pointing towards its demise," said state executive director **Juan Ros** on August 11, as the Reform Party fractured into two competing organizations with two presidential candidates.

The basic problem, he said, is that the Reform Party has no unifying ideology.

"How else can you explain a party that counted as members a semi-libertarian like Jesse Ventura and a social conservative like Pat Buchanan?" he asked. "A party with that much ideological divide cannot survive long."

The party's other fatal flaw: The lure of federal funds, said Ros.

"The Reform Party wasted no time accepting \$2.5 million in political welfare for its convention and \$12.6 million for its nominee," he said. "In the end, the federal handout will drive the final nails in the Reform Party's coffin."



Showing the one face of Gore/Bush

■ Kentucky LP activist Jim Haynes wanted to show people there was no real difference between Republican George W. Bush and Democrat Al Gore — so he created a unique "Can't Tell The Difference? / Vote Libertarian" tee-shirt.

When wearing the shirt in public, "many people would smile and nod their heads," he said. "Others would frown, as if trying to figure it out. Best of all, several stopped and asked me about the Libertarian Party and our candidate."

Haynes, who is the Treasurer of the Kentucky LP, said the response from other Libertarians has been so strong that he has decided to make the shirt available for sale, and "all proceeds will go to help Libertarian candidates in the Kentucky elections."

The 100% cotton shirts are available in M, L, and XL for \$20 each. To order, write: Libertarian Promotions, P.O. Box 1450, Glasgow, KY 42142-1450. E-mail: libertarians@glasgow-ky.com. Fax: (800) 546-4294.

■ GEORGIA

Cobb County Libertarians fight proposed tax hike

Cobb County Libertarians have begun a campaign to stop a \$230 million tax to fund new parks, recreation, and sidewalks.

Speaking at a public hearing on June 13 — and wearing a button that read "No New Tax" — Cobb County LP Chairman **Mike Powers** said that government should consider "free market alternatives" to the proposed one-penny sales tax boost.

"This is not an anti-park movement, but we would prefer [that] the government explore free market alternatives," he said. "Seniors and low-income families will be forced to pay this tax also, and I don't think they should be forced to pay for a service they'll probably never use."

Instead, the county should consider corporate sponsorship of parks, tax breaks for people who contribute land, or user fees, said Powers.

Under the proposal, the county sales tax would jump to 6% for 16 months, at a cost for the typical family of up to \$240.

■ ILLINOIS

West Dundee Libertarian gets newspaper column

A Libertarian Party activist in the suburbs of Chicago has started writing a monthly newspaper column that will analyze "political and social events from a distinctively libertarian perspective."

Since early summer, **Jack VanNoord** has been contributing a column to the West Dundee *Daily Herald*, which reaches about 15,000 readers.

"I think it is important for everyone to be exposed to reasoned, thoughtful libertarian solutions," said VanNoord. "I hope this column proves to be a non-threatening way for people to have a positive exposure to the principles of individual liberty."

VanNoord got the opportunity to write the column after the newspaper printed six of his letters to the editor, and he asked the editors if they would be interested in regular essays.

Column topics have included welfare, campaign finance reform, and the recent Supreme Court decision on Boy Scouts and homosexuals.

"Hopefully, this column will help readers realize that they have libertarian leanings they never knew about," said VanNoord.

■ ILLINOIS

Wanna bet \$2 million that Prohibition causes crime?

The chairman of the Chicago LP has offered to make a \$2 million bet with any Illinois Congressman or U.S. Senator that ending Drug Prohibition will reduce violence — but, so far, not one is willing to take him up.

"Politicians in Congress sell themselves to everyone else, why not me?" asked Matt Beauchamp. "It's clear that the cause of all this violence [in the country] is the profit motive that drug prohibition brings."

"I'm so sure that re-legalization will drastically reduce juvenile homicide rates and gang violence that I'm willing to put my money where my mouth is."

In a letter to the editor of the *Chicago Sun-Times* in early August, Beauchamp offered \$2 million to any Illinois Senator or Congressman who would introduce

legislation eliminating the Harrison Narcotics Act.

"The politicians [would] collect if re-legalization does not drastically reduce murder and violent crime," he said. "The laws of economics say that it will. Do any of these politicians have a spine? Stay tuned!"

■ INDIANA

Elected LP member finally repeals bake sale law

It took him four years, but an elected Libertarian has managed to abolish a regulation that required Greenfield residents to get permission from "Big Brother" to have a bake sale.

On July 28, **Phil Miller** convinced the City Council, by a 4-1 vote, to repeal a regulation that forced anyone holding a fundraising event to register with city government.

"Four years ago, in order for Girl Scouts to have a car wash, they had to visit the Board of Zoning appeals, pay [a] \$50 filing fee, and have the request published in the newspaper," he said.

As a private citizen in 1996, Miller managed to eliminate the filing fee and newspaper notification when he "embarrassed the Republican-led city council" about the issue. Now, as a City Council member himself, Miller convinced his colleagues to go one step further.

"Now any civic organization can wake up on a Saturday morning and impulsively decide to have a car wash, bake sale, or other community fund raiser without asking permission of Big Brother," he said.

■ MICHIGAN

Ottawa County LP fights Hudsonville ban on booze

The Libertarian Party of Ottawa County endorsed a proposal to repeal a ban on alcohol in the city of Hudsonville — arguing that it is time to "reject prohibition" — but couldn't get voters to agree with them.

In late July, the county party voted to endorse Proposal A, which would allow Hudsonville restaurants to sell alcohol to customers.

Alcohol prohibition "directly violates the property rights of business owners and freedom of choice of area residents," said party chair **Jason C. Miller**. "Repealing the alcohol ban is in the direct interest of the Ottawa County LP. It's our chance to help fight for more freedom and make a difference for voters at the local level."

County LP activists sup-

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ported the anti-prohibition campaign by going door-to-door to distribute fliers and distributing "Vote Yes On Proposal A" yard signs, he said.

However, in the election on August 8, Hudsonville voters rejected Proposal A by 60%-40%.

■ MICHIGAN

Michigan LP has \$39,000 BARC for ballot retention

The Michigan LP's Ballot Access Retention Committee (BARC) has raised a war chest of \$39,000 to make sure that presidential candidate Harry Browne gets enough votes this November to maintain ballot status in the state.

Already, BARC has spent \$12,000 on billboard contracts to promote Browne, said committee chair **Barbara Goushaw**, and will focus next on lawn signs, banners, and a radio advertising campaign.

"My personal goal is to make sure that more Michigan voters cast their ballots for Harry Browne — at least the highest per capita — than anywhere else in the country," said Goushaw.

As the top-of-the-ticket Libertarian candidate in Michigan in 2000, Browne needs to get at least 20,555 votes — or 1% of the votes cast for the last winning Secretary of State — for the LP to keep its automatic place on the ballot.

■ MISSOURI

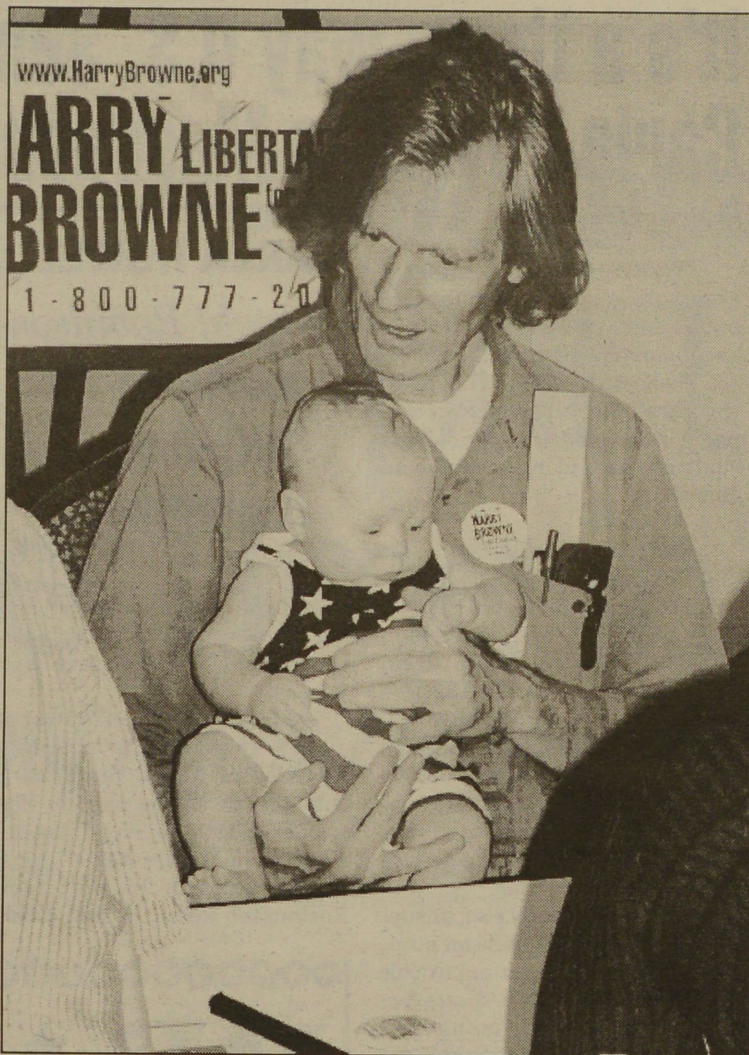
What the heck: Missouri website makes it to #1

The Missouri LP's website has been named the most popular Libertarian website by WhatTheHeck.com.

In late July, the Missouri LP website — www.geocities.com/molp.geo/ — reached #1 on the 25 Best Libertarian Sites list, based on the number of clickthrus from WhatTheHeck.com.

Trailing behind the Missouri LP website on the list were FreeMarketopia.com (#2), The Libertarian Enterprise online newsletter (#3), the Illinois LP website (#4), and the Liberty Forum Association (#5).

WhatTheHeck.com was started by two "adamant Libertarians," who use the 25 Best List as a way to "spread libertarianism



Connecticut's littlest Libertarian

■ **Pazit Edelman** of Windham, Connecticut makes sure that his patriotically garbed daughter, **Rebecca Edelman**, is exposed to libertarianism at an early age. Father and daughter are shown here at the Radisson Hotel in Cromwell, Connecticut on August 10, listening to a speech by LP presidential candidate **Harry Browne**.

throughout the WWW (World Wide Web)," said the site's FAQ.

WhatTheHeck.com generates over 1,000 unique visitors every day, and 250,000 pageviews in a typical month, said the site's webmaster.

■ MISSOURI

State Libertarians bring liberty books to libraries

A project by the Missouri LP to put books about liberty in public libraries has placed copies of *Libertarianism: A Primer* in 118 libraries around the state.

The project was launched when party activists **Greg Tlapak** and **Mike Gardner** discovered that "many libraries around the state had no titles at all on the subject [of libertarianism]," said *Show Me Freedom* newsletter editor **Jeanne Bojarski**.

"How was someone who had heard or read the word — an increasingly common event for anyone who follows politics today — to learn more about libertarian principles and policies?"

In response, Tlapak sent out a fundraising request and raised enough money to buy 118 copies of *Libertarianism: A Primer*, written by **David Boaz** of the Cato Institute, and place them in "high school, college, and public libraries (city, county, and even regional)," said Bojarski.

■ NEVADA

State executive director is appointed to city office

The executive director of the Nevada LP has been appointed to the North Las Vegas Citizen Advisory Board, beating out 30 other applicants for the position.

Chris Azzaro was named to the position on July 19, following a vote of the City Council.

"It's an honor to receive this appointment," said Azzaro. "It's a great opportunity to serve my community."

The seven-member advisory board is responsible for evaluating proposals for community development block grants and making recommendations for the funds. Azzaro will serve a four-year term on the board.

The appointment boosts to five the number of Libertarians holding office in Nevada — compared to zero just three years ago.

■ NEW MEXICO

Will Jimmy Carter agree to monitor state election?

State Libertarians have made a public request for former president **Jimmy Carter** to come to New Mexico to monitor the election in November — charging that questionable state election practices "rival some of the things that go on in third world countries."

In mid-July, LP State Chair **Joseph Knight** sent a request to the Carter Center in Georgia — which runs the Democracy Program to monitor disputed elections around the globe — to come to New Mexico to investigate the state's electoral process.

"I've asked [Carter] to investigate continuing efforts of the state to impede the progress of the Libertarian Party," said Knight. "Certainly some of the shenanigans we've seen over the years in New Mexico would rival some of the things that go on in these third world countries."

New Mexico Libertarians have been involved in an ongoing battle with the Secretary of State's office over a disputed voter registration drive and the state's refusal to give the Libertarians major party status.

■ NEW YORK

Property grab by Ikea is 'legalized theft,' says LP

The state Libertarian Party has blasted an effort by the city of New Rochelle to condemn doz-

ens of homes, businesses, and churches in order to build a new furniture store.

In late July, LP State Chair **Richard Cooper** said that a proposal to condemn 30 homes, 30 businesses, and two churches to make way for a proposed Ikea furniture store in the City Park section of New Rochelle was "legalized theft."

"Ikea should furnish homes and offices, not wreck them through the state's eminent domain law," he said. "We condemn eminent domain as violating private property rights."

The city threatened to condemn the property after owners refused to sell it to Ikea, a national furniture store chain.

Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate **John Clifton** agreed that the proposed land-grab is an "affront to private property rights."

"[It's] a prime example of the wrongful use of force by government to seize other people's property to unfairly benefit a private company," he said. "Which politicians have decided to promote the interests of Ikea over the will of taxpayers? Who gave them the authority to wreck homes?"

■ VIRGINIA

State Libertarians start radio advertising effort

The Virginia LP has launched a radio advertising campaign to promote the party — and started the effort with a salvo of 32 spots in Richmond in early August.

The ads are running on WVNZ radio (AM 1320), and "sound terrific," said state Executive Director **Marc Montoni**, who coordinated the project.

Professionally produced by the radio station, the ads focus on high taxes and the lack of difference between Republicans and Democrats, and encourage listeners to visit the Libertarian Party's website or to call a toll-free number for more information.

The state party will run more ads as it raises more money, said Montoni.

LP POLITICAL DIRECTOR RON CRICKENBERGER ASKS:

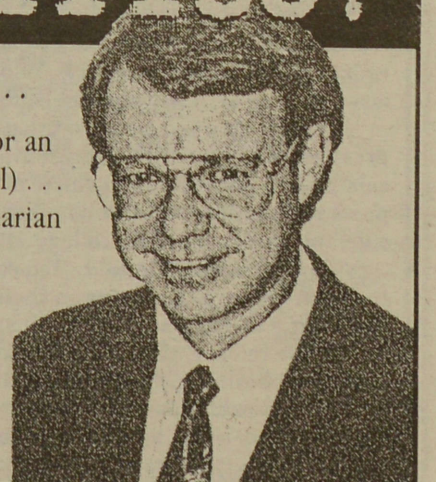
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NewsBriefs

Student e-mail discussion list grows

An e-mail discussion list for student Libertarian activists has become the "largest discussion list in the world for Libertarian student leaders," reported moderator Marc Brandl. The list — LPCampusActivist — was launched in March and now has "participants on over 50 campuses in four countries and the United States," he said.

The list "is meant for Libertarian student activists of all stripes, whether they are involved in a college Libertarian club, drug reform, student government, or anything else," said Brandl, who is also the Customer Service Representative at LP national headquarters in Washington, DC.

"It's for students to discuss activism and to bring Libertarian student activists into contact with one another."

The list also allows members to learn from others' mistakes, said Brandl.

"Campus activism hasn't changed much since the Sixties," he said. "You still have to run display tables, pass out literature, create a contact list, have regular meetings, and organize protests. With LPCampusActivist you can avoid the common mistakes of campus activism, save time, find out about great Libertarian resources, get some free literature, and communicate with other activists who want to live in a free country."

To join the list, e-mail Brandl at mbrandl7@hotmail.com, or by visiting egroups.com.

Kubby medical marijuana trial begins

After more than a year of delays, the medical marijuana trial of Steve and Michele Kubby is scheduled to begin in Auburn, California on August 15.

Despite being legitimate medical marijuana patients protected under California's Proposition 215, the Kubbys were arrested following a police raid on their Olympic Valley home on January 19, 1998.

Both have pled "not guilty" to charges of conspiracy, cultivation, and possession of marijuana with intent to sell, arguing that they used marijuana in accordance with the law — Steve Kubby to treat adrenal cancer under doctor's orders and Michele Kubby to alleviate irritable bowel syndrome.

"My wife and I are victims of those who seek to gut Proposition 215 and punish those behind it," said Kubby. "[We were] arrested by narcotics agents who seek to invalidate the voters' will and the present state law."

Kubby, 53, played a key role in Proposition 215 — overwhelmingly approved by voters in November 1996 — which made it legal for seriously ill patients to grow and use marijuana with a doctor's recommendation. He was also the LP's gubernatorial candidate in 1998.

The trial is a "mockery," charged California LP candidate for U.S. Senate, Gail Lightfoot. "The state and federal judicial systems should be on trial, not Steve Kubby."

LP News went to press as the trial began.



■ Steve Kubby: Trial begins.

Beer press release goes to college

Libertarian Party press release that used beer brand names to ridicule a new Ohio law restricting beer purchases has not only been reprinted in the nation's most influential political publication — it's also going to be used in a college course on effective public relations.

"We've successfully brewed up some publicity for the party," said LP Press Secretary George Getz about the August 8 release.

The "Ohio Keg Law" press release generated about a dozen radio interviews for the party, and was quoted in the August 10 issue of *Hotline*, a newsletter read by most political reporters.

Then, it sparked a call to the party's HQ by Bryan Wilkes, press secretary for U.S. Representative Ed Royce (R-CA), who said he will use it as an example of an effective, humorous press release at a seminar he teaches at the Leadership Institute and at a community college.

"Great release," he said. "I'm constantly telling Hill staffers they don't have to be boring in their releases — they can have a little fun. I'm going to use this as an example of how to do that."

In the release, the LP criticized an Ohio law that mandates a five-day waiting period to purchase five or more kegs of beer.

"How Lowenbrau can politicians go?" wondered Getz in the release. "This is the worst idea since Billy Beer. Beer-lovers will be sadder, Budweiser, when they hear about this..."

It's a three-way U.S. Senate race for Carla Howell in Massachusetts again

Continued from Page 4

for small government," she said.

"We'd run the same campaign even with a serious Republican, but an embarrassing one gives us even more opportunity."

Even with Robinson back in the race, the Libertarian campaign remains "the only serious challenge to Ted Kennedy," said Howell.

Staff quit

"We have over 4,132 individual donors; the Republican has six," she said. "We turned in 19,056 certified signatures. Robinson turned in 10,139. We have 411 active volunteers. Robinson's small paid campaign staff quit. I speak to groups daily; he has had almost no speaking appearances. I've spoken to 15 Republican town committees; he's spoken with only two!"

"[With] his poorly run, unsupported campaign, Robinson minimizes the Republican impact for us. We offer voters a choice between Big Government Ted Kennedy and small government Carla Howell. David versus Goliath."

Howell's campaign was also buoyed by an August 11 poll by

CARLA HOWELL:
"[Jack] Robinson
minimizes the
Republican
impact for us."

Rasmussen Research that showed her winning 16% of the vote in a theoretical two-way race with Kennedy.

"For a Libertarian to start off at 16% in August is amazing," said Howell. "Jesse Ventura was only 10-12% in the polls in September of 1998 in his gubernatorial race in Minnesota!"

An August 15 poll from Rasmussen Research that did in-

clude Robinson showed Howell at 6%, but the polling company did not explain why it excluded Robinson from the first poll.

"Perhaps he was too fringe," speculated Howell. "After years of Libertarians being excluded from the polls, now the Republican is the one being excluded!"

A force

The Rasmussen poll is just one more piece of evidence, said Howell, that the Libertarian Party is becoming more of a force in Massachusetts politics.

"There are no ifs, ands, or buts about it: The Libertarian Party of Massachusetts is determined to become the Number Two political party in the state," she said. "It's just a matter of whether it's this election cycle, 2002, or 2004. It's going to happen. We're winning thousands of supporters and widespread recognition."



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 — S. Blalock (Prospect Hill, NC)

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 — J. Finnerty (Solvay, NY)

"What a great defense for Kubby, McWilliams, McCormick, and others like them. Their first human right was definitely violated."
 — S. Carter (Draper, VA)

"Probably the only way to save the small farmer and stop the greenhouse effect. I agree with Martin Rose; restore the first human right."
 — E. Scott (Max Meadows, VA)

"The First Human Right could propel the Libertarian Party onto the front page of every national newspaper."
 — J. Kirkner (Shawsville, VA)

The single most important question that every politician should have to answer: Do you support the First Human Right? Libertarian candidates should be using the First Human Right approach to ending the drug war, instead of campaigning for total drug legalization that alienates a lot of voters — and hinders Libertarians' chances of recruiting new members that are very supportive of other Libertarian ideas and party Platform. — **Martin Rose, Author**

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Tennessee referendum

Continued from Page 4

perceive this thing as a cheap trick on our part to get publicity," he said.

"In news stories on this issue, however, [the word] 'Libertarian' has appeared prominently," he said. "When people called me offering help, their first question was, 'Are you that Libertarian who's doing the petition drive?'"

School officials have threatened to try to raise property taxes if the "wheel tax" isn't approved by voters — but Burgner said he is ready to fight that potential tax increase, too.

"We're going to fight that just as vigorously as we fought the wheel tax increase," he promised.

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By the time you read this, Harry Browne and I should officially be on the ballot in New York.

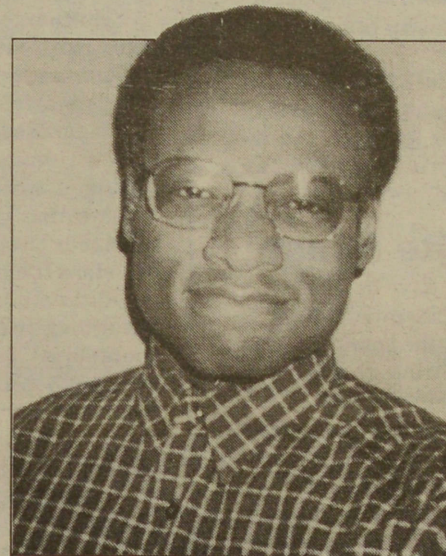
I've made some unusual inroads to accomplish the goal of getting onto the mainstream radar screen, including getting interviewed for featured articles in the *New York Times*, *Newsday*, some Associated Press stories, as well as

C-SPAN coverage of my remarks at our recent LP National Convention in Anaheim.

And I've raised the campaign money to put both radio and TV commercials in the can, to do what is not normally done by Libertarians in my state – namely, getting our pro-liberty message into “regular” people's homes, on a regular basis. The spots were prepared by the same fine company (3rd Wheel) that produced Harry Browne's commercials this year.

I have plans in place to air the spots in at least five regions around the state, in prime time on cable TV, and rush-hours on talk radio, beginning in the fall.

Here, of course, is the catch – I need the cash to run them! (Roughly \$20,000 a week, to run



John Clifton vs. Hillary Clinton

them at the minimum frequency that I need to, Labor Day to Election Day.)

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PROFILE

Currently a social worker for clients with histories of homelessness and mental health issues, **John Clifton** worked in the private sector in homeless outreach, job development, veterans advocacy, substance abuse counseling and program auditing, and marketing research (with the Lou Harris Poll, and Penn & Schoen). Prior to this he served in the U.S. Navy (USS West Virginia, USS George W. Carver) as a Fire Control Technician, Ballistic, supervising electronic-mechanical maintenance, trouble-shooting, and operation of nuclear weapons computer systems.

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.

The forgotten First Amendment

A survey showing that 37% of Americans can't name a single freedom guaranteed in the First Amendment has Libertarians wondering: Will free speech die of neglect?

"Americans don't seem to realize that unless you constantly defend free speech, it will vanish faster than subpoenaed White House e-mails," said LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "This troubling survey should make every American ask: Has the First Amendment become an endangered species?"

The survey, released in June by the New York-based First Amendment Center, revealed that significant numbers of Americans say they are willing to allow the government to control, restrict, or ban "offensive" material. The survey found:

- 51% said the press in America has "too much freedom."
- 58% think the government should restrict sexually explicit Internet content.

■ 37% could not name even one of the five freedoms guaranteed in the First Amendment — the freedom of religion, of speech, of the press, to assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances.

This survey should act as a "wake up" call, said Dasbach. "The enemy of free speech is not censorship. It is apathy," he said. "Americans need to wake from their lethargy, and remember: Free speech isn't free. There is a price you must pay to defend it, and that price is eternal vigilance."

Fixing the XXX-rated White House

News reports that White House staffers have been downloading massive amounts of explicit XXX-rated pornography from the Internet suggest that the country needs stricter laws against cybersmut, the Libertarian Party said — laws that *just* target politicians and bureaucrats.

"Here's the law we propose: The only people who should be subject to anti-pornography laws are the hypocritical politicians who propose them, and their staffs," said Steve Dasbach.

In August, the White House was rocked by charges that massive amounts of hardcore pornography were downloaded by West Wing personnel.

White House spokesman Jake Siewert admitted that some staffers have been "reprimanded" for downloading pornography. In response, the White House has installed new software filters to block access to "inappropriate sites," he said.

But software filters aren't enough, countered the Libertarian Party: Only lengthy prison sentences can protect politicians and bureaucrats from the addictive lure of online smut.

"Here's a fair punishment for these porn-loving White House personnel: Two years in prison and a \$250,000 fine," said Dasbach. "Those are the penalties the White House supported in 1996 in the Communications Decency Act, which would have criminalized certain kinds of sexually explicit online material."

"After all, if those penalties are good enough for average Americans, they are good enough for the White House staff."

A 'high-intensity drug' convention

If Republicans are determined to show their support for the War on Drugs, why did they hold their presidential nominating convention in a city designated by the federal government as a High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area?

"This is a case of high-intensity hypocrisy," said Steve Dasbach. "Republicans are in favor of fighting the expensive, deadly, and futile War on Drugs — but held their national convention in 'occupied territory.' Are Republicans silently admitting that the whole War on Drugs has become a high-priced failure?"

In fairness, it would be difficult for the GOP to avoid High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA), since most of the nation has been designated as centers of "illegal drug production, manufacturing, importation, or distribution" by the White House's Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Since the federal government started its High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area program in 1990, the list of states with HIDTA zones has grown from eight to more than three dozen.

"In fact, an astonishing 39 of the 50 states have now been labeled as High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas," said Dasbach. "Since the federal government spends \$18 billion a year fighting the War on Drugs, Americans should ask: Why are more and more states falling under the control of the 'enemy' each year?"

Indiana LP member's roadblock case is set to be heard by U.S. Supreme Court

Continued from Page 3

they asked Palmer if he would allow them to search his car.

"I told them, 'I don't give up my right to privacy.' They said I didn't have any rights," said Palmer. "I said 'no' to the search. Why should I be stopped and be forced to get out of my car to let them go through my stuff? What they did was totally wrong."

Palmer was instructed to get out of his car so the police dog would investigate it. He was released a few minutes later when no drugs were found.

Following the incident, Palmer contacted an attorney from the Indiana Civil Liberties Union and filed a class action suit, along with James Edmond, against the city of Indianapolis.

He charged the Indianapolis police with violating his Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable searches.

"I am used to the cops and the system running over anyone who stands in their way," he said. "I was waiting for them to violate my rights. They always do [and] no one stops them."

Courts have upheld the constitutionality of drunken driving checkpoints — arguing the government has a compelling reason to immediately remove inebriated drivers from the road — but the Supreme Court has never ruled on drug checkpoints.

A city's power

"This is a significant case," said Indiana Civil Liberties Union lawyer Kenneth Falk. "[It] will define a city's power to conduct random searches of vehicles whenever it perceives it has a problem."

U.S. District Judge Sarah Evans Barker upheld the roadblock program, but the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals panel later reversed the decision on a 2-1 vote. The Indianapolis city government then appealed the decision to the Supreme Court.

When the court announced it would hear the case, Palmer said he was "really happy."

"When [I got] the letter saying the Supreme Court had granted cert, I was showing everybody," Palmer says. "I still tell everyone I can."

Although the case is now dragging into its third year, Palmer said he did the right thing by filing the complaint.

"I am standing up to some-

KENNETH FALK:

This case "will define a city's power to conduct random searches."

thing that I know is wrong," he said. "I am fighting for everyone's rights — [and] showing there are people who don't let big government bully the people around."

The case has also given him a new reason to discuss the dangers of the War on Drugs with people, said Palmer.

"Most people think we should crack down on drug dealers, get them off the streets, and throw

them in jail forever," he said. "But after I explain that they are losing their rights in the process, they open up to questioning the government. That's what we need. If we don't stand up for our rights, what's next?"

A decision in the case isn't expected until next year.

Third case

Palmer is the third Libertarian Party member who has been involved in a Supreme Court case within the past three years.

In 1997, LP member Walker Chandler was the winning attorney in a case involving drug testing for political candidates in Georgia. The Supreme Court overturned the law.

And, in 2000, LP member Gail Lightfoot was a co-plaintiff in a case that led the Supreme Court to overturn California's "blanket primary" law.

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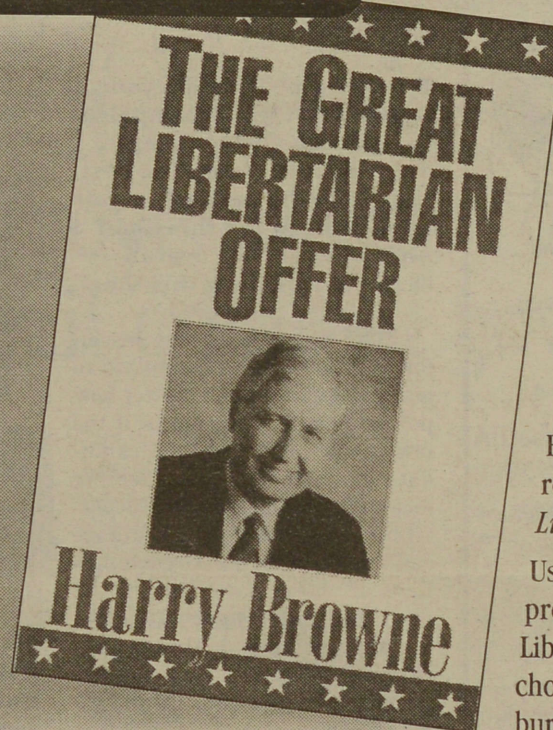
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Line Campaign

Take a bite out of Harry Browne

Libertarians can now "take a bite" out of Harry Browne — and show their support for his campaign at the same time. The Libertarian presidential candidate has been added to a website — www.americachews.com — that sells cookies in the likeness of presidential contenders, and tracks the sales in an unscientific "cookie poll."

Browne joins Republican George W. Bush, Democrat Al Gore, Green Party candidate Ralph Nader, and Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan at the America Chews 2000 site.

As of August 15, Browne was in third place with 10% of the vote, trailing Bush (38%) and Gore (30%).

"The more cookies you buy featuring your candidate, the more votes your candidate gets," the website promised. "America-Chews are the only cookies that have the candidates begging the public, 'Eat me!'"

Packages of cookies — which come in a container in the shape of a voting booth — cost \$19.95 (plus S&H).

Campaign press secretary Jim Babka said it was a good sign that Browne was included in the cookie poll.

"Apparently, we've passed the cookie credibility threshold," he said. "And that's appropriate, since Harry Browne does promise to take a bite out of big government."

And Browne quipped: "I'm hoping this will give people a taste of freedom."



A strong showing in three polls

Even if Harry Browne hasn't yet caught Al Gore and George W. Bush in the Gallup Poll, he continues to display surprising strength in a number of other presidential preference polls being conducted around the USA.

■ In an outright victory in America's heartland, Browne finished in first place in an online poll conducted by the *Iowa City Press-Citizen* on July 23. Browne won 42.5% of the vote, easily besting Democrat Al Gore (27.1%), Republican George W. Bush (17.3%), Green candidate Ralph Nader (8.2%), and Reform candidate Pat Buchanan (1.3%).

■ In an online poll conducted by *Insight* magazine — a conservative-leaning weekly news publication — Browne came in second in response to the question: "If the presidential election were held today, would you vote for any of the major third-party candidates?" The Libertarian won 12% of the vote, finishing behind Buchanan.

■ In an online poll conducted by www.LawPublish.com — which dubs itself the "Ad Law Research Center" — Browne finished third on July 21. Browne won 12% of the vote, behind Bush (65%) and Gore (16%), but well ahead of Buchanan and Nader (both 2%).

Harry Browne: He's the aces

That Harry Browne — is he a card, or what?

Actually, the Libertarian presidential candidate is a card now — literally. He's one of 54 "candidates, pundits, and political players" featured in *Politicards 2000*, a deck of collectible political playing cards that focus on the 2000 election.

The cards, offered for sale by Action Publishing at www.politicards.com, feature Harry "Six of Clubs" Browne dressed as Paul Revere in a three-corner hat and carrying a lantern and a copy of his book, *Why Government Doesn't Work*.

"My son bought me a pack of these playing cards as a gag father's day gift," said LP member Mike Wagner, who first discovered the cards. "I opened the pack and wham! There was Harry, right along with Bill Clinton, Al Gore, etc."

Also featured in the deck of cards are such political figures as George W. Bush, Senator John McCain, Janet Reno, Ross Perot, Hillary Clinton, Monica Lewinsky, and Pat Buchanan.

The cards, printed in full color and available for \$6.95 at many book, gift, and card stores, are described as "Pokémon for political junkies" by the *Washington Post*.

"Perhaps these cards will help send the message to voters that they will get a fair deal from Harry Browne," speculated LP National Director Steve Dasbach. "And nothing but a royal flush from the other candidates."

An interview with Harry Browne: Strategy, goals, lessons learned

Browne: The message, catching Buchanan, and how LP members can help

Editor's note: On July 2, Harry Browne won the presidential nomination of the Libertarian Party — becoming the first person to win that nomination twice. As his presidential campaign enters its second month, *LP News* conducted an interview with the investment advisor-turned-presidential candidate to discuss his strategy, the "horse race" aspects of the race, and his goals for the 2000 election. The interview was conducted by Bill Winter, *LP News* editor.

■ You've embarked on your second presidential campaign. In terms of strategy, what did you learn from your first campaign that will allow you to do a better job this time? And, what is your overall campaign strategy this time?

The most important lesson for any Libertarian candidate to learn is that it doesn't matter how powerful your message is if too few people hear it. A local candidate must find ways of meeting face-to-face as many voters as possible. A presidential candidate can't do that; he must reach millions of voters nationally in the most economical way possible. We are attempting to do that mainly through TV advertising and appearances on national TV and radio shows.

We should do a better job this time partly because the party is bigger, stronger, more respected, and better recognized. Also, every day more people decide not to waste their vote by casting it for those who are promoting big government. We have to reach as many of those people as possible.

But we also should do a better job by focusing on those who should be the most likely to vote for us — such as those who have been hurt by the Drug War, those who are already providing for their own retirement and want out of Social Security, those who reject the Republican plea to enforce existing gun laws and embrace our desire to repeal all the gun laws.

The existence of so many more local candidates also helps the presidential campaign, because every local candidate is helping me by promoting the Libertarian label — just as the national recognition I achieve helps them.

■ The media seems to have stratified the third-party presidential candidates into two tiers: Buchanan and Nader — and everybody else. Since, at this point, you are in the "everybody else" tier, does that frustrate you? And

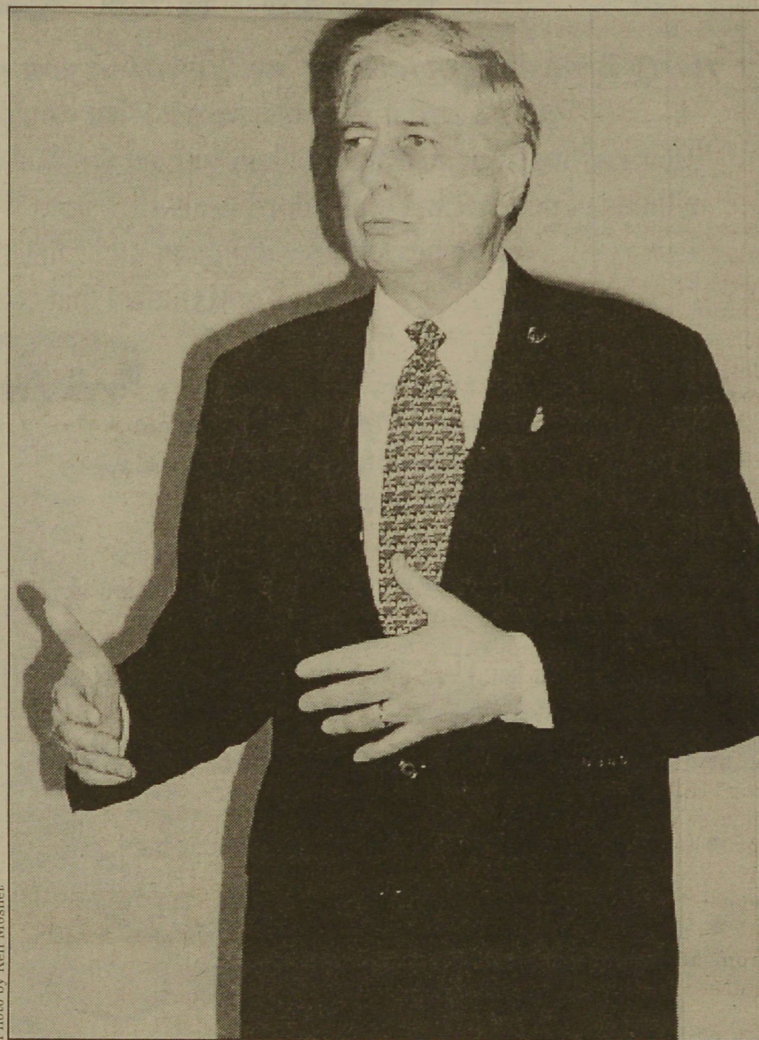


Photo by Ken Mosher

■ Harry Browne at a campaign appearance at the Radisson Hotel in Cromwell, Connecticut on August 10. At such campaign stops, Browne tells voters: "If you want smaller government, the obvious first step is to stop supporting those who are bringing you big government."

what can you do to break out of that category?

It doesn't frustrate me. Buchanan and Nader have built-in advantages — federal money

and long-standing celebrity. But we have earned our way into a situation where many journalists are treating the campaign as a five-way race. And we will move
See **HARRY BROWNE** Page 15

Carla Howell
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SEE OUR AD ON PAGE 7

Harry Browne on issues, strategy, and goals

Continued from Page 14

on to earn the attention of the rest of them. I'm already showing up in 5-way polls, virtually neck-and-neck with Buchanan and not far behind Nader.

We will exploit this with the media — pointing out that I'm almost as popular with only a fraction of the press coverage.

In addition, we now have Daily Press Briefings — one-page daily reports being e-mailed or faxed to over a thousand reporters, commentators, and talk-show hosts. Each Briefing includes a soundbite from me. We're also sending out my schedule for the day. On most days, I'm doing a good deal more campaigning than either Buchanan or Nader.

■ What has been the reaction to your campaign from the journalists, talk show hosts, and TV personalities that you've had a chance to talk to so far?

There are far more Libertarian talk-show hosts than there were four years ago. In addition, a number of talk-show hosts who don't call themselves Libertarian have said they're going to vote for me. These people are giving us free publicity and support even when I'm not on their shows. In addition, the respect I'm getting from all radio and TV hosts is truly exciting.

Journalists are a much more mixed group. But all we want from them is a recognition that it's a five-way race. I don't expect them to influence votes for us, and I don't expect them to report our positions accurately (allowing me to be pleasantly surprised when they do).

■ What will be the role of your vice presidential candidate, Art Olivier, in the campaign?

Art is an outstanding candidate. He projects an excellent presence. He is doing radio shows and making personal appearances. He is an excellent substitute for any kind of event I can't handle because of scheduling conflicts.

■ Obviously, every LP member is hoping you will be invited to participate in the presidential debates this fall. Do you expect that to happen? What is your strategy to try to get invited? And if you are not included in the main debates, what is your fall-back plan?

We will do everything we can to create pressure to get into the main debates, but the odds are against us. I think it more likely that there will be a series of debates among Buchanan, Nader, and Browne. MSNBC and C-SPAN have already proposed such debates. If they are held in September, they should help to cre-

ate pressure to get the three of us into at least one of the main debates in October.

■ During your 1996 campaign, you were criticized for not making enough campaign appearances in enough states. What are your travel plans for this campaign? Will you be on the road more?

Actually, I traveled to 38 states in the 1996 campaign. I was

HARRY BROWNE:

"I'm doing more campaigning than either Buchanan or Nader."

on the road five days out of every seven. Someone started a rumor that I didn't travel, and many people accepted that as fact.

This time I've already traveled to 36 states, and I'm on the road now five or six days every week.

Anyone with a computer can follow my appearances by going to our campaign website — www.HarryBrowne.org. You'll see my travel schedule each day, and my weekly Campaign Jour-

nal will keep you up-to-date on what I'm doing.

■ Most LP members would love to have the presidential campaign visit their home town. How will you decide where you visit? If Libertarians want you to come to their town, how can they make that happen?

If you want me to come to your area, we ask that you get commitments in advance from 200 people that they want to attend (even though you can't give

See **HARRY BROWNE** Page 16

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Saturday, September 2 •
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2500 East 79th Street, Bloomington, MN

Sunday, September 3 •
Des Moines, Iowa

Best Western Starlight Village
(515) 282-5251
929 Third St., Des Moines, IA

Saturday, September 9 •
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Summer Suites (317) 227-0950
5500 Bradbury Avenue
Indianapolis, IN

Sunday, September 10 •
Detroit, Michigan

Comfort Inn Metro Airport
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1800 Wick Road, Romulus, MI

Saturday, September 16 •
Charlotte, North Carolina

Quality Central (704) 377-6961
2400 Wilkinson Blvd., Charlotte, NC

Sunday, September 17 •
Atlanta, Georgia

Howard Johnson Airport
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Sunday, September 24 •
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Harry Browne: 'I'd like to smash the 1-million vote barrier'

Continued from Page 15
them a date). Once the commitments are available, we will arrange a date with you.

For help in getting the 200 commitments or setting up a possible speaking event, contact [syarik@harrybrowne2000.org](mailto:syanik@harrybrowne2000.org).

■ **Your campaign this year got some criticism for not spending more money on television advertising. Is that a fair criticism? And what are you doing to make sure your TV ads appear as often as possible?**

As soon as enough money was available, we began running the ads. It takes a great deal of money to keep a campaign running efficiently. First we had to cover the media appearances, scheduling, traveling, and many other functions.

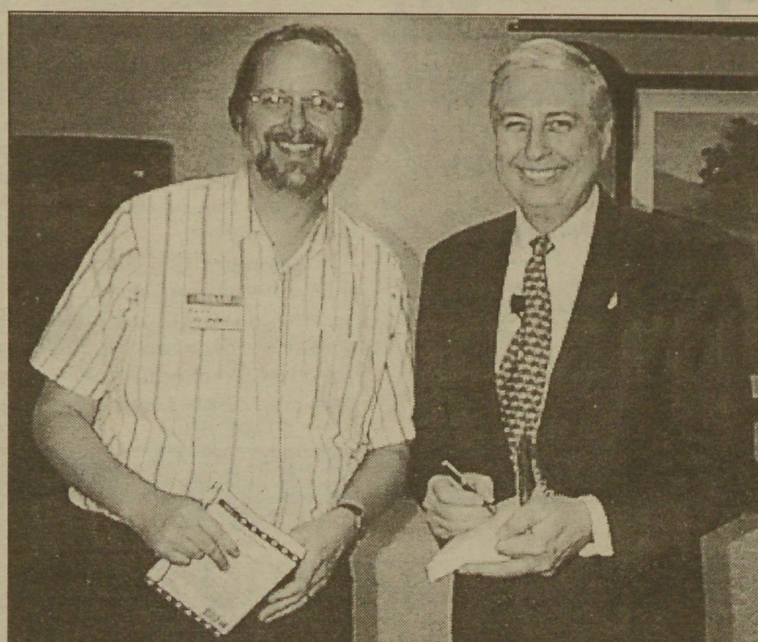
Now the ads are running regularly — and as fast as the money comes in, we will step up the advertising.

■ **What can Libertarian Party members do to help your campaign?**

Write a letter to the editor whenever a publication treats the campaign as a four-way race, or when a subject is mentioned for which we have a proposal that will dramatically improve most people's lives.

For example, when you hear a subject such as Social Security or the Drug War mentioned on a talk show, call in to give the Libertarian position.

Mention that Harry Browne is the only presidential candidate with this position and Libertarians are the only party working for you to be free to live your life



■ **Harry Browne signs a copy of his book, *The Great Libertarian Offer*, for a party activist at his campaign appearance at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas on August 7. Browne urged party members to "Write a letter to the editor whenever a publication treats the campaign as a four-way race."**

as you want to live it. Do the same with letters to the editor.

Get attendance commitments so we can bring the campaign to your area.

Post yard signs, put a sticker on your car, hand out brochures. Send money for advertising.

■ **In 1996, the theme of your campaign was, "Government Doesn't Work." What is the theme of your 2000 campaign?**

This year you have a choice; don't waste your vote.

We are trying to reach those who have the most compelling reasons to vote for us — the people for whom the 'wasted vote' idea has the least appeal. These are people who are concerned about burning issues that receive no satisfaction whatsoever from either the Republicans and Democrats.

These include those who have been hurt personally by the Drug War, those who recognize that the gun laws must be repealed (not enforced or supplemented), those who are saving for retirement on their own and would love to be free of Social Security, smokers, and others who can make a clear-cut statement for their desires only by voting Libertarian.

■ **Along those same lines, you acknowledge that actually winning the White House is the longest of long shots. What can you do to convince Americans to "invest" a vote in Harry Browne, even if you don't win?**

I believe it's possible for us to elect a Libertarian President and a Libertarian Congress before the end of this decade. That's not a prediction, a guarantee, or a promise. I just believe it's possible. Every vote I get this year

will help to bring about our victory sooner.

When you vote Libertarian, you may not win this year. But with the Democrats and Republicans, you'll never get what you want. And so if you vote for them, you're really giving up. You're saying you'll never get what you want, so you're going to make the best of a bad situation — by picking the candidate who will take you to Hell at the slowest rate.

If you want smaller government, the obvious first step is to stop supporting those who are bringing you big government.

HARRY BROWNE:

"Every vote I get this year will help to bring about our victory sooner."

We are determined to get as much media coverage as possible — to add credibility and respectability to the campaign, so that those with compelling reasons to vote for us will feel comfortable doing so, knowing that others are aware of our message as well and may be voting for us.

■ **Let's ask you to go out on a limb: What is your prediction of how many votes you will get in November? And, what would you have to achieve — either in terms of votes or other criteria — for you to say that your 2000 presidential campaign was a "success"?**

Contrary to what some people have said, I have never made a prediction or a promise of any outcome — either in 1996 or in this campaign. It is impossible to foresee the future in an uncertain world.

I would like to smash the one-million vote barrier once and for all. And I would like to go well beyond that — to several million votes. From then on, the press and the public would take us far more

seriously. Such a vote total undoubtedly would inspire a lot of the 100 million non-voters to join our cause.

I also would like to raise name recognition for the Libertarian label to the point that every voter will know that Libertarians are the ones who want you to be free — the ones who will get government out of your life.

That way, when a voter doesn't recognize a single name running for a federal, state, or local office, he'll still know that a vote for the Libertarian is a vote for smaller government.

■ **Anything else you want to add for LP News readers?**

There is no shortcut to victory. There is no quick and easy way to sudden fame and respect. We have to earn it through hard work, and by paying for it in time and money. But we have every reason to be optimistic. The LP has been growing very rapidly.

Just continuing on our present growth path should make us a strong competitor within two or three years. I want to speed that up. I want to reach that point by the end of this campaign.

If we can do that, we should begin electing Libertarians to Congress in 2002, and run fully competitive races in 2004 and 2008.

We have a lot to look forward to. It isn't going to fall into our laps; it will cost us.

But success will bring the greatest reward possible — the freedom to live your life as you want to live it.

Contacting the Browne/Olivier LP Campaign

■ **To volunteer to help the campaign or contribute, call (202) 521-1200.**

■ **To order Harry Browne for President campaign materials or books, call (888) 377-0417, or visit www.HarryBrowneStore.com**

■ **For more information about the campaign, call (800) 777-2000, or visit the campaign website at: www.HarryBrowne.org.**

■ **To subscribe to get campaign updates and media appearances, send a message to: MajordomoLibertyWire@mjlx.HarryBrowne2000.org. Include "Subscribe LibertyWire" on the first line of the body of the message.**

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theLNC

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P.O. Box 274 • Free Union VA 22940-0274 • (804) 973-5958 (h) • chair@LP.org

■ **National Vice-Chair:** Dan Fylstra

P.O. Box 4288 • Incline Village NV 89450 • 775-831-0300 (o) • 775-832-0123 (h) • 775-831-0314 (fax) • dfylstra@frontsys.com

■ **National Secretary:** Steve Givot

23201 Loggers Trail Road • Evergreen CO 80439 • 303-697-7797(h) • givot@softwarearena.com

■ **National Treasurer:** Mark Tuniewicz

3 Indian Cove Way • Easton MA 02375 • 508-230-2356 (h) • NHLiberty@aol.com

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■ **Jim Turney** • P.O. Box 467 • Lorton VA 22199 703-494-5032 (h) • JimTurney@LPVA.com

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■ **Ed Hoch** (Western Rep.) • 212 Henderson Road • Fairbanks, AK 99709 • 907-479-4593 • edsway@sprynet.com

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■ **Harry Browne** is filmed by a local television station news crew at his campaign stop in Cromwell, Connecticut on August 10. "Our message is so very powerful," said Browne. "The big question is: How many people will we be able to expose to it by November?"

Harry Browne moves into high gear with campaign tour, ads, and polling

Continued from Page 1

paigned tour included a "Meet the Candidates" event in Tennessee, where Browne appeared with about a dozen Libertarian candidates for federal, state, and local offices. About 200 people attended.

The campaign reached another milestone on August 6 when the Rasmussen Research poll — generally considered the most accurate political poll in America — showed Browne tied with Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan.

The poll, which averaged the previous three days worth of data, showed Browne winning the support of 1.6% of voters, the same as the pugnacious Republican-turned-Reformer. According to the same poll, Browne was just 2.4% points behind Green Party candidate Ralph Nader, who had 4%.

"The polling numbers will fluctuate, and I may go above or below Buchanan," noted Browne. "But it's significant that I'm doing as well as two very well-known celebrities who get extensive news coverage."

Browne's message

Willis said the polling shows that voters are starting to hear Browne's message.

"We're closing in on Buchanan, and gaining ground on Nader because people are actually beginning to hear each of their messages," he said.

"When people hear the Buchanan message of fear, or the anti-business rhetoric of Nader, they get turned off. But when they hear Harry Browne's message of liberty, they get turned on."

The Rasmussen poll had a margin of error of 2.1%, and was based on interviews with 2,250

PERRY WILLIS: "When [voters] hear Harry's message, they get turned on."

likely voters. In subsequent weeks, Browne fluctuated in the survey, generally hovering between .4% and 1.2%.

Starting on July 26, the Browne campaign also started running television ads on the cable news networks CNN, CNBC, and MSNBC.

\$10,000 a day

And on August 7, Harry Browne for President ads — funded by the Libertarian National Committee — began running at the \$10,000-a-day level on CNBC and MSNBC, said Willis.

"We are trying to get to the point where we can maintain \$10,000 a day in ad purchases, which would result in a million dollars in advertising exposure by the end of the campaign," he said.

The advertising blitz started with Browne's popular "Social Security" ad, which stressed the advantages of completely privatizing the bankrupt federal retirement system.

That ad, and the others the campaign has in the can, are "designed intentionally to be edgy and controversial — to attract attention and get people talking about them," said Browne. "In most cases, someone has to see an

ad many times before remembering even who the sponsor is.

"People who react favorably to one of our hard-hitting ads will remember me and the Libertarian Party after seeing the ad only once or twice, while those who don't like the ads will tend to forget them."

Talk Back Live!

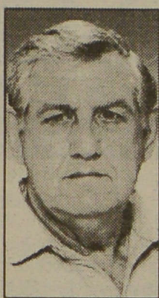
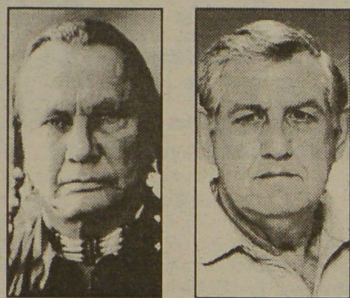
The past month was also punctuated by a number of major media appearances by Browne, including interviews on CNN's *Talk Back Live!*, the Larry Elder show on KABC Radio in Los Angeles, the Tennessee Radio Network, the Armstrong Williams show on the Talk America Radio Network, and the Michael Medved show (on 130 stations).

Browne also did interviews with the *San Francisco Examiner*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, *Worth* magazine, and the *Orange County Register*.

The campaign can continue to do well, said Browne, as long as Libertarian Party members continue to support it.

"Now is the time to capitalize on our growing popularity," he said. "We need to raise more money to step up our advertising coverage, get more national TV appearances, increase the number of requests people send to pollsters to include me, and have more people calling in to talk shows to point out that Libertarians want to free listeners from the intrusions of government."

"Our message is so very powerful — if we use it to show how each individual's life will be dramatically improved in a Libertarian America. The big question is: How many people will we be able to expose to it by November?"



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Tape Session Title

LIB00-01	Welcome: Juan Ros, Steve Dasbach / The Battle on Behalf of Taxpayers: John Berthoud / KEYNOTE ADDRESS: <i>America's Future</i> Hon. Fred Collins, Barbara Goushaw
LIB00-02	Business Meeting
LIB00-03	Libertarian Politics Can Be Fun: Gail Lightfoot, Richard Rider / Liberty is the Cure for Racism: John Clifton, Reginald Jones
LIB00-04	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: <i>Waco: A Survivor's Story:</i> David Thibodeau
LIB00-05	Why America Must End Drug Prohibition: Michele Kubby, Hon. Bill Masters / Persuasion Versus Force: Mark Skousen
LIB00-6a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-6b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (FRI 2:45-4:45): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-07	How Libertarian Policies Will Heal Our Communities: Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Dr. Mary Ruwart / Why Gov't. Schools Can't Be Reformed: Hon. Roger Fritz, Marshall Fritz
LIB00-08	BREAKFAST 1: What Happened to the Reform Party? Jack Gargan
LIB00-09	BREAKFAST 2: Using Temperament to Improve Communication: David Bergland
LIB00-10	Small Gov't. Is Beautiful! Hon. Phil Miller, Carla Howell / I Am Not Throwing My Vote Away: I Am Voting Libertarian: Hon. Mark Taff, Neal Boortz
LIB00-11a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 9:45-11:45): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-11b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 9:45-11:45): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-12	Congressional Campaigns: Where Nat'l. Issues Meet Local Activism: Hon. Tom Tryon, David Nolan / Personal Responsibility is the Price of Liberty: Jo Jorgensen, Michael Cloud
LIB00-13	KEYNOTE LUNCHEON: <i>Ayn Rand and the 21st Century:</i> Barbara Branden
LIB00-14	Why I Left the GOP and Joined the LP: Gary Nolan / Revolution! Russell Means
LIB00-15a	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 1 of 2
LIB00-15b	Platform Committee Report & Debate (SAT 2:30-4:30): Part 2 of 2
LIB00-16	Presidential Debate (Browne, Hollist, Hess, & Gorman)
LIB00-17	BREAKFAST 1: Investing and Financial Privacy: Mark Skousen
LIB00-18	BREAKFAST 2: You Will Do Something Great for Liberty Sharon Harris
LIB00-19a	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING / It's Time to Retire Social Security: Barbara Howe, Michael Tanner / Roll Call of States / Presidential Campaign Platform (Part 1 of 3)
LIB00-19b	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 2 of 3)
LIB00-19c	PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
LIB00-20	Mad as Hell! Aaron Russo
LIB00-21a	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING / Why Silicon Valley Should Invest in a Political Start-Up: Joe Hauptmann & Na'Allah Ali, Dan Fylstra / Results of V.P. Nomination / LNC Chair Nomination & Voting (Part 1 of 3)
LIB00-21b	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 2 of 3)
LIB00-21c	V.P. NOMINATION & VOTING (Part 3 of 3)
LIB00-22	ACCEPTANCE SPEECH Dr. Nancy Lord, 2000 Libertarian Presidential Nominee Harry Browne
LIB00-23	Forum: Candidates for LNC Officers, At-Large, & Regional Rep
LIB00-24a	LNC Nomination & Voting / Judicial Comm. Nomination & Voting / Resolutions (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-24b	LNC Nomination & Voting / Judicial Comm. Nomination & Voting / Resolutions (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-25	Developing & Sustaining a Strong Libertarian Campus Organization: James W. Lark

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Tape Session Title

LIB00-26	How to Cut Taxes & Block Gov. Spending: John Berthoud, Richard Rider, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger
LIB00-27a	I Want to Get Elected: Ron Crickenberger, Barbara Goushaw, Aaron Starr, Phil Miller, Tom Tryon, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Fred Collins (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-27b	I Want to Get Elected: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-28	Claiming Our Political Marketshare Through Electoral Reform: Hill, Latham, Redpath
LIB00-29	Privacy: A Winning Issue for Libertarians: Dan Fylstra, Tim O'Brien, Steve Dasbach
LIB00-30	Caring for the Environment: A Libertarian Approach: Dr. Gordon LaBedz
LIB00-31a	Adventures in Public Office: Phil Miller, Hon. Bonnie Flickinger, Tom Tryon, Fred Collins, Bill Masters, Roger Fritz, Mark Taff (Part 1 of 2)
LIB00-31b	Adventures in Public Office: (Part 2 of 2)
LIB00-32	Using Personal Liberty Issues to Grow the LP: Doug Scribner, George Getz, Barbara Goushaw
LIB00-33	The State vs. Religious Liberty: Dean Ahmad
LIB00-34	Workshop: Communication Skills for Libertarians: Sharon Harris
LIB00-35	Publishing Effective, Professional LP Newsletters: Bill Winter
LIB00-36	Using Education Freedom as an Issue in Your Campaign: Marshal Fritz
LIB00-37	Winning the Debate Over Entitlements: Michael Tanner, Dr. Mary Ruwart, Dr. Ken Bisson

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■ **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. **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. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1997) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **LP Program.** 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

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

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

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

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■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

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

Miscellaneous Items

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

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

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

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

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■ **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.

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■ **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¢
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■ **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¢
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■ **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¢
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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).

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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.

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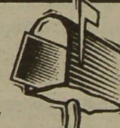
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Libertarians join campaign to stop another pay raise

Continued from Page 3
the Treasury bill.

This latest 2.7% salary increase is lawmakers' third pay raise in the last four years, and boosts Congressional salaries to \$145,100 per year — a figure which doesn't include benefits, pensions, a special \$3,000-per-year tax deduction, and the ability to spend campaign funds for some personal uses.

"Since 1989, Congress has approved pay raises for themselves totaling \$51,800 per year," noted Dasbach.

"In other words, their pay raises alone are larger than the median American family income. And Congressional salaries are now about four times what the

STEVE DASBACH:

"The public is sending a message to Congress: Hands off my wallet."

typical American family makes."

The Libertarian Party is solidly on the side of the American public in opposing the pay hike.

According to a July 26 Rasmussen Research poll, 71% of Americans say they disapprove of

the latest pay hike. An even larger majority, 72%, say voters should have the right to approve Congressional pay raises before they go into effect.

The poll, taken of 750 likely voters around the country, also found that almost half of Americans think that politicians' pay should be cut in half. When asked how much Congressional members should make, 47% said \$75,000 or less.

Christmas

"The American public is sending a clear message to Congress: Hands off my wallet," said Dasbach. "Voters are getting tired of politicians voting themselves a Christmas in July — and giving themselves lavish cash presents with our money."

The Libertarian Party unsuccessfully fought against a Congressional pay raise in 1997, but helped rally public pressure to stop a 1998 pay hike proposal.

LP lobbying efforts squash dangerous MAPA language

Continued from Page 3

Amendment and anti-First Amendment aspects of the bill.

Over a period of two months, party spokespeople did almost three dozen radio and TV interviews on the bill — and found widespread public support, said Getz.

"In almost every case, when ordinary Americans heard about this bill, they were opposed to it," he said.

Action Item

In June, the party issued an "Action Item" to its 15,000-name e-mail list, urging party members to write, call, and e-mail the House Judiciary Committee to oppose the bill.

"We're asking you to help us kill this unconstitutional, un-American legislation before it gets out of the House," wrote Getz in the message at the time. "Tell [your Congressperson] that this bill contains so many attacks on your liberty that it can't possibly be amended or improved, it must be killed immediately!"

The party also posted anti-HR 2987 language on its website — www.LP.org — and urged visitors to oppose the bill.

Other organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union,

WorldNetDaily.com, the Electronic Frontier Foundation, NORML, and the Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) joined the lobbying campaign against HR 2987.

In the face of public pressure, the House Judiciary Committee voted in late July to strip out the "Sneak and Peek" provisions, as well as the illegal teaching and illegal linking language.

The committee also renamed the bill the "Methamphetamine and Club Drug Anti-Proliferation Act of 2000," and enacted new mandatory minimum penalties for offenses involving methamphetamine, ecstasy, and other "club drugs."

Monitor

The Libertarian Party will continue to monitor the bill, and will take action again if some of the removed language sneaks back in, either on the floor of the House or in a House/Senate conference committee, said Getz.

"We're going to keep an eye on this bill," he said. "It's still a bad bill, and with Republicans and Democrats in control of Congress, its unconstitutional provisions can always make a comeback. Libertarians will be ready if that happens."

Michigan LP files suit over campaign law

Michigan LP candidate Jon Coon has filed a lawsuit to try to overturn a controversial state campaign finance law — and to try to get his name back on the ballot.

Coon, a candidate for the State Board of Education, filed the suit against the Elections Division of the Office of the Michigan Secretary of State in Ingham County Circuit Court on July 26.

He is fighting a law that requires all candidates to swear under penalty of perjury — and a possible five-year prison sentence

and a \$1,000 fine — that any paperwork, statements, or reports required under Michigan's Campaign Finance Act, PA 388 of 1976, are completely free of error.

"I'm supposed to sign this at the risk of committing a five-year felony? I don't think so," said Coon. "I simply refused to sign that blank check guarantee that everyone who has ever worked on any of my campaigns has crossed every 'T' and dotted every 'I' to the complete satisfaction of the elections bureaucrats.

"There isn't even the usual line about, 'To the best of my knowledge and belief...' to make allowance for good faith mistakes," he noted.

When Coon refused to sign the so-called "Supplementary Affidavit of Identity" document required by law, he was denied a spot on the ballot. His lawsuit also seeks to force the Bureau of Elec-

tions to put his name back on the November ballot.

Keeping a qualified candidate off the ballot to enforce campaign finance law violates the Michigan constitution, Coon argued.

The Libertarian Party of Michigan has also joined the suit, which was filed by Libertarian attorney Ghazey H. Aleck, II.

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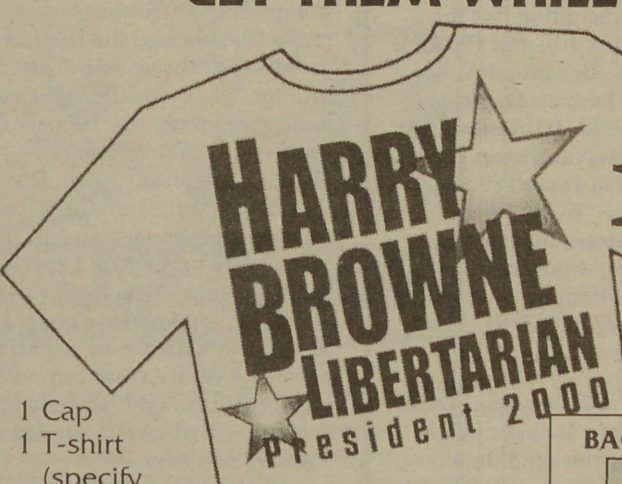
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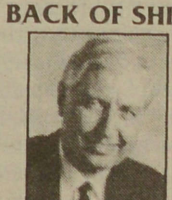
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Politics 2000

Campaign 2000 news & updates

■ In Oklahoma, the state LP will run more candidates for U.S. Congress than the Democrats, announced State Chair **Robert Murphy**. "For the first time in history, the Libertarian Party has fielded a full slate of candidates for all six Oklahoma U.S. Congressional seats!" he said — compared to just three Democratic candidates. In all, the state LP will run 16 candidates in November, a 300% increase since the 1996 election. In Washington state, the LP has nominated a record 67 candidates for public office, announced party activist **Brien Bartels**. "This includes a full slate of Congressional candidates, a full slate of statewide executive offices, [and] about 40 legislative candidates," he said.

■ In Texas, **Russell King**, the LP candidate for Lubbock County Commission (Precinct 1), criticized commissioners in July for increasing their salaries. "County commissioners have once again disregarded the hard working taxpayers of Lubbock County by voting themselves a pay raise in the face of a budget shortfall," he said. In Arizona, **Ed Kahn** has announced his bid for State Senate (District 14). In Indiana, the LP has welcomed an incumbent officeholder: Newton County Surveyor **Charles W. Lone**, who joined the party in early July. "We welcome Mr. Lone to the party, and look forward to helping him achieve the goal of a smaller, more responsible government," said state Executive Director **Brad Klopfenstein**.

■ The Michigan LP will run a slate of 111 candidates this November — proving that the Libertarian Party is America's "real third party," said State Chair **Stacy Van Oast**. "The Reformers and the Greenies may get all the attention because of Pat Buchanan and Ralph Nader, but ask them how many other candidates will appear on their tickets this November." Running for U.S. House in Michigan are: **John W. Loosemore** (District 1), **Bruce A. Smith** (2), **Erwin J. Haas** (3), **Richard L. Whitelock** (4), **Clint Foster** (5), **William H. Bradley** (6), **Robert F. Broda, Jr.** (7), **James P. Eyster** (8), **Laurie Martin** (9), **Richard T. Friend** (10), **Richard Gach** (11), **Andrew LeCureaux** (12), **Karin R. Corliss** (13), **Constance Catalfo** (14), **Raymond H. Warner** (15), and **Edward Hlavac** (16). Other statewide candidates include: **Jerry J. Kaufman**, **David H. Raaflaub**, and **Robert W. Roddis** (Supreme Court Justice); **Diane Barnes** and **Jon E. Coon** (State Board of Education); **Thomas W. Jones** and **Scott A. Boman** (Board of Governors, Wayne State University); **Michael H. Miller** and **Violet M. Steele** (Board of Trustees, Michigan State University); and **Marvin M. Surowitz** and **Tim A. Maull** (University of Michigan Board of Regents).

■ In Illinois, the LP of Chicago has announced three candidates for office: **Jim Haring** (U.S. House, District 5), **Stephanie Sailor** (U.S. House, District 4), and **Brian Poynton** (State Representative, District 34). In Colorado, the El Paso County LP has nominated 13 candidates for office, including two for State Senate, **Patricia S. Glidewell** (District 10), and **Patrick L. Lilly** (12); eight for State Representative, **Bradford A. Ricker** (16), **Michael V. Hechtman** (17), **Desiree Hackett Hickson** (18), **Colette Wright** (19), **Ariane M. Hildenbrandt** (20), **Robert G. Herzfeld** (21), and **Kent McNaughton** (22); and three for County Commissioner, **Ross Glidewell** (2), **Paul D. Gilbert** (3), and **Steven J. D'Ippolito** (4). In Michigan, the Washtenaw County LP will field four candidates in Ann Arbor this November: **Charles Goodman** (Mayor), **Jean Paul Denoyer** (City Council, Ward 3), **Stephen Saletta** (Ward 4), and **Lawrence Purdy** (Ward 5). And in New York, **Bill Bombard** is running for State Assembly (District 109).

■ In Washington state, LP candidate for U.S. House **Joel Grus** has a campaign website that does double duty: It explains his positions on the issues — and mentions that the candidate is "currently single (send inquiries to dates@joelgrus.com). Has it produced a running mate yet? "No local responses and no dates yet," said Grus. "But stay tuned." In Missouri, **John Swenson** won the contested August 8 Libertarian primary for governor. In Georgia, the Secretary of State's office certified three LP State Representative candidates for the ballot: **Dale Ritchey** (District 34), **Tom Chernetsky** (85), and **Leo Baca** (94). And in Iowa, the state LP filed nominating papers for five candidates for U.S. House: **Russ Madden** (District 1), **Al Schoeman** (2), **Joe Seehusen** (3), **Steve Zimmerman** (4), and **Ben Olson** (5).



■ Loosemore: U.S. House

CAMPAIGN 2000 REPORT

Charlie Westlake makes history with Florida race for U.S. House

He's the first LP candidate ever to run for Congress in Florida

Libertarian Charlie Westlake has already made history by getting on the ballot — and now he wants to make history again by running a competitive two-way campaign for U.S. House.

Westlake, 42, has become the first candidate in the Libertarian Party's 29-year history to run for Congress in Florida, thanks to a 1998 ballot measure that eased the state's previously insurmountable ballot access laws.

"Before 1998, it was easier for a third-party candidate to get on the ballot in St. Petersburg, Russia than it was for one to be on the ballot in St. Petersburg, Florida," said Westlake.

But thanks to Revision 11, passed by state voters two years ago, Westlake didn't have to collect 11,000 signatures to get on the ballot. Instead, he merely had to be nominated by the state Libertarian Party, notify the Secretary of State by May 12, and pay an \$8,200 filing fee — the same requirements as his Democratic opponent.

Huge victory

"It's a huge victory for us to finally be able to compete for federal offices," said State Chair Lisa Bullion. "We're putting the old parties on notice that we've arrived and will be there to contest more and more offices. It means they will have to re-evaluate what is considered a 'throw-away district.'"

The first-ever Florida LP Congressional campaign has already transformed the District 11 race from a "throw-away" district into an "unexpectedly tight two-man race" with the Democratic incumbent, said Westlake.

His opponent, Jim Davis, "has now started making [campaign] appearances, and he has tentatively agreed to a debate," said Westlake. "His last two Republican opponents were weak candidates with strong negatives whom he easily trounced, so he apparently thought he could beat a lowly third-party candidate without campaigning."

"Win or lose, he has found that Libertarians are more than paper tigers who will curl up and cry uncle — Libertarians work to publicize their superior and contrasting ideas."

The decision to run for office as a Libertarian was a "gradual" one, said Westlake.

"Like most people, there have



■ Charlie Westlake: "Libertarians are more than paper tigers who will curl up and cry uncle," said the LP candidate for U.S. House (District 11) in Florida.

been many times where I said what an idiot the guy in office was, and how I could do a better job, but I had not seriously considered running," he said.

That changed in late 1998 or early 1999, said Westlake, when he was having a "spirited discussion" with a neighbor about public education.

"I made a comment to her about how she should run for office," he said. "Not me! Why not you?" was her reply. The question stayed with me, and I kept asking myself why I did not run."

A few months later, a local Republican County Commissioner candidate "looked me in the eye and lied to me" about a proposed waiting period for gun purchases," said Westlake — at which point "I changed my voter registration to Libertarian from Republican. The rest is history."

Federal monster

He decided to run for Congress, he said, "because even with a 100% Libertarian state or local government, the federal monster is so out of control it can negate state and local laws and force compliance with Washington's edicts. I entered it to win and put Libertarian ideas front and center in the U.S. Congress."

His campaign will focus on those kinds of federal control issues, said Westlake. Specifically,

he is advocating:

■ Cutting federal taxes by 10% a year for five years along with corresponding spending cuts, with an "eventual goal of a 10% rate on whatever type of tax we end up with."

■ Closing the federal Department of Education and sending "all the money back to the states it comes from."

■ Privatizing Social Security. "I chose these because they are highly contrasting positions [with the Democrat]," he said.

Westlake admitted he is running his campaign on "pennies, gumption, and shoe leather" — but said if he could raise \$100,000, "I could either win it outright or make it so close that I would be positioned to win in 2002."

So far, Westlake has raised about \$16,000, he said. To reach voters, his campaign is relying on "some" advertising, direct mail, political forums, and door-to-door campaigning.

Yellow dog

"I anticipate picking up most of the Republican vote," he said. "Additionally, there are many yellow dog Democrats in this area. Many of these are conservative, but just will not vote for a Republican. I believe I will get their vote if they hear my message."

"If I could raise enough money to drive home to the electorate how liberal [my opponent's] positions really are, I could win this election."

Westlake is a self-described "lifelong Floridian." He lives in Tampa with his wife, Michaela, and their three children — including new daughter Elizabeth Ann Westlake, who was born on August 11. Professionally, he is an insurance agent.

To make a contribution, visit: www.WestlakeForCongress.com. Call: (813) 933-9429. Write: P.O. Box 22661, Tampa, FL 33622-2661. Or e-mail: Cwestlake@WestlakeForCongress.com.

Correction

■ In the August 2000 issue of *LP News*, an Affiliate News item from Michigan was incorrectly attributed to Iowa. The story, entitled "Libertarians fight stench of 'Sewer-gate' scandal," took place in Clinton Township, Michigan.

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The Forum

Illogical rants about gas prices

Gas prices are rising fast, and moral outrage among politicians and motorists alike is rising faster. Let's take a minute to look past the rhetoric, apply some logic, and get a few things straight.

First, these price increases are not evidence of a collusive oil industry. They're evidence of just the opposite. A "big oil" cartel, if it existed, would not have waited for OPEC to interrupt supply before raising the price of gasoline.

If this year's pump price is dramatically higher than last year's, then it follows (as a matter of logic) that last year's price was dramatically lower than this year's. No effective cartel would have allowed us such a bargain.

Exactly backward

Al Gore is one of the many who have managed to get it exactly backward. Mr. Gore looks at today's high price and he sees evidence of "price gouging."

I'm not sure what he means by "gouging" — I'm not sure even *he* knows what he means by "gouging" — but surely if the word means anything at all, it's got something to do with keeping prices above their normal competitive level. If the oil industry had the power to do that, we'd see uniformly high prices, not dramatic price swings.

That's sophomore-level textbook economics. Now let's recall some freshman economics, specifically the part about how prices are

determined by the interaction between supply and demand.

In this case, the supply comes from crude-oil producers in Texas and the Middle East; the latter have restricted their output to the point where crude-oil prices have roughly tripled in the past 18 months. The demand comes from consumers who compete with each other through their willingness to pay for that limited supply.

The major oil refiners — Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and others who are being vilified — have little impact on either supply or demand.

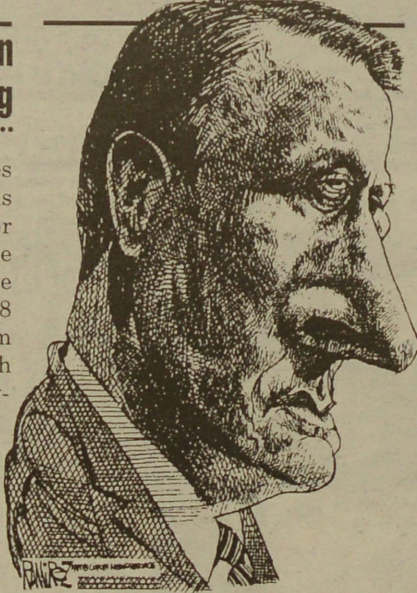
Apparently Mr. Gore's spokesman, Mark Fabiani, slept through that freshman class; he's convinced that the oil companies are "in large part responsible for the price of gasoline."

In times like these, with crude-oil at a premium, high gasoline prices serve a useful social purpose, both by encouraging production and by ensuring that limited supplies end up in the gas tanks of the consumers who value them the most.

And what's the alternative to a high price? A lower price won't create more gasoline; it will only create more demand for the gasoline that's out there. That means long lines at the pump and a lot of frustrated consumers.

There is, in any event, no

By Steven R. Landsburg



AL GORE:
Price-gouging by greedy "Big Oil" companies caused high gas prices

such thing as a moral obligation to provide your neighbor with cheap gasoline. If there were, we'd all be obligated to start oil companies so we could sell at low prices. Clearly, that's nonsense.

But if you and I don't have an obligation to sell cheap gas, how can the owners of Exxon or Mobil

or Texaco? Moral duties are absolute, which means they apply to everyone or they apply to no one.

So even if you believe, contrary to all logic and all evidence, that a "big oil" cartel sets prices by fiat, where is the moral failing in that? Exxon will sell you gasoline at \$2 a gallon; I won't sell you gasoline at any price. If Exxon's price is reprehensible, then my (essentially infinite) price must be entirely unconscionable.

Anyway, Mr. Gore is hardly consistent in his opposition to big powerful entities setting oil prices by fiat, without regard for conditions of supply and demand. Both he and George W. Bush have called for a Federal Trade Commission investigation so that, in Mr. Gore's words, we can "quickly and harshly... put our feet on the brakes of big oil's price gouging."

Set prices

In other words, it's fine for big, powerful entities to set prices by fiat — as long as those entities have names that begin with "Federal."

Here's what you'd have to believe to justify an intervention by the FTC: First, price fluctuations "prove" that domestic oil producers are manipulating the market. (Apparently they kept prices low all last year just so they could savor the anticipation of raising them this year.)

Second, market manipulations are bad, because there's a moral obligation to sell cheap oil, even though that obligation falls only on a few.

And third, because market manipulations are bad, we should combat them by allowing the FTC to manipulate the market.

Is there a logician in the house?

■ **About the author:** Steven R. Landsburg is a member of the Libertarian Party of Chicago.

Teaching children the right lessons

Officials at the Taft Elementary School in Wyandotte, Michigan announced a short while back that they are considering a ban on Pokémon trading cards — the latest fad among elementary school kids. Teachers complain that the cards are an ongoing source of arguments and even thefts among the youngsters.

Banning Pokémon cards seems so trivial in a world in which a 6-year-old shoots and kills a classmate. But it is a perfect example of the contemporary pedagogic philosophy that makes these larger tragedies all but inevitable.

Previous generations of educators would undoubtedly have used such childish disputes as an opportunity to teach about voluntary co-operation and civil social interactions. Refraining from disruptive behavior has always been one of the first lessons learned in school.

I attended parochial schools and recall that gum chewing was, for instance, not allowed. But it was chewing gum during school that was prohibited — not the mere possession of a pack of Wrigley's Spearmint (Juicyfruit for the girls). Violation of the rule could result in a trip to the principal's office and, perhaps, an after-school detention.

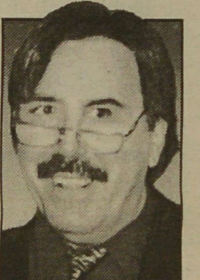
Would be aghast

I'm sure that today's politically correct, "progressive" school administrators would be aghast to see how the nuns at St. Jude's would have dealt with theft.

The contemporary approach is to pre-empt irresponsible behavior by the simple expedient of banishing the troublesome items.

Coincidentally, there was another example of this kind of "protect kids from having to actually deal with the real world" philosophy the very same week in one of the daily columns by professional advice dispenser, Ann Landers. In that instance the offending objects were guns. But the proposal was essentially the same: Lock them up, hide them somewhere, hide the ammunition somewhere else,

See **LESSONS** Page 25



By Tim O'Brien

It's time for Libertarians to abolish 'abolish'

Members of the Libertarian Party have been telling the public what we want to abolish for over 25 years, and it looks like the effectiveness of that word is ending.

As a result, several LP activists including Mark Hilgenberg, Abolish Czar, are spearheading a nationwide effort to abolish the word *abolish* from the Libertarian vocabulary.

A fun word

"Oh sure, it is a fun word to say and it really gets the crowds cheering at any Libertarian event — but the average person is scared of the word abolish," Hilgenberg said in a phone interview from the "Abolish Abolish" headquarters in Orange County.

Citing several examples of how the word "abolish" is used against the Libertarian Party, Hilgenberg asked "why must we

continue to make the front-line activists' job harder by constantly telling the voters what we don't want? Isn't it time we let them know what we stand for?"

Libertarian Party activist Marshal Fritz started a campaign against words like "abolish" in the 1980s, yet it never seemed to catch on.

Many Libertarians like to cite examples of winning over converts using words like "abolish." However, the ever-expanding government suggests it may only appeal to a small percentage of the nation.



By Doug Scribner

"Using words like *replace* rather than *abolish* gives a much more inclusive and positive sound to your speech" Hilgenberg said.

Marshal Fritz also suggested several other substitute words that might be more effective in winning converts including:

The word "harmony" instead of "peace."

If two people are fighting, they can separate themselves into different rooms and they will have peace. Also, you can achieve peace all by yourself. However, harmony implies many people working together and cooperating.

Abundance

Instead of using the word "prosperity" use "abundance."

Imagine prosperity in Ethiopia: What does it look like? Now imagine abundance in Ethiopia. Look! Everyone has food and shelter!

Many people imagine prosperity to be what the rich try to maintain, the middle class fight for, and the poor never see. The word prosperity begs the question: What about the poor?

So replace "abolish" with "replace" and completely abolish "abolish"!

The Abolish Abolish committee calls for an end to the use of the word "abolish" when speaking in public, or in public press releases.

"It will be a real victory for America when we once and for all abolish the negative and divisive word 'abolish,'" said Hilgenberg. "Remember, only you can abolish 'abolish.' Join us today!"

■ **About the author:** Doug Scribner is Chairman of the Orange County LP and Orange County Director of the American Medical Marijuana Association.

Pokémon and Ritalin: Lessons for children

Continued from Page 24

hide the key in yet another place, and to quote Ann, "teach kids not to touch guns."

This is incredibly stupid and dangerous counseling from someone who makes her living giving out advice.

Every parent knows that, given 10 minutes of unsupervised opportunity, kids could work their way through every clever security measure protecting the legendary pirate booty in the "Money Pit" on Oak Island, Nova Scotia. And in another two minutes figure out how to get the treasure chest unlocked. Every parent also knows that kids find what is strictly taboo irresistibly appealing.

The mystery

The wise parent who is a responsible gun owner will remove the mystery by taking their kids to the range, teaching them the fundamentals of gun safety, and letting them hold and fire a weapon — so they can see for themselves the power and damage of which it is capable.

Of course, this would no more have prevented the tragedy of a 6-year-old finding a stolen weapon in his crackhouse home than would President Clinton's proposal to ban high-capacity clips and require trigger locks and background checks for buyers.

But Ms. Landers suggests instead that safety is somehow to be found in blind fear and deliberate ignorance (though, oddly, she doesn't espouse this philosophy when it comes to illicit drugs or sexually transmitted diseases).

It used to be that the widely acknowledged goal of child rearing was to prepare the naive and dependent youngster to face the world as a competent, independent, self-reliant adult. However, as we enter the 21st Century it appears that has been replaced by the notion that children should be sheltered for as long as possible from learning that actions have consequences.

The traditional "reading and 'riting and 'rithmetic" focus of education, for instance, has now taken a back seat to obsessively promoting what is mislabeled "self-esteem."

Perverse mirror

Genuine self-esteem flows naturally from a sense of personal integrity, competence, and accomplishment. What our society has actually ingrained in our children is not self-esteem, but self-importance — its perverse mirror image that is not earned but rather asserted as an entitlement.

The most obvious result of embracing this psychobabble is, not surprisingly, that scholastic skills have plummeted. Of course, on the plus side, the little dears are perfectly comfortable with that.

It puts one in mind of the old admonition: Be careful what you

wish for, you might get it. Unfortunately for educators, there remains a stubborn 15% or so of kids who are restless and unhappy despite all the insulation and the ceaseless I'm-okay-you're-okay indoctrination. But, our culture has found a way to deal with these problem kids, as well.

We drug them.

A daily dose of Ritalin or Luvox or Prozac and our Brave New World can be populated with nothing but contented little Al-

SELF-ESTEEM

in kids flows from personal integrity, competence, and accomplishment.

phas and Betas and Gammas protected from normal growing pains and convinced that they are destined to be the indispensable cog in society's machinery.

And isn't the Soma-sotted world a happy place?

Video game

Until a couple of them in Colorado shoot up a school like some non-virtual video game — only without a reset button to bring all the fleeing targets back

to life. Then everyone wrings their hands and pontificates about how we need to make even more laws to do a better job of keeping guns out of the hands of high school kids. But, it has always been difficult to control teenaged angst in any case. It would be far easier to nip this problem in the bud.

What we really need to do is keep Pokémon cards out of the hands of first graders. And hope that the ban is more effective than the one against handguns.

■ **About the author:** Tim O'Brien is the Executive Director of the Libertarian Party of Michigan.

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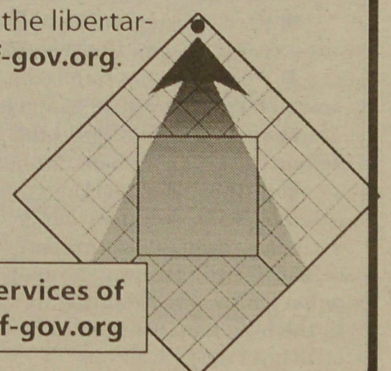
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FROM The Director

Benefiting from the Reform Party debacle

After the recent Reform Party debacle (masquerading as a convention), Pat Buchanan must have felt a little like Charlie Brown. Russ Verney and the other Perotistas had held out their \$12.6 million political welfare football and urged Pat to kick it. Then, at the last minute, they tried to yank it away.

As a pundit noted, the Reform Party, which began as a challenge to the two-party system, has itself become a "two-party system," with two factions battling for control of \$12.6 million in federal campaign subsidies. The anti-Buchanan wing has coalesced around the candidacy of John Hagelin, perennial candidate of the Natural Law Party.

Hagelin, who teaches physics at the Maharishi University of Management, promotes Transcendental Meditation as the solution to most of the world's problems. Given the scenes coming out of the Reform Party convention in Long Beach, the party could probably benefit from some instruction in meditation.

Reformers thought federal funding would fuel their development into a major political party, able to successfully challenge Democrats and Republicans. Instead, it has ensured their decline into irrelevance.

It's always tempting to go after the quick fix, to search for a "magic bullet" to replace the years of difficult grassroots organizing that is otherwise required to build an effective political movement. However, as the experience of the Reform Party has shown, that path is fraught with peril.

Whether Buchanan or Hagelin ultimately gets the \$12.6 million, neither is likely to get the 5% required to remain on the federal dole. And since the Reform Party hasn't built a grassroots network of volunteers and contributors, they have nothing to fall back on. Once those federal funds are history, so are they.

Ralph Nader has also set his sights on federal funding for the Green Party. Greens hate asking people for money, but apparently have no problems with *forcing* people to contribute. However, it appears increasingly unlikely that he will get the required 5%.

That will leave the Democrats and Republicans as the only political welfare queens. Frankly, the Reform Party can't hold a candle to the D's and R's when it comes to political pork. They each spent as much tax money on their prime time infomercials (a.k.a. conventions) as the Reform Party nominee will get for the general election.

That's right — our tax money helped pay for the balloons, the confetti, the massive stage, which is something most Americans don't realize. Be sure to mention this to your non-Libertarian friends — you may pick up some new supporters.

Ironically, recent polls show that Libertarian Harry Browne — a candidate who turned down federal funding and who has received practically no media coverage — has caught up with Pat Buchanan, a politician and TV commentator who has been in the public eye for three decades.

How is that possible? It's possible because the Libertarian Party has followed a different strategy — one focused on long-term success, not short-term expediency.

■ We've built a political network of nearly 40,000 current contributors, so we aren't dependent on the largess of the government or the whims of a cranky billionaire.

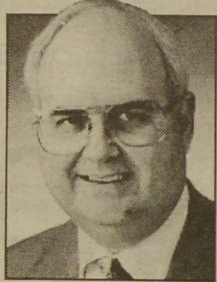
■ We're buying national TV advertising, so we can deliver our message directly to the voters.

■ We've also got hundreds of candidates, over 1,300 so far, delivering our message at the state and local level.

■ We've got over 300 Libertarians serving in public office, demonstrating that Libertarian ideas really work.

■ And, most importantly, we've got a message that will resonate with the American people.

No, grassroots organizing isn't as glamorous as recruiting celebrities to run for president. And running hundreds of candidates isn't as entertaining as open brawls at a convention. But, in the long run, it's the only way to achieve the success the Libertarian Party deserves.



By Steve Dasbach

LP National Director

Why a Swiss-style policy would deter attacks from terrorists

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 Sheldon Richman
FUTURE OF FREEDOM FOUNDATION

Why has the United States become a tempting target for terrorist attacks? The blame must be squarely placed at the feet of our foreign-policy makers.

Of course, the perpetrator is directly responsible for the deaths and injuries of innocent civilians, but that doesn't alter the fact that the foreign-policy establishment, from President Clinton on down, are accessories. They created the indispensable conditions.

Too extreme a statement? Ponder this: Someone recently asked when the last act of foreign terrorism was committed against Switzerland. Isn't it interesting that countries that mind their own business aren't targets of violence committed by citizens of other nations?

Maybe there's a lesson there somewhere.

Mercy of monsters

Apologists for activist government never tire of telling us that the benevolent state is our protector and that without it we'd be at the mercy of monsters. It is about time that we understood that the U.S. government does more to endanger the American people than any imagined monsters around the world.

How so?

By pursuing its Grand Foreign Policy of meddling anywhere and everywhere. It stands to reason that if you stick your nose in other people's quarrels you will acquire enemies. Some of them will be unhappy about the interference and will retaliate. Tragically, they will not be so careful about discriminating between the offenders and innocent civilians.

That's wrong, but so is the meddling that brings the retaliation about.

The failure to avoid harming innocents isn't something the U.S. government is in a position to pontificate about. Its perennial program of bombing and embargo — perfected by the Clinton administration — constitutes a handbook on how to punish people who have done you no wrong.

The only thing that distinguishes terrorists from U.S. policymakers is that the terrorists don't have bombers or the capacity to inflict an embargo on the American people.

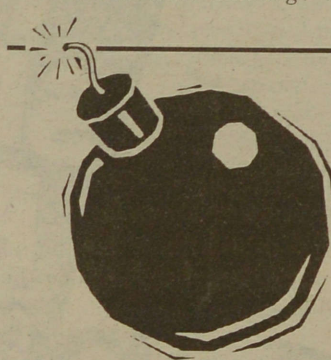
At the moment, the United



States has sanctions against Iraq, Iran, Cuba, and Serbia. We know that those sanctions are not achieving their stated objectives. The rulers of those countries are virtually unaffected. But that doesn't mean the people aren't suffering. They suffer from the lack of food, medicines, and vital services.

An administration that claims to want to do so much "for the children" is starving children in other countries.

An economic embargo was



QUESTION:

What can be done to reduce the possibility of terrorist attacks against the USA?

once regarded as an act of war, and for good reason. It is slow-motion mass murder. We might have learned from history that inflicting mass starvation on a population can come back to haunt.

During World War I the Al-

lies inflicted a devastating hunger blockade on Germany that lasted for months after the armistice. The starving children that didn't perish grew up to become Hitler's soldiers.

Not all of America's mass murder has been in slow motion. The bombers see to that. The United States has been responsible for the deaths of thousands, many civilians included. The survivors don't forget.

Bombing and economic sanctions are not the only ways that the United States has inflicted harm on foreign populations. It has also done so by aiding client states that have oppressed people. For example, Turkey has subjugated Kurds, Israel has repressed Palestinians and bombed its neighbors, and U.S.-backed dictators have committed atrocities against their own people.

Hate the USA

The upshot is that U.S. policymakers have done their best to make foreigners hate the United States.

Conservatives seem to believe that terrorists hate us because we are capitalist and wealthy. But that's implausible. Young men don't risk their lives and become terrorists to exact retribution for abstract offenses. They seek revenge for real crimes, such as the murder of family members.

There is a way to make the United States terrorist-proof: Pursue a foreign policy proper to a constitutional republic, the same policy proposed by George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.

In a word: Nonintervention. Let countries and populations work out their own disputes. Meddling simply widens and intensifies conflicts.

Nonintervention should not be mistaken for "isolationism," or self-sufficiency.

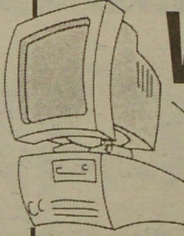
A policy of unconditional free trade — as opposed to managed trade — is not only consistent with political and military nonintervention: It also logically requires it. If government follows a policy of leaving its and other citizens alone, free trade is the default position.

As we journey through the first year of the millennium, let's hope that our nation remains free from terrorist attacks.

If politicians share that goal, they will work to reverse the United States' imperial policy of policing the world.

■ **About the author:** Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Virginia (www.fff.org), and editor of Ideas on Liberty magazine.

LP News

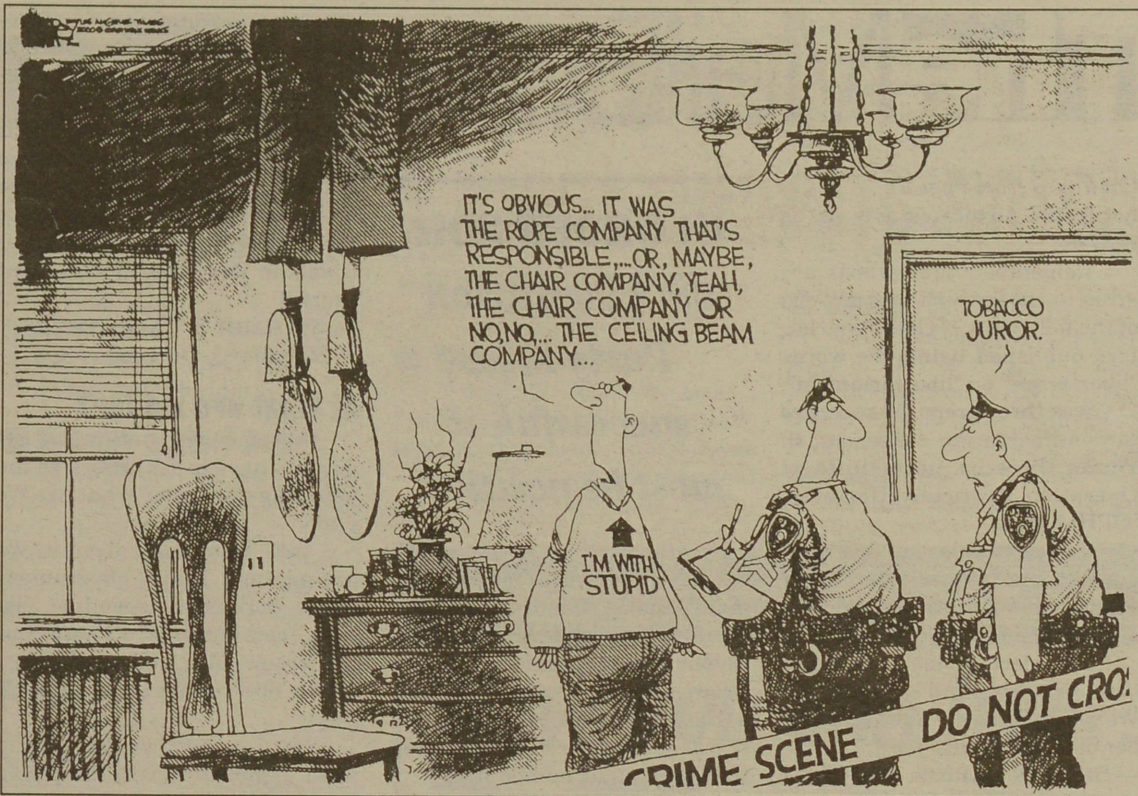


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The Mailbox

■ Hit the afterburners

Now that we have held our convention and nominated Harry Browne as our presidential candidate, and are running candidates in several races for U.S. Senator and Governor, and 236 and counting U.S. House seats, it is all that much more important that we stand shoulder to shoulder behind them.

History has been determined, for better or worse, by a dedicated minority with a plan; a good plan. So far we are seeing Buchanan and Nader being mentioned in polls and on TV, and we are being left out. We have come so far and accomplished so much that now that we have less than 100 days before the election, we cannot afford to stop short.

Now is the time to hit the afterburners, not cut the engines. As a means to that end, I offer the following suggestions:

- 100% of us will have to put Harry Browne bumperstickers on our cars.
- 100% of us will have to display yard signs.
- Contact the candidates in your area. Contact information is available as www.VoteSmart.com and other sites. Believe me, they would love to hear from you.

• Please be as generous as possible in donating money, especially if you have never done so before.

— KEN MACCUTCHEON
Lebanon, Ohio

■ George W. Democrat

In case you missed the Republican Convention highlights, here is George W. Bush's acceptance speech, in a nutshell. He will increase spending on: Headstart, education, Social Se-

curity, Medicare, defense (of-fense?), homeless shelters, and low income housing . . . all while somehow lowering taxes, and returning the surplus back to the people.

In his view, no one should have to pay more than a third of their income to the Feds. I guess the implication is that up to a full third is OK. Thanks, George.

Oh, by the way, he describes himself as a "New Republican." (Where have I heard that adjective before?)

Without his actually defining it, I was able to infer that it means a Republican who can outspend and out-program a Democrat.

Give 'em Hell, Harry.
— MIKE THIBODEAUX
Oscar, Louisiana

GEORGE W. BUSH
is a Republican
who can outspend
and out-program
a Democrat.

■ Correcting the Platform

Regarding the article, "Delegates make Platform changes on abortion and children's rights" [*LP News*, August 2000]:

Where it says, "A new 'Family and Children's Rights' plank was added . . ." The correct name of the plank is "Families and Children."

Where it says, "Whenever they are unable or unwilling to raise their children, they have the

obligation to find other person(s) willing to guardianship." It should be "willing to assume guardianship."

As always, a very good issue.
— DORIS GORDON
Silver Spring, Maryland

■ Giving proper credit

I want to thank *LP News* for an excellent article about the Advocates for Self-Government's "Lights of Liberty" awards for outstanding libertarian activism [July 2000].

We made some errors in our ad in the July issue in which we listed Lights of Liberty winners, and I'd like to correct them so that everyone gets credit for their accomplishments.

The list of Tennessee and Texas winners were accidentally mixed together.

The correct listing of winners in those states should be: Tennessee: Jon Hones, Richard E. Pearl (***), Paul Schmidt, Linda Simmons, Rodney Smith (***), and Jeff Taulman.

Texas: Michael Brady, Robert K. Restivo (**), Reed Shahan, Dan Sheard, and James Turner.

(Those with ** by their names won in two categories. Those with *** by their names won in all three categories.)

Also, two names were accidentally left off the list: Bob Vondruska (California) and Greg Cunningham (Virginia). And in Utah, John H. Pack should have been John R. Pack.

An update: The 2000 awards are already underway. This year, we will be posting the names of winners on our online Honor Roll as soon as we learn of them. So everyone who qualifies should

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 28

The Pulse

Hey, Harry: Listen up!

There's an old saying that advises: "It's better to take advice than to give it."

If that's true, then Harry Browne has an opportunity to make his campaign *much* better by taking the tsunami of suggestions *LP News* readers dished out in response to this month's Pulse question: What one piece of advice would you give to improve the Libertarian Party's presidential campaign?

Unfortunately, the suggestions roamed so widely over the political landscape — sometimes in a sharply contradictory fashion — that a dozen presidential campaigns would have trouble implementing them all.

The most popular suggestions — with 16% of the vote — involved issues that Browne should promote, ranging from "endorse HR-2525, the Fair Tax Bill" to "speak about doing more for this country's children."

In a tie for second place (with 13%) were suggestions about more effective communications (from "keep it simple" to "don't use the phrase 'victimless' crimes") and new campaign strategies (from "more retail campaigning" to have "photo ops" with celebrities).

The third most popular category of suggestions (11%) involved advertising, while tied for fourth (6.5%) were suggestions involving the presidential debates, and the advice: "Be more positive."

And most astonishingly for Libertarians, 1.5% actually had no advice to give.

Here is a sampling of the suggestions:

■ Have more television commercials than Buchanan or Nader. We need to build more TV media presence than either of them, to show that we are the alternative.
— JAY MCINTYRE, Colmar, Pennsylvania

■ Concentrate on extensive "retail" campaigning, and coordinate these efforts with the state parties' efforts, in the states where ballot access can be maintained, or acquired. Especially focus on working in conjunction with active local/state office campaigns.
— MARK NELSON, Davenport, Iowa

■ Talk positively about the stance of the Libertarian Party and how it will benefit the American people. Don't frame issues in a way that will scare people away.
— GREG RENNIE, Columbia, Missouri

■ Speak about doing more for this country's children and teenagers versus funding for NASA, the military, etc. Our children are ignored, our teenagers despised.
— MAX WHEELER, Falmouth, Massachusetts

■ Endorse HR-2525, the Fair Tax bill, a national retail sales tax initiative. It's an incremental step toward a couple of our goals, dismantling the IRS and repealing the 16th Amendment.
— T.J. SCOTT, Lawrenceville, Georgia

■ Give 'em hell, Harry!
— DAVID WOMICK, Cowpens, South Carolina

■ Quit talking about not being able to win. People don't vote for admitted losers.
— GHAEY H. ALECK II, Clare, Michigan

■ Harry Browne better have a list of who he will appoint to the Supreme Court.
— JOE CABANAS, Somerset, New Jersey

■ Arrange your own debates. Invite everyone but leave two empty podiums for Gore and Bush.
— PAUL L. STUDIER, Lake Forest, California

■ Search for a high-profile TV network to sponsor alternative presidential debates, and have them scheduled for the day after each of the Republicrats' debates.
— GREGORY P. BORKOWSKI, Marion, Indiana

See **THE PULSE** Page 28

ThePulse

Continued from Page 27

■ Track down every libertarian celebrity around, and do some sort of photo/event with them.

— ED WIESSMANN, Lafayette, New Jersey

■ Get rid of your proposal for a strategic missile defense. That's the same sort of corporate-welfare, over-the-top military spending, immoral waste of tax dollars that we've experienced from Ronald Reagan to Bill Clinton.

— BERNARD DALSEY, Whitewater, Wisconsin

■ Openness and honesty in fundraising. Don't say you're going to buy airtime unless you're going to buy airtime.

— Dave Kelley, Rockford, Illinois

■ Discontinue using the expression "victimless crime." Use of the word "crime" makes the connotation that something wrong was done.

— Jeffrey Kradin, Delray Beach, Florida

■ Talk to the mothers of America. Explain to all the mothers how the government is taking control away from the family. Ask the mothers of America to take action.

— Richard Prawdziński, Edmond, Oklahoma

■ Focus on issues that resonate more with the American people. There is no need to harp on issues that the voters do not want to deal with.

— Shariq Kathawala, Charleston, Illinois

■ Get out and meet real people, shake hands, do rallies. Your message is stronger than a 100 watt AM station!

— Steve Boone, Baltimore, Maryland

Nov. Question: No to Bush/Gore?

As a Libertarian, one of your major responsibilities on Election day (November 7) is to try to convince your friends and family to vote for Libertarian Harry Browne — and to not "waste their vote" on George W. Bush or Al Gore. Yes, we should make positive arguments about why people should vote Libertarian — but that doesn't mean we can't point out what's wrong with the other guys. So, to help you sharpen your persuasion skills, let's ask the question now: What is the *single best reason* for someone to vote *against* Gore or Bush? In other words, if either one is elected, what is the worst thing that will happen to America? Or, what's the worst program they're proposing? The most irritating lie they've told? The most outrageous statement they've made? (In your answer, you can focus on either Bush or Gore, or both.)

■ QUESTION: What is the best reason why people should vote *against* George W. Bush or Al Gore? (Keep answers to 100 words or less, please.)

■ DEADLINE: October 5, 2000

Oct. Question: Matching Funds?

The presidential campaign has begun, so the once-every-four-years debate about accepting federal campaign funds has erupted again. Some Libertarians say the party *should* take the money, arguing that not taking it unfairly handicaps our presidential ticket. Other Libertarians disagree: They say taking the money violates our principles and makes the party look hypocritical. The question is moot this year since presidential candidate Harry Browne has already declined to file for pre-convention federal matching funds, and the party has not reached the 5% vote total needed for general election money. But what about in 2004?

■ QUESTION: Should the LP's next presidential candidate accept federal campaign money? Why or why not? (Keep answers to 100 words or less, please.)

■ DEADLINE: September 5, 2000

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037

TheMailBox

Continued from Page 27

notify the Advocates as soon as they do.

Remember, the awards are given to anyone who does any one of the following: 1) Gets three letters published using the words "libertarian" or "libertarianism"; 2) Gives three prepared speeches to non-libertarian audiences; 3) Works three or more shifts at Operation Politically Homeless (OPH) booths.

Complete rules are posted at our Web site: www.self-gov.org. Or call us and we'll send information: 1-800-932-1776.

The election year is a great time for this kind of activism. We're hoping to see a record number of winners this year!

— SHARON HARRIS, President, Advocates for Self-Government Cartersville, Georgia

■ Evil and stupid?

In the August Mailbox, Grant Kuhns writes: "The LP News recently referred to the Democrats and Republicans as the 'Evil Party' and the 'Stupid Party.' Can someone tell me which is which?"

Both are both.

— ROBERT G. DOSTAL
Iowa City, Iowa

■ Good news

I am writing to ask you to print a correction to an article appearing in the August LP News. The article refers to the CA LP's efforts to kill AB 2068 [Affiliate News]. The article claims that the bill would force the questioning of children five years old and older about activities in their homes.

I went to the California Legislature home page and looked up AB 2068. I read through every version of the bill and under Senate Committee Analysis I found the following statement:

4. Arguments of Opponents: The Libertarian Party, writing in opposition, states the bill would subject children to intrusive questions and invasion of family privacy. (However, the party's letter states specific opposition to provisions of the bill that were deleted from the bill in the June 22, 2000 amendments.)

I hope that you will print this small bit of good news.

— RICHARD GILBERT
Buena Park, California

■ LP media events?

I was watching *Talk Back Live* on CNN this afternoon, and they got a call from a guy named Carl, saying that if Harry Browne

IN ORDER FOR the Libertarian Party to be successful, it must be positive.

got more coverage, he would be more popular than Bush or Gore.

I was stunned when the host, Bobbie Batista, said that Harry Browne had been on the show for a whole hour the week before, and it was one of their higher-rated shows. Damn, I missed it!

Is there any way I can be informed about LP media events without being on the Internet, such as a subscription on "paper," through "the mail," just like the good old days?

I'm getting tired of watching endless parades of political pundits in hope of hearing mention of Harry Browne or the LP. They seem to have narrowed the third party scene down to Ralph Radar and Bat Buchanan; God knows why. I think we make them nervous; we're not "players."

Thanks for your excellent newspaper. Go LP in 2000!

— MARK STRYKER
Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania

■ Editor's note: Unfortunately, most media events — both for the Harry Browne campaign and for the Libertarian Party — are scheduled with less than 48 hours notice, which makes it almost impossible to notify people by mail.

■ Forced to buy software

One more handful of mud in the Microsoft bucket.

Do we believe in or advocate the imposition of force as a means

of achieving economic or business goals — while renouncing force as a means to achieve social or political goals?

How does their monopolistic position in the operating system market that Microsoft uses to force me to buy pieces of software that I neither want nor use differ from the force that government exerts?

— RICHARD T. CARRUTHERS
Hammond, Oregon

■ What are we for?

At some point in time, we are going to have to ask ourselves the following question: "What Are We For?"

Well, now, think about it! We are against: Taxes, government waste, pork barrel spending, fascists, communists, racists, bureaucracy, rules, and regulations. Great, now tell me: What Are We For?

No, I'm not trying to play a word game. However, I'm trying to point out that in order for the LP to be successful, it must be positive. It must present its agenda in the affirmative.

I say this as so many people have told me that they are sick and tired of the negatives, the doomsayers, and the "the-sky-is-falling" mentality.

So, one more time: "What Are We For?"

You'd better think about it carefully, and have the answers in simple English. It's difficult enough to get a voter to "waste" his vote for a third party; however, you've got a fighting chance with a strong program couched in positive terms.

Remember, America dislikes people who are whiners, complainers, and know-it-alls — like those Libertarians, always complaining about the Founding Fathers, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights . . . and what they really mean.

Folks, if we are going to win elections, we must put this all in a positive light. Otherwise, we begin to sound like Pat Buchanan, who still thinks he can win by

See THE MAILBOX Page 29



Carla Howell

Libertarian for U.S. Senate

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The MailBox

Continued from Page 28
running a "negative" campaign. Well, he can't and neither can we.

From now on, we accentuate the positive.

— **FRED BLUESTONE**
Lauderhill, Florida

■ Sneaky salary boost

While many in our government ask, "What should we do with our budget surplus?" — and others point out that it is already spent and only exists on paper — our elected officials have decided to eliminate any ambiguity by dealing with part of what may or may not exist.

I am referring to the House quietly giving itself a \$3,800 pay raise, raising their annual salary to \$145,400. This will be their third pay raise in four years, and their second in a row.

No one-party political greed here. A majority of Republicans and Democrats were in favor of it. (This raise is in addition, of course, to the gifts they receive from Big Business and Big Labor.)

Expect the raise to be attacked by conservatives? Not while Republicans are the ruling majority. Expect it to be attacked by liberals? Are you kidding? You need a nice salary to attract the best candidates, who will defend the rights of the average citizen. Gack.

This will cost taxpayers an additional \$2.5 million per year. Expect the Senate to follow suit shortly.

— **KURT SNYDER**
Warren, Michigan

■ **Editor's note:** *The Libertarian Party has been working to stop the latest Congressional salary increase. See story on page 3.*

■ No pie-in-the-sky

Your "Making Sense of the Million Mom March" [From the Editor, July 2000] is a very good article. I was a delegate to the recent Unitarian Universalist Association General Assembly. One of the proposals was a call for registration of handguns and their owners. This proposal passed at easily over 95%.

One of the best articles this year is, "To get votes, don't scare people with radical ideas" [The Forum, July 2000] by A.J. Diliberto. The publicly uttered radical ideas of some Libertarian candidates irritates me. We need to be advancing practical ideas for the here and now — not pie-in-

the-sky theories that can not happen without serious social adjustment.

— **ROLAND O. PETERSON**
Waltham, Massachusetts

■ The same tactic

I read Mr. Diliberto's article, "To Get Votes, Don't Scare People with Radical Ideas," and I agree with him. Revolution is the usual way radical change is imple-

mented. All party members signed a pledge for peaceful change.

One step at a time, the Socialists have taken our liberty. We can succeed using the same tactic. Let's fight the battles we can win first.

— **JOEY KING**
Nashville, Tennessee

■ Change is scary

While reading the July 2000 issue of *LP News*, I came across an article written by A.J. Diliberto titled, "To Get Votes, Don't Scare People with Radical Ideas." I was amused at the word "radical" used in the title. What should be the

normal standard for government operations is today considered radical.

A.J. Diliberto does make excellent points in that we libertarians are a passionate bunch and can seem overwhelming in our beliefs to some citizens. Change is a scary thing for most; we get comfortable in our life, whether it's good or bad for us.

So change has to come slowly and in little bits. Just look at our current system. The government didn't just come and take away all of our freedoms in one fell swoop; they are doing it a little at a time.

I feel if we are going to bring

people to our side we need to do it in little bits. For example, one issue that I'm sure is hurting us is our stance on drugs. Some people believe that Libertarians are for legalizing all drugs — and promoting their use. People with children will not support that!

What we need to do is focus on the wasted money the government is spending on its fight against drugs, and use that money for education on drug abuse and rehabilitation. I think that would win the support of families with children — not focusing on legalization.

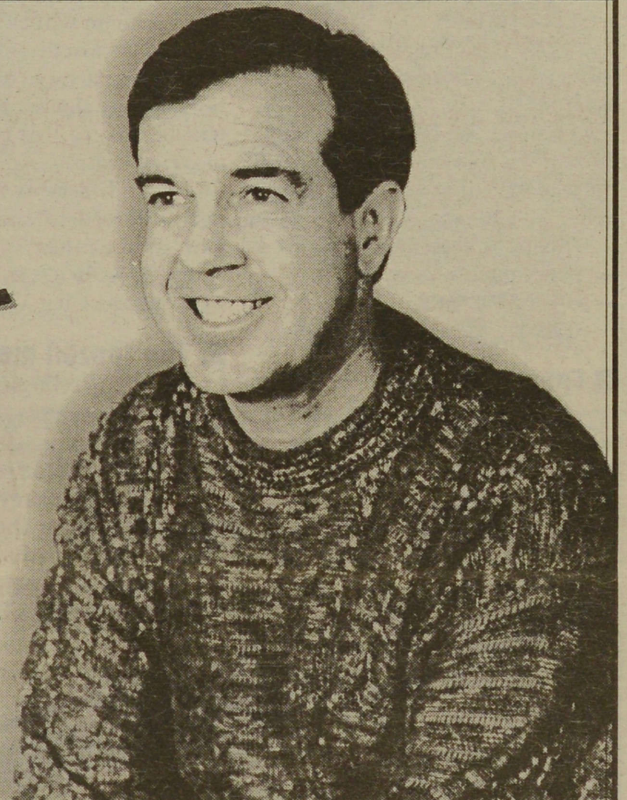
See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30

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— Sharon Harris, president, Advocates For Self Government

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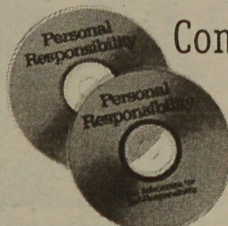
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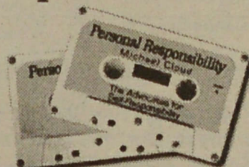
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The MailBox

Continued from Page 29

We need to exploit the issues that people are concerned with, while also keeping with our libertarian views. As we gain ground and support we can implement (slowly) the more so-called radical parts of our beliefs.

— CHRISTOPHER KREINER

Portage, Wisconsin

■ Remain faithful

[In response to The Pulse, August 2000]: The reason our party has not self-destructed is because we have remained faithful to the principles of truth, liberty, and justice.

To be a libertarian you must believe that these principles are attainable, and you must sign your name to it. Damn good idea. To believe in principle removes the ego and instills in its place honor.

Keep the statement [required for party membership].

— JOHN BREWER

Ark City, Kansas

■ Free marriage

In the August issue of The MailBox, Roland O. Peterson writes that a marriage is a public social contract.

The only public aspects of

marriage that I see help governments determine at what rate our income will be confiscated and how much of that confiscated property to give away to others.

When we get governments out of the business of taxing incomes and "redistributing wealth," it will have no reason to recognize marriage at all. This will make Americans more free and more responsible at the same time. People will need to more carefully consider the consequences because the government won't be there to bail them out of their poor planning.

Freedom will be enhanced as Mormons, Muslims, and others will be free to have multiple partners, if they choose. Homosexuals will be free to live together as a married couple. And those who find such lifestyles immoral will not be forced to subsidize them with public funds.

— PAUL L. BOOTH

Stephens City, Virginia

■ The frozen menace

In Evansville, Indiana, a 44-year-old woman was sentenced to attend anger management classes after she assaulted a teenage boy with a frozen turkey breast. She whopped him on the side of the head with the bird.

This is a horrendous crime that didn't have to happen. This is only the latest in a series of anecdotal evidence that we need frozen food control laws. No longer should society let just anyone go into a grocery store and buy frozen food without first registering the food and obtaining a permit.

The word on the street is, due to cost effectiveness, loan sharks are now using frozen French bread instead of baseball bats to convince overdue clients of their need to pay up. There has even been a rash of hijackings of Schwann's food trucks by gangs collecting ammunition for future gang wars. Who knows how many crazy people are out walking our streets carrying congealed weapons?

Oddjob, a villain in the James Bond movie, *Goldfinger*, threw a deadly hat like a Frisbee. He no doubt had to go to great lengths to get that hat produced for him. Just imagine if he had the forethought to use readily available frozen pizzas. Those discs would have proven just as deadly and the possibility of copycat crimes would have soared due to the ease in obtaining the weaponry.

I called and talked with my Congressman about a law for frozen food control. He was quite cool to the idea.

But I pushed on. I told him that one of the best ideas put forth is that of a 24-hour waiting period before someone can purchase frozen food. The obvious benefits to

I TALKED TO my Congressman about frozen food control. He was cool to the idea.

society would be that an angry person would have time to cool off and the frozen food would thaw, rendering it virtually useless as a weapon.

Also, I begged, couldn't we convince the manufacturers to sell the giblets separately, thereby leaving the turkeys unloaded? Can't we require Mrs. Paul's to put safety locks on her fish sticks?

He said, "Frozen food doesn't kill people, bacteria kills people." I hung up the phone with quite a freezer burn showing on my cheeks, but I'm not going to give up.

— DEBBIE HARBESON

Sellersburg, Indiana

■ Political maturity

I would like to see the Libertarian Party try a new tactic this election. I read in Ann Landers a few years back an article about what maturity is. I think the Libertarians should challenge all of the other political parties to live up to these standards. These stan-

dards are as follows:

Maturity is the ability to control anger and settle differences without violence or destruction.

Maturity is patience. It is the willingness to pass up immediate pleasure in favor of long-term gain.

Maturity is perseverance, the ability to sweat out a project or situation in spite of heavy opposition and discouraging setbacks.

Maturity is the capacity to face unpleasantness and frustration, discomfort and defeat, without complaint or collapse.

Maturity is humility. It is being big enough to say, "I was wrong." And, when right, not saying, "I told you so."

Maturity is the ability to make a decision and follow through. The immature spend their lives exploring endless possibilities and then do nothing.

Maturity means dependability, keeping one's word and coming through in a crisis. The immature are masters of the alibi. They are conflicted and disorganized. Their lives are a maze of broken promises, former friends, unfinished business, and good intentions that never materialize.

I'm sure the founding fathers lived up to these standards as a matter of course. I wouldn't give you a snowball's chance in hell of coming up with more than a handful of Republicrats who live up to these standards.

— TOM KNIGHTON

Frontier, Michigan

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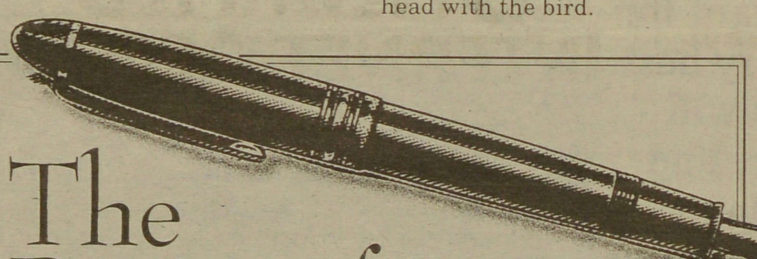
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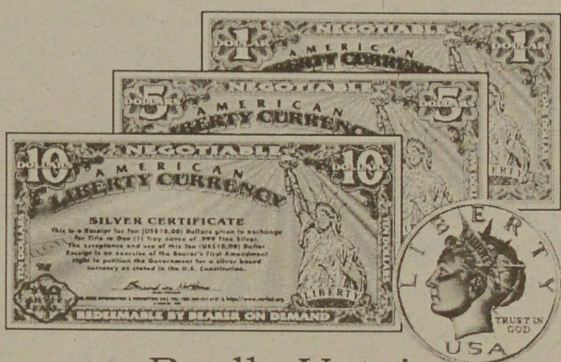
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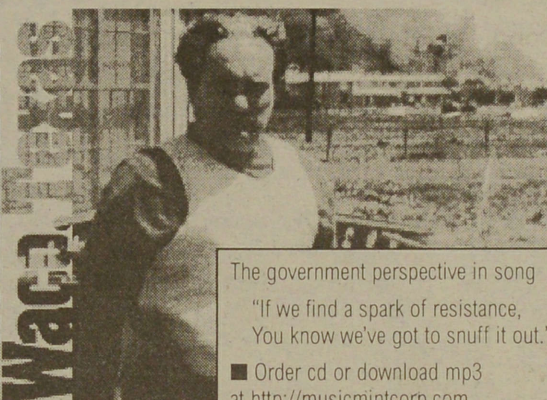
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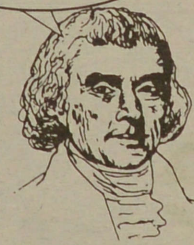
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UpComing

■ September 9, 2000

Foundation for Economic Education Regional Seminar, Denver Marriott West, Colorado. Speakers include Don Boudreaux ("The Logic of the Marketplace") and Sheldon Richmond ("The Perils of School Choice"). Cost: \$25 or \$10 for students. For information, call: (914) 591-7230. Or visit: www.FEE.org.

■ September 16, 2000

Annual MassCANN/NORML Freedom Rally, Boston Common, Boston, Massachusetts. Speakers include Harry Browne (Libertarian candidate for president) and Carla Howell (LP candidate for U.S. Senate). For information: www.MassCANN.org.

■ September 20, 2000

Cato City Seminar, Four Seasons Hotel, Houston, Texas. For information, call: (202) 789-5229. Or visit: www.cato.org.

■ September 21, 2000

Cato City Seminar, Westin Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. For information, call: (202) 789-5229. Or visit: www.cato.org.

■ September 23, 2000

New Hampshire LP Convention, Center of New Hampshire Holiday Inn, Manchester. Speakers include Marshall Fritz (Director of the Separation of School & State Alliance) and Paula Werme (LPNH activist and attorney). For information, call: (800) 559-5764. E-mail: liberty@bit-net.com.

■ September 29-October 1, 2000

2000 Gun Rights Policy Conference, Crystal City Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. Sponsored by the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) and the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Speakers include Alan Gottlieb (SAF) and

Massad Ayoob (The Lethal Force Institute). For information, call: (425) 454-4911. E-mail: GRPC2000@saf.org. Websites: www.saf.org or www.ccrkba.org.

■ October 5-7, 2000

Privacy Conference, New School University, New York, NY. Speakers include Larry Lessig (Stanford University), Marc Rotenberg (Electronic Privacy Information Center), and Kenneth Prewitt (Director, U.S. Census Bureau). For information, call: (212) 229-2488. Or visit: www.newschool.edu.

■ October 6-7, 2000

"The Rise & Fall of the State" Conference, Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center, Auburn, Alabama. Sponsored by the Ludwig von Mises Institute. Speakers include Walter Block (author, *Defending the Undefendable*) and Bertrand Lemennicier (University of Paris). Cost: \$110 per person. For information, call: (334) 321-2101. Or visit: www.mises.org.

■ November 10-12, 2000

Student Seminar: "Freedom and Civil Society," Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, New York. For information, call: (914) 591-7230. E-mail: seminars@fee.org.

■ December 9-10, 2000

Libertarian National Committee Meeting, Washington, DC. Exact location TBA. Open to all party members. For information, call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 228.

■ February 16-19, 2001

California LP Convention, Doubletree Hotel, San Jose. Speakers TBA. For information, contact Cullene Lang: (916) 362-0855. E-mail: cullene@aol.com.

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InSide

- **PAGE 1** Browne campaign tours USA, starts TV advertising blitz
- **PAGE 1** LP makes history with 245 House candidates
- **PAGE 3** LP lobbying effort helps repeal meth bill provisions



1st Word

"The Libertarians appear to be gaining strength [and] are threatening to make inroads among independent voters."

— John Gregg, *MetroWest Daily News*, Framingham, Massachusetts, June 4, 2000

"We are glad the Libertarian Party is in the fray. It is important that consistent voices speaking for individual freedom and limited government are heard amid the me-tooism of today's big-government major parties, and [presidential candidate] Harry Browne's voice is one of the most consistent."

— *Orange County Register* (CA), July 4, 2000

"The Libertarian Party [is] the party that firmly believes government should not meddle in the private lives of individuals."

— John Cannon, *The Daily Independent*, Ashland, Kentucky, June 25, 2000