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Convention speaker to discuss Iraq 'lies'

"We solved the things we're there to solve, but it's not what we were told we're there for," says retired USAF Lt. Col. Karen Kwiatkowski, who was working as an analyst for the Pentagon as the U.S. geared up to invade Iraq.

She retired in March, 2003, after serving 20 years in the military. She worked at the Pentagon during her final four and a half years in active duty.

A registered Libertarian, Kwiatkowski will talk about the Iraq war at the Libertarian Party's national convention in Atlanta. Her primary thesis: The reasons for invading Iraq were manufactured.

White House officials continue to claim that the search for weapons of mass destruction was a primary reason for the invasion, and that the decision to invade was based on the best intelligence available at the time.

They also claim that combating terrorism in that region, as well as ending Saddam Hussein's dictatorship and instituting a democracy, justified the invasion.

Kwiatkowski says these claims are false, that the war was "based on lies."

"A lot of people may still believe this Iraq thing is part of the war on terror, that we're there to stop terrorism," Kwiatkowski said. "The terrorists [of Sept. 11, 2001] didn't come from Iraq. But now, the threat of terrorism coming out of Iraq is very real."

That's a major result of the Iraq invasion, she said: "A lot more people hate us now than before, so there's a whole new crop of terrorists."

"We've done our part to further terrorism over there."

At the LP convention, Kwiatkowski will share "an inside" See **KWIATKOWSKI** Page 4

Land-grab bill in Florida legislature torpedoed by lobbying Libertarians

A bill in the Florida legislature that would have greatly expanded government power to seize private property has been torpedoed by Libertarians, whose lobbying campaign was so successful that it forced the bill's sponsor to withdraw her support from it.

The bill, which one LP member said "would have essentially revoked private property rights," had already passed the Senate and was headed for the House when the LP swung into action.

The highlight of the campaign, according to LP activists, was when

the bill's sponsor — Rep. Gayle Harrell — admitted during an appearance on the Neal Boortz show that she had been unaware of how the new powers could be abused until the LP activists filled in the blanks for her.

The bill would have allowed local government officials to group private property together, seize it by eminent domain, and sell it to a developer.

Through a feverish phone, fax and e-mail campaign, Libertarian activists were able to get the message out to news outlets, legislators and citizens, and drew attention to



■ Walt Augustinowicz

the bill's language.

"Currently, to claim eminent domain, the government has to show blight; they have to show that the land is a slum — that the condition of the structures is deteriorating," said Walt Augustinowicz, who is running for state House in District 71.

"And even that is abused. They're trying to condemn one subdivision because the road is in poor repair, even though the houses are in excellent condition."

The LP got active just days before the April 30 end of the legislature. See **FLORIDA** Page 2

Virginia Beach LP candidate pulls 43 percent

Virginia Beach Libertarian Robert K. Dean drew 43 percent of the vote in a three-way mayoral race in his city on May 4, nearly defeating a 27-year Democrat incumbent for the non-partisan post.

The incumbent, Meyera Oberndorf, drew 50 percent of the vote.

"Robert Dean deserves tremendous thanks and praise for running such a credible campaign that obviously resonated with so many voters in his city," said Virginia LP chair Steve Damerell.

"In this race, he wasn't the spoiler; he was nearly the victim of a spoiler," Damerell noted.

Republican candidate Al Wallace took over 6 percent of the vote — putting him in the position of spoiler in this election, said Brian Babb, chairman of the Tidewater Libertarian Party.

Although the mayoral seat is a non-partisan one, Dean's position as a member of the Libertarian Party was common knowledge in the area, and was discussed in radio, television and newspaper accounts of the race from the time he announced his campaign in early March.

With a population of about 436,000, including 250,000 registered voters, Virginia Beach is the most populous city in the state and the 38th largest in the nation.

"Robert ran near or beyond his two opponents in fundraising and activity, and came into the campaign with a resume that included

prior service on the City Council," Damerell said. "He took on a long-standing incumbent with an aggressive two-month campaign. We have proof that a candidate can run on a principled Libertarian platform and be taken entirely seriously, if he or she knows how to work politics and the issues."

"Our goal in the coming years, then, must be to focus on growing the LPVA's political knowledge base — because the more Robert Deans we have making runs for office, the sooner we will strike a major Libertarian victory right here in liberty's home state."

Dean said he ran "on three issues: Taxes, taxes and taxes."

Property tax bills that were sent out soon before the election contributed to Dean's popularity in the city.

"Meyera Oberndorf has been in office over 20 years, so I'm going against an entrenched incumbent," he said before the election, noting that Oberndorf's major flaw "is that she supports every tax increase that the city manager proposes."

"Over a two-year period, personal property and real estate taxes have increased by 18 percent on average," he said. "Meanwhile, the elderly got a Social Security benefit increase of 2.1 percent, so they're pretty much going into the hole. These taxes are a real problem."

If elected, he wanted to reduce the property tax by at least 15 per-

See **CANDIDATE** Page 5



■ Robert Dean (l) and Virginia LP Chair Steve Damerell (r). Dean came very close to becoming mayor of Virginia's largest city, pulling in 43 percent of the vote against an incumbent.

NEWS BRIEFS

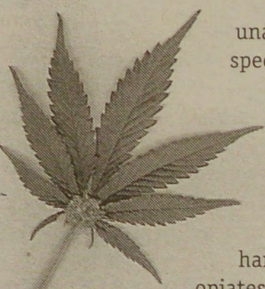
Court OKs hemp foods; DEA plans appeal

A panel of federal judges ruled unanimously in February that foods made from hemp are legal and should not be controlled by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, and the DEA is contemplating an appeal to the Supreme Court.

Manufacturers of hemp food products who on Feb. 6 won their 2 1/2-year court battle to keep hemp foods legal in the U.S. are waiting to see if the DEA appeal will materialize.

The administration's petition to the Supreme Court was due by May 6, but the court extended the deadline to June 5. If Solicitor General Theodore Olsen doesn't appeal by the new deadline, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit's landmark decision will stand — protecting sales of foods made with hemp seed and oil in the U.S.

"Manufacturers of healthy foods containing shelled hemp seed and oil are confident that the DEA cannot win an appeal to the Supreme Court," says David Bronner, chair of the Hemp Industries Association Food and Oil Committee.



"The three-judge panel in the Ninth Circuit unanimously ruled that the DEA ignored the specific Congressional exemption in the Controlled Substances Act that excludes hemp fiber, seed and oil, along with poppy seeds," Bonner said.

The court recognized that hemp seed contains THC — the "drug" in marijuana — in amounts so small as to be irrelevant and harmless, "just like harmless trace amounts of opiates in poppy seeds," he said.

Fighting the DEA's attempted ban has cost leading hemp companies more than \$200,000 so far, but the industry is prepared to continue fighting the DEA appeal to the Supreme Court.

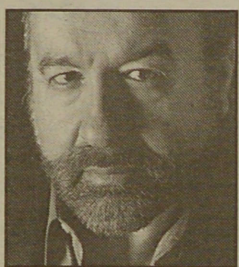
"The public and media should question the DEA's waste of tax dollars in trying to crush the legitimate hemp foods industry," says Eric Steenstra, President of Vote Hemp.

Friedman Prize presented to economist

Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto was awarded the Cato Institute's Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty on May 6. The prize, along with a \$500,000 award, is awarded to someone who has made a significant contribution to advancing human freedom.

De Soto, who founded the Institute for Liberty and Democracy in Lima, Peru, in 1980, says that the United States and other capitalist countries should recognize peasant-class workers worldwide as contributors in the global economy — that if these entrepreneurs in developing nations are not engaged by capitalist nations, they will be approached instead by terrorist groups and corrupt governments.

"You have an enormous amount of people who believe in the system, and if you don't reach them someone else will," he said after accepting his award.



■ Hernando de Soto

De Soto encourages the working poor to consider themselves part of the "formal" economy, instead of allowing themselves to be marginalized. He argues that poor people should use their property — farms, vending stands, taxis or chickens — to apply for loans and expand their businesses.

His philosophy has resulted in attacks from Latin America's aristocracy, authoritarian regimes, labor unions and Peru's Maoist terrorist group, the Shining Path. He's survived at least three attempts on his life.

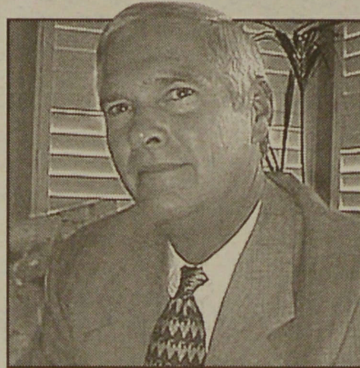
De Soto was selected as the 2004 prize winner from hundreds of nominations from around the world. During a 45-minute speech, he said North Korea, Zimbabwe, Cuba and other authoritarian countries maintain "feudalistic" social contracts and exclude most citizens from classically liberal property rights.

This was the second biennial Milton Friedman Award given by the Cato Institute. The first went to the late British economist Peter Bauer in 2002.

"Hernando de Soto embodies what the Milton Friedman Prize for Advancing Liberty is all about," says Cato Institute president Edward Crane. "In his books he has made new and important contributions to our understanding of liberty."

"And he has worked with dedication and effectiveness to bring liberty about, on the ground, in places where it is most needed. Everyone talks about helping the world's poor. This is a man who figured out how to do it. His work exemplifies the spirit and practice of liberty."

CA law enforcement officials endorse Gray for U.S. Senate



■ Judge James Gray

California Superior Court Judge James Gray's candidacy for U.S. Senate as a Libertarian continues to gain attention and support — including from law enforcement officials.

Far from alienating him from the mainstream in California, Gray's staunch criticism of the federal government's war on drugs is actually attracting support from those who are responsible for upholding the laws.

As the judge's May 11 visit to Mendocino County approached, Gray

received endorsements from both the sheriff and the district attorney in that county.

"Earning these endorsements shows that common-sense crime fighters recognize the need to get Washington's nose out of our business in California," said Judge Gray.

Gray is, himself, one of the "common-sense crime fighters."

Following service in the Peace Corps in the 1960s, Gray was a staff judge advocate and criminal defense attorney as a lieutenant in the U.S.

See **GRAY** Page 3

Florida eminent domain law killed

Continued from Page 1

lative session, leading Harrell and co-sponsor Kevin Ambler to withdraw their support of the bill, which died in the House without going to a vote.

"I was extremely happy to see this bill die," Augustinowicz said. "The fact that such a bill was even considered and passed in the Florida Senate should send a loud warning to the citizens of this country."

"It is time to stand up and tell your country that you have had enough and you will fight for your inalienable rights — such as those enumerated in the Bill of Rights."

According to the Senate staff analysis of the bill, it would have allowed local governments to consolidate platted or subdivided lots in a subdivision.

The bill was supposed "to allow replatting for more appropriate development," and — even more egregiously — a county government would be "authorized to exercise eminent domain for this purpose and appropriate [the] property," according to the staff analysis.

In other words, if a local government didn't like the way various properties in a subdivision are used — or if for some reason they want that land — they could combine the lots, take the land and allow another to redevelop the property.

"That alone would have let them take any property, not just antiquated subdivisions," Augustinowicz said.

"In a free country, where individuals are sovereign over their money and bodies, property becomes an extension of ourselves when we buy land and lay claim to it," U.S. Congressional District 21 candidate Frank Gonzalez said when the House was still considering the bill.

"How can we be free if our property can be forcibly taken away on a whim by government bureaucrats more interested in their legacy than in their constituents?"

The Senate bill that was approved had been amended to remove all references to the words "eminent domain," replacing them with "land assembly or adjustment," Augustinowicz said.

"But it was essentially the same bill with those words purposefully avoided."

"When government begins to usurp the rights of property owners, then we no longer live in a free society," said Kim Snow, Libertarian candidate for state House District 47. "We are at the whim of those in power, or those who have the money to affect those in power."

The Senate report on the bill said it would primarily have affected "antiquated subdivisions."

"An antiquated subdivision is defined as a subdivision platted before 1980 that doesn't follow current policy. The value of property in these subdivisions would have plummeted, as it would have been impossible to sell property targeted for eminent domain use."

Now that the eminent domain bill is dead, stopping such attempts in the future has become a primary goal for Augustinowicz.

"Our state legislature tried unsuccessfully to slip this by the people," he said, noting that no one noticed the potential dangers of the legislation until it was almost too late to take action.

"Make no mistake: This bill will be disguised and be back before our legislature again in the near future."

"Private property ownership is a cornerstone in our society. Without it our country would cease to be recognizable. This kind of assault on private property is inexcusable. All those in the Senate who voted for the bill should be shown the door in November."

If he is elected, Augustinowicz promised, he will repeal any statutes that delegate the power of eminent domain to local government bodies, and would "also work to rewrite all eminent domain laws to never allow the property seized to be sold to private developers."

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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

Pima County AZ Libertarians fight \$732M in bond measures

Libertarians in Pima County, Arizona, are fighting six different bond issues proposed by their county government — bonds that will, if approved by voters on May 18, have a face value of \$732 million — to pay for sewer infrastructure, parks and recreation, libraries, flood control and other projects.

"The county is telling us \$732 million, but that doesn't figure in the interest payments for 30 years," says David Euchner, chairman of the Pima County Libertarian Party. "The bond proposals allow for up to a 12 percent interest rate, so the cost of these bonds could be more than \$2 billion by the time this is over."

With a population of about 890,000, more than half of whom live in Tucson, Pima County "isn't a little tiny hamlet in the middle

of nowhere, but we're not a huge sprawling metropolis, either," Euchner said. "That's a lot of money to pay in extra taxes."

The problem with governments issuing bonds to fund projects is that "the geniuses in government ... want you to think that there is some magical being called the 'bond fairy' who will cover the costs of these expensive projects," says one of the LP's arguments against the flood of bond measures.

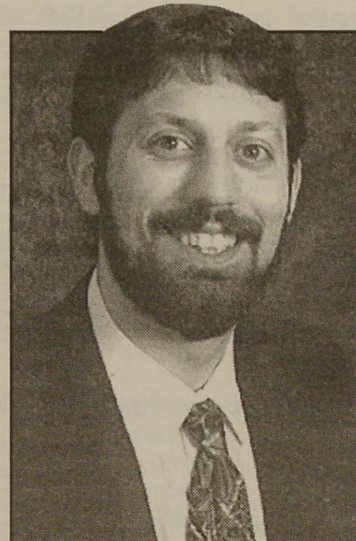
"Bonds are paid off through tax revenues, and therefore a new bond package is the same as a tax increase. Would you borrow money that you had no intention of repaying but rather willfully intended for your children and grandchildren to repay? Of course you wouldn't; doing so would be a crime against

your children and grandchildren. But supporting public bonds is no different."

The county Libertarian Party has joined with a "loose confederation of libertarian activists" called the Western Libertarian Alliance to oppose the bond measures, Euchner said.

Members of these two groups wrote arguments against all six of the bond questions for the voter's booklet, and members of the Pima County LP also wrote five opinion columns opposing the bonds for *The Tucson Citizen* — which ran each of the columns, along with columns supporting the bond in question, he said.

"What the supervisors are proposing amounts to nothing less than county officials driving up to



■ David Euchner: "That's a lot of money to pay in extra taxes."

a homestead in [an outlying area] and demanding funds for Tucson's sewer system from the property owner while pointing a shotgun at him or her," said Rick LaPoint, the county LP's treasurer, in one of the newspaper opinion pieces.

"It's the same as having county officials armed with Glocks walk up to one of the rented tract homes on the South Side, knock on the door and demand money to finance plumbing for the latest townhome development on the opulent Northwest Side," LaPoint added.

"This type of taxation is neither fair nor proportionately applied to all county residents based upon use. For that reason alone, it should be dismissed outright by voters."

This isn't the first time these Libertarians have opposed large bonds; they have a history of such activism, and they've been successful in the past.

"Last year we presented the argument against light rail initiatives, and we've been successful with that one," Euchner said. "It is apparently dead for now."

"But there's always another group of people that wants a billion dollar tax hike. I don't know how well we're going to do this time; everybody's got their hands in the pork pie this time. There are so many different projects, so many special interest groups involved, that almost all the voters stand to gain from these bonds being passed."

What they would gain immediately, though, they'd be paying off for more than a generation, leaving their children or grandchildren to pick up the rest of the tab.

Because there are so many special interest groups standing to gain from the bonds, proponents of the bond measures have hundreds of thousands of dollars to spend promoting their agenda, Euchner said.

For the opposition, on the other hand, the Libertarians don't have that much money; what they do have are effective arguments against the bonds, but that may not be enough to convince people to vote the measures down, he said.

"We can't sink that much money into this. What do we gain by winning this election? Nothing."

"If they win, they gain a lot. If we win, we just don't lose."

As the county's primary — and sometimes sole — vocal opponents of bonds and taxes, the Libertarians have been continually approached by the media, which helps them get the message out.

"We haven't done press releases because the press is calling us every day," Euchner said. "They're hounding us nonstop."

Never has a man sounded more pleased about being hounded by the press.

"We are already the highest-taxed per capita county in Arizona," he said. "We have to do anything we can to stop these bonds from getting approved."

Alabama LP'er falls 100 feet...and still eyes conventions

When Auburn University senior Dick Clark attends the 2004 Libertarian National Convention as a delegate from Alabama, two things will likely take precedence in his mind.

First, he'll be pleased to take part in the LP's critical activity

— including selecting a presidential nominee from the seven announced candidates, voting on party officers and helping make — decisions — along with the hundreds of other delegates.

And second, he'll be glad he can even show up, thankful that he's

no longer in a hospital bed. He will probably still be wearing a neck brace, however.

Clark, 23, was hiking on March 29 with his brother, Trevor, at a waterfall in South Carolina, when he had a brush with death. The pair, both Eagle Scouts, had hiked up to the higher tier of the waterfall, which was listed in the guidebook as the largest natural waterslide in the state, he said.

Trevor had just taken a photo of Dick standing on the rocks at the top when Dick lost his footing and fell from the falls — which were more than 100 feet tall. The falls fortunately were not a sheer drop, so he slid and tumbled down the face.

Referring to the falls as a "natural waterslide" is a misnomer, Clark said.

"I started sliding and just couldn't stop. And when I finally did manage to catch my feet on a rock, it just made me cartwheel over, and I fell the rest of the way to the bottom, headfirst."

"It wasn't like a 100-foot fall straight onto my head."

But it was still a heck of a fall: He broke three ribs, fractured his skull and cracked two vertebrae in his neck.

"My brother ran down to where I was laying unconscious, with just my legs sticking out of the water, and he pulled me out. I was pretty much scalped, to tell you the truth, and he tied my head up with his T-shirt and started screaming for help."

Passing hikers ran to the road, flagged down a motorcyclist who happened to be an Army medic, and between them they got Dick to the road — and then on to the Greenville, SC, hospital via helicopter.

Clark said he's glad his brother had Scouts training, without which he would probably have bled to death.



■ Dick Clark: Fell 100 feet

"Thankfully there weren't any government bureaucrats involved in my rescue," he said. "They'd still be trying to decide who should pull me out of the water."

After three days in the hospital's intensive care unit and three more days in a regular room, Clark was ready to leave. He actually got a date with one of the nurses while he was there — which he attributes to the Florence Nightingale effect.

Post fall, his sense of humor is intact: "Being a Libertarian and trying to change our oppressive government sometimes feels a lot like beating your head against a rock wall, so I guess I was ready for the real thing," he quipped.

Or you could refer to him as a hard-headed Libertarian.

Either way, Clark is looking forward to serving as a delegate to the Alabama state Libertarian Party convention, and to the national convention in Atlanta, Ga., on May 27-31.

A member of the executive committee of the state LP, Clark is also president of the Auburn University chapter of college Libertarians.

He credits his Christian faith as instrumental in his continued life: "Obviously, this means God has a purpose for my life," he said.

When spring break was over, Clark returned to school. He didn't miss a day of regular classes. He'll graduate this winter with a degree in English.

Gray endorsed for U.S. Senate

Continued from Page 2

Navy Jag Corps at the Naval Air Station in Guam and Lemoore, California.

For about three and a half years after that he was a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles, then worked in private practice before being appointed a municipal court judge.

He was elevated to Superior Court in 1989.

His time on the bench showed him the destructive and counterproductive nature of the War on Drugs, which led him to write his book, *Why Our Drug Laws Have Failed and What We Can Do About It*. "The dilemma is that the drug war leaves few good alternatives for local law enforcement in how we fight crime," said Mendocino County Sheriff Tony Craver.

"Judge Gray makes a lot of sense in his approach of using drug courts and treatment to deal with low-level non-violent offenders."

The county's district attorney, Norm Vroman, joined Craver in endorsing Gray for Senate.

"How refreshing to have a candidate who supports the will of our voters on issues like the drug war and on genetically modified foods," said Els Cooperrider, a businesswoman who recently led the effort to convince Mendocino voters to ban the raising of foods using genetically modified organisms (GMOs) within the county.

This year, Mendocino became the first county in the nation to ban GMO crops.

Gray supports mandatory labeling of foods that contain GMOs, saying proper labeling of foods is consistent with the market-friendly approach of the Libertarian Party.

"If people know that GMOs are in a food product, they can then exercise their right as an informed consumer," said Gray. "By creating predictable and consistent labeling rules, we also bring greater confidence to the commodities market, which is a pocketbook issue in rural America."

Confidence in the market is needed, says the candidate, following millions of dollars in lost sales for American corn farmers in 12 states who watched helplessly in the fall of 2000 as European and Asian food buyers panicked over a scare that GMOs had tainted the corn supply.

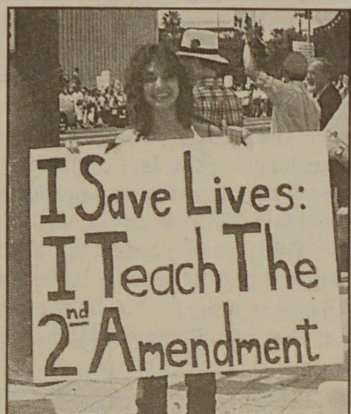
Last week, Gray joined Sen. John McCain in calling for immediate congressional hearings over the alleged torture of prisoners in Iraq, and says he wants a "credible and independent investigation over how prisoners are treated in Iraq, Afghanistan and the U.S. military camp in Guantanamo, Cuba."

Judge Gray is the Libertarian party nominee and faces Barbara Boxer and Bill Jones in November's race for U.S. Senate. For more information, visit www.judgejimgray4senate.com or call (949) 253-4036.

POLITICAL NEWS

'2nd Amendment Sisters' protest in DC

In predictable but lamentable fashion, the few hundred anti-gun activists who gathered in Washington, D.C. on Mother's Day — May 9 — for the grossly-misnamed "Million Mom March" rally drew more media attention than the simultaneous rally conducted by the pro-gun rights group Second Amendment Sisters.



■ 2nd Amendment Sister

Readers who didn't know about the Second Amendment Freedoms for Everyone Rally (SAFER) "can hardly be blamed," said Marc Montoni, a Libertarian Party of Virginia officer.

"Media coverage of the pro-confiscation march has been expansive and generous, but the Second Amendment Sisters (SAS) rally has been given hardly a mention."

The organizers of the Million Mom March received a tremendous amount of organizational support from the Brady Campaign and other anti-self-defense organizations, in their attempt "to see to it that both the Second Amendment and everyone's right to defend themselves and their homes becomes a thing of the past," Montoni said.

"Their ultimate goal is confiscation of all privately held guns."

By contrast, SAS points out that armed citizens prevent more than 2 million crimes each year.

"One of the speakers recounted an anecdote which reveals the true colors of the Million Mom March gun grabbers," said Dave Varney, who attended the SAFER rally.

"In D.C. this week, a SAS and a MOM activist were riding the same elevator in a building and were both wearing t-shirts of their respective organizations," Varney continued. "Believe it or not, the MOM activist looked at the SAS t-shirt and said to the woman from SAS, 'If I had a gun, I would shoot you right now!'"

"And the woman from SAS calmly replied, 'Now you see where we're coming from. We need to own guns to protect ourselves from criminals like you.'"

"Women across America confront a serious question," Montoni said. "Do you want your right to defend yourself taken away? Do you want those who oppose your right to self-defense deciding what's best for your family and your future?"

Gary Nolan addresses NORML convention

Gary Nolan, a candidate for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination, on April 23 addressed the annual convention of NORML—the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws—in Washington, DC.

"My point was to explain that there will be a presidential candidate on the ballot who understands their argument, who supports them and will fight to reverse these ridiculous laws," Nolan said.

To a great extent, talking to hundreds of proponents of marijuana legalization about the libertarian view is tantamount to "preaching to the choir," he noted, since the LP consistently calls for an end to the Drug War.

"But my focus was on how we can achieve our goal, how we can go about changing the laws," he said.

"I encouraged them to support the only presidential candidate who will support their goal, to let them know that this can be done. If they support us, we can defeat the Democrats and Republicans in elections; losing elections is the only thing the Ds and Rs understand. If they start losing more elections and they know it's because of this issue, our issues will become their issues."

NORML's report card on the presidential candidates profiles each one's support or opposition to decriminalizing marijuana, legalizing medical marijuana and industrial hemp, and other marijuana-related issues.

Nolan supports allowing farmers to legally cultivate hemp for industrial use and for hemp-based foods; he supports legalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes; and he says the "federal drug laws should be repealed, beginning with those against marijuana."

"States should be free to adopt alternatives to the failed War on Drugs, just as they already do with drugs like alcohol and tobacco."

The only other presidential candidate to receive a "four thumbs up" rating from NORML's report card is Democrat Dennis Kucinich, who is now effectively out of the race, according to Nolan's campaign Web site — www.garynolan.com.

National LP membership growth trend continues

For the second month in a row, the national Libertarian Party membership rolls showed positive change in April — with 117 more members and contributors at close of business April 30 than at the end of March, growing from 20,967 to 21,084.

The growth of 320 members in March was the first increase in monthly membership since July, 2003, and "it's been probably three or four years since we've seen two consecutive months of growth in our membership," LP Executive Director Joe Seehusen said.

"We are on the right track. Some of this growth may be attributable to the fact that this is an election year, when people tend to get more politically active and interested, but I believe our slump could be over."

Like other nonprofit organizations, contributions to the Libertarian Party decreased following the

WE ARE
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.....

—JOE SEEHUSEN

terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001 — further impacting the party, whose membership had already begun to decline.

Some of the membership growth can be attributed to a recruitment letter mailed in February to 20,000 lapsed members. Since July 2003, five such mailings have gone out, leading more than 800 to rejoin the LP in recent months, Seehusen said.

While the LP's membership and annual budget have decreased in recent years, the number of Libertarians elected or appointed to public office has steadily increased, fulfilling the party's mission statement: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

"At the end of 2003 we had a record 596 Libertarians serving in public office across the nation," Seehusen said. "That's far more than all other third parties combined."

And the membership growth, which Seehusen said he expects to continue, bodes well for the party in upcoming elections.

"Our state and local affiliates now have many more potential candidates and activists than before," he said. "That will help us make an even bigger impact in this year's elections."

Kwiatkowski to talk about Iraq War

Continued from Page 1

At the LP convention, Kwiatkowski will share "an insider's perspective on the Pentagon, and the neocons who run it," said Marc Montoni, chair of the Shenandoah County (Virginia) LP.

"She is fairly well-known in the Virginia LP, but this will be a chance for others to hear her."

It was Kwiatkowski's insider status in the Pentagon that made her an opponent of the war.

"I was working in the office of Middle East policy, the same office that helped develop the planning for this invasion," she said. "It was the office that was producing a lot of information that is less than reliable ... but everyone's willing to act as if it is, to justify the invasion."

"It's a propaganda office. I observed the environment in which decisions about post-war Iraq were made. And that's when my eyes were opened."

Kwiatkowski left the Pentagon when the war started, signing out "the Monday after the weekend we went into Iraq."

And before leaving, she commented to her boss: "If this is as good as the postwar planning gets this close to the war, then there are going to be some folks sitting beside Saddam at the war crimes trial."

"We got what we wanted, and that was an excuse to go into Iraq," Kwiatkowski says now, more than a year after the invasion.

"You have to plan before you invade, to prepare for the things that go wrong. They weren't in planning mode; they were in selling mode, selling this war to the American

people.

"We have no exit strategy ... because we don't want to leave."

When the United States invaded Iraq, the White House and Pentagon had specific plans, she said.

"This was a war that had real objectives. They just weren't the objectives we were told about."

The real reasons for the war?



■ Karen Kwiatkowski

"We needed [U.S. military] bases closer to the middle of oil country. We wanted to monitor the oil flows, to make sure that our friends get oil and our enemies don't. We needed to get Iraq's oil stocks back on a dollar base, instead of the Euro."

While controlling the flow of oil, strengthening the dollar and expanding U.S. military presence could be viewed by some politicians as valid reasons for an invasion, "they're not the reasons that were presented to the American people," Kwiatkowski said.

"This war was dreamed up to

serve the neoconservatives' purposes. They blend the ideal of global democracy and a hawkish mentality with a kind of chip-on-the-shoulder, Cold War mentality: 'We have the military power, so we can do this.'

"These neocons don't understand conflict. They've never been in the military; their children aren't in the military; they don't understand war. They are elitists in the worst kind of way. They want to spread democracy, but only on their own terms. They want Iraq to have a democracy that does what we tell it to."

The White House's attitudes toward other nations reveal that the war is not about eliminating WMDs, fighting terrorism, eliminating a dictatorship or creating democracy, Kwiatkowski says.

"They didn't find any WMDs, the terrorists on 9-11 didn't come from Iraq, some of our best friends in the Middle East are dictators, and we criticize democracy. The Turkish people decided democratically not to let us use their land. It was democracy in action, and we criticized them for it."

"Those were used as excuses to bring us, based on lies, into an unjust pre-emptive war."

Kwiatkowski has been a member of the LP since 1994, and views herself as "just one voice in a growing choir of people who will criticize our foreign policy, our unjust war."

As such, her talk should serve as a bookend to radio talk show host Neal Boortz, whose support of the war has been strongly criticized by many Libertarians, while others follow Boortz in supporting the war.

Healing Our World named Freedom Book of the Year

Longtime Libertarian Dr. Mary Ruwart's book *Healing Our World in an Age of Aggression* was voted "Freedom Book of the Year" by readers of Free-Market.net, announced Sunni Maravillosa, who edits the "Freedom Book of the Month" column at the Web site.

Actually, there was a tie: J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* was also tapped for the honor by Free-Market.net's readers.

The site's reviews of the two books presaged the awards, with reviewer Don Lobo Tiggre asking — in his write-up of the Harry Potter book — if that book could win the annual award.

"And if there is any justice in this world, Mary Ruwart will one day be recognized as the preeminent ambassador of peace and liberty of our time," Maravillosa wrote in October,

2003, in a review of Ruwart's book.

"If you buy any freedom-oriented book to share with non-Libertarians in hopes of persuading them, buy *Healing Our World*," she said. "If Ruwart's clear, gentle prose doesn't work, the ... quotations liberally sprinkled throughout the margins will at least get people thinking."

Ruwart published the first version of *Healing Our World* in 1992 — with *Visions* magazine referring to it as possibly "the most impor-

tant book of the decade" — and decided to update it before having a new edition printed last year.

"It was quite a bit out of date, and 9-11 had happened as well; without a major revision, I'd miss a lot of the information that had come out in the last decade, demonstrating how liberty creates harmony and abundance," Ruwart said.

"Since 1992, when the first edition came out, there has been such a great increase in the literature

that shows how the market works better than big government."

What about the natural comparison to the Harry Potter books, now that one of them has tied with *Healing Our World* for this honor?

"I think it's a real honor, since he's world famous," Ruwart said. "It's wonderful, if that award is an omen of what's going to happen in the future. If that many people will just pick up my book, especially people who have a spiritual perspec-

tive, they will be very attracted to the Libertarian ideal."

Fans of Ruwart's other book, *Short Answers to the Tough Questions* — which grew out of the "Ask Dr. Ruwart" column she writes for the *Advocates for Self Government* — have something else to look forward to.

She is currently working on a second volume of "short answers," which is expected to be released in late summer.

Candidate

Continued from Page 1

cent, as well as reducing the meal tax and other taxes in the city.

"The reason Walmart is the number one retailer in the world is that they provide the best possible product at the lowest possible price," Dean said, adding that he thinks the same can be done in government.

"I want to give the taxpayer, who is paying the bills, the best return on their investment" by keeping the investment and the government as small as possible, he said.

This is a centerpiece of the Libertarian message, and it's a message that resonated well with the people in Virginia Beach.

"I have not been ashamed to declare that I'm a Libertarian; I had probably 14 or 15 people call me on my cell phone [on Election Day] to ask me what party I belong to, even though the race is non-partisan, and these people have been very interested.

"People see how conservative we are, in that we want government to have a very small role in their lives, and they are very much drawn to that."

"My hat is off to Robert, and I hope that the members of the Libertarian Party of Virginia will join me in thanking him for his tremendous efforts and sacrifice," Damerell said on election night.

"Tonight, we can celebrate something: We know that our ideas can win if we participate in politics like serious contenders."

Dean brought an extensive resume of public experience and community involvement to his campaign — "one of the most remarkable public and civic service biographies I've ever seen," Babb said.

His experience includes four years on the Virginia Beach City Council, volunteer work with the Tidewater LP, Hampton Roads Taxpayers Coalition, Virginia Beach Taxpayer Alliance, and much more.

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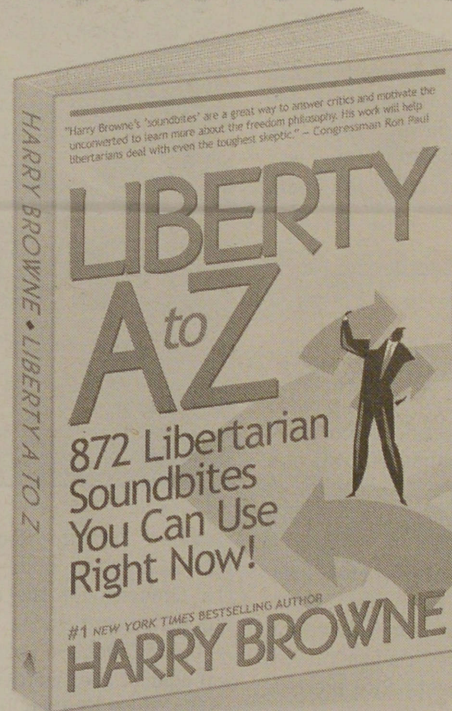
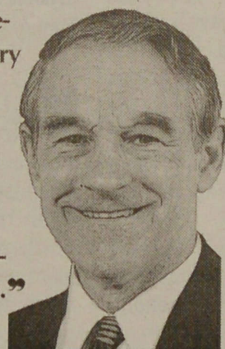
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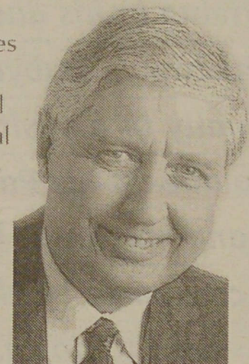
Here's what Ron Paul says about *Liberty A-Z*:

"Harry Browne's new book will prove very useful to those interested in advancing the freedom philosophy. Harry provides libertarians with direct, thought-provoking, and often humorous responses to the questions advocates of the freedom philosophy face."



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HARRY BROWNE: *Liberty A-Z* is his personal campaign soundbite file.

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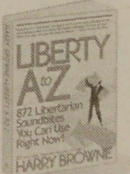
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TALKING POINTS

Speaking presidentially, laying blame and The New Deal

■ Gun left behind

When a gun was discovered in a bathroom at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, officials feared that someone had slipped it past security.

Not quite. Apparently, the gun was accidentally left there by a federal air marshal. Air marshals are allowed to bring guns into airports, but they aren't supposed to leave them there.

—CHARLES OLIVER
Reason Online
April 26, 2004

AFTER YEARS OF living in his dad's shadow ... Dubya is finally in a position to one-up his Pa — and may even be consumed by the urge to do so.

—DAN FROOMKIN

■ Our own West Bank

A poll taken after the grisly deaths of four American contractors in Fallujah March 31 indicate that 53 percent of Americans now disapprove of the way Bush has handled Iraq.

The numbers seem to reflect concern over the simmering resistance.

"The irony is that last May and June, you had Iraqis saying, 'We're happy to be liberated. Now please leave,'" said Charles Pena, director of defense policy studies at the libertarian Cato Institute in Washington. "What we're seeing now is the result of overstaying your welcome."

"What we have now inherited, it seems, is our own version of the Israeli occupation of the West Bank — only with a much larger piece of real estate."

—THE ORLANDO SENTINEL
April 8, 2004

■ Affordable housing

Inclusionary housing policies that allow moderate- and low-income buyers to purchase homes at below-market rates may actually raise the price of housing and result in fewer homes being built, according to a study released today.

Many communities are rushing to implement policies that mandate the inclusion of below-market priced housing in developments as a way to help alleviate a chronic shortage of affordable homes.

Communities are looking at a variety of ways to increase the supply of affordable homes.

Just last week, the California Association of Realtors reported only 14 percent of San Luis Obispo County households earned the income required to afford the area's \$444,190 median-price home in February.

The Reason Foundation, a Los Angeles-based Libertarian think tank, found that inclusionary housing policies caused some unintended results for Bay Area homebuilding and prices before and after the policies there were enacted. Of the 45 cities studied, the average city produced 214 housing units the year before inclusionary zoning was implemented, but only 147 units the year after.

—LESLIE E. STEVENS
The Tribune, San Luis Obispo, Ca.
April 15, 2004

■ Mr. President, sir

When a reporter began a question with "Sir," President George W. Bush interrupted him: "Who are you talking to?"

The reporter "corrected" himself: "Mr. President ..."

I like President Bush, but I have to whack on him here: "Sir" is perfectly acceptable for addressing the president, or "Madam" if we could get Condoleezza Rice elected. "Ma'am," I think, would do for Liddy Dole.

We don't do pseudoaristocratic titles in this country. "Sir" was good enough for Washington, and it's darn skippy good enough for the informal Mr. Bush, who refers to White House reporters by such goofy nicknames as "Stretch" and "Slim."

—KEVIN WILLIAMSON
MainLineTimes.com
April 9, 2004

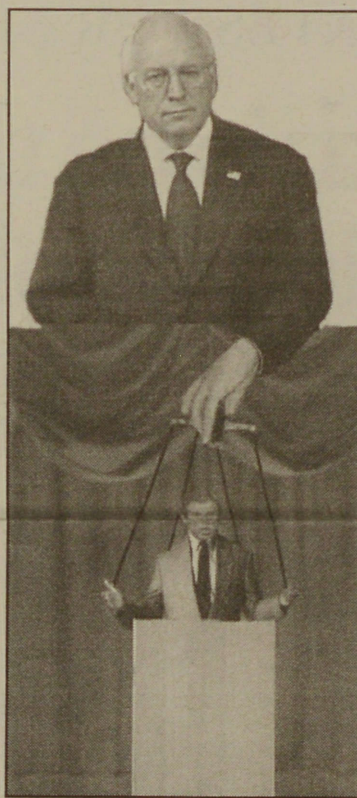
■ 'Libertarians'?

Everyone I've ever met who claims to be a libertarian believes the New Deal was the epitome of U.S. socialism and a disaster in practice.

I've often wondered how "libertarians" who cheer on Bush's War on Terrorism would have reacted to the crisis of the Stock Market Crash and Great Depression. It seems to me that if you're going to trust the state to protect you from ter-

rorists, why not trust it to fix the economy?

The New Deal was in many ways a war economy in peacetime, and in fact was modeled in large part on Woodrow Wilson's policies during World War I.



When Franklin Roosevelt took power, he even said: "I shall ask the Congress for the one remaining instrument to meet the crisis — broad Executive power to wage a war against the emergency, as great as the power that would be given to me if we were in fact invaded by a foreign foe."

Would pro-war "libertarians" have bought this analogy? Would they have agreed that the crisis America faced was so severe as to warrant the massive expansion of government to fix it?

During the New Deal, the same type of false patriotism existed that we see now. Those who didn't go along with the government's projects were often criticized as un-American.

Would "libertarians" have buckled under the pressure, and supported the New Deal — even though it was the government that had caused the problem in the first place, and even though the laws of economics and human nature doomed any chances for government to fix it?

If the answer on everyone's mind is still no, then how do we explain the still all-too-common phenomenon of "libertarians" who support

the current War on Terrorism?

—ANTHONY GREGORY
LewRockwell.com
April 26, 2004

■ Anti-violence

[California] Ain't that a kick: Democratic Assemblyman Leland Yee (of feng shui fame) made headlines again the other day when he proposed banning the sale of violent video games to minors — a move that didn't go unnoticed by his Libertarian opponent, Chris Maden.

Just the other day, Maden points out, the same antiviolent Yee sent a legislative aide to a tae kwon do tournament to present a resolution praising the event.

An event, Maden noted, where children as young as 14 were encouraged to kick each other in the head and win by knockouts.

How does Maden know? He was a referee.

—PHILLIP MATIER, ANDREW ROSS
San Francisco Chronicle online
April 26, 2004

■ The Puppetmaster

President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney are scheduled to testify before the 9/11 commission. I guess right now they're finalizing the seating arrangements. Should Bush sit on Cheney's right knee or his left knee?

—JAY LENO
The Tonight Show
April 28, 2004

■ 'Their own fault'

When federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents showed up at a warehouse complex owned by Harold Chapman, he gave them the keys and offered to show them anything they wanted.

But Chapman, who has previously allowed local police to use the complex for training exercises, says they still knocked down doors and caused \$1 million in damage. All they took with them, he says, was a few documents and some machine parts. The warrant for the search is sealed. But the *San Francisco Chronicle* reports agents were searching for "military weapons and explosives." Chapman says to his knowledge he has no weapons or explosives. But he often buys items at government auctions.

"Some of the stuff they sold me is in sealed boxes that we still haven't had time to open," he said. "So if there's anything illegal in here, it's their own damn fault."

—CHARLES OLIVER
Reason Online
May 4, 2004

■ Free trade

Everyone has heard the claim that a high-wage country like the U.S. loses jobs to low-wage countries when there is free trade. When the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect a decade ago, there were dire predictions of "a giant sucking sound" as American

jobs were drawn away, to Mexico especially.

In reality, the number of jobs in the U.S. increased by millions after NAFTA went into effect, and the unemployment rate fell to low levels not seen in years. Behind the radically wrong predictions was a simple confusion between wage rates and labor costs.

Those who complain loudly about how many jobs have been "exported" to other countries because of international free trade totally ignore the jobs that have been imported to the American economy because of that same free trade. Management guru Peter Drucker has said that this country imports far more jobs than it exports and no one has contradicted him.

Indeed, those who are loudest in denouncing the exporting of jobs totally ignore the importing of jobs.

—THOMAS SOWELL
Wall Street Journal — wsj.com
February 29, 2004

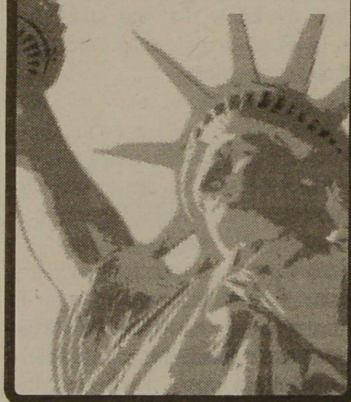
■ Balanced books

Average amount a Bush Cabinet member will save this year due to

"THE SMALLEST MINORITY ON EARTH IS THE INDIVIDUAL."

— AYN RAND —

Not to argue with Ayn Rand (who would dare to?), but sometimes it seems that the smallest minority on Earth are the Libertarians. There just aren't as many of us as there should be. That's why the support of each individual Libertarian Party member is so crucial for our party to succeed. And Job One (for all of us) is to figure out ways to get more Libertarians. Here's one way you can do your part to help the party grow: Name the party in your will or insurance policy. For a confidential discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Bill Redpath at: (703) 802-2978. Or e-mail him at: wredpath@his.com.



cuts in capital-gains and dividend taxes: \$42,000.

Median U.S. household income in 2002: \$42,409.

—HARPER'S MAGAZINE
Harper's Index
April 2004

■ New Clinton

In addition to the usual questions that frame all presidential campaigns — Who's better qualified? Who's up in the polls? — this time we have a new question: Which one of these guys is Clinton? In that shadow race, which in some ways is more interesting than the actual one, Bush and Kerry are currently running neck and neck.

Go through the campaign news each day and you keep tripping over Clinton. He's a prism, a crystal ball, a cudgel. "Ex-President Bush Likens Kerry, Clinton," said a headline on USA Today.com a few weeks ago. "In Minn., Bush Takes a Cue From Clinton," announced a Washington Post story this week about one of the president's new campaign tactics. "\$1,000 Haircut? Kerry Flies In Hairdresser for Touch-Up Before Meet the Press," blared the Drudge Report the same day — and within hours the allegation was a Leno joke, as in Clinton times.

And Kerry and Bush each have their own Hillary. Kerry's, naturally enough, is his wife, Teresa, whose refusal to open her tax returns looks and feels more and more like Hillary's commodities-trading stone-wall.

Bush's Hillary is Dick Cheney — the dark partner skulking in the background, all Strangelovian ambition, pulling levers, sharpening knives. This week, when the Supreme Court heard arguments in the case of Cheney's secret energy task force, National Public Radio noted the "ironic" fact that Mrs. Clinton had faced a similar challenge to the secrecy of her health care task force, from one of the very groups now suing Cheney.

—WILLIAM POWERS
National Journal
May 5, 2004

■ Changing stance

As a candidate for President, George W. Bush looked rather moderate on drug issues.

In October of 1999, he answered a question from CNN about medical marijuana by stating that "I believe each state can choose that decision as they so choose."

Later, after his election, he said "I think a lot of people are coming to the realization that maybe long minimum sentences for first-time users may not be the best way to occupy jail space and/or heal people from their disease."

However, the arc of the drug war under Bush veered towards emphasizing morality and punitive policies within months of his inauguration.

The U.S. now has the highest incarceration rate of documented prisoners in the world, outstripping even China and Russia. And nearly half of all those in federal prisons

are serving time for drug crimes.

In the meantime, it's been estimated that almost half of those who need treatment for drugs can't get it.

—WILLIAM MCCOLL
New Progressive Institute
April 27, 2004

■ Upstaging Daddy

Among those who spend a lot of time trying to figure out what makes President Bush tick, one common theory is that it's all about

his father.

After years of living ignominiously in his dad's shadow, a prevalent argument goes, Dubya is finally in a position to one-up his Pa — and may even be consumed by the urge to do so.

—DAN FROOMKIN
WashingtonPost.com
May 10, 2004

■ Obstructing justice

The president of Brothers of the Same Mind was arrested Friday night

as he stood on a Liberty City street corner allegedly warning drivers of a police checkpoint a few blocks away.

The charge: obstruction of justice.

Miami-Dade police say Brian Dennis, 38, was waving a cardboard sign he made with his friends and members of the Brothers of the Same Mind, a civil rights activist group. ...

"Police Checkpoint Ahead," read the orange sign, warning drivers along Northwest 17th Avenue that

city of Miami police officers were ahead.

Dennis, standing at Northwest 17th Avenue and 62nd Street just before 7 p.m., was arrested by Miami-Dade police as soon as they realized he was tipping off passersby.

"We decided to let people know; we didn't do anything different than the news media," fellow member Max Rameau said.

—KATHLEEN FORDYCE
Miami Herald
May 1, 2004

Promotes Good Health



Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, doctors say, and you dramatically boost your chances of staying healthy.

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— Dave Hoesly, Webster, NY
Computer engineer (retired)

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Ballot access and disputes, taxes, and 'smart growth'

■ CALIFORNIA

New tax to fund park district

The Libertarian Party of Monterey County and Freedom Watch are opposing a proposed parcel tax that would go for the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District.

"There will be no major public hearing concerning this tax until after the ballots have been turned in," said Lawrence Samuels, vice chair of the LP of Monterey County.

"So much for an informed voting public."

"We already have city parks, county parks, state parks and federal parks in Monterey County," said Mary Larkin of Freedom Watch. "Why do we need another government agency to manage parks on a regional level?"

The proposed tax will bring in an expected \$800,000 to \$1 million a year. The mail-in ballot for approval will be sent to property owners only, although renters would also be affected by the tax.

The LP also objects to the park district's "irregular means" of counting the ballots in this vote.

"The Monterey County Board of Elections is not involved in counting the ballots for this mail-in ballot. Who will count them?" Samuels asked.

When a similar vote was taken for the Open Space Authority's Special Benefit Assessment District Tax in Santa Clara County, a bunch of college students were hired to do the counting. After that election in 2001, the Silicon Valley Taxpayer's Association, Inc. filed a lawsuit in an attempt to overturn the highly questionable results.

■ INDIANA

Governor promises to allow LP in debate

Incumbent governor Joe Kernan, a Democrat, had decided to exclude LP gubernatorial candidate Kenn Gividen or any other third party candidates from the debates.

There are no other third-party

candidates, so the decision was obviously aimed at the LP, party representatives said.

But then Brad Klopfenstein, executive director of the state LP, sent a press release to news media throughout the state. And at subsequent press conferences, the media started asking Kernan, "Is it true that you're excluding the Libertarian candidate from the debates?"

"And now it appears we are going to be included," Klopfenstein said. "That is primarily due to our relationship with the press. Fortunately, the press loves us here, and they want us to be included."

■ LOUISIANA

State election law changes proposed

Libertarian candidates in Louisiana currently have fairly easy access to the ballot — but their names aren't designated as "Libertarian" on the ballot.

"Only the names of recognized parties are printed on the ballot

next to the name of the candidate, and on the cards used to register voters," says Vinson Mouser, chair of the state LP, noting that the one exception is the presidential candidate.

"When I ran for Congress two years ago, I ran 33 radio commercials, appeared on 17 statewide radio programs, had stories in newspapers all over the state, and it still wasn't enough. I ran into a Libertarian shortly after the election who said, 'You were on the ballot?'"

The state legislature is considering changes to their election law to make achieving major party status easier, including one change proposed by Libertarian leaders.

The LP is monitoring several other bills in the legislature that would make access to the ballot more difficult for smaller parties.

"It's actually very easy for us to get on the ballot right now, and we don't want that to change," Mouser said. "You really have to keep an eye on what they do."

■ OHIO

Judgment sought on ballot access dispute

In Ohio, both the Libertarian Party and the Secretary of State's office have filed motions for a summary judgment in the ballot access suit the LP brought against the state.

"The facts of the matter are not in dispute, and we're asking for a judge to make a decision," said Ohio LP Executive Director Robert Butler.

The facts are these: The LP submitted 67,000 signatures on a petition to get on the ballot, and Secretary of State Ken Blackwell threw out all of the signatures — effectively striking the party off the ballot.

"The state changed the warning at the bottom of the petition for falsifying signatures; they changed it while we were in the process of collecting signatures," Butler said.

In addition, he said, "we had altered the form to allow people to print their name in addition to signing it. A lot of signatures get thrown simply because they are illegible."

"But we have a letter from the previous secretary of state, giving us permission to do that."

And now the decision is up to the federal judge: "He has all of the necessary information and the paperwork has all been submitted to him," Butler said.

"I'm sure the judge is going to agree with us on some points; the question is whether he'll agree with us on all of them."

■ OKLAHOMA

GOP tax hike plan blasted

"Once again we see that Republicans are as eager to raise taxes as Democrats are," says Steve Galpin, chairman of the Oklahoma Libertarian Party.

"In fact, the GOP wants even more money out of the pockets of some of the poorest people in our state."

Oklahoma Gov. Brad Henry had called for a 55-cent tax hike on each

pack of cigarettes sold in the state, and the Republican leadership in the state Senate offered an even higher proposal — nearly double the tax increase Henry proposed.

The GOP-sponsored tax hike plan may be able to get approval from a three-fourths majority of the state's tax-hungry legislators, which would keep the measure from going to a vote of the people, Galpin said.

"In addition to demanding more money, they want to keep the people who pay the taxes from having any say in the decision," he noted.

Legislators have lauded the anticipated \$400 million that would come from increased taxes on tobacco — and from federal matching funds. They say the increased tax revenue would be used to improve the state's healthcare system.

But they simultaneously say that a primary reason for the tax hike is to encourage people to stop smoking.

If that goal succeeds, it would "also reduce the amount of revenue from the tax hike, and it's a virtual certainty the legislature will want to replace that money with a new tax on something else," Galpin said.

■ OKLAHOMA

LP denied ballot access in 2004

Oklahoma Libertarians fell short in their attempt to get on the ballot in their state, after the deadline for submitting petition signatures was moved up 30 days from previous years — from May 31 to May 1.

"We have filed a suit challenging the earlier deadline. The number of signatures required is higher than any third party has ever gotten in a petition drive in the state of Oklahoma," said Jim Linger, an attorney for the Oklahoma Libertarian Party.

"Actually, we hope to overturn the state election law," said Tom Laurent, chair of the Central Oklahoma LP.

"There are some fairness clauses in our state constitution, referring to fairness and equality in elections. By taking this to state court, maybe we can overturn the state law and get out of the cycle of this insane ballot drive."

The party needed 51,781 valid signatures to get on the ballot; they turned in only 26,462, according to Michael Clingman, secretary of the state election board.

"The state's ballot access restrictions are unnecessarily burdensome, and we're asking for more time for the collection drive," Linger said.

"If this judge rules in favor of the state, we'll appeal it to the Supreme Court, and if he rules for us, I think the state will certainly appeal it."

■ OREGON

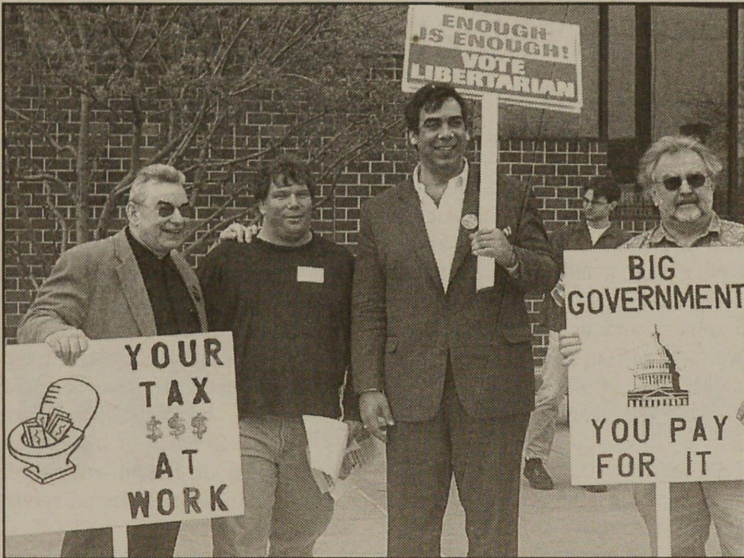
Portland 'smart growth' opposed

Several members of the Oregon LP took part in a conference for opponents of "smart growth" in Portland on April 16-18.

Leaders of the libertarian-leaning American Dream Coalition joined with representatives of the Cascade



■ The Louisiana Libertarian Party participated in the Spanish Town Mardi Gras Parade in Baton Rouge, the state capital, in late February. Louisiana Libertarian Party member Rebecca Breeden was the Spanish Town Mardi Gras queen. Pictured are, from left: Louisiana LP Secretary Mike Wolf, LPL activist and Spanish Town Mardi Gras Queen Rebecca Breeden, State Chair Vinson Mouser, Vice Chair Richard Fontanesi, activist Andrew Griffin, and associate member Art Newman. During the parade Libertarian activists threw approximately 500 plastic cups to the revelers — with the LP's logo and Web site identified on the cups. Activists also gave away more than 500 Libertarian Viewpoints. The usual Mardi Gras beads and doubloons were thrown, as well. Activist walkers (those who were not on the float but walked beside it to prevent people from running under the float) handed out approximately 3,000 Libertarian million dollar bills. "This was an awesome and fun outreach," state chair Vinson Mouser said. "The weeks following the parade definitely saw a spike in visitors to our Web site. At first we didn't know how people would react to a newspaper being tossed in the parade but it didn't take long for us long to figure it out. Everyone wanted a Libertarian Viewpoint and 500 wasn't enough."



■ **Libertarians in Wisconsin** were among the many around the country who led anti-tax rallies at post offices and other federal buildings. Shown here in the Madison, Wis., protest are, from left, former gubernatorial candidate Ed Thompson, rally organizer Rolf Lindgren, LP presidential hopeful Gary Nolan, and Butch Ledworowski. (Photo provided by Dave Hendrickson, who is making a documentary film about Thompson's run for governor.)

Policy Institute to examine what's wrong with Portland-style urban development.

The conference included a tour of "land-use planning failures" in the Portland area, said American Dream Coalition director Randall O'Toole.

"Smart growth is very much a top-down big government project, as practiced in Portland," said LP member Jim Karlock, who was the conference's videographer. "There are a lot of restrictions on private property rights here."

And the rise of "smart growth" in the city corresponds with the decrease of private property rights.

"We are advocating for less government, less urban planning, fewer zoning restrictions, less land-use regulation," O'Toole said of the American Dream Coalition.

"As such, it ends up being a libertarian cause. We are not a libertarian organization and we attract a lot of people who would not consider themselves Libertarians, but we focus grassroots activism on libertarian causes."

■ PENNSYLVANIA

Candidate facing two liberals in election

With the defeat of incumbent U.S. Senator Pat Toomey — a conservative Republican in Pennsylvania — by fellow Republican Arlen Specter in the primary, the only recourse for Toomey supporters is the Libertarian Party, members of the LP said after the primary.

"Many long-time Republicans are bewildered by the strong support President Bush and Senator Santorum provided to Arlen Specter," said Ray Ondrusek, the LP's candidate for the 102nd State House seat.

"They feel the current leadership of the Republican Party has abandoned the economic policy of limited government," he said, noting that many conservatives feel betrayed by the Republican regime's support of a big government.

"The LP's senatorial candidate,

Jay Russell, has become the only logical choice for conservatives who believe in limited government or support Second Amendment rights," said David Jahn, chair of the LPP.

Libertarians applaud Toomey's efforts to partially privatize Social Security by establishing private accounts, saying that allowing private accounts would advance the principle of personal responsibility — which is a major goal of the Libertarian Party.

■ SOUTH CAROLINA

Woolsey re-elected to town council

Bill Woolsey, a South Carolina Libertarian, was re-elected to the James Island Town Council on May 4, garnering more votes than any of the other five candidates for the council.

Each voter was allowed to choose four from the list of six candidates; Woolsey drew 1,400 votes from the 1,946 voters, with his nearest competitor getting 1,354.

James Island, a suburb of Charleston, has 34,000 residents.

Woolsey, an economics professor at The Citadel since 1986, previously served for two years on the Charleston County Planning Board, where he says he "learned the danger of an out-of-control planning bureaucracy."

Woolsey opposes the introduction of any town property tax, increase in business licenses or franchise fees, and he seeks to focus the town's money on road and traffic projects. This message obviously resonates with voters.

The "Women's Rights & Abortion" plank dodges the libertarian issue: Do preborn humans have rights? But in effect, it supports the government's two-tiered legal policy of a superior class of human beings with rights and an inferior class that does not count. Isn't it time to delete this plank?
Doris Gordon, MDLP,
301-460-4141, www.L4L.org,
libertarian@erols.com

"I reject the view that just because some other city or town spends money on some activity, the town of James Island needs to spend money, too," he said.

■ VIRGINIA

Tax hike proves disregard for voters

The Virginia House and Senate agreed April 27 on a compromise budget that will increase taxes by an estimated \$1.6 billion to \$1.8 billion, further proving that politicians "either don't understand or don't care that Virginians do not want these tax increases," says Steve Damerell, chairman of the state Libertarian Party.

About \$1 billion of the "new state revenue" will go to state government, with at least another \$400 million slated for city and county public schools. But the legislators decided first to raise the taxes, and then started deciding how to spend the record \$60 billion over two years.

As approved, the tax increase is a record-high tax hike for the state and continues a six-year trend of bloated state spending, which "has ballooned out of control — far outpacing inflation and population growth," Damerell said.

"This so-called 'compromise' does nothing to stop that trend. Instead, it jacks up the sales tax and eliminates deductions for senior citizens.

"Virginia's budget problems are a result of too much spending rather than insufficient taxation. Politicians refuse to acknowledge the effects tax increases have on the economy. No state can tax itself into prosperity."

Between fiscal years 2002 and 2004, the cost of state government increased by more than \$2 billion — more than 10 percent growth in a period of little to no inflation — and every dollar taken in taxes is money taken out of the private market, where it could have helped spur the economy out of its slump, Libertarians say.

■ WEST VIRGINIA

Deadline met for ballot access drive

West Virginia Libertarians had to collect 12,961 valid signatures

of registered voters to gain ballot access for the LP's gubernatorial candidate, Dr. Simon McClure of Bridgeport.

They turned in approximately 18,000 raw signatures on May 10 — the deadline for petitions — so "along with the 1,300 already sent in, we should have a total over 19,300 signatures," McClure said.

With that many raw signatures, the party would need "only a 66 percent validation rate," he said.

"According to preliminary inquiries, it looked like we have a 75-80 percent validation rate, so we are definitely hopeful," said state LP chair Helen Tucker.

The Secretary of State's Office will send the petitions from Charleston to each county clerk to verify signatures from that county.

Bill Redpath, ballot access coordinator for the national LP office, said he doesn't know how soon to expect validation of the signatures.

"At the end, we just had to get the signatures and hope for the best," he said.

"But if we don't make it, I think

West Virginia may face a legal challenge, for having such an early deadline for signatures for the governor's race."

The deadline for the presidential race ballot access is Aug. 2 — almost three months later than for the gubernatorial race. The same number of signatures is needed for the two races.

"We can still submit signatures for the presidential race until August, so we won't have a problem with that one," Redpath said.

Redpath, a Virginia resident, personally collected 1,691 of the signatures for the governor's race ballot access, and other Virginia LP candidates also pitched in on West Virginia's ballot collection.

"Big thanks to everyone who pitched in, collecting signatures in the hot sun during the last week of this effort," Tucker said. "Big huge special thanks to Bill Redpath and our Libertarian brethren from Virginia who came in the last 2 weeks and made the impossible happen."

The party gained ballot access in 1996 and lost it in 2000.

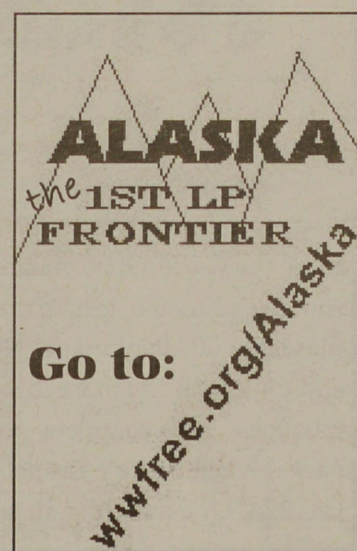
PETITIONERS NEEDED for LP BALLOT DRIVES

The Libertarian Party currently has petition drives underway in several states. While it is our goal to get as many volunteer signatures as possible during these ballot drives, many signatures need to be gathered by paid petitioners. We are looking for paid petitioners to petition now or soon in the following states:

Alabama
Connecticut
DC
Illinois
Kentucky
Maine
New York
North Dakota
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
Virginia

Good petitioners who are willing to work hard can earn \$1,500 per week or more. Earn good money and advance the LP at the same time.

Interested? Please e-mail Bill Redpath, Ballot Access Coordinator, at wredpath@his.com. Put "petitioning" in the subject line. He will respond to you as soon as possible. Thank you.



THE REVIEW

Campus inequality

■ *Welcome to the Ivory Tower of Babel: Confessions of a Conservative College Professor*, by Mike Adams. Harbor House. 200 pages, hardcover, available at www.amazon.com.

Reviewed by Jonathan Butcher
THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Three things give me nightmares: watching reruns of The X-Files, remembering my high school basketball coach (he yelled a lot), and now liberal educators, thanks to Mike Adams's new book, *Welcome to the Ivory Tower of Babel*. Adams's experience shows some of the worst that can happen when you disagree with someone on the Left — namely, that disagreement can turn into accusation in a flash.

In fact, after finishing *Ivory Tower*, I was so fearful of being accused of being right-wing, a Christian, a white male, and conservative, that I resolved to stop defending my own opinions and made plans to agree with every side of every issue. This way, I would never have to be afraid of being wrong, or even worse, being Right.

This resolution lasted one nanosecond, long enough to think about September 11 and how when some people become confused about right and wrong, people die. This resolution put to rest, I have no fear of being right and Right.

Adams's book is a lesson in the nature of freedom. Free speech and private property are to be protected, but — and this is an important "but" that is frequently lost in public discourse — with freedom comes responsibility.

The first two parts of *Ivory Tower* are collections of Adams's columns and letters (some sent, some not) in response to the twisted moral climate at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, where Adams is a professor of Criminal Justice.

Some of the situations Adams addresses are so downright silly that the reader cannot help but laugh, such as when a female student objected to a bumper sticker on Adams's door that read "So you're a feminist...isn't that cute." The female student then had her father write a letter of complaint to the university board of trustees. If you do not find that funny, check your pulse.

The laughs stop, though, in Part III of *Ivory Tower* — "Intellectual Terrorism in the Wake of 9/11."

This section details Adams's experiences after a student wrote an email in very strong language criticizing America in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Adams took some very good advice and meticulously recorded the events that ensued, as university administration, law enforcement, students, faculty, staff, and even Fox News' "Hannity and Colmes" eventually became involved.

The daughter of a UNC-Wilmington faculty member sent the email in question after the events of 9/11. Following her "diatribe" (Adams's word) — in which she criticized everything from the U.S. policy towards Israel to the "war-mongering U.S. media" to the "reactionary majority of the U.S. Supreme Court" — the student asked recipients to forward her message to others.

Adams was happy to oblige, but he included his own response to her email when he forwarded the message. Adams was then accused of "verbally abusing" the student by forwarding the message with a response of his own.

The tale that Adams then unravels epitomizes what happens when you disagree with someone who supports free speech only for those who agree with her.

Adams admits that he has not always been a conservative. This makes his essays and conclusions all the more powerful, because he reached them after careful inspection of his beliefs and of the Left's answers to life's questions. Adams is in impressive company as a convert, so to speak, as he joins such thinkers and writers as David Horowitz and Sol Stern — ex-liberals who know the lies but allowed the truth set them free.

As for Adams, the challenges to his career as a conservative college professor may never cease. However, he has done what is right (and Right), and for that I'm sure he sleeps well at night. Without any nightmares.

■ **About the reviewer:** Reprinted with permission from TownHall.com. Jonathan Butcher is a research assistant in domestic policy at The Heritage Foundation.

WELCOME TO THE IVORY TOWER OF BABEL



Confessions
of a
Conservative
College
Professor

MIKE S. ADAMS

Russo decries Democrat and Republican attempts to reinstitute the military draft

Both Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Congress are calling for a military draft, and a candidate for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination is focusing his campaign on the draft.

Aaron Russo's campaign Web site features an anti-draft petition which has collected thousands of signatures.

"The question is this simple," Russo said: "Should the government have the power to take our sons and daughters, against their will, in order to rescue themselves from the situation they brought about with an immoral, unwinnable war?"

"The answer is no. The war in Iraq was a mistake a year ago, and it's a mistake today. Not one more drop of American blood to save our politicians from their own wrong-headed policies."

Russo is one of three active candidates for the LP's nomination for president.

His campaign against the resumption of a military draft came about because several Democrat members of Congress have called for a draft since the current Iraq war started. They were joined April 20 by Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel of Nebraska, who told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the idea of a strictly volunteer military should be discarded.

"Why shouldn't we ask all of our citizens to bear some responsibility and pay some price?" Hagel asked, saying that a military draft would force Americans "to understand the intensity and depth of challenges we face" in Iraq and other war-torn areas.

Early last year, U.S. Rep. Charles Rangel (D-New York) and Sen. Ernest Fritz Hollings (D-South Carolina) introduced bills in both the House and Senate, calling for a draft. The bills are still in committee.

**THERE'S NO DOUBT
the American
people will be
threatened with
conscription by
the end of this year.**

—AARON RUSSO

Russo promises to oppose any attempts at resuming the draft. And such attempts will be made, he said: "This isn't speculative. The draft is coming."

Meanwhile, representatives from the Pentagon say there is no desire — or need — for a draft, with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld saying there is no chance of a draft for the U.S. armed forces.

Other legislators have echoed this, saying there's a reason the Rangel and Hollings bill remains in committee: Nobody else is interested in it.

But what about others who have

supported the idea of a draft?

Former first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton — now a U.S. senator — has said the all-volunteer Army isn't sufficient to meet America's need for military personnel; 13 other U.S. representatives have signed in support of Rangel's bill; even Democrat presidential hopeful John Kerry — who makes much of his military service — is on record as being in favor of mandatory national service and the draft.

This list of people in power who support the draft continues to grow, and the two tales coming from the federal level show "just how disconnected from reality the Democrats and Republicans are," Russo said.

"And it demonstrates the clear necessity of electing a president this November who will put the nation back on the path to peace and prosperity."

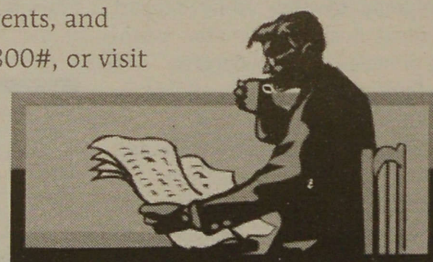
Doug Bandow, a fellow at the Cato Institute, said recently there is no way the current White House is going to call for a draft: Neither President Bush nor Vice President Dick Cheney wants to give their opposition or the media an opportunity to bring up the fact that both managed to avoid serving in Vietnam, and they're not in a position to argue in favor of the draft.

Maybe they won't call for a draft before the election, but if Bush and Cheney get back in office, they may be willing to do so, Russo says.

"Both Republicans and Democrats have been trying to put off the public discussion until after the November elections, but there's no doubt that the American people will be threatened with conscription by the end of this year," he said.

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2004 LP Ballot Access: Where We Stand

*** We have only \$8,000 in our
National Ballot Access Fund ***

Dear Libertarians,

THIS JUST IN: We have completed the West Virginia petition drive and are awaiting certification in the Mountain-er State that we will have a gubernatorial candidate along with our presidential ticket on the ballot this fall. We handed in approximately 20,000 signatures to the WV Secretary of State on May 10. Your contributions made yet another LP success possible.

Once we're certified in West Virginia, we'll have ballot status in 30 states. But we can't — and won't — rest on our laurels. We've got a lot of signatures to collect over the next three months for the following ballot drives:

Texas — The Texas LP has until May 24 to gather 45,540 valid signatures to qualify the LP for the November ballot in that state. As of mid-May, we have 50,000 raw signatures and are looking for a strong finish in order to qualify our presidential ticket — and 31 U.S. House candidates — for the ballot in this nation's second largest state.

Illinois — The Illinois LP has 90 days, from late March to late June, to gather 25,000 valid signatures. We're off to a strong start. More than 13,000 signatures have already been collected by the Illinois LP. The national LP needs to have \$20,000 ready to go to help get the Illinois LP over the finish line.

Pennsylvania — The LPPA petition drive just started and has about 3,000 signatures. We need to gather 25,697 valid signatures by August 2. The LPPA doesn't currently have the funds to do this themselves. National needs to have another \$50,000 ready to make sure all LP candidates are on the ballot in Pennsylvania.

New York — The LPNY will have to gather 15,000 valid signatures between early July and late August. National needs to be ready with \$20,000 to help

out the LPNY.

Other states that may need help from their brethren across the U.S. between now and August are Alabama, Connecticut, DC, North Dakota, Maine and Kentucky.

Ohio Update: In Ohio, the Secretary of State's office — without validating a single one of the 57,000+ signatures turned in — ruled that the Ohio LP's petition

was invalid because of minor cosmetic changes to the prescribed petition form — changes we made to make the petition more user friendly. We've retained top flight ballot access attorneys, who have sued the Ohio Secretary of State. We have an excellent chance of winning. If we do, we won't just get dozens of candidates on the ballot in 2004. We may completely undo the unconstitutional ballot access laws of Ohio — the worst such laws

of any major state. However, we have to be prepared with \$10,000 to do an Independent presidential petition with 5,000 valid signatures in the unlikely event that we lose that lawsuit.

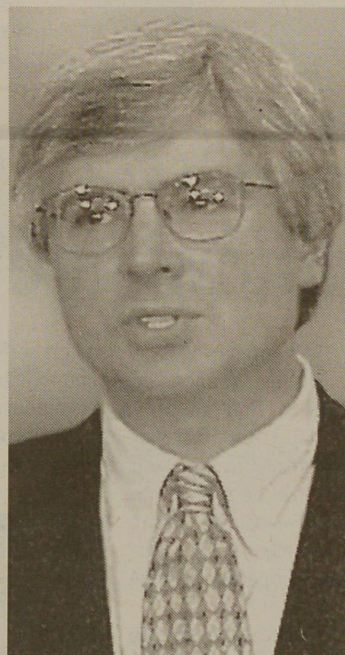
Oklahoma Update: We have filed our lawsuit to overturn Oklahoma's burdensome ballot access laws. The hearing will likely be in May. We think we've got a very strong case. We'll keep you posted.

We're fighting outrageous ballot access laws — and succeeding in petition drives. But we can't keep this moving forward without your generous financial support.

Please send a check ASAP to the Libertarian Party Ballot Access Fund, 2600 Virginia Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20037, or contribute to the Ballot Access Fund via the LP's Web site, www.LP.org. Thank you very much. With your help NOW, every American will have a Libertarian (or several) on their ballot in 2004.

Bill Redpath

William Redpath
LNC Treasurer/Ballot Access Coordinator



HQ HIGHLIGHTS

Media says Libertarian candidates will have an impact in 2004

The Libertarian Party has received a burst of publicity from major news outlets recently, with one article arguing that an independent or Libertarian candidate "could sway the electorate enough to change history" in 2004 if he or she received the kind of attention that Ralph Nader has attracted.

Positive articles appeared in the Christian Science Monitor, CNN.com and others.

"The news media know that our candidates have a chance to make an impact in 2004 because that's what happened in 2000 and 2002," says the LP's communications director, George Getz.

Lawrence R. Jacobs, director of the 2004 Elections Project for the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota, writes in an April 20 commentary in the Monitor that "the hot topic" for 2004 is whether Nader will again affect the election by taking a small but decisive percentage from likely Democratic nominee John Kerry.

But, citing a study that found that 20 percent of voters are disaffected from both major parties, Jacobs concludes that "a significant number of them could be tapped by gifted candidates running as inde-

pendent or Libertarian."

"While Nader hurts the presumed Democratic nominee John Kerry, voters open to conservative third-party candidates who promote small government ... pose a significant threat to President Bush's re-election effort," Jacobs writes.

The article cites example after example of swing states in which voters who want smaller government turned to Libertarian candidates rather than Republicans, costing the GOP seats in each case.

In Wisconsin, for example, where Bush narrowly lost in 2000, Libertarian gubernatorial candidate Ed Thompson garnered 10.5 of the vote in 2002, "enough to help Democrat Jim Doyle break the four-term Republican hold on the statehouse," Jacobs says.

Other key states where Libertarian candidates did well enough to affect the outcome of Senatorial or

gubernatorial races in 2000 or 2002 include Nevada, New Hampshire and Missouri, he reports.

All told, 2 percent or more of voters in 15 Senate and gubernatorial elections cast their votes for Libertarians in 2002, indicating that the LP could be "a decisive factor in a close contest between Messrs. Bush and Kerry," according to Jacobs's analysis.

Jacobs also chastises pollsters who ignore third parties, warning that they "run the risk of missing the dynamics of the race and providing an inaccurate picture of the evolving campaign."

The Christian Science Monitor article isn't the only one that has praised the LP lately.

An April 19 article in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, prompted by the election of St. Louis County LP Chair Tamara Millay to local office, says, "Perhaps it's time the Missouri Lib-

ertarian Party got a little respect."

The column by Jo Mannies, one of the Post's veteran political reporters, describes Millay as "a prominent Missouri Libertarian" who has run for the U.S. House and U.S. Senate several times, and chronicles her campaign for marshal of Greendale, a St. Louis suburb.

Millay is also seeking the party's nomination as vice president at the upcoming national convention in Atlanta over Memorial Day weekend.

The election of Millay is one of two recent "political boosts" for the LP, the article says. The other is the naming of Bob Sullentrop of St. Charles, Mo., as the party's national secretary.

"About a year ago, political life didn't look too great for Bob Sullentrop of St. Charles and his cohorts," Mannies writes. "But now, one of his party's stalwarts has been elected to a local public office, and Sullentrop is a top national leader."

The article also acknowledges the LP's ballot access supremacy over other third parties, and points out that competing candidates such as Ralph Nader must still collect

thousands of signatures to get on the Missouri ballot.

"The fact is, the Libertarian Party's candidate for president -- the party will select its nominee next month -- is the only sure bet to be on Missouri's ballot against Republican incumbent George W. Bush and the likely Democratic nominee, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts," Mannies writes.

The LP also played a prominent role in CNN.com's coverage of Tax Day, Getz pointed out.

In a lighthearted look at April 15 headlined, "It's Tax Day, Let's Party," CNN Money writer Gordon T. Anderson reported, "The Libertarian Party will show up at dozens of locations nationwide to promote limited government."

In Minneapolis, he said, "Libertarians will carry signs emblazoned with Donald Trump's picture. The tag line: 'You're Fired, but I can't fire the IRS.'"

Anderson also took note of one of the LP's favorite tax-day publicity gimmicks: handing out phony \$1 million bills to dramatize the fact that the government spends \$1 million every five seconds.



■ George Getz

Libertarian hopefuls sign up for Showtime's *American Candidate*

In a new reality television series this summer, Showtime will try to find a "people's candidate" to run for president of the United States. Hundreds will sign up, a dozen will be selected to run — and there are a number of Libertarian hopefuls for the show.

According to the "American Candidate" Web site, the show will try to find one person who is qualified to be president. The decision of whether or not to actually run for the office this fall is entirely up to that individual.

"Over the course of 10 weeks, those 12 [contestants] will face off against each other in a series of challenges designed to test their presidential mettle and to show viewers what really goes on in the making of a presidential candidate," the Web site says.

Of course, some critics will say the show makes a mockery of the political process — that presidential elections are too serious an issue to be sidelined by a reality series.

But on the other hand, with the

repeated complaints that young people don't take an interest in politics — or at least not enough interest to bother voting — this could be a chance for political discourse to actually be heard by young adults, albeit in a "Survivor"-like setting.

"Week by week, the original pool of candidates will be winnowed down. The final episode will be a showdown between the remaining two candidates, and one person will emerge victorious — the "American Candidate," the Web site says.

The winner will take home \$200,000, and in a nationwide media appearance after the show will be allowed to address the nation.

"They're requiring a pretty extensive application," said Jan Helfeld, a Libertarian in northern Virginia who recently threw his hat into the Showtime campaign ring.

He is one of 17 self-professed libertarians listed on the show's site.

"I entered the contest because I think it would be a great oppor-

tunity to promote libertarian ideas: a commitment to freedom and respecting everybody's individual rights, as applied to specific public policy issues," Helfeld said, noting that he hopes to push the show's producers into having actual televised debates if he is selected as one of the 12 finalists.

A former attorney who now produces documentary videos — including "To Invade or not to Invade," "The Proper Function of Government," and "The Media Against Business" — Helfeld said he thinks the show could get Libertarian ideas out to a mass audience in a way it hasn't been before.

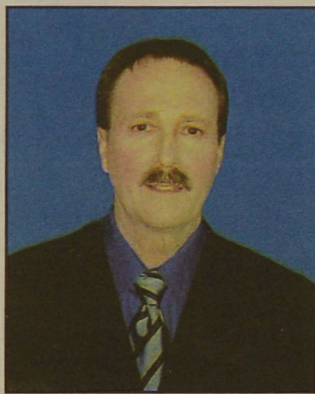
"I think we have some good presidential candidates," he said.

"But the LP presidential candidates don't have a big enough megaphone."

"They don't get the exposure they need to get that message out. We need to find any way we can to get our message out there."

Richard Mack, a former sheriff of Graham County, Arizona, who is now running for governor of Utah, is also listed on the *American Candidate* site as a contestant — although the rules explain that anyone who is actually running for any office is automatically disqualified from the show.

For more information, go to www.americancandidate.com.



■ Jan Helfeld: One of 17 Libertarians trying to become Showtime's "American Candidate."



■ Utah's Libertarian candidate for governor, Richard Mack, visits with attendees at Salt Lake City's Cinco de Mayo festival on Sunday, May 2. Mack, a longtime law enforcement officer who was twice elected as a sheriff in Arizona, "addressed crowds several hundred strong at this event and at the nearby Mexifest at the Salt Palace Convention Center — in Spanish," said Robert Latham, his campaign manager.



★★★★ They're back! ★★★★★

Our popular "New Vision for America" brochures are back in stock and ready for immediate delivery, just in time for the 2004 election cycle.

To celebrate, we're offering a **20% DISCOUNT** and **FREE SHIPPING** if you buy them by the box. Normally, these brochures sell for 25 cents each, but you can get them for under **19 CENTS** each if you purchase them by the box in quantities of 650 or more. **That's just \$120 per box – plus we'll pay the shipping!**

"A New Vision for America" is a 24-page, full-color outreach brochure ... a prospecting tool that presents our vision for America in a positive, upbeat manner. And it's loaded with gorgeous photographs of Libertarians in action. "A New Vision for America" takes a warm, human approach – telling true stories that illustrate Libertarian principles. Instead of focusing on how bad the Republicans and Democrats are, we gently ask readers to imagine a better America – an America of prosperity, tolerance, and freedom.

This pocket-sized (8 1/2 by 4-inch) booklet fits easily in a pocket or purse, and is perfect for handing out at state fairs, politically homeless booths and other outreach events. Order your "New Vision for America" brochures today! Smaller orders are priced at **\$25 per 100**. (LP pays shipping.)

LP Literature & Books

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

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

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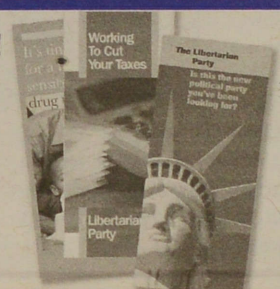


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- Ending the Welfare State
- What Happened To Your Family Budget?
- Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners

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- Working to Cut Your Taxes
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■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

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

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

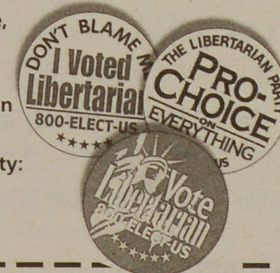
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Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100

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■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-ELECT-US

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_____	Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____	Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____	Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____	America's Libertarian Heritage booklet
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_____	World's Smallest Political Quiz
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Bumper Stickers

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_____	I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
_____	ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
_____	Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Banners

_____	"LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18"h x 5'w)
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Tools for Campaigning

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Harry Browne releases new book, *Liberty A to Z*

Two-time Libertarian Party presidential candidate Harry Browne has released a new book that is designed to help libertarians become better communicators.

The book, *Liberty A to Z: 872 Libertarian Soundbites You Can Use Right Now*, was published by the Advocates for Self-Government in May. The 192-page trade paperback costs \$13.95, and is available for sale at www.TheAdvocates.org.

Liberty A to Z consists of pro-liberty sound bites, ranging in length from one sentence to several paragraphs, which Browne wrote mainly during his 1996 and 2000 Presidential campaigns.

They offer libertarian perspectives on over 200 political topics, including education, defense and the military, Social Security, federal spending, victimless crimes, gun control, immigration, Republicans and Democrats, health care, and libertarianism.

The book also includes sound bites that Browne crafted as recently as 2004 — and which cover more topical issues, including the 9/11 terrorists attacks and the war in Iraq.

Browne said he started compiling the material while running for pres-

ident because he realized he needed an arsenal of incisive answers and arguments for press conferences, Q-and-A sessions, and interviews.

"I had to answer questions and deal with objections in very short statements, because frequently I was in a five-minute or ten-minute interview," he said. "In addition, I knew that newspaper and magazine interviewers would never repeat a long explanation of my view on any subject. My only hope of being quoted accurately and persuasively was to have a catchy soundbite that the interviewer would want to repeat word for word."

Libertarians are invited to use the book's sound bites verbatim — or modify them to fit their own style and phrasing — in interviews, speeches, or letters to the editor, Browne said.

"They are my gift to libertarians everywhere."

Sharon Harris, president of the Advocates for Self-Government, said *Liberty A to Z* is "one of the most useful books ever written for libertarians who want to win other people to the cause of liberty."

If you want to become a more powerful communicator, this book has the raw ingredients to help you succeed."

U.S. Rep. Ron Paul (R-TX) said



Picture yourself...in LP News!

Did you know that a majority of the photographs included in this newspaper are submitted by our readers? Despite this wonderful help, we frequently find ourselves scratching our heads because we often cannot use the photos submitted.



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- ✓ **HI-RES:** If you send a photo via e-mail, make sure it is a high-resolution image — meaning at least 300 dpi. We cannot use images found on a website.
- ✓ **SEND THE ORIGINAL:** When sending a digital photo, please send the original image. Do not edit it. That way, we can crop, adjust color, or otherwise modify the image for the specific spot where we need it.
- ✓ **CLOSE-UP AND PERSONAL:** When taking pictures of speakers or other events, always remember: Closer is better. Don't be afraid to stand in front of the crowd for a minute or two and get a good picture.
- ✓ **ACTION SHOTS:** Even if it's only one person, get photos of that person doing something — even laughing. If you've got a group, show them interacting, working on a project, talking to each other — anything other than lining them up and having them smile for the camera or sitting around a half-cleared dining table looking at each other over the scattered remains of a dinner meeting.
- ✓ **FOCUS:** If you have an activity with 10 or 15 people, don't try to work all of them into the photo unless it's absolutely necessary. Focus on people doing things and on the people who are important to the story you're trying to tell.
- ✓ **SEND IN A VARIETY:** If you take 12 photos and don't know which one is appropriate, feel free to send them all.
- ✓ **SEND IN AS MANY AS YOU CAN:** We can always use pictures!

Questions? Contact Daniel Cloud at (202) 333-0008, ext. 226, or by e-mail at editor@hq.lp.org.

the verbal clips in *Liberty A to Z* "are a great way to answer critics and motivate the unconverted to learn more about the freedom philosophy and, hopefully, get involved in the libertarian movement."

Browne is the only two-time presidential candidate in LP history, winning the party's nomination in 1996 and 2000. Currently, he is director of public policy for the Downsize DC Foundation, a non-profit educational organization that works to repeal the income tax and dramatically downsize the federal government.

Browne has written 11 previous books, including *Why Government Doesn't Work* (1995), *The Great Libertarian Offer* (2000), *Fail-Safe Investing* (1999), and *How I Found Freedom in an Unfree World* (1973). His *You Can Profit from a Monetary Crisis* (1974) reached #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

The Advocates for Self-Government is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that teaches libertarians how to be more effective communicators, and encourages the public to understand and embrace libertarian ideas.

Presidential candidates in shoot-out to raise funds for ballot access

It's not every day that presidential candidates take up arms as part of their campaigns, but that's what happened April 28, when two candidates for the Libertarian Party's nomination for president had a "shoot-out" in Dallas, Texas.

Michael Badnarik and Gary Nolan, two of the leading candidates for the LP presidential nomination, had a pistol-shooting match as a fundraiser for ballot access in Texas — where the LP must gather 45,540 valid signatures to get on the ballot across the state in November.

The event raised money for the ballot access effort, with about 30 people showing up to fire handguns with Badnarik and Nolan. Most were from the Dallas area, but some Louisiana LP members also showed up to show their support, event organizer David Rostcheck said.

"As predicted, Michael Badnarik did beat Gary Nolan, but I think Nolan held his own," Rostcheck noted. "Badnarik has done a lot of shooting, but Gary just kind of picked it up and did his shooting after a short lesson, and he did fairly well."

"When have you known the Democrat or Republican candidates to do anything except criticize each other?" Badnarik asked.

But while the shooting contest was entertaining and drew attention to the state's quest for ballot access, the more important contest — the upcoming election — is much more important. And the Texas LP is still in danger of not getting on the ballot.

"We have collected 36,765 signatures so far," Wes Benedict, volunteer ballot access coordinator, said on April 30 — about two-thirds of the way into the 75-day petition period.

"We have to have 45,540 good signatures, which means we're going to need approximately 75,000 raw signatures," he said. "We check our signatures with the registered voter database that we got from the secretary of state, and we try to estimate what our validity rate is."

By election law in the state, anyone who voted in the Democrat or Republican primaries in March is ineligible to sign the LP's ballot access petition, as are people who aren't registered to vote and those who have already signed petitions for another political party.

"These signatures have to be turned in on May 24," Benedict said. "I'd say we still have a 50-50 chance of making it by that time, if we continue speeding up our pace."

"We started collecting signatures on March 10, so two-thirds of our time is gone and we're about halfway there. We've been collecting more signatures per week recently, so we may still make it."

A majority of the signatures so far have been collected by paid petitioners; volunteers are working hard, but have collected fewer than 6,000 of the signatures so far, he said.

"We haven't done a petition drive here in 18 years, so a lot of our volunteers didn't know how hard it is and many of them get discouraged. It really is hard work."

But it's hard work that has to be done if the Libertarian Party is to get on the ballot in Texas. Libertarians have filed for many offices in the state — including for 31 of the 32 U.S. Congressional seats there — and they must get on the ballot to have an impact.

For more information on the LP's quest for ballot access in Texas or in many other states, go to www.tx.lp.org or to www.lp.org/campaigns/ballot.

If Rumsfeld goes, Bush should go too

'Presidents and Congresses cause wars, not defense secretaries'

If Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is forced to resign over the prisoner abuse scandal in Iraq, President Bush and every member of Congress who supported the war should resign as well, Libertarians say.

"Defense secretaries don't cause wars; presidents and Congresses do," said Joseph Seehusen, Libertarian Party executive director. "Embarking on another foolish nation-building mission in a hostile part of the world was bound to cause chaos, scandal and bloodshed, and firing one bureaucrat isn't going to change that."

Calls for the defense secretary to resign accelerated in mid-May as the White House and Pentagon braced for the disclosure of more photos of U.S. troops torturing and sexually abusing captives at the Abu Ghraib prison.

But if Rumsfeld can be held accountable for the conduct of U.S. troops in Iraq, why not hold his boss, President Bush, and Congress, accountable as well?

"George Bush is the commander-in-chief of the armed forces who started this war, and he must accept ultimate responsibility for its consequences," Seehusen said. "In

October 2002, 77 Senators and 263 House representatives voted to authorize and fund the war, and they must be held accountable as well.

"As a direct result of their actions, more than 700 U.S. soldiers are dead and thousands of American families are grieving. Iraqi prisoners are being tortured and abused in clear violation of international law, and our enemies are retaliating with televised executions of American civilians."

Under those circumstances, no one should be surprised that politicians are looking for a scapegoat, Libertarians point out.

"Republicans and Democrats are scrambling to hold Congressional hearings only to distract the public from the death and disaster that they themselves have caused," Seehusen said.

"If politicians pretending to be shocked at wartime atrocities really want to know who's responsible, all they have to do is look in the mirror.

"Yes, singling out Rumsfeld is more convenient than telling Americans the truth — which is that our government has gotten us into another bloody nation-building experiment that is rapidly going from bad

to worse. The fact is that atrocities are part of every war, and atrocities will continue as long as the fighting does."

But doesn't Rumsfeld deserve any blame?

Of course he does, Seehusen said.

"Either Rumsfeld knew how prisoners were being treated and did nothing, or he didn't know about it — and in either case he's not qualified to be defense secretary," he noted.

"Nevertheless, Rumsfeld is but one bureaucratic cog in a massive war machine, and swapping him out for another cog answerable to the same commander-in-chief won't affect the course of the war."

Fortunately, there is a better solution to war-related scandals than playing musical chairs with defense secretaries, Libertarians say.

"As long as the battle over Iraq continues, both Americans and Iraqis will be forced to endure an endless stream of deaths, disillusion and brutality," Seehusen said. "It's time for George Bush and his cohorts on Capitol Hill to bluntly admit that this war was a mistake. Then they should stop making that mistake."

POLITICS 2004

Taxes protested, candidates named

■ The LP of **New Hampshire** held a special convention on February 29, with the main item of business being changes to the party's constitution — to allow for out-of-state members, and to institute residency and other requirements for party officers and convention delegates. All the amendments were ratified unanimously.

■ Libertarians at **Virginia Tech** held an anti-tax demonstration at the post office in downtown Blacksburg, Va., on April 15 — tax day. Like other LP activists, they handed out the party's million dollar bills, explaining that the bill represents the amount of money spent every few seconds. The LP student activists also simultaneously were collecting signatures toward the 10,000 needed to get the party on ballots statewide.



■ Virginia Tech Tax Day protest

■ And in **Tennessee**, members of the LP of **Hamilton County** protested and garnered some media attention, with HCLP Vice Chair William Bolen explaining that "tax protests are an American tradition and very patriotic." The Boston Tea Party was a tax protest, he noted, and taxes on Americans were much lower at that time.

■ In **Minnesota**, LP members met taxpayers at the Minneapolis post office with million dollar bills, copies of the "Libertarian Viewpoint" and signs encouraging them to vote Libertarian if they want to cut taxes. Former LP gubernatorial candidate **Ed Thompson** did interviews on the local ABC and Fox affiliates, and on a statewide radio network, while local newspapers also covered the event.

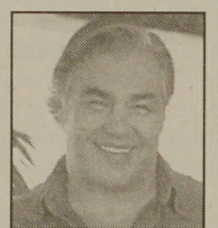
■ **Montana** Libertarians ran radio ads in Missoula for several days before Tax Day, sent editorials and a press release concerning taxes to newspapers across the state, and were interviewed by KECI News, reports state LP Chair Mike Fellows.

■ **Donald Silberger** was nominated by the Libertarian Party of **New York** to run for U.S. Senate. Silberger, an associate professor of mathematics at State University of New York-New Paltz, was the LP candidate for Lt. Governor in 1998. NY Libertarians also re-elected **John Clifton** of Jamaica as state chair.

■ In addition to selecting **Kenn Gividen** as the **Indiana** LP's candidate for governor, delegates to the Indiana state convention selected **Joe Hauptman** as candidate for superintendent of public instruction, and **Sam Goldstein** to run in Indiana House Dist. 86. Goldstein received 81,722 votes when he ran for superintendent of public instruction in 2000, the highest vote total in LP-IN history.

■ **Rebekah "Reb" Sutherland** was given the South Carolina LP's U.S. Senate nomination at the state's convention. Other candidates winning nominations from the Libertarian Party were **Russell Seegars**, SC Senate District 5; **Burt Barber**, SC Senate District 26; **Michael Carmany**, SC House District 8; **Doug Taylor**, SC House District 9; **R.T. Moore**, SC House District 11; **Victor Kocher**, SC House District 76; and **Doug Kendall**, SC House District 69.

■ **Aaron Russo**, a candidate for the LP's 2004 presidential nomination, was appointed to the Marijuana Policy Project's advisory board. His past work on behalf of decriminalization of marijuana and industrial hemp were cited as reasons for his appointment. The organization focuses on removing criminal penalties associated with marijuana use, and on making marijuana available to patients who benefit from its use.

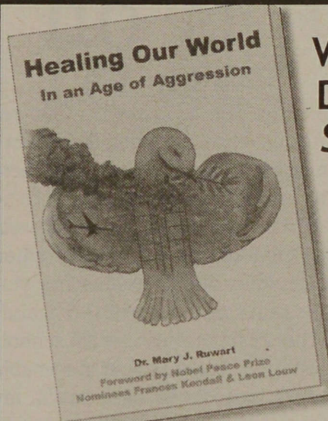


■ Aaron Russo

■ **Gary Nolan** won his fifth Libertarian Primary victory May 12 in **Nebraska**. In unofficial results, Nolan took 74 percent of the vote with **Michael Badnarik** garnering 26 percent. Aaron Russo was not included in the primary. Libertarian primaries are not considered binding; delegates to the LP national convention in Atlanta May 27-31 will select the party's candidate.

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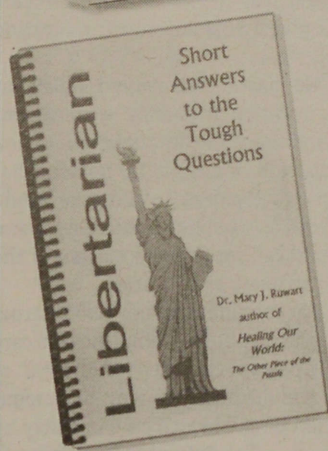
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THE FORUM

The FCC and the Constitution: Remember the First Amendment

Today's censorship madness is nothing new. People who covet power have never shrunk from silencing those who threaten their tight control (real or perceived) of society at large.

Early government censorship included an English law — passed in 1275 — which imposed "penalties for any false talk about the king."

In the 1500's and 1600's, censorship looked more like it does today, albeit with different penalties.

At one point, an Englishman named William Prynne published a book in which he expressed his dislike for actors and actresses. As the queen had just appeared in a play, Prynne's book was viewed

as an attack on her. Prynne was fined 10,000 pounds, branded on the forehead, had his ears and nose cut off, and — as if that were not enough — was thrown in prison for life.

Imagine if this were still the standard today.

I believe these practices were part of the historical reason that our Constitution's framers decided to include a Bill of Rights in that document.

These men had the amazing foresight to give us the greatest gift any nation has ever received from its

governors — limitations on government intrusions into almost all aspects of our lives. They had learned from history and used the lessons to improve society for the future by restricting the enforcers of the law.

The current proposed legislation and even existing legislation that regulates speech on the radio or any electronic media is unconstitutional.

Now, even our great Bill of Rights is on life support. Our rights are methodically eroding.

The Constitutional problems with the Federal Communications Commission regulating speech are numerous, stemming from the very First Amendment: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Supreme Court Justice Hugo Lafayette Black was appointed to the court in 1937 and served 34 years. He was one of the most respected practitioners of jurisprudence that our nation has ever had on the bench, and he frequently said "no law means no law" in Supreme Court decisions.

Black was a First Amendment absolutist. He believed the amendment didn't need interpreting. You do not need to be a member of the

bar or on the faculty at Harvard to understand what the First Amendment says.

Even those at the lowest level of reading comprehension should understand what "Congress shall make no law" means.

The fact that some speech is considered indecent (a term that is completely subjective) is not a sufficient reason for censoring it. By passing the first law regulating free speech, and giving any power to the FCC to do so, Congress violated the first five words of the Bill of Rights.

The Communications Act of 1934 is an outright assault on free speech. Congress now is attempting to broaden and extend the FCC's jackboot on free speech and thought through the new Broadcast Decency Enforcement Act.

I am the executive producer of the "Bubba The Love Sponge Show," for which Clear Channel Radio was recently fined \$755,000 by the FCC, following one listener's complaints. We were the most popular radio show in the history of Tampa. We had an audience of over one million listeners. Only one complained, and that one person decided for the other million what their choices should be.

We have been told our thoughts and our show are indecent.

The FCC claims that broadcasts should be regulated because it is the will of the people. However, re-

sponding to one complaint by a religious zealot by levying enormous fines is not the will of the people.

Mancow in Chicago and Howard Stern have similar problems with obsessed individuals who — in my opinion — have their own inner demons they are trying to exorcise. Why else would you be so obsessed with controlling what society hears? I would defend their right to disagree with what is on the air, but not to censor it.

These people love to silence discussion rather than to engage in discourse, because they believe their viewpoint is infallible. But zealots, though annoying and lacking logic or science in making their claims, are not the true problem.

The true problem is allowing five non-elected officials to arbitrarily decide who to fine and who not to fine.

There is no representation of the people, there is no due process, and there is no right to cross examine the witnesses against you. All determinations are made on a subjective basis.

Let's be honest:

This is not about protecting children at all.

If those in Washington were so interested in protecting children, why don't they hold hearings on children interacting with priests? Why is The Church not answering questions on Capitol Hill? What radio show has ever molested over 11,000 children?

If this was really about protecting children, radio shows

would not even be on the radar screen. "Shock Jocks" as the media calls them, threaten the traditional power structure and encourage free thought. Therefore it is justifiable in a Congressman's mind to censor them.

In the 1978 Supreme Court case concerning George Carlin's "seven dirty words" monologue, the FCC did not even impose sanctions or fines.

Justice John Paul Stevens wrote the opinion of the court, which voted 5-4 in favor of the FCC.

In part, he said, "It is a central tenet of the First Amendment that the government must remain neutral in the marketplace of ideas."

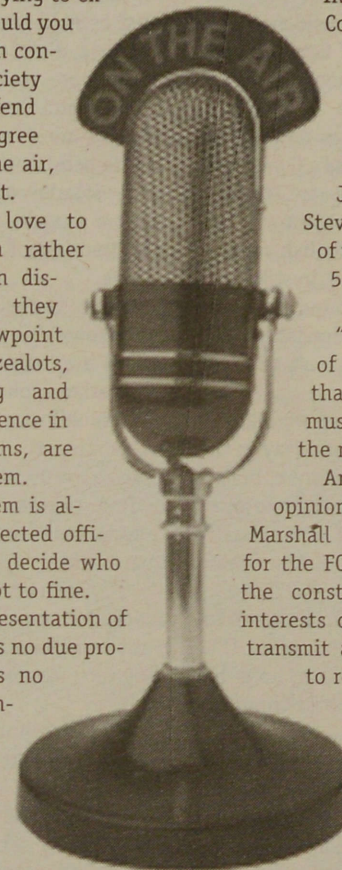
And in the dissenting opinion, Justice Thurgood Marshall said that in finding for the FCC, "the court ignores the constitutionally protected interests of those who wish to transmit and those who desire to receive broadcasts that

many — including the FCC and this Court — might find offensive."

In my humble opinion, if any company was to fight these recent

these fines or egregious laws to the Supreme Court, the FCC would get its clock cleaned.

■ **About the author:** Brent L. Hatley is a registered Libertarian from Tampa, Fla. He was formerly the executive producer and a cast member of the Bubba the Love Sponge nationally-syndicated radio show.



Finding a dream candidate: The search is on

Regarding the upcoming elections, the one person that I wish would run in these contests will not be running. I can only call this person "my dream candidate."

My dream candidate would be a man or woman of high moral character, particularly at a time when most voters — as well as the press — do not consider character to be very important. This candidate would be a principled, scandal-free person. He or she would also be intellectually honest, not blinded by ideology, partisanship, special interests or political correctness.

On the issues of the day, my dream candidate would take positions that to some may be considered radical. He or she would be firm and resolute, knowing full well there may be repercussions from those who disagree. He or she would not be afraid to discuss and debate his or her position openly.

My dream candidate would support the following:

He or she would be a fervent defender of human life.

At a time when human beings are being killed off for utilitarian purposes — a position advocated by the press, the dominant media culture, the courts, public officials and others in society — he or she would defend the most vulnerable from attack: the unborn, the newborn, the elderly, the disabled.

He or she would fight for the most important liberty of them all: the right to life. He or she would call abortion, euthanasia, infanticide what it really is — state-condoned aggression and state-authorized killing.

He or she would be a tax cutter.

At a time when Americans are paying up to 60 percent of their income in taxes each year, and tax money is being spent on the expan-

sion and growth of the federal government into the lives and liberties of the people, my dream candidate would advocate huge cuts in spending and huge cuts in taxes.

He or she would also call for the elimination or privatization of government programs, departments and corporations that have done nothing but squander tax money.

For example, my candidate would call for the elimination of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

My dream candidate would follow the advice of Thomas Jefferson, who said that "to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical."

He or she would be a strong defender of civil liberties: At a time when the Bill of Rights is under assault, my dream candidate would defend the constitutional freedoms

of all Americans.

He or she would fight censorship. He or she would defend the free exercise of religion and religious speech, as well as the right of individuals to worship in private or public.

My dream candidate would defend the Second Amendment rights of individuals to own firearms. He or she would also call for the overthrow of the USA Patriot Act and similar laws that violate all fourth amendment protections and liberty.

He or she would be a defender of property rights: At a time when government is stepping on the rights of landowners as well as homeowners by passing regulation, seizing property through eminent domain laws, passing rent control laws, zoning ordinances and other infringements, my dream candidate would fight for the rights of owners not to be harassed by politicians and public officials.

He or she would defend the right of private property with vigor, and

would be the instrument that reminds government when it comes to the rights of property owners, there is to be no trespassing.

He or she would support real education reform: At a time when public education is graduating students that cannot meet the demands of the 21st century, with schools graduating students that are unable to read, write or do basic math, my dream candidate would advocate complete separation of education and state.

No matter how many regulations or how much money government has thrown at the public education system over the years, nothing has worked. My dream candidate would privatize public education and would call for the elimination of the Department of Education.

My candidate would also restructure tax policy, making health care 100 percent tax deductible. He or she would further advocate deregulation of the health care industry by

See **CANDIDATE** Page 17

By Alex Pugliese

THE VOLUNTEER

Door-to-door campaigning is key to victory

There are numerous ways to get a candidate's issues and face before the voters. Door-to-door campaigning — or "doorbelling" — is without question one of the most effective ways.

You have the ability to make a personal one-on-one contact with the voter. In state legislative and local races this single step can win the contest.

When Brian Thomas ran for the state legislature the first time, with little money to support his campaign, he determined to ring every doorbell in his district. He did, and some of them two and three times. He won the election.

One young man from Port Townsend, Washington, decided to run for mayor while still in school. Not having a lot of financial resources, he decided to meet as many people within the city limits as possible and to ask personally for their vote.

Every afternoon and evening after school he rang doorbells. He became the youngest ever Mayor of Port Townsend.

Show serious interest

By going door to door, you are showing interest in your neighbors' concerns and viewpoints. People will be pleased to have you ask what issues concern them most. If you truly listen you will have done some of the most valuable "issue polling" possible.

Doorbelling will help build name

recognition and respect. It tells the voter that you care what they think and that you are serious about your campaign. This should also help in developing a grass roots force. As you spend time with people in your district some will offer to help with your election effort. Some people will offer information that is valuable to your campaign.

Ask for their vote, thank them for their support, and tell them again how very much their help is needed.

By doing so, you may become a member of a very exclusive club: You may be the only candidate to ever ring their doorbell.

You are most likely the only candidate that has "personally" asked for their vote. You are most likely the only candidate to tell them "personally" how much their support is needed and appreciated.

There are multitudes of organizational benefits to be derived from doorbelling. Along the way you will collect volunteers, raise money, and find yard sign locations.

You will gain personal information not otherwise obtainable. Small details that you note while doorbelling will later prove valuable to your campaign.

Systematically write down as many details as you can following each encounter so that you will be able to remember names, hobbies or other information about the people you meet when you run into them again.

Take your time

Obviously, the size of your district will determine the amount of time you can allow yourself at each door.

Some campaigns believe that the most important part of doorbelling is to get the candidate before the voter and little else. That can be done in about

15 seconds per door. Using this tight time approach is probably more effective for Democrat and Republican candidates than for Libertarians.

In most cases we Libertarians represent the unknown. The 15-second approach allows introducing oneself briefly and leaving a piece of campaign material.

Most people who work such a brief time plan will admit to hoping that nobody opens the door — so they can stay on schedule.

While this will help to create name recognition it seems to be at the cost of many other benefits. There is something a little undignified about a candidate who is so rushed that they must jump the

picket fence to stay on time.

Door-to-door hints

• If you are canvassing with a neighborhood walklist, you will want to have information cards organized in street order with one or more questions for the voter.



Your question may be as brief as asking, "What issues concern you the most?" Keep discussion to topics your office could change.

• Always ask if they are registered voters. Have mail-in voter registration forms with you. Ask if they vote in their precinct or absentee. If they tell you they would prefer to vote absentee offer them the mail-in form for absentee ballots.

Have them fill out the forms and volunteer to get them to the Elections Administrator's Office. You will have to put your own stamp on it, but you will KNOW they are registered.

• Have candidate literature — a brochure or a flier — with a photograph. Some of these should be pre-written with a "Sorry I missed you" note and signed by the candidate, for the doors where no one answers.

• If your budget allows, you could prepare your "neighbors" for visit by mailing printed post cards. These should have your photo, and explain that you will call on them in the next few days to discuss issues of shared concern.

This requires working with a set timeline and calculating the number of homes you will reach within each weekly period. Mail these in weekly batches.

• Have a volunteer along to carry literature, maps, walk lists, and to help take notes.

Dress appropriately. Groom carefully. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

■ **About the authors:** Reprinted from the August/September 2003 Washington Libertarian. Reece and Rufus Rose are active in the Washington state LP, as well as the Island County affiliate.

To get your news published, put it in writing

If you want your county, state or individual libertarian activities to be recognized — whether by LP News or by the mainstream media — the best way is to put the news in writing.

By writing what you have to say, you give yourself time to think about what details you wish to pass along and lessen the chance that you'll omit necessary information.

And if a journalist or editor has a written news release to which he or she can refer, the information can be double-checked for accuracy and consistency.

Here are some ideas for how to present your news so that the media are more likely to use the information.

What is news? Any accounts of meetings, activities, special events or election of officers in state or county LP affiliates, or events in which Libertarians take an active part.

Write it down

■ Always put your name and phone number at the top of your news release, so that it is easily located. Journalists know that your number is not for publication unless it also is in the text of the release.

■ Always include a name and phone number, e-mail address or Web site so that the media or readers can get more information about your event or news item.

■ One of the first lessons in journalism class is about the five W's and the H. You will want to answer Who, What, Where, Why, When and How in your news release. If you are uncomfortable writing your release in paragraph form — many people feel they are unqualified to write news in story form — list these six questions and the answers and an interested journalist can edit it for you.

■ Please use first and last names when referring to individuals. Use

titles when appropriate. If you or someone in a story holds public office as a Libertarian or is an officer in the LP, include that information.

■ Please double-check your information, including spellings of names, dates and times of events and addresses. Don't assume anything. Sometimes even a simple name like Mary can be spelled Mari or Merry.

For best results

■ Brevity counts, so please be concise. Space availability always is a problem. In addition to the five W's and the H, you might want to include some interesting features about the event, but be direct.

■ Remember to tell readers — including the media — how they can get more information. If you supply a telephone number, include the name of the person behind the number. Include no more than two phone numbers.

■ Expect your news release to be edited. It is an editor's responsibility to edit copy to meet style and space requirements, and it's a journalist's job to decide which stories

to pursue.

■ **About the article:** The suggestions in this story are from The Beacon News, of Aurora, Illinois.

Candidate search

Continued from Page 16

eliminating government-mandated benefits.

My dream candidate would also call for the elimination of the Food and Drug Administration, replacing it with a private sector organization. He or she would also call for the privatization of Medicare and Medicaid.

My dream candidate is just that: a dream.

If a candidate like the one I've described existed, I would gladly

pull the lever for him or her. Maybe one day that candidate will appear. I wouldn't bet on it, though.

■ **About the author:** A member of the Libertarian Party from Kenilworth, N.J., Alex Pugliese joined the LP about three years ago. A former Republican, he said he believes in freedom, and in economic and civil liberties. This column is reprinted, in edited form, from the April-May edition of the New Jersey Libertarian.

THE EDITOR

Decide for yourself

"We don't dare to let people make choices of their own."
— From *The Giver*, a 1993 Newberry Award-winning book by Lois Lowry.

This book, a classic of modern children's literature, is set in a utopian future community where people's mates, children and professions are chosen for them. Children are born to "birthmothers" who never see them, and they are apportioned to responsible and deserving "family units."

Every 12-year-old child is given a lifelong based on his or her talents, and those who consistently break rules or who grow burdensome through age or weakness are euthanized. "Sameness" is no longer a mere goal; it is a reality, and deviation is not an option.

Only one person in the community has memories of color, music, fear and hate — even of love. Such realities would diminish the forced, drab equality and equanimity required for peaceable living.

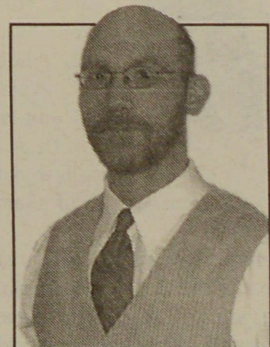
"What if [people] were allowed to choose their own mate? And chose wrong?" asks Jonas, the 12-year-old protagonist, who has recently been chosen as the community's next Receiver of Memories. He will accept the pain of his community's collective memory, allowing the others to live their utopian dream.

"Or what if," he went on, almost laughing at the absurdity, "they chose their own jobs?"

"Frightening, isn't it?" the teacher responds.

"Very frightening. I can't even imagine it. We really have to protect people from wrong choices."

The Giver is in many ways a children's equivalent of Ayn Rand's *Anthem*. The protagonist in each discovers the harsh reality of living in a collectivist world and sets out to change that world — but their compatriots must be forced to confront individuality.



By J. Daniel Cloud

LP NEWS EDITOR

Some psychologists and educators consider this book dangerous for children and young adults because it exposes them to negative issues. The boy sees his father give a euthanizing injection to an unwanted infant; he begins to feel pain; and he learns to question authority instead of going along for the collectivist ride.

Those who object to the arguably negative topics fail, no doubt, to see themselves in the story: It is they who are forcing the world into Sameness, who insist people shouldn't make their own decisions.

Our literature includes books like *The Giver*, *Anthem* and a host of other works of fiction in which the essential vicious nature of a collectivist world is revealed. By protecting themselves from individuality, these societies become soulless and cruel; they eliminate personal choice and freedom, and their inhabitants live with the restrictive nature of true democracy — rule by the mass.

But as widely read as *1984* and *Brave New World* remain, the world that popularized them continues to grow more restrictive, more dedicated to requiring the Sameness lauded in Lowry's fictional world.

Smoking is bad for you, so let's eliminate choice in that activity. Some make bad choices in their use of firearms, so eliminate everyone's freedom to legally use firearms. We have to allow "choice" at election time, but at least we can effectively restrict the choices to a selected totalitarian socialist few.

This, the prevailing U.S. government ideal, echoes the negative aspects of life that are deplored when written and sold as fiction.

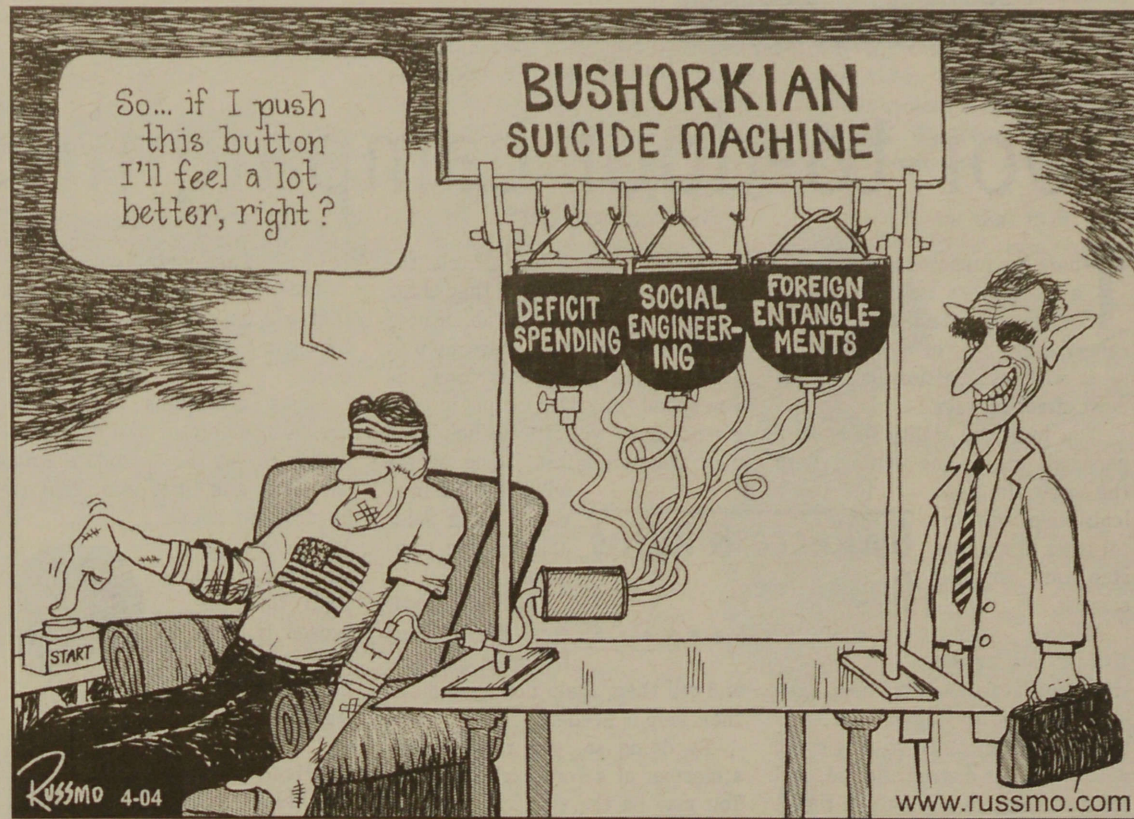
Even now, when told of the ramifications of the Patriot Act and other pre-emptive strikes against Americans, many of our "patriotic" countrymen explain them away, saying the government's newly invented powers will only be used to protect the innocent.

Why is it so hard for people to recognize the truth when they encounter it? Perhaps desensitization — sensory overload from fictional movies and books — has made people incapable of turning off the "voluntary suspension of disbelief" required by fiction.

When we see government coercion and forced equality in real life, many are likely to gloss over the harsh reality: that our world has taken on the worst aspects of dystopian fiction.

"So our government gave itself the power to snoop into e-mail accounts, bookstore receipts and library records without probable cause," some will say. "That's only done for our own protection. Surely those things will only happen to guilty people, right?"

Yeah, right.



Is ethnic profiling appropriate in the war against terrorism?

By J. Daniel Cloud
LP NEWS EDITOR

Two scenarios:

Four young black males are stopped by a highway patrol officer, who asks to search the car — without explaining why he stopped the vehicle.

Following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, an American of Saudi descent has his bags searched at the airport while on a business trip. Nothing is found in his baggage, but he is strip-searched while a team of airport personnel continue inspecting — even destroying — his luggage.

Both scenarios fall under the large umbrella of racial or ethnic profiling.

But are they similarly despicable practices?

The 14th Amendment guarantees every person equal protection of the law, but can an argument be made in favor of racial or ethnic profiling in certain circumstances?

"God would never do profiling of any sort because God is omniscient," said nationally syndicated columnist Walter Williams in an April 21, 2004 column.

"We humans lack that quality and must depend upon sometimes crude substitutes for finding out things."

As Williams pointed out in this column and others, profiling is often useful in predicting what feats people are capable of, or to what

Libertarian SOLUTIONS

diseases they are likely susceptible.

"Prostate cancer is nearly twice as common among black men as white men," he wrote. "Would one condemn a medical practitioner

The doctor is screening people for a malady that could hurt them, so obviously people are going to be willing to be tested when necessary. That's not a negative instance of profiling.

But what about all those who are found to be free of prostate cancer? They've shelled out their hard-earned money — or that of the insurance company — only to find that it wasn't necessary. They could ask for their money back and say the test was an intrusive waste of time.

It's unfortunately necessary to test a given population — black, white, Arab — to find out which members of that population are the ones who skew the results of tests.

Whites Are Subject, Too

This heightened scrutiny isn't limited to blacks or Arabs.

During the sniper shootings in the Washington, D.C., area two years ago, the police "were looking for a white van with white people," D.C. Police Chief Charles Ramsey admitted.

The car driven by John Lee Malvo and John Allen Muhammad — who were convicted of the shootings this year — was actually seen in the neighborhood

of many of the crimes, Muhammad was stopped more than once and sent on his way, and the car's plates were checked 10 times.

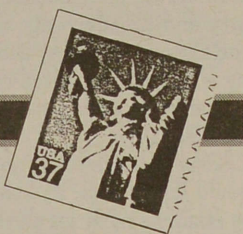
Muhammad had even been reported twice to the FBI for suspect-
See **TERRORISM** Page 22



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THE MAILBOX



■ Abandon it

Every day there are news reports about more deaths. Every night on the TV are photos of death and destruction.

Why are we still there?

We occupied this land, which we had to take by force, but it causes us nothing but trouble. Their government is unstable, and they have no leadership. Many of their people are uncivilized.

Why are we still there?

There are more than 1,000 religious sects, which we don't understand. They can't even secure the borders. They are billions of dollars in debt and it will cost billions more to rebuild, which we can't afford.

Why are we still there?

It is becoming clear. ... We must abandon California.

—WENCESLAO M. HEVR
Lawton, Oklahoma

■ Not anti-Semitic

I can't agree with letter writer Patrick Groff (March *LP News* Mailbox) who thinks the Libertarian Party may be becoming "anti-Semitic."

The word anti-Semite means a person who is hostile toward Jews, and the word existed long before the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. Criticizing the policies of Israel and the \$3 billion in foreign aid that American taxpayers have to fork over to that nation each year has nothing to do with anti-Semitism.

Libertarians oppose all foreign aid to all nations and Israel should be no exception to that principle. "Anti-Semitism" is a smear word used to stifle any and all criticism of Israel, and Mr. Groff has evidently

fallen for that smear.

Plenty of Jewish people I know are also appalled by Israeli policies toward Palestinians and the U.S. government's support of those policies. Are these people "anti-Semitic" too?

The word "Semite" applies to any person of Middle Eastern heritage — Arab and Jew alike. Furthermore, not all Jews are of Middle Eastern ancestry; many are of Central or

**DON'T BEAT PEOPLE
up to get them
to see things your
way. And if they try
to beat you up, don't
let them do it
for free.**

—DEBRA SCHUM

Eastern European heritage.

We should stick to our principles of non-intervention in foreign affairs and not tailor our beliefs to placate any ethnic or religious group. That's what the socialist Democrats and the fascist Republicans do! Libertarians are supposed to be different.

—MARK RICHARDS
West Milford, New Jersey

■ Bob Barr speaking

Bob Barr at your convention? Is that how bad you are hurting for a speaker? Cripes, why not try to get Trent Lott or Tom Delay?

He is an evil troll who hates privacy. He does not believe in privacy

even in our own homes. Your attack on him to drive him from office was one of the things that brought me to your party.

—MARK GODFREY
St Louis, Missouri

■ Open letter

Dear Mr. President,

Your effort to achieve peace and freedom for the Iraqi people was a noble one, but unfortunately it has failed to produce positive results, while alienating much of the world.

As Commander -in- Chief, the buck stops with you, but you can still salvage your own reputation and save face for the United States by doing the honorable thing.

You should announce that Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld has been ordered to bring all American troops in Iraq home immediately; that you encourage the people of Iraq to forget their differences and to forge a peaceful community with the help of the United Nations; and that you will join the thousands of Iraqis and the 600 brave young American men and women who have died due to your error, by falling on your ceremonial sword.

—THOMAS PALVEN
Farmingdale, New Jersey

■ Jesse Ventura

A small article in *USA Today* mentioned that Jesse Ventura is interested in seeking the presidency in 2008. We should approach Mr. Ventura about joining our party. He is a Libertarian. The article said that he won the governorship by using a platform of "social liberalism and fiscal conservatism." That is the essence of libertarianism and the

See **MAILBOX** Page 20

THE PULSE

What is our one issue?

In his 2000 presidential campaign, Harry Browne focused on three issues: Social Security, the War on Drugs and income taxes. The Pulse question for June was: Should our new presidential candidate emphasize these same issues, or are there others that would better serve the Libertarian Party?

And as a natural correlative to this question, is there an issue the candidate should avoid? Interestingly, two of Browne's issues are among those *LP News* readers said our new candidate should avoid.

Most of the 28 readers who responded to this month's (unscientific) Pulse poll said to avoid issues that are by their nature divisive.

Many pointed to three issues: Avoid discussing abortion; de-emphasize the War on Drugs; and avoid immigration, because there isn't internal agreement on how to deal with the issue.

There was more agreement on what issues should be primarily emphasized, but there was still a wide range of responses.

Five readers said to focus on the federal budget deficit and on ways to decrease the deficit, with four others saying to concentrate on high taxes — including income taxes. So how do we decrease taxes while simultaneously cutting the budget?

That's where the other responses come in: By restoring freedoms and eliminating many of our current repressive laws and reducing government drastically — as nine readers suggested — the nation could save enough money to cut both taxes and the federal budget.

Two readers said to focus on getting out of Iraq and returning to a policy of nonintervention, and others addressed gun rights, marijuana legalization and ending farm subsidies.

Here's a representative sampling of reader responses:

■ Focus on a noninterventionist foreign policy. The two major parties have practiced the opposite for more than six decades.

—JIM DAVIES
Newbury, New Hampshire

■ Focus on the budget deficit. Avoid immigration and other issues where there is sharp disagreement within the party.

—STEVE HOODJER
Waterloo, Iowa

■ Stay away from the abortion issue. Each side is so entrenched and so emotional it's impossible to "win."

—EDWARD TEYSSIER
San Diego, California

■ Issues like the War on Drugs are too far removed from the average citizen to be useful.

—ANTHONY DLUGOS
Cleveland, Ohio

■ Presidential candidates should focus on the need to restore the primacy of the Constitution.

—JEFFREY D. PIZANTI
Norfolk, Virginia

■ No question! The war in Iraq: Getting out immediately, apologizing, and making whatever amends we can.

—MICHAEL ACREE
San Francisco, California

■ Our principal issue should be taxes. Taxes provide the fuel for all government action.

—TYSON RICHMOND
Tampa, Florida

■ Reducing the size of the government is the issue on which to focus. The abortion issue should be avoided completely.

—CAROL SMITH
Ten Sleep, Wyoming

■ [Focus on] gun control. Democrats are hell-bent to disarm everyone, and Republicans have proven to be two-faced about the issue.

—JOE O. MARCOM
Galena Park, Texas

■ The primary issue is reducing the number of [laws]. The problem is that we have more of them than anyone can read and understand.

—VLADIMIR RAZDOLSKY
Roseville, Michigan

See **PULSE** Page 20

THE PULSE

Continued from Page 19

■ Focus on the law of the land, the U. S. Constitution.

—HARRY THOMPSON

Tucson, Arizona

■ The one issue to avoid is state-sanctioned marriage for people engaged in homosexuality, unless we merely say the State has no business sanctioning marriages of any kind.

—ROBERT WILLIAMS

Oberlin, Ohio

■ One issue? Freedom. Freedom from paying for bad programs and heavy taxes. Freedom, which works better than slavery.

—ANDREW LOHR

Chattanooga, Tennessee

■ Unless we can find a way to approach the issue that doesn't aggravate older voters, we shouldn't touch [Social Security].

—PAUL TRIPP

Omaha, Nebraska

■ Top issue to focus on: Elimination of personal income tax.

—DALE BLAKELY

Kingsport, Tennessee

August Question: End our War on Drugs focus?

Some have said the War on Drugs should not be regarded as a primary issue for the Libertarian Party's presidential candidate, while others maintain that legalization of marijuana should be the principal focus of the party.

One argument against emphasizing the Drug War is that the LP is consistently pigeonholed as a pro-drug organization. Those who want to de-emphasize the legalization of marijuana say we should try instead to appeal to the American public by stressing Second Amendment rights, lower taxes and the environment — issues that matter to many non-Libertarians — as a way to get the general public to see the LP in a positive light.

■ **QUESTION:** Is it time for the Libertarian Party to de-emphasize the War on Drugs, since it's not viewed by most Americans as a matter of key importance? Does the LP's view on legalization cause too many potential members to go elsewhere? Or should we continue stressing the Drug War as a primary concern — recognizing it as a key libertarian ideal? Please keep responses to 100 words or less.

■ **DEADLINE:** July 8, 2004.

July Question: How important is the pledge?

As any Libertarian knows, signing the LP Pledge — "I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals" — is the only real requirement for membership in the LP.

But as Forum essays, MailBox letters and other items in *LP News* attest, individual interpretations of "initiation of force" vary widely.

For example, look at the controversy the Iraq war causes in Libertarian circles. Did the fact that Iraq had an anti-American dictator in power constitute initiation of force, with America responding to that initiation by going to war? Or was our going to war with Iraq an initiation of force in and of itself?

Given that Libertarians have trouble deciding as a group exactly what "initiation of force" consists of, is it necessary or reasonable to ask potential party members to sign the Pledge? Or is its wording too open to interpretation?

How many people know when they see the Pledge for the first time that "initiation of force" includes the Libertarian position that taxation is theft and, therefore, an initiation of force?

■ **QUESTION:** Should the Libertarian Party continue to use the Pledge as a condition of membership? Or is it so open to personal interpretation as to become almost meaningless? Is there a way it could be reworded to make it more clear, yet remain simple enough? Please keep answers to 100 words.

■ **DEADLINE:** June 8, 2004.

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

■ **E-mail:** Editor@hq.LP.org. (Put "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ **Fax:** (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ **Mail:** Libertarian Party, Attn: The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20037

THE MAILBOX

Continued from Page 19

reason I joined this party.

Mr. Ventura can raise large sums of money. He can inspire young people. He can garner major media coverage and can gain entrance to major debates. He also has major executive experience, and none of our previous candidates can boast that. Mr. Ventura is not a joke candidate. He would be taken seriously. We must woo him in our direction.

—TONY CORRENTI,

West Islip, New York

Protect rights

The Libertarian Party should welcome support and membership from anyone and everyone who desires to protect individual liberties from excessive government, or from an objectionable or harmful effect of certain other individual actions. The party and its adherents should not proclaim undue anger against anyone who does not agree completely and perfectly with the views of other Libertarians.

Some believe our government should fight drugs, and that imposing criminal penalties on the dealers may be helpful in protecting potential addicts, although plans imposing penalties for use of drugs are not desirable.

Some favor major control of the proper sale and possession of firearms, though laws should permit honest citizens the possession — and concealed carrying — of guns for personal defense. Shouldn't appropriate licensing of firearm possession and use be as legitimate as that relating to vehicles?

There are those who want no international agencies dealing with our national policies and programs. But wouldn't effective international police and court action against bin Laden and Saddam have saved us from hundreds of citizen deaths and the terrible cost in taxes and national debt of our wars in Afghanistan and Iraq?

There are those who protest any potential invasion of their personal privacy, but is it bad for honest citizens to have information gained about their lives and practices while dishonest, immoral and criminal persons can hide details that threaten unhappiness and harm to the honest ones?

We will never all be in complete agreement. But didn't one of our most honored and respected founding fathers say that our creator gave us life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and that "to protect those rights governments are founded by men"?

—ROBERT STUART

Cape Coral, Florida

Membership

I was delighted and encouraged by your front page article of your May issue, in which you reported that 771 former members had rejoined the LP. The reason for my op-

timism is that this is the first time in ages where membership has been given the slightest attention.

Membership has been our major problem. We have 21,000 members, but that's a drop in the bucket. Why bother with anything else until we solve our membership problem? Recovering lost members is a good start and we have a terrific platform to sell to others, but convincing them takes some time and thought. It can't be sold with a one-liner ad.

I know this is a hell of a lot of work and will be slow going. Hard work is not attractive, but how else can a worthwhile objective be achieved?

—RICHARD E. HALL

Palm Bay, Florida

Ballot access

Contrary to the statements of Washington State LP apparatchiks quoted in the April 2004 issue of *LP News* ("Washington LP helps craft replacement of election law"), the demise of Washington's blanket primary is a horrendous defeat for small parties and will almost surely result in the extinction of the LP in Washington State.

Here's why:

Ballot access was a slam dunk for small parties under Washington's blanket primary, and the blanket primary was a substantial reason the LPWS achieved major party status in 2000. Without the blanket primary in 2004, LPWS candidates will be unable to advance from the primary to the general election, and the LPWS will be unable to garner the required 5 percent of the vote in a statewide election to maintain its major party status.

This is a windfall for Rs and Ds, but the kiss of death for the LP.

Lessons learned from the LPWS joining with the Rs and Ds in this kill-the-blanket-primary lawsuit: Never join in a lawsuit on the same side as your arch enemies; never join in a lawsuit funded by large donations of "anonymous" (probably Republican) money; and never squelch

the opposition to a bad idea.

When opposition to this litigation surfaced among LPWS members, debate was stifled. An announcement appeared in the LPWS newsletter that no further letters regarding the blanket primary would be printed. Nevertheless, numerous LPWS members sported "I love the blanket primary" buttons at the state convention in 2003.

Now that the practically bankrupt LPWS has succeeded in its suicide mission of abolishing the blanket primary, the Rs and Ds are no doubt laughing up their sleeves.

—PATRICIA MICHL

Sumner, Washington

[Editor's note: Washington Gov. Gary Locke has approved a primary system that will allow each major party, including the LP, to have its own primary ballot and a place on the general election ballot, as reported in the May 2004 LP News.]

50-state access

I just recently received a solicitation for money to help achieve 50-state ballot access. I am not going to send any money for two reasons:

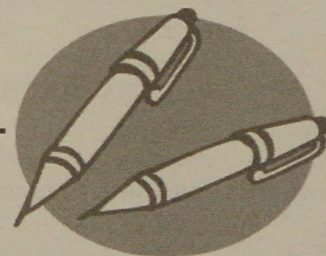
1. The huge sums of money needed to achieve 50-state access is just plain too much. We need to conserve our resources and spend them in the most effective manner. We never have national ads for our presidential candidate, cannot afford to support worthy candidates when one surfaces, and waste incredible volunteer manhours in a misplaced goal of 50 state ballot access. Put these funds and manhours to work accomplishing our Mission Statement: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to office." Elect even more office holders and respect and attention will come our way. Don't waste our resources on horrendous access hurdles.

2. Socialists have elected very few people to office, but have incredible influence in government. Their philosophy is a natural for most politicians because it involves control. We have a philosophy that appeals to large groups of people, but because we waste our resources on overcoming impossible hurdles, people do not hear our message.

We always talk about converting people to our cause "one person at a time." Let's start doing that by reaching people in states that have easy ballot access. Once on the ballot there, we can then use our limited resources to really hammer home our limited government theme.

Now we are constantly hammering our people for donations for lofty goals that really haven't done much over the last 25 years to build the party.

Our party needs to reassess how it is going to accomplish our Mission Statement. I believe the first step should be to look at the feasibility of trying for 50 state ballot access. The second step is to quit "leading with our chin" when it comes to issues. Hammer home our limited



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government and individual freedom themes with our limited resources.

—GERALD SHIDELL

Rhineland, Wisconsin

Change our name

What has happened to that wonderful idea of changing the LP's name? There were several suggestions. My personal favorite: The Federal Party.

"Libertarian" has three immediate flaws. It is hard to pronounce, hard to spell, and sounds too much like "liberal."

I'd like to see the LP seriously look into the possibility of a name change, not as an intellectual exercise but as a political reality.

—FRED BLUESTONE

Pembroke Pines, Florida

Be different

I have been a registered Libertarian ever since I could vote, but have only very recently officially joined the National Libertarian Party.

Having been feeling rather alone for a long time, I was very much looking forward to my first issue of the *LP News*. But when that first issue arrived, I was shocked.

How is it that the letters to the editor all seem to be "Republican-Libertarian" or "Democrat-Libertarian" — this whole "right wing" or "left wing" thing? I always saw the Libertarian party as different from either of those parties! Maybe it's just because I have always been a Libertarian, and didn't "convert" from another party.

I was raised to be a Republican Baptist, but that just never worked for me. My introduction to Libertarianism came from Ayn Rand's books *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Virtue of Selfishness*, and after reading these, I felt like "I had come home."

But it has always seemed very obvious to me: If you don't like drugs, don't do them. If you don't like abortion, don't get one. If you don't like homosexuals, don't sleep with one. But don't tell everyone else what to do, and especially in the form of laws.

Don't beat people up to get them to see things your way. And if they try to beat you up, don't let them do it for free. To me, these are basic, obvious principals. This is the only party where there is room for everyone; no one has to be a "fringe member" of our society.

This is the perfect time for third parties, and especially Libertarians. Do we really want to blow it with internal bickering over "left wing/right wing" issues, which have no part in this party to begin with?

—DEBRA SCHUM

Cedaredge, Colorado

Defending Boortz

Since the early 70s — with the birth of the Libertarian Party both here and in Canada — many of us have worked diligently to get the

ideas into the mainstream of philosophical and political thought. We got little help from the editorial departments of any of the media.

With very few exceptions, our Canadian movement had difficulty just getting the name mentioned, let alone being reported truthfully by the information gurus.

In 1995 my husband and I moved from Canada to Florida to start a new business. You can't imagine our sheer delight when I turned on WSKY talk radio one day and heard Neal Boortz extolling the virtues of Libertarianism to his listeners. Not only that, but he did very well explaining the application of the principles for the benefit of his audience, many of whom had called in to inquire about the Party.

I don't always agree with his "nuts and bolts," as Charles Murray called them in his book, "What it means to be a Libertarian."

But I can assure you that from everything I have heard over these past several years, Mr. Boortz is certainly among those of us who "... shares a fundamental commitment to ... ethical and political ideas that are the foundation for America's great experiment in tolerance and liberty." (from *Libertarianism in One*

Lesson by David Bergland.)

—SALLY A. HAYES

Gainesville, Florida

Do your homework

[Re: The LP's 2003 Annual Report]

"In Arizona, Libertarians led the fight against two proposals to finance a light-rail system and other transportation boondoggles."

Over the years of being an LP member, I have seen more than one swipe at Amtrak or light rail in Libertarian Party literature.

Cars, trucks, buses and planes are children of politics, not responses to the needs of travelers or shippers. Motoring is subsidized at the rate of \$2.25 per gallon of motor fuel consumed. Aviation is so highly subsidized that it can hardly be considered private enterprise. The trucking industry is subsidized at the rate of \$30 billion per year.

If we depended on the free market to get us there, goods and people would move via high speed rail, magnetic levitation, personal rapid transit, and expanded rail freight service.

The young, old, handicapped and chemically impaired would be mobilized. Transportation would be more reliable and less vulnerable to terrorism.

Rail and rail variants offer speed, economy, safety, comfort and con-

venience that surpasses existing modes of transportation. Henry Ford and the Wright brothers had dumb ideas that were perpetuated by socialism.

Mobility wasn't a factor in freedom of assembly when the First Amendment was added to the Constitution, but it is today. Transportation is a libertarian issue, and I insist that Libertarians who comment on the subject do their homework first.

—BOB DOSTAL

Iowa City, Iowa

No nukes

Within months following the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and the surrender of Japan, the United States made it clear to the world that this country would never again be the first to use nuclear weapons in a military confrontation.

It was this policy and the maintenance of the United States' lead in nuclear capabilities that prevented the use of these weapons through 45 years of intensely hot "Cold War." Both the U.S.S.R. and the U.S. were well aware that each had the capability of destroying the other.

In the Cuban missile crisis of July-November 1962 when the confrontation between President Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev took place, it is doubtful the use of atom-

ic weapons could have been avoided without this long established policy in which the U.S. would not initiate the use of nuclear weapons.

[Despite] the protection the U.S. has provided for Western Europe since WWII, opinion polls in recent weeks have revealed that most people in Europe now believe the U.S., Israel and North Korea are most likely to initiate the use of atomic weapons.

What has changed? Why do people who for almost half a century have looked to the U.S. for protection from the USSR threat, now see the U.S. as a nuclear threat?

While the U.S. media have paid little attention to what President Bush's pre-emptive actions against terrorism means, much of Europe is interpreting this to be an abandonment of the half-a-century-old "no first nuclear strike" policy.

It is why Russia is now involved in military exercises of a type not held since the Cold War, which they say are aimed at terrorism, but the nature of which makes it clear are aimed at a possible nuclear confrontation.

President Bush puts the country in jeopardy by altering this longstanding nuclear policy that has served this country and the world so well for half a century.

—FRANK B. TURBERVILLE, JR.

Milton, North Carolina



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

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Can we save ourselves from terrorism through ethnic profiles?

Continued from Page 18
ed terrorist ties.

But since the authorities were looking for a white man, they repeatedly let the shooters go free.

Had someone seen a white guy with a rifle? No, police profiled that demographic because of prior experience: More often than not, snipers are white males.

"Actually, I think we should use more racial profiling," one wag wrote in his online journal. "After the terrorist actions of Timothy McVeigh and Unabomber Ted Kaczynski, I've totally stopped trusting white people. Someone really needs to keep an eye on us."

More commonly, though, it's blacks who are profiled by skin color, and that's what most people mean by "racial profiling."

In a study of all highway traffic stops made by the Maryland State Police during the 1990s, economists at the University of Pennsylvania discovered that black motorists were stopped at a rate 3.5 times that for white motorists.

"The police found contraband at the same rate for both races, about one in three searches," wrote Morgan Reynolds, director of the Criminal Justice Center at the National Center for Policy Analysis, in a 2001 article published by the Heartland Institute.

When young black men are stopped in disproportionately large numbers and searched for drugs or guns, the practice reeks of simple racist harassment, and rarely prevents an imminent violent crime.

"Racial profiling is used most often to catch drug sellers and buyers and possessors of guns — in other words, to [fight] victimless crimes," wrote Sheldon Richman, editor of *Ideas on Liberty*, in a June 2001 column in *The Freeman*.

"Racial profiling is wrong in part because the war on drugs and other victimless activities is wrong," he continues. "No violation of [another's] rights is intrinsic in the buying, selling, or using of drugs."

"Stopping hijackings is different," says Stuart Taylor Jr. in a *National Journal* opinion piece. "First,

preventing mass murder is infinitely more important than finding illegal drugs or guns. Second, 100 percent of the people who have hijacked airliners for the purpose of mass-murdering Americans have been Arab men."

And some of the terrorists who used commercial aircraft to attack America were people who had lived here legally for years — "so the risk of weapons being smuggled onto airliners cannot be eliminated by giving special scrutiny only to foreign nationals," Taylor continued.

There's a relatively simple, libertarian solution to racial profiling in drug and gun arrests that come from traffic stops: Possession of drugs or guns shouldn't be considered a crime, for reasons that are too numerous to delve into here.

Those arguments aside, though, there are basic differences between carrying drugs and being involved in terrorist activity.

"Though drug dealers are often violent ... one could imagine a regime in which, once legal, the drug business could be entirely peaceful," wrote Sherry F. Colb, a Rutgers Law School professor, in an Oct. 10, 2001, legal commentary.

"Terrorism, by contrast, does not lend itself to a similar legalization

were held for months, with no evidence against them, before being released. This search did not yield a single terrorism-related suspect.

So Ashcroft called for another dragnet, in which 3,000 non-immigrant men were similarly detained.

Such sweeping detentions are reprehensible, besides being useless. The Middle Eastern man at large is not likely to be a terrorist, any more than any given male is likely to be a rapist. Pulling such a huge sample of the population in for questioning is ludicrous.

Attempts to quell most forms of terrorism using this type of profiling are doomed to fail.

A terrorist's bomb can be placed anywhere, as proven by (white male) Timothy McVeigh and (white male) Ted Kaczynski, better known as the Unabomber.

Would it be possible to control this type of terrorist by keeping tabs on all reclusive white guys?

The likelihood of catching the right man in the act of planning a terrorist attack would be almost nil.

The same goes for profiling people of Middle Eastern descent, in a majority of cases.

"If one in a hundred truck drivers who transport hazardous materials is likely to be a terrorist, and one in a hundred Arabic truck drivers who transport hazardous materials is likely to be a terrorist, the government obviously may not initiate stepped-up scrutiny" of Arabic truckers, Robert A. Levy of the Cato Institute wrote in October 2001.

Minimize The Investigation

When representatives of a given subgroup are no more likely than the population at large to commit crimes, it is wrong — and useless — to pinpoint the subgroup for attention.

On the other hand, if Arabic truckers hauling hazardous materials were shown to be significantly more prone to terrorist acts than their non-Arabic counterparts, it would be reasonable to search the Arabic truckers more frequently than the non-Arabic ones, Levy continued.

The same goes for passengers on commercial aircraft.

As the aforementioned Taylor said, all those who have hijacked aircraft as weapons against America have been of Middle Eastern descent.

In a *National Review* article, Rich Lowry pointed out that more than half of the people on the FBI's Most Wanted terrorist list are named Mohammed or Ahmed.

"Because the government has a compelling interest in preventing mass-murder-suicide hijackings, and

because close scrutiny of Arab-looking people is narrowly tailored to protect that interest," it is reasonable to use ethnicity in determining which passengers should be closely investigated, Taylor noted.

"In light of recent events, all three branches of government could be asked to trade off precious civil liberties against the prospect of grievous losses ... from terrorist attacks," Cato's Levy concluded.

However, "that tradeoff cannot be based on seat-of-the-pants speculation," he wrote, insisting that fighting terrorism "calls for logic, not emotion; for evidence, not rumor; and for a structured approach that weighs the competing interests rationally and morally."

Logic, Not Emotion

As much as we may want to repudiate all manner of racial or ethnic profiling, in the case of air travel it seems logical and rational to take the evidence-based route.

There are basically three options: Strip-search everyone who boards a plane, thereby offending everyone; inspect no one, to prevent offence; or inspect some members of the general population in addition to representatives of the group that most commonly uses planes as weapons of mass destruction.

Yes, we're still going to offend some people.

As Walter Williams has said, a law-abiding black man who is discriminated against because of his skin color has a right to be annoyed and offended; but the proper recipient of that anger "should be those blacks who have made 'black' synonymous with 'high crime.'"

Targeting an ethnic profile very narrowly and using it only where that profile has been well-identified as contributing to terrorism is a possible solution.

When it comes to preventing another 9/11, a better solution would be to privatize the airline industry altogether.

When government is in any way involved, the threat of legalized force is strong.

And while government should be prohibited from discriminating against any group, "private individuals ... should be free to act on racial profiles if they wish," Sheldon Richman wrote in *The Freeman*.

"Thus taxi and pizza-delivery drivers should not be legally prohibited from exercising their discretion. If these profit maximizers pass up fares and sales to avoid certain areas and customers, they probably

have a good reason that has nothing to do with racism."

Richman wasn't writing about private airlines, but the principle certainly applies.

If the industry were entirely privatized — no federal subsidies, no government employees inspecting passengers at airports — any and all passengers could legitimately be inspected to the airlines' satisfaction. If airlines functioned as private businesses, they could simply warn potential passengers of inspections, and if passengers decided not to fly, they would certainly be in their rights to stay on the ground.

And the airlines could certainly hire armed guards to patrol their planes, along with developing impregnable doors to keep any potential terrorists from getting into the cockpit.

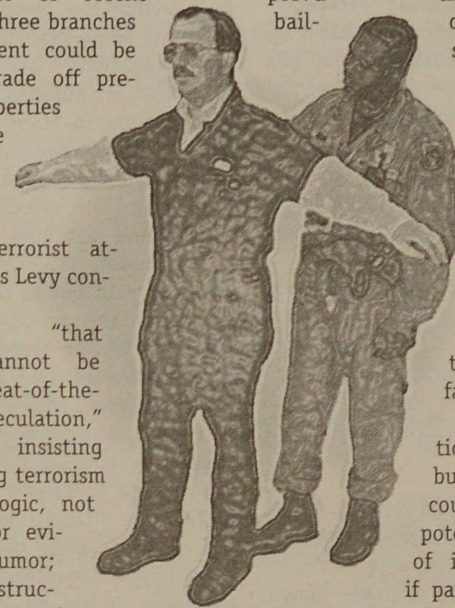
Conclusion

There is a difference between what some have termed "statistical discrimination" and racial prejudice, as Gene Callahan and William Anderson wrote in a 2001 article in *Reason* magazine.

Searching a vehicle on the highway or a passenger in an airport for simple racist reasons is objectionable; searching the same airline passenger because of a defined statistical propensity for a specific crime is arguably — while perhaps still objectionable — a necessity.

Metal detectors, shoe swabs to test for explosive material, X-ray machines and other airport security devices are here to stay. We'll continue being required to not carry pocket knives onto planes.

But it only makes sense also to apply statistical knowledge when trying to stop would-be terrorists.



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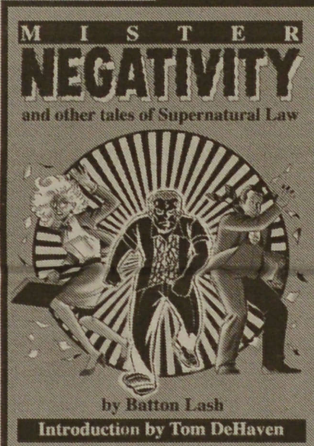
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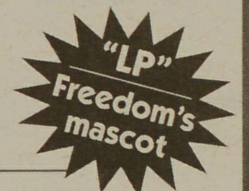
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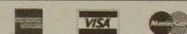
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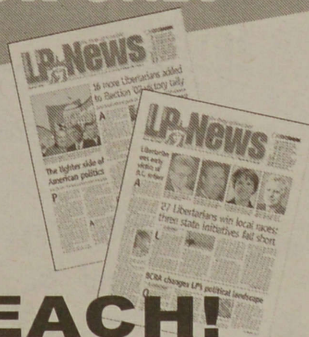
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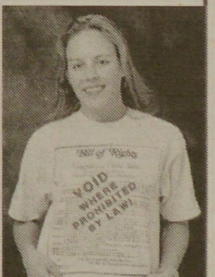
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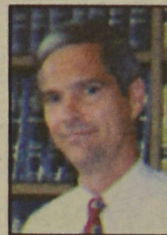
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UPCOMING

■ May 27-31, 2004

Libertarian Presidential Nominating Convention, Marriott Atlanta Marquis Hotel, Atlanta, Georgia. Speakers include U.S. Rep. Ron Paul, actor Dean Cameron, Judge James Gray, talk show host Neal Boortz, author James Bovard, Sharon Harris of Advocates for Self-Government, Michael C. Colley (retired U.S. Navy vice admiral), past LNC chair James Lark, Richard Mack (anti-Brady Bill sheriff), and LP founder David Nolan. Entertainers include blues musician Jimmie Vaughan. Questions, comments, suggestions, e-mail: convention@hq.lp.org.



■ Gray

■ June 11-13, 2004

New Mexico LP Convention, Best Western Mission Inn, Las Cruces, New Mexico. Speakers include author Vin Suprynowicz and Michael Badnarik, candidate for the LP presidential nomination. For information, call 505-378-8025 or e-mail: lplcnm@zianet.com.

■ June 11-13, 2004

Texas LP Convention, College Station Hilton Hotel, College Station. Speakers TBA. For information, call Christopher Jagge at: (979) 695-9646. Or e-mail: c_jagge@email.msn.com.



■ Lark

■ July 9, 2004

Ohio LP Convention, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Columbus, Ohio, 1-4 p.m. Nomination of candidates for public and internal office. Speaker: former LNC chair Dr. James Lark III of Virginia, an at-large member of the Libertarian National Committee. For information, call (800)669-6542 or e-mail: hq@lpo.org.

■ July 21-26, 2004

ISIL's 23rd World Conference, Novotel Rotorua, New Zealand. Sponsored by the International Society for Individual Liberty & the Institute for Liberal Values. Speakers include Elbegdorj Tsakhia (former prime minister, Mongolia), Michael Cloud (creator, *The Art of Political Persuasion*), and Rodney Hide (member, New Zealand Parliament). For information, visit: www.ISIL.org. E-mail: isil@ISIL.org. Call: (707) 746-8796.



■ Cloud

■ July 30-August 1, 2004

Louisiana LP State Convention, in New Orleans. Radisson Hotel on Canal St. The convention will nominate congressional candidates, debate the LP of Louisiana platform, and elect party officers. Speakers TBA. For more information, call contact Greg Kahn at 504-522-5000, or visit www.la.lp.org.

■ September 23, 2004

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■ October 28-31, 2004

Cato University Fall Weekend Seminar, "Arguments for Liberty: How to Defend Individual Rights and Limited Government," Le Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Canada. Sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include Tom Palmer (director, Cato University), Don Boudreaux (Department of Economics, George Mason University), and Robert A. Sirico (Acton Institute). For information, visit: www.cato-university.org.



■ Palmer

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INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** Florida lobbying blitz succeeds

■ **PAGE 5** Va. candidate pulls 43%

■ **PAGE 14** LP presidential candidates shoot it out in Texas



FIRST WORD

"Young voters know the two parties offer nothing but a cynical choice, so they tune out the political process and don't vote. The solution is simple. Young voters should reject the Republicans and the Democrats. Throw the bums out!"

"The Libertarian Party will not prosecute young voters or anyone else for victimless crimes. It will work to ... lower your taxes and allow you to live your life as you choose. It will allow you to actually save the money you earn rather than going deeply into debt just to ... get an education."

"A Libertarian officeholder will allow you to live in freedom, without the government regulating every aspect of your life. The only thing a Libertarian asks of his fellow citizens is to use that freedom responsibly and not to harm anyone else."

"If youthful voters were to stand up and vote as one group for the Libertarian Party, they would change the country forever. Republicans and Democrats could never take them for granted again. Other Americans would finally have a viable third choice besides the stale old status-quo parties. So when you walk into the ballot box in November or mail your absentee ballot, think about what throwing your vote away really means."

—TONY TORRES, *CollegiateTimesOnline*, April 30, 2004