



# Health plan

## LP project gaining momentum

**P**roject Healthy Choice made several significant advances in December and is "gathering momentum" in its goal to stop President Clinton's health care plan, reported national LP Chairman Steve Dasbach.

"We're moving forward. I'm definitely feeling a sense of progress and excitement about Project Healthy Choice!" he said. Dasbach said recent newspaper headlines show that Clinton is on the defensive about his health care plan. "That's why we need to pick up the tempo, and make sure the LP plan is discussed as one of the alternatives to Clinton's health care fiasco. The Libertarian perspective must be heard!"

"Remember, the Clinton plan will destroy jobs, jack up tax rates, abolish consumer choice, drive up costs, and guarantee health care rationing," he said. "We must defeat it."

Dasbach reiterated the three objectives of Project Healthy Choice:

### PROJECT HEALTHY CHOICE

The Libertarian Party's Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal

- To convince congressmen and senators to vote against the Clinton plan.
  - To publicize the LP Alternative Free Market Health Care Proposal.
  - To support any other proposed plan that improves the current health care situation through free market reforms.
- "How are we doing on these goals?" asked Dasbach. "Very well! In the past 30 days, the party has ..."
- Mailed the LP health care proposal to every member
- see **Project** on page 13

## New director at LPHQ

Perry Willis, a former Libertarian Party national director, has taken over the office once again.

Willis is a long-time Libertarian Party activist who served as national director in 1985-86, was finance director for the David Bergland presidential campaign, was a NatCom member in 1987, was chief of staff for the Marrou/Lord Campaign, and has worked as a development consultant for many groups.

Willis replaces Gene Cisewski, who held the position for a very short time. Explaining the change in directors, Steve Dasbach, LP national chair, said, "It became apparent that there were fundamental disagreements between Gene and the rest of the management team over the direction we should be heading, the methods we should be using, the priorities of the office and the transition, and about the role of the director. All attempts to resolve those disagreements were unsuccessful. Gene and I discussed the matter at length. After examining the various options available, we agreed that it was in the best interests of both the Libertarian Party and Gene that he resign. The Executive Committee unanimously concurred in that decision."

see **Director** on page 19

## Ratings

### Libertarians still scarce on Capitol Hill

BY DON ERNSBERGER

**T**his year's "Libertarian Rating of the U.S. Congress" again finds only a handful of members dedicated to supporting economic freedom and personal liberty causes.

The new Clinton administration has injected a host of new legislative proposals into the law-making machine in Washington, DC. Some of these proposals, such as child care leave, gun control, and NAFTA, are leftovers from previous years. New legislation on health care, striker replacement, and U.S. overseas adventurism also occupied the attention of the 103rd Congress.

Fewer than a half-dozen U.S. House members, and only two Senate members were rated "libertarian" based on the vote index that considered the 20 most important votes of the session. These votes covered a wide range of topics from economic to personal to foreign intervention issues.

In the area of economic freedom, votes included: the family leave act, major budget issues, disaster relief, bank refinancing, unemployment insurance, NAFTA, and abolition of the ICC.

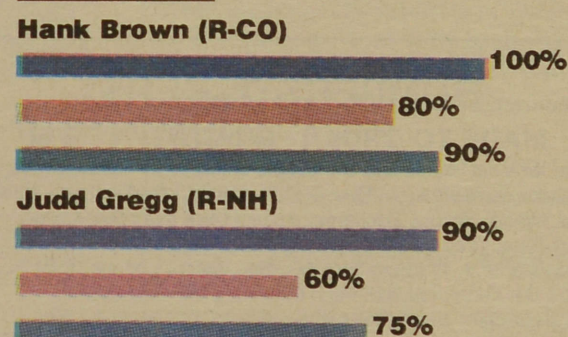
In the area of personal liberty, legislation in the index included: War on Drugs bills, gay rights, the Selective Service System, Second Amendment rights, and several votes on U.S. interventionism overseas.

In the Senate, two senators rated in the libertarian quadrant—Hank Brown (R-CO) and Judd Gregg (R-NH). Brown scored 100 percent on economic issues and 80 percent on personal liberty issues. Gregg, a freshman senator, scored 90 percent on economic issues and 60 percent on personal liberty issues.

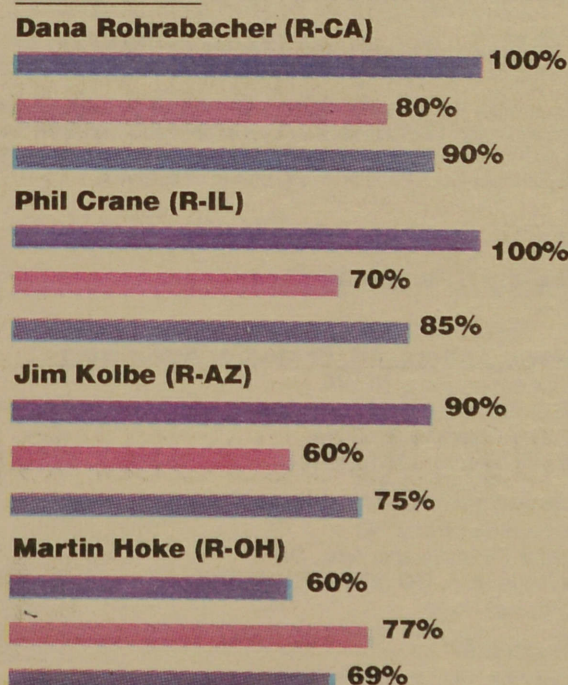
The highest rating in the House this year went to Dana Rohrabacher (R-CA)

see **Rating** on page 17

#### U.S. Senate



#### U.S. House



Legend: Blue, economic; Red, personal; Green, libertarian.

NEWS graphic by Randy Langhenry

## We're moving

The Libertarian Party NEWS offices are moving early this month. You can now write to us at: LP NEWS, P.O. Box 3391, Gainesville, GA 30503. Our new phone numbers and other information will appear in the next issue. We can still be reached at our CompuServe address as listed on page 20.

Wish us luck, y'all!



# Opportunity

## Actions of Republicans and Democrats open door for LP

As this issue of the NEWS was going to press, our Project Healthy

Choice lobbying kits were being shipped to state chairs and project contributors. Libertarians are writing, faxing, and phoning their representatives and senators; firing the opening salvo in our battle to stop Clinton's scheme to socialize health care in America.

However, to multiply our impact on issues like this, we have to multiply our membership. And thanks to Democrat and Republican politicians, we have more opportunities than ever before.

Republicans in the Senate just betrayed millions of gun owners by helping to pass the Brady Bill. They read opinion polls that indicated that most Americans favored the five-day waiting period, and their "unwavering support for the Second Amendment" vanished.

But there's more to this than the Brady Bill.

On Dec. 7, the surgeon general suggested that the government merely "study" drug legalization, to see whether ending prohibition might reduce violent crime. In the Dec. 20 issue of Time magazine, Michael Kramer described Clinton's response: "... he stomped on Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders for suggesting a study of the possibility of legalizing illicit drugs. Clinton's knee-jerk, anti-intellectual response... can be fairly summarized as 'No way, no how, not now, not ever.'"

Clinton wants to continue the war on drugs while escalating the war on guns. He won't stop until guns are first

registered, then confiscated.

These issues demonstrate the political power inherent in the LP's consistent and principled approach to politics. The war on drugs and the war on guns are related, and more and more gun owners know it.

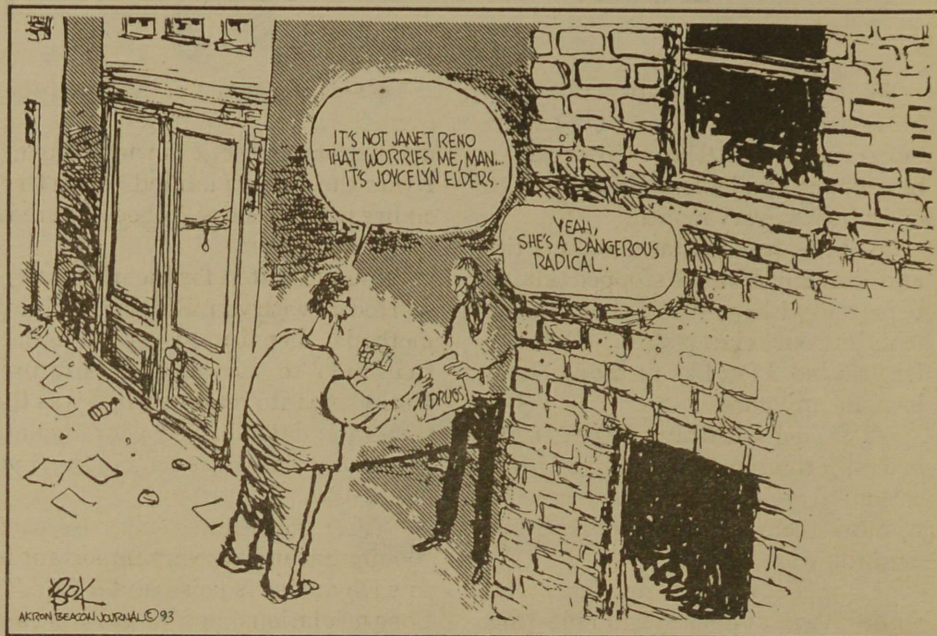
On Dec. 8, the day after Ms. Elders' comments, the LP national headquarters received a fax from member Andy Barniskis. It read: "At my gun club meeting tonight someone started to bad-mouth Jocelyn Elders for wanting to legalize drugs, but he was shouted down by gun owners saying, 'Yeah—thanks to the (bleeping) drug war our houses are going to be confiscated because we own guns, just like houses are being confiscated for drugs!'"

Exactly! But no other political party understands this connection between the war on drugs and the war on guns.

Where can gun owners turn when guns join drugs on the prohibited list? No where but the Libertarian Party.

And that's just one issue. The FDA is trying to add vitamin supplements to the prohibited list. Local school districts are trying to prohibit home schooling. Existing prohibitions in the medical field are part of the real cause of skyrocketing medical costs. And drug prohibition, not gun ownership, is a major cause of violent crime in America.

To become a major political party, a party must find a



way to build and hold together a constituency. For the Democrats and Republicans that can be loosely summarized as "I'll vote for your pork if you vote for mine," coupled with "borrow and spend today, tax tomorrow."

I believe that we can build such a constituency on the basis of "I'll support your rights if you'll support mine." As more Americans come to realize, as those gun owners did, that rights are indivisible, we will have the opportunity to experience unprecedented growth.

But it's up to all of us to make it happen. For the next three years, we must make "relentless outreach" our top priority.

Let's do it together!

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## Libertarian Party NEWS

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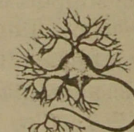
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# "Dear Michael, "Your Persuasion Tapes Saved My Marriage..."

"We've been married almost 6 years. My husband is a member of the LP. He subscribes to all the libertarian magazines and journals. He reads 10 or 12 books every month.

"He talks to everyone about politics and economics, but he stopped talking to me and with me about what matters to us and our relationship. I felt taken for granted. I felt like he didn't really love me anymore.

"I talked with him. I read a few books on relationships and communication. I went to a counselor. (He wouldn't come.) I tried everything. Nothing worked.

"I was ready to give up. One night, while he was at a libertarian meeting, I saw your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes on top of his book shelf.

"Maybe I could persuade him to talk to me...I listened to side 1 of the first tape. Your recipes for quickly creating rapport made sense to me. So did your keys to powerful communication...

"When my husband got home, I told him I had listened to side 1 of your first tape and asked him to practice your rapport recipes with me. We practiced for about 30 minutes. The next thing I knew we were talking about us, our relationship, our marriage and our life together. We talked 3 hours. It seemed like minutes.

"We have listened to your tape set 8 or 9 times. We practiced all the skills you teach. We started listening to and talking with each other. Now we really communicate.

"I finally understand why my husband is a libertarian. I've read 8 libertarian books in 6 weeks and discussed them with my husband. Now I'm a real libertarian, too.

"Michael, your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes saved my marriage.

P.S. "We are expecting our first baby late this year."

*Name withheld by request*

"I'm a Christian Libertarian. While I've always felt uncomfortable discussing my Christian beliefs with libertarians, I've felt even more uncomfortable discussing my libertarian beliefs with my fellow Christians.

"Your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes gave me the confidence and skills I needed to bring libertarianism to my church. Your story on 'the Judas Bargain' hit me deep. I'm getting powerful results with your 'Political Cross-Dressing' and 'Words Are Weapons' techniques.

"Liberty cannot triumph in America without the support of millions of my fellow Christians. Reaching them will be my special libertarian 'ministry'.

"God Bless you, Michael."

*B.L., New York, New York*

"...Michael, your Persuasion Tapes earned me \$12,000. I was 1 of 4 candidates for a promotion in my company. I was the least qualified. I don't socialize with the boss. Nobody figured I had a real chance.

"When I went in for the interview, I started off with your Rapport building methods, then I used your 'Intellectual Judo' to turn objections to promoting me into reasons why I was the best candidate. I used your 'Isolate the Concern' tactic to handle the final issue.

"After 35 minutes, my boss said, 'Communication is very important to this job and so is poise under fire: Congratulations, you've got the promotion.' Your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes earned me a \$12,000 a year promotion in 35 minutes."

*R.S., Los Angeles, CA*

"My letters-to-the-editor used to make people angry. Since I started using your Political Persuasion methods, people started sending in letters agreeing with me."

*T.L., Toronto, CANADA*

"...anyway, I got fed up listening to my sociology professor praise welfare statism. One day, after class, I got him alone and used your 'Welfare Junkies' argument on him. It stopped him cold! He asked if I could recommend any books on the subject. I told him I'd bring one by later.

"Michael, that's when I called you. I followed your advice to the letter. I bought a copy of Charles Murray's *LOSING GROUND* - and sold it to my professor. You're right, if I'd given it to him I'd be practicing intellectual welfare, encouraging him to believe in something for nothing and he'd have had no financial investment in reading the book.

"Well, he read the book and asked for more. I gave him a *Laissez Faire* Books catalog (he bought several books over the phone while I was there) and a *CATO* catalog.

"My professor is on his way to becoming a libertarian. Think of how many thousands of students he will influence with libertarian ideas - thanks to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes."

*R.J., Madison, WI*

"...I'm a competent, trained Psychiatrist, but I was stuck. He was the most resistant depressive I've ever treated.

"In frustration, I tried your 'Intellectual Judo' method on him. I agreed with his depression. I embraced his position. I added to it, accelerated it and re-directed it.

"He started laughing. We talked. Then we started making progress..."

"Michael, your persuasion techniques are powerful. I regularly use them with clients, colleagues, friends and family. Your methods have improved all my relationships."

*Name withheld by request*

"...I was one of the thousands of aerospace workers laid off. Not only was I out of work but I was competing against these thousands for a shrinking number of jobs here in California.

"For 3 months I got nowhere. One afternoon, I listened to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* tapes again. (I bought them a year ago.)

"I started using the Rapport building steps, the Onus of Criterion and Political Cross-Dressing during every interview. In 2 weeks, I got 4 job offers. I'm now back at work. Michael, tell libertarians that your Persuasion tapes aren't just for politics...they got me a job."

*B.N., Orange County, CA*

"I'm a 74 year old retiree. I call in to several radio talk shows. People used to tell me that my libertarian ideas were crazy...Now they ask me to tell them more - thanks to your *Essence of Political Persuasion* Tapes."

*A.J., Denver, CO*

Why don't more people seriously think through the libertarian arguments and evidence you give them?

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**1. THEY DON'T BELIEVE YOU.** You're telling them the opposite of everything they heard in school, church, on TV and from their family and friends.

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- ☐ Question Authority
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- ☐ Bring U.S. Troops Home
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The United States Postal Service requires us to notify you that LP NEWS subscription cost of \$25 per year is included in your membership dues. The Internal Revenue Service requires us to print "contributions are not tax-deductible" on all fund-raising appeals. Federal Election Commission requires us to ask for your employer and occupation.

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# Affiliates

## Outreach, new local groups, candidates, and more

### California

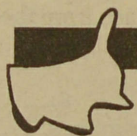
Syndicated radio talk show host **Gene Burns** can now be heard on station KSFO, 560AM, in the San Francisco area. Burns's show airs by tape delay on Saturday morning and Sunday evening. Libertarians are urging the radio station to carry Burns live during the week. You can contact KSFO, 300 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94133.

### Florida

The **Florida Tax Cap Committee** is sponsoring a petition to place a state constitutional amendment on the ballot to require that all proposed taxes (defined as new taxes, tax increases, or removal of existing tax exemptions) must be approved by the voters of that particular taxing entity. All taxing entities in the state are covered. This is a non-partisan effort, but at least two county coordinators are also local LP chairs, including **Marshall Sutherland**, Alachua County chair. For more information write the LP of Alachua County, P.O. Box 90144, Gainesville, FL 32607-0144.

### Indiana

In late September last year the **Libertarian Party of Northern Indiana** hosted a public forum in Kokomo with guest speaker **Linda Thompson** from the American Justice Federation (AJF). Thompson showed



### National pulse

#### News from the states

the video she had produced entitled "Waco: The Big Lie," dealing with last year's Branch Davidian incident. The LP forum, which was advertised in two newspapers and on two radio stations, was attended by more than 175 people. The video can be ordered for \$20 from the AJF at 317-780-5204.

### Minnesota

LP chapters are forming throughout the state. College Libertarian clubs have organizing committees at **Moorhead State University** and at the **University of Minnesota-Duluth** campus. Local groups are also organizing in **Isanti-Chisago**, **Fergus Falls-Detroit Lakes**, **Alexandria**, **Bemidji**, and **Mankato**. In addition, the LP of **Winona** is becoming revitalized.

### New Hampshire

Two Libertarians, **State Rep. Calvin Warburton** and **Clarence Blevens**, have already announced their candidacies for governor in next year's election. **Steve Winter**, LPNH treasurer, is also expected to announce his candidacy.

### Oregon

The state party has been involved in "Operation 1/7th," a survey of all regis-

tered Libertarians in the state. The name comes from a comparison to icebergs, because only one-seventh of an iceberg is visible from the surface. The purpose of the survey is to learn about inactive Libertarians. The project is headed up by **Susanne Friend**, with help from **Judy Aho**, **Mary Tiffin**, **Maurice Aho**, **Bill Roberts**, and **Julie Burke**.

### South Carolina

"Taxpayers are rising up in more counties to limit local taxation and waste," reports **John T. Harlee**. Signatures of more than 15 percent of the voters have been collected in Beaufort County, and drives are under way in Charleston, Dorchester, Fairfield, Greenville, Lexington, Newberry, and other counties.

According to a home rule law, when a county council is presented with a petition by 15 percent or more of the voters, the council must adopt the petition or hold a referendum within 12 months. When the Beaufort County Council refused to obey the home rule law, the council was taken to court by the county taxpayers. Harlee is trying to get a petition drive under way in Florence County.

### Texas

Local Libertarians and members of the **Fully Informed Jury Association (FIJA)** are making plans regarding the upcoming

Branch Davidian trials in San Antonio.

Ten thousand FIJA brochures have been printed and distribution is under way at both the county and federal courthouses.

The trial date is set for Jan. 10, and plans are being made for demonstrations on that date.

For more information, call FIJA at 406-793-5550.

### Wisconsin

The **Libertarian Party of Washington County** has completed Project 10,000, which got more than 10,000 brochures about the LP into hands of county voters.

Volunteers went door-to-door and distributed copies of "The Five Most Commonly Asked Questions About the Libertarian Party" to all households in West Bend and most households in Kewaskum, two cities about 40 miles north of Milwaukee.

Local party leaders said many people in Washington County had heard of the LP but didn't know exactly what it stands for. "And now they know what we stand for, before they form any misconceptions about libertarianism," said **Ann Kutz**, vice chair of the county LP.

Among the calls asking for more information was one from a man who has already stepped forward to run for office in 1994.

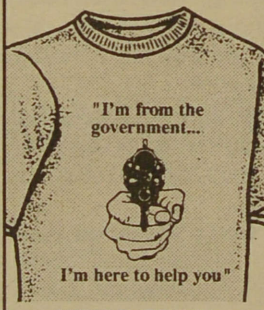
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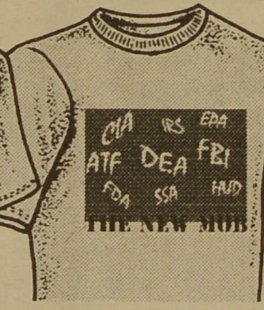
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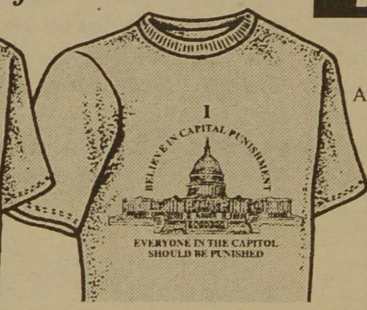
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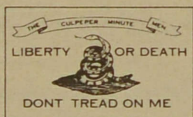
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## St. Louis Libertarians battle garden tax

St. Louis City Libertarians successfully campaigned against the Missouri Botanical Garden property tax that appeared on the Nov. 2, 1993, ballot.

Despite a \$1,000,000 campaign to promote the tax, voters turned down the proposal by almost a two-to-one margin.

Libertarians received good coverage, including an appearance by City Party Chairman Jim Morrison on the local ABC television affiliate the evening before the election.

Two thousand flyers, entitled "Five Good Reasons to Vote No," were distributed in south St. Louis. In the 12th Ward, which

Libertarian volunteers saturated, more than 80 percent of the voters cast "no" votes.

Helping with the Libertarian campaign were Steve Schaper, Ed Hoag, Bob Pieper, Dan Smith, Barb Morrison, and Jim Morrison.

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## Campaign training workshop to be offered in Pennsylvania

A two-and-a-half-day version of the campaign workshop that was presented in Salt Lake City at the Libertarian Party national convention is being offered to LP activists and others. It will take place from the afternoon of Friday, April 29, through Sunday, May 1, at the Best Western in Harrisburg, PA. The prices are as follows:

	2-day event (Sat & Sun)	2-1/2-day event
Before Feb. 18, 1994	\$150	\$175
After Feb. 18, 1994	\$200	\$225

No reservations will be accepted after April 15, and there will be no registrations at the door.

We have been guaranteed the rock-bottom room rate of \$38/night, assuming we get a minimum of 60 attendees. Make your own reservations at the motel, referring to the LIBERTY CAMPAIGN WORKSHOP for the special rate. Call the Best Western Harrisburg at 1-717-774-1100.

Send check for the registration fee to: Dan Karlan, 97-A Manhattan Ave., Waldwick, NJ 07463; but make the check payable to LIBERTY CAMPAIGN WORKSHOP. Include a mailing address and (optional) daytime telephone number with your check. Within a few weeks, you will receive the workshop books so you can get a head start on the studies.

If you are serious about learning how to run an effective Libertarian campaign, you must consider attending this workshop. Try to arrange your schedule so you can attend the entire two and a half days. The workshop will open at 1 p.m. on Friday, and at 8:30 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. There will be mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks, and each day's session will conclude at about 5 p.m.

Anyone within driving distance of central Pennsylvania — including West Virginia, northern Virginia, eastern Ohio, and western New York (this list is not meant to exclude any region of the country) — is welcome to attend, learn, and grow from the experience.

The books alone cost \$160 if ordered directly from Sal Guzzetta, the workshop leader, so for just another \$15, you can learn at the hands of the master! One more teaser: The profit (and we do expect to make a profit) will be distributed to the affiliates of those attending, in proportion to their number among the attendees!

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# Lessons learned

## Libertarian reflects on his campaign and offers advice

By RICHARD H. TIMBERLAKE

Just more than a year ago, this retired fuddy-duddy economics professor ran a political campaign as a Libertarian in an effort to unseat an incumbent, female, Democrat, statist, city-county commissioner in Athens-Clarke County Georgia. (Athens and Clarke County have been a consolidated political entity since 1990.)

I was unsuccessful. I lost by a 64-36 percent margin, while Libertarian candidates for state and federal offices on Georgia ballots were losing 95-5 and 97-3. My experience in managing to get a "respectable" division of the local vote taught me some lessons that Libertarian Party candidates and information sources, such as the NEWS, seem not to have recognized or publicized. It also taught me how difficult it is to challenge an entrenched party-politician.

Long before my political campaign, I was a constant critic of local government policies, particularly government "enterprises," such as the local transit system and the downtown parking decks. (Yes, there are two. But pity poor Meridian, MS, where there are three 10-story decks, all of which are now closed!)

The most recent effort of the local downtown special interests to leach taxpayers' money began about eight years ago as an

initiative to build a downtown civic center. Indeed, from just casual observation, the civic center epidemic seems to be almost universal. Downtowners everywhere are trying to prevent the depreciation of central city property values by building civic centers and transit systems in an effort to reverse the yuppie exodus to the suburbs. In spite of their efforts, downtown businesses have given way to peripheral shopping centers and malls.

The proposed Athens-Clarke civic center became a much more serious threat to the community's welfare than the ongoing, almost riderless bus system. Local politicians at the urging of downtown establishment biggies brought the center into existence in a package of public projects that became a popular referendum in 1987. The bundle of items included a new library, a mandated addition to the jail, and other projects that all told would cost about \$35 million. The civic center was by far the largest item. It would absorb about \$24 million, slightly more than two-thirds of the total. The revenues to pay for this complete smorgasbord would come from a local 1 percent addition to the state's 5 percent sales tax, making the tax 6 percent in Clarke County.

I opposed this program by spoken and written word, but it passed in 1987 by about a 70-30 percent vote. The 1 percent addi-

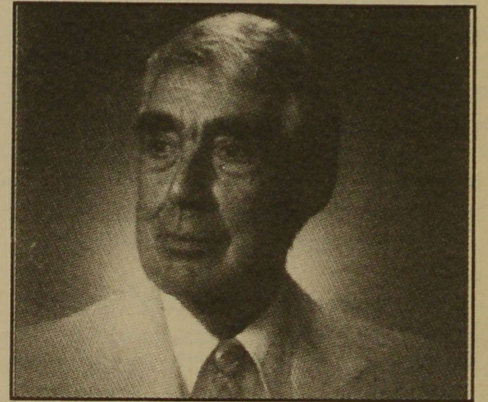
tional tax was duly imposed, and sales tax money accrued in the local government's interest-bearing account for the next four years.

About 1990-91, however, two new developments threw some doubt into the civic center portion of the program. First, a lot of furor surfaced among various groups over design details of the civic center—what features should be included, what left out, and so on. Second, many people, given time to think about it, had serious second thoughts over its feasibility. Given that it would be built with sales tax money collected from out-of-town aliens (a false presumption that downtowners enlist everywhere to sell their "enterprises"), the guaranteed losses the civic center would incur over the indefinite future would have to be borne primarily by local property owners. These two negative factors set in motion a popular effort to stop the whole project by means of a second referendum. The already collected money plus interest could then be used for debt reduction and lower millage rates on property taxes.

I became a part of the anti-civic center movement. By circulating petitions much like a drive for ballot access, our "coalition" established the fact that a very large popular majority of city-county residents no longer wanted any civic center, and certainly not the expensive plan currently on the drawingboard. Our group periodically presented these signed petitions and arguments to the 10 members of the city-county commission at their meetings when citizen input was tolerated. The response of at least eight of the 10 members was: "Ho hum. Don't bother us. We are going to build the civic center no matter what you or any foolish majority wants."

This callous and arrogant response so shocked and disgusted me that I determined to test the issue at the polls. Accordingly, on my 70th birthday in June 1992, I went to the board of elections office and plunked down the \$300 qualifying fee, plus the necessary signatures to get me on the ballot as a Libertarian candidate in November against the Democratic, pro-civic center incumbent.

Other elements entered the picture. In July, the Democratic primary featured two candidates who were mildly anti-civic center against two incumbents, including my



Richard Timberlake

November opponent, who were pro-civic center. The incumbents both won by very small margins. (Three other council races were virtually uncontested, so provided no political answer on the issue.)

Through August, September, and October, I campaigned actively. I was willing to suffer the fate of winning the office if that was what it would take to stop the civic center. I subscribed to local radio spots, ran political ads in the morning and evening daily newspaper (a major downtown proponent for the civic center), and in the local weekly newspaper. I also circulated three brochures at different times spelling out my position as a Libertarian against taxes, government intervention, and particularly the civic center. My campaign manager was, strategically, the former Democratic candidate who had lost by a small margin in the July primary. I felt that such a person—a solid-citizen conservative Democrat—would allay anyone's fear about my "radical" Libertarian ideas. The weekly newspaper also endorsed me prior to the election, and even the editor of the daily predicted I would win.

My voting district includes about 8,000 adult residents of which 5,600 were registered to vote. On election day, Nov. 4, 1992, 3,200 people voted in this district at two different precincts. I received 1,150 total votes, and my incumbent opponent had 2,050 votes. So I lost—by Libertarian standards not badly, but in "democratic" terms decisively.

The election emphasized many technical political factors and circumstances that were not easy to foresee. George Bush on the ticket as the Republican presidential candidate was so unpopular that many people voted the straight Democratic Party ticket without heed to specific local races. A Georgia voter may vote a straight party ticket by pulling two levers, one for the presidential and vice presidential candidates, and one for all the other party candidates for office. The voter can thereby "vote" without needing to think or know anything about individual candidates or issues. Local journalists claim that this system contributes to "feel-good democracy" by making voting easier and quicker thereby encouraging a greater total vote. In fact, it aggravates voter irresponsibility, discourages challenges to entrenched incumbents, and solidifies dominant party hegemony.

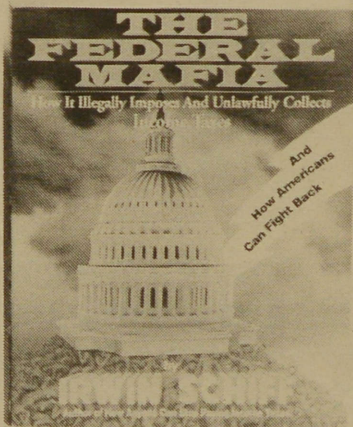
Straight party voting is a serious handicap to a non-major party candidate, but it

see **Lessons** on page 9

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# Lessons

continued from page 8

could be greatly abated if candidates for public office everywhere were allowed to qualify with two or more political parties. Some election codes in states such as New York and, more particularly, New Hampshire, permit two-party qualifying. In New Hampshire, all four Libertarians who have won elected positions in the state legislature qualified and ran as two-party candidates—three as Libertarian-Republicans and one as a Libertarian-Democrat. If I could have qualified with both the Libertarian and Republican parties and run as a Libertarian-Republican, I would have had two political parties backing me and my name would have been placed more con-

spicuously on the ballot.

Libertarian Party candidates have made many good suggestions from their experiences in running for public office. Yet even the successful foursome who were elected in New Hampshire seem not to realize how much of their success is due to their double endorsement by one of the major parties as well as the Libertarian Party. If the Libertarian Party would work to get two-party qualification in other states, and concentrate resources in states where double-qualifying is possible, Libertarian Party candidates would realize significant gains. Many well-meaning but unsophisticated

voters need to know that Libertarians are not kooky, and an endorsement by a major party helps provide this assurance.

A second technical aid to Libertarians would be a ban on straight ticket voting. Voters would then have to make a deliberate choice for each candidate rather than let the dominant major party do it for them. Many voters who did not know the positions of candidates for a given office would simply not bother to vote for either one.

Finally, Libertarians who run in local elections and can feature a hot local issue that has widespread popular support against some establishment group's special inter-

est have the best chance of mounting a serious challenge. True, these opportunities do not occur very often; but when they do, Libertarians can realize 25 to 50 percent of the vote. While they may not get enough to win, Libertarians would begin to appear as viable candidates who deserve a place in the sun, and would thereby set up the conditions for a better showing the next time around.

*Richard H. Timberlake is a retired economics professor at the University of Georgia and author of a new book, "Monetary Policy in the United States," published by the University of Chicago and the Cato Institute.*

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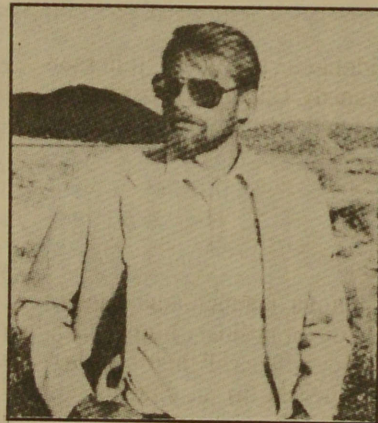
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# Commitment

*Libertarian officeholder  
tells how to succeed  
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**When Sandy Harmon was appointed to the Tonopah (NV) Town Board in November, it was just the latest chapter of a 10-year climb from obscurity to political respect.**

**It's also an inspiring story—one that can serve as a blueprint for other Libertarians hoping to get into public office.**

What's his secret?

"You have to get active in your local community. Sure, it's important that we win elections at local, state, and federal levels—but it's equally important that Libertarians are credible enough to be appointed to office," said Harmon, Nevada LP state chair. "Such appointments help put Libertarians in a positive public light."

The story of how Harmon earned his appointment on the Town Board—less than a decade after moving into Tonopah, a small town of 5,000 people—is illuminating for Libertarians. It is a story of hard work, perseverance, and community activism with a Libertarian slant.

"I moved to Tonopah with my wife and two children in 1984, and set up shop as a mechanic," recalled Harmon. "It's tough to go into business when you are unknown. We really starved for a while! Because I had two young kids in school, I immediately became active in the PTA."

Harmon had been a registered Libertarian for several years but hadn't been active. "I had no political ambitions back then!" he admitted with a laugh.

But Harmon did run for office in 1988 when the LP state chair asked him to file as a "paper" candidate for state senate. The experience profoundly changed his philosophy on running for office.

"At first I figured I'd just file and see my name on the ballot," he said. "But when I received invitations to speak, I decided to go. Unfortunately, I was repeatedly embarrassed because other Libertarian paper candidates never appeared in public! Some did appear, but acted wacky. I decided it was time to change the way things were

done."

Harmon finished last in that three-way race, with 5 percent of the vote. But the election served as a wake-up call, and Harmon got more involved in his community.

"I joined the B.P.O. Elks and was elected an officer of the lodge. I volunteered for numerous charities, became active in the chamber of commerce, and began attending every Town Board meeting," he recalled.

"Before long, friends urged me to put my name in for appointment to the Town Board. But I lost out because I hadn't attended many meetings yet, and wasn't considered serious. Well, I got serious."

By 1990, Harmon's election activities picked up speed. He ran for state assembly—this time with a serious campaign. He raised more than \$6,000 and won 15 percent of the vote. But even in his losing effort, he received considerable recognition from the press.

Even more interestingly, business and political leaders began soliciting his opinions on various issues. Why?

Harmon explained: "I had learned that voters don't want to hear a candidate spouting a rote party line. They want candidates who give thoughtful answers instead of quotations and theories. People started coming to me because they had confidence in my commitment to the community—and they saw me practice my political beliefs rather than simply talk about them."

In 1992, Harmon's hard work paid off. When a vacancy appeared on the Town Board, Harmon was asked by board members and several elected officials to put his name in. He was selected from a field of three by Democratic Gov. Bob Miller, who made the appointment based on numerous letters of recommendation from local leaders.

Harmon served on the board from April until the following January. "During my tenure, I spent considerable time with the town manager, the fire chief, and the convention center crew in order to learn exactly how things worked," recalled Harmon. "The town manager said I was the only board member to ever bother spending the time to learn about the town and make informed decisions."

Unfortunately, Harmon lost his re-election bid by a heartbreaking 19 votes.

But, again, Harmon didn't let the loss slow him down. He soon joined the Southern Nevada Private Industry Council, the body that oversees the Federal Job Training Partnership Act in southern and central Nevada, eventually being elected president

of the PIC Rural Council. He also joined the local Masonic lodge.

In 1992, Harmon's political activities took an unexpected turn. Asked if he would assist a well-respected member of the community in a bid for assemblyman, Harmon agreed—even though the man was a Democrat.

"I knew he was Libertarian in his heart, and would be much better than the Republican incumbent," he explained. "Who cares what the political label is if we can have a voice in the legislature? And, sure enough, after he won, he spent time and effort to promote bills the Nevada LP liked, and worked against those deemed bad."

After the election, Harmon worked as the assemblyman's aide, dealing with constituents—and gaining more recognition. "The other two parties still haven't come to grips with the reality of a Libertarian helping a respected Democrat," he said, smiling.

During the 1992 campaign season, Harmon also remained active in the Libertarian Party. He chaired the Candidate Resource Committee, sent out regular mailings to all Libertarian candidates, kept a list of all public events that LP candidates could attend, and wrote press releases.

In late 1993, Harmon's perseverance paid off again. When a new vacancy opened on the Tonopah Town Board, he was again appointed by the governor to fill it.

And again, Harmon saw this as an opportunity to practice his political philosophy: "I want to show again that I'm more action than talk, that I really care about where I live, and that I'm not just a political opportunist. I strongly believe in making positive

“

**People started coming to me because they had confidence in my commitment to the community—and they saw me practice my political beliefs rather than simply talk about them.**

”

changes in my community, my state, and my country—and I believe that the Libertarian philosophy is the best path for those changes."

Harmon admitted he feels pride about what he's accomplished. "I have worked hard for the respect of my fellow citizens—respect for me as well as my political beliefs. Best of all, the Libertarian label is now one of respect, not the butt of jokes!"

But he also has a stern message for all other would-be Libertarian politicians: "If you are not willing to work for the betterment and respect of your community—whether a small town like mine or a large city—you're a fraud. Such fraud works in the other parties . . . but remember, we're the party of principle!"

Strong words? "You bet," said Harmon. "But they appear to be working!"

**Start the year off  
right - join the  
Libertarian Party!  
see page 4**



# 1993: The Year in Review

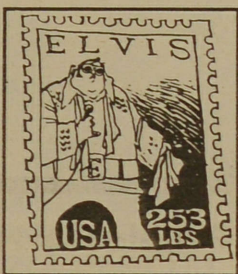
## January

1 - President-elect William Jefferson Rodham Kennedy Clinton, preparing for the task of being the most powerful human on Earth after 4,000 straight months on the campaign trail, sits down with his top aides and a complete set of the World Book Encyclopedia to learn about all these foreign countries.

7 - The Clintons, staunch advocates of public education for ordinary humans, announce that they will enroll their own personal child, Chelsea, in an elite private school.

9 - The U.S.

Postal Service releases the new Elvis stamp, which weighs 253 pounds and is affixed to the envelope via peanut butter. The Clintons enroll Socks the Cat in Georgetown law school.



13 - The nomination of Zoe Baird, Clinton's choice for attorney general, appears to be in trouble following reports that she is an illegal alien.

16 - In a highly symbolic display of symbolism, Bill Clinton and Al Gore begin a historic ride from Monticello, near Charlottesville, VA, to Washington, in the exact same bus that Thomas Jefferson used.

18 - In a disturbing omen, the Clinton-Gore bus, having changed direction over 250 times, is still in the Monticello parking lot.

20 - The Clinton Inauguration (Official Theme: "Let's Beat The Word 'Hope' To Death") goes off without a hitch. New President Clinton tells the nation that his "No. 1 priority" will be "jobs, a tax cut for the middle class, deficit reduction, health care, NAFTA, crime, dental hygiene, litter control, jogging, hair care, foreign affairs, and establishing control over the weather."

23 - Zoe Baird is forced to withdraw her name from nomination following a tense 18-hour standoff with agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. President Clinton, exploring the White House, goes down into the basement and is shocked to discover a large federal budget deficit.

24 - Violently anti-American pro-terrorist religious fanatic Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman arrives in New York with a suitcase containing 100 pounds of high explosives and a detailed map of the World Trade Center. He tells U.S. immigration authorities he is here "to see a Knicks game."

## February

5 - A bill is introduced in the Florida State Legislature that would guarantee the right of mothers to nurse their infants in public. Sen. Bob Packwood flies in to lend his support.

9 - President Clinton announces that he is sending troops "into this blue-colored country next to this pink-colored country here."

15 - After a frantic search, President Clinton picks Janet Reno to be his attorney general, citing her "tremendous height." Sen. Bob Packwood is hospitalized after he attempts to give Reno what his aides claim



## On the light side

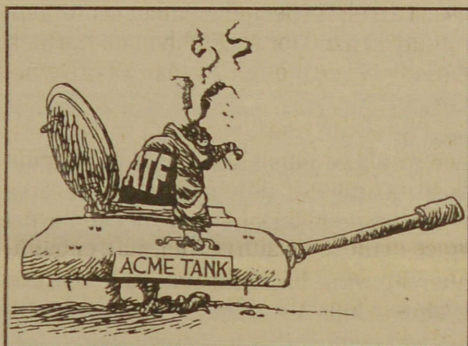
**Dave Barry**  
Columnist

was "only a congratulatory hug."

16 - Revealing his new tax plan, President Clinton states that, because of this deficit thing, he will have to increase taxes, but only on the rich, defined as "anybody who owns more than one shoe."

26 - In a tragedy that shocks the nation, a massive bomb blast rocks the World Trade Center, just two days after the World Trade Center bombing episode of "Beavis and Butt-head."

28 - Near Waco, TX, agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, suspecting firearms violations in the Branch Davidian compound, smoothly execute an action plan masterminded by Wile E. Coyote.



## March

3 - Another snag develops in the effort to restore democracy to Haiti when ousted President Aristide fails to qualify for a discount plane ticket because he cannot promise the airline that he will stay over for at least one Saturday night.

8 - Seeking to reduce violence in the high schools, the New York City School Board, in a move strongly supported by the teachers, votes to ban students.

15 - True Item: Police in Miami, a city plagued by drugs, violent crime, and drivers from outer space, announce that they're going to crack down on jaywalking.

18 - Police in Miami announce that they have halted their crackdown due to the high percentage of jaywalkers who are armed and capable of turning into jayshooters.

20 - Scientists for the Tobacco Institute, after a 17-year study, release a report stating that there is "absolutely no scientific evidence" that people who purchase cigarettes do so with the intention of smoking them.

25 - On a positive note, U.S. government economists report that the job outlook is very strong if you are a U.S. government economist.

29 - In what is seen as a blow to law-enforcement authorities, the Supreme Court votes 7-2 to join the Crips.

## April

11 - In his first major foreign-policy address, President Clinton announces that he

has located Somalia on the map and decided that our mission will be to feed starving people and capture the evil fugitive warlord Gen. Mohammed Farrah Aidid so that he (President Clinton) can go over there and have a town meeting and straighten everything out.

14 - Mia Farrow, through her lawyer, presents documents linking Woody Allen to the World Trade Center bombing.

15 - U.S. prestige suffers a setback when, because of a communications foul-up, U.S. forces in Somalia deliver food to fugitive warlord Gen. Mohammed Farrah Aidid. In Waco, federal officials attempt to drive Branch Davidian cult members from their compound by using a powerful sound system to play a recording of Vice President Al Gore explaining ozone depletion. Cult members attempt to wave the white flag of surrender, but fall asleep before they can get to the window.

19 - In Waco, federal authorities, concerned about the safety of Branch Davidian children under the control of apocalyptic suicidal paranoid loons, develop a seemingly flawless plan: ATTACK THE COMPOUND WITH ARMORED VEHICLES. Everybody is shocked when the violent paranoid loons do not respond well to this.

28 - True Item: Officials in Tacoma, WA, discover that 18-year-old Frank Daltron, scheduled for induction into the Tacoma Youth Hall of Fame, is awaiting retrial on charges of first-degree murder after having admitted that he killed his mother with an ax. The Youth Hall of Fame motto is "Ordinary Youth Doing Extraordinary Things."

## May

9 - Buckingham Palace reports "very strong" sales of the three-volume Prince Charles Cellular Phone Tapes.

22 - In Los Angeles, President Clinton, acting on the advice of new public-image adviser Ed Rollins, gets a haircut.

27 - The Clinton administration fires the White House travel staff and, after "a totally objective nationwide search" for a replacement, selects Roger Clinton as the new travel director. Asked by the press about his qualifications, the President's half-brother states that he has "taken several, whaddyacallem, planes."

## June

8 - Fighting in Bosnia halts as soldiers for both sides line up to see "Jurassic Park."

14 - President Clinton, leaving himself open to charges that his administration has "gone Hollywood," nominates Barbra Streisand to the Supreme Court.

23 - A very bad thing happens to John Wayne Bobbitt only hours after the broadcast of the penis-severing episode of "Beavis and Butt-head."

30 - True Item: To compensate for minor irregularities in the Earth's rotation, official international timekeepers add one second to this day. U.S. law firms adjust their bills.

## July

3 - True Item: In the wake of a massacre at a San Francisco law firm, the head of the California Bar Association says that lawyer jokes are partly responsible.

6 - In California, police arrest 23 million people for violating the state's new anti-lawyer-joke law.

8 - In a major breakthrough, Japanese trade negotiators, after two years of stiff resistance, agree to order an American pizza.

10 - U.S.-Japanese relations suffer a major setback when President Clinton, in Tokyo to finalize the trade talks, eats the entire pizza.

18 - FBI Chief William Sessions begins to sense that the Clinton administration wants him to resign when his office is surrounded by agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.

22 - In an extremely controversial decision, President Clinton announces that his nominee for surgeon general is Lorena Bobbitt.

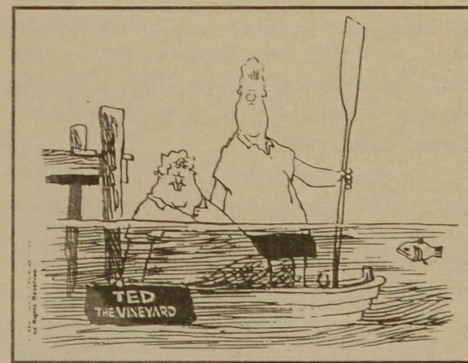
25 - The Food and Drug Administration announces a ban on products that contain ingredients.

## August

5 - Despite allegations that he has used his government access for personal gain, U.S. Commerce Secretary Ron Brown insists that there was "nothing improper" about a transaction in which he received \$75,000 from Vietnamese investors in exchange for the Department of Agriculture.

14 - After weeks of intense debate, Congress passes, and President Clinton signs, a historic budget agreement under which everybody's taxes will be jacked up retroactive to Jan. 1, 1973, and the federal deficit will absolutely, positively, with no loopholes, be reduced as soon as the polar ice cap reaches Ecuador.

24 - The Clintons, vacationing in Martha's Vineyard, go sailing with Ted Kennedy and an estimated 4,500 life preservers.



31 - An alarming new study shows that U.S. students are doing worse than ever on standardized math tests because many of them can no longer figure out how to turn on their calculators.

## September

8 - President Clinton and Vice President Gore, standing in front of two forklifts laden with enormous piles of government regulations, announce that they are going to reinvent the federal government. Everybody has a good laugh, especially the 23,475 employees of the U.S. Department of Forklift Affairs.

10 - Congress, acting with unusual speed and urgency, forms 11 new subcommittees that will hold hearings on "reinventing" government just as soon as they hire staffs

see **Review** on page 12



# Award

## State representative receives Wisconsin LP award

**State Rep. Annette "Polly" Williams received the 1993 Liberty Award from the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin.**

Williams, a Milwaukee Democrat, accepted the award in early November in downtown Madison from LP State Chair Ron Emery.

"I receive this and accept this on behalf of all parents and the entire state," Williams said of her award for her efforts on behalf of school choice.

Williams was the author of the first school choice plan in the country. It allows the parents of 1,000 inner-city Milwaukee children to attend the school of their choice.

School choice is a power struggle for parents to take their children back from bureaucracy, she said. "Parents are trying to save children. The bureaucrats are trying to save the system," she told the Liber-

tarians.

"It's taxpayers' money. They have a right to get some of their money," Williams said. She criticized those who say school choice is simply a way of funding religious schools. "We are funding parents," she said.

Many parents already use taxpayer money to send children to private schools, she said. More than 60 percent of Milwaukee public school teachers send their children to private schools, using their government teaching salary, Williams said.

The recent defeat of the California school choice referendum was just a temporary setback to the school choice movement, she said. "Just like in Eastern Europe, it's only a matter of time before the people take over. We're not going to give up."

Williams was critical of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and the teachers' union "whose purpose is not to

educate, but to employ teachers.

"Who's getting the money?" she asked. "It's not going to the children."

Williams was not reluctant to consider any alternative that would better education, including for-profit schools. "Anything would be better than what's happening right now," she said.

Busing of school children has not achieved what is needed in schools—education. "This plan is not helping our kids," she said. "All we want is for our children to be educated. I'm one of those black parents who didn't see integration as the salvation."

Libertarians and everyone else supporting school choice should keep fighting, Williams said. "You've got to open your mouths; stop being afraid," she said. "When people know you're not afraid, they can't control you."



State Rep. Polly Williams accepts the 1993 Liberty Award from Wisconsin State Chair Ron Emery.

## Review

continued from page 11

and complete fact-finding trips to see if, for example, Monte Carlo also has a government.

16 - The reinvention of the federal government continues apace as President Clinton signs an order that would eliminate the 250,000 jobs currently held by federal employees who are legally dead.

18 - President Clinton rescinds his order under pressure from the powerful Deceased Federal Employees Union.

23 - In a major address, President Clinton announces that the nation's current health-care system is bloated, inefficient, unresponsive, overpriced, wasteful, and stupid, and that therefore he wants to turn control of it over to: the federal government. Extra forklifts are brought to the White House to display the plan for the new, streamlined health-care system.

25 - Testifying on her health-care reform plan, Hillary Rodham Clinton is a huge hit on Capitol Hill as she is able, under close questioning, to correctly identify all the parts of the lymphatic system.

26 - On Capitol Hill, Hillary Rodham Clinton continues to impress congressional committees by dissecting a cadaver.

28 - The federal government announces that it will participate in a joint effort with the Big Three U.S. automakers to develop a forklift capable of lifting even larger federal plans.

### October

2 - At the government's urging, millions of Americans receive flu shots, administered by Hillary Rodham Clinton.

6 - True Item: President Clinton announces that he wants to get the U.S. out of Somalia and is therefore sending 2,000 more troops over there.

11 - President Clinton, in a troop-sending mood, sends U.S. troops to Haiti to restore democracy.

12 - Arriving in Haiti, U.S. troops are met at the docks by several dozen shouting men and what a White House spokesperson describes as "a very large dog." Presi-

dent Clinton orders them to return to the U.S. and try to restore democracy in Miami.

21 - In Los Angeles, the jury in the Reginald Denny beating trial, after much thinking, concludes that Person A is not necessarily trying to kill Person B just because Person A happens to very deliberately bash Person B's skull in with a brick. The verdict is applauded by scientists at the Tobacco Institute.

23 - An indignant Attorney General Janet Reno warns the TV industry that it had better stop broadcasting displays of gratuitous violence such as the FBI raid on the Branch Davidian compound.



### November

1 - Ross Perot claims NAFTA will permit "giant Mexican squirrels" to cross the border and bite people.

9 - In a live televised debate over NAFTA, Ross Perot, in what is widely viewed as a tactical error, bites Al Gore on the ankle; the feisty billionaire cannot be pried loose until the Vice President beats him unconscious with a hard-cover copy of "Earth in the Balance."

10 - True Item: In Irvine, CA, a cow wanders onto the San Diego Freeway. To

subdue the cow, police pump 43 bullets into it.

11 - A Los Angeles jury indicts the free-way cow for resisting arrest.

22 - On the 30th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's death, a Los Angeles jury views the Zapruder film and concludes that the shooting was a suicide.

### December

3 - After months of legal wrangling, the Senate Ethics Committee finally obtains the Bob Packwood diary, but is unable to read it because the pages are stuck together.

9 - The public becomes further outraged about the influence of television on young people following an incident wherein a 4-year-old Cincinnati girl, after watching the House of Representatives on C-SPAN, accepts large contributions from special interest groups in exchange for introducing favorable legislation.

15 - A school board in Georgia votes to ban the alphabet after concerned parents point out that it can be used to spell "Satan" as well as "penis."

18 - A sheepish President Clinton announces that he finally got around to actually READING the NAFTA agreement, and it turns out that Mexico now has 124 seats in the U.S. Senate.

27 - The Senate votes to give Texas back to Mexico. There is surprisingly little public opposition to this.

31 - In a development that deeply disturbs the international community, the *Chicago Tribune* reports that the Chinese have agreed to sell nuclear weapons to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms. We do not wish to create panic, but this news comes only hours before the scheduled broadcast of the end-of-the-world episode of "Beavis and Butt-head." It's best not to think about it.

Happy New Year.

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Illustrations by Jeff MacNelly

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### WHY ABORTION VIOLATES RIGHTS

by Doris Gordon,  
National Coordinator, Libertarians for Life  
For a copy, please send \$1.00 and a SASE to  
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# A call to pens (and phones, faxes, etc.)

By DIEDRE DENNIS

CONGRATULATIONS NAFTA SUPPORTERS!

Pat yourself on the back and reach for your lucky pen. We've oh so much more to do!

Current House Rules define media access to committee meetings as a privilege, not a right. Proponents of closed meetings (including—surprise!—Speaker Foley) say privacy is necessary to protect congressmen from lobbyists. In fact, however, this secrecy encourages the cozy relationship between elected officials and special interests by protecting congressmen from the light of public scrutiny. The two committees that use closed meetings most are Ways and Means, and Appropriations. Not coincidentally, these are also the two that raise taxes and spend them. The Ways and Means Committee approved the 1986 tax bill and the 1988 welfare bill in just such closed meetings.

Currently, meetings can be closed to the press if "a majority present" votes for clo-

sure. When considering Clinton's recent tax bill, the House Ways and Means Committee voted 23-14 to close the meeting. HR-237, the "Congressional Sunshine Proposal," would end this sneakiness. The House Rules would be amended so that a committee could close a meeting only if national security or defamation of an individual were in question. And in such a case, the vote would be made of the "total membership," not just those present. HR-237 would also delete from the House Rules the statement that media coverage "is a privilege." And finally, it would prevent granting "exclusive coverage" to any one source.

The bill is co-sponsored by Dunn (R-WA), Bacchus (D-FL), Pombo (R-CA) and Zimmer (R-NJ). (Students of term limits may want to note that each of the above sponsors was elected in or after 1990.) Since it's a new bill, you know what I'm about to say. It needs co-sponsors. HR-237 already has 130 supporters, so we're more than halfway to that magic number: 218.



Start your pens . . .

The following bills are still pending (read languishing) in congressional committees. They need support to bring them to a vote.

HR-3347, the Civil Asset Forfeiture Act, is that great bill by Conyers (D-MI) that was introduced in the last issue. It limits forfeitures by increasing burdens on the government and decreasing those on the citizen-victims. It's still "in committee" and needs more support.

HR-3145 and S-1514, a.k.a. "A Cut is a Cut," sponsored by Crapo (R-ID) in the

House and Kempthorne (R-ID) and Coverdell (R-GA) in the Senate, was also introduced last month. It requires total spending to be reduced by the amount of any program cuts. It's in the Rules committee.

HR-1709 and S-784, the Dietary Supplement Act, is a vitamin rights bill sponsored by Richardson (D-NM) in the House and Hatch (R-UT) in the Senate. It prevents the FDA from carrying out its nefarious plots against vitamin supplements. For the names of key voters, dig out your October edition of this column. Take a wild guess on where this bill is. That's right! "In committee."

If you haven't yet written or called on these bills, make your voice heard right away! If you have contacted your Congressperson but haven't received a reply, call or write again and demand to know where he or she stands on these issues.

We're two for two right now.

Let's keep the pressure on!

## Project

continued from page 1

of Congress. "It will be sitting there waiting for them when they return from vacation on Jan. 25," promised Dasbach.

- Helped LP state organizations get involved in this project. "Participating in the project can help our state affiliates gain new prospects, energize old members, and garner publicity," said Dasbach. "It also offers a unique outreach opportunity to the medical community, and can help define the LP in the public eye in a positive way. Remember, we want Project Healthy Choice to be a nationwide grassroots lobbying effort."

- Started mailing Lobbying Kits to everyone who contributed to Project Healthy Choice. The lobbying packet includes an eight-page "Briefing Paper" explaining the LP plan, gives the office phone number of every senator and representative, cites specific problems with Clinton's plan, and provides expert lobbying tips. (The package is available for a donation of at least \$25. See related article for details.)

- Added to our list of allied organizations to receive the LP plan. "We're not alone in this fight; others oppose Clinton's plan, too. We need to let them know that the Libertarians have a plan to let the free market solve the health care crisis—at a

lower cost, and without destroying our liberties," said Dasbach.

Dasbach said one of the most satisfying results of Project Healthy Choice is the groundswell of support and enthusiasm from LP members around the country.

"I've already received a whole pile of letters," he said. Dasbach quoted some highlights from the letters:

"I agree totally that we must stop the legislation that Clinton proposes. You have my wholehearted support and my vote." - J.E.C., Rolla, MO.

"This is a good proposal for a project. I hope it gets a good response from LP members." - M.O., Baltimore, MD.

"Finally! I have been hoping that the LP would get something like Project Healthy Choice going. What a great idea! Count me in!" - L.M., Fremont, OH.

"I am encouraged to see the Libertarian Party embark on Project Healthy Choice. Good luck in the coming battle. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help." - R.A.K., Little Ferry, NJ.

"These letters show that we're on the right track with Project Healthy Choice," said Dasbach. "Now we have got to keep working together to make this project succeed!"

### How you can help Project Healthy Choice:

Send a \$25 donation for the Lobbying Kit. Your contribution will help pay for this expensive project. Send the name and complete mailing address of any allied organization you think should receive a copy of our health care plan. (Include a note explaining why they should receive it, and the name of an individual person to address it to.) Send to the LP HQ, attention Bill Winter.

Send a copy of any letters you write to your Washington representatives, and copies of any replies you receive. (This way, we can track the response to Project Healthy Choice.) Again, send to the LP HQ, attention Bill Winter.

## Get the kit!

Want to participate in Project Healthy Choice Task Force in an informed, articulate, effective way? Order the Lobbying Kit!

"This comprehensive lobbying package provides you with the intellectual ammunition and lobbying skills to convince your legislators in Washington to vote against the Clinton health care plan," said Steve Dasbach.

"Unfortunately, this is an expensive project, so we can only send the lobbying kit if you contribute \$25 or more."

### The lobbying package includes:

- A scholarly eight-page "Briefing Paper" explaining problems with the Clinton plan, and illuminating in greater detail, with backing statistics and evidence, the Libertarian free market alternative plan.
- A short brochure summarizing the five-point Libertarian health care plan.
- 10 reasons to oppose the Clinton Plan.
- 12 reasons to support the Libertarian Plan.
- A list of the official Washington, DC, telephone and fax numbers for senators and U.S. representatives.
- A list of other plans being considered in Washington that are less dangerous than the Clinton Plan.
- An expanded list of expert lobbying tips, to make Libertarians more persuasive and effective.

Send donations to the national LP headquarters: 1528 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003. Include a note explaining that the donation is for the Project Healthy Choice lobbying package.



# Talking points

## Readers provide material on efficiency, welfare, more

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

Send in your submissions, with a clipping to verify the statement and the source, for inclusion in future issues of the NEWS.

Please tell us how you have used one of our quotes in a speech, letter, or pamphlet. We'd like to share your success and inspire others to make use of this column.

### Issue:

#### Efficiency in government

Vice President Al Gore and his National Performance Review want to reform the antiquated ways of government. President Clinton jumps on board "efficiency," even while promoting more and more regulation and bureaucracy. Not everyone is in love with efficiency:

"Efficiency in government is the first requirement for tyranny. We look forward to the day when most people who stay out of courthouses can declare that the government has done nothing for them or to them or with them or against them.

"Fearing Julius Caesar as much as George III, the framers of the Constitution produced a government that checks and balances itself into gridlock. The remaining impotence of our national government is our most precious heritage."

These are the words of Thomas G. Donlan, editorial writer for *Barron's*. He goes on to take issue with Gore's assertion that "ineffective government is not the fault of the people in it." Says Donlan, "Ineffective government is the fault of the people in it because ineffective people gravitate to an employer that pays less than market wages to highly skilled people and more than market wages to low-skilled people, that offers pay raises according to seniority, ironclad job security and a pension indexed for inflation."

Donlan takes exception to Clinton's assertion that the National Performance Review is "fun to read." He cites several non-humorous findings: "(T)here are roughly 700,000 federal employees whose job it is to manage, control, check up on, or audit others. This is one-third of all federal civilian workers. Not counting the suffocating impact these management control structures have on line managers and workers, they consume \$35 billion a year in salary and benefits alone." And, "The cost to the private sector of complying with regulations is at least \$430 billion annually—9 percent of our gross domestic product."

For those thinking that the GOP may be the only hope for stopping government

waste, Donlan quotes John Sharpe, a member of the National Performance Review staff: "The difference between Republicans and Democrats: They both spend every dime in the Treasury, but a Republican will tell you how sorry he was to do it."

*Barron's*, Sept. 13, 1993.

Submitted by Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

Robert H. Nelson, a professor in the University of Maryland's School of Public Affairs, recently commented on Gore's report: "In the actual final report few programs are being proposed for elimination. This is pure Washington. Vague promises for the future with hard numbers attached but few concrete proposals to make real cuts."

Nelson, who recently left the Department of the Interior after almost 20 years as an economic analyst, knows why Gore didn't produce a longer list: "As a member (of Congress) for many years, he knows very well that Congress has no appetite for anything that means pain for any constituent anywhere. As sub-committees and congressional staff have proliferated, cuts in programs now threaten the prerogatives of little empires that have grown all over Capitol Hill to supervise these programs."

In the first post-Gore report test, Congress narrowly failed to pass the Penny-Kasich bill that would have knocked a paltry 1 percent off federal spending.

*Forbes*, Oct. 11, 1993.

Submitted by Melissa Ryan, Chicago, IL.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

"According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 18.7 million Americans have government jobs, while it only takes 18.1 million to produce our manufactured products. The United States is going broke because it devotes a larger labor force to producing red tape that cripples the economy than to turning out the products of an advanced society," writes Paul Craig Roberts, chairman of the Institute for Political Economy, in a column for *Scripps Howard News Service*.

"Only a small fraction of the 18.7 million government jobs are held by policemen, firemen, and sanitary engineers. The vast bulk of government employment is accounted for by unionized school teachers and regulatory bureaucrats, claims Roberts. He cites several examples of how regulatory burdens hurt Americans: "The New England Journal of Medicine reports that 24 cents of every health care dollar is spent on regulatory and administrative costs. The Davis-Bacon Act, designed to reward unions, drives up construction costs by \$1.3 billion per year. Mandated fuel efficiency standards for cars result in lighter weight autos and up to 3,900 more deaths and 19,500 more serious injuries over the

lifetime of each model year. Economist Richard Rahn has estimated that 80 percent of the inflation rate is due to government-mandated cost increases. Regulation is so out of hand that it is now killing employment and the tax base in major cities. Anyone who wants to start a light industry in Los Angeles has to first acquire as many as 200 approvals from city, county, regional, state, and federal regulatory agencies."

*Roberts' column in the Brockton, MA, Enterprise*, July 15, 1993.

Submitted by John DeMeo, Providence, RI.

### Issue: Welfare

"Over the past 57 years, farmers have received nearly \$229 billion in subsidies. That's \$38 billion more than the federal government gave to people on welfare during the same period. But by far the biggest entitlement program—and threat to the nation's fiscal health—is Social Security. Once a safety net for U.S. workers, Social Security is now a middle-class welfare program in which bloated benefit payments threaten to bankrupt the system. According to the Congressional Research Center, the average person drawing Social Security . . . will get back every cent he or she pays into the system in less than two years. After that, it's all gravy."

*DeWayne Wickham, columnist for Gannett News Service and USA Today, in USA Today*, Aug. 16, 1993.

Submitted by Charles D. Poe, Houston, TX.

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

When he signed the "War on Poverty" legislation in 1964, President Lyndon Johnson promised us that "the days of the dole in our country are numbered." Dr. Thomas Sowell, an economist at the Hoover Institution in Stanford, CA, recalls that, "President Kennedy, President Johnson, *The New York Times*, and other dispensers of the conventional wisdom of the early 1960s were all crystal clear that reducing dependency was the purpose of the 'war on poverty'—and that a reduction in subsequent welfare spending and a reduction in urban violence were to be among the beneficial consequences."

Sowell says that, "Reality dealt brutally with these assumptions. The number of people receiving public assistance more than doubled from 1960 to 1977. The money spent on public housing rose nearly fivefold in a decade and the amount spent on food stamps rose more than tenfold. Government-provided benefits in kind increased about eightfold from 1965 to 1969 and more than twentyfold by 1974. Whether measured in money terms, in real terms, or as a percentage of the nation's gross national product, welfare spending skyrocketed."

Voices are once again heard in the land that all our problems—urban violence, homelessness, untrained and feckless youth, health crises—are related to failure to spend "enough" on welfare. Dr. Sowell sums it up: "the fact that the actual course

### Counting the Cost of Chicanery

All data are from the Statistical Abstract of the United States and are for 1990, unless otherwise specified.

• **Total persons under authority of the correctional system: 4,053,900 (prison, parole, probation).**

• **Persons in jail: 1,144,214 (688,084 in state prisons, 50,810 in federal prison, 405,320 in local jails).**

Regarding offenders sentenced to prison in U.S. District Courts:

• **Average sentence for a violent offense: 89.8 months. Persons sentenced for violent offenses in 1980: 1,770; in 1990: 1,999.**

• **Average sentence for possession of illegal drugs: 13.1 months; Average sentence for illegal drug sales: 83.5 months. Persons sentenced to prison for illegal drug offenses in 1980: 3,675; in 1990: 13,754.**

• **In 1980, \$246,344,000 in assets was seized relating to 15,727 arrests and 10,519 convictions for drug crimes. In 1990, \$1,068,268,000 was seized (\$862,361,000 by the DEA), in the course of 22,800 arrests and 15,529 convictions.**

Compiled by Bob Waldrop

of events followed a pattern directly the opposite of what was assumed and proclaimed has not made the slightest dent on many in politics and in the media. The vision of the anointed has been hermetically sealed off from the contaminating influence of facts. Recently, Walter Cronkite looked back on the Johnson Presidency and gave LBJ high marks for his good intentions. That we judge policies by the intentions of those who promote them, rather than by their actual consequences for American society, is one sign of the unreality of our times."

*Sowell's column in Forbes*, Oct. 11, 1993.

Submitted by Melissa Ryan.

### Issue:

#### Decriminalization of drugs

"Declaring the war on drugs a blatant failure, the Baltimore chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has passed a resolution calling for the decriminalization of illegal drugs. The resolution calls for movement toward treating drug abuse as a health issue and less of a crime issue. It's controversial but we have to start discussing it," said George N. Buntin, Jr., executive director of the local chapter of the civil rights group."

*Rafael Alvarez, staff writer, The Baltimore Sun*, July 31, 1993.

Submitted by Clifford Thies.

see **Points** on page 15



# Commentary

## 'Health Security' — Big Brother's great leap forward

By DAVID F. NOLAN

Way back when the Socialist Security system was first set up, everyone was assured that his account number would be used ONLY to keep track of how much dough he had accumulated in said account. No other use, period.

Well, we see how that one turned out. Nowadays, you can't do zip without coughing up your SS number. You need it to open a bank account, buy an insurance policy, get a driver's license, or even to open a charge account at any department store. Private firms like TRW and Equifax use your SS number to identify their files on you.

Of course, you can often get away with giving nosy so-and-so's any old string of digits that looks like a SS number: three digits, a dash, two digits, another dash, and then a final four digits. And in many cases you can get away with it, although it's getting more difficult as time goes by. (Incidentally, did you know that there are no SS numbers beginning with "9"? You do now.)

Still, it could be worse. To the extent that you're willing and able to deal in cash or barter, you can bypass a lot of the snoops and plunderers. The impact of the system has been confined mostly to financial affairs, although it's been spreading to other areas, as well.

**"You can dismiss my prognostications as the ravings of a cranky old libertarian nut, if you wish. But don't say I didn't warn you."**

### The Empire Strikes Back

Now that's all going to change, if Hillary Rotten Clinton, self-appointed Mother Of Us All, has her way.

If HillaryCare becomes a reality, in a few years we'll all have slick-looking little "Health Security" cards that we will have to present every time we need medical care. These little gems will contain a "smart" microchip that holds our entire medical history (and God knows what else!) and you won't be able to get your broken leg fixed without handing over your card to the friendly receptionist at St. Hillary's Clinic.

And when you do they'll run an instant computer check to see if you're "wanted" for any of 23 zillion crimes against the State. Got a gun you didn't turn in when the Feds canceled the Second Amendment? Do you owe some taxes? Child support?

Unpaid parking tickets? Gotcha!

"Oh, that'll never happen," say the perpetual Pollyannas. "And even if it did, our kindly masters would use this new power only to serve noble ends. Anti-social people who don't fully cooperate with our benefi-

cent government deserve to be cut off from medical care. All will be well."

Okay, you get my drift. And you can dismiss my prognostications as the ravings of a cranky old libertarian nut, if you wish. But don't say I didn't warn you.

## Points

continued from page 14

### Miscellaneous notes

1. "A 'temporary' 17 percent tax surcharge on businesses in the New York City metropolitan area is still going strong 10 years after it was enacted. The state legislature, which approved the supposedly stop-gap measure in 1983 to finance the upgrading of the city's mass transportation system, has just extended it for two more years."

*Brent Bowers, staff reporter, in the Wall Street Journal, July 6, 1993.*

*Submitted by Wayne Langerman, Alpharetta, GA.*

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

2. "(T)here's a reason we draft 18-year-olds and that's because they're crazy enough to run at a bullet."

*Hon. (?) Pat Schroeder (D-CO) during appearance on Buckley's Firing Line, March 26, 1990.*

*Submitted by Dick Whitelock, Ionia, MI.*

◆ ◆ + ◆ ◆

3. "But there is no necessary inconsistency between a government that is serious about the safety of its citizens and a government that wants to maintain a liberal social and political order. It all has to do with the kind of liberalism a government chooses to emphasize, whether it is the liberalism that sees government in a limited role, responsible mainly for public order and security, or government as the mother of us all."

*George Melloan, Global View column in the Wall Street Journal, Aug. 30, 1993.*

*Submitted by Ward Bond, Honolulu, HI.*

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*Bill Clinton*

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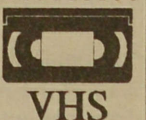
*Senator Harris Wofford*

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# Letters

## Matching funds, health care, and more

### Matching funds

In the Nov. 1993 NEWS, Jim Higgins expresses his view that accepting matching funds is un-Libertarian. He rails against the acceptance of matching funds with the presumption that they are a compromise of our principle. But he makes a fundamental mistake: "The no force principle . . . is a thing of beauty." But the unifying Libertarian principle is not, repeat NOT, a "no force" principle: it is a "no INITIATION OF force" principle.

The difference is substantial, though even some libertarians do not appreciate it. Taxation is wrong; fighting taxation is not. Murder is wrong; defending against murder is not.

Accepting matching funds is most emphatically NOT taking money from the government—it is taking money BACK from the government. Taking money is wrong; taking money back is not. There is no compromise of principle: it is justice itself. Let me emphasize that: acceptance of matching funds is not just consistent with our fundamental principle, it is an application of the principle.

If you don't understand the difference, then you believe that once the government has taxed someone, it is a done deal: as Hayakawa said (in reference to the Panama Canal), the government "stole it fair and square." I don't know any libertarian who thinks that about the local mugger or burglar; why do some of us accept that if it is the government that does the stealing?

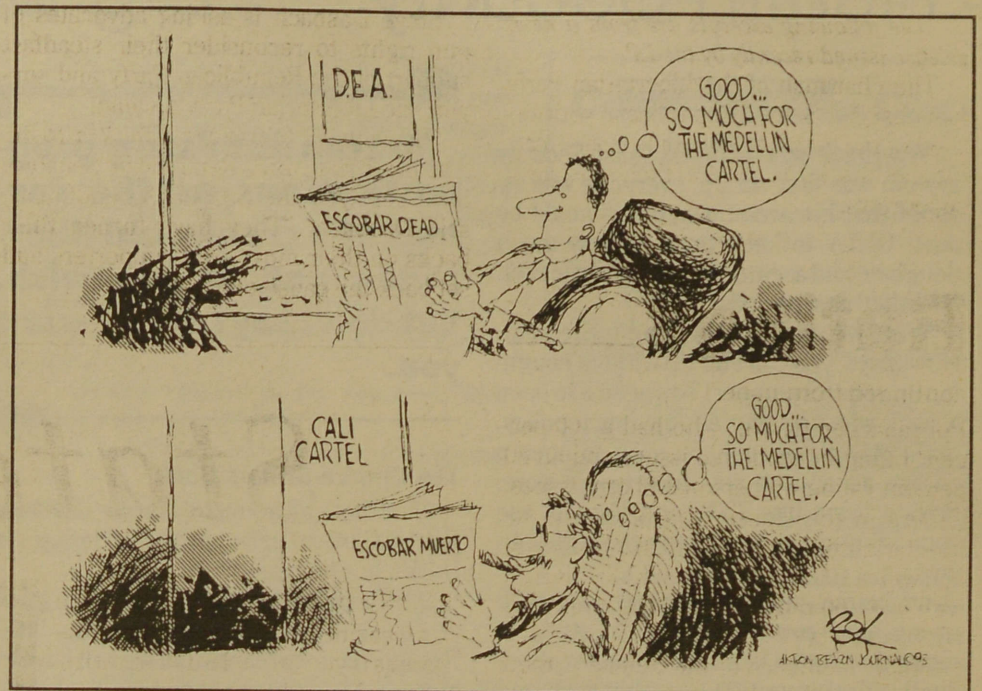
Higgins's parody that accepting matching funds means "Libertarians are against all forced transfers of wealth, except when we are on the receiving end" is nonsense. It means only we support the return of stolen property—even, but not only, if it happens to have been stolen from Libertarians. Sloppy use of that word "force" is at the basis of many misunderstandings about the Libertarian position. It is understandable in people unfamiliar with our principle and our history; it is astonishing in someone who claims to "have been a Libertarian for about 18 years."

**Dan Karlan**  
Waldwick, NJ

### Health care

The *Chicago Tribune* recently ran a front-page series on Medicare abuse. It's a scathing attack on the whole Medicare system. It cites their gross inefficiency and innumerable cases of waste and fraud. What strikes me as funny is that the *Tribune* acts surprised by this, as though they'd uncovered some deep dark secret: Uncle Sam makes a lousy CEO.

Clinton now promises that his new plan will solve all of our health care problems. As things currently stand, between Medicare and Medicaid, the government runs only about 40 percent of the nation's health care and is doing a lousy job of it. We're expected to believe that when they're running 100 percent of it, they will do it better? The only thing scarier than the thought of more government control of health care is that so many people support it. These are the same silly fools who will be surprised when Clinton's wonder plan turns the greatest health care system into a chaos of inefficiency, mediocrity, and fraud. When will people learn from their



mistakes? When will they open their eyes?

**Jason Allington**  
Chicago, IL

### Inclusion

Tad Salyards (Dec. 1993 NEWS) seemed to evidence a "single mindedness" that wrecks most marriages. The Libertarian Party must include all sources which, on balance, supports its general goals. "One-issue" thinking must be history, should we libertarians wish to prevail. We must engineer an agenda to promote what we support, and not denigrate those who support one or two other issues which we do not otherwise support. Salyards makes unsubstantiated allegations by calling "Rush" names and making accusations. Libertarians who offer indictments, must accompany them with footnotes. If we don't, we are no better than the people we intend to replace. No personal generalizations should be made.

Instead, we libertarians should take the "High Road," not by compromising our ethics but by attempting to entice newcomers to our party by our non-exclusionary attitude. A bigot under any label is just that, a "BIGOT".

**Don White**  
Lehigh Acres, FL

### Action, not words

We Libertarians have mostly just talked, for years.

Now we have a mechanism really to do something: To start cutting government, throttle the purse strings—at least to stop spending growth. Douglas Bruce got the Colorado Constitution amended to cap spending. In South Carolina, Jim Gordon (not a Libertarian) has a campaign under way to limit spending by counties. Other Libertarians have not done much to help, but I personally have collected many of the required petition signatures in three counties. The plan is to win caps in a number of counties, so that legislators on a state level will be propelled into supporting a state spending cap proposed by Jim Miles, our secretary of state, and Earle Morris, our comptroller general.

How about some of you doing similarly in YOUR state?

But we don't support such things. Mostly we just read and talk. So I don't foresee much happening consonant with my friend Gonzalo Leon's suggestion, in the Dec. 1993 NEWS, that Libertarians have a paper of national and international news, editorials, in-depth analyses, as well as a tool for dissemination of party news.

Talk won't do it. Things will happen only if we do something to MAKE them happen.

**Richard Winchell**  
Columbia, SC

### Pledge

Christopher Faille (Nov. 1993 NEWS) is right: The Libertarian Party should keep an oath. However, the oath Faille wants to supersede the current oath does not even resolve the problem he sees.

Faille proposes that the problem with the current oath is that the word "initiation" is too vague, because those who initiate violence always justify their actions (so what?). To avoid the problem of having to determine who is guilty of initiation, Faille suggests replacing the current oath with a belabored oath that basically says that I accept liability for any harm I may do to others, as I hold others liable for harm done to me. It concludes by stating, "But I make no claim upon the productive activity of anyone else in excess of that liability."

The judgment of liability necessitates the determination of who initiated the situation from which harm resulted. For instance: I might have broken your leg, but if I did so after chasing you down to regain my wallet which you stole, I am not liable for your broken leg, because you initiated the situation from which harm resulted. By having to rely upon that which he wants to avoid—the determination of initiation—the argument for Faille's oath collapses. The concept of initiation is at the core of justice; it cannot be avoided.

A more concise and ideal oath than the current oath is not possible. Let's keep it and focus our energy on deconstructing socialism, not reconstructing libertarianism.

**Ian Goddard**  
Rockville, MD



# Releases

## National Party speaks out on Brady Bill and GOP

The following excerpts are from a news release issued recently by the LP.

The chairman of the Libertarian Party has charged Senate Republicans with betraying the Second Amendment and turning their backs on some of their most loyal supporters.

Steve Dasbach is asking advocates of gun rights to reconsider their steadfast support of the Republican Party and support the Libertarian Party instead.

"By refusing to use the filibuster to defeat the Brady Bill, Republican Senators have betrayed the Second Amendment," said Dasbach. "They have turned their backs on their most loyal supporters and set back the cause of freedom."

"For years, Republican politicians have proclaimed their unwavering support for the Second Amendment," said Dasbach. "Now we see what that support is really worth."

"Republicans have assumed that supporters of the Second Amendment have no place else to go," Dasbach continued. "It's time to prove them wrong. By joining and supporting the Libertarian Party, gun-rights

advocates can demonstrate that they do have an alternative. Maybe then the Republicans will start to take their concerns seriously."

"For over 20 years, the Libertarian Party has demonstrated unequivocal support for gun rights and the Second Amendment. We are the only party that truly supports the right of every American to keep and bear arms."

## Ratings

continued from page 1

Rohrabacher (R-CA), who had a 100 percent rating in economic issues and an 80 percent rating on personal liberty issues. Others in the House who placed in the libertarian quadrant were Phil Crane (R-IL), with a 100/70 rating, Jim Kolbe (R-AZ), with a 90/60 rating, and Martin Hoke (R-OH), with a 60/77 rating.

Three members of the Senate earned scores near the libertarian quadrant, including Sens. Paul Coverdell (R-GA), 100/50, Kay Hutchinson (R-TX), 100/33, and Phil Gramm (R-TX), 90/40.

Six members of the House finished with scores near the libertarian quadrant, including Tom DeLay (R-TX), 100/50, Chris Cox (R-CA), 90/50, Jon Kyl (R-AZ), 88/50, James Greenwood, (R-PA), 80/50, Tim Penny (D-MN), 60/50, and Dick Zimmer (R-NJ), 70/40.

The 103rd Congress is a "Congress of Freshman," with more than 100 new members joining the "Capitol Hill Gang." Sadly, only two members, Sen. Judd Gregg and Rep. James Greenwood, rated better than "statist" in the index.

Several new individuals who looked like they might become part of the small "libertarian-oriented" camp were failures. These included Michael Huffington (R-CA), Tillie Fowler (R-FL), Scott McInnis (R-CO), Kenneth Calvert (R-CA), and Jay Kim (R-CA).

New members rated only slightly higher than old House and Senate members in both areas of liberty, on the average.

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# Personal experience

## Young Libertarians find no free speech in San Diego

BY STEVEN CURRIE AND LARRY LUDLOW

You might have read about California's Proposition 174, the school choice voucher initiative. If it had passed, this would have allowed students to use a \$2,600 voucher from the state to pay for education at private schools in California.

Libertarians across the state were very active in supporting Prop. 174. But the harassment by the statist education bureaucracy was unbelievable. We can speak from personal experience and from working closely with other local Libertarians.

One day in late September, my friend, Larry Ludlow, and I wanted to take the "school choice" message directly to the students. We stood on the public sidewalk at 2:30 p.m., about the time school was letting out. We were handing students a flyer Larry had designed. We gave flyers to anyone who wanted one. After a couple of minutes a security guard came out. A few minutes later the principal of the school came.

The principal demanded that we move away from the front of the school and stand about 50 yards away, where there were no students walking. We refused. He became belligerent toward Larry. He said he was going to issue an arrest warrant against us. He demanded that we give him our names. Larry refused. Then he began talking to

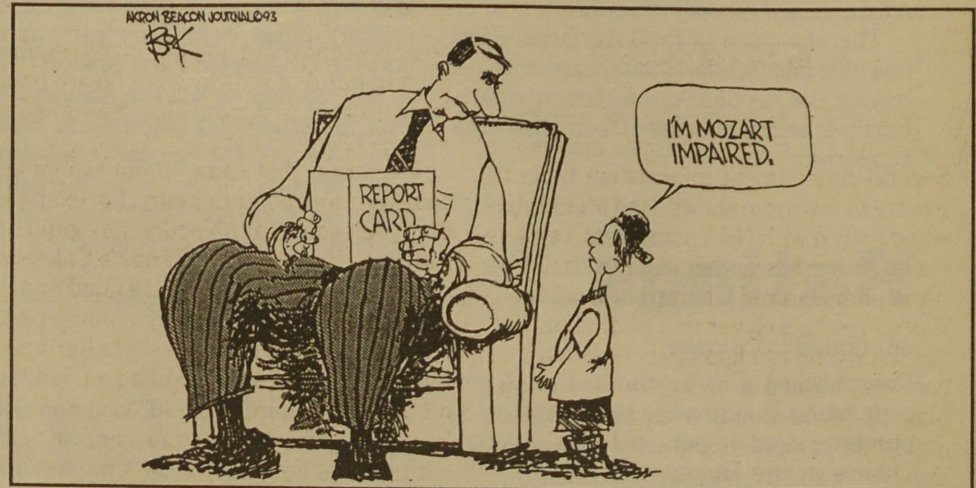
me. I said, "I am here on public property under the authority of the First Amendment of the Constitution. Under what authority are you acting?" He mumbled something about he was the principal and he had a right to do what he was doing. I told him if he wanted to have us arrested to please call a San Diego police officer. He stalked off, and we didn't see him for the rest of the time we were there.

Larry, being the ever-more-persistent Libertarian, decided to strike back. "My plan was to get one of these confrontations on video tape." So a couple of weeks later, he and another Libertarian, Tom Tanana, went to another school.

"We purposely did nothing more than hand out the flyers to the students. We didn't even say anything to them," Larry reported.

Once again, they were confronted by school staff. This time though, things got ugly. The school security guard demanded that Larry and Tom move over 200 yards away. Being on the public sidewalk, they refused. The school security guard cited some non-existent ordinance and said he would arrest the two. Tom Tanana, who is an attorney, stood his ground and said they had a perfect right to be there and they weren't leaving.

This is where it gets ugly. The security guard assisted by a second guard, who were both more than 6 feet tall and 200



pounds, tried to grab the flyers out of Larry's hands. Larry, who's about 5 feet 6 inches tall and 145 pounds, kept a hold of them. When the guards couldn't get Larry's flyers, one of them tried to grab one from one of the students. The student wouldn't let go either, so the flyer ended up ripping in half. The security guard stomped off yelling he was going to have assault charges filed against the pair.

What the guard didn't know was that the whole incident was caught on video tape. Larry issued a press release detailing the infringement by a government agent against him. Of course, the local school district issued an immediate denial. The next day, Larry called a press conference in front of

the local school district office and presented the video tape to the local media.

"This incident just proves that the government education cabal will go to any lengths to protect their turf," said Larry at the press conference. The tape aired that night on one of the local news programs.

Larry Ludlow and I weren't the only people hassled by school bureaucrats. One San Diegan was actually cited, while on a public sidewalk. Another friend of mine was threatened with arrest while passing out flyers on the sidewalk in front of the San Diego County fairgrounds.

These incidents just show the length to which the government bureaucrats will go to protect their monopolies.

## Quote of the Month

The following quote is an excerpt from a front-page story in the Dec. 2, 1993, issue of *Investor's Business Daily*. The article was written by Claude R. Marx.

"Long consigned to the political wilderness and dismissed as a fringe element, libertarians are seeing their ideas accepted by state and local governments, once the undisputed turf of Democrats.

Regional governments increasingly are adopting free-market policies originally developed by libertarian thinkers, making what were once considered extreme views part of the mainstream.

The idea behind libertarianism is simple: give individuals maximum control over their own destiny with a minimum involvement of government at any level.

The works of English political philosopher John Locke and Austrian economists F.A. Hayek and Ludwig von Mises serve as the intellectual underpinning for modern libertarian thought.

Libertarian scholars attribute the recent growth in influence to increasing skepticism about the effectiveness of growing government authority.

'People are turning away from big government and centralized solutions because they don't work and toward more reliance on free markets and individual choice,' said David Boaz, executive vice president of the Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank in Washington.

Submitted by Frederick Dahnke of Fairfax, VA.

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Contact LP Headquarters for registration information. Admission is \$50 (\$25 for students). Premiums will be offered for advance registration.

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# Gunning for support

## Libertarians reach out at gun shows, offer suggestions

By JACK McHUGH

In a recent outreach program, our local cadre of Libertarian activists manned a Second Amendment information table at two small-town gun shows. Half of our table was covered with NRA pamphlets, conservation pamphlets, and similar material. The remainder featured Libertarian brochures. A poster with a clever mix of pro-gun and pro-liberty news clippings, columns, and cartoons formed a backdrop for the display. A bipod-mounted assault rifle sat amidst the pamphlets and acted as an attention-getter and ice-breaker.

The results were fascinating and encouraging. Yes, many Libertarians have some problems with the NRA, and I am no exception. Nevertheless, that organization is the starting place for real pro-Second Amendment activism, and, as such, I have no problem acting as their agent.

Needless to say, the subject of most conversations around our table was gun rights. However, this conversation easily leads to a wider discussion of threats to liberty in general, and about the ever expanding role of government. The gun show audience is primed to agree with a Libertarian message on issues of government versus personal liberty, but lacks the information necessary to transfer the philosophy to issues of economic freedom.

The first lesson we learned was to hide the diamond charts. The "world's smallest political quiz" was revealed to be more of a litmus test than an outreach tool for a sympathetic but uninformed public. There was nothing to gain by getting into an argument over the unpopular notion of unrestricted immigration. If there was time to do a two-hour free market seminar we might have made progress on the idea that minimum wage laws cause unemployment, but you only get a few minutes with each person.

Other personal liberty issues like re-legalizing drugs were discovered to be controversial, yet still intriguing to people. At worst they agreed to disagree. But the bottom line was, why waste time arguing about areas of disagreement, when there are so many areas of agreement? Our goal was not to make converts, but to plant seeds in a group where we should have more influence. Along the way we were

able to winnow out and put on the mailing list a handful of individuals who are ready for the whole program. Plus, we signed up a few NRA members.

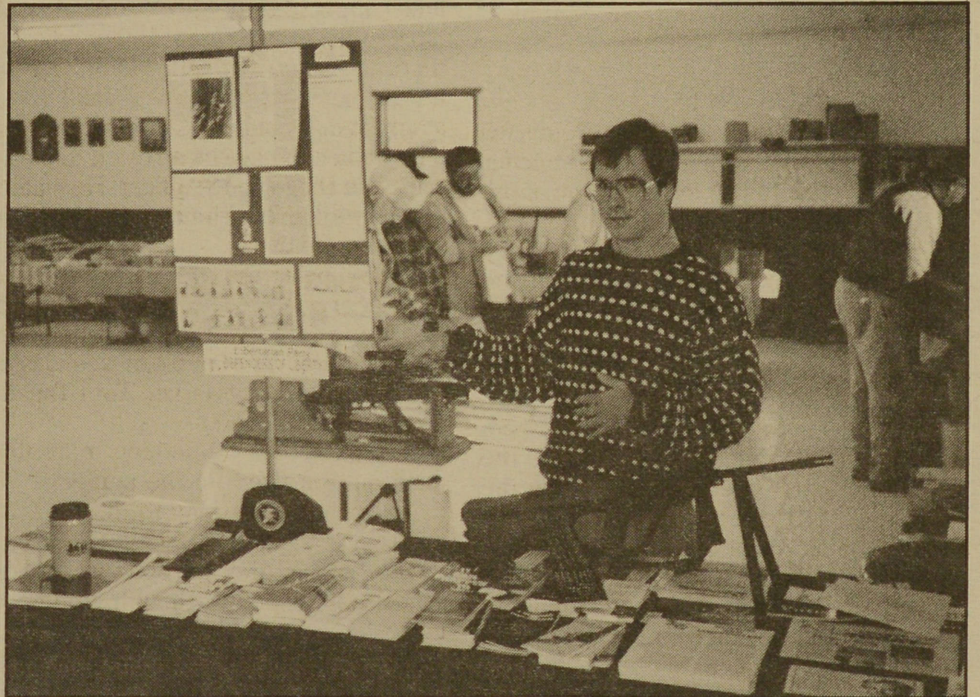
We found that some of our pamphlets could be more contemporary. For example, dry, philosophical objections to gun control lack the urgency of Luby's Cafeteria, Waco, and the Weaver case. Remind women that allowing them to carry a purse pistol would reduce their chances of being raped. Even discuss Afghan mujahadeen holding off the evil empire with .303 Lee-Enfields. In other words, demonstrate our principles with compelling evidence from today's news.

Actually, the best material at our gun shows would have been a whole slough of obnoxious anti-Clinton bumperstickers. Boy, are these guys mad at what's going on! Because of his dubious position on gun control, Perot has not captured this group. Bush blew it for the GOP with the import ban, and even Jack Kemp was for the Brady Bill. Two-party B.S. fertilizes the ground for Libertarians. Which leads to the happiest result of gun show appearances.

Our batteries are recharged! Living in a rural, largely Democratic region, one begins to feel like The Lone Ranger on issues of liberty. Working the gun shows taught us that a surprising number of our neighbors are very concerned about assaults on liberty in this country, even if they lack the information to understand all of it. Many were amused by our standing up for the Libertarian Party, but none were hostile, and all were glad to have us there.

In the end, here's the gist of what we learned: To the extent that our party is willing to reach out to ordinary people, to be specific on issues they care about, to not yield our principles even as we do the practical things a successful political organization must do, we have a great future. On the other hand, if we are perceived to be a debate club for idealistic intellectuals, we may have to get used to capturing only 300,000 votes in a presidential election.

*Jack McHugh is the Central Upper Peninsula regional coordinator for the Michigan Libertarian Party. He is a writer and author living in Gladstone, MI.*



GUN SHOWS - Jack McHugh spread the Libertarian message at a gun show recently in Michigan.

## Libertarian Zappa dies

By DAVID F. NOLAN

Frank Zappa, an innovative and controversial musician whose career spanned nearly three decades, died at his home in Los Angeles on Saturday, Dec. 4, 1993. His death, caused by prostate cancer, came less than three weeks before he would have marked his 53rd birthday.

Zappa achieved his greatest prominence in the 1960s, as leader of the rock group Mothers of Invention, an iconoclastic and irreverent band that lampooned virtually every facet of American culture. Zappa's zany antics sometimes obscured his very real musical talents; in the course of his career, he recorded nearly 50 albums of music, including jazz and orchestral compositions as well as rock.

Of most interest to libertarians, however, is that Zappa was staunchly pro-freedom, and even seriously considered running for president on the LP ticket in 1988. His two pet peeves were censorship and the income tax. He was a leading figure in

the battle against "Tipper" Gore's crusade to censor the recording industry, and described himself as a "devout capitalist".

My own limited contact with Zappa began in 1968, when I sent in \$3 to join the Mothers of Invention fan club, United Mutations. Eventually, I received my membership kit. It included the usual stuff: photos and bios of the band members, a membership card . . . and copies of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights!

It sounds like a cliché, but Frank Zappa truly was "one of a kind"—a wild individual who embodied the rebellious spirit of the late '60s and early '70s. Many of his antics, such as issuing a poster of himself seated on a toilet, pants down around his ankles, could fairly be called tasteless. And his music certainly wasn't for everyone. But there is no question that he was a highly creative individual who valued that creativity and stood tall in the fight against the Leviathan State.

We'll miss you, Frank.

Please make note of  
our new address:  
**Libertarian Party NEWS**  
P.O. Box 3391  
Gainesville, GA 30503

## Director

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Dasbach said, "It is tragic that it became necessary for Gene to resign so shortly after he took over as director. As national chair, I take full responsibility both for my original decision to hire Gene, and for his subsequent resignation."

Willis has been at the headquarters since one week after the convention, and "he was able to work smoothly with (former director) Stuart Reges, communications director Bill Winter, the members of the executive committee, and myself," said Dasbach. "There was general agreement among all parties regarding the direction we should

be heading, the priorities of the office and the transition, and about the role of the director in that process."

Dasbach said that he is very pleased with the permanent appointment of Willis, and that he looks forward to a long and successful working relationship.

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## Upcoming Events

### Jan. 29, 1994:

Stop Civil Asset Forfeiture Conference, Hastings Law School, 200 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA; sponsored by ISIL and California FEAR; for more information call 415-864-0952.

### March 19, 1994:

Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville; for more information call 615-773-7090. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger and Tamara Clark.

### March 11-13, 1994:

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Best Western's Harrisburg - West Conference Center; for more information call 215-264-1921.

### April 16-17, 1994:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, Kansas City, MO; for information call 202-543-1988.

### April 22-24, 1994:

Illinois LP Convention, Quality Hotel Woodfield, Palatine; for more information call 708-776-8090.

### May 7-8, 1994:

Alabama LP Convention, Montgomery; for more information call 205-265-1770 or 800-207-1770 or write P.O. Box 210939, Montgomery, AL 36121. Speakers include Jacob Hornberger and Birmingham City Councilman Jimmy Blake.

### Aug. 20-21, 1994:

Libertarian Party National Committee Meeting, location to be determined.

To get your upcoming event listed, notify the NEWS early.  
Send notice to: NEWS, P.O. Box 780, Winchester, VA 22604.



### Libertarian National Committee

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